

NORTHBROOK CHAMBER

OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY BUSINESS NEWS & VIEWS

DECEMBER 2011

Bringing People & Business Together

northbrookchamber.org

Chamber Welcomes Six New Board Members

The following individuals will begin serving a three year term on the Chamber's Board of Directors beginning January 2012.

Rik Blyth, Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel



In October, Rik joined the Renaissance Chicago North Shore as the new General Manager. He is responsible for the day to day operations of the hotel, assuring quality guest service and overall financial

success. Rik moved to Chicago from the US Virgin Islands where he and his family resided for the past 10 years. Prior to that they lived on other Caribbean islands (Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Virgin Gorda and Barbados), where Rik managed resort properties for another 12 years. A native of Chicago, he grew up in Wisconsin, graduating from the University of Wisconsin with a degree in Hotel & Restaurant Management. During his years in the Caribbean, Rik served as an officer on the boards of the local Chamber of Commerce as well as the Hotel and Tourism Council. He also served on the Executive Board of the Community Foundation of the USVI, a non-profit group that was the largest charitable organization in the Virgin Islands.

"I have been very impressed with the enthusiasm and professionalism of the Northbrook Chamber, as well as the involvement of the business people who were at the First Friday event I attended," comments Rik. "I

New Board Members cont. pg. 4

Celebrate the Holiday Season in Northbrook

Many stores will have extended holiday hours, Santa will make appearances, and there will be many opportunities to enjoy festive music and share with others during the upcoming holiday season. Members



Downtown Northbrook

The Shops of Downtown Northbrook will host "Wrappin' For The House" on two Saturdays,

are encouraged to shop Northbrook and to support Chamber businesses:

December 10th and 17th. On those days, shoppers can bring in their purchases to Sunset Foods for gift wrap services (minimum \$1 donation requested). Head over to The Book Bin or La De Da for free cider, hot cocoa cookies and donut holes. Funds raised will be donated to the South Side Ronald McDonald House at Comer Children's Hospital at the University of Chicago. For information contact Tami Olsen at tlo2101@comcast.net.

In association with the US Marine Corps Reserve, the **Village of Northbrook** will collect new toys in support of the Toys for Tots program. Collection sites for the new, unwrapped toys for underprivileged children are located at the Village Hall, Fire and Police Departments until Friday, December 16th. Contact the Northbrook Police Department at (847)664-4425 with any questions.

Holidays in Northbrook cont. pg. 3

State of the Village Address to feature President Sandy Frum

There is still time to register for the "Annual State of the Village" address by Village President Sandy Frum on Wednesday, December 7th from 11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Northbrook. In this annual presentation to the Chamber, President Frum will address some of the challenges and opportunities facing Northbrook. She is expected to comment on several aspects of the Village's finances, particularly proposals for sharing services with neighboring towns. President Frum will discuss recent efforts to stave off legislative attempts by others to "raid" the Village sales tax revenues. With a lot of attention focused on future options for downtown development, President Frum

will discuss the challenges involved with the economic development process. She will comment on factors such as zoning ordinances, property ownership, incentives and other factors that determine what the board can and cannot approve. There will be ample opportunities for questions and answers during this informative lunch. Call (847)498-5555 to make a reservation.



Village President
Sandy Frum



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UPCOMING EVENTS ... See page 6 for more activities

First Friday Networking Breakfast - Friday, December 2

State of the Village Address - Wednesday, December 7

Small Office Home Office - Wednesday, December 14

Holiday After Hours - Thursday, December 15

A Message From the Chamber President



Tensley Garris, President
Northbrook Chamber

It's always exciting to welcome new faces to the Chamber board and this year is no exception. As you can see from the article in this newsletter, the Chamber is fortunate to have several area business leaders stepping up to serve on the Board, providing their invaluable support and guidance. Unfortunately, at the same time we are saying good-bye to a couple of outstanding Board members whose terms have expired – A special thanks to Danny Zivin, KZF Development, who also served on the Executive Committee and was a faithful sponsor and supporter of our fundraisers. We will also miss the energy and enthusiasm of Dan Gelfond, Keepsake Family Tree Video, who many members know as our First Friday networking breakfast moderator. Special thanks to Mark Elsey, Francesca's North, a great friend of the Chamber, a host of Business After Hours, and loyal participant in

the Auction and Taste. These board members were always willing to lend a hand and their contributions will be missed.

In this challenging economy, it is important to remember to support our local retailers this holiday season. For many, the holidays are critical to the bottom line success of their business. Shopping locally is important as not only does it keep our business community strong, it also keeps critical tax dollars in our own backyard, helping pay for an array of municipal services, including schools, parks, roads, and stormwater management. For every dollar spent, 1 ¾ cents comes back to Northbrook to help pay for these critical public services.

This is also an important time of year to remember others who are struggling in difficult times. Pick up some extra items at the grocery store to assist food pantries, or grab an extra toy while shopping to help a needy family, or make a donation to a local charity that serves others this time of year. Even the smallest donation can go a long way to help others.

Best wishes to all our members for a safe and enjoyable holiday season!

Chamber to Publish New High Tech Street Map

The Chamber is partnering with Village Profile to produce a new, technologically advanced Northbrook street map, set for publication in early 2012. Featuring advertising exclusively by Chamber members, the map will be widely distributed to high traffic locations and have a shelf life of several years.

The full-color, glossy publication will feature a street-level community map showing local points of interest - schools, parks, water features, landmarks, tourist attractions, also showing primary and secondary roads and major points of interest. The map will also include a concise community profile, highlighting local events; important phone numbers; listings for community organizations, shops and restaurants, entertainment and cultural venues; and information about the Chamber of Commerce to create a useful resource guide for current residents and businesses, as well as a promotional piece for those considering relocation.

Advertising in the map offers numerous advantages. The multi-platform advertising bundle goes beyond the traditional print publication to include: a community website and downloadable NewView eBook®, which converts the publica-

tion's editorial, pictures and design elements into a digital format, as well as on-the-go wireless access via various web-enabled devices. All advertisements will appear online at Village Profile's Community Profile Network website (www.villageprofile.com) soon after the map is published. A reciprocal link will also be placed on the Chamber's website, driving even more traffic to each ad. Since 1996, the Village Profile® website has seen over 250,000,000 hits from Internet locales around the world and from all manners of users. This considerable traffic will prove beneficial to the entire Northbrook community. The vpmobile.us site totaled 8,187,392 hits in 2010.

In addition, a user-friendly Smartphone app is now available—accessible via the iPhone and Android—an extension of Village Profile's enhanced connectivity not offered anywhere else in the Chamber publishing industry. All of these elements come together to offer the Northbrook Area Chamber, participating advertisers and the community valuable added exposure to a global audience. For more information or to reserve ad space, call Don Israel at (847)293-3540.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Lewis Floor and Home

John Martin - Treasurer
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Directors
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Schwalb Realty Group

Ashley Delaney
Whitehall of Deerfield

Mark Elsey
Francesca's North

Dan Gelfond
Keepsake Family Tree Video

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www.northbrookchamber.org

Holidays in Northbrook cont. from pg. 1

Northbrook Court

Northbrook Court will be brightly adorned with holiday décor and feature extended shopping hours throughout the holiday season. Kids of all ages can visit Santa through Saturday, December 24th in Santa's Garden, located on the lower level near Neiman Marcus. Pets can have their photo taken with Santa on Mondays December 5, 12 and 19 from 6 – 9 p.m. with holiday pet costumes available. (Cats and dogs only.) Enter through the main entrance on the lower level near Stir Crazy.

Shoppers can redeem their receipts of \$150 or more during Merrier Fridays throughout the month to receive a \$10 gift card on Fridays, December 2, 9 and 16 from 4 pm – 8 pm. Redeem receipts on the lower level near Lord & Taylor.

New this year for anyone looking for the perfect gift, shoppers can purchase gift cards at the self-serve holiday kiosk on the lower level near Lord & Taylor which will be available year round starting this month. Visit www.northbrookcourt.com for more information on holiday happenings, store hours and other special offers.

Chicago Botanic Gardens

In December, the Chicago Botanic Garden will transform into a winter wonderland featuring 750,000 lights, beautiful holiday horticulture displays of topiaries, poinsettias and orchids as well as trees and wreaths decorated by local designers and retailers. In a 10,000 square-foot exhibition, garden-scale trains wind their way over bridges and past waterfalls through more than 80 miniature versions of Chicago's favorite landmarks as part of the Wonderland Express.

Breakfast with Santa will be held December 17th and 18th at either 8:30 or 9:30 a.m. Ticket price for non-members is \$31 for adults and \$25 for children ages 3-12 and includes parking, a buffet breakfast, a visit with Santa and access to the Wonderland Express exhibition. Christmas Supper with Santa will be held December 18th and 19th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Ticket price is \$43 for adults and \$37 for children ages 3-12 and includes parking, a buffet dinner, a visit with Santa and access to Wonderland Express.

A Hanukkah Dinner and concert will

be held on Wednesday, December 21st featuring dinner at 5:30 p.m. and a concert at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$43 for adults and \$37 for children ages 3 – 12 and includes parking, a buffet dinner, concert, and access to Wonderland Express. (all prices are \$5 less for members) For more information visit www.chicagobotanic.org/wonderland.

Northbrook Park District

The Park District will host Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 3rd at Sportsman's Country Club from 9 – 10:30 a.m. All ages are invited. Families can enjoy holiday songs, a craft project and a commemorative photograph. Cost is \$15 for residents and \$19 for nonresidents. Registration is available at www.nbparks.org, customer service locations, and by phone at (847) 291-2995.

To help parents with holiday shopping, the Park District offers a child care program on December 10th and 17th. Parents can bring children ages 5 - 12 to the Leisure Center for safe, supervised fun from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be pizza and entertainment, as well as crafts, games and a movie. Fee is \$25 for the first child and \$15 for each additional sibling. Call (847) 291-2995 to save a place.

Enjoy the artistry of skating school students at the Holiday Skating Recital on Friday, December 16th at the Northbrook Sports Center. Many of the skaters choreograph their own programs and design their costumes. The recital begins at 6 p.m., and admission is free.

A fun evening of candlelight skiing will be offered at Sportsman's Country Club on Saturday, December 17th from sunset to 8 p.m., subject to ski conditions. Ski rentals and refreshments will be available. Call (847) 291-2351, ext. 3 for more information.

A pre-New Year's Eve Cosmic Skate kicks off the New Year at the Northbrook Sports Center on Thursday, December 29th



from 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. Students in grades 6 or higher can enjoy ice skating, games, food and favors. Cost is \$10. For information, call (847) 291-2993.

Charitable Opportunities

Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook's Holiday Gift Program provides gifts for over 2,000 children and families from less advantaged homes in the area. The families served are diverse in size, ethnicity and age, with children ranging in age from newborn to 18 years. To be paired with a child or family's wish list or to make a monetary donation, contact Youth Services at (847) 724-2620. Drop gifts off at NIPSTA (training center /behind Fire Dept) at 2300 Patriot Blvd in Glenview between December 3rd and 5th or stop by and help wrap between December 9th and 14th from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. to help wrap the gifts. For information visit www.youthservices-gn.org.

Music

The **Glenbrook North High School** Winter Concert, featuring the school bands, choirs and orchestras, will perform seasonal music on Tuesday, December 13th at 7:30 p.m. in the Center for the Performing Arts.

The **Northbrook Community Choir** (formerly Y'All Come Choir) will present a concert of holiday selections on Monday, December 12th at 7:30 p.m. at the **Northbrook Public Library**.

Chamber offers Help with holiday shopping

Search for items on your holiday shopping list on the Chamber website www.northbrookchamber.org. and check out the many Chamber businesses that can help you. In addition, there are numerous Chamber members offering "Hot Deal" specials that are featured throughout the site. Promotions and special offers are added frequently. Become a "friend" of the Chamber's Facebook page and get notified as soon as the special offers are posted. The Chamber's new Shopping and Dining Guide offers information on major shopping areas in Northbrook as well as a list of all restaurants. The Guide can also be found on the website www.liveshopdinenorthbrook.com which features helpful maps and interactive links.

New Board Members cont. from pg. 1

look forward to supporting the Chamber's future efforts and becoming part of the Northbrook community."

Tom Lange, Morton's The Steakhouse

Tom Lange's career with Morton's The Steakhouse spans over 20 years. Currently he is the General Manager in the Northbrook location, a position he has held for the past six years. Tom has worked at all Morton's locations, including as General Manager at Rosemont and Assistant Manager at the State Street restaurant. He was Food and Beverage Controller as well as Assistant Manager at the Westchester location, and also assumed various responsibilities at the Schaumburg and Naperville locations. Previously, he worked as a banquet Chef at a banquet hall in Des Plaines. Tom has a degree in Hotel Management from Oakton Community College. He has been involved in coaching his sons' basketball and football teams in Arlington Heights. Continuing the Morton's tradition of supporting local charities, Tom has helped spearhead efforts to support the Northbrook Food Pantry, the Ronald McDonald House, LaRabida Children's Hospital, and the Charles Tillman Cornerstone Foundation.

Morton's is a frequent sponsor of Chamber events, and Tom regularly plays in the annual Golf Outing. "I hope that by being on the board of the Chamber I can be a voice for Northbrook's small businesses and help to drive more revenue into the businesses located here," he says.

Terry Luc, Northbrook Star



Terry Luc is the Advertising Services Manager and the Custom & Community Publications Manager for Pioneer Press. In his current position, he develops custom publications, in-

cluding the community guides, for all Pioneer Press newspapers. He manages the Ad Services Division which oversees the processing the ads that run in the Pioneer Press publications. He began his career at Pioneer Press seven years ago as a graphic designer and has designed several publications for the Northbrook Chamber, including the last four Community Guides.

Before working at Pioneer Press, Terry was involved in a number of different business endeavors. He helped run a family manufacturing business, was the Sports and Art director at the North Suburban YMCA, was a sales representative at the Deerfield Multiplex. He is a graduate of Illinois State University.

A long-time Northbrook resident, Terry is active in the community, volunteering for many youth sports programs and serving on the Northbrook Arts Commission. For his community service he received the Northbrook Civic Award in 2010. "I am very grateful to have this opportunity to serve on the Northbrook Chamber Board," says Luc. "This town, and its business community accomplish so much together and I am excited to be a part of it."

Tom Pigott, Nestle Pizza Division



Tom Pigott is Vice President, Finance, for the Nestlé Pizza Division, (a division of Nestlé USA), which produces over 40% of the frozen pizzas consumed in the United States. The Nestlé Pizza Division

headquarters, which recently located at 885 Sunset Ridge Road, has a sales, marketing, product development and administrative group of over 180 people.

Tom's career spans more than 20 years in finance and consumer products. He joined Nestlé USA when the pizza brands were acquired from Kraft Foods in March 2009. Previously, he worked for Kraft for over 15 years in various corporate, business unit finance and strategy roles. Prior to Kraft, Tom was a Planning and Operations Manager at Rand McNally in Skokie. He

began his career as an auditor for Price Waterhouse in Chicago. Tom has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Notre Dame and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management. He is registered as a Certified Public Accountant in the state of Illinois.

Tom grew up on the North Shore in Winnetka and Evanston. He currently lives in Winnetka with his family where he is active in the community, primarily through his children, as a coach, team manager and parent advisory board member. He looks forward to representing one of Northbrook's newest businesses, the Nestlé Pizza Division, on the Chamber board.

Neil Warnygora, Covenant Village of Northbrook



Neil has worked at Covenant Village for the last 20 years. Currently he is Executive Director, a position he has held for the past 10 years. Previously, he was an Associate Administrator for 10 years. In his

position, he oversees the operations and planning of the Covenant Village which was established in Northbrook in 1964. Covenant Village is a continuing care retirement community providing residential living, assisted living and skilled nursing care. The campus is home to 450 residents and employs 250 people. Neil has an undergraduate degree from the University of Minnesota and a graduate degree in business from the University of Phoenix. He is also a licensed nursing home administrator. Neil has served as a board member of the North Suburban YMCA and he is a member of Northbrook Rotary. A Northbrook resident for over 20 years, he and his family are active members of Northbrook Covenant Church. Covenant Village has been a member of the Chamber for over 27 years and is a frequent sponsor of Chamber programs and fundraisers. "I hope to be a contributor to the Chamber mission with active support from Covenant Village, and encourage other business friends to also become more involved," he says.

New Board Members cont. on pg. 6

Chase Bank, 2370 Waukegan Road will host a Grand Opening on Saturday, December 3rd between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. While learning more about their spacious new quarters, enjoy refreshments, three special one-day cash offers, a balloon artist, as well as raffles and giveaway prizes. For more information call (877)477-0833.

Ruth's Chris Steak House will open a newly remodeled Terrace Room on December 15th, double the size of the previous dining space. The 484 square foot space can seat up to 42 people and is designed to accommodate small dinner parties. The decor will feature dark wood cabinets, granite countertops and a 64 inch flat screen TV with surround sound. For more information or to book a party, call (847) 498-6889.

Charles Schwab will collect new, unwrapped toys for children as part of the Toys for Tots program, at their office at 445 Skokie Boulevard. Donations can be dropped off in the lobby anytime between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. through Friday, December 16th. For more information, or for questions, call Sara Creehan at (847) 480-7515.

Red's Garden Center, 3460 Dundee Road will host a two day Fine Arts Fair on December 10th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday Dec. 11th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will feature a great selection of unique handmade gifts by local artists, jewelry, wood carvings, fabric art and other items. Call (847)272-1209 or visit www.redsgardencenter.com for more information.

Legendary rocker, reality star, businessman and philanthropist Bret Michaels brings his rock hits and hot ballads to **Viper Alley** on December 9, at 10 pm, in the only Chicago area appearance in his Get Your Rock On tour. As front man for the gritty and glam 80s rock band Poison, Bret Michaels has sold 30 million albums worldwide, with 10 singles hitting the Billboard Hot 100. Tickets, starting at \$40, are on-sale at www.viper-alley.com.

Hilton Chicago Northbrook will host a New Year's Eve extravaganza featuring a decadent four course dinner, five hour open bar, party hats and favors, non-stop dancing and entertainment, deluxe overnight accommodations and full use of the Fitness Center, pool and sauna. Cost is \$325 per couple all inclusive. For more information call (847)509-7022.

Give the "Gift of Health" during the month of December with your generous donation of \$50 or more to the **North Suburban YMCA** and receive a one month Adult Membership at the Y. The \$50 donation will be applied to the Y's Financial Assistance Fund. Contact Sari Glazebrook at (847)272-7250 or sglazebrook@nsymca.org for more details.

The **North Shore Senior Center** is offering an opportunity to create a unique holiday gift as part of its Life Stories program. Outline and record stories from your life in two sessions with a trained interviewer. The recorded interview will be transferred to CDs to keep or share. Cost is \$40 for Center members, \$50 for others. To schedule an appointment or to learn more call (847) 784-6085.

Three New Businesses Welcomed to the Community



Wags on Willow owner Mary Bowler (c), her pug Sushi and Joe Greenberg (r) get help from Village President Sandy Frum (l) as they cut the ribbon to officially open their new store in Willow Festival. The upscale pet boutique offers a variety of products for pets, including high quality foods, unique accessories and gifts.



At their recent Massage Envy grand opening, Phil Palumbo and Loyce Clark welcome guests to their spacious new quarters, also located in Willow Festival. Massage Envy offers professional and affordable facials and massages, including Swedish and deep tissue massages, reflexology and custom treatment for specific needs.



Trustee Jim Karagianis (l) lends a hand at the ribbon cutting for the Caribou Coffee grand opening of their new location across the street from Village Green Park. The coffee shop serves a wide variety of hot drinks, smoothies, signature iced teas, grilled sandwiches, hot breakfast sandwiches, and a variety of bakery items.

Monthly Networking Events

First Friday Networking Breakfast

Friday, December 2

7:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Chamber Office

\$7 members, \$12 guests payable at the door*

Join over 100 members and guests for proven networking opportunities at the First Friday networking breakfast. The structured breakfast includes time for informal networking, brief introductions, and round table discussions that will give you solid business leads.

*Help the Chamber help others – bring a non-perishable item for the Northfield Food Pantry (canned or boxed food items) or an unwrapped new toy for any child up to age 18 for the Youth Services of Glenview Northbrook Holiday Gift Program, for free admission to this month's First Friday breakfast. This year there are many urgent needs for basic food products including cereal and oatmeal, pasta, pasta sauces, juice, peanut butter and jelly, paper products, and diapers. Toys and gift cards from area stores are also needed for older children.

SOHO (Small Office/Home Office)

Wednesday, December 14

11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Chamber Office

No charge to bring lunch; \$8 members, \$12 guests for catered lunch (must be ordered in advance.)

Network with fellow entrepreneurs in an informal lunch setting. Discuss the problems and solutions that small businesses have in common. Participants come from a myriad of backgrounds and share a wealth of information.

Business After Hours

Thursday, December 15

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Mission Hills Country Club

1677 Mission Hills Dr.

Complimentary for members, \$20 for guests

Share the spirit of the season and holiday cheer at the Chamber's annual Holiday After Hours set at the beautiful Mission Hills Country Club. Enjoy a fabulous display of hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and delectable desserts while learning about the many amenities at Mission Hills as well as its affordable membership packages. Bring plenty of business cards for networking and raffle prizes.

Technology Networking Forum

Thursday, December 22

7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Chamber Office

Complimentary for members, \$10 for guests

Often making peer to peer referrals, members involved in technology are eager to learn about each other's expertise and form "power partnerships." If you specialize in hardware, software, networking, or other technology specialties, consider attending this focused networking session. *Practitioners only.*

Save With An Annual Pass to First Friday

Save money and make registration a breeze at the Chamber's signature First Friday networking event next year by taking advantage of the Chamber's discounted First Friday pass. The pass offers savings for regular First Friday networking breakfast attendees and eliminates waiting in line or worrying about fumbling for payment. The cost of the pass is \$75 for a full year, a 10% savings. Last year over 50 members took advantage of the First Friday pass. Members who pre-pay for the year need only send an RSVP ahead of time and check in at the door. If the pass is bought in the name of the member company, it can be used interchangeably by any employee. Gold and Platinum members receive the pass as a part of their upgraded benefits. Fill out the enclosed form, register for a pass at any First Friday breakfast, or call the Chamber office at (847)498-5555 to pre-pay with a credit card.

Year End Dues Payment Reminder

By now, all Chamber members should have received an invoice for their 2012 dues. In a challenging economy, Chamber membership can be the best investment for your business. With a wealth of networking options, informative programs and events, and outstanding opportunities to promote your business, the Chamber is a valuable partner for any business. Included with your invoice was information on member benefits as well as the Chamber's banner ads, which offer affordable ways to increase your visibility. Payment of your dues before the end of the year offers the ability to deduct the fee as a business expense. Please call the Chamber at (847)498-5555 with any questions about your invoice or your Chamber membership.

New Board Members cont. from pg. 1

Glenn Weintraub, AA Service Company



Since 2003 Glenn has served as the General Manager/CFO of AA Service Company, a family owned and operated HVAC company. Established in 1965, the company is a member of the Associated Builders and Contractors Association, the Better Business Bureau, Angie's List and is a Carrier President's award winner.

Glenn has over 20 years experience in manufacturing, distribution and service industries. From 1990 to 2003 he held positions as a controller and operations manager for Illinois Tool Works. Glenn has a B.A. in business from the University of Wisconsin and is a CPA.

As a resident of Northbrook, Glenn is active in the community, including in the schools that his three children attended. In addition, Glenn and AA Service have participated in the Northbrook Earth Day celebration and have been active supporters of Northbrook Days. Glenn is a participant in the Chamber's contractors networking group and has sponsored important Chamber fundraisers. "I look forward to being more active in the Chamber through board service," he comments. "I would like to see a continued growth of the Chamber membership and find ways to encourage more small businesses to locate in our community."



Navigating the room to check out the fantastic food served by the 20 restaurants at the recent annual Auction and Taste were (l to r) Lorelei Rosenthal, Rosenthal Manufacturing, Michael Mazzei, Koenig and Strey and guest.



At the Live Auction, Auctioneer Ron Bernardi prepares to encourage bids for the custom cocktail party donated by Landmark Inn Chef Helene Kapetaneas (2nd from l) with encouragement from Auction Planning Committee Chair Jeanine Rippele and Chamber President Tensley Garris.



Auction volunteer Steven Elisco, Elisco Design Architects (c) encourages some friendly bidding on some of the Silent Auction items from Earle Greenberg, Chicago Videoworks (l) and Howard Schultz, North Suburban YMCA.



John Muhlhauer and Rodrigo Chavez serve up Stir Crazy's delicious potstickers and chicken satay to the nearly 400 attendees at the recent Auction held at the newly renovated Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel.



Auction Diamond Sponsor Larry Rosenthal, Unique Upholstery, Carpet and Rug Cleaning, (l) stops to chat with Fran Kaplan and Francie Stavish, Francie Stavish and Associates as they enjoy the spectacular setting of the Auction and Taste.



Dan Helperin, Merrill Lynch Wealth Management (c) checks out some of the 150 items up for bid at the annual Auction and Taste while networking with Jeff Schuster (l) and Erin Koebitz, Astor and Black Custom Clothiers.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 2011

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	28		1	2 First Friday Networking Breakfast 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Chamber Office
5		7 State of the Village Address 11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Sheraton Northbrook	8 Chamber Board Meeting 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Chamber Office	9 Leadership Northbrook 8:15a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Underwriters Labs
12	6	14 SOHO 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Chamber Office	15 Holiday After Hours 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Mission Hills Country Club	16
19	13	21	22 Tech Networking 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	23
26 <i>Chamber Office Closed</i>				30