



President:
Scott Moe

Vice President:
Nancy Helmbrecht

Secretary:
Sara Tilberg

Treasurer:
Kathy VonBank

Board of Directors:

Sandy Juettner
Sara Tilberg
Scott Moe
Bob Benes
Jack Cole
Nancy Helmbrecht
Gary Syvertsen
Dawn Plested
Kathy VonBank

Chamber Executive Director:
Karen Onan Amundson

Committees:

Economic & Downtown Development:

Lead: Nancy Helmbrecht
Members:
Dawn Plested Scott Moe
Judy Zimmermann Beth Thorp

Events:

E.C. Home Show: All
Kanabec Sportsmen's Fair:
Jack Cole Sara Tilberg
Murder Mystery: All
Mora Majstang Festival:
Nancy Helmbrecht Scott Moe
Dawn Plested
Ogilvie Committee:
Sara Tilberg

Government Affairs:

Lead: Sandy Juettner
Members: Jack Cole

Tourism:

Lead: Nancy Helmbrecht
Members: Dawn Plested

28th Annual East Central Home, Business and Community Expo Chamber Recap

Thank you to ALL who attended this year's East Central Home, Business & Community Expo! After counting all the white entry tickets, we had approximately 900 attendees - which is great news for all of our exhibitors. Yes, as always - it was chilly in there, with ice still embedded in the floor as the removal was only three weeks prior to the show. We had a great variety of exhibitors and this year we included a 28-foot rock climbing wall. Folks of ALL ages had a chance to safely climb the wall (and the rest of us got to watch!) with the assistance of the attending U.S. Army officials - who so generously offered us the opportunity to have their wall at the show. They also added their fully embellished HumVee which had an Xbox with a wide screen for playing games. We hope that they will be with us again next year.

The Chamber gave away \$1,000.00 in Chamber Cash. We also had a silent auction in the Chamber booth, for a four-pack of tickets to a St. Paul Saints game, compliments of KBEK. Kelly Erickson of Mora won the tickets; congratulations to her.



We also would like to Wholeheartedly Thank the folks and/or businesses listed below as without them, this event would be next to IMPOSSIBLE:

Thanks to the U.S. Army, and local contact Sgt. Brian Webb. To Quality Disposal for donating the garbage facilities and removal and Coborn's who donated the cookies for Friday and the balloons.

Thank you to Sammy Jo Mattson, Alice Zabinski-Mattson and to the Ambassadors for stepping in and helping at the entrance.

Thank you to Kanabec Publications for their endless advertising - Diane and Annette in particular and to Cory Stanchfield with her gang of many.

I especially would like to thank Barb Baran for everything before, during and after the show. And to Tammy Bierl and Ann Carlson at OlymPak for their assistance. Ann Carlson wonderfully painted the Face Board that was at the entrance of Joe Mauer and T.C. Bear - which you will undoubtedly see in other locations around town.

Keith Thelen of Kanabec Systems was invaluable to me throughout the event and Brett at the Civic Center was calm and cool, making sure that everyone was well taken care of.

Thank you to the Directors who were able to help out at the booth and for all they did to make this happen. Thank you to all who attended and to all of the Exhibitors - I hope that you're all warmed up by now!

Best Booth Awards Go To:



Winners of Chamber Cash and Find the Gnome Contest were:

Connie Fiorentino (Not Pictured) - 11:00 Saturday - \$100.00 winner



Chris Reed - Find the Gnome at 3:00 Saturday - \$100.00 winner



Kerstin Ballard - Chamber Cash at 11:00 Saturday - \$100.00 winner



Phyllis Bartel - Chamber Cash at 3:00 Saturday - \$300.00 winner



Dan Terpstra - Find the Gnome at 3:00 Friday - \$100.00 winner



June Conlon - Chamber Cash at 7:30 Friday - \$100.00 winner



Evelyn Gordon - Chamber Cash at 3:00 Friday - \$100.00 winner



Michelle Thomas - Find the Gnome at 7:30 Friday - \$100.00 winner



Kanabec State Bank - Most conscientiously decorated with Team Spirit! (2011) Theme



Hohn's Auto Body and Glass - Most creative concept



Eastwood Life Enrichment Center - Most effort in design/production

Director's Column



After living here for 30 years I am still so impressed with the people in the Mora area. Sound values, commitment to education, excellent health care, strong work and business ethics, and an enthusiastic spirit are the foundation of our community.

The 2011 Home was once again a successful event for our community with over 100 vendors and about 900 people attending to learn about what our area businesses have to offer. Our theme "Team Spirit" is a great reminder that we are all in this together. Especially important in tough economic times is for us to patronize local businesses, save gas, and participate in keeping our community viable. Thousands of residents own or work at businesses in our area. Let's have our own campaign to "save jobs" and Buy Local whenever we can.

The Chamber is no different. To some, this may be an obvious statement - to others it may come as a surprise. The main reason the Chamber holds events is to keep the Chamber doors open. Chamber membership dues cannot sustain an office and/or a part-time employee. It takes fundraising events such as the Home, Business & Community Expo, the Sportsmen's Fair, and the Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre to allow the Chamber to support local businesses and activities in our community. We apologize to those who inquired about a free booth. Putting on the show is a huge expense. Like any not-for-profit organization, we need to sustain ourselves with funds, otherwise we cannot exist. We are not funded by the government or the city or your taxes. We are a 501(c)6, which means, unlike other nonprofit 501(c)3s we are supported by members who pay dues and by holding events.

This year we changed the name of our Home Show to include groups that were not previously featured at the show. It was wonderful to include so many exhibitors

who had never been part of the show and attracted many who hadn't attended in several years.

We hope that this information will encourage your support, either by joining the Chamber, continuing your membership, or by purchasing booth space or tickets to attend our events.

The Chamber's mission is to create, promote and enhance a healthy business environment in our community with a goal of providing leadership, resources and support necessary for business success, growth and viability. The Mora Area Chamber of Commerce exists to "help business succeed."

We are truly thankful for the support of an outstanding community.

Sandy Juettner
Chamber Board Member
Owner: Juettner Marketing