

DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

By Gary Syvertsen, President of OlymPak Printing and Packaging



Hello to everyone.

Gary Syvertsen from OlymPak here. It is fall ~ the leaves are changing and winter is approaching. It is also the time of the year when our annual Chamber Membership Drive begins.

OlymPak Printing & Packaging has been a business in Mora since 2002. For the first few years plant management was busy establishing things internally but not getting involved in the community. In recent years that has changed. My management team and I all agree that being a part of the

community is important and necessary. Being involved hopefully helps make Mora a stronger place to do business and entice other companies to make Mora their home, this is the key to building a stronger business climate and a stronger community. The end result is jobs and opportunities within the area and not driving to the Twin Cities or other communities for gainful employment. If we can help the community and the citizens of Mora, we will.

I have to say we are very fortunate to have an individual like Karen Amundson leading our Chamber; all of the efforts Karen's enthusiasm brings are very infectious. It is a pleasure to be a director and member of the Chamber and to be able to work with her. Karen is very proud of the community and works hard each day to promote Mora and Kanabec County. She has great selling skills and when she came to me to join the Chamber it was very hard to say no. I enjoy

my role as a director and to be a part of the community that works to make Mora a great place to live & work. Even though I don't live in Mora I am very proud to have a thriving business here and be a part of the town.

One thing that I always cite when I am selling OlymPak to a new prospect or customer is our employees and their tremendous work ethic. We continue to grow our business and we hope the citizens of Mora and Kanabec County know there is a place where they can establish a career and not just a job. We do our best to help in some small way to make Mora stronger and more prosperous. In today's economy we all need to work together to stimulate growth and prosperity. Our philosophy is if you work and live in a community why not get involved and give back when you can.

If you're not a member now I encourage you to consider the possibility. There can be

many benefits to help you and your business. As an example, when we need supplies or a lunch or dinner catered, we always patronize our members first. We also encourage visiting customers to visit members' businesses to fulfill their needs. We also have a business network that helps us in many ways. A great example for this is we were looking for a particular position to be filled in our office, through Karen's recommendation we hired a person whose parents' own a business in Mora. This individual has turned out to be a tremendous hire and a real asset to our team.

I hope those of you who haven't considered membership yet, will take another look at what the Chamber can do for you. I think you'll be surprised what benefits are there for you. For the current members I want to thank you for your belief in Mora and Kanabec County. Together we all win.



Area Chamber of Commerce

We have moved & we would like for you to visit us at our new location -
111 SOUTH UNION STREET, SUITE 2

Check out the new expansive location!

Learn about what's in store for 2011

Discuss membership opportunities

Tuesday, October 19th, 2010

Stop in the morning from 7:30-9:00 (catered by The Little Bread Factory) or
In the evening from 5:30-7:00 (catered by The Downtown Deli)

Morning & Evening Open House

All members and prospective members are welcome -
Call 320-679-5792 for more information or email karen@moramn.com

2011 Scheduled Upcoming Events

MURDER MYSTERY DINNER THEATRE FUNDRAISER

Live/Silent Auction - February 19th

Titled: "Death By Hotdish"

EAST CENTRAL HOME, BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY EXPO

APRIL 15 & 16

KANABEC SPORTSMEN'S FAIR - August 27 & 28

Meet Your Local Candidates

2010 Political Forum

The Seven County Senior Federation and the Mora Area Chamber of Commerce have teamed up to put together a forum for our Congressional, House, Senate, Sheriff, Mayor and City Council Candidates. This event will take place on Monday evening Oct. 11. It will be held at Trailview Middle School and will start promptly at 6:00 p.m. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Doors will open at 5:15 and we'd like folks to be prepared to start the proceedings at 6:00. Members of the public will be allowed to submit one question to our review panel upon entering the forum. All of our local candidates have been invited. This is the list of those who will be in attendance:

Congress: Chip Cravaack (R)

Senate: Mike Cummins (R), Tony Lourey (D-Incumbent)

House: Roger Crawford (R), Tim Faust (D-Incumbent)

County Sheriff: Chris Olson, Steve Schulz (Incumbent)

Mora Mayor: Casey Kullmann, Greg Ardner (Incumbent)

Mora City Council (1 seat) : Bob Bollenbeck, Tracy Kleven, Denise Akkerman, Juanita Neal-Thompson

Remember the forum will begin promptly at 6 pm next Monday at Trailview Middle School in the Commons area. Doors will open at 5:15. If you have any questions, please contact Karen at 320-679-5792