

Chamber of Commerce Inc.

P.O. Box 2, Bainbridge, New York 13733
607-967-8700 • <http://www.bainbridgechamberny.org>

The Home of the General Clinton Canoe Regatta

February 13, 2005

Dear Bainbridge Chamber of Commerce and Community Members,

Once again it is time for our yearly membership drive. The Bainbridge Chamber of Commerce is looking forward to your support in the year 2005, and for many years to come. Our Chamber of Commerce is very active, and we would like to share some of the rewarding projects and commitments with you:

- Each year, we honor a community member and a local business at the annual 'Commitment to the Community' dinner. The honorees are citizens and businesses of Bainbridge who have selflessly contributed to the quality of life here. In 2004, we honored Lew Whitney and the Frog Pond Farms.
- Our 34-acre Park has been conveyed to the Town of Bainbridge, together with an endowment fund for major improvements. The Town of Bainbridge has been very accommodating with all of our requests, particularly regarding the events that are being held each year. The Town is now handling the annual Susquenango Kennel Club Show and the Family Motor Coach Association Rally. In addition, the Park draws some smaller camping groups, weddings, family reunions, community fundraisers, and youth sports in conjunction with the town recreation program and school district. The Town's biggest event, the General Clinton Canoe Regatta, brings over 20,000 people to our area each Memorial Day weekend and the Bainbridge Chamber will continue to run the Regatta. -- All of these events generate commerce and patronage to our community and merchants.
- Some changes have been made regarding our annual holiday programs. Each Christmas, Santa visits with gifts and children have the opportunity to participate in a coloring contest and the Sidney Federal Credit Union has long since been the main organizer of the event. We feel that the Manager and Staff of the Credit Union have done an excellent job and we will continue to support the event on a financial basis. Unfortunately, the Easter Bunny Program has been cut, but the person who has always been on the forefront of putting this event together, Casey Bauerle, will continue to run it with community support. Other events the Chamber will be supporting is the 'Howl'oween Parade' and the 'Maple Fest.'

What's New for 2005:

- We are putting more emphasis on beautification in the Village. Some community members are interested in starting a Garden Club and we are planning on supplying plant barrels along each of the Main Streets, rather than planting underneath the trees. The barrels can be moved, which will come in handy during the construction work on Route 7 and 206.
- The new website @ www.bainbridgeny.org is now almost completed and the Bainbridge Development Corporation is expected to launch it soon.
- We opened a communications channel with the Unadilla and Sidney Chambers and will hold a combined Chamber Meeting on April 26, 2005 at Gavin's in Sidney. Bainbridge will host the combined meeting in August, and Unadilla in November. Event planning in each Town is discussed among the Chambers so that the promotion of all the events can be reciprocal.
- There are a number of new committees geared to put more emphasis on the promotion of our infrastructure, particularly agriculture & producers, and the increasing amount of specialty shops that Bainbridge has to offer. A list of committee chairpersons and contact information following below.

- On Saturday, May 29, 2005, during Memorial Day weekend, there will be a Agri-Tourism Summit with information, lectures and discussions on creating a Heritage Tourism Initiative, using the Underground Railroad and 'Forging the Freedomtrail' as a vehicle to draw more visitors to Bainbridge. This is being organized by Forging the Freedom Trail Project, Chenango County Cooperative Extension and others. Keynote Speaker will be Phil Metzger of the Central NY RC&D.

We are a busy organization, and we hope that your membership and support will continue to help make Bainbridge that wonderful community that it is. We have great hopes that new businesses will continue to come here, and that our Town and Village will prosper over the coming years. Please join us for coffee and refreshments at our monthly BOD meeting, which is held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at Bob's Diner, 26 N. Main Street in Bainbridge at 7:30 a.m.

Sincerely,

Helen B. Hernandez, President

Lorraine M. Kellogg, Vice President

Helen B. Hernandez
Kellogg

Lorraine M.

2005 Committees

Beautification	Helen Hernandez	Office: 967-3800 cell: 435-5369	helen@mkl.com
Business After Hours	David Parsons	Office:	
Business of the Month	Casey Bauerle	Office: 967-7100	cbauerle@sidneyfcu.org
Commitment to Community	Lew Whitney	Home: 967-8102	
Educational	Roger Hutchinson	Office: 967-6321	Rhutchinson@yahoo.COM
Economic Development	Lori Kellogg	Home: 967-8339	Lorikellogg@hotmail.com
Merchants	Reed Baker	Office: 967-7229	
Operation "Be My Valentine"	Pam LeFever	Home: 967-7425	
Public Relations	Lisa Bennett	Cell: 591-0041	Lben21@yahoo.com
Regatta/Race	Pam LeFever	Home: 967-7425	
Website	Lew Whitney	Home: 967-8102	