

CLINTON BUSINESS GROUP
53 Wal-Mart Plaza, Room 222
Clinton, NJ 08809
www.clintonbusinessgroup.org
Call (908) 713-1988 • (908) 713-0939 Fax

FEBRUARY 21, 2008 • CBG MEETING MINUTES

CBG Members in attendance are shown in Bold Type • *Candidates/Guests in attendance are shown in Bold Italics*

**Ken Anthony • Jack Aquila • Chris Aulert • Byron Brisby, Jr.* • Tony Catanzaro • Edward Cichone • Tom Clarke • John Connors
Ruthann Disotell • William Dougherty • Ed Duffy • Steve Firrello • Les Giese • Jay Hannigan • Tracy Ivie • Peter Joseph
Rich Kazimir • Art Kellenberger • Will Legasse • Fred Levedag • Marsha Marasco • David Mills • Charlie Orlando • Craig Patterson
Alex Patullo • Lynn Porter • Bob Rittelman** • Joe Schultz • William Siegel • Consie Sindet • Pete Smith • Scott Smith
Jan Stewart • Louis Tranquilli • Richard Urmston • Frank Vodraska • Thomas Walsh, Jr. • Mark Yaros • Scott Zarro**

Eligible Candidate(s):
Guest(s): James Helriegel

CBG President, Alex Patullo, called the meeting to order at 8:00 and welcomed everyone. There was a round of CBG Member and guest introductions.

All acknowledged receipt of minutes of the February 7, 2008 meeting. A motion to accept the minutes as written was made, seconded and approved by a show of hands.

CBG President Alex Patullo announced a secret weapon... the rubber chicken. In an effort to get CBG members to the meetings on time, the rubber chicken(s) will be handed out to those entering the meeting late and a \$5.00 late return fee to be donated by the tardy member(s) and holder(s) of the rubber chicken(s). Tune in for future chicken updates.

The Membership Committee announced a vote for two candidates. Ballots were passed out, voted on and counted. CBG President Alex Patullo announced that Mike Beckage was voted into the CBG, while Brook Hoffman was not.

Frank Vodraska also advised that, prior to inviting a prospect to a regular meeting or "off-week breakfast," you should check with our president Alex Patullo, secretary Craig Patterson or Frank himself to try and tighten up the process and to "clear" potential conflicts. All candidates must provide the membership committee with contact information and must complete a CBG Membership Application to pursue CBG Membership. Also, it is a good idea for every CBG Member to bring business cards to be distributed as needed to other CBG Members.

CBG Treasurer Richard Urmston reported that there was \$12,983.58 in the CBG checking account (\$2,800.00 of that amount are prepaid 2008 Membership Dues). \$1100.00 in membership dues are due. Dues must be kept current. Those members who fail to do so risk losing their status as an active member of the CBG. The Quarterly Membership Dues cover all the things related to CBG Membership, including your web presence, networking and social opportunities, etc. Included in this is the breakfast at all "regular CBG meetings." There is also an all-inclusive \$10.00 charge for breakfast at CBG "off-week breakfast meetings."

CBG President Alex Patullo introduced Debbie Rittelman, of Dickens Lane Jewelers, the first our two featured speakers. Along with her husband Bob, Debbie Rittelman owns Dickens Lane Jewelers. Dickens Lane Jewelers is a full service retail jewelry store providing expert jewelry and watch repair. Other services offered are custom jewelry design, restyling and restoration of antique/vintage jewelry and watches. Dickens Lane Jewelers sells premium quality diamond jewelry as well as loose diamonds. According to Debbie, Dickens Lane Jewelers is the area's only jewelry store still providing "while you wait" diamond setting service...by appointment only, of course. The Dickens Lane Jewelers staff includes a gemologist, master bench jeweler and master watchmaker...all on premise. Visit Debbie and Bob Rittelman at Dickens Lane Jewelers at their showroom at 6 East Main Street, in Clinton. For more information visit Dickens Lane Jewelers on the World Wide Web at www.clintonpayless.com. You may contact Bob and Debbie via email at R14D11@aol.com or, call (908) 730-6644.

CBG President Alex Patullo introduced Joe Schultz, of Viking Pest Control, the second our two featured speakers. Joe Schultz is Clinton's Branch Manager of Viking Pest Control. He has more than two decades of experience. Viking Pest Control is a full service company that is ready to help with all pest control and lawn service needs. Residential, commercial, health care and industrial accounts are serviced. Technicians are all trained and licensed and, all work is guaranteed and insured. With nine locations in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, Viking Pest Control offers year-round service, taking care of mice and spiders in the winter and other "critters" throughout the year. Additionally, Viking Pest Control specializes in remediation of carpenter ants, deer tick, shrub control and lawn fertilization. Scheduling is easy and convenient. Joe is a lifelong Hunterdon County resident. Visit him at his Viking Pest Control office at 25 West Main Street, in Clinton or, visit www.vikingpestcontrol.com. For more information contact Joe via email at jschultz@vikingpestcontrol.com or call him at (908) 730-9555.

Today's winner of the 50/50 was Dr. Art Kellenberger who took home \$111.00. The other \$111.00 went to the Staats Brokaw Memorial Entrepreneurial Spirit Award Scholarship Fund. Thanks again to our president, Alex Patullo, for the terrific fund-raising idea and the additional \$100.00 that he put into today's pot, for a previous business referral. To keep this great idea going, we are looking for at least one additional member of the group to "take hold" of the responsibility of running the 50/50. After today's meeting, the balance in the Staats Brokaw Memorial Entrepreneurial Spirit Award Scholarship Fund is \$5,380.50.

The 50/50 winners of the last two off-week breakfasts were Pete Smith and Craig Patterson, who both donated their winnings back to the Staats Brokaw Memorial Entrepreneurial Spirit Award Scholarship Fund.

Deb Rittelman, of Dickens Lane Jewelers, raffled a pen and key chain with the 50/50 tickets. John Connors won the pen and Tracy Ivie won a key chain.

Rich Kazimir announced that he be hosting a radio show on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-7:00 pm on WDUR 89.7.

Remember, Byron Brisby, Jr.'s company, Clinton Chevrolet-Cadillac, a member of the Flemington Car & Truck Country family of dealerships, will donate \$100 to the Staats Brokaw Memorial Entrepreneurial Spirit Award fund for each car purchased at Clinton Chevrolet-Cadillac that was the result of a referral by a CBG Member. If you refer someone to Byron or Chris, make sure to contact him so he can make the necessary arrangements.

Also, Craig Patterson, of All Town Mortgage, LLC, will donate \$100.00 to the Staats Brokaw Memorial Entrepreneurial Spirit Award program, for every "closed mortgage" referred to him by a CBG Member. If you refer someone to Craig, make sure to let him know.

Alex Patullo also announced that he will donate \$100 to the Staats Brokaw Memorial Entrepreneurial Spirit Award Scholarship Fund for each job in excess of \$5,000 for a CBG Member or someone referred by a CBG Member.

According to Tom Walsh, Jr., Jay Hannigan and Louis Tranquilli (filling in for Ken Anthony) are scheduled to speak at the March 6, 2008 meeting. Jack Aquila and Chris Aulert are scheduled to speak at the March 20, 2008 meeting.

Before wrapping up the meeting's agenda, Alex reminded us that there will be an "off-week" breakfast next Thursday morning, February 28, 2008 at the Old River House Restaurant. Our next regular meeting will be held March 6, 2008.

Alex then asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved by a show of hands. The meeting adjourned at 9:10 am.

See you next week, at the off-week breakfast!

Respectfully submitted by:
Craig Patterson,
CBG Secretary

Today's total attendance was thirty-four. (33 members and 1 guests) There are currently 40 CBG Members (83%).

* Chris Callahan was in attendance on behalf of Clinton Chevrolet-Cadillac.

** Deb Rittelman was in attendance and one of our speakers.