

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

MAY 1, 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 • Mike Beckage • Chris Callahan* • Tony Catanzaro • Edward Cichone • Tom Clarke
John Connors • Ruthann Disotell • William Dougherty** • Ed Duffy • Steve Firrello • Les Giese • Jay Hanigan • Tracy Ivie
Peter Joseph • Rich Kazimir • Art Kellenberger • Will Legasse • Fred Levedag • David Mills • Charlie Orlando
Craig Patterson • Alex Patullo • Lynn Porter • Bob Rittelman • Joe Schultz • William Siegel • Consie Sindet • Pete Smith
Scott Smith • Brian Stacy • Jan Stewart • Louis Tranquilli • Erik Trepkau • Richard Urmston • Frank Vodraska • Thomas Walsh, Jr.
Mark Yaros • Scott Zarro**

Eligible Candidate(s):
Guest(s):

CBG President, Alex Patullo, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

All acknowledged receipt of minutes of the April 17, 2008 meeting. A motion to accept the minutes as written was made, seconded and approved by a show of hands.

Alex called for announcements and new business; there were quite a few...

Frank Vodraska announced that there is some interest in joining the group by a few people, however they have not completed the application process and the group currently stands at full membership of 40. Please contact Frank Vodraska, president Alex Patullo or secretary Craig Patterson if there are any conflicts with an applicant. 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 Vodraska 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.

Scott Smith announced that the flagpole committee will discuss follow through on making the flagpole in town beautiful again on Thursday May 8th at the off week breakfast. Also from Scott: DO NOT FORGET - ASAP to let Scott Smith or Craig Patterson know whether you can make it **OR NOT** to the social event at The Old River House Restaurant on June 22nd, 2008 at 7:00 pm. John Connors, of The Old River House Restaurant, has offered a fine menu for the event. \$35.per adult, \$13.50 for children and under 5 is free. I have attached a sign up sheet and other info concerning the event. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Byron Brisby was visiting this morning in place of Chris Callahan, and bringing in two checks, each for \$100.00, to donate to the Staats Brokaw Memorial Entrepreneurial Spirit Award. The checks were donated because two vehicles were purchased at The Flemington Car and Truck Country Family of Dealerships through CBG referrals.

Byron also announced that he is working with a charity called Pedals for Progress through the Flemington Rotary. They are looking for old bicycles and sewing machines. Please contact Earl at Clinton Chevrolet, 908-735-5135, to make any arrangements.

Jack Aquila announced that his committee is looking for input on creating a marketing campaign. Please contact Jack to have a voice.

Jay Hanigan announced a college special at Snap Fitness. \$20.00 for the card and \$10.00 per week makes this special very convenient.

Fred Levedag announced that they are looking for participants and sponsors for a golf outing on June 2nd, 2008 at Stanton Ridge to benefit The Anderson House. More to follow.

Bob Rittelman is looking for old cell phones to donate to US soldiers. They will use the phones or fix them / use for parts if they are not working properly. Please reach out to him if you have any old cell phones to donate.

Ruthann Disotell announced that she will be attending a reopening of a grand funeral home on June 1st, 2008, if any one was interested in joining her.

Craig Patterson gave a brief overview of the events at the board meeting that took place on April 29, 2008.

According to CBG Treasurer Richard Urmston there is \$13,420.58 in the CBG checking account (\$3,300.00 of that amount are prepaid 2008 and 2009 membership dues). Second quarter 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 the first of our two speakers, John Connors, of The Old River House Restaurant. John Connors owns and operates The Old River House Restaurant. Located at 49 Main Street, in the Clinton Falls complex, in the heart of Clinton's business district, the restaurant offers excellent food, terrific food and fabulous view of the Raritan River and Red Mill. The restaurant is seven days for breakfast, lunch and dinner...with a diverse and modestly priced menu featuring fabulous dishes prepared in a traditional American style with a modern touch. There are daily specials offered as well as New Jersey's finest wine. The Old River House Restaurant is a popular destination because of its beautiful views of the historic Red Mill. The outdoor patio seats one hundred guests and there is seating available inside for another seventy guests. The area's most talented musicians perform an eclectic blend of music from six to eight o'clock, on Friday and Saturday evenings. Children are welcome and so is Fido. The Old River House Restaurant is a B.Y.O.B. When you can't come "in," carry out orders and convenient delivery service is also available. Consider The Old River House for both on and off-premise catering...weddings, graduations, bridal shows, confirmations, graduations and pool parties, for example. For more information, e-mail John at johnconnors69@yahoo.com, visit www.olddriverhouserestaurant.com or call (908) 735-4141.

Next, Alex Patullo introduced Ed Duffy, the second of our two featured speakers. Ed Duffy is an agent with AdvanceMe, Inc, a "credit card receivable funding company" specializing in small business funding. Ed asks, "Does your small business need working capital?" If the answer is "yes" and your business accepts credit cards, you have an asset that can be turned into capital. You may be eligible to receive up to \$150,000.00, per location, with a low doc, no fee, no obligation applications process. Since 1998, AdvanceMe, Inc. has provided more than \$600 million to more than 18 thousand small and mid-sized business. AMI is a trusted resource for providing capital needed to take advantage of new opportunities, manage unexpected expenses and business growth, for example to open new locations or just remodel; to purchase new equipment and inventory; to launch advertising and promotional programs or, to pay off partners, loans, taxes or for other operating issues. Ed can eliminate the headaches associated with bank loans with an easy and simple application and approval process...Plus, AMI often approves businesses in industries banks often reject. Other advantages include: no application fee or closing costs, automatic collection, no fixed payment schedule and no asset equity loss. In most cases, cash is available in 10-14 days. For more information, contact Ed Duff by calling (215) 327-7311, e-mail him at eduff@att.net or, visit www.advanceme.com.

Today's winner of the 50/50 was Steve Firrello, who donated back the \$58.00. The total going to the Staats Brokaw Memorial Entrepreneurial Spirit Award Scholarship Fund today is also \$116.00. Before today's meeting, the balance in the Staats Brokaw Memorial Entrepreneurial Spirit Award Scholarship Fund is \$6,957.50, of which \$3000.00 will be awarded on May 15th.

Remember, Byron Brisby, Jr. / Chris Callahan of The Flemington Car & Truck Country Family of Dealerships, will donate \$100 to the Staats Brokaw Memorial for each car or truck purchased at any of The Flemington/Clinton Family of Dealerships (www.flemington.com for list). Contact Chris Callahan @ 908-735-5135 or Byron Brisby, Jr. @ 908-788-2691 to 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 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.

Tom Walsh, Jr. announced that Ruthann Disotell and Suzanne Martino will be the speakers for the meeting on May 29, 2008.

Before wrapping up the meeting's agenda, Alex reminded us that there will be an "off-week" breakfast next Thursday morning, May 8, 2008 at the Old River House Restaurant. Our next regular meeting will be a special one held May 15, 2008, that is the day we are presenting the Staats Brokaw Memorial Entrepreneurial Spirit Award Scholarships.

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 9:00 am.

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

Respectfully submitted by:

Craig Patterson,
CBG Secretary

Today's total attendance was thirty-one. (36 members and 0 guest) There are currently 40 CBG Members (90%).

*Byron Brisby was in attendance on behalf of The Flemington Car and Truck Country Family of Dealerships.

** Suzanne Martino was in attendance on behalf on True Associates.

Note: Do not park at the museum across the street.