



# - 2008 - annual report

## Chamber Board 2008

- Chair . . . . . Dr. Kelly Cripe  
Monticello Chiropractic *Owner*
- Vice Chair . . . . . Laurie Tennessen  
Wells Fargo Mortgage & Von Hanson's Meats *Owner*
- Treasurer . . . . . Joni Pawelk  
Monticello/Big Lake Hospital *Director of Marketing*
- Past Chair . . . . . Bill McLaughlin  
Cub Foods *Store Director*

### DIRECTORS

- Tom Ollig . . . . . TDS Telecom *District Manager*
- Nikki Mercer . . . . . Mississippi Shores *Housing Director*
- Joel Erickson . . . . . Moon Motors *Owner*
- Dave Howe . . . . . Premier Banks *President*
- Bob Viering . . . . . *Individual Membership*
- Rich Harris . . . . . Midwest Precision Machining *Owner*
- Bob Grabinski . . . . . *Lifetime Member*
- Jim Johnson . . . . . School District *Superintendent*

### RETIRING:

Jim Johnson, Bob Grabinski & Bill McLaughlin

### NEW:

- Wes Olson . . . . . Wes Olson Electric
- Terri Sweet . . . . . Monticello Times
- Perry Sloneker . . . . . Best Western Chelsea Inn

P.O. Box 192, Monticello, MN 55362  
p. 763-295-2700 f. 763-295-2705

[www.monticellocci.com](http://www.monticellocci.com)

## About Our Chamber...

As a voice of the business community, the Monticello Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry works to accomplish what no individual or single business can do alone. The strength of any organization lies in its membership and when you become involved as a Chamber member in the business community you have invested yourself in an active network of resources that allow you to share business ideas and work to improve the business environment in your community.

Monticello Area Chamber represents a broad base of business from corporate to home-based, from industrial-driven manufacturers to the service and professional sectors.

Our membership consists primarily of Monticello businesses with additional memberships joining from neighboring communities. With this blend, comes the expertise and skills available from a variety of business backgrounds. Monticello Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry works to bring the business community, government and schools together as one unit to make use of available resources, assets and talents to build a better future.

## Chamber Mission Statement...

To continually represent, support and enhance all business sectors in the Monticello area by striving to strengthen communication among businesses, industry, school, government, service organizations and area residents.



*There is no other place quite like Monticello, Minnesota - situated on the mighty Mississippi River, Monticello has retained it's small town atmosphere, while offering some big town amenities. Just look what we have to offer!*

# Letter from 2008 Chair, Kelly Cripe...

*As the year is coming to an end, I would like to express my appreciation for having had the opportunity to serve as 2008 Chair. It has been a pleasure to be involved with so many dedicated people working to make Monticello a wonderful place.*

*I would like to sincerely thank the membership of the Monticello Chamber for making 2008 an exceptional year. Even during these challenging economic times our membership grew. I am continually impressed by the generosity of Chamber members and their support of the Monticello community.*

*A big "Thank You" to the members of the Chamber staff, Board of Directors, Ambassadors, and various other committees. It is your behind the scenes work that keeps the Chamber running smoothly. I would like to personally thank Bob Grabinski for his many years of commitment to the Chamber. Bob will be stepping down from the board this year to enjoy more personal time. His leadership and insight will truly be missed.*

*It is only through your ongoing dedication and support that our Chamber can continue to thrive. Please continue with your Chamber membership and involvement in Chamber events and efforts to support this great community. Best wishes for 2009!*

*~ Kelly Cripe, Monticello Chiropractic*

## Benefits...

The Monticello Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry is a great outlet for businesses like yours to stay in touch with our thriving community and gain valuable exposure through our many member benefits.

Becoming a member of the Monticello Chamber of Commerce & Industry will provide you with opportunities for:

### MARKETING

- Referral by Chamber staff – we refer exclusively to Chamber businesses. Your information is available 24/7 through the Chamber's website.
- The Chamber office features a display area for members' brochures, pamphlets, and business cards. We will also distribute your promotional flyers.
- Free listing on the Chamber website including the opportunity to link to your business website.
- Offer member-to member benefits in our newsletter to promote your business.
- Free listing in the printed Chamber member directory.



- Free ribbon cuttings or visits by the Chamber Ambassadors for free publicity.
- The Chamber newsletter keeps you up-to-date on events and community activities as well as an opportunity for advertising.
- Your membership supports the Chamber's marketing of the area through public relations, internet, trade shows advertising, etc. to bring customers to you!

### NETWORKING

Monthly Chamber luncheons and Good Morning Monticello events provide opportunities to network with other local businesses and stay current with community happenings.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Chamber of Commerce & Industry is involved in many community events. Community events offer many businesses the opportunity to meet their customers first hand and get their business name out into the community. Call us – we'd be happy to give you information on the next community event!

### EDUCATION

Chamber-sponsored speakers and seminars will give you continuous business training throughout the year.

### ADVOCACY

- Opportunity to express your opinions about issues impacting your business and to be part of a collective voice. Let the Chamber serve as your advocate.
- Your membership supports the Chamber's involvement in issues that affect the health of the community.

### RELOCATION PACKAGES

If someone is looking at moving to Monticello, whether a business or resident, the Chamber is the place to call or visit. We put together hundreds of packages throughout the year.

# Chamber Events and Involvement...

**Co-host chamber lunch with City's IEDC Committee** – inviting any business to showcase their products, enjoy lunch, listen to the latest city update, and mingle with other business owners.

**Golf Tournament** – Our tournament is always one of the first of the season. Sponsorships & registrations fill up quickly. Our sponsors are usually very creative! This year our great host was RiverWood National. Golfers can look forward to Monticello Country Club in 2009.

**Walk N Roll** – A wonderful family event that provides a business great exposure! There is no cost to participate, and the exposure to young families is unprecedented. Over 2000 people attend this pathway event, with business booths lining the route. Monticello businesses donate bikes to be given away at the park. The event ends food, fun and give-a-ways. Thank you City of Monticello for allowing the Chamber to co-sponsor this event with you to better serve our residents and businesses.



**Art in the Park/Taste of Monticello** – A popular activity during the city's summer festival. The Chamber is actively involved in Riverfest and is host to Art in the Park/Taste of Monticello. Our Chamber restaurants are invited to participate in Taste of Monticello. It gives our community and visitors a chance to see what types of food Monticello has to offer. Our art show usually attracts about 75 top notch vendors. The Mississippi River is the perfect setting for this one day, outdoors show. Plan to spend the day, visit the craft booths, taste some great food, & enjoy the entertainment throughout the day.

**Corporate Duck Adoptions** – The Duck Race provides the funds necessary to run a festival. We owe our business community is very BIG thank you. Our businesses are very generous to adopt a large portion of these ducks through our corporate duck adoption program.



**Monticello Royalty** – The Monticello Royalty promotes the community spirit and pride. The Royalty serves as public relations liaisons to the community and meets, greet and share information about out town with others they meet. A search for candidates begins in March. The Royal Court represents, Monticello at 50-60 community parades and coronations, as well as Monticello events. Monticello businesses are encouraged to call the Chamber if they are interested in sponsoring a candidate.

**Monticello Expo** – Businesses from Monticello and area communities are encouraged to participate in this exciting event. Our food court, entertainment and 80+ vendors create a nice event. This year's Guitar Hero drew a crowd young and old alike. Check the chamber's website for the 2009 date.

**Business of the Year/Annual Banquet** – Every year, the 1st Monday in December, the Monticello Chamber hosts the annual banquet and announces the business of the year. *Business of the Year Selection Criterion:*

- The Business is a Chamber member: *and*
- The Business has been around at least five years: *and*
- Has a consistency of service and/or products to its customer *and*
- Community: *and*
- Promotes betterment of the community as a business: *and*
- Encourages employees to be involved in the community

**Land and Lease File** – The Chamber prides itself on keeping an up to date file on our website of property that is available in Monticello, whether for lease or sale. If you have a listing, contact us. If you are looking to relocate, take a peak!



**Ambassador Service** – If you have an open house, a ribbon cutting, award ceremony or a reason to be recognized – contact the Chamber office. We have a great team of Ambassadors who will come and visit your event. This is a great opportunity for you to promote your business!! The Ambassadors are a recruiting and retention arm of the Chamber.

**High School Scholarships** – The Chamber offers two scholarships in the amount of \$750 on behalf of our membership. Each deserving student from the Monticello High School must be employed at a Chamber business.

**Web Traffic Explodes** – The Chamber website is a very busy place! As we look at the traffic counts, we'd like to let our membership know that the Business Directory is the busiest of all the links. We also see a lot of traffic on our Calendar of Events and Land and Lease file. These pages might be a great place to advertise your business. Call the chamber office at 763-295-2700 for more information.

P.O. Box 192, Monticello, MN 55362  
 p. 763-295-2700 f. 763-295-2705  
[www.monticellocci.com](http://www.monticellocci.com)

## 2008 Members of the Monticello Chamber of Commerce & Industry:

A Catered Event  
 A Glorious Church  
 Ace Solid Waste, Inc.  
 Action Plus Temporary Service  
 Action/COACH Business Coach  
 AFLAC - Amanda Galindo  
 AFLAC - Sandra Vetsch  
 Agosto Law Office  
 Albertville Orthodontics  
 Albertville Premium Outlets  
 Allied Properties & Management LLC  
 All4Kids  
 American Building Contractors, Inc.  
 American Family Insurance  
 dba Tim Whitacre Agency, Inc.  
 Ameriprise Financial - Gagnon, Kloubeck  
 and Associates  
 Ameriprise Financial - Basten  
 Applebee's Restaurant  
 AST Sports  
 Authority Fence and Decks, Inc.  
 AVON, Sherry Marthaler  
 Bainey Group, The  
 Bakken Building & Remodeling  
 BBF Properties  
 Belde Chiropractic & Body Shop  
 Benedetto, Mike - Lifetime Member  
 Benefits Solutions Plus, Inc.  
 Best Western Chelsea Inn & Suites  
 Birch / Midbook Directory  
 Bitzer Garage Doors  
 Buffalo Orthodontics  
 Buffalo Wild Wings  
 Bula Sign & Advertising Co  
 Bullseye Collection Agency Inc.  
 Bullseye Properties  
 Burnham Tree Experts  
 Bursch Travel  
 Capital Street Financial Services  
 Carefree Country Club  
 Cargill Kitchen Solutions  
 Caribou Coffee #1161  
 CenterPoint Energy  
 Chanticlear Pizza, AAA Plus Inc.  
 Central MN Jobs & Training Services  
 Charles Hartell Realty  
 Charter Communications  
 Charter Media  
 Chin Yuen  
 Classic Catering By Steven's  
 Classique Jewelry  
 Clayton's Appliance Repair  
 Clear North Technologies  
 Coldwell Banker Burnet, Lora Giacomoni  
 Congresswoman Michele Bachman  
 Conroy Law Office, LTD

Cornerstone Cafe & Catering Co.  
 Cortez Collectibles  
 Crostini Grille  
 Cub Foods Monticello  
 Culver's of Monticello  
 Custom Title Services  
 Custom Woodworking by L.B.C. llc  
 Dahlheimer Distributing Company, Inc.  
 DATASuccess, Inc.  
 David's Photography  
 Days Inn of Monticello  
 Dragsten Development  
 Dunn Bros. Coffee  
 Eagle Builders Inc.  
 Edina Realty Home Services  
 Edina Realty, Coudron Team Dockendorf  
 Edina Realty, Scott Phillips  
 Edward Jones Investments  
 Electro Industries, Inc.  
 Elk River Printing  
 emkay & co  
 Exit Now Realty  
 Faith in Action in Sherburne Co.  
 First Minnesota Bank  
 First National Financial Services  
 Fitness Matters  
 Foster, Carlson & White Agency  
 Free Geothermal Energy  
 Functional Industries, Inc.  
 General Rental  
 Glacier Construction of Monticello  
 Golds Gym  
 Gould Chevrolet  
 Grabinski, Bob - Lifetime Member  
 Grand Casino  
 GrandPaws Place  
 Great River Spine & Sport  
 H & R Block  
 H. Brothers Painting Inc.  
 Heaven on Earth Events, LLC  
 Hemness Construction  
 Hoglund Bus and Truck Co.  
 Hoglund, Ron - Lifetime Member  
 Home Depot  
 HP Financial Services, Inc.  
 Humana MarketPOINT  
 ICBits - I can't believe it's that simple!  
 Innovative Catering Solutions  
 Integrated Recycling Technology  
 Jennifer R. Lewis Kanngieter,  
 Attorney at Law  
 JME of Monticello, Inc.  
 Jordan Medical  
 Joy Center  
 Kaltec of Minnesota  
 Ken Geroux Construction Corp.

Kendall, Harvey - Lifetime Member  
 Kjellbergs, Inc.  
 KleinBank - Big Lake  
 KleinBank - Buffalo  
 Kustom Blinds & Draperies  
 Lakeland Transmission & Auto Service, Inc.  
 Land of Lakes Chior Boys  
 Dahlheimer Distributing Company, Inc.  
 Larson, Allen, Weishair & Co., LLP  
 Laser Memories  
 Liberty Savings Bank, fsb  
 Lifestage Wealth Management Group, LLC  
 Lisa G's Styling Studio  
 Living Well Chiropractic  
 Loch Jewelers, Inc.  
 Lommel, Chris Photography  
 Majestic Limousine, Inc.  
 MAJIRS! Advertising and Design  
 March of Dimes Foundation  
 Marco Inc.  
 Marketplace Home Mortgage  
 Martie's Farm Service, Inc.  
 McAlpine Woodworks, LLC.  
 McDonald's of Monticello  
 Midwest Precision Machining  
 MinnClean  
 Minnesota Public Radio  
 Mississippi Shores  
 MN Northland Real Estate, Inc.  
 MN State Senator - Amy Koch  
 General Rental  
 Glacier Construction of Monticello  
 Golds Gym  
 Gould Chevrolet  
 Grabinski, Bob - Lifetime Member  
 Grand Casino  
 GrandPaws Place  
 Great River Spine & Sport  
 H & R Block  
 H. Brothers Painting Inc.  
 Heaven on Earth Events, LLC  
 Hemness Construction  
 Hoglund Bus and Truck Co.  
 Hoglund, Ron - Lifetime Member  
 Home Depot  
 HP Financial Services, Inc.  
 Humana MarketPOINT  
 ICBits - I can't believe it's that simple!  
 Innovative Catering Solutions  
 Integrated Recycling Technology  
 Jennifer R. Lewis Kanngieter,  
 Attorney at Law  
 JME of Monticello, Inc.  
 Jordan Medical  
 Joy Center  
 Kaltec of Minnesota  
 Ken Geroux Construction Corp.

Moon Motorsports  
 Mosford, Barthel & Co., PLC.  
 NAPA Auto Parts  
 Nelson Building & Development  
 North Hennepin Community College  
 Northwestern Mutual Financial Network  
 NovaCare Rehabilitation  
 Office Max  
 Old Skool Kustoms L.L.C.  
 Olson & Sons Electric, Inc.  
 Olson General Contractors, Inc.  
 Options, Inc.  
 O'Ryan's Marathon  
 Osowski Orchard Fun Market  
 Otter Creek, LLC  
 Paeonia Floral  
 Papa Murphy's  
 Peterson-Grimsmo Chapel  
 Phone Directories Company  
 Picture of Health  
 Pinnacle Printing Inc  
 Pittman, Harold - Lifetime Member  
 Pizza Man  
 Playhouse Child Care of Monticello  
 Poente Financial, Inc.  
 Preferred Title, Inc.  
 Premier Banks of Monticello  
 Premier Computer Repair  
 Premier Builders, Inc.  
 Primerica (Thickpenny Region)  
 Primo Pizza  
 Pro Wireless  
 Progressive Builders, Inc.  
 Quarry Community Church  
 Rand House Bed & Breakfast, The Historic  
 Rasmussen College  
 RE/MAX Realty Source  
 Redwood Lending Corp  
 Rengel Printing Company  
 River City Extreme  
 Rivers of Hope  
 RiverWest Renovation  
 RiverWood Bank  
 Riverwood National/Vintage Golf Course  
 Rockwoods Grill & Backwater Bar &  
 Rockwoods Banquet & Conference Center  
 Royal Tire One  
 Russell's on the Lake  
 Schlenner Wenner & Co.  
 Schluender Construction, Inc.  
 Select Eyecare  
 Signs, Garments, Graphics & Banners (SGGB)  
 Simonsons Lumber  
 Sleep Inn and Suites  
 Smith, Don - Lifetime Member  
 Smith, Paulson, O'Donnell & Associates, PLC

Spirit 92.9/KKJM Gabriel Communications  
 St. Benedict's Senior Community  
 St. Scholastica, The College of  
 Standard Iron  
 Stars Youth Hockey  
 State Farm Insurance  
 Station Bar & Grill  
 Steele's Collision LLC / Groveland Center  
 Strategic Equipment & Supply Corporation  
 Studer Chiropractic, P.C.  
 Suburban Manufacturing, Inc.  
 Sunlife Tanning  
 Swan River Montessori Charter School  
 Sylvia Nelson Massage Therapist  
 Target  
 Tastefully Simple Independent Consultant  
 TCF Bank  
 TDS Telecom  
 TEAM Chiropractic & Wellness Center  
 The Guest List  
 The Lionheart Group  
 The Secret Closet Boutique  
 Top Priority Sports  
 Totz Graphic Design, Inc.  
 Travel Leaders (formerly Carlson Wagonlit)  
 Tricon Construction, Inc.  
 Tri-Country Abstract and Title Guaranty, Inc.  
 Trinity Lutheran Church  
 Twin City Die Castings Company  
 U-First Financial  
 UMC, Inc.  
 Uptown Eyecare  
 US Bank  
 USA Northland Directories  
 Vantage Point Partners  
 Veolia ES Rolling Hills Landfill, Inc.  
 Verizon Wireless  
 VonHanson's Meats  
 Wall to Wall Organizing  
 Walmart Supercenter Store  
 Warnert Commercial  
 Wells Fargo Bank Minnesota  
 Wells Fargo Home Mortgage  
 Wes Olson Electric LLC  
 West Metro Buick Pontiac GMC  
 West Metro Ophthalmology  
 West Sherburne Tribune  
 Wright City Economic Development  
 Wright Hennepin Electric & Security  
 WSB & Associates  
 WSI Industries, Inc.  
 Xcel Energy  
 YTB Travel