



## January 2024 Newsletter

Letter from Our New President

Happy New Year Everyone,

It's a pleasure to welcome you to the new year and an updated board. These dedicated people have graciously offered their time, knowledge and expertise to help make your chamber a better place for you to grow your business and get connected. You can find all the information on the board at the GCCC website, Directors page.

I would like to say a personal thank you to our past Chamber President, Brian Stinson. Brian, despite losing sleep due to a new baby and a bustling family life, has worked hard to bring your chamber through the financial difficulties of the COVID era. Brian has left us in excellent shape.

We will also miss Maryanne Dowling who kept us energized as a board while organizing many of our events. She will still be around for a quick pep talk and stand-up comedy routines.

There are many events coming this year where you can come and connect with savvy business owners in Camillus, community leaders, make friends and find mentors.

If you are interested in loaning your talents either on the board or as a helper for events, you can contact myself or Meagan Kestler by emailing [GreaterCamillusChamber@gmail.com](mailto:GreaterCamillusChamber@gmail.com).

Personally, I have found that I am energized from all my interactions with our members. The vast collective knowledge of our business community helps me make better decisions and connections for my business.

There will continue to be a Leads Breakfast on the second Wednesday of each month where you can give your elevator pitch and share leads with fellow business leaders.

The Chili Cook-off is a great way to socialize, meet different members and vote on your favorite Chili. Its a very filling month.

Coffee Talks is a wonderfully informal gathering where we drink coffee and share ideas. Lots of board members show up there.

Every event is listed on the main page of the website, which has been updated to make things easier for you find all event information.

I look forward too meeting those of you that I haven't met and continued connection with those I've developed friendships with.

See you at our next event,

Ken Stoneburg  
Stoneburg Creative  
President of Your Chamber

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## **2024 Board of Directors**

We are excited to announce our incoming Board of Directors for 2024!

Congratulations to our new board members. We are looking forward to working together for a successful year to come!

### **Officers**

President- Ken Stoneburg, Stoneburg Creative  
Vice President- Nicole Cook- Nazarkiewicz, Spectrum Business  
2nd Vice President- Peter Wynard, Real Broker NY  
Treasurer- Matt Prell, Solvay Bank

### **Board Members**

George Mango, Howard Hanna  
Rod Wallenbeck, Rodfather's Catering & BBQ  
Dick Waterman, Village of Camillus  
Geoff Wright, Howard Hanna  
Julie Rotella, SECNY Federal Credit Union  
Jennifer Savastino, Gannon Pest Control  
Maria Rachetta Wheeler, NBT Bank  
Blake Carter, LionOx Master Company

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### **Business of the Year/ Citizen of the Year**

We will be announcing our winners for the 2023 Business of the Year and 2023 Citizen of the Year within the next week or so. Keep your eyes open for information on the winners, as well as the awards banquet. Information regarding that will be going out almost immediately after our winners are announced so you can get registered. We are excited to celebrate our 2023 winners and hope you will all be able to join us for the award dinner.

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### **Our January Business of the Month is...**



**Plaza Wine and Liquors**

Plaza Wine and Liquors is more than just your corner liquor store. They've been serving their friends and neighbors in New York for nearly 50 years. As an independently owned, licensed vendor of liquor, Camillus, NY residents know that Plaza Wine and Liquor is the place to go for all of your wine needs. Their expert staff can help you to find the perfect wine for your party, no matter what the size. They can also help you to find the perfect wine to pair with any food. Stop in and see them or visit them online at [www.plazawineandliquorofcamillus.com](http://www.plazawineandliquorofcamillus.com) to learn more!

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## **Upcoming Events**

### **January 10th- January Monthly Leads Breakfast**

**Hosted by: Bowl Boss Fairmount**

Breakfast will be hosted at Bowl Boss Fairmount (3439 West Genesee Street, Syracuse, NY 13219)

Breakfast starts at 8, please arrive by 7:45 so we can get started on-time.

Breakfast is now pre-paid online and is \$10. We will still be doing a 50/50 raffle after the breakfast- tickets for the raffle will be available the morning of for an additional \$1.

Be prepared to promote your business with your one minute elevator pitch.

Please RSVP by 1/7/202- you can do so online- [www.camilluschamber.com/event-5509401](http://www.camilluschamber.com/event-5509401)

### **January 16th- Coffee Talks**

**Hosted by: Syracuse Wineworks**

This is an informal networking opportunity held at Syracuse Wineworks (3787 Milton Ave., Camillus) the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 8am. Bring the beverage of your choice and come chat with fellow business people on a more personal level.

Want to discuss how to be more involved in the Chamber? Want to host a Chamber event? There are at least 2 Board members at every Coffee Talks that you can chat with!

You can RSVP online here- [www.camilluschamber.com/event-5504814](http://www.camilluschamber.com/event-5504814)

We hope to see you there!



**February 6th- 2024 Chili Cook Off**



*Chili*  
**COOK  
OFF**

JOIN US TUESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 6TH, 2024  
6PM

INTERESTED IN ENTERING A CHILI? EMAIL  
GREATERCAMILLUSCHAMBER@GMAIL.COM  
TO GET SIGNED UP!

CAMILLUS SENIOR CENTER  
27 1ST STREET, CAMILLUS, NY

Make your  
best chili for a  
chance to win!

FREE TO ENTER &  
FREE TO TASTE

(315) 320-66300

For more information, visit:  
WWW.CAMILLUSCHAMBER.COM

Learn more here- [www.camilluschamber.com/event-5523585](http://www.camilluschamber.com/event-5523585)

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## Recent Events

## Holiday Luncheon/ End of Year Meeting

We had such a nice time at our Annual Holiday Luncheon! Thanks to all of those who joined. A special thanks to The Inn Between for hosting another delicious lunch and the West Genesee High School Quartet for the wonderful holiday music!









We had a blast with the ugly sweater contest. Thanks to everyone who joined in on the fun and participated in the contest. We had a good time with this and plan on doing it again. Congratulations to Chris Uyehara from Last Shot Distillery who went home with the 1st place prize, and Cindy Kraus from Kraus Nuisance Wildlife who was our 2nd place winner! Special thanks to The Help by Maryanne and SECNY Federal Credit Union for your prize donations!



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## New Members

We want to wish a warm welcome to our newest Chamber members:

- **Expedia Cruises:** Expedia Cruises is part of the Expedia Group family. They specialize in air, land and sea vacations- helping their customers plan vacations of their dreams. Learn more at [www.expediacruises.com/Camillus](http://www.expediacruises.com/Camillus)
- **Pine Grove Health & Country Club:** Offering a fitness center and 18 hole golf course, this 2nd generation family run business has your best interest in mind. Operating in this beautiful Camillus valley for over 50 years, their sole reason for getting out of bed each morning is to positively effect the lives of their members and to make a difference in our community. Any chain gym can rent you a treadmill, heck you probably have one in your basement covered in laundry, but if you want serious health and fitness results, then they might be exactly what you are looking for. Learn more at [www.pinegrovecountryclub.com](http://www.pinegrovecountryclub.com).

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