



Wahpeton  
Breckenridge

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WAHPETON BRECKENRIDGE AREA  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# MEMBERSHIP GUIDE

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## **"THE STRENGTH OF THE CHAMBER LIES IN ITS MEMBERSHIP . . ."**

The Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit organization of the Wahpeton ND and Breckenridge MN area business community. It connects business, industry, and professional individuals to improve the economy and build a more vibrant and prosperous community. The strength of the Chamber lies in its membership. Collectively we can accomplish what no one could do individually. If you are seeking exposure, creative ways to reach new customers/market your business, or position your company as a community leader and contribute to the growth and development of our communities being a chamber member is a cost effective choice for you! We would love to help you find the right opportunities for your business to achieve the goals you have set.

# Hello Valued Member

Thank you for committing to support the Twin Town communities by joining your Chamber of Commerce. Through businesses like yours, we have been able to continue to provide services that help promote growth and business development in our community.

At your Chamber we strive to provide you with what you need to succeed. We work hard to offer benefits to you and your employees. Together we will continue to make the Wahpeton Breckenridge community a great place to live, work and play. Membership in the Chamber is an investment in our community. We appreciate your support and thank you for being an integral part of our future. You are important to us and we look forward to continue to serve you.

If you have any questions or if there is anything else we can do to assist your business, please don't hesitate to reach out to us!

Sincerely,

*Katie Rauber*

Executive Director  
Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce  
katie@wbchamber.net | 701.642.8744



# Why join the Chamber?

## INCREASE YOUR EXPOSURE

- Have your business listed in the Business Directory on the Chamber website
- Be a Chamber Bucks Participating Business
- Have your logo shown on our digital sign
- Ribbon Cuttings and Member Spotlights
- Participate in various retail events
- Share events on social media
- Ability to post jobs, events and hot deals on the Chamber website

## EXPAND YOUR NETWORK

- Participate in Business After Hours
- Become a Twin Town Ambassador
- Annual Meeting
- Annual Business Awards
- Various Social Events throughout the year

## BUSINESS SERVICES

- Certificate of Origin
- Notary Service
- Use of conference room and professional employee headshots with membership upgrade

## COMMUNITY

Perhaps the most important reason to belong to the Chamber is the impact you will have on our community. The events the Chamber holds are designed to bring exposure to our area and to help in the growth and development of the region. Your Chamber membership dollars are an investment in our community.



# Are you **MAXIMIZING YOUR MEMBERSHIP?**

Your Chamber membership is a lot like a gym membership. The gym offers a number of tools to help you achieve your goals: free-weights, treadmills, stair-steppers. But if you don't use these tools, you won't achieve your fitness goals.

Similarly, the Chamber offers many tools that can help you achieve your business goals. Your online business listing helps you gain exposure by utilizing google search engine optimized keywords. Other online features such as job listings and Hot Deals get your business noticed and our Chamber Bucks program helps get people through your door while keeping dollars local.

## **CHECK OFF THESE STEPS AND GET STARTED MAXIMIZING YOUR CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP TODAY:**

- Refresh your member listing through your membership portal. Keep us updated on any email, address or phone number changes.
- Upgrade your membership to receive added benefits.
- Sign up to be a participating business in our Chamber Bucks Program.
- Post a job opening, event or Hot Deal through your membership portal.
- Attend Business After Hours or set up a booth to showcase your business.
- Make sure we have a current logo from your business for our digital sign.
- Join our Ambassador Program to have an upfront seat on what's going on in the business community.

# Member Information Center

If you have not signed into your membership portal, please do so. This is where you go to update your company information, post job listings, events and Hot Deals on our website. This is a great resource and gives your business the exposure it deserves.

This benefit is included with your basic membership. If you haven't logged into your membership portal before, contact us at [lisa@wbchamber.net](mailto:lisa@wbchamber.net) and we will send you a link and help you get started.

The screenshot displays the Member Information Center interface. At the top left is the WB AREA logo. A search bar is located in the top right, with a user profile icon and the text "Logged in as Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce" and "Account Settings" next to it. Below the search bar is a navigation menu with icons for Home, Directory, Events, Resources, Reports, News, and Settings. On the left side, there is a "Shortcuts" menu with links to Personal Information, Company Information, Hot Deals, and Job Postings. The main content area is titled "Home" and features a "Welcome Message" section with a "Read Later" button. The message text reads: "ChamberMaster is your direct connection to the Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce. As a member of the Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce you have the opportunity to market your business to consumers visiting <http://www.wahpetonbreckenridgechamber.com> by enhancing your informational home page with pictures and text. You can also post hot deals, job openings and events, add keywords to help consumers find you when they run searches, and run reports to see hit statistics for your home page and other advertised items. Whether at work, at home, or traveling, anywhere that you have access to the internet you will be able to edit your information by logging into the ChamberMaster website. If you have any questions regarding this site please contact your Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce representative." Below the message is a "Favorites" section with a "Filter" dropdown. It lists two entries: "Jamie Neppi" from "Tiny Tykes Preschool & Daycare" and "Diane Finnie" from "Innovative Abstract & Title Company", both with edit icons and timestamps. On the right side, there is an "Upcoming Events" section for "02 FEBRUARY 2021" featuring "Grief Journeys for Widows Support Group" with a "see more" link. Below that is a "Member Profile" section showing "Your Company Profile is 23%" with an "UPDATE" button and contact information: "For more information please contact [info@wahpetonbreckenridgechamber.com](mailto:info@wahpetonbreckenridgechamber.com) or (701) 642-8744" and a "Promote your Business" button.

# Chamber Bucks - Keep it Local

The Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce reimplemented the Chamber Bucks program in November 2019. Since that time we have kept over \$35,000 in our local economy. Chamber Bucks make great gifts for family and friends but also are an excellent choice for employee incentives

We currently have approximately 30 area businesses participating in the program. If you would like your business to be included please contact the chamber office. There is no fee to be included as a participating business.

## Getting Started . . .

- Complete the application included in your membership packet and return it to the Chamber office.
- Familiarize your employees with what a chamber buck looks like.
- Accept Chamber Bucks from your customers.
- After you accept a valid Chamber Buck at your place of business from a customer for goods and services, you may go ahead and cash the Chamber Bucks just as you would any check.



# Signature Events

Each year the Chamber hosts a variety of Signature Events. These events provide a unique opportunity to highlight the work of the community and to bring visibility to our valued members. Help build your network, get involved and learn more about our Signature Events below.

## ANNUAL MEETING

Join us in February for a luncheon as we celebrate the accomplishments and success of the Twin Towns over the past year. Honor businesses and individuals for their service to the Chamber and the community with our achievement awards. Recognize and thank Board Members and our Twin Town Ambassadors for their contributions.

## COFFEE WITH LEGISLATORS

The Chamber offers several opportunities throughout the year to meet with legislators over coffee on select Saturday mornings from 10 AM - Noon. Each session is open to the public and is an excellent opportunity for the legislators and their constituents to discuss important issues. Please watch our Facebook page for further details on dates, times and location as that information becomes available.

## MARKETPLACE FOR KIDS

The Chamber is proud to partner with Marketplace for Kids and NDSCS each year for this one day event in May. Over 1000 students from area schools are bused to the NDSCS campus where they attend short, hands on classes & participate in activities designed to give a behind the scenes look at various fields of employment. This is a great opportunity for the students to network with each other, while developing important leadership skills, all in an entertaining manner.

## BLUE GOOSE DAYS

The summer events will kick off with Blue Goose Days during the first weekend in June. Chahinkapa Zoo and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be hosting a fun-filled day with hands-on opportunities for youth of all ages to participate in activities focused on wildlife conservation programs. There will also be a craft show and Tal the orangutans birthday celebration. There are lots of other events being planned so watch our Facebook page for more details.



## CHALKFEST

The Annual Borderline Chalkfest will be held the second weekend in July. With the support of our community we are hoping to make this the biggest Chalkfest yet expanding artists to two blocks and offering a variety of activities for everyone to enjoy. Borderline Chalkfest attracts spectators from all over and hosts professional and amateur artists from across the United States.

## MIX AND MINGLE

This currently is a yearly event usually held in the fall and is organized by the Twin Town Ambassadors. The Twin Town Ambassadors host approximately 25 businesses who set up booths to promote the products and services they offer. This is an excellent networking opportunity for businesses, entrepreneurs or anyone looking to make connections in the Twin Towns.

## TWIN TOWN AMBASSADORS EVENTS

The Chamber along with the Twin Town Ambassadors plan many events throughout the year to promote Shop Local in the Twin Towns. Some of the annual events we are planning this year include:

- Super Saturday Local Sales Event
- Galentines Sales Event
- Summer Wine Walk
- Java Jump
- Small Business Saturday
- Holiday Cookie Crawl

Dates are yet to be determined for many of these events. Watch our Facebook page for more details.

# Annual Awards

The Chamber is excited to begin recognizing outstanding businesses in our community. At our Annual Meeting we will be presenting achievement awards as described below. Look for nomination forms via email in January.

## SPARK PLUG AWARD

This award goes to a member business (usually a new business) or a person who has shown an extra “spark of enthusiasm” for our community or Chamber in the past year through activities, proactive business practices, or forming positive relationships that benefit the community and the Chamber.

## BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Nominees should include those businesses who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, business acumen, and professionalism within our community.

Criteria includes:

- Demonstrated success in areas including employment, sales, and innovation
- Dedication to quality, customer service, and commitment to employees
- Evidence of contribution to the community and community-oriented projects
- Evidence of support of the Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce
- Additional information such as hurdles overcome, innovative management techniques, previous awards won, etc.

## CHAMBER SERVICE AWARD

This award is presented to a Chamber member who has proactively demonstrated extraordinary enthusiasm for our organization through volunteerism, participation in Chamber activities and/or committees. This nominee shall also have acted as a notably positive “ambassador” for our Chamber through interactions with the public and other members.

## NONPROFIT OF THE YEAR

Nominees for the Community Service Award should have displayed inspiring vision, fostered collaboration, and embodied community service as demonstrated throughout their good work within our community.

Criteria includes:

- Evidence of contribution to the community through community-oriented projects
- Providing professional expertise or personal talents to the community
- Engaging in civic and/or community activities that promote the community, our residents, businesses, and educational facilities (includes support of the Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce)

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT BUSINESS

The purpose of this award is to give recognition to a member business or person who has been dedicated and positive force in the Wahpeton Breckenridge business community for several decades.

# Board of Directors

2022 - 2023

Represented by a diverse profile of community leaders, the Board of Directors advises the Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber of Commerce and guides the policies that assist in the growth and development of our community.

- Edd Goerger, President..... Heartland Insurance
- Jim Cornelius, Vice President..... Benedictine Living Community
- Kory Kaste, Treasurer..... SVEDA
- Jodi Hendrickson, Past President ..... Edward Jones
- Becky Dockter ..... OSPTI
- Zachariah Caldiero..... Econo Foods
- Joanna Etzler.....Valley Lake Boys Home, Inc
- Mary Wolfgram ..... Twin Town Villa
- Tana Erbes ..... NDSCS
- Chris Kappas.....Circle of Nations

# Follow Us on Social Media



Wahpeton  
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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Let's Get Connected for Our Latest News & Updates



on TikTok @wbchamber



on Facebook @Wahpeton  
Breckenridge Chamber



on instagram @twintownchamber



wbchamber.net



info@wbchamber.net