



# Chamber Chatter

St. James Chamber of Commerce

111 S. Jefferson - PO Box 358

St. James, MO. 65559

## Important Notice for December & January Membership Meetings

As is normal, due to the busy holiday schedule, there will not be a December membership meeting.

The January Annual Dinner scheduled for January 20<sup>th</sup> has been postponed in order to better accommodate a potential guest speaker. Further information will be announced as soon as details are available.

There will be a January membership luncheon at 11:30 a.m. on January 20<sup>th</sup> at Meramec Vineyards. Installation of 2009 officers will be held at this meeting. Cost of the meal will be \$10.00. Please make your luncheon reservations by noon, January 16<sup>th</sup>.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

A big welcome to the following new members of the St. James Chamber of Commerce:

**St. James Elevator - 125 W. Washington**

**Salon Luxe - 209 N. Jefferson**

**Absolute Electronics - 211 N. Jefferson**

**Fairground Auto Plaza - 100 Fairgrounds Road**

If you know of a business that would benefit from belonging to our Chamber, please invite them to become a member. Informational packets are available at the Chamber office and Jennie will be happy to visit with them.



## December "Business of the Month" Selected

The St. James Chamber of Commerce would like to congratulate St. James Winery for being selected December "Business of the Month".

Founded in 1970, St. James Winery opened when the late James Hofherr and his wife Pat took a gamble. "We took our life savings and started the winery," recalls Pat, "When we took in \$100 the first day, we knew we would make it."

As pioneers of the renaissance of the Missouri wine industry, the Hofherr family's hard work has made the winery a huge success. In 2007, the winery once again was recognized as one of the top awarded wineries in the United States, with a total of 424 medals, including 23 Double Gold, 62 Gold, 175 Silver, and 164 Bronze. St. James Winery is ranked number 4 in Gold Medals awarded for the year in competitions by American Gold Medal Wines, directly behind other prestigious wineries, such as V. Sattui Winery, Navarro, and Kendall-Jackson.

Producing award-winning wines remains a family effort at St. James Winery with Patricia Hofherr, Chairman of the Board and sons Peter Hofherr, Chief Executive Officer, and Andrew Hofherr, Chief Operations Officer. Andrew studied viticulture at the University of Arkansas and Peter is currently finishing a PhD in Agricultural Economics with an emphasis in entrepreneurship at the University of Missouri.

December "Business of the Month"  
*(continued from page 1, column 2)*

Since the early 2000's, the winery has undergone several major cellar and warehouse expansions to accommodate the growing demand of their wines. Major vineyard expansions and the addition of regional vineyards in Arkansas and Michigan have boosted their total acreage to over 300, producing 15 different varieties of grapes. Production capabilities now exceed 200,000 cases annually, making St. James Winery the largest winery in the twelve state area, with distribution in fourteen states.

In 2008, the winery expanded their retail area to provide a much larger tasting room and to offer additional wine accessories and better showcase their wines. The St. James Winery is open daily Monday-Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Sunday, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. with extended evening hours until 7:00 p.m. during the summer months.



Santa will be in his workshop from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 13 and Saturday, December 20, 2008.

**2009 Events Wanted!**

We will soon be putting together a chamber calendar for 2009. If you know of dates that need to be listed on the events calendar, please notify the Chamber office at 265-6649 or email [stjameschamber@centurytel.net](mailto:stjameschamber@centurytel.net).



"Candyland Christmas"

The holidays are fast approaching and what better place to shop for unique gifts and services than hometown St. James. "Candyland Christmas", brought to you by the St. James Chamber of Commerce and these participating businesses:

**Chamber Seeking Next  
 "Citizen of the Year"**

Renee Ridling, President of the St. James Chamber of Commerce, has announced that nominations are being solicited for the "Citizen of the Year" award to be presented at the Chamber's annual dinner which will be held in late January, 2009.

Nominations are requested from any organization where volunteers are making a difference and improving the quality of life in the community--youth groups, civic organizations, area churches, emergency responder groups and schools. Nominees do not have to be a member of the St. James Chamber.

A letter detailing the involvement of the nominee and his/her contributions to the organization and/or community should be sent to: "Citizen of the Year", St. James Chamber of Commerce, PO Box 358, St. James, MO. 65559. The name of the nominator and a telephone number should accompany the nomination for any follow-up action that may be required.

Renee requests that nominations be postmarked no later than Friday, January 2, 2009.

- Absolute Electronics
- Amazing Concrete Finishes (Ron Moreland Const.)
- American Family Insurance
- Cardetti Homegas, Furniture & Appliance  
 Designs by Lisa
- Diana's Diner
- Dragonflies & Dreams
- Electric Sun Tan Co.
- Ellis Health Centre
- Farmer's Insurance
- FCNB Insurance - The Rhea Agency
- Forest City Health Mart Pharmacy
- Hutcheson Ford Sales
- Integrity Business
- Leo Cardetti Flag & Flagpole
- Plaza Fashions & Merle Norman Cosmetics
- Salon Luxe
- Shearwater's Salon
- Simply Irresistible
- St. James Elevator
- Studio K
- Sybill's Restaurant & Gift Shop
- Town & Country Bank
- United Country Meramec Realty
- Wild West Guns & More
- Wilson Lumber & Rental

What's Happening in Your Chamber  
Don't Miss These Ribbon-Cuttings!

**Dec. 13 Open House & Ribbon-cutting (11:00) at  
The Grapevine – 205 Hwy B, Unit 9  
265-8974**

**Dec. 19 Coffee & Ribbon-cutting (10:30 – 11:30) at  
Meramec Winery – Ribbon-cutting @  
11:30. 265-7847**

**Dec. 25-26 Chamber Office Closed**

### Commercial Decorating Contest Winner



**1<sup>st</sup> Place  
Free 1 Year Chamber Membership  
Golden Living Center**

### "Chamber Bucks" Available

The Chamber of Commerce office is now offering "Chamber Bucks" available for sale to anyone wishing to purchase them for gifts and have their gift dollars stay in the community. Recipients may purchase merchandise from any of the participating businesses listed on the "Buck". Businesses are then reimbursed for the amount of the buck by the Chamber office. Those businesses currently accepting "Chamber Bucks" are:

Absolute Electronics <-> BeautiControl Spa  
Book Addict & Stained Glass  
Cardetti Homegas, Furniture & Appliances  
Designs By Lisa <-> Diana's Diner  
Dragonflies & Dreams <-> Electric Sun Tan Co.  
Ellis Health Centre <-> Forest City Health Mart  
Grapevine <-> Halo Candle Company  
Hutcheson Ford Sales <-> Interstate Motorcycles  
Leo Cardetti Flag & Flagpole <-> Meramec Vineyards  
Plaza Fashions & Merle Norman Cosmetics  
Shearmaster's Salon <-> Simply Irresistible  
Spurgeon's 66 Service <-> St. James Veterinary  
Studio K <-> Sybills Restaurant & Gift Shop  
The Blue Beagle <-> Troutt & Sons  
Wild West Guns & More <-> Wilson Lumber & Rental

If you would like to participate in the "Chamber Bucks" program, call Jennie at the Chamber officer (265-6649) for further information.

### Go Green with Your Christmas Wrapping!

One of our Chamber members has a great idea for easy gift wrapping – Add a bow to the canvas bags being sold by the Chamber and give a bag that is more environmentally friendly than the paper bags sold at nearly the same price! Only \$3.00 and useful after the fact!

### Residential Decorating Contest Winners



**1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$100 in Chamber Bucks  
Jim & Joyce Ambrose  
320 Sidney Street**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$50 in Chamber Bucks  
Sarah Gann  
300 West Washington**



**3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$25 in Chamber Bucks  
Travis & Lois Hall  
18720 County Road 1000**

<p>AA Electric                  Absolute Electronics                  Aging Made Easy                  Alex's Pizza Palace                  Alfermann Gray &amp; Company                  American Family Insurance                  Ashby's Covenant Insurance, LLC                  Award Source                  Bauer, Donald                  Baymont Inn's Suite                  BeautiControl Spa                  Book Addict &amp; Stained Glass                  Boys-Girls Town                  BPJ Insurance                  Brown, Sue                  Brummet, Jeff                  Camp Brim Shire                  Cardetti Homegas, Furn. &amp; Appliance                  Celebrations Catering &amp; Rentals                  Central Federal Savings &amp;                      Loan Assoc.                  Century 21 First Choice                  Century Signs                  Centurytel                  City of St. James                  Coldwell Banker - The Baker Group                  Columbia College                  Connell Business Dev. Consulting                  Copeland Bus Sales                  Copeland, Ellis                  COPIC                  Corn, Johanna                  Country Mart                  Crutiques Bed &amp; Breakfast                  Cuba Area Chamber                  Delano Oil Company                  Designs By Lisa                  Diana's Diner                  Didion-Orf Recycling                  Donald Farm &amp; Lawn                  Dragonflies 'n Dreams                  Edward Jones                  Electric Sun Tan Co.                  Elgin Surveying                  Ellis Health Centre                  Emerson, Jo Ann                  Etiquette for Today                  Exodus Pest Pro Inc.                  Fairground Auto Plaza                  Farmers Insurance                  FCNB Insurance                  Fidelity Communications                  Fine Line Cabinetry                  Flooring Factory Outlet                  Forest City Counseling, LLC                  Forest City Family Practice                  Forest City Pharmacy                  Frazier, Vicki</p>	<p>Frisbee Mid-Missouri Realty, Inc.                  Gahr Line &amp; Cable                  Golden Living Center                  The Grapevine                  Grellner Sales                  Guaranteed Green                  Gunter's Buckit                  Halo Candle Company                  HiStriker                  Huffman Lawn &amp; Landscaping                  Hunter, Aaron                  Hutcheson Collision Center                  Hutcheson Ford Sales                  Integrity Business                  Intercounty Electric                  Interstate Motocycles                  Investment Realty, Inc.                  J. Rogers Architecture, Inc.                  James Foundation                  James-Gahr Mortuary                  Jensen, Mickie                  Jones Funeral Home                  Justin Renaud Real Estate                  Kean &amp; Company LLC                  Kent Jewelry, LLC.                  Key Sport Shop                  Kingdom Kia                  KMST Public Radio                  La Physique' Slimming Spa of                      St. James                  Lacy, Charles William                  Leo Cardetti Distributing                  Lynch &amp; Sons Plumbing &amp; Electric                  Matt's Steakhouse                  May, Bob - Missouri State                      Representative                  Meramec Vineyards                  Midstate State Dirworks                  Missouri Enterprise                  Missouri Veterans Home                  Money Management Group LLC                  MRPC                  Murdon Corporation                  N.B. West Contracting Co.                  Nappier Automotive                  Oliver, Kathy                  Ozark Actors Theatre                  Ozarks Coca-Cola                  Peaceful Bend Winery                  Pepsi-Cola Bottling, Co.                  Phelps Co. Regional Med. Ctr.                  Phelps County Bank                  Phelps-Pulaski Red Cross                  Plaza Fashions                  Poskin, Donald &amp; Betty                  Reid Fleming Industrial, LLC</p>	<p>Ray, Randall                  Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.                  Results Radio KTTR                  Rolla Area Chamber                  Rolla Shooting Club                  Ron Moreland Construction                  Salon Luxe                  Scattered Oaks                  Schmidt-Hardy Chevrolet                  Scissor Shack                  Scotts Printing                  SDC Group Stack Design &amp; Consulting                  Shearmaster's Salon                  Sheffield, Mary                  Shelter Insurance                  Simply Irresistible                  Sonic Drive In                  Sooter, Clara                  South Central Board of Realtors                  Southside Motors                  Spurgeon's 66 Service                  St. James Caring Center                  St. James Elevator                  St. James Eye Care                  St. James Golf Club                  St. James Leader Journal                  St. James R-1 Schools                  St. James Veterinary                  St. James Winery                  St. Johns Health Clinic                  State Farm Insurance                  Stratmann, Larry                  Studio K                  Sunny Slope Boer Goats                  Sybills Restaurant &amp; Gift Shop                  Tacony Manufacturing                  Tessaro, Robert and Mary                  The Blue Beagle                  Tom's Shoes                  Town &amp; Country Bank                  Troutt &amp; Sons                  Underwood, Gene &amp; Gail                  United Country Meramec Realty                  University Book Store                  University of Missouri                  US Bank                  USA Tours                  Verkamp &amp; Malone, CPAs                  Verkamp, Randy                  Wal-Mart DC                  Walker, Don &amp; Ruth                  Watson, Cordell                  Wildwest Guns &amp; More                  Williams Insulation                  Wilson Lumber &amp; Rental                  Wilson, Dennis                  Wind Rush Farms</p>
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