

# The Connection



SUMMER 2008

## Corporate Sponsors 2008



The Simsbury Bank

## Avon Chamber of Commerce Your Business Connection

412 West Avon Road  
Avon, CT 06001

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Fax: 860.675.0469

check out the web site:  
[www.avonchamber.com](http://www.avonchamber.com)  
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### Morning Business Network Connection

First Wednesday of the month, 8:30-9:30 a.m., Hosted by **Cosi**, 385 West Main Street (Route 44), Avon • Members – Free

- **Wednesday, September 3** • **Wednesday, October 1**
- **Wednesday, November 5** • **Wednesday, December 3**

### Network/Golf with the Chamber

An afternoon of networking with fellow Chamber golfers on the newly added 9 holes at Blue Fox Run Golf Course. 4:00 p.m. Hosted by **Blue Fox Run Golf Course**, 65 Nod Road, Avon • \$20/Golfer (walking), Golf Cart is an additional fee.

- **Tuesday, July 22** • **Tuesday, August 26**

### Business After Hours

Typically the Second Wednesday of the month 5:00-7:00 p.m.  
Members – Free, Non-Members – \$20

- **August 20** – Hosted by **Stonewall Kitchen**, 336 West Main Street (Route 44), Avon
- **September 10** – **A Pig Roast**, Hosted by **Dill, Joyce & Thresher Insurance; Ensign-Bickford Realty Corporation; Marriott Residence Inn-Avon; Susan Wolfe, Financial Advisor, Morgan Stanley**, On the grounds of the Marriott Residence Inn-Avon, Ensign Drive, Avon
- **October 15** – Hosted by **Miller Foods and Oma's Pride**, 308 Arch Road, Avon

### Yappee After Hours – Celebrate America,

a networking event for Chamber members and their canine companions.

- **Tuesday, July 15** 4:00-6:00 p.m. Hosted by **Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center**, 301 Country Club Road, Avon  
Members – Free

### Joint Networking Event (tentative)

with Avon, Canton and Northwest Connecticut Chambers of Commerce and the New Hartford Business Council, Tuesday, **October 28** 5:00-7:30 p.m. Hosted by Warner Theatre, 68 Main Street, Torrington • Members – Free

To register for events or receive additional information, contact the Avon Chamber office at 675-4832 or at [avonchamber@sbcglobal.net](mailto:avonchamber@sbcglobal.net).

To see more events go to: [www.avonchamber.com/events.asp](http://www.avonchamber.com/events.asp)

# Avon Chamber Corporate Sponsorship Program

**The Avon Chamber of Commerce  
and its Board of Directors  
are delighted to introduce our  
Corporate Sponsors.**



The Chamber also would like to take this opportunity to thank these businesses for being the first to participate in this new venture.

The Chamber's new Corporate Sponsorship Program provides a unique opportunity for those businesses seeking to receive exceptional visibility and exposure to our business and residential community.

Our new Corporate Sponsors have made a substantial commitment to support the

Chamber and, in turn, leverage their involvement as an integral part of their marketing and public relations programs.

In the coming months, look for these businesses and their logos on our Chamber's website, listed in our newsletter, phone directory, and prominently displayed at all Chamber meetings and events.

If your business is interested in becoming a Corporate Sponsor, please contact Lisa at the Chamber office.

# A ConnectiCare health plan for YOUR business? Ask your local Chamber!



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CHADAVON 508

# Welcome

**new members**  
**MARCH, 2008**

**Avon Massage Therapy Center**, Paula Dufault,  
32 East Main Street, Avon, CT 06001, 677-8388,  
677-0768, Massage Therapy Center,  
avonmassage@comcast.net, www.avonmassage.com

**Avon Old Farms Inn**, Shawn Daigle,  
Christine Pollack, 1 Nod Road, Avon, CT 06001,  
677-2818, 676-0280, Restaurant, Bar, Banquet Hall,  
Meeting Facility, Kosher, www.avonoldfarmsinn.com

**Avon Products, Inc.**, Laura LeMay & Bob LeMay,  
13 Eastgate Lane, Enfield, CT 06082-6205,  
860-741-5933, 860-741-0278, Full Line of  
Beauty Products Along with Great Merchandise,  
lemay0013@aol.com, www.youravon.com/rlemay

**Avon True Value Hardware**, Paul Holden,  
Kevin Cochran, Aaron Shaw, 22 Dale Road,  
Avon, CT 06001, 678-8665, 678-0440, Retail  
Hardware, avonhardware@yahoo.com,

**Fit to the Core**, Marjorie Bowen, 136 Deer Run,  
Burlington, CT 06013, 860-882-3277, 860-673-2713,  
Personal Training, fit.to.the.core@sbcglobal.net,  
www.fittothecorebymargie.com

**Mariel the Shoe Bar**, Mariel Peck, Alicia Bell, Guy  
Neumann, 44 West Main Street, Avon, CT 06001,  
860-470-0018, 860-470-0019,  
Womens Shoes, Handbags & Accessories,  
alicia@marieltheshoobar.com,  
www.marieltheshoobar.com

**Mary LeBlanc Realty**, Mary LeBlanc & Maris LeBlanc,  
255 Albany Turnpike, Canton, CT 06019, 693-1399,  
693-9351, Real Estate Sales: Representing Buyers  
& Sellers in the Farmington Valley, Litchfield  
County and Surrounding Towns. Specializing in  
Residential, Commercial, Investment & Land,  
maryleblancrealty@msn.com,  
www.maryleblancrealty.com

**My Dog's Daycare**, Patricia Holton, 18 Sandscreen  
Road, Avon, CT 06001, 673-3776, Doggie Daycare,  
Boarding, Grooming, Playgroups,  
animallover1228@sbcglobal.net,  
www.mydogsdaycarect.com

**Nassau's**, David Goldberg, Sharon Schreiber,  
15 Waterville Road, Avon, CT 06001, 677-9499,  
677-0665, Home Furnishings Retailer,  
dgoldberg@thnassaufurniture.com,  
www.thenassaufurniture.com

**Primary Eye Care Center**, Michele Mominee,  
Dianne Stevens, 44 Dale Road, Avon, CT 06001,  
243-2020, 243-5190, Eye Exams, Glaucoma, Corneal  
Specialist, Oculoplastics, shelly623mm@aol.com,

**The Village Bead Store**, Susan Greenwood,  
37 East Main Street, Old Avon Village, Avon,  
CT 06001, 674-0704, Bead & Jewelry Store

**WB Mason**, Steve Harris, 43 Foxcroft Run, Avon, CT  
06001, 860-234-0082 (cell), 673-0563 (home),  
Office Furniture and Supplies,  
steve.harris@wbmason.com, www.wbmason.com

**William Raveis - Laurie Kane**, 28 Brownstone Drive,  
Avon, CT 06001, 677-4661, 860-735-6707,  
Real Estate Agent, kanel@raveisre.com,  
www.raveis.com/lauriekane

## **Avon Chamber Membership Has Its Advantages**

Did You Know that the Avon Chamber Business Discount program (ACBD) is starting again. Introduce your business to thousands of potential customers FREE when you participate in this exciting program.

Watch for your flyer coming this July.

# Welcome

## new members

MAY, 2008

**Bernheimer-Lincoln Insurance Group, Inc.,**

Jan Pell, 779 Farmington Avenue, 2nd Floor,  
West Hartford, CT 06119, 860-558-8005,  
232-3942, Property/Casualty Insurance, Business  
& Personal, jan@bernheimerinsurance.com,

**BK Designworks,** Karen Berger, Diane Kowalczyk,

P.O. Box 683, 200 Albany Turnpike, Canton, CT  
06019, 693-6342, 693-6342, Quick Printing,  
Signs, Promotional Products, Graphic Design,  
Custom Gifts, bkdesignworks@comcast.net  
www.bkdesignworks.com

**Coldwell Banker - Jill Ball,** 300 West Main Street,

Avon, CT 06001, 860-558-3644, Real Estate,  
jill.ball@cbmoves.com, www.jill-ball.com

**First Data,** Cindy J. Tahil, 220 Albany Turnpike, P.O.

Box 1039, Suite 213, Canton, CT 06019, 693-9500,  
693-1010, Credit Card Processing Solutions for  
Your Business Needs, cindy.tahil@firstdata.com,  
www.firstdata.com

**Information Management Systems, Inc.,** Akin

OniOrisan, Linda Velez, 114 West Main Street,  
Suite 202, New Britain, CT 06050/P.O. Box  
2924, New Britain, CT 06050, 860-229-1119,  
860-225-5524, Background Checks, Pre-Employment  
and Tenant Screening Nationwide, Credit &  
Criminal Report, Driving Record, Education &  
Employment Checks, info@imswebb.com,  
www.imswebb.com

**Sports Buff,** Amy Wagner, 51 East Main Street, Avon,

CT 06001, 674-0073, 674-0073, Retail Gift,  
Clothing & Toys, amysportsbuff@aol.com,

**WardComm Public Relations, LLC,** Laura Ward,

186 Haynes Road, Avon, CT 06001, 860-573-4809,  
Public Relations, laura@wardcommpr.com,  
www.wardcommpr.com

**The Avon Chamber would like to thank the following businesses for renewing their membership**

@Insurance Agency, LLC

Avon Appliance &  
Electric Co.

Avon Old Farms School

Avon Plumbing &  
Heating Co.

Avon Resume

Avon Water Company

Avonridge, Inc.

Beacon Behavioral Services

Bonner & Company

Carl Candels & Associates

Colliers Dow & Condon

Connecticut Light &  
Power (CL&P)

Creative Memories  
– Sue Budde

Dill, Joyce & Thresher  
Insurance

Drew & Mersereau P.C.

Edible Arrangements

Gifts of Love

Golf Club of Avon

H.B.O. Realty  
International, LLC

Java Printing and  
Mailing Services

Jules Poirier Company,  
LLC

Jung & Associates, LLC

Keller Williams Realty  
– Cathy Fischer

Law Offices of Peter  
G. Gillin

Marriott Residence  
Inn - Avon

Old Avon Village

Pak Mail

Patricia Evans, Licensed  
Electrologist

PMP Corporation,

Primacy Professional  
Pathways  
International, LLC

Promotions by  
Design, LLC

Shein, Cohen, Palmer  
& Company, LLC

SummerWood at  
University Park

The Creative Hearts  
Center, LLC

The Hartford Courant

Village Needlecrafts

William Raveis Real  
Estate; Team HPR –  
Heidi Picard-Ramsay

This list represents renewals  
processed between April 1, 2008  
and May 31, 2008

Check out the membership directory at: [www.avonchamber.com/directory.asp](http://www.avonchamber.com/directory.asp)

## Dance into Summer

A **Dancer's Palette** offers dance classes in ballet, pointe, rhythm tap, Broadway jazz, hip-hop, boy's only hip-hop, African, adult fitness, creative movement/pre-ballet, and special needs dance for ages three to adult. They are located at **29 West Main Street (Route 44), Building 2, Suite 200**. Call **860-707-4198** or visit [www.adancerspalette.com](http://www.adancerspalette.com)

## New TV Stars

**Anew You Skincare & Wellness Center** was recently showcased on *Better Connecticut TV* with a segment about their Facial Tightening & Sculpting service. They are located at **16A Ensign Drive in The Shops at Avon Green**. Call them at **860-284-9730**.

## Good Eats

**Avon Old Farms Inn** announced the arrival of Executive Chef Nick Muce. Known for his award-winning, cutting-edge American cuisine, Muce combines the best of traditional fare with his own innovative style and vision. For more information call **860-677-2818**.

## High Praise

Barbara Hance, owner of **Barbara H. Hance Associates**, earned the designation of *Professional Daily Money Manager* from the American Association of Daily Money Managers. Hance was one of 21 people in 12 states to earn eligibility for this distinction.

## Great Specials

There is always something happening at **Bosc-Kitchen & Wine Bar**. Monday is *0 Corkage* night; Tuesday enjoy *1/2 Price Bottle of Wine*; Wednesdays you can "*Meet The Wine Guy*"; Thursday is *Lady's Night*; and Friday and Saturday listen to live music in the bar or on the terrace. For reservations call **860-676-2672**.

## Congratulations!

Liana Garcia-Fresher was recently named Executive Director of the **Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS) Foundation**, a national family support organization based in Avon. Garcia-Fresher replaces long-time executive director and co-founder Julie Mairano, who retired after 26 years. For more information, call **800-753-2357** or go to [www.cdlsusa.org](http://www.cdlsusa.org)

## Local Winner

Kay Green of **Green Graphic Design** was the recipient of a *Silver Award* at the 2007 Davey Awards, which honors the finest creative work from the best small firms, agencies and companies worldwide. To see more of Kay's work go to [www.greengraphicdesign.com](http://www.greengraphicdesign.com)



## Third Anniversary

Congratulations to **Hartford Federal Credit Union (HFCU)** in celebrating the third anniversary of its full-service Farmington Valley office, located at **29 Albany Turnpike (Route 44), West Simsbury**. To learn more about HFCU call **860-651-1400, ext. 10** or visit [www.hartfordfcu.com](http://www.hartfordfcu.com)

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**"The world cares very little about what a man or woman knows; it is what the man or woman is able to do that counts."**

*Booker T. Washington  
1856-1915, Educator and Reformer*

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### DEL GALLO FINANCIAL SERVICES, LLC

Leonard J. Del Gallo, Jr., CFP®

**DFS**

P.O. Box 717  
17 Briar Hill Road  
Avon, CT 06001-0717  
Phone: 860-675-5201  
Fax: 860-675-5202  
Website: [delgallo.com](http://delgallo.com)  
(By Appointment Only)

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## Save Money—Have Fun

Discounted Lake Compounce Tickets available at Hartford Federal Credit Union (HFCU), **29 Albany Turnpike (Route 44), West Simsbury.** HFCU and Avon Chamber of Commerce members can purchase tickets for only \$24.95 per admission for ages 4 and older (a \$9 savings). Children 3 and under are free. Tickets are valid for one-day park admission through September 27, 2008. Stop by HFCU or call Branch Manager Shamim Bhatti at **860-651-1400.**

## Outstanding Web Site

**Jules Poirier Company, LLC** was recognized by the Connecticut Better Business Bureau (BBB) with the *Outstanding Web Site Marketing Message Award for 2007.* In addition, company president and owner Jules Poirier was cited by State of Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal for “dedicated service to the community and state as recognized by the Better Business Bureau.”



## Diamond Award!

**Marriott Residence Inn-Avon** General Manager Nelson Adame received the *Diamond General Manager Award* for overall hotel leadership, team building and development, financial management, sales leadership, service so memorable, guest satisfaction scores, and community service. The **Marriott Residence Inn-Avon** also received the *Silver Award* for overall guest satisfaction score of 90% and obtaining 55% extended stay occupancy.



## Free Lunch

Attention business lunch aficionados: **Ninety Nine Restaurant & Pub** in Avon has a *Lunch Club*. Present your Lunch Club Card any day from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Get five stamps and your sixth lunch is free. One stamp per visit/per person. Minimum \$5 purchase. For your free Lunch Club Card visit **Ninety Nine Restaurant & Pub, 315 West Main Street (Route 44), Avon** or call **677-2699.**

## Loyalty Pays Off

**NPD Payroll** launches complimentary Loyalty Discount Card program for their clients. Members post discounts on a dynamic, web-based business listing with a direct link to their website and exclusive incentives. All employees of **NPD** clients will be given a Loyalty Discount Card. Call Ellen Cazzetta for more information at **860-677-5001 x103.**



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E-mail your business news to [avonchamber@sbcglobal.net](mailto:avonchamber@sbcglobal.net) or fax it to 675.0469. The deadline for the next issue is July 15.

*50 to 75 word limit*

## PROVEN RESULTS !!

**60 Units Sold - 13 Million Closed Volume**

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**HPR** heidi-picard-ramsay  
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[picardramsay@raveisre.com](mailto:picardramsay@raveisre.com)

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**860-307-0039**

Special Foods

Stonewall Kitchen won five American Inhouse Design Awards for their submissions: "Christmas Traditions" Holiday Packaging, Pretzel Dip Packaging, Holiday Recipe Booklet, Down East Cracker Boxes, and Holiday Packaging. In addition, three products have been nominated for 2008 softm Silver Awards presented by the National Association for the Specialty Food Trade (NASFT).

Good Job

Eliot M. Weissberg, Certified Financial Planner™, Certified Fund Specialist and financial advisor at The Investors Center, was named to Fidelity Investments 2008 Advisor Council in recognition of providing outstanding value, commitment and service to the investing public. The Investors Center is located at 70 East Main Street (Route 44), Avon.

Congratulations Howard

The Simsbury Bank announced that Howard R. Zern has joined its senior officer team as Senior Vice President and Chief Bank Operations and Technology Officer. Mr. Zern fills a new position and will be responsible for Bank



Operations; information technology; internet, telephone and self-service banking; and product management and development.

Free Community Events Calendar

The Simsbury Bank has a new free Community Events Calendar on its website, www.simsburybank.com, where people can find out what is happening in our area and search for local community organizations' events by date or key word. Local organizations are invited to post their upcoming events for free by completing an online submittal form.

The Shops at Avon Green
Bangle & Clutch - Over The Moon - Country Curtains
J McLaughlin - The Madison Shop - Mr. Parks Tailor
Swain RETAIL LEASING, INC. (860) 651-4244
ENSIGN-BICKFORD REALTY CORPORATION
Ensign Bickford Realty Corporation - managing agent (860) 843-2001

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Frank Carmon, IV • Kenneth Pescatello
www.carmonfuneralhome.com

# 4th Annual Bring A Non-Member Business Event

The Chamber's *4th Annual Bring A Non-Member Business Event*, held April 8 and hosted once again by **Ninety Nine Restaurant & Pub**, attracted a record-setting 31 representatives from non-member businesses. To date, six of those businesses have become Chamber members.

This annual event, which is our Chamber's unique twist on the standard membership drive, encourages current members to take an active role in recruiting new members to the Chamber. What better way for a non-member business to get to know the Chamber than to be invited by a member to attend one of our very successful networking events? Non-members see first-hand what a truly exciting and dynamic business advocacy organization our Chamber is.

Thanks to the efforts of many, attendance at this year's event topped out at over 110 members and guests. The Chamber would like to give a special thank you to the following members who participated in this year's event by bringing a non-member business guest (and in some cases multiple guests):

- Peter Andrighetti . . . . . **Andrighetti & Sons**
  - Pradeep Bajaj . . . . . **Local Color Ventures**
  - Carl Candels . . . . . **Carl Candels & Associates**
  - Ellen Cazzetta . . . . . **Nathan, Powers & Co./  
NPD Payroll**
  - Selina Derungs . . . . . **The Ink Store**
  - Robin DiNicola . . . . . **Farmington Savings Bank**
  - Cheryl England . . . . . **Marriott Residence Inn-Avon**
  - Kay Green\* . . . . . **Green Graphic Design**
  - Patricia Holton . . . . . **My Dog's Daycare**
  - Ron Huston . . . . . **State Farm Insurance**
  - Chip Janiszewski\* . . . . . **SendOutCards.com**
  - Ron Locandro, Jr. . . . . **Mr. Handyman**
  - Ketil Osland . . . . . **Insight Mortgage**
  - Deb Paine \* . . . . . **Golf Club of Avon**
  - Donna Pinckney . . . . . **Arbonne International**
  - Marty Rotblatt . . . . . **Farmington Valley Arts Center**
  - Avi Smith-Rapaport\* . . . . . **We Care Computers**
  - Les Zinner . . . . . **Cabinet Studio Kitchen & Bath**
- \*denotes multiple guests**

As a thank you to the members who work so diligently each year to make this event a success, the Chamber offered a special Prize Package, this year entitled *Somethings Special For You*, that consisted of a luxury overnight stay for two, including breakfast at **Avon Old Farms Hotel**; a \$50 gift card to **Bosc Kitchen & Wine Bar**; three personal training sessions at **Fitness Together**; a \$50 gift card to **Freskos Grill & Wine Bar**; lunch for two at **Max a Mia**; and a \$25 gift card to **The Shoppes at Farmington Valley**. Congratulations to this year's member winner – **Ron Locandro, Jr. of Mr. Handyman**.

In addition, any guest business that joined the Chamber the night of the event was eligible to enter into a drawing for an identical Prize Package. Congratulations to winner and one of the Chamber's newest members – **Akin Ori-Orisan of Information Management Systems**.



Chamber president Rich Leone of **COCC** (l) and Board Member Robin DiNicola (r) congratulate Ron Locandro, Jr. of **Mr. Handyman**, member winner of the prize package.



(l-r): Chip Janiszewski of **SendOutCards.com** and Avi Smith-Rapaport of **We Care Computers** were just two of the many Chamber members who brought a guest to the *4th Annual Bring A Non-Member Business Event*.



Akin Ori-Orisan of **Information Management Systems** (r), winner of the new member prize package, is welcomed to the Chamber by President Rich Leone of **COCC** (l) and Board Member Robin DiNicola.

# 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon



A record-setting 130 members attended the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon.



(l-r): Charlie Mayer of **Data 2000**, Board Member John Carmon of **Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center**, Steve McGuff of **Reflexite Corporation**, and Peg Mayer of **Howard L. Page & Co.**



(l-r): Past Chamber President Ron Evans of **People Management International**, Selina Derungs of **The Ink Store**, and Martin Geitz of **The Simsbury Bank**.



(l-r): Michele Lavoie of **Spargo Construction**, Communications Committee member Robert Bessel of **COCC**, and Lou Helt of **The First National Bank of Litchfield**.



(l-r): Jay Babcock of **The Simsbury Bank** and Greg DeManche of **DeManche McChristian, LLC**.



(l-r): Board Member Cal Miller-Stevens of **Miller Foods** and **Oma's Pride** and Ed Queirolo of **E.N.E. Realty Associates**.



(l-r): Janina Cummings of **Shear Artistry Day Spa & Salon** and Meetings & Events Committee member Terry Brighenti of **Riverdale Farms Shopping**.



(l-r): Thank you to Chamber Bookkeeper, Susan Gyurco, and Chamber Administrative Assistant, Linda Carmon, for all that you do!

# 43rd Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon

## Steve McGuff Wins 2008 Loren Bristol Spirit Award



Steve McGuff (c), seen here holding the Footed Revere Bowl that each honoree receives, was presented his award by Loren's wife Lynn Bristol (far left) along with last year's recipient, Peter Vignati (far right) of **Edward Jones**. Also pictured are Steve's wife, Cheryl (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) and Chamber President Rich Leone (2<sup>nd</sup> from right) of **COCC**.

The Avon Chamber of Commerce announces that Steve McGuff of **Reflexite Corporation** was this year's recipient of the *Loren Bristol Spirit Award*, presented at the *Chamber's 43rd Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon*.

Steve is an integral member of the Avon community, serving as President of Avon Dollars for Scholars and past President of the Avon United Fund. Steve has also served on the Avon Board of Finance and Avon Water Pollution Commission. He is past President of the Friends of Avon Ice Hockey and Friends of Avon Field Hockey, and is a founding Board co-chair of ACORN.

This busy man still finds time to work as an engineer at Reflexite and on his vintage cars. He owns the 1980 Chevy Camaro Z-28 he purchased upon his graduation from UCONN and is in the process of restoring a 1926 Chevy 5 window coupe. He's a family man, as well, with two daughters and wife, Cheryl.

First given out at the 2007 Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon, the award honors the legacy of long-time committee and board member Loren Bristol of CL&P and is presented annually to a Chamber member who embodies those qualities that endeared Loren to so many:

- a local business person demonstrating the highest commitment to bettering the community and our region
- a person of exemplary character who actively embodies the spirit of giving back

Steve received the Loren Bristol award from Lynn Bristol and the first winner of the award, Peter Vignati. Congratulations, Steve!

# 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon

## Award Recipients

### Large Business of the Year

**Farmington Savings Bank** has been chosen as the 2008 Large Business of the Year.

Connecticut granted the bank a charter in August 1851. They have been operating as a mutual savings bank regulated by the both the state and FDIC in the Farmington Valley for over 150 years. Today, **Farmington Savings Bank** is a billion dollar institution with 12 offices throughout the Farmington River Valley and Central Connecticut. Two of their offices are located in Avon.

For over 150+ years their dedication and commitment to the people and communities they serve have been key to their success. In May 1998 **Farmington Savings Bank** founded the FSB Foundation, Inc. to create a permanent way of providing contributions, grants and scholarships to eligible organizations and individuals. To date, the Foundation has donated over 2 million dollars to benefit local worthy causes.



**Farmington Savings Bank** was the recipient of the 2008 *Large Business of the Year* Award. Accepting the award is Chamber committee and Board member, Robin DiNicola (holding plaque). Pictured with Robin are (l-r): Bryan Bowerman, Ken Burns, Susan Laberge, Mary Ann Smolicz, Joan Cloutier, and Dave Onofrio.



Board member John Carmon (far left) of **Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center**, along with Chamber President Rich Leone (far right) of **COCC**, presented **Howard L. Page & Co.** with the 2008 *Small Business of the Year* Award. Accepting the award are (2<sup>nd</sup> from left) Maryann Mitchell, Iwona Serwinski, Cheryl King, and partners Peg Mayer (holding plaque) and Rick Farina.

### Small Business of the Year

**Howard L. Page & Co., LLC** is this year's winner of the Small Business of the Year award.

The accounting firm was established in 1941 by Howard L. Page, who ran the firm until his death in 1958. William Romani, Jr. was managing partner of the firm from 1958 until his passing in 2000. He was well known throughout the Farmington Valley for providing tax and business consulting services as well as his quick wit. The current partners are Margaret Romani Mayer (managing partner) and Richard Farina, who have more than 50 years combined experience in public accounting.

Services include assistance with audits, reviews, compilations, tax return preparation, consulting and IRS preparation. They also assist clients with tax aspects of retirement and estate planning.

The employees at **Howard L. Page** have a long history of giving back to the community through their involvement with local service organizations. Currently, Margaret has made a long-term commitment to Habitat for Humanity in constructing homes for those people in Mississippi hit by Katrina, and Richard is a project coordinator for St. Ann's Cares, a local group that works on building projects, such as food banks and homeless shelters.

**“Believe in yourself and there will come a day when others will have no choice but to believe with you.”**

*Cynthia Kersey  
Author of Unstoppable Women*

# 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon

## Award Recipients



Chamber President Rich Leone (r) of **COCC** thanks Outgoing Board Members Ron Evans (l) of **People Management International** and Susan Wolfe (c) of **Morgan Stanley** for their work on behalf of the Chamber. (Missing is Greg Batton of **Padgett Business Services**)



The Chamber said goodbye to long-time member and Membership Committee chair, Holly Kingsford (r) of **Juice Plus**. President Rich Leone (l) of **COCC** presented Holly with a token of appreciation for her dedication and service to our Chamber.

Kelley Bobbin  
General Manager,  
Klebe Fuel Company,  
Winsted, CT



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# 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon

## Of Special Note



(l-r): Jim Gordon and Captain Terry Wood of **The Salvation Army** recognized both the Chamber and **Avon Old Farms Hotel** for their efforts on behalf of *The Salvation Army's 2007 Annual WTIC Holiday Store*. Accepting the award are Chamber President Rich Leone of **COCC** and Megan McArdle of **Avon Old Farms Hotel**.

(l-r): Amy Norton of **Dakota Restaurant** congratulates Brad Washburn of **The Little Gym of Avon** for winning the \$75 Gift Card to the restaurant that was given away at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon as a way of saying "thanks" to our many loyal members.



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**Success is a peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you made the effort to do the best of which you are capable." - Coach John Wooden**

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# Thank You to the 2007/2008 Committees



## Government Affairs & Economic Development

(l-r): Jim Lacock (chair) – **Peter M. Bakker Agency**, Flo Stahl – **Avon Resume**, and David Pena – **Workplace Innovations**. (missing: Sam Chester – **Sam D. Chester, LLC**, Robert Davidson – **Sovereign Bank**, Doty Magda – **Magda & Associates**, Cam Miller-Stevens – **Oma's Pride**, and Cliff Thier – **Thier Law Offices, LLC**)

## Meetings & Events

(l-r): Megan McArdle (chair) – **Avon Old Farms Hotel**, Jean Foisie – **TravelVision**, Kim Ciccarello – **The First National Bank of Litchfield**, Terry Brighenti – **Riverdale Farms Shopping**, and Anne Bradford – **Selborne, LLC**. (missing: Elena Schichman – **Promotions By Design**)



## Membership

(l-r): Ron Huston (chair) – **State Farm Insurance**, Holly Kingsford – **Juice Plus**, Ellen Cazzetta – **Nathan, Powers & Co./NPD Payroll**, Cheryl England – **Marriott Residence Inn-Avon**, Cal Miller-Stevens – **Miller Foods/Oma's Pride**, and F. William O'Connor – **Law Office of F. William O'Connor**. (missing: Lissette Buccheri – **Sovereign Bank**, Lori Macgowan – **William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty**, Carol McCarthy – **New Era Telecommunications**)

# Thank You to the 2007/2008 Committees



## Communications

(l-r): Shirley Beach – **Sovereign Bank**, Robert Bessel – **COCC**, Kay Green – **Green Graphic Design**, and Peter Vignati (chair) – **Edward Jones**. (missing: Bill Brown – **CT Sportswear**, Jeff Campbell – **Measure Twice**)

## Education

(l-r): Susan Wolfe – **Morgan Stanley**, Tom Mango – **The First National Bank of Litchfield**, Kim McDonald – **Northwest Community Bank**, Robin DiNicola – **Farmington Savings Bank**, Cathy Fischer – **Keller Williams Realty**, Bob LeMay – **Juice Plus**, Ketil Osland – **Insight Mortgage**, Joe Shiman – **Robert Hensley & Associates**, Lewis Green – **L&G Business Solutions**, and John Shea (chair) – **Sabia, Taiman, Moskey, Albano & Shea**.





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# Congratulations to the 2007/2008 *New Member Advocate of the Year* Award Winner and Participants



(l-r) Chip Janiszewski of **SendOutCards.com**, winner of the 2007/2008 *New Member Advocate of the Year Award*, is congratulated by last year's winners: Holly Kingsford of **Juice Plus**, Cheryl England of the **Marriott Residence Inn-Avon**, and Scott Nardozzi of **The First National Bank of Litchfield**.

Congratulations to Chip Janiszewski of **SendOutCards.com** who is the recipient of the 2007/2008 *New Member Advocate of the Year Award*.

Chip was recognized at the 43rd Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon held May 21 at the Golf Club of Avon. for his efforts in recruiting 2 new members to the Chamber. For the next 11 months, Chip will be the custodian of the crystal vase that is the hallmark of this award. In addition, his name will be added to the perpetual plaque that is on display at the Chamber office.

The Chamber would also like to thank the following members for their efforts in recruiting *one new member* each from June 2007 to May 2008:

- John Carmon . . . . . **Carmon Funeral Home & Family Center**
- Rick Culver . . . . . **Prudential CT Realty**
- Michelle Hagan . . . . . **The First National Bank of Litchfield**
- Bob LeMay . . . . . **Juice Plus**
- Dotty Magda . . . . . **Magda & Associates**
- Paul Mikkelson . . . . . **Dill, Joyce & Thresher Insurance**
- Scott Nardozzi . . . . . **The First National Bank of Litchfield**
- Donna Pinckney . . . . . **Arbonne International**
- Elena Shichman . . . . . **Promotions By Design**
- Bruce Shein . . . . . **Avon Executive Offices**
- Avi Smith-Rappaport . . . . . **We Care Computers**
- Peter Vignati . . . . . **Edward Jones**
- Ensign-Bickford Realty**
- Robert Hensley & Associates**

## Who Will Be Next Year's Winner(s)?

It could be you... Any Chamber member in good standing is eligible to compete for this award. The winner(s) is chosen based on the number of completed/paid-in-full membership applications received at the Chamber on which a member's name is cited as being the sponsor. Qualified applications are those received starting in June immediately following the Annual Meeting to the beginning of May of the following year.

So start recruiting those new members ... and look for Tally Updates in upcoming editions of ***The Connection***.

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**"Most of our obstacles would melt away if, instead of covering before them, we should make up our minds to walk boldly through them."**

*Orison Swett Marden  
1850-1924, Founder of Success Magazine*

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# Newsletter Advertising Opportunities

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**Best Value**

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When you pay for one year of advertising you are charged for only 5 issues.

**1** Six Business card ads ..... \$125.00  
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..... **save \$75.00**

**3** Six ½ page ads ..... \$1,000.00  
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**1** Three Business card ads ..... \$75.00

**2** Three ¼ or ⅓ page ads ..... \$225.00

**3** Three ½ page ads ..... \$600.00

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3.5" x 2"**

**1**

**2**  
**¼ page  
3.5" x 4.75"**

**2**

**⅓ page  
2.22" x 9.5"**

**3**  
**½ page  
7.25" x 4.25"**

### Ad Submission Requirements

- We accept the following electronic formats for ads: tif, eps, pdf, or jpg. Word and Publisher files are NOT accepted.
- Send ads via e-mail to: [avonchamber@sbcglobal.net](mailto:avonchamber@sbcglobal.net)
- Send business cards for a business card ad to the chamber office: 412 West Avon Road, Avon, CT 06001
- Make checks out to: Avon Chamber of Commerce 412 West Avon Road, Avon, CT 06001
- Questions? Call 860.675.4832

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Business: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Web address: \_\_\_\_\_

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		\$75	\$225	\$600