



# Membership Application

**We are delighted you have decided to join us! Please complete this form so we may begin processing your membership application immediately. This membership application is subject to approval of the Board of Directors (as stated in the bylaws).**

Member Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Business: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Employees: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Web site address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include a brief description of your business (approx. 30 words) on the back of this form.

" Payment Enclosed    *Chamber dues are deductible as ordinary and necessary business expense*  
Please Bill: " Annual    " Semi-Annual    " Quarterly

**Miami County Chamber of Commerce**



# Your Investment

## FAIR SHARE MEMBERSHIP SCHEDULE:

### For commercial, industrial and retail firm:

<u>Number of Employees</u>		<u>Investment</u>
1-5		\$200
6-10		240
11-20		320
21-30		390
31-40		410
41-50		440

Over 50 Employees: Base rate \$407 plus \$2.00 per employee over 50  
(Note: Employee count is based on full time equivalent)

### For financial institutions:

Per million dollars of deposits - minimum \$250

### For professional firms: (Physicians, Attorneys, Accountants, Dentists)

\$190 for first principal, plus \$90 for each additional principal or professional

### For utilities:

\$0.07 per meter or service

### For associate, part-time business, self-employed, home based business:

\$100.00 - Associations, Service Clubs, Fraternal or Religious Organizations

### For retired individual:

\$100.00 - A person that is retired and no longer an active employee and is not representing his or her previous business or organization.

**Miami County Chamber of Commerce**



*We Support Miami County Businesses*

# Why Join?

## WHY JOIN THE CHAMBER?

As a member of Miami County's leading business organization, your membership makes a statement to your employees and your customers. *You and your* employees become an integral part of your community by providing valuable input, sharing leadership skills, ideas, and concerns, and by participating in a variety of marketing and networking opportunities. Your membership will enable you to expand *your* business contacts, strengthen *your* customer base, and provide higher visibility for *your* business.

Your Miami County Chamber of Commerce membership is important because....

- **Your input is valued!**
- **Your Chamber promotes your business to others by phone, mail, email and internet!**
- **You make valuable business contacts!**
- **You get exposure through our monthly newsletter, ribbon cuttings, business breaks and workshops/seminars.**
- **Your "Member to Member" support is highly encouraged!**
- **You receive informational assistance from your Chamber!**
- **You gain exceptional networking opportunities!**
- **Your voice can be part of local Government interaction!**
- **Your Governmental Affairs Committee monitors current legislation, local, state issues!**
- **You receive Membership, Business, and Industrial/Supplier Directories!**
- **You have the opportunity to link onto our website!**
- **You and your employees become active members of your community!**

**Miami County Chamber of Commerce**



# The Chamber's Plan

## **THE CHAMBER'S PLAN FOR SUCCESS INVOLVES COORDINATED, CONCENTRATED ACTION.**

The Chamber represents a group of business people with diversified talents, interests, ideas and needs. As a member, you and your employees have many opportunities to address and accomplish projects in the community on a consistent basis. There are various committees and activities offered throughout the year. Involvement by members is the Key to the success of our organization. The Chamber's goal is to assist business growth and stability in Miami County. Members make a difference through attendance at Chamber functions and activities. Change and opportunities will always present themselves. It is important that the Chamber be prepared to address these through ACTIVE participation by our Membership.

## **YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO BE INVOLVED!**

### ***Miami County Chamber Public Relations***

The Miami County Chamber public relations committee represent the Chamber by conducting Ribbon Cuttings, Grand Openings, Ground Breakings, and Open Houses. All activities are designed to welcome new businesses and to assist existing businesses.

The committee awards Miami Mike to Chamber member businesses in Miami County who have made a significant improvement to the interior and/or exterior of their building and/or grounds.

They enhance the image of the Chamber, while networking with businesses, employers and employees within the county and encouraging them to become involved in the various Chamber activities.

### ***Governmental Affairs***

This committee offers the business person and their employees an opportunity to interact with local and state officials.

Third House Sessions offer the opportunity to have dialogue with our State Senator and Representatives and be aware of current legislation that impacts the business community.

Meet the Candidate is an opportunity for local candidates to introduce themselves and inform the community of the position of the office they are running for.

### ***Tourism Committee***

This committee gives individuals, businesses and attractions the opportunity to be a part of a twenty three (23) county cooperative advertising effort to promote not only your community, but the Northern region of the state.

If you are interested in finding new ways to work with area Chambers and Convention and Visitors Bureaus in promoting our area or being a part of the East Region group....this committee is for you.

**Miami County Chamber of Commerce**



# The Chamber Team

## 2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Executive Board

#### Holly Ward

Chairman  
Rock Industries, Inc.  
765-473-5578

#### Deb Close

Vice Chairman  
Dukes Memorial Hospital  
765-475-2300

#### Ralph Duckwall

Vice Chairman  
Duckwall & Associates  
765-472-4853

#### Dennis Garvin

Treasurer  
Norris Insurance  
765-689-8432

#### John Arnold

Arnie's Ace Hardware  
765-472-2733

#### Chuck Brimbury

Peru Administration  
765-472-3301

#### Ron Droscha

Century 21 Realtors  
765-472-3391

#### Melody Edwards

Miller's Merry Manor  
765-4734426

#### Jon Faust

County Commissioner

#### Steve Gough

Peru City Council  
765-472-1349

#### Jody Long

Miami-Cass REMC  
765-473-6668

#### Nancy Masten

Miami County Museum  
765-473-9183

#### George McCarty

First Christian Church  
765-473-3105

#### Patty Pavey

Mary Kay Cosmetics  
765-985-9799

#### Misty Sharp

Peru Tribune  
765-473-6641

#### Jim Tidd

Miami County Economic  
Development Authority  
765-689-0159

#### Stephanie Vandiver

NIPSCO  
219-647-6403

#### Staff

#### **Sandy Chittum**

President

#### **Amy Riggs**

Front Office

**Miami County Chamber of Commerce**



# Benefits of Membership

**Mission Statement:** The Miami County Chamber of Commerce promotes a strong business and industrial climate for it's members through a partnership between businesses and the community of Miami County.

The key words in the mission statement are members and community. Here are just a few things your Chamber is doing:

**Governmental Legislative Issues** - As a member, your voice is heard on various local and state issues that can impact your business. The Chamber will keep you up to date on the issues.

**Tourists, new businesses and general public** - By being a member, you have the opportunity to put brochures and pamphlets at our Chamber office. Chamber member's info is also given out to help promote your business through relocation and visiting requests and walk-ins.

**Retail** - Retail businesses can be part of our gift certificate program. Approximately \$25,000 in gift certificates are purchased each year. This is money that stays in Miami County and is being spent at our Chamber member's businesses.

**Business referrals** - the Chamber receives many calls for business referrals. These referrals are directed first to Chamber members.

**Membership Directory** - your name and business will be listed in the Chamber Membership Directory. The Directory is on our website with direct link to your business. By being a member, your name will be given out as a referral over a non- member.

**Health and Car Insurance** - the Chamber gives our members an opportunity to receive health insurance at a discounted rate. Discounted auto insurance is also available if you are a Chamber member.

**Third House Sessions** are held to give the public an opportunity to voice their opinions and ask questions to our State Senator and House Representative.

**Meet the Candidate** - Chamber co-sponsors this event to give the public an opportunity to ask questions of the candidates running for offices.

**Information Center** - The Chamber is the information center for the county. People in the

county, as well as tourists, can find information on about anything. For example: Calendar of Events for Miami County, housing, utilities, churches, festivals, business info, free brochures, maps, telephone books, etc. The Chamber office can also provide you with the contact information to other Chambers in areas that you may be visiting.

**Santa House** gives our children an opportunity to visit with Santa and have their picture taken with him.

**Oktoberfest** - is a community family oriented event that provides families an opportunity to come to the Riverwalk and enjoy themselves. Live entertainment, chili cook off and other local involvement.

**Bulk Mail Permit** - Members can use the Chamber permit on mailing which is a lower rate and will save money. The mailing must be no less than 250 pieces to take advantage of the savings.

**Tourism Department** is located in the Chamber offices and provides information on tourist attractions free of charge as well as bringing tourists to our area. Tourists help enhance the local economy as they stay in our hotels, eat in our restaurant and shop in our businesses.

**Sponsorship** opportunities are available for any Chamber event

**Leads Referral** - This is a group that is in the forming stages, but we are looking for members to get on board. This group will meet twice a month to have lunch/breakfast and to share business referrals with each other.

**Advertising Opportunities** - here are a few ways you can advertise your business: Chamber monthly newsletter and radio advertising for new members. Opportunity to use our internet and free link for your business on our website. With the advancement of technology, the internet is becoming a valuable tool for business growth. The Peru Tribune covers all Ribbon Cuttings, Business After Hours, Business of the Month and prints the Chamber monthly newsletter. When you join the Chamber, the Tribune has an offer for a free full color 1/4 page ad and a months free paper! For our longer term members, we have our Business of the Month award with a sign that is displayed in front of the business for a month.

**Networking Opportunities** - to enhance your business there are Chamber programs such as Business Breaks, Business After Hours, Ribbon Cuttings, along with events such as the annual golf tournament, Member Appreciation Breakfast, Chamber Annual Awards Dinner, Administrative Professionals Luncheon, Lunch Make a Deal, First Fridays, Oktoberfest and many other activities throughout the year. These programs give you the opportunity to network with other members to explain what your business does and help make contacts for your sales growth and public awareness. We are also working with Ivy Tech Community College in Peru with various training opportunities.

**Member to Member Discount Cards** - they are a discount card for all employees of all members. Take advantage of great savings at participating members. These cards are good for a full year and are renewed each year. There are approximately 45 local merchants involved in this program.

**Notary Public Service** - This service is available at no charge to Chamber of Commerce members.

the Chamber staff plays a major role in being a part of the community by being involved in many activities and organizations such as Peru Rotary, Miami County Economic Development Authority, YMCA, Leadership Miami County, Project Soar, Hoosier Heartland Corridor, Peru Kiwanis, Peru Rotary, United Way, Peru Circus and Habitat for Humanity, Community Services, EGG, Miami County Community Foundation, Community Development, Main Street and Downtown Revitalization and Downtown Historic Committee, Ivy Tech Advisory Council, Miami County Tourism Bureau, AICVB, East Region, Rural and Rustic Committee to name a few.

**Small Business Development Center** offers free service to help your existing business or information on how to start a new business. Free counseling with the Small Business Development Center offers existing and new businesses counseling to help their businesses. The Chamber works closely with SBDC in offering various types of seminars throughout the year that will help your business/industry with their various needs at little or no charge. SBDC is in the Chamber monthly and will also set up one on one meetings here in Miami County as needed.

**Free Consumer Credit Counseling** - It is designed to help those that are having problems with their financial situation. Consumer Credit Counseling offers free service on counseling for money management, debt repayment and credit education.

**Leadership Miami County** - is a 6 month program taking up to 20 business people who live or work in the Miami County area through a course designed to teach leadership skills and community awareness. Class participants are given a behind the scenes look at Peru and Miami County.

## **Miami County Chamber of Commerce**

**Chamber staff involvement in the community -**

**Indiana Main Street** encourages economic

development, redevelopment and improvement of the downtown areas of Indiana cities and towns. As the traditional heart and hub of government, commerce, justice and social interaction, the downtown business district plays a crucial role in the overall image of a community development that emphasizes the preservation and development of traditional downtown resources. Peru has been a “member” since December 2008.

**Community Development** - the Miami County Chamber of Commerce is working on developing marketing strategies for our downtown businesses, working with real estate brokers, investors and building owners and keeping informed of all buying/selling/renting prospects, identifying opportunities, developed an entrepreneur “help” program and coordinated with other entities to create a guide with steps that need to be done to open a business in Peru.

**Job Listings** - on the Chamber website. This is available to all Chamber businesses to place job openings or seeking employment on the website at no charge. With the advantage of Chamber networking and the quality of the workforce available through the Chamber members, this is a great opportunity for all members. This is a new project that we hope to have up and running as the listings come available to place on the website.

**Business Recognition** - Each month a business will be recognized for their years of dedication to the community and a good standing Chamber member. A large life like sign is placed at their place of business along with radio and newspaper recognition.

**Ivy Tech Community College** - works closely with the Chamber with coordinating seminars and workshops along with further education opportunities.

**Women Focused Workshops** - United Way, the Chamber and WOW are working together on preparing workshops for the months of February and March. These programs will enrich, educate and focus on women’s interests.

**Community Projects** - the Chamber is working with different organizations in the community that are in the need of volunteers to help with various projects throughout the county. What a great way of supporting your community and giving back through participating in volunteer projects.

**Miami County Chamber of Commerce**