



A warm, February greeting to you from the Chamber of Commerce! I am encouraged and thankful for so many businesses,

organizations, and individuals joining the Chamber in recent days. All organizations are stronger in numbers, and I will do my best to represent your issues, voice your concerns, and build a better business climate.

This month the Chamber is working in partnership with the News Tribune on a bigger and more comprehensive Mineral County Answer Book, which this year will contain more information that will be helpful to people and businesses relocating to our area, and to young people starting out after high school or college. This publication is ideal for ads aimed at new home owners and folks new to the area. The finished product should be available around the beginning of March, and will be available in the Chamber Office, at the Development Authority, the Rocket Center, and at the Town Halls throughout the county.

Once the Answer Book is completed, the Chamber Membership Directory will be the next publication we work on, with a May target date. Thanks to all who advertise in each of these

valuable resources for members of our community. I would like to think that this is not only some of the best information available to Mineral County residents, but some of the best return on advertising as well.

We would really like to highlight your business or organization with the always popular Chamber After-Hours mixer. Contact me if you would like to host an After-Hours event at your location for February or March and we will make sure to get the word out and help you organize it. I have received numerous inquiries about when and where the next After-Hours will be, so here's your chance!

We are working to put together a legislative breakfast soon after this year's session ends in Charleston. This will be a great chance to hear directly from our legislators what was accomplished. We will let you know soon all the details.

Lastly, I would like to ask for your help. I am putting together Focus Groups to tackle Chamber objectives and to help make this the best organization possible. I need help with four Focus Groups:

- Membership Services
- Corporate & Governmental Relations
- Initiatives & Events
- Educational Programs

Let me know which group or groups you or one of your staff would like to participate in. I will be happy to have your expertise on board to create the initiatives, events, and networking opportunities we all want in a great Chamber of Commerce. Together, we can make the Chamber Mineral County Proud.

Thanks for all you do as we are *Working To Make A Difference!*

## Coming Soon-

Watch this space for dates of events coming soon.



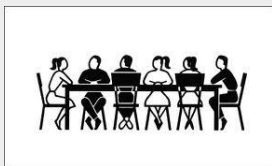


# Focus Groups

The Chamber is looking for Member volunteers to help in the following Focus Groups:

- ❖ Membership Services
- ❖ Initiatives & Events
- ❖ Corporate & Governmental Relations
- ❖ Educational Programs

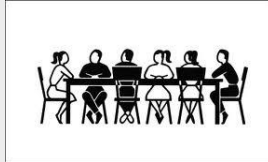
Our vision of the Chamber covers a wide scope. First, we want to represent our business members to make sure the business environment in Mineral County is conducive to building a healthy economy and improving our communities. Our slogan is *Working to Make a Difference*, which we take very seriously. Mineral County has its challenges like most communities, but together we can effect change and help make our county shine. These focus groups are designed to help do just that. They will only work with your help. So, what are they?



## Membership Services

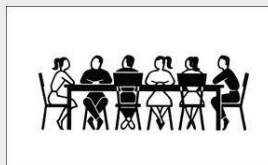
The Chamber has a brand-new Board, new leadership, and new energy. We need to rebuild our membership back to levels which can sustain the Chamber and help make a difference to the community.

We have made a good start but have a long way to go. If we can get all of our businesses involved in the Chamber again, we will achieve results that make your dues worthwhile.



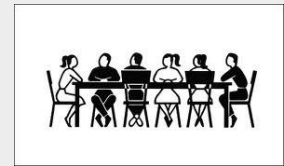
## Initiatives & Events

The Mineral Chamber will help ensure there will be a lot going on in Mineral County, from get-togethers and mixers, to full-blown events, it all starts here. This year we would like to have a golf tournament in late Spring, and a blowout food and entertainment fund-raiser this summer. And if that's not enough, this group gets serious too, and continuously plans how to help better our county. If this sounds like your cup of tea, come help out and have a blast!



## Corporate & Governmental Relations

This group works behind the scenes to stay in touch with our elected representatives, state and local officials, corporate donors, foundations, and volunteers to find ways to make great stuff happen. We could use your expertise too - come get involved.



## Educational Programs

The Mineral Chamber will work with education in many ways, including sponsoring member training in areas requested by our members, and reaching out and partnering with area schools to help bring out the best in our kids. We have heard over and over this year the need to improve our non-college education in Mineral County, with an emphasis on trades and technical training. We are looking for people with great ideas to help in this vital area.

## Get Involved!

To get yourself or someone from your business involved in shaping these vital tasks, just call the Chamber Office and speak with Randy Crane at (304) 788-2513, or drop him a line at: [rccrane@mineralchamber.com](mailto:rccrane@mineralchamber.com)

We look forward to working with you!



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