



Dear Area Businesses/Individuals,

We look forward to working with and for you to make 2017 a great year!

Founded in 1976, the Chamber of Commerce is a non-for-profit advocate for local business. We take the leadership role in promoting commerce within our local area. Every year we organize the Oktoberfest. This year we moved it back to Franklin Ave. Having it on Main Street helped many local businesses generate extra income and created more exposure from out of town residents. The Chamber provided a bounce house and balloon artist as well as live entertainment by Polka Connection. Also throughout the year, the Chamber promotes giveaways at local business including a ham and turkey during Thanksgiving and Christmas time.

### **Our Mission for 2017**

For 2017, we as the Chamber are going to take more of a transparency and active role to help create more events to help our local community.

### **2017 elected officers**

**President:** Andrew Kelly

**Vice President:** Chelsea Zettler

**Treasurer:** Lana Eubanks

**Secretary:** Mary Millikan

**Board Members:**

Jennifer Melvin

Marion Lappin

Rebecca Benedict

### **2017 Membership Dues (due by January 31,2017)**

**Level A - Business Level \$50 per year** – Includes listing in all our advertisements, a link on our social media platforms including Facebook and website.

**Level B - Non-for-Profit Level \$35 per year** – Includes listing in all advertisements, a link on our social media platforms including Facebook and website.

**Level C - Individual Level \$10 per year** – Includes Membership (not included in any promotions/advertisements).

Without you, all those events & giveaways would not be possible. We would like to invite you to become part of our organization. We hope to see you at our next monthly meeting. Our meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month at Sesser City Hall starting at 5:30pm.

If you are interested in joining, please fill out the membership form and mail it with your dues to Sesser Area Chamber of Commerce PO BOX 367 Sesser IL 62884. You may contact us anytime at (618) 625-5566 or stop by our local hub office at 124 W Franklin Ave Sesser Illinois.

### **What does the Chamber do for its member?**

- We provide a chamber phone line for business referrals and other inquiries: We receive calls from residents and nonresidents wanting recommendations for everything from car repair to catering.
- Spotlight on Business: We purchase an ad in the Rend Lake Adventures, a monthly pamphlet put out by the Rend Lake Corp of Engineers that goes out to every Rend Lake camper on the federal side during the tourist season May to October listing all the chamber members and special events.
- Chamber members are listed on the chamber's website and will link to your business website or Facebook if link information is provided and on our Facebook page.
- We will send weekly/monthly emails: to all people in our membership base announcing new members, member's upcoming events, promotions, sales and special announcements if information is provided.
- Ribbon Cutting: New Businesses receive free ribbon cutting and publicity announcing the opening if contacted
- Special Events: The chamber hosts the Oktoberfest Craft Vendor Fall Festival and the WQRL Radio Car Show, Saturday of Columbus Day Weekend each year.
- Chamber decal for your business door or window

Sesser Area Chamber of Commerce

President

Andrew Kelly - KELLY Architect & Consulting



### MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

1. From your perspective, identify three strengths and three weaknesses in our community?

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2. What do you perceive as the number one obstacle for our community achieving your vision for the community?

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3. Do you think we should have an active chamber in Sesser?      YES                      NO

4. Would you or anyone on your staff like to be a Chamber Officer or Board of Directions?    YES      NO

5. List any opportunities from a commercial/industrial perspective that you think the community should develop or improve. (no more than three)

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6. What do you consider to be your largest challenge in operating your business? Please check all that apply.

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|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of financial support                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Nothing; I'm doing fine                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of marketing                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Location                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of professional networking opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of business development resources |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____                  |   |

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