



Mena/Polk County Chamber of Commerce
524 Sherwood Avenue · Mena, AR 71953
(479) 394-2912 · www.menapolkchamber.com

Dear Prospective Member,

We are pleased you are investigating the many benefits of joining the Mena/ Polk County Chamber of Commerce! We believe there is no greater boost you can give your business than partnering with hundreds of other members for the purpose of preserving, enhancing, and expanding commerce for the business community. We are businesses, organizations, and individuals with one goal; working together to advance the civic and economic well-being of our community.

Chamber membership opens the door to customer leads, publicity, networking, and marketing opportunities, and many other ways to help you grow your business. Look at our New Member Packet to see what the Chamber has to offer you. If you have questions, please call the Chamber office to speak with a member of our team. A membership application is enclosed for your convenience.

The Chamber Ambassadors and Board of Directors want to assure you that the check you write to the Chamber should be viewed as an investment, not dues or a contribution. The chamber works hard to make sure you see a good return on your investment and is always eager to hear ideas from our members about ways we can provide an even greater return.

Read the list of benefits enclosed. We are sure you will agree that joining the Mena/Polk County Chamber of Commerce is a sound business decision! We hope to hear from you soon about how we can partner with you!

Sincerely,

Pilar Fowler

Pilar Fowler
2021 President



WHAT is the Chamber of Commerce?

The Chamber of Commerce is a voluntary organization of the business community uniting the efforts of business and professional individuals to promote and advance the economic, civic, industrial, professional, cultural, and social welfare of the Mena/Polk County Area. It enables its membership to accomplish collectively what no one could do individually.

HOW does it work?

The policies and programs of the Chamber are determined by its Board of Directors which is elected by the membership. They, in turn, employ a professional staff who organize and execute the Chamber's programs and carry out its policies.

WHO finances the Chamber?

The Chamber of Commerce is a "non-profit" and it incurs costs of operations and expenses similar to any other type of business. Those expenses are apportioned among its members, individuals, and firms representing all types of business, industry, and professions. All share a mutual desire to achieve a better community for all its citizens. Chamber of Commerce membership is an investment in the present and future welfare of both the individual and their community.

WHY join the Chamber?

The Chamber of Commerce is the salesman for its community and businesses. It encourages growth of existing industries and business while giving proper assistance to any new firms or individuals seeking to locate in the Mena/Polk County area. The Chamber supports activities believed to be beneficial to the community and opposes those which might be detrimental. The united voice of the Chamber of Commerce has often proven effective to business where a single voice can go unheard. The benefit of belonging to the Chamber is full-time representation and year-round results.

YOU and your Chamber...

In general, the Chamber promotes the welfare of all area citizens following always those policies intended to accomplish the greatest good for the greatest number. Through involvement, every chamber member contributes to an organized effort that is mutually beneficial to the community and to business. Over the years, Chamber of Commerce operations, attitudes, and programs have changed to meet the challenge of today. However, our premise remains intact – the role of involved and concerned citizens who strive for a better community and protect the free enterprise system. Today, as it was in 1768 when the first Chamber of Commerce in America was formed, the basic concept of a Chamber of Commerce remains the same: a voluntary organization representing the business community marshalling the energies and efforts of its membership towards the accomplishment of common goals.

INVESTMENT RETURNS for my business...

- You may display your promotional materials, brochures, business cards, and flyers in the Chamber lobby.
- You will receive referrals from telephone, mail, and e-mail inquiries as a Chamber member – we only refer Chamber members.
- You may receive tourism and relocation leads from monthly inquiries (upon request).
- We provide media promotion for all members.
- You have the opportunity to attend the Annual Chamber Banquet.
- Your business will be listed on the Chamber website and there will be a link to your website on the Chamber's site.
- Your business will be listed in the Chamber Connection magazine and Directory with your full business contact information listed.
- You can attend the monthly/quarterly networking opportunities which are hosted by Chamber businesses and are a great networking tool.

WHEN should I join?

Today! Don't wait until tomorrow. The opportunities available to you as a chamber member are exciting and profitable. The benefits are tangible for the individual as well as the community. Today's investment in your Chamber of Commerce will produce immediate results and continued returns. If commitment is what you feel about your business and your community's future, contact the Chamber of Commerce office today.

Why YOU should JOIN the Chamber



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Visitor & Information Center

Let us market your business to all of the visitors we have welcomed to the community with your brochures, cards, and business information.

Networking Opportunities

Our Business After Hours and New Member Breakfast events are the perfect place to make business connections within the community.

These are excellent opportunities to share business ideas, build relationships, and network with fellow members.

Events for Everyone

Our exciting calendar of events include: the Annual Chamber Banquet & Community Awards, Queen Wilhelmina Rod Run, Ouachita Arts Celebration, and the Christmas Parade of Lights. We participate in several other local events, as well as holding several training courses for our membership.

Free Marketing

The Chamber frequently receives requests from people who want information on relocation or vacationing in our area. Once you provide your printed promotional materials they will be included in the information packet we send out. In addition to re-posting and sharing your information on social media, we work hard to keep the community informed of the activities within the business community through this invaluable medium.

Strong Referrals

We are happy to support our local business community, referring business within our 250+ member network, via phone, email and personal inquiries.

Support Local Education

The Chamber's Enhancement Foundation gives out scholarships to local high school students each year. We participate in career fairs, business expos, and more. We care about guiding the area youth, and supporting workforce development here at home.

Member2Member Discounts

Members receive a membership card for the current year that entitles them to discounts at other chamber businesses. A current list of participating merchants is kept on our website. We believe this encourages buying local and further supports our members while fostering connections within the chamber.

Ribbon Cuttings

The Chamber will hold ribbon cutting ceremonies for any member when it is appropriate, send public invites and notify all chamber members of the event. These are available for new members, grand re-openings, and renovations.



BE SEEN
SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY
JOIN THE CHAMBER



What can WE do for YOU?

The Mena/Polk County Chamber of Commerce is an organization willing to take up the cause and fight for the survival of industry and commerce in our area – an organization willing to stand behind business owners and look out for their interests in the community.

We encourage all businesses to get involved with our organization and help form the future of business in our area, while taking advantage of the benefits that being a member brings.

Advertising Opportunities:

- **Categorized Website Listing** – Your business is listed on the Chamber website with a link to your business website, location address and contact information. Members are listed by category of business to make it easy for site visitors to locate the type of service/product they need.
- **Chamber Connection Magazine Categorized Listing** – Your business is listed in the Chamber Connection Magazine annual publication with your full business contact information. Members are listed by category of business to make it easy for site visitors to locate the type of service/product they need.
- **Open Houses/Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies** – The Chamber will hold ribbon cutting ceremonies for any member when it is appropriate, send public invites and notify all chamber members of the event.
- **Inclusion of your printed material in our mailings** – The Chamber frequently receives requests from people who want information on relocation or vacationing in our area. Once you provide your printed promotional materials they will be included in the information packet we send out.
- **Your business cards and/or brochures displayed at the Chamber Office** – Our office is heavily traveled by visitors and people/businesses relocating to the area. Provide us with your promotional materials and they will be on prominent display and visitors are encouraged to take them.
- **Social Media-** We are active on social media platforms and in addition to reposting and sharing your information, we work hard to keep the community informed of the activities within the business community through this invaluable medium.

Networking Events:

- **Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet** – Join fellow Chamber members to usher in a new year of advancements in the business community, welcome in new Board members, and enjoy an evening of socializing.

- **Monthly Board Meetings open to all Chamber Members – The Chamber Board Meetings are held each month, and all members are encouraged to attend. Keep abreast of local issues that affect your business and all businesses in the area, and find out what the Chamber is doing to work with those issues.**
- **Monthly/Quarterly Networking opportunities – Regularly the Chamber holds networking opportunities where members can network with other members, share business ideas, and build relationships. Our Business After Hours event caters to busy professionals looking to relax and connect while our Quarterly New Member Breakfasts gives the early risers a chance to get business done over coffee.**

Other Chamber Services:

- **Weekly Newsletter/Email Announcements – Our office will gladly include your advertisements, special events or other information you may wish the community to be aware of in our weekly newsletter. We will also send out special emails by request to our membership.**
- **Weekly Radio Report- An abbreviated form of our weekly newsletter that is broadcast on our local station. We announce new members, share our Chamber Spotlight of the Week, update the public on chamber news and community events, and include any information provided to us by our members on their specials, sales, events, etc.**
- **Weekly Chamber Spotlight- Our Chamber Spotlight gives us the chance to highlight a different member each week. We do this through interviews, videos, specials and ads, or simply sharing your logo and contact information. Our Chamber Spotlights are located prominently on our website, posted on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, as well as shared in our newsletter and on the radio.**
- **Mailing Lists – The Chamber office provides access to a mailing list of all Chamber businesses for your business to use to send out your printed advertisements and announcements.**
- **Referrals – When we are asked to recommend businesses, we will only refer our members.**
- **Window Decal – Show your clients/customers that you are a serious and credible member of the business community by displaying your Chamber of Commerce Member sticker somewhere prominently in your business facility.**
- **Member2Member Discount Program- Members receive a membership card for the current year that entitles them to discounts at other chamber businesses. A current list of participating merchants is kept on our website. We believe this encourages buying local and further supports our members while fostering connections within the chamber.**



ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

INDIVIDUALS	\$60.00
NON-PROFIT (including Churches)	\$100.00
BUSINESSES 10 & UNDER EMPLOYEES	\$150.00
BUSINESSES 11-24 EMPLOYEES	\$225.00
BUSINESSES 25-199 EMPLOYEES	\$300.00
INSURANCE AGENCIES AND REAL ESTATE AGENCIES	\$250.00
HOTELS/MOTELS	\$250.00
BANKS, UTILITY COMPANIES, BUSINESSES 200 + EMPLOYEES	\$750.00

NEW MEMBERSHIP

- Annual membership dues are for the fiscal year January thru December.
- Membership dues are pro-rated for new members only as each month passes. Be sure to check with the chamber office for a current pro-rated rate.
- There is a \$25.00 application fee applied to all new member applications.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

- Membership renews on January 1st of each year. Invoices are mailed in December with net 30 terms.
- Termination of membership occurs when renewals are not paid in full.
- Exceptions can be made to allow members to pay in three installments, in which case dues are to be paid in full on or before march 31st. Be sure to talk with the chamber office to make payment arrangements.
- Applications are to be submitted to the board each month for review.

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secretary@menapolkchamber.com
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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME OF BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION: _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:

- INDIVIDUALS
- NON-PROFIT/CHURCHES
- BUSINESSES W/10 & UNDER EMPLOYEES
- BUSINESSES 11-24 EMPLOYEES
- BUSINESSES 25-199 EMPLOYEES
- INSURANCE/REAL ESTATE AGENCIES
- HOTELS/MOTELS
- BANKS, UTILITY COMPANIES, BUSINESSES W/200+ EMPLOYEES

BUSINESSES DIRECTORY CATEGORY (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY):

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ART & MUSEUMS | <input type="checkbox"/> EVENT SERVICES | <input type="checkbox"/> MEDIA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ATTORNEYS | <input type="checkbox"/> FINANCIAL SERVICES | <input type="checkbox"/> ORGANIZATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AUTOMOTIVE | <input type="checkbox"/> FITNESS | <input type="checkbox"/> OUTDOOR ADVENTURES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AVIATION | <input type="checkbox"/> FLORISTS | <input type="checkbox"/> PET SERVICES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BANKING | <input type="checkbox"/> FUNERAL/MONUMENT SERVICES | <input type="checkbox"/> PHARMACIES & MEDICAL SUPPLY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BED & BREAKFASTS/INNS | <input type="checkbox"/> HEALTH SERVICES | <input type="checkbox"/> PHOTOGRAPHY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CABINS & CAMPGROUNDS | <input type="checkbox"/> HEALTH/MEDICAL SERVICES | <input type="checkbox"/> REAL ESTATE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CHURCHES | <input type="checkbox"/> HOLISTIC HEALTH | <input type="checkbox"/> RENT-TO-OWN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMPUTER/INTERNET | <input type="checkbox"/> HOTELS/MOTELS | <input type="checkbox"/> RESTAURANTS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CONSTRUCTION/EQUIPMENTS/SERVICES | <input type="checkbox"/> HOSPITALS/PHYSICIANS/CLINICS | <input type="checkbox"/> RETAIL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DESIGN/MARKETING/PRINTING | <input type="checkbox"/> INDIVIDUALS | <input type="checkbox"/> SALONS & SPAS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> INDOOR ADVENTURES | <input type="checkbox"/> SENIOR SERVICES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EMERGENCY SERVICES | <input type="checkbox"/> INSURANCE | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION & STORAGE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LOCKSMITH | <input type="checkbox"/> UTILITIES & HOME SERVICES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EVENT VENUES | <input type="checkbox"/> LODGING | <input type="checkbox"/> VISION |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> MANUFACTURING | <input type="checkbox"/> VACATION RENTALS |

OWNER/MANAGER: _____ **CONTACT PHONE:** _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS: _____

MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT): _____

BUSINESS PHONE: _____ **E-MAIL:** _____

WEBSITE URL: _____

SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS: FACEBOOK INSTAGRAM TWITTER YOUTUBE OTHER

LIST ACCOUNT NAMES: _____

MONTH/YEAR BUSINESS STARTED: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

ANNUAL DUES: _____ **TOTAL PAID:** _____ **PAYMENT TYPE:** _____ **RECEIPT #:** _____