



235 West Chisholm Street  
Alpena, MI 49707  
989.354.4181

[www.alpenachamber.com](http://www.alpenachamber.com)

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 86  
Alpena, MI 49707

# CHAMBER NOTES

## Alpena Area Chamber of Commerce

By serving its members, the Alpena Area Chamber of Commerce actively champions economic development and the advancement of the community's quality of life.

November/December 2017

### Local, State and National Chambers: What's the Difference?

Did you know that local chambers of commerce are not legally bound to state Chambers or to the US Chamber of Commerce? They aren't governed by an umbrella organization and are each their own, independent entity.

Following is information about some of the traditional differences between the various chambers of commerce.

#### US Chamber Focus/Mission and Major Programs

- Represent the interests of free enterprise at the federal and international levels
- Staff of policy experts, lobbyists and attorneys advancing a pro-business agenda
- Political Programs & Grassroots Development
- National Chamber Litigation Center
- Institute for Legal Reform
- Institute for a Competitive Workforce

#### State Chamber Focus/Mission and Major Programs

- Promote job creation and business growth at the state level
- Staff of lobbyists and policy experts advancing a pro-business agenda
- Political Programs and Issue Advocacy
- Policy Committees and Legislative Action
- Regulatory Compliance Programs and Publications

#### Local & Regional Chamber Focus/Mission and Major Programs (Varies widely by Chamber)

- Promote local and regional business growth and economic activity
- Staff of program directors and business advocates
- Business to Business Programs and Events
- Community and Economic Development
- Business Promotion and Advocacy mostly at the Local and State Levels

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Thunder Bay Knocker Ball**  
751 Woodward Avenue  
Alpena, MI 49707  
989.884.9683

**Fitzpatrick Hardware Inc**  
2733 US 23 South  
Alpena, MI 49707  
989.340.2132

**Massage Works Natural Health Center**  
2483 US 23 South  
Alpena, MI 49707  
989.884.3507

**Shalla's Market, Inc.**  
326 Long Lake Avenue  
Alpena, MI 49707  
989.354.4545

**Burr Auctions**  
2685 Morris Road  
Herron, MI 49744  
989.464.5880

**Make Your Mark**  
1074 Memory Lane  
Alpena, MI 49707  
989.884.0624

We are pleased to welcome these organizations to the Chamber. As we continue to grow in membership we are able to accomplish more. We appreciate all of our members - both new and returning.

#### Michigan Association of Chamber Professionals (MACP) Focus/Mission and Major Programs

- Organizational support for chambers of commerce
- Continuing education and professional development for chamber executives and staff
- Promotion of chambers of commerce as an industry and profession
- Best practices and innovation models
- Leadership Conference
- Volunteer & Board Resources/Training
- Education and Industry Updates
- Recognition Programs
- Marketing Resources

### 2017 CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairperson: Ryan Fairchild - Omega Electric  
Past Chairperson: Luciana King - Lappan Agency  
Vice Chairperson: Cindy Limback - RE/MAX New Horizons  
Secretary/Treasurer: Brian VanWormer - Employment Services Inc.

Directors: Eileen Budnick - First Federal of N. Michigan; Bruce Duncan - Thunder Bay Therapy; Pat Gerow - R.S. Scott and Associates; Rose Nowak - Better Living Massage Center and Spa; Elaine Orr - Alpena Power Company (retired); Adam Poll - City of Alpena; Shawn Shankie - Days Inn



Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

### CHAMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For ribbon cuttings and event details, contact the Chamber at 989.354.4181 or visit [www.alpenachamber.com](http://www.alpenachamber.com).

#### November 2017

- 1 - Ambassador meeting, 8:00 a.m.
- 2 - Government Relations Committee meeting, 7:30 a.m.
- 7 - Mock Trial, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., free to attend, registration required\*
- 17 - NMCA Agenda setting meeting
- 24 - Bolenz Jewelry Holiday Parade, 5:30 p.m., registration forms available from the Chamber of Commerce

#### December 2017

- 1 - Good Morning Alpena event, 7:00 a.m., \$9 per person, advanced registration required\*, theme: Community Development Update, a panel-style presentation, sponsored by Alpena County George N. Fletcher Library
- 6 - Ambassador meeting, 8 a.m.
- 7 - Government Relations Committee meeting, 7:30 a.m.
- 8 - Chamber Board meeting and strategic planning, 7:30 a.m.

\* register by contacting the Chamber: [info@alpenachamber.com](mailto:info@alpenachamber.com) or 989.354.4181

## 2018 Good Morning Alpena Schedule - Mark Your Calendar and Join Us!

January 19th, March 9th, May 11th, July 13th, September 7th, November 2nd

We are also adding (because of member requests) two Good Mid Day Alpena events on April 13th and August 10th

### More Than Meets the Eye

We share so much about what's currently occupying our time that we don't always get to share the other benefits of your membership. Please read below for a sampling of benefits that you might be missing out on and are offered on an on-going basis.

**Experience Alpena App:** We still manage the Experience Alpena, MI app in partnership with the Convention and Visitor's Bureau. This app is updated regularly and is becoming increasingly effective. It is a free download from your app store, and can help you discover event details, places to dine, and unique experiences in which to engage. We use push notifications from time to time (which can be set to your preference) to share important information - another way to help you stay in touch with what's going on in your community.

**Member Discounts:** Members offer one another discounts on products and services. All discounts can be found at [www.alpenachamber.com](http://www.alpenachamber.com) - our chamber - member discounts. Remember, these discounts apply to all of your employees. *You will find discounts from: ABC Homes, Accident Fund, Alpena Agency, Ameri-Shred, CardConnect, Constant Contact, First Federal, Good Life Press, Larry's Collision, McAnsh Life-Energy Institute, McDonald Bros. Collision, McFalda Law Office, Northern Eye, Real Estate One, Spectrum Enterprise, and Top O' Michigan Insurance*

**Member Edition ENotes:** We email a newsletter to our members weekly on Tuesday. The newsletter is filled with important information about Chamber of Commerce activities. On the last Tuesday of every month, we invite members to include information in the ENotes publication. It is a simple way to share your business information with other members. Email us ([info@alpenachamber.com](mailto:info@alpenachamber.com)) your information in 50 words or less, links are encouraged, by end of the business on Friday before the last Tuesday.

**Mailing Labels:** We still offer mailing labels to our members. Sometimes a good old-fashioned letter or postcard is a great way to get your message to other businesses. You can purchase a set of mailing labels for just \$15, and you can purchase as many sets as you want, as often as you would like.

**Business Awards:** We present a series of awards every February at our Annual Dinner. Don't forget to apply for these awards. The nomination forms are now available. Being recognized with an award is a true honor and can go far in marketing your business. Going through the process of applying for an award is also of great value to your business as it helps you discover more about your business. *Awards with open nominations include: Citizen of the Year, Business of the Year, Up and Coming Award, and Culture Change Agent*

**Government Relations Assistance:** When our members experience difficulty with a government agency - local, state or federal, we are willing to assist in solving the problem. We have also helped put businesses in touch with appropriate officials in Lansing and Washington D.C. or even right here in Alpena. We may not publicize all of the projects we assist with, but it is something we are consistently working on.

### Shredder Day Was an Outstanding Success

On October 18th we held our annual shredder day. What a great success - we saw a dramatic increase in numbers this year. We were able to help 57 of our members shred over 14,000 pounds of documents and one hard drive. Last year we saw just over 8,000 pounds of documents destroyed at this annual event. Keep an eye out for the 2018 date - we will announce it sometime next year.

### IN THE SPOTLIGHT

**Huntington Bancshares Incorporated** is a regional bank holding company headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, with \$101 billion of assets and a network of 996 branches and 1,860 ATMs across eight Midwestern states. Founded in 1866, The Huntington National Bank and its affiliates provide consumer, small business, commercial, treasury management, wealth management, brokerage, trust, and insurance services. Huntington also provides auto dealer, equipment finance, national settlement and capital market services that extend beyond its core states. Visit [huntington.com](http://huntington.com) for more information.

Huntington is committed to doing the right thing for customers, colleagues, shareholders and communities. This includes providing competitive products and services, delivering a superior customer experience, delivering long-term shareholder value through top-tier performance, equipping colleagues to be the best at looking out for customers, and contributing to the economic strength of local communities by investing in business growth and partnering and volunteering to make a difference.

Huntington Bank has two locations in Alpena, 1254 M-32 W (inside Meijer), 989.884.6005 and 200 West Chisholm, 989.354.0375. Find them online at <https://www.huntington.com/branchlocator>.

**S & A Company** has been in business throughout Northeast Michigan for over 25 years serving multiple industries and clientele around the country. S & A Company, Inc. is a fabrication and welding facility that specializes in industrial construction and outage services, as well as custom fabrication. They have the foresight and adaptability to overcome unforeseen changes in the work environment or job scope: *A contractor that saves you time and money.*

S & A Company offers a wide variety of services that will meet your needs. They understand field installations and the need for projects to be completed on time and on budget. The majority of their services were developed to meet their customer needs. S & A Company believes their number one asset is their qualified talented staff. They value their people and skills and that is why their top priorities include safety and training. All their employees have MSHA and OSHA training. They continually review and update their safety program to ensure employee safety and compliance with ever changing work environments.

S & A Company strives to combine old-school craftsmanship with modern techniques and technologies. Commitment to their customers, staff, craftsmanship, and safety have helped S & A Company remain profitable even through many economic down turns over the course of the last couple of decades.

They are open Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at 1504 N. Second Ave., Alpena. Contact them at 989.356.2373 or view their website: [www.snacompany.com](http://www.snacompany.com).



### 2017 Outstanding Chamber Award

We are honored to have received the 2017 Outstanding Chamber of the Year Award (mid-size category) from the Michigan Association of Chamber Professionals. Thank you, members, for standing with us as we work toward an increasingly better business climate in Northeast Michigan!

