
MABA News that you can use!



MABA News

January 2016

A Note From the President



Wow...I can't believe it, the year is already over, it seems like just yesterday that I stepped into the president's role here at MABA.

If I do say so myself, this past year here at MABA has been a very challenging and rewarding year for us. We faced many challenges, the MARC, the website, personnel changes and just getting MABA on a firm foundation and ready for the future.

The very first task was what to do with the website after it had been hacked. This turned out to be a blessing in disguise. The website had been a sore subject for years and we finally wanted to put this issue to rest. Working through the issues proved to be model for how we would handle the other challenges we faced in the coming year. We gathered information, searched for "best practices" and worked with the committees to find a "long lasting/forward thinking" solution. We now have a website that is not only functional for our members, it also does many automated tasks that in the past had to be handled by a board member. The website is also supported by a national corporation, which means we are no longer tied to one individual.

There have been so many exciting things that have happened over the past year, but the one that really stands out for me is the Joan Smith Memorial Fund. I am so impressed with how the whole MABA organization has stepped up and "supported and embraced" all the activities that took place in making the Joan Smith Memorial Fund a success.

I would also like to take a moment and thank the entire Board for allowing me the opportunity to serve as president in 2015. It was truly a pleasure and honor to work with such a great group of people.

In closing, I truly feel that all of the hard work and commitment to "long lasting" solutions that we undertook this year is in great hands going forward as I pass the torch to our incoming president Mr. Tom Conway. I look forward to continuing to watch our great organization grow, prosper and add value for our members.

Sincerely,

Lisa Schroeder

Meeting Sponsor

Our Meeting Sponsor for January is Gilbert Chocolates. Sally Krichbaum shared the following information with MABA members.

Our founder had a passion for quality, and the gourmet chocolates made to this day by Gilbert Chocolates embraces the same high standards instilled by J.O. Gilbert more than 110 years ago. We believe we have the best chocolate made in Michigan, and our customers across the nation agree.

From the original chocolate factory in Jackson to our current location, we have always been committed to using the best ingredients to make the highest quality chocolate products for our customers. Texture and taste are important in a quality chocolate, and our recipes include ingredients that are paraffin free with no preservatives.

It's our belief that handmade chocolates taste better, so a labor of love goes into the production of every single chocolate crème, fudge, truffle, assorted chocolate, Panama Signature

Timely Tips in 3 Sponsor

Our Timely Tips in Three Sponsor for January is Tom Conway from ASK. Tom gave us tips on keeping our personal and business data safe as a Timely Tips in 3 Sponsor!

Date Safety: How to keep your computer secure:

- 1) Passwords: Use complexity standards for secure passwords. Examples of good and bad passwords are listed.

Bad: Password123, birthdays, names of family

Good: X53tw&L5

- 2) Utilize a password vault to manage all your passwords. These will take the pressure off of you to remember all of your passwords and can sync up with your computer for easy access.

- 3) Don't use the same password for every site.

www.justask.net

Chocolates, and more chocolate products.

Gilbert Chocolates offers different fundraising opportunities for organizations – see Brian and Sally for more information. Also, don't forget to buy your sweetie some chocolates for Valentine's Day!!!

www.gilbertchocolates.com

50/50 Sponsor

Our 50/50 Sponsor for January is Carl Wesolek of Challenger Technologies. The proceeds from this drawing will go to the Joan Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Thank you Carl!

More About MABA

Thank you

A special thank you to all of the past board members and the leadership for all that they have done for MABA in 2015.

Round the Horn

This time was used this month to introduce ourselves to the group, and to network at each table about the resolutions that we have made in our businesses for 2016. Great ideas from better organization to delegation of tasks were given to the group.

New MABA Officers for 2016!

Tom Conway, President

Marsha Madle, Vice President

Kevin Damesworth, Treasurer

Carl Wesolek, Secretary

Other MABA News

MABA Website

Many exciting changes have been and are being made to the website. We are working on a Member Promotions page for standing MABA discount programs. This page is now live and we are taking submissions. Please let us know if you have a discount or referral program that you would like featured on the website.

If there are community events that you would like to submit for the event calendar, or suggestions to improve the site, please send them to tconway@justask.net. We would like to make this website the place to go when looking for a business in the area.

Remember to update your profile with a photo and current contact information! This is one of the great benefits of your MABA membership.

Next Meeting

Friday, February 12, 2016
City Limits East - 7:15 am

FROM THE TOWNSHIP

Township Talk with Peter

Peter Menser from Meridian Township provided MABA with a list of many new projects and updates on ongoing projects that are happening in and around the Meridian Township area.

For more information about the township, please visit www.meridian.mi.us.

Police Department Update

Lt. Palaga provided an update on happenings in Meridian Township.

- 1) Very few retail fraud cases were reported in December. Down from last year!
- 2) New body cameras are now being used on police officers.
- 3) Meridian Township is now hiring one new law enforcement officer.

Visit their website for more information at www.meridian.mi.us/POLICE.

Visit MABA.biz for more details on events, member information and news about MABA,

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