

INVESTMENT

GUIDE



Photo attributed to Diana Kenney, Downtown Crystal Lake Association, www.downtowncl.org

BEING A CRYSTAL LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBER MEANS BELONGING TO SOMETHING GREATER



The Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce and our local community work as a team toward collective success and economic growth, finding new ways to build better businesses and professional lives.

The Chamber has served as the "Voice of Business" in the Crystal Lake community since its inception in 1940 and we are the community's advocate for a prosperous economy and outstanding quality of life.

Our Chamber serves hundreds of member businesses and organizations, ranging from multi-national corporations with corporate offices in Crystal Lake to locallyowned small businesses and most everything in between.

The Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce is committed to helping members grow their business by taking the lead in programs and efforts that promote a strong local economy and make our community a great place to do business.

We are an active Chamber, offering a variety of benefits and opportunities for "building your business." Monthly business and social networking events, professional development opportunities, special community events during the year, and opportunities to market your business, are just a few of the benefits available to Chamber members.

Within this Membership Investment Guide you will find numerous ways a Chamber membership can make a difference for both your business and professional development. Should you have any questions, would like more information on membership or need any personal assistance, please email us at <u>info@clchamber.com</u> or call 815-459-1300.

Bill Eich President/CEO, Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce beich@clchamber.com



WHY SHOULD YOU JOIN THE CRYSTAL LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE?

Our focus is to provide meaningful value to our Chamber Memberships. You will find many reasons membership in the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce can make a tangible and positive difference in your business' sustainability and growth.



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TO CONNECT WITH OTHER BUSINESSES

From day one you have the opportunity to meet with other members. Join one of our Chamber Networking Groups and start to form connections and relationships that will help build your business. Our Chamber also regularly offers business mixers and other networking opportunities.



TO DEVELOP YOURSELF PROFESSIONALLY

You can attend our Educational Series which provides business education, skill-building, and fresh ideas to common business issues. Our Business Builder Meetings provide a forum for various business topics throughout the year.



Your business is automatically added to our Business Directory, highlighted on the homepage of our website as a new member, and posted on our social media. You can also schedule a ribbon cutting ceremony or host a mixer to showcase your business.



TO INCREASE YOUR CREDIBILITY

You can raise your business' reputation through a membership in the Chamber. Consumers frequently choose Chamber businesses over Non-Chamber ones when given a choice. Proudly display the Chamber's window decal for clients and shoppers to see.

TO GAIN AN ADVOCATE FOR YOUR BUSINESS

Chamber leadership works to inform, educate, and advocate on behalf of your business with local, county, state and federal leaders to ensure a pro-business environment that allows area businesses to flourish. The Crystal Lake Chamber is also part of U.S. and Illinois Chamber of Commerce Organizations which advocate for pro-business laws and policies.

TO GET ACTIVE IN THE COMMUNITY

Your business is automatically and immediately a part of the Crystal Lake Community through your membership in our Chamber. Our Chamber is part of the fabric of Crystal Lake, providing community events like the Annual Independence Day Parade and Community Clean Up.

TO ADVERTISE IN CHAMBER MEDIA OFFERINGS AT DISCOUNTED RATES

Our Chamber offers many ways that you can promote your business through advertising and sponsorships that reach both our business community and consumers alike. You can also offer your own Member to Member Discounts to drive business to your company.

TO GAIN ACCESS TO BUSINESS DISCOUNTS

Increase your purchasing power through exclusive savings from our Member Advantage Program including Office Depot and Constant Contact Email Marketing.

THE REAL VALUE OF JOINING A CHAMBER

A study, commissioned by the American Chamber of Commerce Executives with support from Small Business Network, Inc., was designed to determine the real value to companies in terms of consumer outcomes of joining and being active in their local chamber of commerce.

Most consumers (59%) think that being active in the local chamber of commerce is an effective business strategy overall. When consumers know that a small business is a member of the chamber, they are 63% more likely to purchase goods or services from the company in the future. When consumers know that a small business is a member of the chamber, they are 44% more likely to think favorably of it.



Connect Level Member Benefits Guide

Whether you're running a small business or large corporation, you watch every penny you spend. The Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce brings you valuable member benefits that make the most of your marketing dollar and provide your business with a measurable return.

CONNECT LEVEL MEMBERSHIP

NON-PROFIT 501(C3) SMALL BUSINESS (1-5 EMPLOYEES) MEDIUM BUSINESS (6-16 EMPLOYEES) LARGE BUSINESS (16-100 EMPLOYEES) BUSINESSES WITH 100+ EMPLOYEES

 (Enhanced Members Receive All Benefits Listed Below)

 \$13/mo* or \$150/year

 PLOYEES)
 \$28/mo* or \$325/year

 EMPLOYEES)
 \$38/mo* or \$450/year

 EMPLOYEES)
 \$55/mo* or \$650/year

 MPLOYEES
 START AT ELEVATE LEVEL (Enhanced Memberships)

Service provided

Product included

(Values exclusive to Crystal Lake Chamber noted in Red)

Product or Service	Product	Service			Service
Enhanced Business Listing in Chamber Online Directory (includes Basic Contact Information, Logo, Social Media Links, Business Description, Map & Photo Gallery)			Access to Member Pricing at Chamber Events & Programs/Member-Only Sponsorships & Advertising Opportunities		
Access to Member-Only Discount Programs (Office Depot, Constant Contact, & Member to Member Discounts)		Opportunity to Display your Business Cards & Brochures Offered to the Public in Chamber Office Lobby			
Business Listed in the Annual Community Guide			Opportunity to Post to the Chamber Job Board		
Press Releases (Posted to website & Chamber social media)			McHenry County College and School District 155 Career Internship & Apprenticeship Program Partner		
Free Notary Public Services			SenText (Text Notifications for Chamber Events)		
Post to Local Savings (Online Coupons) & Events to Chamber Member Calendar			SCORE (Service Corp of Retired Executives) Free Business Counseling in Any Field		
Free Certificates of Origin Services for International Trade Requirements			Proud Member of the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce Window Cling		
2'x4' Banner from FastSigns (Complimentary for New Members)			Digital Chamber Logo for Member use on Website/Social Media		
Weekly Subscription to the Chamber's 'What You Need to Know' E-Newsletter			Chamber Membership List in Excel Format (Provided <u>Free</u> at Sign-Up & Renewal Dates)		
Program or Event					
Members in Motion -add'l fee (Networking Scramble Event)			Chamber Boardroom Features Video Conferencing & Seating for Up to 20		
Benefits Workshop Webinar Series (review of all benefits & opportunities)			Free Use of Chamber Boardroom & Conference Room 24/7 (WiFi Included)		
Ribbon Cutting / Grand Opening Event (Publicized in Northwest Herald newspaper & on social media)			Members are Part of Larger State & Nationwide Business Advocacy Efforts (Includes Town Halls w/ Elected Officials)		
Leaders in Action Education Series (add'l. fee) Taught by Local Business & Industry Leaders			Out 2 Lunch (Various Topics Discussed at Local Restaurants; Bi-monthly)		
Business Builders Series (Various Topics Led b Local Business Leaders; 6x/yr.)	ру		Networking Opportunities Offered In-Person (5 strong-contact & 2 casual-contact)		

* Chamber membership is effective when payment is received and active for twelve (12) months from this time. Monthly rates are only available on annual memberships.





ENHANCED MEMBER LEVELS



New Enhanced Levels, New Benefits

Many companies recognize the value our Chamber provides and choose one of our Enhanced Levels of Membership which offer additional promotional opportunities, preferential positioning of their business in Chamber Media Offerings, and even personalized benefits. These Enhanced Levels are available to all Chamber members but are limited in number to provide exclusivity and uniqueness to each level.

*Enhanced Membership Level dues are no longer calculated as a premium above normal membership dues rates. Each Enhanced Membership Level is now offered as a single price no matter the size of your business.

We invite you to look at each Enhanced Level and evaluate for yourself if moving up to an exclusive membership level is right for you and your business. You might just find that one of our offerings provides the extra promotion and exposure you are looking for. Maybe you are looking to get your company name out in front of some of the important and influential people that come to our Annual Golf Classic, or you want your company to be aligned to our mission serving our community more and are looking for sponsorship opportunities with our Community Clean-Up/Recycling Event.

our **MISSION**

The mission of the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce is to create value and opportunity for our members with the belief that a positive business climate is an integral part of a healthy community. our **VISION**

The vision of the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce is to be the business force and foundation connecting the community through integrity, leadership, value, growth, and service.

*These Enhanced Membership Levels are available to all Chamber Members. Priority is given to current Chamber members in each level.

Chamber membership is effective when payment is received and active for 12 months from this time. Monthly rates are only available on annual memberships. Employees/associates that are affiliated with the listed business are recognized as members and may participate in all activities and benefits. Free events are limited to the Chamber's discretion. Annual investment in the CLCoC may be tax deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense. Investments made to the Chamber are not a charitable tax deduction for federal income tax purposes. No refunds on membership. Any changes to benefits offered are at the Chamber's discretion but will be replaced with other benefits of equal or greater value.



ELEVATE LEVEL \$1,000

An investment at the ELEVATE MEMBERSHIP LEVEL is recommended for businesses that have established an identity and are recognized in the marketplace yet seek additional opportunities to grow.

Some of the Sponsorship Opportunities and other benefits that are designed to promote your company's brand in the ELEVATE Level are:

- Your Company's Logo/Name on Signage at the Home and Business Expo (Attendance 1,500 - 2,000)
- Your Company's Logo/Name recognized in the Event Program at the Annual Awards Event (Attended by prominent business leaders)
- A Highlighted Business Listing in the Chamber's monthly digital magazine, Connections
- A Highlighted Business Listing in the Annual Community Guide (Distributed to over 12,000)
- Your Company recognized as a Driving Range Sponsor at the Annual Golf Classic
- Your Company Logo/Name in the Event Program at our Members in Motion Networking Scramble
- Your Company Logo/Name recognized on Signage at Community Clean-Up/Recycling Event. (Connect your brand to the environment)

PLUS, all the benefits of the CONNECT Membership Level.

ENGAGE LEVEL \$2,500

An investment at the ENGAGE MEMBERSHIP LEVEL is recommended for businesses that are planning to build additional clients, customers, and relationships to other businesses.

Some of the Sponsorship Opportunities and other benefits that are designed to promote your company's brand in the ENGAGE Level are::

- Your Company's Logo on Putting Green Signage at the Annual Golf Classic
- Your Company Name will scroll on Chamber Website Homepage and link to your business listing (Over 13,000 visits per month)
- 3 Interior-Page Ads on Chamber Website with Link to Engage Level Member webpage
- Women Empowering Women Networking Group Monthly Sponsor (Show your support for our Women Leaders)
- Recognition on the ENGAGE LEVEL Member webpage with logo and link to business

PLUS, the all of the benefits of the CONNECT AND ELEVATE Membership Levels.

*Exclusive to only 12 Chamber businesses





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INVEST LEVEL \$5,000

The INVEST MEMBERSHIP LEVEL membership puts your business among an elite group of members who are focused on achieving the mission of the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce.

Some of the Sponsorship Opportunities and other benefits that are designed to promote your company's brand in the INVEST Level are:

- Your Company's Logo displayed as a Tee Box Sponsor at the Annual Golf Classic (Attended by prominent business leaders)
- Your Company recognized as a Co-Sponsor of our Members in Motion Networking Scramble Event
- Your Company promoted as a Co-Sponsor of Community Clean Up/Recycling Event (Connect your brand to the environment)
- Annual Co-Sponsorship of the Business Builder Lunch Series
- Home & Business Expo Community Outreach Co-Sponsor (Attendance 1,500 -2,000)
- Breakfast Co-Sponsorship Leaders in Action Education Series
- Subsidiary Business Locations listed on website at no additional cost

PLUS, all of the benefits of the CONNECT, ELEVATE and ENGAGE Membership Levels.

*Exclusive to only 3 Chamber Member Businesses

VISIONARY LEVEL \$7,500

The VISIONARY MEMBERSHIP LEVEL offers exclusive positioning and unique experiences while strengthening our work to support the local economy.

Some of the Sponsorship Opportunities and other benefits that are designed to promote your company's brand in the VISIONARY Level are:

- Your Company recognized as a Community Outreach Co-Sponsor at our Community Clean Up/Recycling Event (Connect your brand to the environment)
- Co-Sponsor of the Crystal Lake Independence Day Parade (Attended by more than 15,000 people)
- Eagle Sponsor of the Annual Golf Classic, includes (1) Foursome of Golf, Food & Drinks
- Company recognition as Visionary Level Member on plaque in the Chamber Boardroom
- Recognition on the Visionary Membership Level webpage with logo, link to business, subsidiary locations, products and services

PLUS, all of the benefits of the CONNECT, ELEVATE, ENGAGE and INVEST Membership Levels.

*Exclusive to only 2 Chamber Member Businesses



INSPIRE LEVEL \$10,000

The INSPIRE Level membership includes exclusive benefits like a seat on our Board of Directors while offering the opportunity to make a difference in two local businesses.

Some of the Sponsorship Opportunities and other benefits that are designed to promote your company's brand in the INSPIRE Level are:

- One guaranteed seat on the Chamber Board of Directors
- Company profile in the Chamber Annual Report
- Opportunity to Sponsor (2) Pay it Forward Memberships (\$300 or \$425 Connect Level) for two new, aspiring or struggling businesses for one year
- Virtual Chamber Communications Sponsor, Company Name and Logo on all Chamber Video Conferencing Presentations.
- Company recognition as Inspire Level Member on plaque in Chamber Boardroom.
- Recognition on the Inspire Level web page with logo, link to business, subsidiary locations, products and videos.

PLUS, all of the benefits of the CONNECT, ELEVATE, ENGAGE, INVEST and VISIONARY Membership Levels.

*Exclusive to only 1 Chamber Member Business



Enhanced Member Benefits Guide



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VISIONARY INSPIRE

We invite you to look at each Enhanced Membership Level and evaluate for yourself if moving up to an exclusive membership level is right for you and your business. You might just find that one of our offerings provides the extra promotion and exposure you are looking for. <u>* Enhanced Members Also Receive All Connect Level Benefits</u>

MARKETING & VISIBILITY		ELEVATE LEVEL \$1,000 (100+ EMPLOYEES)	ENGAGE LEVEL \$2,500 (12 AVAILABLE)	INVEST LEVEL \$5,000 (3 AVAILABLE)	VISIONARY LEVEL \$7,500 (2 AVAILABLE)	(INSPIRE LEVEL \$10,000 (1 AVAILABLE)
Business Highlight in the Chamber's monthly digital Connections magazine	0					
Bolded Listing in the Annual Community Guide	DEI					
Logo Scrolling on Chamber Website with Link to Enhanced Member Webpage	ENEFITS INCLUDE					
Program Recognition at the Annual Awards Event	TS IN					
Signage Recognition at Community Clean-Up Event	NEFI					
Driving Range Sponsor at the Annual Golf Classic	В					
Putting Green Signage at Annual Golf Classic	EVEI					
Tee Box Sponsor at Annual Golf Classic						
Subsidiary Business Locations Listed on Website	RSH					
Co-Sponsorship of Community Clean-Up/Recycling Event	MEMBERSHIP					
Co-Sponsor of Crystal Lake Independence Day Parade						
Business Recognition on Plaque in Chamber Boardroom	CONNECT					
Business Profile Included in Chamber Annual Report	OND					
Virtual Chamber Communications Sponsor	C					

*Enhanced Membership Level dues are no longer calculated as a premium above normal membership dues rates. Each Enhanced Membership Level is now offered as a single price no matter the size of your business.







Enhanced Member Benefits Guide



We invite you to look at each Enhanced Level and evaluate for yourself if moving up to an exclusive membership level is right for you and your business. You might just find that one of our offerings provides the extra promotion and exposure you are looking for. <u>*Enhanced Members Also Receive All Connect Level Benefits</u>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	ELEVATE LEVEL \$1,000 (100+ EMPLOYEES)	ENGAGE LEVEL \$2,500 (12 AVAILABLE)	INVEST LEVEL \$5,000 (3 AVAILABLE)	VISIONARY LEVEL \$7,500 (2 AVAILABLE)	INSPIRE LEVEL \$10,000 (1 AVAILABLE)
Signage Recognition at the Fall Business Showcase					
Member in Motion Program Recognition					
<u>Networking Groups - Monthly Co-Sponsor</u>					
Business Builders Annual Sponsor					
Fall Business Showcase Community Outreach Sponsor					
Leaders in Action Education Series Breakfast Co-Sponsor					
CONNECT MEMBERSHIP LEVEL BENEFITS INCLUDED					

BUSINESS CONNECTIONS

Eagle Sponsor of Annual Golf Classic, includes One (1) Foursome of Golf					
One (1) Guaranteed Seat on Chamber Board of Directors					
<u>Opportunity to Sponsor Pay-it-Forward Memberships</u> (Connect Level) for up to 4 - Not for Profit Businesses					

CONNECT MEMBERSHIP LEVEL BENEFITS INCLUDED

*Enhanced Membership Level dues are no longer calculated as a premium above normal membership dues rates. Each Enhanced Membership Level is now offered as a single price no matter the size of your business.





ANNUAL CHAMBER EVENTS

The Chamber is proud to host a number of events for our members and the community. Involvement in Chamber programs is a great way to further your professional network, take part in your community, and grow professionally.

STATE OF THE COMMUNITY EVENT

The State of the Community Event, hosted by the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the City of Crystal Lake and the Village of Lakewood, brings together business leaders and community leaders to celebrate the last year's successes and share their vision for the future.

HOME AND BUSINESS FALL SHOWCASE

The Annual Home and Business Expo (now Fall Showcase) is a community wide event which welcomes the community to meet and greet select members of the Chamber of Commerce. Consumers can shop for innovative home and business products. Come and check out some of our amazing local businesses, organizations and industries with over 100 vendors under one roof.

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP/COMMUNITY RECYCLING EVENT

The Chamber holds a Community Clean-Up/Recycling Event each year to bring together our local businesses and our residents in an effort to help keep our community clean.

ANNUAL INDEPENDENCE PARADE

The Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce partners with the Crystal Lake Lions Club, the City of Crystal Lake, the Northwest Herald, and Star 105.5 radio station to bring this extraordinary event to over 15,000 people every year.

ANNUAL AWARDS AND GEMS AWARD EVENTS

The Chamber Annual Awards Event is an evening of celebration of the Chamber's year of accomplishments and the presentation of awards to select members. The GEMS Awards Event is a Chamber Foundation Celebration of Outstanding Chamber Members.

MARKETING OPPORTUNITIES

We offer a wide variety of advertising opportunities to help market your company to local business leaders, local businesses, and Crystal Lake residents. Consider advertising in Crystal Lake Chamber publications, emails, newsletters, and our website, which all provide outstanding value for your marketing dollars.

COMMUNITY GUIDE

The Chamber's Annual Community Guide and member directory provides a quality connection between the Chamber, its members, key business organizations and our community. The publication focuses on both Chamber and local government information, annual community events, along with a convenient business directory of Chamber businesses by category and interest. The Community Guide is a joint publication of the Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce and the Northwest Herald. (Distributed to over 12,000 annually)

CONNECTIONS DIGITAL MAGAZINE

Connections, our monthly e-newsletter magazine that communicates topics that are relevant to the business community. Feature stories include Chamber and community events, economic development issues, current initiatives, local accolades, and legislative updates. Each issue is distributed digitally.

EVENT SPONSORSHIPS

The Chamber hosts a number of events throughout the year, which are enhanced by the participation of member sponsors. Chamber events are designed to connect people on either a business or social level and only members can serve as sponsors. Being a sponsor is a great way for businesses to receive publicity while showing support for the Chamber and community.

CHAMBER WEBSITE

The Chamber's website is a traditional and trusted source of business information and is viewed by members, the public, and visitors looking for products and services. Marketing on our website allows members to direct their message to specific site visitors and/or all visitors to the site. The Chamber's website is a powerful and inexpensive advertising tool. (Over 13,000 visits per month)

TESTIMONIALS



"The Chamber gives you an opportunity to participate in our community, particularly for small businesses. It makes a lot of sense to be a part of the Chamber because of the number of services they provide, because of the number of opportunities they provide with other businesses, and with the overall expertise in this community, it provides a lot of opportunity for small businesses to do well here."

Steve Slack

Chief Executive Officer & President Home State Bank

"The changes that I've seen not only in our business in Crystal Lake but also at the Chamber have been tremendous over the years. The Chamber still occupies the same small building located on Route 14 which now brings me a lot of nostalgia, but every time I visit it, I'm surprised by the growth and outreach that they've been able to build over the years. The Chamber has grown in a way that has continued to stay relevant within the business community. They know our businesses, they know what's going on and this enables us to make connections. The Chamber has truly helped each one of us grow over the years in many, many ways."

Jill Dinsmore, *President* JA Frate, Inc.



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"We joined the Chamber in 1983. My mother started her business by buying a piece of equipment from another Chamber member and he then immediately became our customer. I think every business should join the Chamber. Personal and professional relationships that you develop in the Chamber are invaluable. You can help yourself become better at business through mentorships, by having a forum to complain about business, or even celebrate business with people who completely understand what you're going through."

Dawn Gilman, *Owner* Crystal Lake Engraving

"Heisler's Bootery has been a Chamber member for at least these past 75 years. The Chamber has been a very important factor in building our business. From day one it was all about community, all about getting to know your neighbors. Your neighbors were your customers and they still are. You can't be an island amongst yourselves, you have to go out and be a part of your community if you're going to succeed."

Jim Heisler *Owner* Heisler's Bootery





Committed to maximizing business development and economic growth of the community through advocacy, education, innovation, and collaboration.

Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce • 427 W. Virginia Street Crystal Lake, IL 60014 • 815.459.1300 • clchamber.com