

# FREE Member Benefit



## Heart of Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce

IT HAPPENS AT THE HEART NEWSLETTER!

BE FEATURED AS THE MEMBER OF THE MONTH!

### Benefits:

- Electronic copy sent out in Heart of Wisconsin Monthly Newsletter goes out to over 1,500 emails!
- Posted on the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber Website [www.wisconsinrapidschamber.com](http://www.wisconsinrapidschamber.com)
- Posted on the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber Social Media's Facebook, Twitter & LinkedIn
- Hard copy available in the lobby of the Heart of Wisconsin Chamber
- Distributed to local health care facilities, retirement communities, and hotels

Interested in being featured in the It Happens in the HEART Newsletter contact...

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 715-741-8964

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MEMBER OF THE MONTH SPOTLIGHT - RAPIDS AWARDS 'N MORE

Wisconsin Rapids has been home to Awards 'N More, for over 25 years. Known as the stress trophy and awards show, it's the "Meow" piece of the business that amazes customers every time they walk through doors of this locally owned business located at great 5th Street South. On a daily basis, smiling customers comment "I didn't know you could do that", or "what don't you do".

With storefront hours of Monday & Tuesday 1:30-6, and Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday 9-2:30, owners Renee & Van Patrick Getz are able to accommodate time for most customers to bring in and shop. Some events require personalized one-on-one time with us and we're happy to schedule a day/time outside of normal business hours to meet. Newly established events often require month-long planning and who can forget the other life events... baptisms, birthdays, anniversaries, and weddings (to name a few). It takes time to work out to the details for special events. When items are personalized, every detail matters.

From a gifts perspective, most know we personalize glassware, books, knives, and T-shirt tumblers, but are surprised to learn we provide personalized wedding cake toppers, photo canvases, canvas wall decor, ornaments, tully towels, necks, tee-shirts, wood & glass cutting boards, frames, key chains, pins, trucker hats and shell casings. Did you know we have indoor and outdoor materials available for engraving? Any item can be personalized with the addition of an engraved plate... we add plates to memorial home (gifts and urns), gift baskets, coat hangers, and more. Bring us your ideas and we'll take care of the rest! If you can't think of anything, we'll refer you to someone that can.

**Our Story!**

Renee and Van Patrick Getz are owners of Rapids Awards 'N More, LLC. They purchased the business in 2016 from former owners, Ron & Larry Anderson. Van Patrick first heard the former owners were planning to retire and sell their business to Alan Panta, GM of the Wisconsin Rapids Rotary Beach Club. Van Patrick, who was the Public Address Announcer for the Rapids at that time, brought the idea for purchasing to Renee and together they decided to learn more. Van Patrick had been engraving out of his home for over a year when this opportunity came about. The thought of owning an engraving business seemed like a logical fit. Renee and Van Patrick purchased the business several months after initial conversations began.

Van Patrick was first introduced to engraving, while attending a National Sports Collectors Show in Cleveland, Ohio. A Marketing Director then, he experienced laser engraving on sports cases that was being provided by a contracted group at the event. He immediately became interested in engraving, reached out to his contacts and began doing prep work for the Chicago Cubs, M.L.B. Killer Bee's Memorabilia (a Barry Bonds Company), Mike Ditka's Golf Charly, Donald Driver, and Brett Favre.

The first large awards project completed by Renee and Van Patrick shortly after taking over ownership in 2016, was for the Area Star's Great 80's Tournament. This project was completed with the guidance of Anderson's, who Renee and Van Patrick retained as consultants for several months following the change in ownership. The most memorable project of this had to pick just one to display the World 80's Show Awards. It's not every day you have the opportunity to provide something that will be located in several countries around the world.

2018 HEART OF WISCONSIN CHAMBER CALENDAR

Event	Date
Board Meeting	May 15 <sup>th</sup>
Van Patrick - Chair	May 17 <sup>th</sup>
Agnes Re-view Hospital & Clinic	May 30 <sup>th</sup>
U.S. Bank	Thursday's in June
U.S. Bank	June 12 <sup>th</sup>
Working Women's Golf Clinic Luncheon	June 14 <sup>th</sup> - 17 <sup>th</sup>
Working Women's Golf Clinic Luncheon	June 20 <sup>th</sup>
Thursday's in June	
Lunch by the River	
Gather by the Gazebo	
Cranberry Blossom Festival	
Rendezvous in the Park	

Find more events at [www.wisconsinrapidschamber.com/events/calendar](http://www.wisconsinrapidschamber.com/events/calendar)

Stay connected with the Chamber through our It Happens at the Heart Newsletter. It's your connection to services, events and opportunities. Have questions, comments, or suggestions... please contact Steph Schmid at 715-741-8964

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