

CHAMBERGRAM

SEPTEMBER 2021



FEATURING:

Chamber & Member News

August Business After Hours Recap

YAP Photos

1972 Charter Member Profile: Dan Inman Electric

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 1

Government Affairs
8:00 AM

SEPTEMBER 6

Labor Day- Chamber
Office Closed
All Day

SEPTEMBER 8

Athens Uptown
Business Assoc.
9:30 AM

SEPTEMBER 14

Promotions and
Special Events
8:00 AM

SEPTEMBER 21

Ambassador's Club
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

SEPTEMBER 10-12

OU Parents Weekend

SEPTEMBER 17-19

PawPaw Festival

OCTOBER 4-9

OU Homecoming



As summer slides into fall, we are reflecting on our work over the last few months and preparing for the oncoming busy season. Fall in Athens is such a time of energy, possibilities, and new opportunities, and this year is no different. Our Board of Directors are ironing out the last details of our Strategic Plan and preparing to adopt it, and staff is planning on the programs and initiatives to make those visions come to life. Some of these visions include supporting businesses in the greater area of Athens County and expanding the power and reach of our membership. Another vision involves planning programs focused on making the Chamber the best voice for business in Athens, and part of that vision includes the Chamber being more involved and informed about public policy. As always, we are also looking to expand and strengthen the benefits our businesses receive as part of membership. As the world changes, so must business, and that means the Chamber must be the innovative leader and resource for local businesses. We are up to that challenge.

With the energy and excitement of fall, so come unexpected challenges. One example are the challenges surrounding our 26th Annual Celebrate Athens Auction and Dinner. I am saddened to announce that due to multiple factors, including the pandemic, low ticket sales, and reduced donations, it was decided that it was best to cancel the event. The Chamber is thankful to the gracious sponsors who recommitted their financial contributions to help offset costs associated. Thanks to that support, we were able to honor the contract with our venue partner, The Dairy Barn, as well as absorb fees associated with the ticketing software. Other sponsors elected to transfer their dollars to the 5th Annual Athens Area Women's Summit to still support the Chamber and its endeavors. For that, I am humbled and grateful.

Rather than sink into sadness about what was lost, we are retooling those resources and energy to focus on the 5th Annual Athens Area Women's Summit to be the best yet! The Planning Committee is hard at work ensuring we are bringing a safe, healthy, and inspiring event to folks. We look forward to seeing you at Stuart's Opera House this fall!

Onward,

Dani Underhill, President



Athens Area WOMEN'S SUMMIT

STEP
In.

REACH
Out.

LIFT
Up.

Join us for the
**5th Annual Athens Area
Women's Summit**
on Friday, October 22, 2021

In-person and virtual tickets for
this hybrid, all-day conference
on sale September 13!

For info on sessions, tickets,
and more, visit:
athenschamber.com/summit



Athens Area WOMEN'S SUMMIT



Thank you to our generous sponsors!

●●●●●●●●●● PREMIER ●●●●●●●●●●



●●●●●●●●●● LUNCH ●●●●●●●●●●



●●●●●●●●●● BREAKFAST ●●●●●●●●●●



●●●●●●●●●● SESSION ●●●●●●●●●●



●●●●●●●●●● EMPOWER ●●●●●●●●●●



●●●●●●●●●● SUPPORTING, \$250 ●●●●●●●●●●

- Business logo included in an ad for all Supporters in the program
- Includes 1 event ticket

To secure your sponsorship today, please contact the Chamber office.





BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Ohio University Inn



On Monday, August 9th, the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce held our August Business After Hours at **The Ohio University Inn & Conference Center**, located at 331 Richland Avenue, Athens. The OU Inn includes a restaurant, bar, and several private rooms to use for meetings, conferences, and special occasions. Guests explored the recent updates to Culter's Restaurant and enjoyed delicious appetizers as well as unique drinks off of Cutler's updated food and drink menus.

ATTENDEE AD

If you'd like to see your name here, enter your business card in the drawing when you sign-in at our next networking event!

August Winner: Abe Alassaf
Agent, Reed & Baur Insurance Agency

www.reedbaurinsurance.com





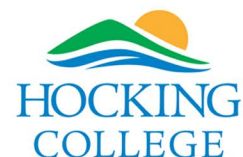
Due to the current public health climate as well as other challenges, we believe it is in our best interest to cancel the **26th Annual Celebrate Athens Auction & Dinner** at this time.

While this is a difficult decision and will sadden some folks, our Board of Directors and Staff feel confident this is the right one. We hope you understand our dedication to a healthy, successful event and look forward to joining us in the future!

All tickets purchased for the event will be refunded in the method of original payment. If there is further questions or concerns, please direct them to Chamber Staff at 740-593-9353.

Thank you to our supporters who recommitted their contributions and sponsorships for this event!

GOLD SPONSORS



SILVER SPONSORS



CHAMBER NEWS

A Successful DORA Season!



The Athens Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area (DORA) initiative that the Chamber's Athens Uptown Business Association (AUBA) worked hard to establish was a success! Starting on Thursday, July 29th and running until Sunday, August 15th, the DORA provided a designated space Uptown where adult beverages could be purchased at licensed bars and consumed on the sidewalks within the boundary area during the set days and times. Patrons appreciated the ability to support Uptown businesses while not being tied to one location, and participating locations enjoyed the additional business. Everyone looks forward to the next time that the DORA will be active – stay tuned for updates on when that will be!



THE 2021 CHAMBER MAPS ARE HERE!

If your business would like a supply of maps, please contact us at 740-593-9353 or email Dawn Worley-Sims at Dawn@athenschamber.com.

MEMBER NEWS

Collins Realty & Auctions Welcomes 2 New Realtors

Collins Realty has welcomed two new realtors to their team: Erin Kyae Nesbitt and Sandra Nesbitt. Because of her deep roots in Athens and her passion for outdoors, Erin decided to become a realtor to help people find their dream homes, land, and farms. She has been a licensed Realtor in Ohio for the past three years and is also a member



Erin Kyae Nesbitt



Sandra Nesbitt

of the NAR, OAR, and ACBOR. [Learn more about Erin here.](#) Sandra has lived in Athens for 28 years and is an active member of the Athens community, having worked with many organizations, including Ohio Valley Summer Theater, Athens Middle and High School PTOs, Athens Rotary, and more. She has been a licensed Realtor since 2018 and is a member of NAR and OAR. [Learn more about Sandra here.](#)

A New Hire for Athens Impact



Holly Fitch is joining Michelle Wilson and Teresa Wilson at **Athens Impact Socially Responsible Investments**. She works in the front office several days a week and her smile may be the first thing you see if you drop in. She helps set appointments, fills out paperwork, and is helping transition to a paperless system. In addition to her time at Athens Impact, she is a yoga teacher and a co-manager of Athens Yoga. When asked what she does in her free time, she said, "I enjoy time with my family, walks with my dog, tending to my garden and burying my nose in a good book." We are thrilled to have her at Athens Impact Socially Responsible Investments (now located next to Village Bakery).



Grand Opening of The Lodge

On Thursday, August 19th, The Lodge at Hocking College celebrated their grand opening. Boasting 39 rooms, including 4 with unique loft features, The Lodge offers accommodations for visitors to the area while providing students with hands-on learning experiences. The Lodge also hosts The Spa, managed by Hocking College's Massage Therapy Program, as well as Starbrick Brewing, serving up draft beer crafted by Hocking College's Fermentation Science program.

MEMBER NEWS REQUEST!

We want to help you spread the word about business milestones that are a big deal to you but might not be quite worthy of a press release, such as:

- Website overhaul
- Change of location or adding a location
- New hire announcements
- The retirement of a key staff member
- An award you/your company just won
- A fundraiser you are holding for a local community organization/charity
- And more!

Send your announcements to Kristin Slemmer at Kristin@athenschamber.com.

To be featured in the following month's ChamberGram, information must be submitted to Kristin no later than the 25th of each month.

*The Chamber reserves the right to make the final decision on what we publish in our GreenBlast and ChamberGram.

Athens Uptown Business Association Spotlight

HousingHotLink.com

8 N. Court St. Suite 101
Athens, OH 45701

Specializing in student rentals and commercial storefront and office properties.

Hours

Monday - Friday
9:00am - 4:00pm

housinghotlink.com



MASKS ARE REQUIRED IN ATHENS REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS

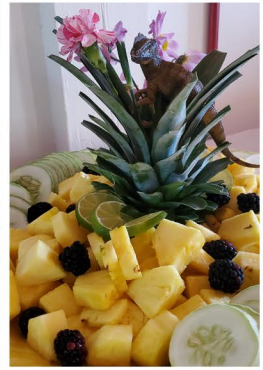
The mask ordinance has been amended to include masking inside any public space, regardless of vaccination status.



If your business needs free masks or posters, contact the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce or the City of Athens.

[Click here for a full copy of the ordinance.](#)

YOUNG ATHENS PROFESSIONALS



Pictured: Attendees engaged in conversation and enjoying the food and libations, and a whimsical touch to the appetizer spread provided by Eclipse.

On Thursday, August 12th, Eclipse Company Store hosted the August YAP Happy Hour. Though the crowd was smaller than in recent months (surely that day's heat advisory didn't help!) attendees enjoyed making connections and munching on an impressive complimentary appetizer spread provided by Eclipse.

Interested in hosting or sponsoring a YAP event? Contact Kristin Slemmer at kristin@athenschamber.com.

 **Thursday
September 9**
Young Athens Professionals
**Happy Hour at
Little Fish Brewing Co.**
8675 Armitage Road, Athens
5pm - 7pm
Free admission
Complimentary apps provided by
event sponsor **THE MATRIOTS**

NEW MEMBERS



ATHENS OVERLAND, LLC

7530 Cameron Rd
Athens, 45701

740-856-2630

Contact: Joseph Viny
jviny@athensoverland.com

athensoverland.com



HRinPERSPECTIVE, LLC

7290 Edgewood Lane
Athens, 45701

937-733-6955

Contact: Jeffrey Frymier
frymierjb@gmail.com

www.hrinperspective.com

1972 CHARTER MEMBER PROFILE

As part of a series recognizing charter members of the Athens Area Chamber of Commerce, this month features excerpts from an interview with Greg Vogel, Owner of Dan Inman Electric. Greg and his staff are also featured in this month's cover photo.



Dan Inman Electric, Inc.

6246 Radford Rd., Athens
www.daninmanelectric.com
740-593-8813

BUSINESS OVERVIEW

Dan Inman Electric has been serving the electrical needs of the Athens community since 1972. The business began also offering heating, cooling and generator services in the early 80's.

A LONG HISTORY

The business was established when Dan was looking to make some additional money after work and on the weekends (1972), and he was self employed and didn't hire any additional staff until 1976. The staff grew to include up to 8 professional electricians, HVAC installers, and technicians. In early 2009, Dan approached me about moving to Athens to begin to learn about the business. My family and I relocated to Athens in August of 2009 and Dan retired in 2015. We currently have 5 employees but **we would love to hire an additional electrician if anyone is looking for a job!**

SECRETS TO SUCCESS

I believe that the secret to success is the relationships that my staff and I have with our customers, and our attention to detail.

WHAT TO KNOW

Our services include generator sales/service and duct cleaning, in addition to the HVAC and electrical needs we are already well known for.

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP

We joined the chamber to better establish our business and make connections in the community. I believe strongly in our community and in the importance of supporting local businesses to ensure our collective success.

FAVORITE THING ABOUT ATHENS?

I like our small community and that we look out for one another. I love that when I go out to dinner, I always see a friendly face. I enjoy that my children are growing up in a safe environment and surrounded by people who care for one another. I was born and raised in Columbus and most recently moved here from New Jersey, I had never experienced the benefits of living in a small rural community.

Unless otherwise noted, all images © 2021 Kristin Slemmer, Athens Area Chamber of Commerce.

Athens Area Chamber of Commerce

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