



*Welcome to the
Currituck Chamber of Commerce !*

*Member Information Packet
2010*

*Shannon Kinser, President
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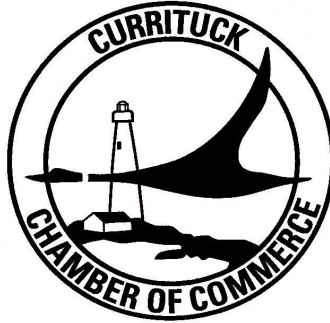
5798A Caratoke Hwy, Poplar Branch, NC

Mailing address: PO Box 1160, Grandy, NC 27965

252-453-9497/Fax: 252-453-2349

*www.currituckchamber.org
info@currituckchamber.org*

Celebrating 12 Years as the Voice for Business in Currituck County



OUR MISSION

The mission of the Currituck Chamber of Commerce is to foster and develop a thriving and sustainable local economy in order to enhance our community's quality of life.

WE DEFINE QUALITY OF LIFE AS:

- Economic opportunity for all;
- Aesthetically pleasing and environmentally sound community;
- Quality schools and educational programs;
- Proactive management of livability issues (e.g. traffic congestion, sprawl); and
- The existence of a large, dynamic and diverse tax base.

OUR COMMITMENT

The staff and the board of directors are committed to helping you and your organization be successful. We are committed to providing extraordinary service and quality programming, and to actively represent your interests.

AN INVITATION

We invite you to join our 500 other local businesses and organizations and become a member of the Currituck Chamber of Commerce. We invite you to take advantage of the networking, educational programming, issue advocacy and community building activities the Chamber provides. Your Chamber membership is an investment in your organization!

We look forward to serving you.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

ONE VOICE

Your membership is an affiliation and identification with an organization of 400 members that serves as the primary and most influential business advocate in our community. The Chamber uses the power of its membership to advocate on their behalf.

COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

Chamber membership enhances the name recognition and credibility of your business. Membership decals displayed at your place of business identify you as an investor in the Chamber and in our community.

NETWORKING

Expose your organization to potential clients and customers and meet local service providers at Chamber networking activities including Business After Hours, Ribbon Cuttings, New Member Orientations, Chamber Committees, and Ambassador Meetings.

PROMOTION

The Chamber acts as a resource center for visitors and individuals interested in relocation to or learning more about our community. Each year, the Chamber responds to thousands of requests for visitor and relocation information. Distribute your business cards, literature, and information via the Chamber at no cost. Members are also listed on the Chamber web site, with a complimentary link to their sites.

BUSINESS REFERRALS

We exclusively refer Chamber members. Potential customers are referred to Chamber members over the phone, at our office and on our popular web site. Chamber members also have exclusive access to member mailing lists.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Each member is listed alphabetically and categorically in our on-line and annual business directory. The Chamber distributes 20,000 copies of the annual directory each year to members, elected and community leaders, and the general community. The guide is also included in thousands of relocation and visitor packets mailed annually.

CHAMBER NEWS

Our bi-monthly newsletter updates members on issues and events affecting the business community. Each edition includes current issues impacting members, member news, Chamber news, and event calendars. *Chamber News* has a bi-monthly circulation of 500 copies.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATIONS

New member orientations are held monthly, and offer our newest members an orientation to the Chamber, the opportunity to promote their business, network with other new members and meet the Chamber staff, Board Members, and Ambassadors.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Chamber offers seminars in the Fall and Spring of each year, in conjunction with College of the Albemarle's Small Business Center. Topics include Keys to Success, Communicating Effectively, Empowering Your Employees, Sales Techniques, and many more.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

The Chamber works with the County of Currituck and the North Carolina Department of Commerce to offer demographics, economic indicators, statistics, and other information for use by its members.

MEMBER TO MEMBER DISCOUNTS

The Chamber partners with its members to offer Member to Member Discounts on essential products and services including printing services, workers comp insurance, computer repair, advertising, tax preparation and a host of others.

BUSINESS COUNCIL FORUMS

Held annually in each of the three areas of the county, these forums bring together the business and community leaders from their respective areas to discuss the specific issues relevant to them.

AMBASSADORS

Ambassadors are volunteers who recruit and mentor potential and new members. Ambassadors review and promote Chamber programs, events and activities, and represent the Chamber at various events.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

This evening networking opportunity is sponsored/hosted by different Chamber members. Business After Hours draws approximately 75-150 members, and is held on a Tuesday or Thursday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. This is an opportunity for members to make valuable new business contacts in a relaxed, social setting. The more connected you are, the more opportunities you have to increase sales, make wise investments, influence opinion and hire the best people. That is the power of partnership.

JOIN A COMMITTEE

There are currently four Chamber Divisions with committees that members are encouraged to join.

- Membership
- Education/Workforce Development
- Economic and Community Development
- Governmental Affairs

BUSINESS COUNCIL FORUMS

Held annually in each of the three areas of the county, these forums bring together the business and community leaders from their respective areas to discuss the specific issues relevant to them.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATIONS

New member orientations are held quarterly, and offer our newest members an orientation to the Chamber, the opportunity to promote their business, network with other new members and meet the Chamber staff, Board Members, and Ambassadors.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

A series of **Business Development Workshops** hosted by The Currituck Chamber of Commerce features topics essential to your business's success by presenters who deliver practical information and is open to the community. Topics on networking, sales, time management, business planning, customer service and retirement are just a few.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

This annual tournament draws approximately 120 golfers each year, and is rotated among our member golf courses. Proceeds support Chamber programs.

FALL SOCIAL/AUCTION

This event, held each October allows our members to get together for a night of entertainment to celebrate the accomplishments of the previous year and learn about upcoming projects for the year ahead. A Silent Auction is also held during the event. Past entertainers have included *Doug Clark and the Hot Nuts* and *Bill Deal and the Rhondels!*

AMBASSADORS

The Ambassador Committee serves as volunteer liaisons between the Currituck Chamber of Commerce and its members and develops a positive awareness in the community of the Chamber through goodwill. Ambassadors (and Ambassador Teams) recruit new members and encourage their involvement through the Member Mentorship Program. They serve as "greeters" for the Welcome Wagon program and assist in the coordinating and distributing of information for Chamber events. Ambassadors benefit from exposure and recognition in the community, chance to win monthly and annual prizes, leadership experience and potential business/client contacts.

WELCOME WAGON

Promote financial growth for Currituck Chamber of Commerce members through distribution of information about members' business or organization and community services to new residents, business owners and new chamber members. This will encourage membership and community involvement.

BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY EXPO

Each March, the Chamber presents the Currituck County Business and Community Expo. This expo is an opportunity for local businesses, community organizations, government agencies, and non-profit groups to market themselves and their products/services to the local community at large, as well as to other businesses and organizations. Chamber members receive reduced rates for exhibit space.



Currituck Chamber of Commerce Membership Investment Application

Company Name _____

Individual/ Agent/Professional Name _____

Street Address _____

Mailing Address (if different) _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Toll-Free or Additional Phone _____

Web site _____

E-mail _____

Contact Person _____ Title _____

Business Classification _____

Please select one of the following Investment Categories:

- Primary Business Location (name: _____) \$250.00
- Agent/Professional of business – primary business must be a member; individual name listed under business classification. 125.00
- Additional Location – primary location must be a member. 100.00
- Additional Classification – must be at the same location. 100.00
- Individual – name listed under Individual classification; no business promotion. 125.00
- Homeowner/ Absentee Homeowner – same as Individual. 125.00
- Non-Profit Organization – listed under Associations/Organizations. 125.00

Sub-total: \$ _____

One-time processing fee: \$ 25.00

Total: \$ _____

Method of Payment

Cash Check MasterCard VISA

Cardholder Name _____

Account Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Billing Zip Code: _____ Authorized Signature _____

Membership dues paid to the Currituck Chamber of Commerce are not deductible as a charitable contribution but may be deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense.

P.O. Box 1160 Grandy, NC 27939
5798-A Caratoke Hwy. Poplar Branch
Phone: (252) 453-9497 Fax: (252) 453-2349
www.currituckchamber.org info@currituckchamber.org

OFFICIAL USE ONLY: Council _____ Date of membership _____

Currituck Chamber of Commerce

Member Classifications

Accommodations	Fuel	Professional Centers/Commercial Parks
Accountants	Fuel	Public Safety
Advertising	Funeral Homes	Publications/News Media
Amusements	Furniture	Radio Stations
Appraisers	Furniture – Outdoor	Real Estate
Architects	Galleries	Real Estate – Active Adult Community
Art	Garden Center/Nursery	Real Estate Agents
Associations/Organizations	Gas Station	Real Estate Development
Attorneys	Gift & Specialty Shops	Real Estate/Modular
Attractions	Glass Companies	Recreation/Outdoor Specialty
Audio & Video	Golf Carts	Rentals – Beach/Party Equipment
Auto/4X4/Truck Rentals	Golf Courses	Resorts
Automotive Sales/Service/Supplies	Government Agencies	Restaurants
Banks/Financial Institutions	Grocers	Retail
Barber Shops	Health Services	Salons/Spas
Beverage Distributors	Heating & Air Conditioning	Sand & Dirt
Billboard Rentals	Home Décor/Interiors/Furnishings	Screenprinting
Boat Dealerships	Home Improvement	Seafood Markets
Boat Towing and Salvage	Home Inspection	Security
Builders/Contractors	Home Maintenance	Shopping Centers
Building Materials/Supplies/Hardware	Home Parties & Fundraising	Shops – Retail/Gift/Specialty
Business Brokers	Home Remodeling	Special Event Services
Business Services	Homes	Sports Apparel & Accessories
Cable	Hospitals	Sports Facilities
Campgrounds	Individuals	Storage Bldgs/Gazebos/Play Sets/Outdoor Furniture
Catering	Insurance	Storage Equipment, Sales & Design
Childcare	Internet Services	Storage/Moving Services
Chiropractors	Kennels	Surf Shops
Churches	Kitchen Sales & Installations	Surveying/Land Planning
Cleaning Services	Landscaping	Tactical Training Centers
Commercial Real Estate	Lighting	Tattoo Clinics
Communications	Manufactured Housing	Towing
Computer Sales and Service	Manufacturing	Trainers
Concierge	Marinas	Transportation
Convenience Stores	Mortgage Companies	Trash and Recycling Services
Demolition & Abatement	Motor Sports/Monster Trucks	Truck Customizing
Dentists	Motorcycle/Motor Scooter/Sales/Service/ Rentals	Truck/Heavy Equipment Repair
Dry Cleaners	Music Retail	Utilities
Drywall	Nursing Homes	Vending
Educational Institutions	Office Equipment	Ventilation – Cleaning/Service
Electrical Contractors	Outdoor Equipment	Veterinarians
Elevator Sales & Service	Ophthalmologists	Video Production
Employment Contractors	Optometrists	Vineyards/Wineries
Engineering/Surveying	Outdoor Equipment	Water Services – Bottled/Bulk
Entertainment	Painting Contractors	Weddings/Events
Excavating	Personal Care Services	Wellness Education
Exterminators	Pet Sitting	Wholesale Nursery
Farm Markets	Pharmacies	Wholesale Souvenir Distributors
Feed/Tack	Photographers	Wholesale Trading
Financial Planning	Physical Therapy	
Fishing & Hunting/Guides	Physicians	
Fitness & Exercise Facilities	Pools & Spas/Sales & Service	
Flooring & Floor Coverings	Printing	
Florists		



Currituck Chamber of Commerce Member Web Site Information

As part of your membership, we offer you the opportunity to enhance your business's exposure on our web site.

Our web site receives thousands of visits each month and the Membership Directory continues to be the second most requested information link.

Web Description/text content

Description 200 characters:

Hours of operation 100 characters:

Driving directions 195 characters:

Key Words 30 character max length:

- | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|
| 1. | 2. | 3. | 4. |
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Another Benefit of Chamber Membership: Exclusive Sponsorship Opportunities

Chamber Newsletter—The Voice for Business

(500 copies distributed bi-monthly)

Full Page Ad	\$300
1/2 Page Ad	\$150
1/4 Page Ad	\$ 75
Business Card Size Ad	\$ 50
Full Page Insert (one or two-sided) preprinted	\$150
Full Page Insert (one-sided) - we design and print copies	\$250
Full Page Insert (two-sided) - we design and print copies	\$350



Website Sponsorship

www.currituckchamber.org (180,000+ hits per month)

Banner Ad (Home Page—up to 4 rotating ads)	\$600/year each, + \$100 setup
Enhanced Web Listing	Call for details
Website Link	Free!!
495 word description/business hrs., ect	Free!!
8 key words	Free!!
Hot Deal Postings	Free!!
Online Job Posting	Free!!

Direct Marketing Opportunities

Personally contact members or those inquiring about our area!



Membership Listing	
Hard Copy	\$35
Mailing Labels	\$50
Relocation Inquiry Subscription—Emailed	\$200 annually
Labels	\$200 + \$.10 per

Copies

You provide the paper, and we will print high quality copies for you!

Color Copies	\$.20 per copy
Black and White (Laser Copies)	\$.07 per copy
Black, Blue or Red (one color, line art and text only)	\$.05 per copy

For deadlines and other information, contact Shannon Kinser, President.

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Currituck Chamber of Commerce

Business After Hours

Guidelines and Agreement

The purpose of the Currituck Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours is to provide networking opportunities for our members, giving business owners a chance to meet one another and discuss issues relevant to their businesses. The Currituck Chamber strongly encourages member-to-member business whenever possible, making these monthly events a critical part of keeping in contact with other members. Each month, the Business After Hours are rotated between the three councils of the Currituck Chamber: North, South, and Coast.

Frequently Asked Questions:

When are Business After Hours held?

The Chamber has found that the best times to hold Business After Hours is on a Tuesday or Thursday evening, typically from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

How many people attend Business After Hours?

We typically see attendance range from 75-150 people; on the average approximately 100 guests.

Who is invited?

All members of the Currituck Chamber of Commerce are invited. Invitations are also mailed to our Courtesy List, which includes County officials, media personnel, and community leaders.

Who sponsors Business After Hours?

A business may choose to hold Business After Hours one of two ways: with additional sponsors or on their own. Our events typically have up to three sponsors.

How will the Business After Hours benefit me?

If you are hosting a Business After Hours, this is the perfect opportunity to showcase your business and distribute information about the products or services you offer. If you are sponsoring a Business After Hours that is held at another business, the event also allows you to gain exposure for your business by distributing informational literature, product samples, etc. without having to accommodate 100 people for the evening.

Who handles the catering?

You again have two options for food and beverages: the Chamber can arrange all catering and beverages, or you can handle that yourself. We utilize the services of our members for catering, and usually provide beer and wine for guests (this is optional). See page 2 for cost breakdowns.

How do I sign up for Business After Hours?

Each month, Business After Hours are scheduled on a first come/first reserve basis. Since they are typically rotated throughout the County, only four are held in a particular area during the year. Be sure to contact the Chamber at (252) 453-9497 as soon as possible to schedule your Business After Hours!

YES! My company is interested in sponsoring Business After Hours.

Sponsorship Options:

- I would like to sponsor on my own
- I would like to co-sponsor with the following businesses

- I would like to be a co-sponsor, please pair me with another business
Check one: ___ Host ___ Sponsor

Catering Options:

- I would like to handle the catering myself (*Cost is \$150 for printing and mailing of Invitations*)
- I would like for the Chamber to handle the catering (*Cost is \$1250-1500, depending upon final guest count for caterer and beer/wine option*)

Check one: I ___ do ___ do not want to serve beer and wine at my event

Company Name _____

After Hours Location Address _____

Date of Business After Hours _____

Contact Name _____

Contact Address _____

Payment Method

(In the event that the Chamber handles catering, the sponsor(s) will be billed for the actual cost)

Total Due: _____

_____ Credit Card: MasterCard VISA

Acct. No. _____ Expiration _____

Signature _____

_____ Check Enclosed:

Date _____ Check Number _____



Currituck Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Request

Company Name _____

Street Address _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

Contact Person _____

Owners Name (if different) _____

Description of Business _____

Location of Main Office _____

Number of Locations _____

Date of Ceremony _____ Time _____

Who will be cutting the ribbon? _____

Invitation List:

- Community Dignitaries –
County Commissioners, County Manager, Economic Development Director, Planning Director, Sheriff, etc.
- All Chamber members, Chamber Board Members, Chamber Ambassadors
- Members of the media

Currituck Chamber will provide/handle:

- Ribbon, Scissors
- E-mailed / Faxed invitations to members & Chamber courtesy list
- Receive RSVPs
- Develop agenda
- Coverage in the Chamber newsletter
- News releases (including photo) to Daily Advance, Coastland Times, Outer Banks Sentinel, Independent and Virginian Pilot

Business is responsible for:

- Refreshments, giveaways, tours (optional)

Authorized Signature:

Chamber Signature :

Mail to: Currituck Chamber of Commerce PO Box 1160 Grandy, NC 27939

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