



Chamber Ambassadors Program

Purpose:

To create a culture where volunteerism and participation with chamber of commerce programs are rewarded; to improve the effectiveness of chamber programming through member involvement; to create a process that shifts the burden of revenue generation from chamber membership dues to outside revenue sources.

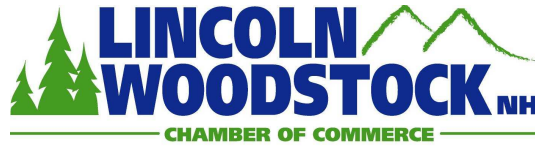
Summary:

Chamber of commerce members who participate in meetings, volunteer to help with special events, or otherwise volunteer their time to chamber causes will be rewarded financially and with gift certificates for their efforts. For every hour volunteered, that **member-business will earn credit toward their dues** for the next fiscal year. This “dues buy-back” program creates a “win-win” for the chamber of commerce and its members. The **individual that volunteers will earn an equal number of “points” which can be redeemed for gift certificates** to area member businesses. Members who participate in chamber activities will gain from the reduction in their dues and from the value of their participation. The chamber of commerce and the community benefits from the involvement and assistance garnered from the volunteers. Members who volunteer will be ambassadors of their chamber of commerce.

General Rules:

1. Members must be considered in “Good Standing” to participate. Member must be “current” with their chamber accounts payable.
2. “Dues Credits” may only be applied to the next fiscal year.
3. “Ambassador Points” are equivalent to dollar value of certificates. 1:1 ratio.
4. Gift Certificates may be redeemed at any time once point value reaches equivalent certificate value. Based on gift certificate availability.
5. Volunteer-hours must be either requested or approved by the chamber of commerce.
6. The chamber will declare approved meetings/events in advance.
7. Volunteers are responsible for documenting their time on approved forms.
8. Chamber staff must sign-off on volunteer-hours and must keep detailed records of all earned credits.
9. Volunteer-hours will be rounded to the nearest whole hour.
10. “Dues Credits” may not exceed the total dues billed for the current year.
11. “Ambassador Points” have no maximum accumulation.

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Two Little Towns...One Big Adventure.

12. "Dues Credits" will appear on dues invoices for next year.
13. Chamber directors and their employers are excluded from this program.
Employees of directors' businesses ARE eligible for the program.

Volunteer-Hours and Dues Credits:

Members that volunteer their time will earn credits toward their next year's dues according to the following schedule (per person, per hour):

\$1.00/hour ~ 1 point/hr	Chamber Meetings/ Educational Seminars	Committee meetings, forums, informational meetings, conference calls, etc. Coffee Course Workshops, chamber-sponsored training classes, educational webinars/conference calls, chamber-sponsored educational lectures, etc.
\$5.00/hour ~ 5 points/hr	Special Events	Event set-up, event staffing, event clean-up, advanced ticket sales, post-event wrap-up. Does not include special event committee meetings or planning.

Examples:

1. *XYZ Company* sends 3 employees to a Coffee Course Workshop on customer service. The workshop lasts 2 hours and 15 minutes. Each of the workshop attendees' fill out an "Ambassador Time Card" and is signed by the chamber staff. *XYZ Company* would earn a total of \$6.00 in earned "dues credits" (3 employees X 2 hours X \$1/hr = \$6 credits). Each employee would also earn 2 "ambassador points".
2. The owner of *ABC Company* spends 3 ½ hours on a Saturday morning selling rubber duck tickets on Main St. Woodstock for the Rubber Ducky Race. That company would earn \$20 (4 hours X \$5/hr) in earned "dues credits". This volunteer would also earn 20 "ambassador points".
3. *John Doe, Individual Chamber Member*, attends 12 membership committee meetings over the course of the year. The 12 meetings total 23 ¾ hours. *John Doe* would earn \$24 of earned "dues credits" (24 hours X \$1/hr) toward his dues for next year. *John Doe* would also earn 24 "ambassador points".
4. *Member Business Q* has volunteered for 40 hours over the course of 2009. They came to 20 hours of meetings and have volunteered for 20 hours at events. That member has earned \$120 credit (20 mtg-hrs @ \$1 + 20 event-hrs @ \$5 = \$120) toward their dues for 2010. In addition, the employees have earned a cumulative 120 "ambassador points" which they redeem for 2 ski tickets valued at \$120.

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