

Kenmore Chamber of Commerce

(formerly the Kenmore Board of Trade)

“BRINGING BUSINESS BACK HOME”

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

I received a package from Kent State University yesterday.

It was from Chris Cooper, the director of the **Ohio Employee Ownership Center at Kent State (OEOC)**, and contained a booklet called “Selling Your Business To Your Employees”. The cover letter states that “nearly half of Ohio’s small businesses are owned by Baby Boomers, and many will exit in the next 5-10 years”. It continues by stating that almost 70% of these businesses do not have a formal succession plan set-up for when the owners do retire. That certainly included myself, as when I decided to start the process of retiring my hobby store two years ago, I could not find a buyer for my very successful business, and eventually just liquidated my inventory and sold my building to retire.

Also mentioned in this letter was another publication to help, called “Business Succession Planning: An Owner’s Manual”. Both these publications are offered by the **OEOC** for free, and can be accessed at www.oockent.org/resources-events/publications-and-research. You can reach Chris at 330-672-3028 or ccooper1@kent.edu for more information about these and other publications the **OEOC** offers for free. Chris can also help with free one-on-one consultations, expert referrals, and hands-on support to build a real succession plan by any of the available methods they offer. Or e-mail me and ask me to email you the QR codes for these publications. If you do plan to retire your business soon, you really should take a look at these free publications.

Thank you for listening, and have a great month!

John Buntin Jr, KCOC President
john@kenmorechamber.com



August 2026



WELCOME TO OUR NEW KCOC MEMBERS:

Better Business Bureau

Promoting Marketplace

Trust and Accountability

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Akron, Ohio 44311-1044

330-251-4565

www.bbb.org/local-bbb/bbb-of-akron

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KCOC Ice Cream Social at Shadyside Park

The Wednesday July 8th “Ice Cream Social Meet & Greet” at Shadyside Park was a big success this year! **Rita's Italian Ice & Frozen Custard** supplied over 250 cool treats to all in attendance who also got to enjoy the music of the band “My Friend Jack” (middle photo). And the Kenmore Chamber also gave away free pizza from our three favorite KCOC pizza members - **Pierre's Brooklyn Pizza & Deli**, **Regina's Pizza**, and **Talamo's Pizza** (bottom photo). But before all this started, we had a special City of Akron Proclamation given to KCOC member David Culbertson (top photo left) by our Councilperson Tina Boyes (top photo center), celebrating his retirement after 60 years of practicing law, mostly in Kenmore. Congratulations Dave!



KBOT FLASHBACK



10 Years Ago - August 2016

- ⌚ **John Buntin Jr**, President
- ⌚ Only five bricks left to sell and then install on the new Clock Tower's base at 14th Street.

15 Years Ago - August 2011

- ⌚ **David E. Culbertson**, President
- ⌚ Lunch meeting held at Mudd Run Golf Course, with Keith Shy and David Whited of Metro Parks as guest speakers.

20 Years Ago - August 2006

- ⌚ **Scott M. Smith**, President
- ⌚ The guest speaker for our lunch meeting, held at the Manchester Road Acme Community Room, was Michele Colopy of the Kenmore Development Partnership.

25 Years Ago - August 2001

- ⌚ **Jeff Scott**, President
- ⌚ Jim Lawson speaks about the scriptSMART Prescription & Vision Program at the luncheon.

30 Years Ago - August 1996

- ⌚ **Rich Masterson**, President
- ⌚ No August meeting held.

35 Years Ago - August 1991

- ⌚ **Judith Rosenberg**, President
- ⌚ The Board is considering to sponsor or co-sponsor a Crime Watch Program at the Kenmore Community Center.

40 Years Ago - August 1986

- ⌚ **Warren Ferrell**, President
- ⌚ No August meeting held, just a reminder to all to attend the “Meet Your Officials” Picnic.