

# Ava Area CHAMBER COMMERCE

## Chamber Chat

HAPPY  
St. Patrick's  
Day

March 2022

### What's Happening

**3/14** Chamber Board  
Meeting at 12pm

**3/8** Chamber  
Luncheon 12PM (pg. 3)

#### 2022 Chamber Officers

**President:** Richard Sturgeon

**V P:** Dick Salgado

**Secretary:** Gail Huffman

**Treasurer:** Betty Ridenour

#### 2022 Board Members

Bart Ellison, Patty Nelson  
Bob Sellers, Amy Porter,  
Danny Letsinger, Glenda Little  
Bob Sorensen, Wes Davis,  
Logan Little

#### Office Staff

Judy Shields, Director  
Nina Carter, Office Assistant  
Bill Jones, Office Support

#### Chamber Board Meetings

are held on the second Monday  
of each month. To be a guest or  
add an item to the agenda,  
contact the Chamber office.

#### Chamber Luncheons

are held on the second Tuesday  
of each month at 12:00 and are  
complimentary to members.  
Contact the office for infor-  
mation on hosting a Luncheon.

#### Economic Development

Meetings held each month.

#### Contact Us

810 Collins Avenue  
PO Box 1103 Ava, MO 65608  
417-683-4594  
director@avachamber.org



## Thank You

Anita Madche - 13 Years of  
Dedicated Service

We would like to say thank you and recognize Anita Madche, the Chamber's outgoing president, for her 13 years of dedicated service. Her leadership and dedication to the Ava Chamber of Commerce is much appreciated. She has played a key role in the Chamber's growth, community connection, and sustainability over the years, and for that, we are truly grateful.



### Retain your Chamber Membership!

We have several easy ways to pay and renew. Use your card over the phone, mail in a check, or click-to-

pay from an emailed invoice.

We look forward to partnering with you again in the coming year and helping you use your Chamber Membership Benefits to your full advantage!

Save the  
**DATE**

Let's  
Celebrate

**Saturday, April 23, 2022**

**Ava Chamber of Commerce**  
**Membership & Awards Banquet**

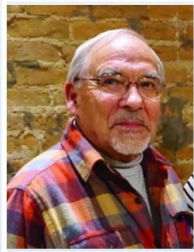
Ava Middle School Cafeteria 6PM

# Ava Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

## Meet our Amazing Team!



***President:***  
Richard Sturgeon



***Vice President***  
Dick Salgado



***Secretary:***  
Gail Huffman



***Treasurer:***  
Betty Ridenour



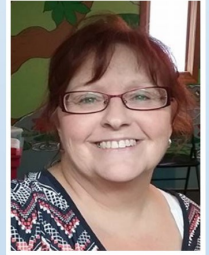
Bart Ellison



Amy Porter



Bob Sorensen



Glenda Little



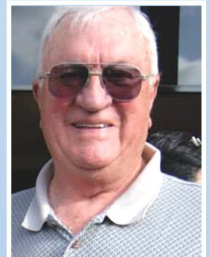
Bob Sellers



Logan Little



Patty Nelson



Danny Letsinger



Wes Davis

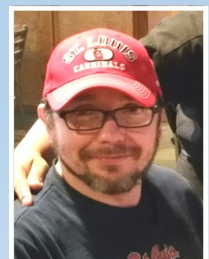
STAFF



***Executive Director***  
Judy Shields



***Office Assistant***  
Nina Carter



***Office Support***  
Bill Jones

## Nominations Now Open!

Our Community Volunteers are Priceless.  
Help Us Honor Them!

“At the end of the day, it’s not about what you have or even what you’ve accomplished. It’s about who you’ve lifted up, who you’ve made better. It’s about what you’ve given back.” – Denzel Washington



Our wonderful community of Ava has been built and sustained over the years through the dedication of countless volunteers who have

selflessly given of themselves through

their time, resources, and hard work. They have created and completed community service projects and through their efforts have strengthened and supported community organizations. Most of the time, they do this quietly and behind the scenes, seeking no recognition for themselves.

If you know of an individual who devotes, or has devoted, his or her time to volunteering in our community and fits with one of the award descriptions that follow, write a short paragraph and tell us why that individual deserves to be recognized. Please include a list of his or her involvement in community activities, events, and organizations.

*The John N. Dickison Award*, established in 1989, is awarded each year in recognition of a Douglas County citizen of good reputation, who has longevity in community service and dedication to our community and its citizens.

*The Will McFarlin Youth Award*, established in 1995, is awarded to recognize an outstanding high school youth of good reputation, for his or her community service to our community.

The Ava Chamber of Commerce has, for many years, recognized our community’s volunteers by honoring the nominees and announcing and awarding the two winning recipients at its annual Membership & Awards Banquet.

Nominations for both awards may be submitted to the Ava Chamber of Commerce office located at 810 Collins Avenue, by mail at PO Box 1103, Ava MO 65608, or by email at [director@avachamber.org](mailto:director@avachamber.org).

Nominations close April 1, 2022.



**March 8th @ 12PM**

Hosted by:  
**Ava R1 Schools**  
In the Decker Library

### ***Upcoming Luncheons***

April 12– Walmart

May – TBA

June 14 – Heart of the Ozarks & Ava Place



**New Chamber Members**

**Siahus**

**Modern Woodmen**

**Naked Fairy Apothecary**

**Legacy Mountain Builders**

Find out more about these businesses in the Business Directory on the Ava Chamber website.



## 2022 New & Renewed Memberships Through February!

Ace Grading, Land Clearing, &  
Utility Installation  
Action Realty  
Advantage Gas Service  
AIDC-Ava Industrial Development  
Corporation  
Ambit Technologies  
American Family Insurance  
American Legion –Troy Herd  
Post 112  
Animal Clinic of Ava  
Assumption Abbey  
Ava Art Guild  
Ava Assembly of God  
Ava Automation LLC  
Ava Beverage  
Ava Building Supply/Mansfield  
Home Center  
Ava Country Club  
Ava Family Dental  
Ava General Baptist Church  
Ava Growers' Project  
Ava Lions Club  
Ava Place  
Ava R-1 Schools  
Ava Redi-Mix  
Ava Senior Center  
Ava Springs  
Ava Tire Shop  
Ava United Methodist Church  
Barnum & Associates Choice Realty  
Bates-Crouch Law Office  
Bethany Baptist Church  
Better Business Bureau Springfield  
Big Country Radio 99.3 FM  
Blessed Reflections Photography  
Blooming Blessings  
Canterbury Tails Farm LLC  
Century Bank of the Ozarks  
Christos House  
City of Ava  
Clinkingbeard Funeral Home  
Common Grounds Coffee House  
Cornerstone Contracting Co.  
Crystal Lakes Fisheries  
Curtis Department Stores  
D.D. Hamilton Title Insurance  
Daniel Surveying  
Davis Auto Sales



Davis Automotive Center LLC.  
Denney Chiropractic  
DOCO Sheltered Workshop  
Dorsey's Self-Storage  
Douglas County Community  
Foundation  
Douglas County Fair Board  
Douglas County Fox Trotting Horse  
Breed Association  
Douglas County Herald  
Douglas County Historical Society &  
Museum  
Douglas County Library  
Douglas County Veterans Memorial  
Association  
Douglas County Missouri Fire Chiefs  
Association  
Douglas County Republican Committee  
Douglas County University of Missouri  
Extension Office  
Emerson Climate Technologies  
Evergreen Farms  
FCNB Insurance Services, Inc.  
First Southern Baptist Church  
Forrest Pump Service  
Girl Scouts of the Missouri Heartland  
H and R Block  
Heavenly Hounds Grooming &  
Photography  
Heritage Farm  
Hero's Rest  
Highway Church of the Nazarene  
Holy Archangels Orthodox Christian  
Retreat  
Home Pride Bank  
Hospice Compassus  
Hucklebuck Smoke-N-Grill  
Hurricane Bay Carwash - Ava  
Interior Solutions  
J & L Tire

J & R Sand and Gravel  
JBrothers True Value  
Jean's Healthway  
Jim's Body Shop, Inc.  
KKOZ Radio 92.1 FM  
Kneading You SkinCare &  
Massage  
Koala Bear Daycare & Learning  
Center  
L & D Trophies & Engraving  
LaTour Advisory Group Inc.  
Longdollar Furniture & Appliance  
Maranatha Health & Wellness  
Center  
McDonald's Restaurant of Ava  
Melancholy Roasting  
Memory Lane Antiques  
Mill Country Title  
Missouri Job Center - West Plains  
Missouri Ozarks Community  
Health  
Missouri Real Estate of the Ozarks  
MOCH Wellness Center  
Moore Kennel  
MS Propane  
Mt. Zion Bible School/Country  
Sunshine Preschool  
Murney Associates Realtors-  
Joanne Coutchie  
National TV Sales & Rental  
Options Pregnancy Center of Ava  
Ozark Action Inc.  
Ozark Mountains Digital  
Marketing  
Ozarks Coca-Cola Bottling  
Company  
Ozarks Family Vision Centre  
PCEexpress  
Penmac Employment Agency  
Pioneer Heritage Festival of the  
Ozarks  
Pointer Law Office  
Prime Care of Ava  
Pro Design Screen Printing  
Pyramid Roofing Company  
Rockbridge Trout Ranch & Gun  
Club  
Russell Cellular  
Scotty Upchurch Plumbing  
Senior Health Matters

## Memberships *Cont.*

Set Free Ministries  
Sho-Me Real Estate  
Show Me The Pets Mobile Grooming  
Signal - Scrivener Oil Company  
Sonic Drive-In  
Squires Volunteer Fire Dept.  
State Farm Insurance  
Stockmens Bank  
Subway of Ava  
Super 8 Motel  
Tarrant Insurance Agency  
Teen Harvest  
The Barn  
The Branded Boutique  
The Law Offices of Christopher Swatosh  
The Work Horse Western Wear  
Thomas and Douglas CPA  
Touch of Healing Wellness Center  
Town & Country Bank  
Town & Country Supermarket  
Trinity Lutheran Church of Ava  
Twin Bridges Resort  
United Country Area Land Realty  
Vaccaro's Pizza & Pasta  
VFW Auxiliary—Post 5993  
VFW G.L. Adrain Owen Post 5993  
Viking Sportscards & Americana

## Promote your business!

**Just \$5 a week for Members!**

*Advertise sales,  
services, products, etc!*

**Advertise through the  
Chamber's weekly E-Blast!**

**Need help creating your ad?**

**No problem!  
We've got you covered!**

**Contact us today at  
[director@avachamber.org](mailto:director@avachamber.org)**

## Chamber Member News

**KKOZ** Radio's annual Bids-For-Bargains has begun and will continue each Friday and Saturday through May! Tune into 91.2 FM at 9:30am each week, right after Trading Post, to bid on great deals from local businesses, Branson tickets, and more! You won't want to miss it!

**HOTO - Heart of the Ozarks Healthcare Center** will be having their Annual Independence Day Celebration on Friday, June 24th. If you would like a booth please contact Connie Burris at 417-543-6174 or message her on Facebook. There is no fee for the booth. First come, first served. No selling of food or drinks please.



**Free Services to Businesses!**

[Visit jobs.mo.gov.](http://jobs.mo.gov)

The Job Center has cost-saving programs to support employers, too. We're here to help your business thrive! In addition to free job postings on [job.mo.gov](http://job.mo.gov), Missouri Job Centers will host your hiring events and job fairs - at your location or at the Job Center. We can help you screen applicants, provide interview/orientation space, give you up-to-date labor market information, and save you money through cost-saving employment programs:

- \* Work Experience On-the-Job Training (OJT)
- \* Incumbent Worker Training (IWT)
- \* Shared Work Unemployment Compensation Program
- \* (WOTC) Work Opportunity Tax Credit Program
- \* Missouri Federal Bonding Program

All Missouri Job Center services and programs are FREE. For more information, please contact Missouri Job Center-West Plains at 417-256-3158.

## Ava Area Chamber of Commerce

810 Collins Avenue

P.O. Box 1103

Ava, MO 65608



**Travis Smith**

**State Representative, District 155**

201 W. Capitol Avenue, Room 110A

Jefferson City, MO 65101

573-751-2042

[Travis.Smith@house.mo.gov](mailto:Travis.Smith@house.mo.gov)

## We Are Here For You!

Representative *Travis Smith*, a Republican, represents Douglas, Ozark and Taney counties (District 155) in the *Missouri House of Representatives*.



**Karla Eslinger**

**Missouri State Senator, District 33**

201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 219

Jefferson City, MO 65101

573-751-1882

[Karla.eslinger@senate.mo.gov](mailto:Karla.eslinger@senate.mo.gov)

## How Can We Help?

Senator *Karla Eslinger*, a Republican, represents Douglas, Howell, Oregon, Ozark, Ripley, Texas, Webster, and Wright counties (District 33) in the *Missouri Senate*.



## Chamber Member Spotlight



**Girl Scouts  
Missouri Heartland  
Douglas County**

From its beginning in 1912, the mission of Girl Scouts has been to build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place, while making friends and having fun!

The Girl Scout Experience—a collection of engaging, challenging, and fun activities like earning badges, taking field trips, selling cookies, exploring science, getting outdoors, and doing community service projects—empowers every G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)<sup>™</sup> to change the world. Know a Girl who would like to join?

The Ava Girl Scouts meet each Thursday from 5-7pm. Call 683-8551.