



Detroit Lakes

CHAMBER NEWS

Official Newsletter of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce

Be a Preferred Employer!

Join us, as we learn from business and HR trainer, Mike Henke. The expectations for employers continue to grow in order to maintain employee engagement and retention, and avoiding burnout used to be mostly based on the number of hours that we work, and now includes the emotional demands from hiring & onboarding to the changing world we live in and the personal challenges of our team! Add it all up and it is a lot! Hear solutions for these challenges as well as how to get your leaders on board to maintain preferred employer status!



April 4th, 9:00 am to 11:00 am, DL Chamber Conference Room

\$20.00 DL Chamber Members ~ \$30.00 non-members

<https://business.visitdetroitlakes.com/events> or call 218-847-9202 to reserve your seat

Welcome to Detroit Lakes



Learn about events, resources and community information you can use. Whether you are new to the area or want to re-connect with the community, this event is for you!

All are welcome. Admission is FREE.

Tuesday April 4, 2023 | 4:00 - 4:45 PM

DL Chamber of Commerce | 700 Summit Ave | RSVP 218-847-9202

EDGE on the Rocks

You are invited to join us, **Wednesday, April 26th at 6pm at Spanky's Stone Hearth** for the 1st ever, **Women's EDGE on the Rocks**. We are featuring Heather Manley, Founder/Owner of Crooked Water Spirits, a Woman-owned Minnesota Distillery. Sample Heather's whiskey and learn why she started her distillery.



See the insert in this newsletter and call the Chamber Office to reserve your ticket.

The Mission of the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce is to advance a vibrant business and tourism economy through service, advocacy, networking and innovation.

We're Working for You:

February 2023	YTD
• Walk-Ins	
182	297
• Phone Calls	
222	426
• Visitor Guides Mailed	
513	534
• Website Sessions	
38,162	57,060

Online newsletter at: <https://www.visitdetroitlakes.com/chamber/newsletter>

Advertise in this Newsletter

~ **Display ads** can be placed for one month or save money by reserving your space for 6 or 12 months. For as little as \$35.00/month. Your ad can be the same for every issue or changed as often as you like. Space is limited.

~ **Inserts:** reserve your place in the next newsletter for your insert. \$160.00 (\$60 for non-profits) **Space is limited so be sure to call ahead. Drop off 650 ~ 8½" X 11"** inserts (can be double sided, but need to be on standard copy paper – no card stock). These must be at the Chamber Office by the 24th of the month.

Start your day with networking!

DL Chamber Members and their employees are welcome to join for :45 minutes of networking!

Wednesday, **April 12th** to learn more about what is new at the DL Chamber and around town!



Hosted the 2nd Wednesday of each month
8:15-9:00 am at the DL Chamber Office.

Bring your business cards, event flyers and information.

FREE · Coffee provided · No RSVP required

All employees of member businesses are welcome!

DL Chamber Annual Meeting and Breakfast at Soo Pass Ranch House

Thursday, May 11th, 8:30-9:30am

\$20.00 per person

RSVP at <https://business.visitdetroitlakes.com/events> or 218-847-9202

The Chamber (USPS 699-170) is published monthly by the Detroit Lakes Regional Chamber of Commerce, 700 Summit Avenue, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501. Periodicals postage paid at Detroit Lakes, MN 56501-9998. POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to The Chamber, PO Box 348, Detroit Lakes, MN 56502-0348. Annual subscriptions \$15.00

HR Connect meets April 6th

Join us ... The 1st Thursday of each month 8:15–9:30am. April 6th we welcome Liz Kuoppala—MAHUBE-OTWA as our guest speaker to learn about the services they offer that may benefit employees and potential employees.



HR Connect is perfect for HR professionals, business owners, managers and anyone with HR duties in their job description. We discuss human resource topics, share best practices and review data to help attract, retain and grow an excellent workforce for the lakes region! Together we can be a resource for every business in our community.

*Note HR Connects are cancelled if DL Schools are late or cancelled due to weather.

May 18-20th is for the Birds

The 26th Annual Festival of Birds will soon bring a few hundred birders flocking to Detroit Lakes. This year's build-your-own conference features include:

Thursday, May 18

- Trivia Social at Hub 41

Friday, May 19

- Guided field trips to Hamden Slough or to Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge
- Dinner at Jack Pines Resort and a program featuring Carrol Henderson, Butterflies and Moths of the American tropics

Saturday, May 20

- Guided bus trips to Agassiz Dunes WMA or to Maplewood State Park
- Lunch and learn workshop with Jenn Sweatman, Bird I.D. & their environment
- Birders Bazaar Exhibitors and a Silent Auction
- Dinner at M State and a program featuring Marshall Johnson, The Global Effort to Preserve Birds of the Americas



Register at www.VisitDetroitLakes.com or contact Cleone@VisitDetroitLakes.com for more information.



Save the dates for Cruise DL Nights coming back to West Lake Drive the 2nd Wednesday of each summer month!

June 14

July 12

August 9

September 13

For more information on sponsoring this event contact Carrie @visitdetroitlakes.com

- ◆ FREE admission
- ◆ No registration
- ◆ Bring your cruiser to the beach and enjoy an evening with fellow car enthusiasts

73% OF DISENGAGED EMPLOYEES ARE ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR JOBS

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Visits around town



(Clockwise)

Ambassadors stopped to congratulate Nick Christenson (and Jake) from **State Farm Insurance** on their new location in the Greystone Building, DL.

Dan and Karen Pfifher of D&K Designs received their 1st Dollar of Profit from the DL Chamber Ambassadors. They recently opened a custom woodworking shop in downtown Frazee.

The DL Chamber is happy to continue to support the Ag-in-the-Classroom project held each March. Local 4th graders spend a 1/2 day learning about various agriculture careers by visiting with growers, seeing live animals and lots of hands-on learning. Thank you to all the volunteers that make this such a great day for the students!



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Summit filled with news



Thank you for a successful and enjoyable Economic Development Summit!

The 2023 Summit was hosted on Friday, March 17th at the new Becker County Museum, in what will be the history exhibit space on the main floor. Nearly 150 attendees spent a full morning connecting and learning.

Keynote Speaker: Anthony Schaffhauser, Regional Analyst for MN DEED (top photo) shared his presentation **“Where did all the workers go?”** with insights on our regional demographics, employment projections and ways to prepare for our workforce in the near future.



Presentations by: Becker County Museum (bottom photo), WE Fest—40th Anniversary plans, Northern Dental Access, City of DL, DLHS Academies, Leighton Broadcasting—60th Anniversary plans and we all got to meet our new DL Fire Chief! Plus we enjoyed museum tours, coffee, networking and loads of information!

THANK YOU to the 2023 SPONSORS!

Becker County Museum, Arvig,, Detroit Lakes Development Authority and Midco

Frazer EDA, JBC Commercial Real Estate, Bremer Bank, Stenerson Lumber, Essentia Health, David Donehower Funeral Home, APEX Engineering, LTD Manufacturing, Midwest Bank and Meadowland Surveying, Inc.

Special thanks to: Fundamental Technologies and Minuteman Mortgage



Your business could be a star!

This Space is Available for \$35.00 per month!



Support LOCAL!!

As a member of the DL Chamber, your business takes DL Chamber Bucks!

~ CHAMBER BUCKS are actual checks from the DL Chamber issued to your business. Any DL Chamber member can accept CHAMBER BUCKS.

~ Put CHAMBER BUCKS in your cash register and treat them like other checks in your bank deposit.

~ CHAMBER BUCKS are not meant to be redeemed for cash, however, practice good customer relations and give change as you would for other checks written over the amount of purchase.

~ CHAMBER BUCKS are being used by businesses and individuals in the community for gifts, incentives, bonuses, promotional prizes, special event drawings and more. Keep their gift excitement going by making it easy for them to redeem their DL CHAMBER BUCKS.

Thank you to **First Security Bank, Bremer Bank and Wells Fargo Bank** for supporting this program for over 30 years!

New DL Chamber Member

Aflac

Cassandra Davidson, Independent Agent
218-849-2020
Email: Cassandra_davidson@us.aflac.com
www.aflac.com

Supplemental Insurance.

Welcome!

Member News

Congratulations to **Lakeshirts on be** selected as one of this year's **2023 BBB Torch Awards** for Ethics Finalists! They are one of ten companies in an elite group of businesses that demonstrate ethics in action every day.

Congratulations to **Carrier & Varty, Ameriprise Financial Services**, on winning the 2022 Ameriprise Financial Client Experience Award. They received the award due to an overall client satisfaction rating of 4.9 out of a possible five points across a two year rolling period of online client response.

Arvig has received a major network milestone! They have constructed more than 15,500 fiber route miles throughout Minnesota. Their strategic goal is to grow the network by at least 1,000 route miles per year. They ended 2022 with more than 1,100 fiber route miles constructed.

Minnesota DNR and MN USA gave special recognition to the private landowners that volunteer to host snowmobile trails. **Thanks to all of our local landowners** who provide over 250 miles of groomed trails for residents and visitors to enjoy!

M State is one of 15 colleges in the nation, and the only college in Minnesota, to receive a grant from the U.S. Dept. of Labor in the amount of \$4.2 million. The grant award will be used to expand equitable access to training for good paying jobs in key regional industries, particularly healthcare. A total of \$50 million was awarded to 15 colleges in 14 states. M State serves more than 6,500 students in credit courses each year in over 70 career and liberal arts programs online and in-person at its campuses in Detroit Lakes, Fergus Falls, Moorhead and Wadena.

Congratulations to **BeMobile Verizon** on being awarded the prestigious "Verizon Agent of the Year" award for 2022. BeMobile has been a Verizon partner for over 23 years.

NOTE:

The United Way Day of Caring in Detroit Lakes is now on **Wednesday, May 10th.**

For more information go to <https://www.uwbcmn.org/>

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Member Renewals

Thanks to the following members who have renewed their membership from February 28–March 27, 2023. Chamber memberships renew throughout the year. For a complete list of DL Chamber members see the business directory at www.VisitDetroitLakes.com/Chamber

AccuLawn Turf Health
Baxstar Fishing
Beaudry Oil & Propane
Detroit Lakes Jaycees
Detroit Lakes Public Library
Feldt Plumbing & Excavating
Jack Pines Resort
JQ Clothing Co.

Lakes Inn
Midco
Minuteman Mortgage
Northwestern Mutual-Andrew Barker
Patriot Assistance Dogs
Pit 611
Venom Products
Vintage N Vogue



DL Chamber joined local leaders to welcome the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) to M State. We look forward to working with their team and enhancing the resources for local businesses and entrepreneurs.

Now taking applications for Art in the Park, July 30, 2023
Call Sandy 218.847.9202

Contact your local legislators

Senator Amy Klobuchar (DFL)
202.224.3244
senator.klobuchar@senate.gov

Senator Tina Smith (DFL)
202.224.5641
scheduling@smith.senate.gov

Michelle Fischbach (R)
7th District US House
202 225-2165 or
218-616-2802

Paul Utke (R)
Senate 2
218-255-1131
sen.paul.utke@senate.mn

Rob Kupec (DFL)
Senate 4
651-296-3205
sen.rob.kupec@senate.mn

Steve Green (R)
House 2B
651.296.9918
rep.steve.green@house.mn

Jim Joy (R)
House 4B
651-296-6829
rep.jim.joy@house.mn

For more information go to www.gis.leg.mn

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Gina Hansen, OD

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Chris Gravidahl2023

Andrew Holmquist2025

Stacey Omberg.....2025

Bridget Penton.....2025

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What's Happening!

April 2023

- 1 Aeromodelers Show, 10am-4pm, Washington Square Mall
- 1 Heart O Lakes Harmony Concert, 7:30pm, Holmes Theatre
- 4 Mike Henke – Culture of the Team Training, 9am, DL Chamber
- 4 El Zagal Shrine Circus, 10am, 12:30pm, 6:30pm, Freeman Arena
- 4 Welcome to DL, 4pm, DL Chamber
- 5 Ambassadors, 9:30am
- 6 HR Connect, 8:15-9:30am, DL Chamber Office
- 12 :45 Fill-up, 8:15-9am, DL Chamber Office
- 15 Detroit Mountain Jam, 4-10pm
- 16 An Afternoon Tea, 3-4:30pm, Becker Co. Museum
- 18 Financial Milestones Webinar, 5-6pm, Mid MN Fed. Credit Union
- 21 Lakes Area Crisis Center Annual Banquet, 5:30pm, Holmes Ballroom
- 22 Earth Day Celebration, 10am-2pm, DL Public Library
- 22 3 Stars Born Concert, 7:30pm, Holmes Theatre
- 23 Lakes Area Comm. Concert Band, 4pm, Holmes Theatre
- 25 Mental Health First Aid Training, 8:30am, Museum
- 26 Women's EDGE on the Rocks, 6pm, Spanky's Stone Hearth
- 27 Board of Directors, 8am, DL Chamber Office
- 27 United Way Celebration of Heroes, 5pm, Holiday Inn
- 28 Kansas Concert, 8pm, Shooting Star Casino
- 29 Loop the Lake Run, 9am, DL Pavilion
- 29 DL Jaycees Gun Bingo, 7pm, Holmes Ballroom
- 29-30 RR Model Train Show, 10a-5p, 11a-4p, Washington Square Mall

See full calendar of events at VisitDetroitLakes.com
Please let us know if you have events for our website calendar.