

THE OAK LAWN NETWORKER

Brought to you by the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce

Mission Statement:

“The Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce works to represent and advance the Oak Lawn business community, striving with constant integrity, fairness and cooperation to promote and improve the economic atmosphere, business climate and image of Oak Lawn.”

Marketing Opportunities in 2022

Member in Spotlight - Member in Spotlight is a program designed to put **YOU** in the spotlight, this program allows information about your business, upcoming events, specials, and more to be sent to 700+ registered email subscribers. Your email can include logo, photos, even links to your website! These blasts go out each Monday and spots are reserved in advance and taken on a first come, first-served basis. The cost to participate is \$25 a week.

2022 Schedule is available—CALL NOW!

Website - All members are listed for free on our website. So don't forget to claim your page. You can post videos, pictures and even blog! If you don't know how to use any of these free marketing tools, contact the Chamber Office. This is free to all members. If you need assistance with your webpage, call the Chamber office.

www.oaklawnchamber.com

Metra Station - The Chamber office is located in the Oak Lawn Metra Station. As a member, you can provide brochures/info about your business inside the station. The Metra station has over 1000 commuters each day. This is free to all members.

Business After Hours - BAH's are after work networking events that provide the opportunity for Chamber Members and others to visit your business "after hours:" to learn more about your products and services while networking with fellow members.

2022 Schedule is available—CALL NOW!

Membership Directory - Your business information is listed categorically and alphabetically in the directory which is distributed annually to all members and made available to residents.

Please call the chamber office with any questions or if you wish to advertise with us. 708-424-8300

January/February 2022

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**The Networker is a publication of the
Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce.**

**5120 Museum Drive
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(708) 424-8300**

PLEASE SHOP LOCAL!

Most businesses are now open at 100% capacity. Now is the time to step out and enjoy some of the great shops, restaurants, bars and stores that we have in Oak Lawn.

Remember—SHOP SMALL & SHOP LOCAL!

Chamber President's Message



"It's time to say goodbye, but I think goodbyes are sad, and I'd much rather say hello. Hello to a new adventure." – Ernie Harwell, sportscaster

Thank you for the faith you have placed in me to lead the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce for the 2021 year.

What a year it was! We tried so hard to re-enter the land of the living, with work, school, holidays and events. However, with Delta early

in the year and now Omicron everywhere, life keeps spinning off the rails. For our Installation, we were once again robbed of our ceremony but through it all, we continue to keep calm and carry on, as this Chamber has done for its 75 years of existence.

We used the tools and skills 2020 had taught us to become as strong with our online events as our in-person events.

With our stellar Board and our brilliant new Executive Director, Anne Fritz, we have stayed the course with our 5-year Strategic Plan. Our new Business Advisory Council and Mentorship programs are gathering steam and we have stayed true to our mission by organizing multiple events each month. We had many ribbon cuts, at one point several a week! We've responded and pivoted and provided support to our businesses at every turn.

A highlight of my year as President was our 75th Anniversary of the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce, with a Hawaiian night at Stony Creek. The wisdom shared by our prior presidents and dignitaries, as well as the frivolous dancing, was an absolute blast. To incoming President, Jim Makina from Allegra Marketing Print, we did not get installation dinners, but, 'We will always have Stony Creek'.

I'm proud that our Chamber consistently provides opportunities for increased business exposure: Member in the Spotlight, Oak Lawn Farmers' Market, 4th of July Parade, Golf Outing, Business Showcase and OLCHS Fall Craft Show, Business After Hours, Fire and Safety Coloring Books, Member Luncheons and New Member Breakfasts, Ribbon Cuttings, Multi-Chamber events, Zoom Lunch & Learns, and our Member Directory and website. Throughout 2021, OLCC added over 50 new members in 2021, bringing total membership to 340 as I end my term.

With re-invigorated business growth, I urge you to continue attending Chamber events. They allow you to get business referrals and insights to new businesses, support for your challenges, and endless networking opportunities.

Kerlin Walsh Law has been thriving, too. We launched several new initiatives in 2021. We now go out Live from our office on Facebook every Friday from a themed platform, discussing an aspect or nuance of estate planning. I have a monthly feature called "The Property Sisters" in the glossy Palos Park Life magazine, with my sister, Real Estate Broker Bridget Gricus. We offer tips and tricks on real estate and estate planning to enhance home ownership. In 2021, I revamped my "Share My Legacy" storytelling course, unwrapping the meaning and purpose of our lives in a Legacy Letter for our loved ones. Next, we started Tik Toking! Tik Tok is high energy at a lightning pace, a huge learning curve that I am loving and my boys finally think I am cool! And, Kerlin Walsh Law has once again outgrown our space at 11757 Southwest Highway in Palos Heights, expanding next door to 11759, to meet our needs and continue to serve our community as hard as ever.

Maybe one of my proudest moments of 2021 was recognition as one of Who's Who Top Attorneys of North America. Recognition of legal excellence within my industry has been a true honor for me and Kerlin Walsh Law. I'm truly grateful to my fellow Chamber members, colleagues, friends and client family.

Serving the role as President of our Chamber was a challenge and a joy. I learned new organization and negotiation skills as we navigated both the traditional meetings and events, and the unique and difficult decisions the year presented. I have grown both personally and professionally from it.

Now, I pass the torch to incoming President Jim Makina. This torch comes with a grand history of success, perseverance and responsibility and I cannot think of anyone more suited to that role. Jim is smart, kind, hard working, discreet and reliable, and will be fabulous in this role. I will be here to support you as past President Katie Narbone was for me.

The secret to success? Anne Fritz, our Executive Director, is awesome, does the lion's share of the work and makes us look good!

I will certainly appreciate my time back, but will also miss a position I had grown to love, and, I think, was just getting good at. :)

I'm thankful for your support and allowing me to lead such a fine organization. My wish for all of you is health and happiness in your personal and professional lives. I'm so glad we got to spend 2021 together.

Eileen Kerlin Walsh, J.D.

Principal Attorney, Kerlin Walsh Law

2022 Officers and Directors

President-Jim Makina (Allegra Marketing * Print * Mail)

1st Vice President-Phil Costello (Oak Lawn Park District)

2nd Vice President - Jeff Reynolds (Nothing Bundt Cakes)

Treasurer-Natasha Williams (Three20 Media)

Secretary - Kathleen Farrell (Oak Lawn Bank & Trust)

Immediate Past President-Eileen Kerlin Walsh (Kerlin Walsh Law)

Term Expiring 12/31/22

Dr. Sandra Bury (Complete Vision Care)

George Cachares (Fyzical Therapy & Balance Center)

Shannon Dahlman (Grace Point Place)

Joe Eaton (Shark Shredding)

Dr. Paul Enderle (Oak Lawn Hometown School District 123)

Dr. David Finkelstein (Oak Lawn Foot & Ankle)

Ryan Lichter (Evergreen Park Web Solutions)

Dr. Mike Riordan (Oak Lawn Community High School)

Aaron Schiappa (ADP)

Nael Shalabi (Republic Bank)

Jill Stetson (Skin Trust)

Mike Sutko (World Travel Mart)

Term Expiring 12/31/23

Joe Cwiklinski (Century 21 Affiliated Pro Team)

Bernard Deir (Midwest Business Consulting)

David A. Dewar (Tax-Free Retirement Solutions)

Nick Gulino (JP Architects, Ltd.)

Tom Javorcic (Oak Lawn Public Library)

Jeremy Marek (Marek Lawn & Landscape, Inc)

Ginger Morgan (Thompson & Kuenster F.H.)

Charlie Shirk (Hilton Chicago / Oak Lawn)

Sharon Vetsch (The Quick Book Pro Advisor)

Nicole Wetzell (NEW Consulting)

Linda Wong (Express Employment Professionals)

Chamber Staff

Anne M Fritz - Executive Director

Jennifer Villafan - Administrative Assistant

Your Chamber at a Glance

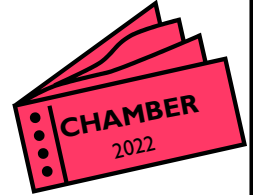
- Ambassador Meetings
- Marketing Committee Meetings
- Business After Hours—2022
- Member in the Spotlight—2022
- Monthly Member Luncheon
- Quarterly Lunch & Learn
- Quarterly New & Prospective Member Breakfasts

Please check the calendar on page 12 for the Chamber website for time and location.

All events are posted on our website:
www.oaklawnchamber.com

2022 Bonanza Raffle on Sale!

Each ticket price is \$10 and four winners are picked each month: one \$100 winner, one \$50 winner and two \$25 winners.



Buy now! Every ticket has 4 chances to win each month!

Winning tickets are place back for even more chances!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS!

November Winners

Michelle Jefferies—\$100
Allegra Marketing—\$50
Eileen Kerlin Walsh—\$25
Phil's Pizza—\$25

December Winners

Allison Rackow—\$100
New Day Spal & Salon—\$50
Monika Peterson—\$25
Tom Fox—\$25

NOW is a GREAT time to JOIN or REJOIN the CHAMBER!

We know these last two years has been really challenging for some of our small and local businesses.

NOW would be a great time to join the Chamber.

Get first choice of the 2022 Member in the Spotlight and Business After Hours schedules. They fill up fast.

Call or email Anne Fritz at the Chamber Office for more information.

(708) 424-8300 office@oaklawnchamber.com



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

Apex Coffee

Dean Galemb
Hickory Hills, IL 60457
(312) 841-7447
dean@apexcoffee.org
www.apexcoffee.org

Cork & Bean

Eileen Desmond
4931 W 95th Street
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(708) 949-9143
hello@cork-bean.com
www.cork-bean.com

Ghosiens European Auto Haus

Ahmed Ghosein
5508 W 95th Street
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(708) 424-4080

Gordon Flesch Company

Chris Hobbs
200 S. Wacker Dr., Ste 675
Chicago, IL 60606
(312) 545-3442
chobbs@gflesch.com
www.gflesch.com

Imagine Pediatrics Therapy

Sameh Taha
5540 W 111th Street
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(773) 373-333
www.imagineped.com

Malena Hallberg Allstate Insurance Agency

Malena Hallberg
Mary Vaci
10735 S. Cicero Ave., Suite #104
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(708) 499-1077
(708) 499-1092
<https://agents.allstate.com/malena-hallberg-oak-lawn-il.html>

Marc Dunworth Foundation for the Performing Arts

Tim Dunworth
Chicago, IL 60638
(773) 470-6592
www.dunworthfoundation.org

Safe Floors, LLC.

Jim Regan
Evergreen Park, IL 60805
(708) 606-3495
jregan.surestep@gmail.com

Suburban Animal Health

Dr. Angelina Senes
10929 S Cicero Ave.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
(708) 636-3600



Congratulations to our 2021 Shop Oak Lawn Raffle WINNERS!

Kathy O'Connell, Mary McNally, Sawsan Saleh, Sharon Rosenbaum, Sally Sendra, Carol McSheridan,
Terry O'Hara, Nancy Ermel & Tasheem Choughale
Thank you for shopping in Oak Lawn!

Thank you to the Raffle Prize SPONSORS!

Oak Lawn Bank & Trust, Complete Vision Care, Oak Lawn Chamber, Nothing Bundt Cakes & Annies

Thank you to our drop off locations!

Annies, Nothing Bundt Cakes & Oak Lawn Park District

2022 Dates are Open. Call & Schedule today!

Member in Spotlight 2022

Sign up Today!

Reserve your spot today to get your information out to other chamber members. This is your chance to digitally promote your business to our members for only \$25. If you would like to sign up please contact the chamber office 708-424-8300 or office@oaklawnchamber.com

*Business After Hours
2022*

Schedule is open for 2022
Business After Hours. First come
first serve. Call today to make
sure you get the date you want!
Contact the Oak Lawn Chamber!



708-424-8300

2021 November/December Ribbon Cutting Ceremonies

Giacomo Giovanni
5401 W. 95th Street
Oak Lawn, IL 60453



Promedica
9401 S Kostner Ave.
Oak Lawn, IL 60453



November Dual Chamber Luncheon ~ Doubletree by Hilton Alsip



December Luncheon ~ Hilton Oak Lawn OLCHS Choir Performs!



Virtual Lunch & Learn
January 19, 2022 ~ 11:30 am

**Lunch
& Learn**



**Oak Lawn Chamber
Virtual Lunch & Learn
Wednesday, January 19, 2022
11:30 AM via Zoom
David Dewar
"Tax-Free Retirement Strategies &
Wealth Acceleration"**

[REGISTER HERE!](#)

February Luncheon ~ Location TBD



Oak Lawn Chamber February Luncheon

Save the Date

Tuesday, February 8th

11:30 AM Networking

12:00PM Lunch

Location: TBA

708-424-8300

www.oaklawchamber.com

February New & Prospective Member Breakfast

You're invited!

New and Prospective Member In-Person Breakfast



Wednesday
February 16th, 2022
8:00 AM
Les Brothers
8705 Ridgeland Ave
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
Cost ~ \$10

This will be a great opportunity for new & prospective members to learn about the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce's activities, to be given the chance to join committees and to network with chamber leadership. You'll get an overview of the chamber and the many benefits and opportunities that we offer to our members.

Free for prospective members and one complimentary for 2022 new members. \$10 for current members. Kindly RSVP to the chamber office.



January 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Lunch & Learn 11:30 am	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					



Office Hours
Monday—Thursday
9 am—3 pm

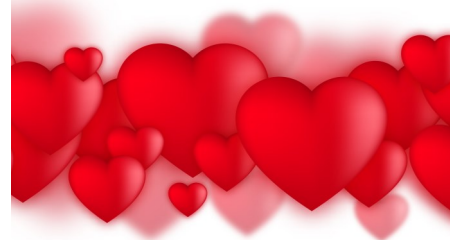
Wednesday, January 19, 2022
Lunch & Learn via Zoom
11:30 am

Tuesday, February 8, 2022
Chamber Member Luncheon
Location TBD
12 pm

Wednesday, February 16, 2022
New & Prospective Member
Breakfast
Les Brothers
8 am

February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Chamber Member Luncheon 12 pm	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 New & Prospective Member Breakfast 8 am	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					



Follow The Chamber!



www.oaklawnchamber.com