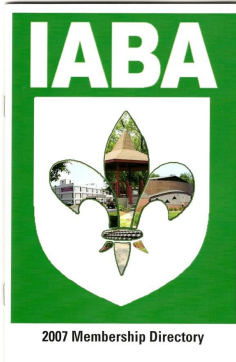


## First IABA Membership Directory Published

After nearly a year of compiling information and navigating some obstacles along the way, the IABA completed the first-ever production of a Membership Directory and offered it to individuals and businesses beginning at the November IABA meeting.

The annual publication, a 5.5" x 8" booklet sponsored by Republic Bank and Sts. Mary & Elizabeth Hospital, contains a detailed listing of every organization in the business association, including such in-



formation as year of founding, business hours, website addresses, and a brief description of each company, as submitted by that company.

Marketing Committee chair Joshua Blandford hopes that the membership directory will spur more business-to-business interaction within the IABA community and also serve as a valuable benefit for companies when they first join the IABA.

"Our goal was to provide a resource for new

and existing members that was not only useful, but was also a nice promotional piece for our businesses, and we hoped to offer it at no additional cost to our members. I think we were able to accomplish those goals."

The cover of the directory features the photography of IABA member Bud Smith incorporated into the green fleur-de-lis logo of the IABA.

"Neighborhood News" content, layout and design by :  
Joshua Blandford, Barbara Nichols, and Bud Smith of the IABA Marketing Committee.

## Board Retreat Focuses on Improving IABA

The IABA Board of Directors met for a 2-hour dinner retreat on Oct. 22 to discuss new measures aimed at bettering the quality of operations of the business association. Out of the meeting came a resolution to change the existing mission statement of the IABA to one that better reflects the purpose of the organization (see inset).

Other ideas shared by members of the board included improving the member database to help streamline communications, designating funds for distribution as grants for education and non-profit cor-

porations, as well as enhancing the process for welcoming new members.

The group plans to reconvene next June for a second retreat and hopes to make this an annual function of the Board of Directors.

*The mission of the IABA is to support, educate and represent through a unified voice the Iroquois-area businesses in an effort to enhance our community.*

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# New Membership Rates and Lunch Discount Announced

The IABA announced in November a few changes regarding membership dues (see below) and a new lunch arrangement for its monthly meetings.

Citing a need to address financial losses that have been accrued due to the difference between the price of lunch charged at meetings and the actual cost of lunch for the IABA, the price for lunch is increasing from \$5.00 to \$7.00 for members. The new prices will take effect in 2008.

There will be a second option for lunches, however. The associa-

tion is offering a discounted rate of \$30.00 to members who would like to prepay for lunch for the entire 2008 calendar year. The prepaid fee may be included with the annual dues that are paid at the beginning of the year or at any time thereafter. Information regarding the offer was included in the invoices for annual dues mailed to members this month.

Prepaid members will be able to attend each meeting during the year and be checked off the list as they arrive rather than pay for lunch at the door. RSVP's for


the meetings will still be requested of all members, however, so that an accurate count can be taken for catering.

The new policy comes at the request of many members who found it a hassle to get reimbursed by their company for the \$5.00 lunch fee every month. This simplified procedure will make payment and reimbursement a one-time transaction.

And with prepayment offered at a discount, the program also takes into account that members may not make every meeting throughout the year.

2008 Membership Dues		Prepaid Lunch Discount
<b>Corporate</b> Any corporation or LLC with 25 or more employees	<b>\$60</b>	<b>\$30 (per person)</b>  Available to members who wish to prepay lunch costs for 2008. May be included with payment of annual membership dues at the beginning of the year or paid any time thereafter.
<b>Business/Commercial</b> Any small business, retail or commercial operation with 24 or less employees	<b>\$30</b>	
<b>Churches, Schools, Civic Organizations, Individuals</b>	<b>\$25</b>	Example: Corporation pays annual dues and prepays for lunch for two employees: $\$60 + \$30 + \$30 = \$120$
<b>Meeting Sponsorship</b>	<b>\$250</b>	

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