

THE ROCKY RIVER
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2011 Business Expo



One of the region's top community networking events is coming to the Don Umerley Civic Center on Thursday, October 13. Here's why last year's exhibitors—are coming back.

by AmyBulger

Fresh off the high of last October's successful show, Kevin Rauscher of Avon's Creative Construction Solutions enthusiastically turned his calendar far ahead to Thursday, October 13, 2011. He took out his red marker and wrote: **IMPORTANT: Rocky River Chamber's 2011 Business Expo, Don Umerley Civic Center, 2-7 p.m.**

"Expo 2010 was great," said Kevin. "It was networking at its best. Conversations, connections, and commitments for our company's customized building experience—what more can you expect?"

Well, you can expect to be impressed. Last year, Corey Rossen of Rozi's Wine House was. He noted its turn out, professionalism and organization. "I met many potential customers and was able to network well with the great people who attended the event," Corey said.

The 100+ exhibitors include 12 area restaurants this year.

Chairman of the Expo Committee, Rusty Deane of OneLink, an IT business solution company, is busy ensuring an exciting 2011 Expo filled with great people.

"The 100+ exhibitors include 12 area restaurants and this year we expect more than 1,000 visitors. That's a lot of enthusiastic people creating tons of positive energy."

A great deal of that energy will be due to

the opportunities to meet so many reputable business owners. That was the experience last year of Dennis and Mary Lou Steed, of RE/MAX Crossroads, who found they were also able to discuss the latest home buying and selling trends with attendees.

"Those are opportunities you just can't get at other networking events," said Mary Lou.

Other special features of The Rocky River Business Expo are its Wine and Beer Tasting, as well as the opportunity for merchants to make money during the show. Tickets for tastings will be sold at various locations throughout the Civic Center. From 4 to 7 p.m., tasting tickets for local retailers' fine wine and unique beer can be exchanged at booths in two different rooms. As an exhibitor, you can sell your merchandise right from your booth.

As an attendee, you can shop.

No need to bring out your wallet to attend, though. There's no admission charge and everyone over the age of 18 is invited.

Over the next several weeks, complimentary Expo tickets will be available at local retailers, restaurants and banks. The chamber encourages you to visit local businesses to pick up your ticket. And if you lose it, not to worry, your business card will also grant you free admission.

Local retirement community The Normandy is providing shuttle bus service to and from the St. Thomas Lutheran Church parking lot and the Civic Center. And on top of the convenience of easily finding a parking spot in the church's large lot, you'll be entered into a raffle to win valuable prizes for having done so. Prizes include gift certificates to Pearl of the Orient and #1 Express Car Wash and Detail Center.

Kitty Sommers of the Rocky River Public Library, a 2010 Expo exhibitor, sums it up this way: "The Rocky River Business Expo is well worth your time."

The Rocky River Chamber of Commerce's Ninth Annual Business Expo, designed for attendees eighteen and older, will be held from 2- 7 p.m. on Thursday, October 13. While the show takes place in the Don Umerley Civic Center, parking for the event is aplenty behind St. Thomas Lutheran Church located at 21211 Detroit Road. Its parking lot can be accessed from both Detroit and Wagar Roads. Look for the balloons. Shuttle bus service to the Civic Center will be provided by The Normandy.

For more information about attending, or to secure one of the few remaining exhibitor spots, contact Liz Manning at 440-331-1140, info@rockyriverchamber.com or through the Chamber's Expo website, www.rrexpo.com.

at a glance

What: 2011 Rocky River Chamber Business Expo

When: Thursday, October 13, 2-7 p.m.

Where: Don Umerley Civic Center, Rocky River

Parking: St. Thomas Lutheran Church, 21211 Detroit Rd.

Cost: Free

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