



Palmyra Chamber of Commerce

Chamber News

Your Daily Dose is Served...

FEATURED BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

ETC COMPUTERLAND

It's 2014; who doesn't have technology? That's why the people at ETC ComputerLand say "You've got technology... We've got solutions."

ETC ComputerLand (formerly known as ETC Computer Solutions) began operations in 1997. ETC initially provided website creation and development, networking, server maintenance and security, and computer repair. Eric Thomas, founder and President, began the business as a part-time venture, but in 2000 decided to dedicate himself to the business full-time.

ETC continued to grow and in February 2007, Eric and Kathryn Thomas purchased ComputerLand of Quincy, a 17-year old computer networking and technology provider. This acquisition nearly doubled the staff of ETC ComputerLand with offices then in Quincy, Illinois and in Kirksville, Missouri. (An office in Waterloo, Illinois has since been added.) The combined staff of the two operations is able to offer a range of services including: website creation and development, database management and custom programming, server setup and management, business networking and security, wireless and security products, and a host of integrated technologies.

Web design and programming along with Managed Services comprise over 50% of ETC's present business. Customization is their trademark. ETC wants to simplify your business processes, identify production bottlenecks, improve employee management, eliminate waste, or create custom reports that enhance your bottom line. Their portfolio includes NuFit, Titan Wheel, and John Wood Community College. ETC also offers website maintenance and back up services for a disaster recovery plan i.e. a tornado hit.

As Elaine Fesler, Sales Manager, explained, ETC's Managed Services Program lets ETC "be the IT eyes for our clients." Working as your IT partner, ETC monitors the availability of your critical service and at the first sign of trouble can inform you of the issue, reducing downtime by dramatically shortening the time from failure to resolution. Technicians can begin work immediately on remediation or, if you prefer, your own IT department may. The service is specifically designed to meet individual client needs.

ETC has a staff of 33. The company employs Systems Consultants with over 50 years of combined experience able to provide a complete suite of technology solutions. ETC ComputerLand sells hardware and software working with industry leaders such as Cisco and Hewlett Packard. ETC staff will explain issues and solutions in terms customers can understand. They service all makes and models of PC-based computers, and though the majority of their business is commercial, they welcome residential customers.

GIFT is ETC ComputerLand's way of acknowledging their individual responsibility to the ever-expanding technology needs of our community and their dedication to corporate philanthropy. GIFT is a quarterly technology giveaway to benefit local charitable and service organizations which are not-for-profit tax-exempt agencies. Such entities within 30 miles of Quincy, IL, Kirksville, MO, and Waterloo, IL can win. The winner will have their choice of \$500 worth of labor, networking services, computer cleanup, or website services. Eligible organizations may register on the website.



ETC ComputerLand
Building relationships, one solution at a time.



Brian Caldwell, Network Services Mgr. & Elaine Fesler, Sales Manager.

At Top: Eric Thomas, ETC ComputerLand Founder & President

Chamber Briefs...

PALMYRA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
MONTHLY MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2013

The Palmyra Chamber of Commerce held its monthly meeting at the VFW Hall Tuesday, December 10. President Michelle Merkel shared the good news that Christmas In Palmyra events had been successful, culminating with the December 5th Chili Cook-Off for ALS, the Live Auction and the Christmas Crawl Drawing all held in the Marion County Courthouse.

CHAMBER PREPARING FOR ANNUAL BANQUET

The 2014 Annual Banquet Meeting will be held Thursday, January 9 with Social at 6:00 and Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15 each and may be purchased at the Chamber Office, City Hall, HATS, the Old Stone House Inn, the Palmyra Spectator, or from Leanna Delaney at Palmyra State Bank.

Nominations for the following Chamber awards were accepted through December 18: Citizen of the Year, Educator of the Year, Paint Brush Award, Volunteer of the Year, and the Business Hall of Fame. The Paint Brush Award is for a business that has really improved its looks, etc. Nominations for Educator of the Year do not have to be for a teacher. Nomination letters should not only explain why a person is qualified but also contain a brief history of an individual's work background and involvement in civic and social organizations.

VETERAN SERVICE AWARD

Congratulations to Jim Boettcher, a lifetime member of the Norfolk-Smith VFW Post 11041! Jim is one of only twenty-six statewide recipients of this year's Veterans Service Awards. He will be honored at a reception in Jefferson City in the near future.

CHAMBER GIFT CERTIFICATES

During this Christmas season, members were reminded what a wonderful gift Chamber gift certificates make. Supporting local businesses and our community makes good "cents!"

GUEST SPEAKERS WELCOMED

Members welcomed Palmyra High School guests Destiny Reed, Emily Seago, and Gussie Shemwell to share their experiences as Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade participants. They expressed their gratitude for the support of individuals and businesses without whom they could not have had the opportunity. Emily shared that the first two days of their week in New York City were spent in a huge ballroom with 800 girls for sixteen hours for hard core dance practice on the routine they would be performing. All girls commented on how cold it was, wearing only dance costumes and waiting hours in Central Park before actually starting the parade. (Would you believe all 800 girls took the subway from the hotel to get to Central Park?!) No one felt the cold once the parade began, and everyone felt it was worth it. They even felt like celebrities getting their photos snapped!

Some sightseeing and shopping were on the agenda which the girls enjoyed immensely. They got to take a harbor tour past the Statue of Liberty, see a Broadway show and the Rockettes, and visit Ground Zero. Gussie also described their excursion to see the balloons inflated the day before the parade. Destiny, so touched by Ground Zero, said, "I want to be an author, and there aren't words to describe that experience."

Destiny, Emily, Gussie, and Haley Snodgrass who was unable to attend the Chamber meeting, all had a wonderful time, and hope to return to New York City one day. If you haven't been they encourage you to visit.

upcoming events **CALENDAR**

Thursday, Jan. 9 **Annual Banquet Meeting**

Msgr. Farischon Hall

Social – 6 p.m. Beer & Wine will be served.

Dinner – 6:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$15 Each, may be purchased at the Chamber Office, City Hall, HATS, the Old Stone House Inn, the Palmyra Spectator, or from Leanna Delaney at Palmyra State Bank.

Fri/Sat, Jan. 24/25 **First Christian Church Prom Dress Resale**

Friday, January 24th 6 – 8 p.m. & Saturday, January 25th 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Farischon Hall. Bring dresses to sell – Jan. 22-24, 6 – 8 p.m. or Jan. 25 10 a.m. 8 – 9:30 a.m. Call Nancy Goellner 573.470.0861 for more information.

Christmas In Palmyra Review:

The 5K Run/Walk drew 42 participants and raised over \$1000 dollars for the Palmyra Food Pantry.

The Chili Cook-Off had over 60 tasters and nine entries. Awards went to Overall Best Chili: HATS& Heather McChristian, Most Interesting Chili: El Nopal, Most Original Chili: Hannibal Jaycees, Mildest Chili: County Market. The Chili Cook-Off raised over \$775 dollars for ALS, Lou-Gehrig's disease.



Winners of the Christmas Crawl Drawing were Lisa Ramey (\$200), Gail Kirby (\$300), and Gayle Hurst (\$500). Congratulations! (Photo compliments of Mark Cheffey, Palmyra Spectator.)

REMINDER

YOUR NEXT CHAMBER MEETING IS
Tues., Feb. 11, 2014 • VFW Hall
Chamber Email Address:
palmyrachamber@gmail.com

**It's time to renew your Chamber
Membership for 2014 - Application
available on the Chamber website!**