

## WHAT PAST PARTICIPANTS HAVE TO SAY

"As a young business owner, it has been reassuring to learn that our challenges are not unique. I look forward to every Executive Dialogue meeting because I know I will learn something to better help me run my business. It is a wonderful program for any business leader."

► *Gary Bechtold*  
*St. Cloud Overhead Door Co.*

"When facing a challenge, I learn more ideas about how to address it through Executive Dialogue than through any business book. The informal, free-flowing format is great for sharing ideas and insights on topics the group wants to know more about. It's great conversations with other business leaders, with a few laughs thrown in."

► *Kevin Ehlinger*  
*Th!nk Creative Advertising, Inc.*

"Executive Dialogue is an awesome opportunity to learn from your peers and share in the challenges and rewards of being a business owner. This has been the single most impactful Chamber program I've participated in."

► *Tara Tollefson,*  
*The Buzz Company*

St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce  
PO Box 487  
St. Cloud, MN 56301-0487



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## 2009-2010 EXECUTIVE/ BUSINESS OWNERS DIALOGUE GROUPS



*The Voice of Business in  
Central Minnesota*

## EXECUTIVE/BUSINESS OWNERS DIALOGUE GROUPS

The goal of an Executive Dialogue Group is to foster open and frank communication among small groups of business owners (principals, partners, etc.) who are members of the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce.

Topics vary and may include . . .

- increasing profitability
- finding and keeping good employees
- managing growth
- compensation policies for sales personnel
- writing a business plan
- wage and hour laws

Each group meets in a setting that affords on-going contacts and provides for a confidential relationship among the group's members.

Each group is composed of 10-14 individuals from non-competitive businesses and professional backgrounds who have the desire to interact with others in an informal, but informative setting.

Through discussion in an Executive Dialogue Group, participants can gain new insight into a broad range of common and not so common problems. The pooled experience, expertise and talent of the group can often point to better answers to many everyday and long range questions of individual businesses.

**Exact dates and times for meetings will be established by the groups at their first meeting.**

## MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES

1. All candidates for an Executive Dialogue Group must be members of the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce.
2. All candidates must be business owners, chief executives, or partners in a professional firm.
3. Individuals are expected to treat dialogue group conversations confidentially.
4. Individuals may not send substitutes to meetings.
5. All candidates will be screened by the Chamber staff to avoid placement of similar occupations within the same group. Groups are developed on a first-come, first-served basis. (Every effort is made to place applicants into a dialogue group. When this is not possible, the reservation fee is refunded. Register early!)
6. Only one person from the same business may be a member of a dialogue group. However, a co-owner or partner may belong to a different dialogue group.
7. Dialogue members are expected to attend *all meetings*.
8. There is a \$95 fee to participate in an Executive Dialogue Group. The fee must be paid in full before assignment to a group will be made.

## REGISTRATION FORM

### Executive/Business Owners Dialogue Group

Complete this form and return it with payment to:

St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce,  
PO Box 487, St. Cloud, MN 56302-0487

*by August 28, 2009.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Business \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Employees \_\_\_\_\_

I would prefer meetings in the

Morning  Noon  No Preference

I own/manage a business with locations in multiple cities  Yes  No

Yes, sign me up for the **Executive/Business Owners Dialogue Group**.....\$95

### Method of Payment

- |   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check            | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Me  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Express | <input type="checkbox"/> Discover |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard       | <input type="checkbox"/> Visa     |

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL:

Gail Ivers  
251-2940, ext. 109

*Paid registrations must be received by Friday, August 28, 2009. Assignment to groups will not be made until payment is received.*