



## Oley Valley Business Association

P.O. Box 25

Oley, PA 19547-0025

[www.oleyvalleybiz.org](http://www.oleyvalleybiz.org)

### President's Message

Happy New Year!!!!!!!

I hope that everyone had a safe and pleasant holiday season and new year.

This time of year is a time of remembering. Remembering the good and bad things that have happened to us and around us is always an important part of turning that year-end calendar from one year to the next.

We should all take a minute to thank Wilma for her excellent year as President of our association. Wilma worked tirelessly to keep us all focused on the many activities in which we participated during 2004. Even though she has passed the leadership role onto others, I know that she will continue to assist in any way possible to promote the best things that our association has to offer businesses and members of the community. Wilma – THANK YOU.

There are many members that have gone above and beyond in their attempt to make our organization better. Those people know who they are and I hope that they will continue to assist as we make 2005 the best year yet.

At this time of remembering I would like to ask that everyone keep in mind those individuals of our society and around the world who are in need. This not only includes the millions of people that have been affected by the latest tragedy in Southern Asia but also includes local families that are in need of basic necessities like food, clothing and housing. Please also keep in mind our military that defend the freedoms that we all take for granted from time to time.

I want to ask that each member keep other members in mind as we go through 2005. With the number of people that we collectively interact with on a monthly basis, there have to be opportunities that arise to promote one another's business. If we can get to the point where we have 100 members out there in the public eye promoting each other's business, we can greatly enhance the value of being a member of the Oley Valley Business Association. We can retain existing members and offer a concrete benefit for potential members to join. At the very least, we should be looking for opportunities to do business with one another.

Have a safe and profitable month. I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our first meeting of the year. There will be a few surprises so be sure to put the date on your calendar.

Bill Griffith

*January Meeting*

**The next business meeting of the Oley Valley Business Assoc. will be a 7:00 a.m. breakfast meeting on Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at the Oley Legion Diner.**

*Treasurer's Report*

*Oley Valley Business Association  
Treasurer's Report*

Beginning Balance		2,800.66
Interest	12/31/04	.72
Cartridge Money		122.50
Dues (17)		595.00
Scholarship Donations		<u>70.00</u>
SubTotal		\$3,588.88
Expenses:		0
Ending Balance	12/31/04	<u>\$3,588.88</u>

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Minerva S. Hoppes, Treasurer*

**December 27, 2004**

*Call to Order*

The December meeting of the Oley Valley Business Association was held at the Historic Pleasantville Inn. The meeting was called to order at 12:10 PM by Vice President William Griffith, followed by the introduction of members.

*Minutes and  
Treasurer's Report*

A motion to accept the November minutes was made by Lloyd Hopkins and seconded by Kevin Bieber. The motion carried.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Tom Mitchell and seconded by Lloyd Hopkins. The motion carried.

*Attendance*

The total attendance for the meeting was 8 members

*Old Business*

Election of 2005 Officers

Bill Griffith asked if anyone brought their completed ballots. For those who didn't, and didn't previously mail it in, he provided blank ballots and asked that they be completed and given to Tom Mitchell.

Map of Area Businesses

Kevin Bieber passed around the map that was printed by Oley Township, similar to those printed by other townships. Since local businesses are solicited for ads on those maps, Kevin suggested that we not duplicate the sponsoring solicitations by producing our own map. Oscar Egolf noted that OVBA's map would cover all 4 townships in the Oley School District, and suggested we contact the company who publishes the various township maps to see about doing something for 2006.

Act 72/Homestead Act

Mike McCarthy reported that the last Chamber breakfast meeting was a forum on Act 72 (the Homestead Act). He said that completion of an application (second mailing has been sent) does not insure that your taxes will be reduced. Another complicated aspect of the Act is that the School Board has to vote on it without knowing what revenue will be generated by the slot machines. Kevin Bieber suggested that we invite a Board member to speak at our January or February meeting before the vote is taken. He offered to speak to Ralph Richard about coming to our meeting, and will report back to Bill Griffith if he can work that out.

## *New Business*

Oscar Egolf suggested that we need to better promote doing business with other members of the Association. This led to a discussion on how to attract more members to our meetings. Some suggestions included: making calls, sending faxes or sending emails to members prior to each meeting, having interesting topics and promoting them beforehand, inviting township supervisors to meetings on a rotating basis, holding meetings at locations closer to the Reading side of the area (Golden Oaks?), sponsoring more community events and changing the time of the meetings. Lloyd Hopkins asked if we could get a volunteer to get a Phone Committee together to make phone calls before meetings, as well as before events where volunteers are needed (Pleasantville Bridge, Pot Pie Dinner, Oley Fair, etc.)

**A volunteer is needed to organize a Phone Committee! If you can help, please contact Bill Griffith.**

Berks County Chamber of Commerce

Mike McCarthy reported that the January 5, 2005, Chamber Breakfast meeting would be about the Schuylkill Valley Metro, and would be held at the Wyndham of Reading (old Lincoln Hotel).

## *Adjournment*

A motion was made to adjourn at 12:40 PM by Lloyd Hopkins and seconded by Oscar Egolf. The motion carried

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Sharon Morrow, for  
Douglas A. Kramer, Secretary*

## ***A note from our Webmaster:***

If your business has a website, and we aren't linking to it from our Membership Directory - please contact me at [webmaster@oleyvalleybiz.org](mailto:webmaster@oleyvalleybiz.org). Provide your company name and website address.

If you told us or indicated on your membership application that you would be willing to receive newsletter notifications by email, but haven't received any - you need to sign up for our email list. We can not do that for you, due to SPAM concerns. To sign up, go to our Home page at [www.oleyvalleybiz.org](http://www.oleyvalleybiz.org) and add your name and email address in the box titled "OVBA Member Mailing List Signup" under the Calendar. If you signed up before, but still aren't receiving emails from the Association, contact me at [webmaster@oleyvalleybiz.org](mailto:webmaster@oleyvalleybiz.org). The email address may have been entered incorrectly.

Thank you!