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Jason M. Long, President

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Chamber Monthly, June 2009

President's Corner

Life is a balancing act. Work and relaxation; friends and family, labor and laughter; community and yourself; love and logic.

I truly believe that success is only obtainable when you have a balanced life. Finding that balance ironically gets lost in our search of "success".

I find myself sometimes working so

hard in getting to the "finish" that I realize that I am missing the trip. I ran across this story this past weekend and thought it would be great to share it with you...it made me step back and think about my balance and helped me put my priorities once again in perspective. The story is titled...

The Fisherman and the Businessman

A management consultant, on holiday in an African fishing village, watched a little fishing boat dock at the quayside. Noting the quality of the fish, the consultant asked the fisherman how long it had taken to catch them.

"Not very long," answered the fisherman.

"Then, why didn't you stay out longer and catch more?" asked the consultant.

The fisherman explained that his small catch was sufficient to meet his needs and those of his family.

The consultant asked, "But what do you do with the rest of your time?"

"I sleep late, fish a little, play with my children, have an afternoon's rest under a coconut tree. In the evenings,

Let's do lunch!

Wednesday, June 3, 2009

Brian Walters

Akron Small Business Development Center

11:45 - Informal Networking 12:30 - Speaker
12:00 - Light lunch served 1:00 - Adjourn

Members admitted free with a reservation.

Please R.S.V.P. to 330-659-3300 by June 1

Non-members bring \$11 check payable to Richfield Chamber of Commerce

No-shows will be invoiced \$11 for their reserved lunch.

Invite an associate. Bring your business cards to share.

ally big, you can start selling shares in your company and make millions!"

"Millions? Really? And after that?" pressed the fisherman.

"After that you'll be able to retire, move out to a small village by the sea, sleep in late every day, spend time with your family, go fishing, take afternoon naps under a coconut tree, and spend relaxing evenings having drinks with friends..."

– Unknown Author

There is no right or wrong in this story, but it causes us to ask ourselves are we fishermen, business person, or someone in the middle. Do you live to work or work to live. I thought this was a very fun, interesting story and a great motivator to get out and enjoy the beautiful spring weather we are having.

Have a wonderful day and I look forward to seeing you soon.

June Luncheon

The speaker for June's lunch will be Brian Walters. Brian has an MBA and is a Certified Business Advisor at the Small Business Development Center at the Summit Medina Business Alliance. The Akron SBDC offers a broad range of consulting services for small businesses in Summit and Medina Counties. Their staff consists of experienced and certified consultants and professional volunteers that offer assistance for a broad range of business activities.

Member Spotlight

Contact the chamber office if you would like to submit an article about your company. Every member is entitled to one "Spotlight"

I go into the community hall to see my friends, have a few beers, play the drums, and sing a few songs." replied the fisherman.

The consultant ventured, "I have an MBA from Harvard and I can help you... You should start by fishing longer every day. You can then sell the extra fish you catch. With the extra revenue, you can buy a bigger boat. With the extra money the larger boat will bring, you can buy a second one and a third one and so on until you have a large fleet. Instead of selling your fish to a middleman, you can negotiate directly with the processing plants and maybe even open your own plant. You can then leave this little village and move to a city here or maybe even in the United Kingdom, from where you can direct your huge enterprise."

"How long would that take?" asked the fisherman.

"Oh, ten, maybe twenty years." replied the consultant.

"And after that?" asked the fisherman.

"After that? That's when it gets really interesting," answered the consultant, laughing, "When your business gets re-

June 3	Luncheon	11:45 a.m.	Quality Inn & Suites Richfield
June 10	Board meeting	7:00 a.m.	Scriptype Publishing
June 17	Newsletter Deadline		
June 17	Golf Outing - Steak Roast		St. Bernard Golf Club
July 26	Eddy's Bike Shop 16th Annual Sweet Corn Challenge		

Mark your calendar