



LINCOLN INDEPENDENT BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Proudly Announces Our

2010 Award Winners

BUSINESS OWNER OF THE YEAR

To succeed in business over a number of years requires ongoing vigilance, focus, and hard work. A successful business contributes to our community in many ways and its owner deserves recognition for this. LIBA bestows this award to a business owner who exemplifies the "best" of what it takes to create and sustain a successful enterprise, serving as a prime example of business excellence.

The LIBA 2010 Business Owner of the Year winners are John Costin, Mike Decker and Gary Jones of Latsch's Inc. In 1916 Jerome and Robert Latsch started Latsch Brothers located at 15th and O Street. The company has had many different locations including 1124 O Street where it resided for 80 years. In 1973 the name was changed to Latsch's Inc. At that time, Latsch's had 5 employees. Today they have over 30 staff members to carry out the mission of providing the right product solutions to customers through competitive pricing and exemplary service. In addition to serving Nebraska, Latsch's has clients in 30 states and pulls from 29 different warehouses around the country for next day delivery.



From left to right - John Costin Vice-President, Mike Decker President/COO, and Gary Jones Secretary/Treasurer.

BUSINESS RESOURCE AWARD

Many resources exist within our community to provide assistance to businesses. It might be another business, a non-profit group, an association or a service firm that could qualify as a business resource. LIBA desires to encourage and recognize a resource who has provided ongoing assistance through advice, counsel, and cooperative effort to our area businesses.

The LIBA 2010 Business Resource winner is Leadership Resources. Dan Sedor and Boyd Ober have been working with businesses and non-profits in Lincoln and the surrounding area since 2003. In the community, Dan and the team at Leadership Resources have facilitated several workshops for LIBA, United Way, Better Business Bureau, Lincoln Chamber of Commerce, Lincoln's Young Professionals Group, and several other organizations, resulting in the generation of thousands of dollars for the local economy. By helping companies focus on strategic growth and methods for improving performance, Leadership Resources has assisted hundreds of organizations and thousands of individuals in becoming more successful. For being a valuable resource to the Lincoln business community, we would like to thank and congratulate Leadership Resources.



Dan Sedor



Boyd Ober

ENTERPRISING GAMBLER AWARD

Starting and building a business is very demanding and a huge gamble. It takes money, preparation, and commitment with no guarantee of success. Those who accomplish the task find that it takes more than hard work. LIBA applauds the entrepreneurs who are willing to put their name on the bottom line, risking much to begin or grow their businesses. This award recognizes the business owner who has taken the bold step to either begin or expand a local business.



Nick Bock & James Bowen

The LIBA 2010 Enterprising Gambler(s) of the year are James Bowen and Nick Bock, owners and founders of Five Nines Technology Group. Five Nines is an IT Support and Consulting company based in Lincoln. Five Nines got its start in September of 2006 as the merger of two small companies with a combined staff of three. With a lot of hard work and an excellent team, Five Nines has since grown to 25 staff, servicing over 300 clients in several states. This distinction earned them the Lincoln Chamber 2007 small business of the year award. Over the past three years, Five Nines has experienced growth of over 600%. The single minded focus on their clients success has driven growth that landed Five Nines on the Inc. 500 list of the fastest growing private companies in the United States. We are proud to have these "Enterprising Gamblers" as part of our community leadership.

FREE ENTERPRISE AWARD

Some people will periodically speak out and up for free enterprise. For others, it is a way of life that dominates their actions. LIBA gives this award to an individual or business that has demonstrated support, direction, and conviction toward our American "free enterprise" system.

The Free Enterprise Award Winner for 2010 is Governor Dave Heineman. Governor Dave Heineman is a staunch advocate for free enterprise, who every-day of his governorship demonstrates his dedication to not only free enterprise, but also to hard-working, tax-paying Nebraskans. Governor Heineman stated recently that one of his top priorities was to grow Nebraska's economy and he would do so by modernizing Nebraska's incentive programs, lowering taxes, and limiting the growth of state spending. In 2009, Governor Heineman worked diligently to promote business opportunities for Nebraskans locally, nationally, and even internationally when he began to discuss trade relations with Taiwan and South Korea. Concurrently, he worked on the state level to cut spending and already this year has called for a pay freeze for Constitutional Officers. Governor Heineman, thank you for your leadership!



Governor Dave Heineman

LIBA CHAMPION AWARD

LIBA was created to support business and guard over the community tax dollars. Quite often there are Members who support LIBA in an extraordinary way. LIBA presents this award to honor "LIBA Champions" who stand up to promote the Lincoln Independent Business Association through their actions and decisions.

The LIBA Champion Award Winner for 2010 is Connie Jensen. Connie Jensen has been a LIBA member since 1984 and served as the LIBA Chair in 2002. Connie currently serves on LIBA's Board of Directors and Advisory Board. Her dedication to LIBA is demonstrated by her constant willingness to generously offer her time, energy, financial resources, and insight gained through years of experience as a trusted financial advisor and manager. Connie shares her expertise and encourages others to focus how to achieve goals. Connie makes things happen and does so with enthusiasm, character, and of course, keeping the LIBA mantra of efficiency and effectiveness in mind. Thank you, Connie, for being a LIBA Champion!



Connie Jensen

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Serving in Public Office, while it may appear glamorous, is a time consuming second career with its own set of challenges. Too many times we neglect to thank our elected officials for the time, energy, and resources they devote to serving us and the office they fill. LIBA gives this award to an elected official, who through the course of his or her tenure in elected office has demonstrated a sincere willingness to ensure government efficiency and effectiveness and guard against waste and abuse, in a constant effort protect the citizens' tax dollars while maintaining the proper role of government.

The LIBA Public Service Award Winner for 2010 is Bob Workman. Bob Workman was first elected to the County Commissioners Board in 1998, when he defeated Rick Hoppe for the District 5 seat. For the last 12 years, Bob has worked conscientiously to balance the needs of the citizens while keeping a watchful eye on the County's budget. Bob's love of charts, graphs, numbers and facts keeps the other County Board members and staff on their toes. Bob has been willing to take a stand on some tough issues that were sometimes unpopular. LIBA appreciates Bob's due diligence to ask questions and seek solutions. Thank you, Bob, for your leadership.



Bob Workman

LIBA MISSION STATEMENT

To provide leadership and educational opportunities to the business community; To educate the public concerning the vital role of business in the creation of meaningful jobs and in meeting the payrolls that allow our citizens to enjoy "quality of life"; To communicate the concerns of the business community to elected officials at all levels of local government; and To support political candidates who understand and promote the free enterprise system.

2010 LIBA LEADERSHIP

The 2010 LIBA Officers & Directors began their terms on March 1, 2010.



Doug Carey
Chairman
of the Board

Doug Carey, new LIBA Board Chairman, has been a LIBA member since 2005. Doug has served on the LIBA Board of Directors, as well as on several of our committees since becoming involved with the organization.

Doug came to Lincoln from his hometown of Norfolk, Nebraska in 1974, and has lived here since then, aside from a few years that he spent in Minden, Nebraska, and Seattle, Washington. In 2002, Doug returned to Lincoln to begin his career at West Gate Bank. Doug currently serves as Executive Vice President in charge of Retail Banking and Marketing for West Gate Bank.

Personally, Doug and his wife Mary, a western Nebraska native, were married in 1976. They have six children, with their youngest, John, still at home. They also have five grandchildren, with the sixth due in June.

Doug is a firm believer in supporting our community. He has served on the Madonna Foundation Board, the Lux Center for the Arts Board, the Advisory Board for Catholic Social Services, the Food Bank of Lincoln Board, the Red Cross Board and as co-treasurer of the St. Teresa's School Board. Finally, Doug is a huge baseball fan with a particular love for the St. Louis Cardinals, so enjoys catching a game in the free time he has.

As the incoming LIBA Chairman, the first item on the slate for Doug is the upcoming May 11 vote on the Arena Project. Doug is looking forward to working closely with the LIBA Board of Directors and Officers as well as the various Committee Chairs to help lead LIBA and its 1,100+ members representing the business community.

The LIBA Board of Directors is as follows:

Chairman of the Board: Doug Carey - West Gate Bank
Chairman-Elect: Tim Cox - Central Financial Services
Vice-Chair: Joe Bolubasz - Wells Fargo
Secretary: John Berry Jr. - Berry Law Firm
Treasurer: David Pauley - Pauley Properties, Inc.

Directors:

Jim Christo - Christo Design Build, Inc.
 Pam Dingman - Engineering Design Consultants, LLC
 Laurie Dunn - Riensche, Hall and Dunn
 Darlene Fletcher - Home Real Estate
 Mark Hunzeker - Baylor, Evnen, Curtiss, Gritmit & Witt, LLP
 Chris Kingery - Kingery Construction Company
 Bob Norris - Nebraska Neon Sign Company
 Greg Osborn - Computing Extras
 Charlotte Ralston - RU Nuts Company
 Doug Wyatt - Lincoln Orthopaedic Center, P.C.
 Jack Zohner - John Henry's Plumbing, Heating & A/C Co.

Legal Counsel: Bill Harding, Harding & Shultz
President & CEO: Coby Mach

Seven LIBA Past Board Chairmen are annually selected by the Advisory Committee as voting members of the Board of Directors.

For 2010 they are:

Russ Bayer - Bayer Family Partnership
 Randy Harre - Schwisow Construction, Inc.
 John Hoppe Jr. - Hoppe, Inc.
 Connie Jensen - Jensen Money Management
 Peter Katt - Baylor, Evnen, Curtiss, Gritmit & Witt, LLP
 Tom Klein - First National Bank
 Marty Miller - Miller Holding Company

Committee Chairs with voting privileges:

Budget Monitoring - John Baylor, Baylor Test Prep
 Civic Appointments - Jim Cada, Cada Law Office
 Government Caucus - Andrew Loudon, Baylor, Evnen, Curtiss, Gritmit & Witt, LLP
 Membership - Debby Brehm, Center Associates
 PAC - Mark Schorr - Erickson & Sederstrom, P.C.
 Public Relations - Phil Young, The Philip M. Young Company
 School Liaison - Wanda Caffrey, Polaris Financial Services/Ameritas Investment Corp.
 Tax Efficiency - Joe Hampton, Hampton Enterprises

Additional Committee Chairs:

Advisory - Connie Hilligoss, Sign Pro
 Convention - Doug Carey, West Gate Bank
 Foundation - Steve Bowen, Willmar Electric Service
 Youth - Larry Anderson, Anderson Agency, Inc.