



# GGCC NEWSLETTER

## 2011

July 2011

Volume 14 – Number 7

**OFFICERS**

Chris Copeland – President  
Grin Mobile Laser Tag

Renee Bouplon – Vice President  
Agricultural Stewardship Assoc.

Lisa Gillis – Treasurer  
Vincent Cristaldi Accounting Service

Kathy Nichols-Tomkins – Secretary  
Greater Greenwich Chamber of Commerce

**DIRECTORS**

Dave Beayon - The Computer Guys of Greenwich  
Lisa Bermes -TD Bank Manager

Chris Copeland - Grin Mobile Laser Tag  
Cailie Currin - Currin Compliance Services LLC  
Renee Bouplon - Agricultural Stewardship Assoc.  
Judy Flagg - Union Village LTD

Christine Grogan - Trustco Bank  
Barbara Hamel - Helping Hands Physical Therapy  
Andrew Kelly - Jordan & Kelly LLC  
Doug Merrigan - Glens Falls National Bank & Trust  
Fred Schafer - Green Mountain Benefits  
Larry Wilbur - Wilbur Financial Group

**2011 DATES TO REMEMBER**

August 17th, 2011

Board of Directors meeting - 6:00 pm  
the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Greater Greenwich  
Chamber of Commerce, Inc.  
6 Academy St.  
Greenwich, NY 12834  
Phone/Fax—518 -692-7979

Email: [info@greenwichchamber.org](mailto:info@greenwichchamber.org)  
Web: [www.greenwichchamber.org](http://www.greenwichchamber.org)

**New York Main Street Program**

There are still some funds available for NYMS Revitalization Projects.

Revitalization projects can be a façade improvement, such as paint, windows repairing a porch or door, roofing, lighting, signage. It can be an improvement to the interior of the business, such as walls, floors, bathrooms, heating or electric improvements. It can also be an improvement to a second story rental unit which is commercial or residential.

The project is up to 75% reimbursable.

We have a few more months to complete the program, so please call soon if you are considering a project.

Call the Chamber 692-7979 or Marvin & Company at 695-3344 ask for Michelle DeGarmo for more information or an application.

The recent improvements to the downtown area are the result of the **Main Street Streetscapes program**.

Through the winter and spring a committee comprised of Judy Flagg, Barbara Simoneau, Christine Grogan, Maureen Edsforth, Janice DeCitate and Kathy Brophy and Kathy Nichols-Tomkins worked to determine what enhancements to the downtown target area were feasible.

**Recent & planned improvements:**

- 10 Trash Receptacles
- 8 Trees
- 8 Benches - late August
- Seasonal & Welcome Banners - late August

**We need your Help...  
We need your Input...**

**The GGCC has heard concern from people about the large number of vacant storefronts & buildings for sale in the Greenwich downtown.**

Do you have any suggestions for improving the looks of the Greenwich downtown ?

Do you have any suggestions for ways to access people / businesses who might be interested in doing business here in "Our Downtown" or "Outside of the Downtown area" for that matter ?

Do you do business with another business who may have mentioned an expansion or a friend or family member who is thinking about opening a shop or office ?

Do you come in contact with an investor who are looking for a project ?

Please ask them to contact us.

*Area Chamber Mixer on  
Saturday August 20th  
Surya Polo Club*

Rte. 29 in Greenwich 5-7 p.m.  
Match at 6:00 p.m.

Light Fare by Spoonful Catering  
\$15.00 per person

RSVP to the Chamber at 692-7979  
by August 12th

Sponsored by the GGCC

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

You can promote your business by using the "free" space in the Greenwich Information Building outside of the Chamber office at 6 Academy Street, just bring in your business cards, brochures or flyers. And place them in there.

You can also promote your business by including a brochure or a flyer in one of the Chamber mailings. Please check with the office about the month that you want to include a promotional piece and then provide 225 pieces to us by the third week of that month.

May 21st & 22nd is the designated Town Wide Garage sale weekend !!!

Did you know that you can be part of the Whipple City Festival by having a business booth at the Festival with the other vendors. It is at the discounted member rate of \$35.00 for the weekend?

We are encouraging all businesses to be part of the Whipple City festivities by organizing some events in the Downtown Business District or in the town wide businesses? Do you have any ideas? Share them with us or with other businesses in the downtown or outside of the village

We are working on a new edition of the "Greenwich Mug" to have available at the Whipple City Festival ? Don't miss it !

Whipple City festival Update: We will be calling upon members to help with many of the fun activities at the festival: Carnival games, Dunking Booth, making baked goods, selling mugs, helping with the 5K race & staffing the info booth. Call us if you can give a little time. 692- 7979

## The Battenkill as a " Brand" The Battenkill Runs through it.

There is no denying that "Battenkill" has coalesced into a powerful brand during the past five years. The Battenkill brand's continued explosion is evidenced by **Tour of the Battenkill**, one of the country's largest bike races, **Battenkill Creamery** with its much loved glass bottled chocolate milk and **Battenkill Books**, an independent neighborhood bookstore attracting fans from far and wide. The growth of all things "Battenkill" from **Battenkill Veterinary**, one of the early adopters of the name to the most recent, **YMCA's Battenkill Branch**, further demonstrates how by respecting & protecting our natural resources, we promote strong and sustainable economic development.

However, only one of the organizations that bear the famous river's name, **Battenkill Conservancy (or BkC)**, was specifically created to give back to the **Battenkill Watershed**. Established in 1993 by a group of well respected river scientists, **BkC's** mission is simple - to preserve and enhance the **Battenkill Watershed** through land conservation, education and public policy. **BkC** works on projects that range from water monitoring to the control of Zebra mussels to the family friendly **Eagle Watches**. **BkC** supports programs such as Cambridge Central School's AP Science classes and runs the ever popular **Overnight Adventure Trip** for middle school kids.

As a celebration of the **Battenkill's** natural bounty, **BkC** is hosting "**The Battenkill Runs through It**" **Beach Barbeque & Music Festival** on Saturday, May 28th from Noon to 6PM (rain date Sunday May 29th) at the **Greenwich Town Beach**, north of the Village on Route 29. **BkC** worked with Greenwich Town Supervisor, **Sara Idleman** and the Town Board to kick off the summer season, bring greater awareness to the beach and promote the Town's **Summer Swim Program**. Food, five local musical acts including **Bob Warren** performing his river inspired song, **The Battenkill** and other river related activities will be offered throughout the day to celebrate the **Battenkill** that has and continues to provide recreational, economic & cultural opportunities to all who live, work and play near its borders.

The business community including **SCA Tissue**, **Battenkill Country Club**, **Whalen Chevrolet** and **Trevett Millworks** were keen to participate in the inclusive community event, recognizing the importance of giving back to the **Battenkill**, one of our area's greatest natural resources.

We invite all Chamber members and their families to do the same by joining **BkC** for a day of river fun on Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.

A \$10 entry ticket which includes a burger plate & with children under 6 free, can be purchased in advance by calling the **BkC** office at 518-677-2545 and leaving a message or emailing [bc@battenkillconservancy.net](mailto:bc@battenkillconservancy.net) . Local retail shops including **DISH Bistro** at 93 Main Street in Greenwich and the **Rice Mansion** in Cambridge are also selling tickets.

Additional information can be obtained by visiting [www.battenkillconservancy.net](http://www.battenkillconservancy.net) or contacting Lorraine Merghart Ballard at [lorraine.merghart@gmail.com](mailto:lorraine.merghart@gmail.com) or 917-658-3589.