

January 2025

www.winonachamber.com | (507) 452-2272 | 902 E. Second St., Suite 120, Winona, MN



Winona Area Chamber of Commerce 2024 Retiring Board Members

Christie Ransom, President & CEO
Winona Area Chamber of Commerce

At the Board of Directors meeting in December, we had the pleasure of honoring five directors who are retiring from the board: **Katrice Sisson, Dr. Marsha Danielson, Jared Literski, Janneke Sobeck, and Kendra Maggert.** We are grateful for their dedication to the Chamber and their support of the business community. Please join us in reflecting on their contributions and thanking them for their time and talents.



Katrice Sisson, Minnesota Marine Art Museum

– Katrice Sisson’s impact on our Chamber has been nothing short of extraordinary. From her steadfast leadership as Board Chair to her vibrant presence as an Ambassador, Katrice has been a cornerstone of our organization. Her dedication shines through in her countless volunteer efforts, from flipping burgers at the Steamboat Days Food Trailer to fostering community spirit at events like the Chamber Golf Classic, Family Night on the Farm, and Big Muddy Brew n’ Que. Always the first to step up, Katrice’s unwavering support and infectious enthusiasm have left an indelible mark on our Chamber and the community we serve. Thank you, Katrice, for being a true champion of our mission—you will be deeply missed!



Dr. Marsha Danielson, MN State College Southeast

– Dr. Danielson has been an incredible advocate and partner for our Chamber. She supported and joined forces with the Business Education Network Committee. Her vision and commitment played a pivotal role in fostering collaboration and innovation, culminating in the creation of Synergy Academy—a shining example of what can be accomplished when education and business join forces. Marsha’s dedication to building meaningful partnerships has strengthened our community and opened doors for future generations to thrive. We are deeply grateful for her leadership, passion, and unwavering support, which have enriched our mission and inspired us all.



Janneke Sobeck, Winona Family YMCA

– Janneke Sobeck has been an invaluable leader and champion for our Chamber, bringing her expertise and passion to every role she’s held. As an At-Large member of our Executive Board and a dedicated member of the Economic Development Committee, Janneke championed initiatives like Grow MN! visits and played a key role in the

success of our Journey of an Entrepreneur Series. Her commitment didn’t stop there—she generously gave her time and energy to countless Chamber events, embodying the spirit of service and community connection. Janneke’s leadership and enthusiasm have been instrumental in advancing our mission, and we are deeply thankful for her lasting contributions.



Jared Literski, Winona Heat & Vent

– Jared Literski has been a vital part of our Chamber’s Ag Committee, bringing dedication and heart to every project he touched. From assembling our famous Dairy Buckets to lending a helping hand at Family Night on the Farm, and delivering Harvest Buckets to farmers throughout the county, Jared exemplified the spirit of appreciation and support for our agricultural community. Always ready to step up when needed, Jared’s willingness to serve and his strong work ethic have made a meaningful impact on our events and initiatives. We are incredibly grateful for his contributions and his unwavering commitment to our Chamber’s mission.



Kendra Maggert, Gundersen Health

– Kendra Maggert has been a steadfast supporter of the Chamber, consistently lending her voice and insight to guide important decisions and drive our organization forward. As a member of the Main Street Steering Committee, Kendra played an important role in advancing the work of our Winona Main Street Program, helping to enhance and celebrate the heart of our community. Her willingness to step up, collaborate, and contribute has been a true asset to our mission. We are deeply thankful for Kendra’s passion, perspective, and unwavering support, which have left a positive and lasting impact on the Chamber and our community.

As we bid farewell to Katrice, Marsha, Janneke, Jared, and Kendra, we extend our deepest gratitude for their outstanding service and unwavering commitment to the Winona Area Chamber of Commerce. Their leadership, collaboration, and dedication have been instrumental in advancing our mission and creating meaningful impact. From launching innovative programs like Synergy Academy, strengthening our local businesses through Grow MN! visits, championing our agricultural community, and elevating signature events, to shaping the vibrancy of our Main Street, their contributions have touched every corner of our organization. The success we’ve achieved and the community we’ve built are a testament to their passion and hard work. Though they will be greatly missed, their legacy will continue to inspire us as we move forward together. Thank you for everything—you’ve made an incredible difference!

Thank you all!
Christie and the Chamber Team

ABOUT THE CHAMBER

- OUR MISSION -

To Serve Businesses How and When They Need Us

- OUR VISION -

Be the Foremost Resource and Advocate for Businesses in the Winona Area

Officers:

- Jon Olson** – Chair
- Chair Elect
- Stan Breitlow** – Past Chair
- Amber Hamernik** – Treasurer
- At Large

Retiring 2025:

- Stan Breitlow
- Amber Hamernik
- Jason Gamoke
- Kevin Ritz
- Mandy Hansel

Retiring 2026:

- Jon Olson
- Ross Lexvold
- Tina Lehnertz
- Mike Puetz
- Shawn Beier

Retiring 2027:

- Rod Baker
- Anita Cisewski
- Jennifer Shabel
- Brian Sines
- Neil Wieser

Staff:

- Christie Ransom** – President & CEO
- Kay Mathews** – Vice President of Finance and Operations
- Emma Ebbinger** – Director of Workforce and Brand Management
- Travis Lybeck** – Director of Business Development and Member Relations
- Jenna Lubinski** – Director of Main Street Programs

MEET THE 2025 CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Amber Hamernik
Bremer Bank



Anita Cisewski
Altra Federal Credit Union



Brian Sines
Leighton Media



Jason Gamoke
Morgan’s Jewelers



Jennifer Shabel
Wagner Oehler, Ltd.



Jon Olson
Winona State University



Kevin Ritz
WA Group



Mandy Hansel
RiverSide Integrated Solutions



Mike Puetz
Sugar Loaf Ford Lincoln



Neil Wieser
Wieser Brothers General Contractor



Rod Baker
Winona Health



Ross Lexvold
Xcel Energy



Shawn Beier
Island City Living



Stan Breitlow
Watlow



Tina Lehnertz
Lehnertz Family Farm



Main Street Corner January 2025

Jenna Lubinski, Director of Main Street Programs

Welcome to the New Year on Main Street! As we step into 2025, we’re excited to continue working with our community to make Downtown Winona a vibrant, thriving destination. A heartfelt Thank You to our sponsors as we step into 2025, we want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude to the incredible businesses and individuals who have sponsored our downtown initiatives. Your generosity and support have been instrumental in making Downtown Winona a vibrant, thriving community. The Winona Main Street Program wouldn’t be a success without your initiatives and making downtown a priority. Through the seasons Winona Main Street Program organizes events beginning with Touch a Truck, Swinging in the Streets, Crazy Days,

Big Muddy Brew N’ Que, Shop Small, and ending our year with Light up Downtown and Toast to the Holidays.

We continue to lift up downtown and make it the heart of our community, region, and vibrant hub of commerce, arts and culture, recreation and residential life, where everyone is welcome, surrounded by family, friends, and neighbors. Happy New Year, Cheers to making 2025 another successful year!



Stay updated on event details by visiting Winona Main Street Program’s Facebook page. See you downtown!

CHAMBER CHAMPIONS

- VISIONARY -



- PREMIER -



- EXECUTIVE -



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HOSTED BY



NETWORK NITE

JANUARY 09 | 5-7PM

NETWORK NITE IS OPEN TO ALL CHAMBER MEMBERS & THEIR EMPLOYEES

17900 HWY 61, MINN. CITY

2025 ANNUAL BANQUET

ONE SINGULAR SENSATION
THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE YOUR BUSINESS

MAIN EVENT SPONSOR



DESSERT AUCTION SPONSOR



RECEPTION SPONSOR



AWARD VIDEOS SPONSORS



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FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 2025



BE SEEN • BE HEARD • BELONG
JOIN THE CHAMBER!

When you become a Chamber member, everyone benefits.

From business development to critical insights into public policy issues, your membership will give you access to events and programs focused on topics directly impacting your business.