



Newsletter Title?

March 2011

Margaret Ann Ruhl Visits OGA

Special guest Margaret Ann Ruhl stopped by the OGA office for the March 3rd meeting. Ruhl is currently serving her second term in the Ohio House of Representatives. Representing the 90th district, which includes part of Richland County, she serves on several House Committees including Agriculture & Natural Resources, Local Government and Transportation, Infrastructure, Homeland Security & Public Safety.

During her visit, Ms. Ruhl shared several current and pending bills that were of interest to the Group.

House Bill 1, also known as the Jobs Ohio Bill, calls for a committee that will actively go out and search

for companies to talk them into coming to Ohio.

House Bill 17 would offer a state tax credit for employers that hire employees that were formerly on unemployment and **House Bill 18** proposes incentives for businesses that revitalize currently vacant properties.

Other topics briefly mentioned were small business regulatory and Worker's Compensation reforms, tax credits for Ohio graduates starting new businesses and the elimination of some current educational mandates.

Ruhl also opened up discussion on the controversial **Senate Bill 5** that had just passed the state Senate by one vote. The bill would be entering the state

House the following week and Ruhl wanted feedback from the OGA members present. Several people shared their thoughts and made inquiries regarding the bill. In her opinion, the bill will most likely move through the House quickly.

In closing, she reminded everyone about the Governor's State of the State address the following Tuesday.

If anyone would like more information or would like to speak with Representative Ruhl regarding any of these issues, please contact her office at 614-466-1431.



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Welcome - Barb Crider

Also at the March 3rd meeting, President Mark Weidemyre introduced an important new member to the OGA team. Barb Crider



has been hired as part-time office support and will be assisting with administrative duties such as organization, data entry, follow-up calling, membership packets and more.

Barb has been a resident of Ontario since 1970 and graduated from Ontario High School. She also attended NCSC

with a focus on business. Currently, she works as a full-time Account Specialist for The United Way of Richland County.

In addition, Barb has been

a member of the Mansfield Kiwanis Club since 1993 and served as club secretary for 15 years from 1995 to 2010!

Barb has three sons. Her two older sons have graduated, while her youngest is currently a sophomore at Ontario High.

Please join us in giving Barb a warm OGA welcome!



A Special Thank You

The Ontario Growth Association would like to thank Bob Chilcote. Bob attended the March meeting to share some Ontario historical photos from his collection. As members passed the photos around, he announced that he was generously donating them to the Association!

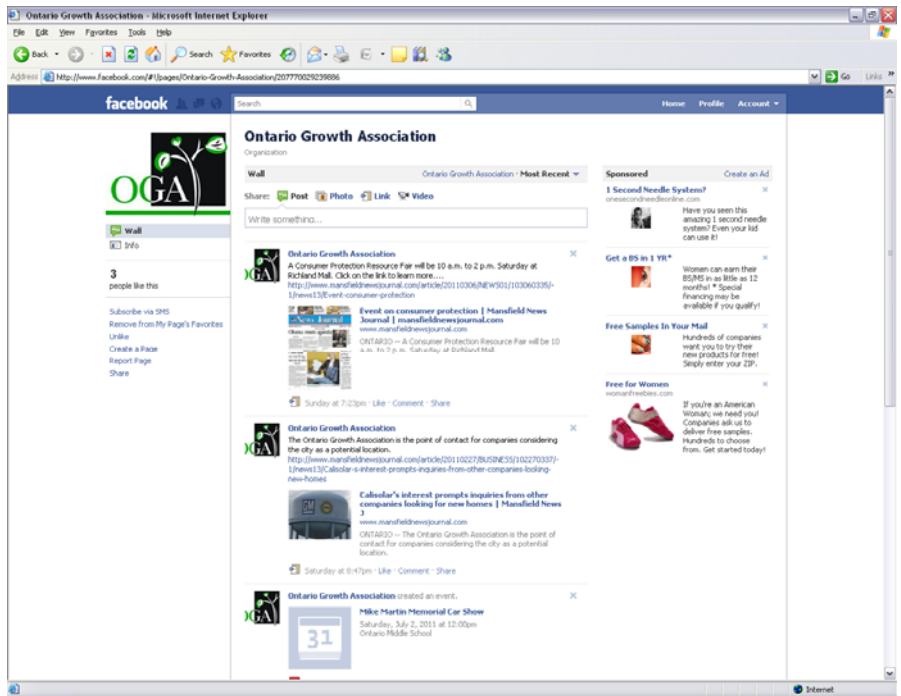
OGA on Facebook!



In her first official act as a staff member, Barb Crider has started a Facebook page for the Ontario Growth Association.

We encourage everyone to check out the new page and connect with OGA via the "like" button. You will then receive updates that are periodically posted. Updates may include reminders on OGA events and articles involving the OGA or the community's economic development in general.

If you are unfamiliar with Facebook or are unsure how to find the Ontario Growth Association page, call the office for a quick tutorial on how to navigate.



April 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7 OGA Meeting 8am	8 Deadline for May Newsletter	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Tax Filing Deadline	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 Earth Day	23
24 EASTER	25	26	27 Administrative Professionals Day	28	29	30

"The results you achieve will be in direct proportion to the effort you apply."
 --Denis Waitley,
 American motivational speaker and author