



**SPEAKERS' BIOS** (in order of presentations)

Thursday, 9:30 AM: **“Designing Your Chamber of the Future” – Part I**

**Lois Rosenberry**

*President, Children’s Discovery Center, Toledo, OH. [www.childrensdiscoverycenters.com](http://www.childrensdiscoverycenters.com)*

Since the company’s inception in 1982, Ms. Rosenberry has been honored as Ohio and Toledo Child Care Administrator of the Year, Entrepreneur of the Year for Northwest Ohio, Cleveland and Toledo, Small Business Person of the Year, Milestones for Women recipient, Sun Oil Manger of the Year, recipient of the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Enterprise, Messiah College Distinguished Alumnus, and recipient of the Toledo Chamber’s Athena Award.

She has been chairman of the Ohio Daycare Advisory Council, a member of Governor Taft’s Small business Advisory Council, chairman of the Ohio Small Business Council, chairman of the Toledo Area Small Business Council, and a member of the Toledo Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. She currently serves on the Boards of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce, the Toledo Children’s Hospital, Compassionate Partners International and US Affairs.

Her company has been featured in various national publications including Inc., Entrepreneur Almanac 2008-2009, Executive Female, and Child Care Information Exchange. She has lectured at national conferences, authored kindergarten curriculums, and worked as a child care consultant for several private and public organizations.

She is the mother of 3 grown daughters (two of whom work for the family business) and the grandmother of 4.

**Tom Brady**

*President & CEO, Plastic Technologies, Holland, OH. [www.plastictechnologies.com](http://www.plastictechnologies.com)*

Founded in 1985, PTI and its companies employ more than 200 people worldwide and PTI is recognized internationally for its expertise in plastic packaging technology.

Dr. Brady sits on the Ohio Governor’s Third Frontier Advisory Board, and is also a Trustee for the New University of Toledo where he chairs the External Affairs Committee which oversees marketing, technology transfer and commercialization.

He is active in the Society of Plastics Engineers, the International Plastics Processing Society, the American Chemical Society, The Ohio Polymer Strategies Council, and serves on the Industrial Advisory Boards for The Materials Science Department at the University of Michigan and The University of Toledo College of Engineering.

Dr. Brady is also currently serving on the boards of the Regional Growth Partnership, the Toledo School for the Arts, the Toledo Symphony, and SSOE, an international Architectural & Engineering firm. In the past he served on the boards of the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, the Toledo Area Small Business Association, the Medical University of Ohio, and the Toledo Technology Academy. PTI is a United Way Pacesetter company and actively supports Toledo’s Symphony, Museum, Zoo, and the Area Metro Parks.

Dr. Brady received BS and MS degrees in Engineering Science from Dartmouth College and earned his Ph.D. in Plastic Materials Engineering from the University of Michigan. He was recognized as Entrepreneur of the Year in 1989 and again in 2005, as Manager of the Year in 1996 and he and his wife, Betsy, were recognized jointly as Philanthropists of the Year in 2006. PTI received the Small Business Award in 1995, the Partner in Progress Award in 2001, the Employer’s Association President’s Award in 2006 and Phoenix Technologies received the Recycle Ohio and Edison Emerging Technology Company Awards in 2002.

**Linda Hondros**

*President, Hondros College, Columbus, OH. [www.hondros.edu](http://www.hondros.edu); National Background Check, [www.fastfingerprints.com](http://www.fastfingerprints.com)*

A graduate of Purdue University, Ms. Hondros began her sales career with the Kellogg Company before entering real estate. She translated her success in sales and entrepreneurial success into what is now Hondros College in the 1980s, National Background Check, Inc. in 1998 and Northeast Conference Center and Food for Thought Café in 2000. Ms. Hondros is also president of Hondros Learning, an on-line courseware company, and Greensward Publications, a publishing company for college textbooks.

As an active business woman and mother, Ms. Hondros provided guidance and expertise as a board member to the Governors Small Business Advisory Council (1998-2006), the Columbus Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Executive Committee ((1999-2007), Columbus Chamber Workforce Leadership Council (2001-2003), the Membership Committee Chairperson for the Columbus Chamber ((2002-2006) and the Columbus Chamber Small Business Council Chairperson (1998-1999). She currently serves on the Ohio Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Executive Committee, the Ohio Chamber of Commerce Small Business Council Board of Directors, the OSBC Executive Committee, The Columbus Academy Board of Directors, Ohio Health Board of Directors and Executive Committee, Ohio Health Quality of Care Committee, Chairperson of the Doctors Hospital Joint Conference Committee.

Ms. Hondros maintains membership in the National Association of Realtors; the Ohio Association of Realtors; the Columbus Board of Realtors, as well as the National Real Estate Educators Association (REEA), in which she was also a former national director and Ohio chapter director.

She previously was honored to serve as a board member of the Consumer Credit Counsel of Central Ohio, a Commissioner for the Ohio Racing Commission, a member of the Ohio Certificate of Need Board, and an alternate delegate for the State of Ohio to the Republican National Convention in 1996.

Mother of four (4) children, three (3) dogs and one (1) cat. Married to John Hondros for many fun-filled years.

### **Janis Mitchell**

*President & CEO, Precise Resource, Westerville, OH. [www.preciseresource.com](http://www.preciseresource.com)*

Honored by U.S. Small Business Administration as Small Business Person of the Year for Central Ohio, Women for Economic Leadership and Development's one of the 12 "Women You Should Know" and by the National Association of Women Business Owners as one of the organization's 2005 Visionary Award winners, Janis Mitchell is a serial entrepreneur. Most recently she founded Precise Resource, Inc., an Executive Search and Technical staffing firm that specializes in providing talent resource management, for Fortune 500 companies to rising small businesses.

Mitchell founded the company after 15 years of successful entrepreneurial endeavors in the technology industry. She previously founded Info Fortress Solutions, a provider of complex IT security, identity access management and communication solutions for large corporations. Info Fortress Solutions implemented the nation's first security assertion mark-up language (SAML) and cross-country authentication technology in the financial services industry. SAML is an XML-based framework for exchanging authentication and authorization information that allows a variety of Web resources through one Web portal, eliminating the need for multiple log-ins and passwords.

In 2000, Mitchell founded Info Fortress Solutions the first in the world to deliver Cross Company single sign on with SAML protocol, which she then sold to Betrustrusted, a global provider of security trust services. Under the acquisition, she served as president of Betrustrusted Consulting for the Americas, managing the professional services group domestically.

Although the merger proved to be a very profitable decision for Mitchell, she longed for the adventure of being an entrepreneur. She missed the hands-on involvement and the decision making ability that comes with owning a company—most importantly, she was not about to let someone tell her she couldn't be a successful business owner for a second time.

Mitchell's vision for a new company was to take her IT expertise and use it to help large and emerging businesses solve their challenges through consulting, staff augmentation and IT applications.

Thursday, 1:00 PM: ***"Designing Your Chamber of the Future" – Part II***

### **Kordell Norton**

*President, Synergy Solutions, Twinsburg, OH. [www.kordellnorton.com](http://www.kordellnorton.com)*

As a senior executive with several multi-billion dollar companies his experience and unique ability to get people to talk and share their insights, coupled with his abilities as a certified Graphic Facilitator helps organizations quickly leverage their capabilities and set clear direction.

His consulting company, Synergy Solutions, works with education, government and business organizations like: First Energy, Microsoft, The Ohio State University, the Social Security Administration, and many other small to large organizations.

### **Mark Pinto**

*President, Mark Pinto Group, Cleveland, OH [www.markpintogroup.com](http://www.markpintogroup.com)*

Mark is part business consultant, part artist. He has drawn deep knowledge of process and modeling of business issues from the earlier part of his career as a consultant in the national office of a large international consulting firm. There, he developed competency in knowledge management, large group facilitation for strategic planning and adult, accelerated learning program development and delivery. This dynamic environment introduced Mark to many cutting edge technologies and business philosophies. Work was conducted in tight, collaborative time frames working in different locations nationally and internationally with a diverse group of team members often coming together for the first time.

It was in this environment that he was also introduced to more creative ways of expressing business issues and solutions. As part of a high performance team delivering three day solution workshops to Fortune 500 companies, Mark learned the art and science of graphic facilitation – creating real time graphics during meetings and presentations. This ambient style of information capture in sessions increases attention, and retention of information being shared, encouraging participation and more collaborative teaming. Stop by and see his work at the end of the session. Mark would be eager to answer any questions or comments you have.

Thursday Evening: ***"Deathbed Confessions"***

### **Mick Fleming**

*CEO, American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE), Alexandria, VA [www.acce.org](http://www.acce.org)*

As President of the American Chamber of Commerce Executives, Mick serves the needs of 1,400 chambers of commerce and related organizations.

His diverse career has included teaching, coaching, publishing, management, marketing and lobbying positions. He spent 15 years in senior management, economic development and government relations positions with the Business Council of New York State, which serves as the Chamber of Commerce for the Empire State.

In his early career, he was a teacher, football coach and publisher of weekly newspapers. He has served as both volunteer officer and board member in local chambers of commerce. He has also served on two university boards, arts councils, charitable institutions, professional societies, a ballet company board, a Workforce Investment Board, health care coalitions and dozens of other volunteer positions.

He has authored a book about effective grassroots lobbying techniques: *Making Your Chamber Make a Difference*.

Friday, 8:15 AM: **“Strategic Initiatives for Ohio’s Economic Recovery”**

**Mark Barbash**

*Chief Economic Development Officer, Ohio Department of Development, Columbus, OH* [www.odod.state.oh.us](http://www.odod.state.oh.us)

Mark Barbash was appointed Chief Economic Development Officer for the Ohio Department of Development by Lt. Governor Lee Fisher, Director of Development. In this position, he is a chief architect of economic development strategy for the Strickland/Fisher Administration, and supervises programs and projects for the State of Ohio in technology, economic development, global affairs, community development, travel and tourism, and urban affairs.

Prior to joining the Strickland/Fisher Administration, Mark Barbash served as Director of the Department of Development for the City of Columbus from 2000 through 2007. He was responsible for a wide range of economic and community development activities and initiatives, including housing, downtown and neighborhood development, and international trade. He managed the Department of Development, which houses the city’s programs for economic and neighborhood development, housing, social services, building and zoning codes, planning, downtown development. He oversaw a budget of \$45 million and a staff of 400. From 1991 through 2000, Mark served as Executive Director of Columbus Countywide Development Corporation, a non-profit small business lender and one of the largest non-profit small business lenders in the nation.

From 1985 to 1989, Mark Barbash served as Deputy Director of the Ohio Department of Development, where he managed the State’s business and industrial development programs. Mark Barbash has served as a board member for a wide range of development organizations, including the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission, the Business Technology Center (a Columbus technology incubator), Campus Partners, the Columbus Compact Corporation, the Franklin County (Ohio) Planning Commission, and the Contemporary American Theatre Company, (CATCO), Columbus’ local professional theater group. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the International Economic Development Council, the association for development professionals.

He is an experienced trainer in economic development, business, and real estate financing, and has taught for a wide range of national economic development organizations: the Ohio Economic Development Association; the Economic Development Institute; Basic Economic Development courses in Indiana, Michigan, Washington, and Kentucky; the National Association of Development Companies; the American Economic Development Association; the National Association of Development Organizations; the NASA-funded Midcontinent Technology Transfer Center in Houston, Texas; and the National Business Incubation Association.

Mark Barbash graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1971. He is married to Mary Carter Barbash. They have one daughter, Rachael Elizabeth, age 24.

Friday, 9:00 AM: **“The New Age of Advocacy” & “Where Do They Get Those ‘Hair-Brained’ Ideas?”**

**Linda Woggon**

*Vice President, Governmental Affairs, Ohio Chamber of Commerce* [www.ohiochamber.com](http://www.ohiochamber.com)

Linda joined the Ohio Chamber of Commerce as vice president of governmental affairs in January 1996. She leads the Chamber’s public policy and political education efforts and lobbies on legal and regulatory issues, as well as campaign finance, elections and ethics policy. Additionally, Linda serves as Vice President of Citizens for a Strong Ohio, the Ohio Chamber’s issue advocacy organization. Citizens for a Strong Ohio was organized in 2000 and has played a major role in educating the public about the importance of the state judiciary and the effect judicial decisions have on the lives of Ohioans and the state’s economic climate.

Linda served as President of the Ohio Alliance for Civil Justice from mid-1996 through 1999 and led the organization’s CourtWatch initiative. She is a member of the public affairs committee of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the immediate past-president of the Ohio Lobbying Association.

Prior to joining the Ohio Chamber, Linda practiced environmental law with the Toledo firm of Fuller & Henry and served as Government Affairs Director with the Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce. Her previous employment also includes five years as program manager with the Metropolitan Toledo Consortium, a former federal grants and lobbying body for Toledo area public sector entities. Linda holds a bachelor’s degree in political science and a juris doctor degree from the University of Toledo.

Friday, 9:30 AM: **“Healthy Families’ – A Prescription For a Sick Economy”**

**Tony Fiore**

*Director, Labor & Human Resources Policy, Ohio Chamber of Commerce* [www.ohiochamber.com](http://www.ohiochamber.com)

Tony has been a member of the Ohio Chamber’s Governmental Affairs Team since October of 1999. He is responsible for lobbying members of the Ohio General Assembly, the Governor, and Ohio’s Congressional Delegation in support of issues that foster a competitive climate in Ohio favorable to economic growth. He also negotiates with administrative agencies to resolve issues that are of concern to the Chamber’s membership.

His specific areas of concentration include workers’ compensation, unemployment compensation, employment law, OSHA regulations, labor relations, immigration, insurance, tort reform and other general human resource issues. Mr. Fiore speaks to several local chambers and business organizations each year and serves as the Chamber’s point person in responding to print, radio and television media inquiries from local, state and national outlets regarding the aforementioned issues.

In addition to his lobbying duties, he serves as the staff liaison for the Chamber’s Workers’ Compensation, Employment Law, and Education & Workforce Development Committees. He assists the committees in performing their mission, which includes forming the policy the Chamber takes on legislation, and developing solutions for long and short-term problems. Tony also serves as Ohio’s liaison to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce on labor, employment and legal reform issues.

In his capacity, Mr. Fiore has led the Ohio Chamber’s efforts on several major issues important to Ohio’s business community. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Ohio Alliance for Civil Justice (OACJ). The OACJ is an organization of over 200

businesses and trade associations at the forefront of enacting and defending reforms to Ohio's civil justice system. Successful reform efforts include capping non-economic and punitive damages for medical malpractice and general civil cases, clarifying Ohio's product liability laws, and establishing medical criteria for asbestos and silica/mixed dust claims.

In addition, Tony has led the Chamber's efforts on significant reforms to the state's unemployment and workers' compensation systems, and was the point person in opposing organized labor's push to change Ohio's minimum wage law on the November 2006 ballot. He also led the Chamber's successful efforts to block a referendum pushed by organized labor to overturn comprehensive workers' compensation reforms in 2006. Mr. Fiore also works closely with outside legal counsel to submit amicus briefs on behalf of the Ohio Chamber and OACJ urging the courts to uphold pro business laws, particularly in the areas of workers' compensation, employment law, and reforms to Ohio's civil justice system.

Mr. Fiore is currently working on overhauling Ohio's Fair Employment Practices Act, defending past workers' compensation and civil justice reforms in Ohio's courts, and preparing for another battle with labor, this time over an onerous proposal to mandate paid sick leave on the November 2008 ballot.

Tony previously worked for the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation as the executive assistant to BWC Administrator/CEO Jim Conrad, as well as, serving as an aide to both Senator Doug White and Senator Nancy Chiles Dix. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree from The Ohio State University where he majored in International Business and minored in Italian. Mr. Fiore obtained his *Juris Doctorate* Degree from Capital University Law School. He is a member of the Ohio and Federal Bar.

Friday, 10:05 AM: ***“The Antidote’ Through Effective Advocacy”***

### **Keith Lake**

*Director, Political and Candidate Education (P.a.C.E.), Ohio Chamber of Commerce* [www.ohiochamber.com](http://www.ohiochamber.com)

Keith joined the Ohio Chamber's staff in March 1998. As director of P.a.C.E., he is responsible for providing member companies and local chambers of commerce with information that will help them make informed decisions about political participation. He researches legislative and judicial candidates and districts and coordinates business community support of pro-business candidates.

As part of P.a.C.E.'s mission "to create a politically-informed business community in the state and encourage its active involvement in support of pro-business candidates," he makes political education presentations throughout Ohio for business leaders. In addition, he coordinates the efforts of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce Political Action Committee (OCCPaC). Prior to joining the Chamber, Lake spent five years as the Associate Director of Government Affairs for the Association for Advanced Life Underwriting, a trade association of life insurance agents located in Washington, D.C.

Lake graduated from the University of Illinois with a bachelor's degree in political science. He and his family reside in Columbus.

Friday, 11:00 AM: ***“U.S. Congress & Ohio's Business Environment...Look Out!”***

### **Ben Taylor**

*Manager, Great Lakes Region Office, Congressional & Public Affairs, U.S. Chamber of Commerce* [www.uschamber.com](http://www.uschamber.com)

The mission of the regional office is to cultivate and maintain legislative, political and grassroots resources in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania to achieve the U.S. Chamber's public policy goals.

Ben helps lead the organization's effort to strengthen its relationships with Members of Congress through member businesses, associations, and local chambers of commerce across the region.

Before joining the U.S. Chamber staff, Ben served as a Legislative Assistant in Congressman David Hobson's (OH-07) Washington, D.C. office. He has also served as the Special Assistant to the Administrator of the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation, and has interned in the Ohio General Assembly. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History from Miami University in Oxford, OH.

Friday, Lunch: ***“Laugh...Just For The Health Of It”***

### **Kay Frances, MBA**

*Athena Warrior Productions, Wilmington, OH* [www.kayfrances.com/appearances.html](http://www.kayfrances.com/appearances.html)

Kay has been a professional stand up comedian, morning radio personality, Director of Marketing for a national restaurant chain, TV talk show host and family caregiver. She holds a MBA, a degree in physical education and a 3<sup>rd</sup> degree black belt in karate.

Years of national touring have honed Kay into one of the most respected and requested humorists in the country. Currently she is the host of "Happy Hour With Kay Frances; Humor, Health and Healing" at DATV – Dayton, OH. She is one of "America's Funniest People" - NBC; "Girl's Night Out" - Lifetime Cable; FOX News – New York.

Kay received her MBA at Wright State University in Dayton and her BS at Eastern Kentucky University.

She has been heard on the nationally syndicated programs: "Bob and Tom" and "On the Radio With Dr. Demento"; "Life In The Laugh Lane" - Cincinnati Enquirer.