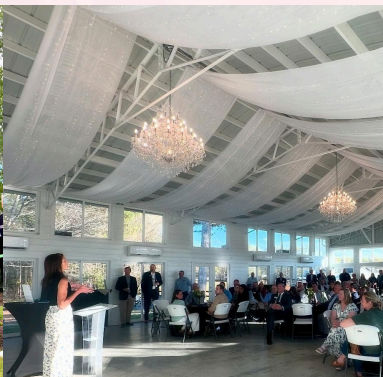


# NEW PARTNER PACKET





**THE OCONEE CHAMBER**  
**URNS** *Fifty* **IN 2026!**



**JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE  
THIS EXCITING MILESTONE!**



# 2026 EVENTS CALENDAR

Join us to network, grow relationships,  
engage and inspire others!  
Let's Celebrate The Chamber turning 50!

50



**JANUARY 8** First United Methodist  
**MARCH 26** Athens Orthopedic  
**MAY 14** Mercy Health Center  
**AUGUST 21** The Food Bank of Northeast GA  
**OCTOBER 29** Piedmont Breast Health Center  
**DECEMBER 3** BankSouth



**FEBRUARY 4** Arch Legacy Firm  
**APRIL 23** 26 Foot & Ankle  
**SEPTEMBER 9** Lydia's Place  
**NOVEMBER 12** New View Integrative Pediatrics



**FEBRUARY 10** Oconee State Bank  
**JUNE 15** Wire Park  
**SEPTEMBER 15** Chiropractic Works



**STAR STUDENT BREAKFAST - FEBRUARY 19**  
**STATE OF THE COUNTY - MARCH 18**  
**STATE OF THE SCHOOLS - APRIL 21**  
**NEW PARTNER ORIENTATION - MARCH 3**  
**LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON - MAY 18**  
**NEW PARTNER ORIENTATION - NOVEMBER 3**



**JANUARY 27 AT ROCKET GYM**



**APRIL 16 AT UGA COURSE**



**SEPTEMBER 11 AT ESP FIELD** **OCTOBER 17 AT ROCKET FIELD**





# PARTNER EVENTS

## NETWORKING & BUSINESS GROWTH

### Annual Meeting

The annual meeting serves as a recognition event that celebrates those who have gone above and beyond in supporting the Chamber's mission. During this event, awards are presented to volunteers, businesses, and individuals for their outstanding contributions.

### Golf Tournament

Join us for a round of golf at the University of Georgia Golf Course while networking with fellow Chamber partners.

### Kickball Tournament

Join us for a fun-filled chamber event where our partners gather to enjoy a game of kickball, food and networking! This event is open to the community, so come and cheer on our fierce competitors!

### Fall Festival

Oconee County's largest event highlights unique arts and crafts and delicious food! A perfect fall family fun event.

### Women in Business Luncheons

These luncheons provide an excellent opportunity for women within the Chamber to connect over lunch while networking. The aim is to promote professional development, strengthen business relationships, and encourage community participation.

### PowerHour

Join us for a fast paced, fun, morning networking session.

### Educational Sessions

These sessions provide Chamber partners a chance to engage in networking opportunities aimed at enhancing knowledge in specific topics. These sessions foster professional development, build business relationships, and encourage community participation.

### Morning Mix'n

Chamber partners host the Morning Mix'n event at their business location. These events provide an excellent opportunity to connect with fellow Chamber partners.

### Lunch with Leaders

Join us for the Chamber's newest mid-day networking event, designed to encourage networking, business development and leadership growth.

### Business After Hours

Host fellow Chamber partners at your business location for networking relationship building after regular business hours.

### STAR Student Breakfast

This event celebrates the achievements of STAR Students and STAR Teachers from the five high schools in Oconee County.

### State of the Schools

An event showcasing the achievements and future plans of all schools in Oconee—both public and private.

### State of the County

An event where the Chair of the Oconee County Board of Commissioners reflects on the achievements of the past year while outlining the vision for the upcoming year and beyond.





# BENEFITS

**Ribbon Cuttings/Open Houses/Groundbreakings:** If you are opening a new business, renovating a business, or expanding a business, we can help you host your ribbon cutting, open house, or groundbreaking event.

**Partner Promotion:** Partners have the ability to showcase with specials, offers and marketing material on our website's dedicated page, in the weekly Chamber newsletter, and the card/magazine racks in the chamber lobby at no additional fee.

**Partner Directory:** Your business information will be listed in our website's online directory: [oconeechamber.org](http://oconeechamber.org).

**Weekly Newsletter:** Each week the Chamber sends out an informative newsletter to the entire partnership. As a new partner, you will be recognized in the newsletter for 30 days.

**Social Media:** The Chamber has active social media accounts through Facebook and Instagram.

**Meeting Space Rental:** For meetings hosting 30 people or less.

**Networking Events:** We host monthly networking events in a variety of styles, to accommodate different schedules and provide unique engaging opportunities.

**Business Spotlight:** Your business has the opportunity to send in a business or employee highlight of your company that will be placed in our online magazine, The Insider.

**The Insider:** The Chamber's quarterly magazine, developed to inform and enhance the partner's experience with the Oconee Chamber. Advertising and business spotlight opportunities are available.

**Partner Broadcast:** A series of videos putting our partners in the spotlight. Whether behind the scenes footage of partner's day to day, testimonials, stories about how connections have been made or just a little video fun, these videos bring awareness to your business!

**Business Development:** The Chamber is ready to assist you with your business development needs: steps to starting a new business, expansion, permitting and more - let us know how we can help!





## CHECK OUT THESE COST SAVING BENEFITS

**Drugs Don't Work:** The General Assembly passed a 7.5% premium discount in workers' compensation insurance based on a certified drug-free workplace. The Oconee Chamber of Commerce provides the Drugs Don't Work program to our members free of charge, and gives the necessary tools to empower business owners to maintain a drug-free workplace. Enrollment and certification through the Drugs Don't Work program can also help lower workers' compensation premiums.

**"SMART" Insurance:** A comprehensive health program offered to today's small businesses providing a cost-savings on health coverage options that can lead to more rate stability and offering potential savings for groups with two to 50 employees. The Georgia Chamber SMART Plan is available to small business employers with at least two employees enrolled on their medical plan and no more than 50 total employees. Eligible employers must also be a member of the Georgia Chamber or a participating local chamber in good standing.

## RETURN ON INVESTMENT FOR JOINING A CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



**63% MORE  
LIKELY**  
TO DO BUSINESS  
WITH THE COMPANY

**44% GREATER  
LIKELIHOOD**  
OF FAVORABLE  
CONSUMER PERCEPTION

**18% HIGHER**  
REVENUE WHEN A MEMBER



# PROGRAMS & COMMITTEES



**Ambassadors:** The Chamber Ambassadors are the driving force behind our chamber's success: elevating engagement, impact, and community connection.

**Women in Business:** The women in business committee plans and oversees the group's quarterly luncheons as well as award the Chamber's Diamond Award scholarship.

**Chamber Connect:** A business development networking group designed to enhance business development and foster relationships across all industries.





# Partners Dues

## Oconee Chamber of Commerce

### General Business / Retail

Number of Employees:

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| 1 - 10 Employees  | \$300 |
| 11 - 20 Employees | \$350 |
| Over 20 Employees | \$400 |

### Health Services (Medical, Dental, Vets, Hospitals, Assisted Living)

Number of Employees:

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| 1 - 10 Employees  | \$325 |
| 11 - 20 Employees | \$425 |
| Over 20 Employees | \$525 |

### Financial Institutions (Banks, Savings and Loans, Credit Unions)

Deposits in the County:

|                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| Less than \$50 Million | \$675   |
| \$50-\$100 Million     | \$975   |
| Over \$100 Million     | \$1,275 |

### Real Estate and Insurance

Number of Employees:

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| 1 - 5 Employees   | \$300 |
| 6 - 20 Employees  | \$350 |
| Over 20 Employees | \$400 |

Additional Real Estate Rep (call Chamber for approval) \$150



## **Professional Services (Engineer, SPA, Land Planner, Attorney, Etc.)**

Number of Employees:

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| 1 - 10 Employees  | \$325 |
| 11 - 20 Employees | \$425 |
| Over 20 Employees | \$525 |

## **Manufacturing / Processors**

Number of Employees:

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| 1 - 10 Employees  | \$325 |
| 11 - 20 Employees | \$425 |
| Over 20 Employees | \$525 |

## **Hotel / Motel / Restaurant / Recreational (Hospital & Industry)**

Number of Employees:

|                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| 1 - 10 Employees  | \$300 |
| 11 - 20 Employees | \$350 |
| Over 20 Employees | \$400 |

## **Educational (K-12) / Civic / Fraternal / Churches**

Number of Employees:

|                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Any (Add .10 Per Employee) | \$175 + .10 Per Employee |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|

## **Colleges / Universities**

Deposits in the Country:

|                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Any (add .10 Per Employee) | \$550 + .10 Per Employee |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|

## **Public Utilities**

Number of Employees:

|     |       |
|-----|-------|
| Any | \$725 |
|-----|-------|

## **Non-Business (Represent Yourself, Not a Business)**

|            |       |
|------------|-------|
| Individual | \$150 |
|------------|-------|

**For More Information About Becoming a Partner**

**[www.oconeechamber.org/why-join](http://www.oconeechamber.org/why-join)**

**or Email Caroline Middlebrooks at  
[cmiddlebrooks@oconeechamber.org](mailto:cmiddlebrooks@oconeechamber.org)**



# THE OCONEE CHAMBER TEAM



**COURTNEY BERNARDI**

CHAMBER PRESIDENT

**CAROLINE MIDDLEBROOKS**

MANAGER OF PARTNERSHIPS & OPERATIONS

**ANDREA REESE**

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING & EVENTS

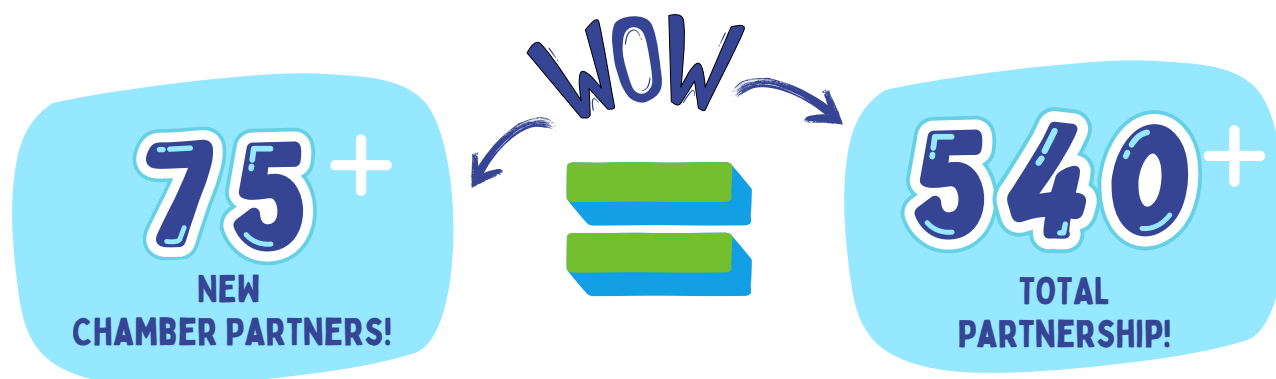
# 2025 at a glance

 **great things  
happened in 2025!**

Continue to help businesses  
grow and thrive:

Celebrated 30+ ribbon  
cuttings!

- ✓ Hosted over 50 networking opportunities!
- ✓ Granted over \$11k to Oconee Pre-K teachers and high school seniors!
- ✓ Hosted the first ever Oconee Chamber Kickball Tournament!



## **EVENTS AND MARKETING WINS**

FALL  
festival

**SOLD OUT &  
over 25k attendees!**



**ALL WIB events  
SOLD OUT: Record  
number of attendees!**



**\$3000 in kickball  
proceeds donated  
to esp inc.**



**1.1M VIEWS**  
18.1K PAGE VISITS (UP 19%)  
695 NEW FOLLOWERS (UP 30%)



**REACHED 12.3 (UP 26%)**  
1.5K PROFILE VISITS (DOWN 9%)  
358 NEW FOLLOWERS

**Yay!**

**WEBSITE**

**18,344 VISITS**  
32,598 PAGE VIEWS  
55% DESKTOP - 45% MOBILE

EMAIL AVERAGE OPEN RATE 57.6%  
SENT TO 840+ PEOPLE WEEKLY



# Corporate Sponsors

## CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE SPONSORS



## PLATINUM SPONSORS



## GOLD SPONSORS



## SILVER SPONSORS



## BRONZE SPONSORS

