

# My Story

## Chamber



In April 2011, I became a member of the Berea Chamber of Commerce. At that time, I was campaigning for the office of Madison Circuit Court Clerk. I had worked in the Clerk's office since 1988 and was chief deputy clerk.

I certainly was aware of the Chamber and knew many of the faces of the membership, especially, working with the Clerk's office in Berea. It was not until I became a Chamber member, that I learned who the people were and what they actually did in the community. I knew of many of the local business owners and management community, but had not met them. Now, I have connections to bankers, realtors, restaurant owners, and others.

Receiving the 2013 - Woman of the Year award at the annual Chamber awards banquet was a fun and amazing experience. A large contingent of my family and friends were invited, dinner was served, and our Clerk's office was recognized. Later, in early 2014, we had a grand opening for the new driver's testing office in Berea. Never before could prospective drivers do a written or road test in Berea. Various chamber members were on hand at the Berea Municipal Building. Executive director, David Rowlette went out of his way to make sure it all worked seamlessly. The chamber was very courteous in taking many photographs and promoting the event.



Membership meetings are fun and informative ways to meet other members and learn about their businesses. My favorite is the annual Kentucky Circuit Court Clerk's Trust for Life luncheon. Usually there is a speaker who has either undergone a transplant or, is a family member of a donor. Their real-life stories are both very emotional and heartwarming. The support through attendance is always appreciated.

Just this morning, as I was leaving the monthly Coffee with the Chamber meeting, I felt a sense of pride in knowing these people, and counted most of them as friends. Of special interest to me was a business owner who wanted to share their personal story of being an organ donor. They talked of being on a waiting list and what that felt like to the family. She was a living donor of a kidney to her husband. This connection can be used in some of our Trust for Life trainings and events.

I would encourage any business in Berea to be a Berea Chamber of Commerce member. It is a great way to meet people in the community, better yet; it is a wonderful way to make new friends. Some of the warmest and nicest people I have ever met are a part of this wonderful Chamber of Commerce.

[www.BereaChamber.com](http://www.BereaChamber.com)