

EAGA Business Builder

Volume 11

Issue 06

eaganm.com

February 10, 2015

Today's speakers were the attending members

A Round-Table event this morning. There was a suggested topic for discussion, but that didn't deter our attendees. The table conversations were apparently not limited to the suggested topic, but they were lively...and interesting. At each of the gathering spots, one person was bribed or somehow convinced to stand up and summarize the discussions at their particular table. A brief synopsis of the quite varied presentations:

- * Office market remains down in Albuquerque. The economy is still poor in almost all areas, with the exception being restaurants, which appear to still be immune to the declines. Projection is that any decent recovery for office occupancy in the north I-25 area is 4 to 5 years away.
 - * Not much commercial activity going on in Albuquerque area. New Mexico is not offering much for workers. Many workers are migrating to the temporary, but higher paying jobs, like the oil fields.
 - * There are reasons for optimism. US Manufacturing seems to be picking up. North American furniture builders are expanding and it appears that some suppliers of goods are moving back from China.
 - * Financing is difficult to get, especially from banks. Businesses and individuals are beginning to use more of the non-financial institution sources. Low fuel prices are helping with an up-tic in business because the consumers have a bit more in available funds.
 - * Our lawyer is optimistic about improvement. Not sure that is an overall positive when litigation is up. ABQ Innovate program is a definite benefit to the area. Right-To-Work legislation could be a positive.
 - * Penske monitors the flow of vehicles through their markets. Their most recent analysis shows that there are more of their vehicles moving out of New Mexico than there are moving in. Texas, Arizona, and Colorado seem to have a much more lively economies. Possibly because they have more business friendly attitudes in those states.
 - * Net Neutrality regulations could be a negative for smaller businesses. Affordable Care Act continues to be a burden on businesses and individuals. One of our members experienced a cost increase from \$8,000 to \$27,000 for their annual family coverage.
 - * EAGA leads have substantially decreased over the past months. Member to member business still remains high and that is a positive. We can bring even more benefits to our organization by reconditioning ourselves to analyze our every day observations. Not only look at our world and daily activities from a "What does this mean to me, my family and my business" perspective, but also add a conscious thought of "Could one of my fellow EAGA members benefit from what I just noticed or from the information that I just heard?"
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- ♦ Mario has scheduled Eggs Benedict for breakfast this coming Tuesday, February 17th. It is likely that there will still be oatmeal and bacon and fruit, but really...we are talking about EGGS BENEDICT !
 - ♦ Jerry Becker - Steamatic will have an open house at their facility right after breakfast on February 24th. Plan to stop by for a few minutes and learn something new. Jerry will show off their ultrasonic tanks, their process for removing soot from fire involved item, and a lot more other techniques that will amaze.
 - ♦ EAGA Fishing Trip will be April 25th and 26th. Along the San Juan River in northern New Mexico. The location sounds great; and we already know that when there are EAGA members doing the planning, you can count on a very great event. More details over the next couple of weeks.
 - ♦ The 2015 EAGA printed directory will be completed within the next 30 days.

Business Leads:

Uptown Park Dental is opening at 2100 Louisiana NE Suite 104
 Richie B's Pizza is opening at 7200 Montgomery NE, Suite A-24
 Bahama Buck's Shaved Ice is opening at 10131 Coors NW
 — Lionel Specter - Zeon Signs

Reciprocity:

Thank you to Bill Elliott - AAA Roofing for repairing the roof on my home. Pulte Homes screwed it up on original install 11 years ago, but Bill fixed it right.

— Mark Tobiassen

Beneficial information from Robert Biernacki:

Google is currently offering its application Google Earth Pro for free.

<https://www.google.com/earth/explore/products/desktop.html>

The previously free version of Google Earth was a novel tool, useful for dynamically viewing cities and landscapes. The Pro version has much more robust geospatial tools that are especially useful to architects. The Pro versions' US Parcel Data Search allows users to zoom to a property and instantly view its assessed value, zoning designations, finished square feet, construction date, lot size and other valuable info. Other layers list (though not always up-to-date) demographic data and traffic counts. Measuring tools allow users to calculate distances, both linear and radial, and the square footage of custom outlined areas. For those knowledgeable in GIS, the Pro Version allows you to import .shp files, high resolution images, and other GIS data sets into your Google Earth view. It also allows for batch geo-coding, essentially converting coordinates into graphic features on the map. Combined with its readily-accessible extensive data sets and ability to make videos, Google Earth Pro is a free and valuable tool for visualizing and communicating geographic information.

Badge Board Greeters

Feb 17th	TJ Maloy - Waterjet Cutting
Feb 24th	Phillip Menicucci - Paramount Custom Cabinets
Mar 3rd	Pat Maloy - Maloy Mobile Storage
Mar 10th	Mike Deveraux - Document Imaging of the Southwest
Mar 17th	Stan Byers - Byers and Sellers Real Estate
Mar 24th	Frank McCallister - Color New Mexico
Mar 31st	Phil Houser - Document Solutions
Apr 7th	Jon George - Southwest Myotherapy

Upcoming Speakers

Feb 17th	Mike Deveraux - Document Imaging of the Southwest
Feb 24th	Chez Steel - Century Bank
Mar 3rd	Chuck Mitchell - Etheridge Tire
Mar 10th	Timmy Simms - Territorial Scaffolding
Mar 17th	Leon Marler - Marler Manor
Mar 24th	Adam Halpern - Dental Cooperative
Mar 31st	Katherine Foster - UNMH Community Relations
Apr 7th	Phil Kenny - Trucks Unique

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