



**ANNUAL AWARDS
SHOW**
July 18, 2017
Music City Center | Nashville, Tennessee

Nashville
ACCE CONVENTION 2017





CELEBRATING OUTSTANDING CHAMBER PROFESSIONALS

REGIONAL INNOVATION AWARD	2
2017 CERTIFIED CHAMBER EXECUTIVES	4
SALES CONTEST	8
LIFETIME SALES ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS	10
MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS	12
MEMBERS CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF SERVICE	22
AWARDS FOR COMMUNICATIONS EXCELLENCE	24
LIFE MEMBER AWARDS	28
2017 CHAMBER OF THE YEAR	32

Established in 1914, ACCE is an association of 7,000 leaders from 1,200 chambers of commerce, including 93 of the top 100 U.S. metro areas. The combined membership of ACCE chambers is close to one million businesses. Chamber leaders look to ACCE for best practices, networks and new ideas that will help them advance the interests of their communities. ACCE recommends successful programs and strategies, and identifies trends, partners and business models that show promise. For more information, visit www.ACCE.org.



REGIONAL INNOVATION AWARD

Saluting innovative and groundbreaking regional partnerships

The Regional Innovation Award recognizes organizations and alliances committed to building strong and vibrant communities through groundbreaking collaboration and program development. These organizations are pioneers within their region, focusing efforts on the four principles of regional stewardship: an innovative economy, livable communities, social inclusion and a collaborative style of governance.

This year, the Regional Innovation Award committee encouraged applications from regional initiatives that are building a better equipped workforce—preparing the region to excel in a globally competitive economy through education attainment and workforce development initiatives.

View entries of previous winners and learn more about the award at www.ACCE.org/RIA.

FINALISTS

West Alabama Works: Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama

West Alabama Works recruits, trains and empowers a highly skilled workforce driven by industry needs. The mission of this initiative is to meet the workforce needs of businesses in the critical industries in the region and to help residents, particularly low-income residents and people with barriers to employment, obtain jobs that pay family-sustaining wages. The vision of West Alabama Works is that businesses will take the lead of the regional workforce development system to respond rapidly.

CAREEROCKIT: Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce (Neb.)

The Greater Omaha Chamber launched CAREEROCKIT to educate, excite and inspire members of tomorrow's workforce, help them soar to new heights, and rock future careers in Omaha County. The first-of-its kind effort, enthusiastically supported by community partners, brought their business and educational communities together to help students move along the learning pipeline, gain applicable knowledge and build excitement for local career options, all to ensure their region can meet its current and future talent needs.

Middle Tennessee Reconnect Community: Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce

Middle Tennessee Reconnect Community is a ten-county collaborative dedicated to supporting adults who aspire to earn a college degree to enter or reenter higher education (Reconnectors). The collaborative includes public and private nonprofit higher education institutions, the regions three workforce development boards, and community and employer partners. This initiative is part of the state's strategy to help adults enter higher education to gain new skills, enter jobs that pay well, or advance in their current workplace.

Elevate, Retain and Attract + Bridge: Allegheny Conference on Community Development (Pa.)

"Elevate, Retain and Attract + Bridge" is a collective workforce strategy to align the region's education and training pipeline to meet the projected workforce demand. The Allegheny Conference released an in-depth workforce report: "Inflection Point: Supply, Demand and the Future of Work in the Pittsburgh Region," spurred by innovation and technological change across every industry, and its implications for employers, educators and workforce talent.



CERTIFIED CHAMBER EXECUTIVES

Recognizing excellence in chamber management

The Certified Chamber Executive (CCE) designation represents the highest achievement in the chamber management profession. CCEs exemplify commitment to the chamber of commerce profession; dedication to managerial and leadership excellence; and leadership in state, regional and national chamber professional associations. Since the program's inception more than 40 years ago, only about 500 individuals have earned this prestigious designation in the industry.

Earning the CCE is a four-step process. It requires successful completion of the application, essay, oral presentation/interview and exam. Throughout the process, the eligible senior-level chamber applicants are required to demonstrate knowledge of the four core chamber management areas: management, planning and development, membership and communications and operations.

Learn more about the CCE program and its eligibility requirements at www.ACCE.org/CCE.



Lucia Cape, CCE

Lucia Cape has served as senior vice president of economic development, industry relations and workforce for the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce (Ala.) since 2013. She began working at the chamber in 2006 as vice president for workforce. She currently serves on the board of directors for the Economic Development Association of Alabama, the advisory board for ACCE's Economic and Community Development Division and the planning committee for the ACCE Convention's Site Consultants Program.



Brad Dean, CCE, IOM

Brad Dean has served as president and CEO of the Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce (S.C.) since 2003. Prior to joining the chamber as its CFO in 1998, Brad served as general manager for Hard Rock Café-Myrtle Beach and was a financial analyst with General Electric. Brad is active on numerous boards and commissions, including the U.S. Travel Association, the U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board and the National Advisory Committee on Travel and Tourism Infrastructure.



Megan Lucas, CCE, IOM, CEcD

Megan Lucas has served as CEO of the Lynchburg Regional Business Alliance (Va.) since 2014. Prior to joining the organization, Megan spent 11 years as CEO of the Bellevue Chamber of Commerce in Nebraska. She is a member of the U.S. Chamber Foundation's Institute for Organization Management Board of Trustees where she chairs the Institute Curriculum Committee, is a board member of the Virginia Economic Developers Association, and is active with the Southern Economic Development Council. Megan, a Certified Economic Developer and a proud IOM alumni, was recently recognized as one of the "Top 50 Economic Developers in North America" by Consultant Connect.

CERTIFIED CHAMBER EXECUTIVES



Cheryl Millsaps, CCE, IOM, SPHR, SHRM-SCP

Cheryl Millsaps has served as vice president of finance and administration of the Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce (Tenn.) and Chattanooga Chamber Foundation since 2005. Prior to that position, she was director of accounting for the Chattanooga Chamber. Cheryl has served on the boards of the Principal Leadership Academy, Co.Lab and is a founding trustee of Thrive Regional Partnership. In addition to her IOM certification, Cheryl is a certified Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) and Senior Certified Professional (SHRM).



Mark Owens, CCE, IOM

Mark Owens has served as president and CEO of the Greater Greer Chamber of Commerce (S.C.) since 2014. A graduate of Presbyterian College and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Institute for Organizational Management, Mark also serves as chairman for the Carolinas Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives. He is active on other community boards, and is focused on member and community involvement to foster growth, community cohesion, workforce development and thriving businesses.



Jeff Rea, CCE

Jeff Rea has served as president and CEO of the five-star accredited South Bend Regional Chamber of Commerce (Ind.) since 2010. Prior to joining the chamber, Jeff was mayor of Mishawaka, Ind. (2003-10), and before that he served various roles in the Mishawaka community, including that of economic development director and city planner, and he worked in the private sector. Under Jeff's leadership, the South Bend Regional Chamber was recognized with the Indiana Chamber of the Year award. Jeff was recognized as Michiana Forty Under 40 and Michiana's Best and Brightest.



Barbara Thomason, CCE, IOM, PCED

Barbara Thomason has served as president of the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce since 2005. In a volunteer capacity, she has most recently served as president of the Gulf Coast Chamber Executives organization, president of the Women's Business Forum and as a new member of the Texas Chamber of Commerce Executives Board. Barbara was named as a Woman of Excellence by the Women's Business Forum in 2015 and was honored as the 2016 Distinguished Volunteer by Leadership North Houston.



Michael D. Ward, CCE, IOM

Michael Ward is the senior vice president of government and public affairs for the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce (Ala.). He previously worked for Alabama's Medical Association as their director of legislative affairs (1983-87) and was the director of public affairs for Jim Walter Companies/Walter Industries (1987-91). Michael is an alumnus of Leadership Huntsville/Madison County Class 6 (1993) and the Joint Civilian Orientation Conference class 74 (2007). He currently serves on the board of directors for the Alabama Military Stability Foundation, the Association of Defense Communities; the National Space Club - Huntsville Chapter, Cyber Huntsville, and the National Defense Industry Association - Tennessee Valley Chapter.



Joyce W. Waugh, CCE, IOM, CEcD

Joyce Waugh has served as president of Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce since 2008. She previously served as the chamber's vice president of public policy for eight years. Joyce was named Chamber Executive of the Year in 2012 by the Virginia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives and is an International Economic Development Council Certified Economic Developer.



SALES CONTEST

Recognizing top membership sales professionals

Listed below are the top three sales professionals based on total number of individual sales and on total dollar amount in each of the four dues income categories. To view the complete list of membership sales professionals earning this recognition and their respective sales numbers and dollar values of new personal sales, visit www.ACCE.org/awards/sales.

OVER \$1.5 MILLION

Number of New Personal Sales

First: Mark Nowak

Greater Cleveland Partnership

Second: John Wilhelm

Greater Cleveland Partnership

Third: Pam Wright

Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)

Dollar Value of New Personal Sales

First: Jeffrey Durbin

Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce

Second: Meghan Kelley

Dallas Regional Chamber

Third: Art Goldberg

Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce

\$500,000–\$1.5 MILLION

Number of New Personal Sales

First: Kelly Fanelli

Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches (Fla.)

Second: Gina Martens

Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce (Pa.)

Third: Kevin Cremer

Billings Chamber of Commerce (Mont.)

Dollar Value of New Personal Sales

First: Marcus Turley

Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce

Second: Kelly Fanelli

Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches (Fla.)

Third: Edgar Martinez

Tucson Metro Chamber

\$200,000 – \$499,999

Number of New Personal Sales

First: Karri Clark

Bozeman Area Chamber of Commerce (Mont.)

Second: Cheryl Clark

Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce (Fla.)

Third: Jaquelin Listecki

Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce (N.C.)

Dollar Value of New Personal Sales

First: Karri Clark

Bozeman Area Chamber of Commerce (Mont.)

Second: Barbara Caravella

Chandler Chamber of Commerce (Ariz.)

Third: Cheryl Clark

Cocoa Beach Regional Chamber of Commerce (Fla.)

UNDER \$200,000

Number of New Personal Sales

First: Gary Ciarleglio

Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce (Conn.)

Second: Vicki Keibler

Barrow County Chamber of Commerce (Ga.)

Third: Nick Sharps

Garrett County Chamber of Commerce (Md.)

Dollar Value of New Personal Sales

First: Gary Ciarleglio

Quinnipiac Chamber of Commerce (Conn.)

Second: Vicki Keibler

Barrow County Chamber of Commerce (Ga.)

Third: Nick Sharps

Garrett County Chamber of Commerce (Md.)



LIFETIME SALES ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Recognizing lifetime achievement in chamber membership sales

DIAMOND

Over \$1.5 million in sales

Marcus Turley

Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce

Kelly Fanelli

Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches (Fla.)

PLATINUM

1,250 transactions/\$750,000 in sales

Ian Rutan

Georgia Chamber of Commerce

Michelle Kreutzer

Pittsburgh Airport Area Chamber of Commerce (Pa.)

10

MILLION DOLLAR CIRCLE

\$1 million in sales

Monét McCarus

Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)

Karri Clark

Bozeman Area Chamber of Commerce (Mont.)

Jeffrey Durbin

Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce

GOLD

1,000 transactions/\$500,000 in sales

Edgar Martinez

Tucson Metro Chamber (Ariz.)

Jason Wittenberg

Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce (S.D.)

Diane Raihle

Hampton Roads Chamber (Va.)

Teri Lang

Calgary Chamber of Commerce (Alberta)

Meghan Kelley

Dallas Regional Chamber

SILVER

750 transactions/\$300,000 in sales

Kelly Bates

Commerce Lexington, Inc. (Ky.)

Taylor Belcher

Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce (Tenn.)

Logan Marcum

Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce (Ohio)

Kresta Dundas

Wichita Chamber of Commerce (Kan.)

Art Goldberg

Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce

Kevin Cremer

Billings Chamber of Commerce (Mont.)

BRONZE

500 transactions/\$175,000 in sales

Jaquelin Listecki

Greenville Pitt County Chamber of Commerce (N.C.)

Sarah Cortez

Boise Metro Chamber of Commerce (Idaho)

Chris Thompson

Dallas Regional Chamber

Adrian Nagle

Calgary Chamber of Commerce (Alberta)

Alicia Kasper

Frisco Chamber of Commerce (Texas)

Jason Guyer

Greater Cleveland Partnership

Paul Marnecheck, II

Greater Cleveland Partnership

Jennifer Adams

Kentucky Chamber of Commerce

Kate Coffey

Georgia Chamber of Commerce

Dawn Doyle

Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber (Wash.)



MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Recognizing top membership performance

The chambers listed below scored in the top 10 for their annual revenue range in one or more of these categories: member retention of accounts, member retention of dollars, or new member retention of accounts. These statistics were compiled from ACCE's Fiscal Year 2016 Operations Survey via Dynamic Chamber Benchmarking (DCB). DCB is open year-round for survey participation, but for the Membership Achievement Awards, chambers who submitted FY 2016 data through March 31, 2017 were eligible for the awards.

To learn more about DCB, go to the Information/HERO portal at www.acce.org/HERO.

ABOVE \$5,000,000

Member Retention (Accounts)

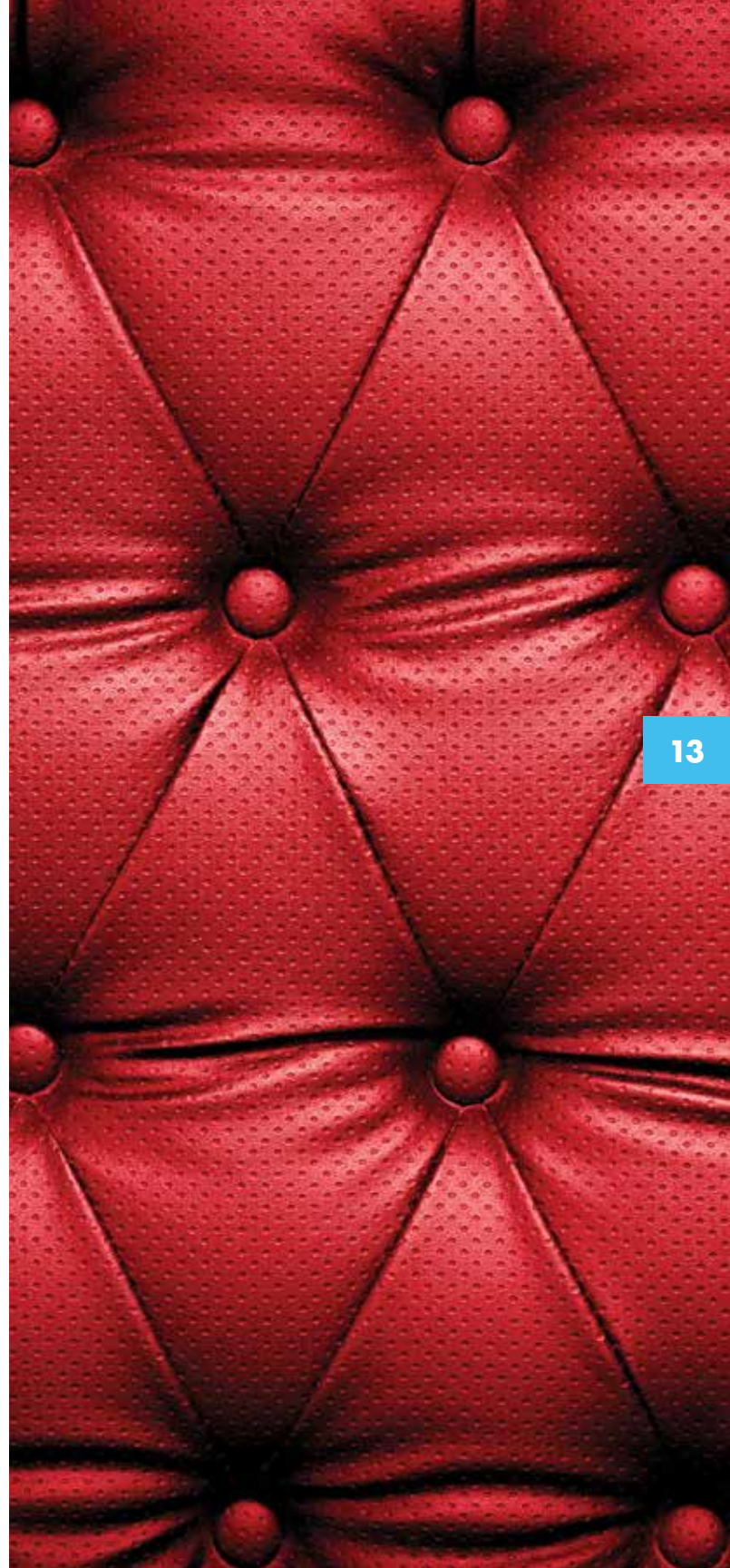
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber
Georgia Chamber of Commerce
Greater Cleveland Partnership
Greater Louisville Inc.
Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce (Neb.)
Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)
Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce (Ala.)
Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)
Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce (Ill.)
Tulsa Regional Chamber (Okla.)

Member Retention (Dues)

Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce (N.Y.)
Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce (Tenn.)
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber
Georgia Chamber of Commerce
Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce (Neb.)
JAX Chamber (Fla.)
Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce (Ala.)
Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)
Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce (Ill.)
St. Louis Regional Chamber

New Member Retention (Accounts)

Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce (N.C.)
Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber
Georgia Chamber of Commerce
Greater Cleveland Partnership
Greater Louisville Inc.
Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce (Neb.)
Hilton Head Island - Bluffton Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)
Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce (Ala.)
Myrtle Beach Area Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)
Tulsa Regional Chamber (Okla.)



MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

\$2,000,001–\$5,000,000

Member Retention (Accounts)

Arkansas State Chamber/Associated Industries of Arkansas
Buffalo Niagara Partnership (N.Y.)
Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce (Mass.)
Chamber of Commerce of Fargo Moorhead West Fargo
(N.D.)
Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Wis.)
Kalispell Chamber of Commerce (Mont.)
North Myrtle Beach Chamber of Commerce & CVB
(S.C.)
Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce (S.D.)
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce (Mo.)
Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce (Ohio)

Member Retention (Dues)

Arkansas State Chamber/Associated Industries of Arkansas
Billings Chamber of Commerce (Mont.)
Buffalo Niagara Partnership (N.Y.)
Chamber of Commerce of Fargo Moorhead West Fargo
(N.D.)
Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce & EDC
Kalispell Chamber of Commerce (Mont.)
Louisiana Association of Business & Industry
Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce (S.D.)
St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce (Mo.)
Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce (Ohio)

New Member Retention (Accounts)

Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce (Ohio)

Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Wis.)

Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce (Texas)

Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce (Vt.)

Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce

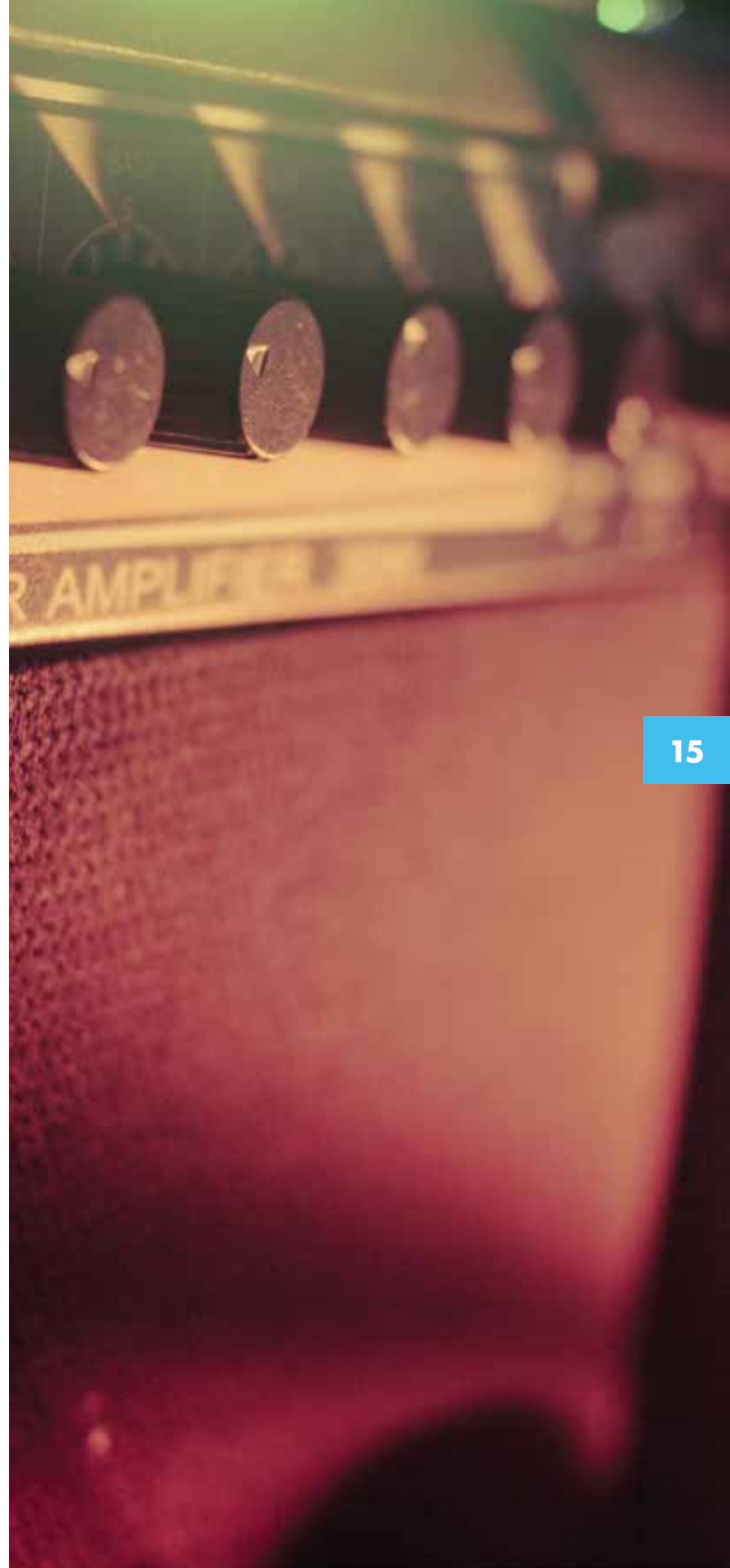
Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce (S.D.)

St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce (Mo.)

South Bend Regional Chamber (Ind.)

Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce (Ohio)

York County Economic Alliance (Pa.)



MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

\$900,001–\$2,000,000

Member Retention (Accounts)

Cambridge Chamber of Commerce (Ontario)
Garrett County Chamber of Commerce (Md.)
Glenwood Springs Chamber Resort Association (Colo.)
Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce (Saskatchewan)
Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce (Ohio)
Meadowlands Regional Chamber of Commerce (N.J.)
Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce (Wis.)
Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce
Vail Valley Partnership (Colo.)
Wichita Falls Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Texas)

Member Retention (Dues)

Cambridge Chamber of Commerce (Ontario)
Columbia Chamber of Commerce (Mo.)
Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership (Pa.)
Glenwood Springs Chamber Resort Association (Colo.)
Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce (Kan.)
Greater Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce (N.C.)
Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce (Ohio)
Michigan West Coast Chamber of Commerce
Vail Valley Partnership (Colo.)
Wichita Falls Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Texas)

New Member Retention (Accounts)

Cambridge Chamber of Commerce (Ontario)

Columbia Chamber of Commerce (Mo.)

Glenwood Springs Chamber Resort Association (Colo.)

Grapevine Chamber of Commerce (Texas)

Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce (Kan.)

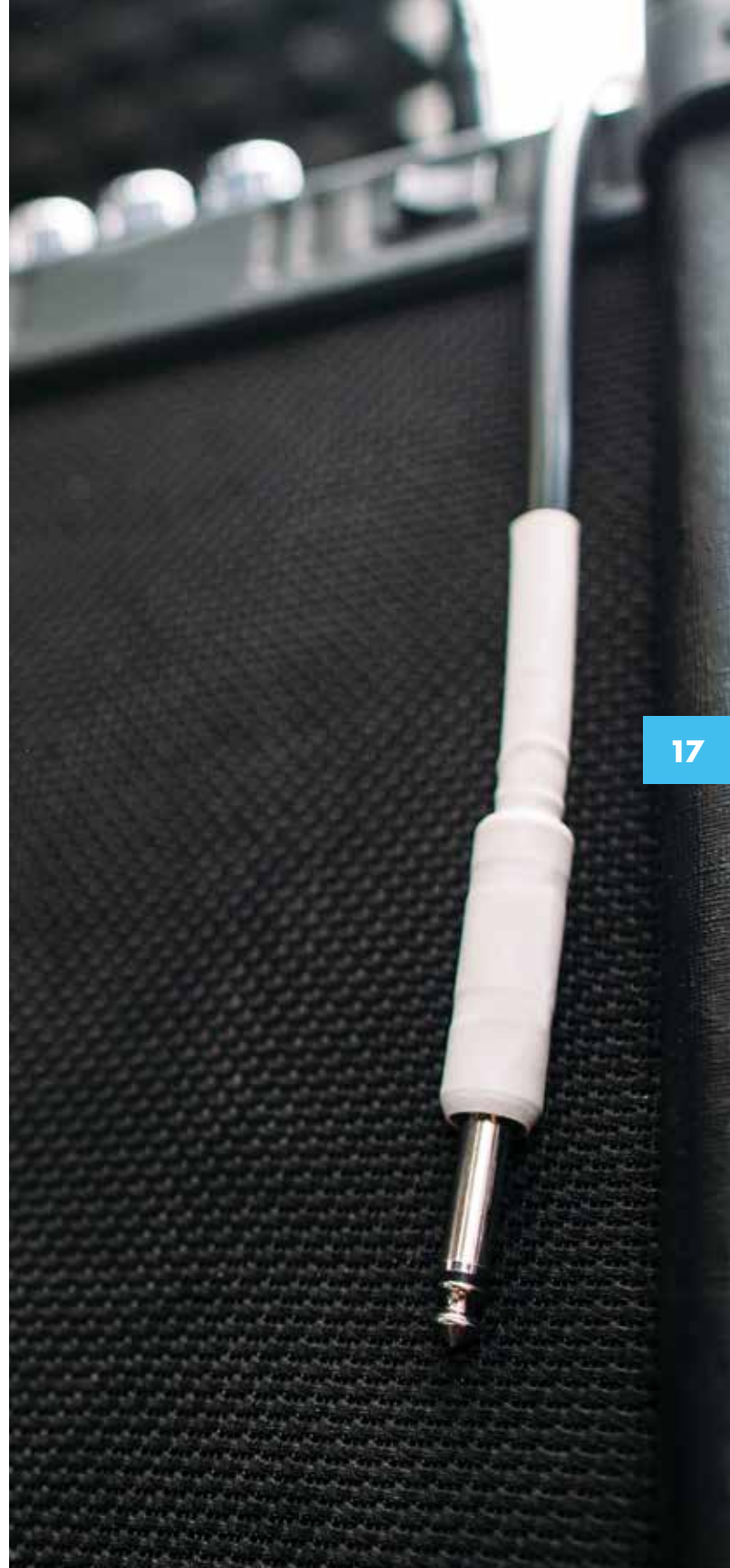
Lake Houston Area Chamber of Commerce (Texas)

Ocala/Marion County Chamber & Economic Partnership (Fla.)

Southwest Indiana Chamber

Vail Valley Partnership (Colo.)

Wichita Falls Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Texas)



MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

\$450,001–\$900,000

Member Retention (Accounts)

Bartlesville Regional Chamber of Commerce
Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce (Ind.)
Greater Burlington Partnership (Iowa)
Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce (Pa.)
Greater Wilmington Chamber of Commerce (N.C.)
Minot Area Chamber of Commerce (N.D.)
Pocatello Chubbuck Chamber of Commerce (Idaho)
Rocky Mount Area Chamber of Commerce (N.C.)
Siesta Key Chamber of Commerce (Fla.)
Winona Area Chamber of Commerce (Minn.)

Member Retention (Dues)

Bartlesville Regional Chamber of Commerce (Okla.)
Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce (Pa.)
Greater Burlington Partnership (Iowa)
Greater Wilmington Chamber of Commerce (N.C.)
Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce (N.C.)
Ludington and Scottville Chamber of Commerce (Mich.)
Minot Area Chamber of Commerce (N.D.)
Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce (Calif.)
Siesta Key Chamber of Commerce (Fla.)
Winona Area Chamber of Commerce (Minn.)

New Member Retention (Accounts)

Bay Area Chamber of Commerce (Mich.)
Greater Greer Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)
Greater West Chester Chamber of Commerce (Pa.)
Greater Wyoming Valley Chamber of Commerce (Pa.)
Minot Area Chamber of Commerce (N.D.)
Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce (N.C.)
Paulding County Chamber of Commerce (Ga.)
Pocatello Chubbuck Chamber of Commerce (Idaho)
Temple Chamber of Commerce (Texas)
Winona Area Chamber of Commerce (Minn.)

MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

\$450,000 AND UNDER

Member Retention (Accounts)

Charles County Chamber of Commerce (Md.)
Cortland County Chamber of Commerce (N.Y.)
Dixon Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Ill.)
Effingham County Chamber of Commerce (Ill.)
Harwich Chamber of Commerce (Mass.)
Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce (Vt.)
Orleans Chamber of Commerce (Mass.)
Rowan County Chamber of Commerce (N.C.)
Shawano Country Chamber of Commerce (Wis.)
Wells County Chamber of Commerce (Ind.)

Member Retention (Dues)

Alliance Southwest Louisiana
Dixon Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Ill.)
Effingham County Chamber of Commerce (Ill.)
Greater Hartsville Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)
Murray-Calloway County Chamber of Commerce (Ky.)
Muskego Chamber of Commerce and Tourism (Wis.)
Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce (Vt.)
Orleans Chamber of Commerce (Mass.)
Shawano Country Chamber of Commerce (Wis.)
Wells County Chamber of Commerce (Ind.)

New Member Retention (Accounts)

Alliance Southwest Louisiana

Charles County Chamber of Commerce (Md.)

Cortland County Chamber of Commerce (N.Y.)

Des Moines Downtown Chamber of Commerce (Iowa)

Effingham County Chamber of Commerce (Ill.)

Greater Hartsville Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)

Murray-Calloway County Chamber of Commerce (Ky.)

Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce (Vt.)

Shawano Country Chamber of Commerce (Wis.)

Westerville Area Chamber of Commerce (Ohio)

25 YEARS OF SERVICE

Honoring a quarter century in the chamber profession

Kerry Baker

Member Services/Special Events Coordinator
Greater Key West Chamber of Commerce (Fla.)

Joseph Bevilacqua

President & CEO
Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce (Mass.)

Kevin Brinegar

President & CEO
Indiana Chamber of Commerce

Latasha Cook

President
Bessemer Area Chamber of Commerce (Ala.)

Janet Davis, CCE, IOM, CCEO-AP

President & CEO
Westerville Area Chamber of Commerce (Ohio)

Bob DuBois

President & CEO
Noblesville Chamber of Commerce (Ind.)

Michelle Dugan

President
Monroe County Chamber of Commerce (Mich.)

Kimberly Gadberry

Marketing Assistant
State Chamber of Oklahoma

Patsy Guy

Vice President, Member & Investor Relations
Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce (Ala.)

Judith Juda

Vice President, Programming & Membership Education
Blair County Chamber of Commerce (Pa.)

Melissa Malechek, IOM

President
West Chambers County Chamber of Commerce (Texas)

Kirk Mancer, IOM, CCE, AACE

President & CEO
Greater Shelby County Chamber of Commerce (Ala.)

Amy Mattek

Manager of Human Resources
Greater Green Bay Chamber (Wis.)

Nancy Millar

Vice President, Convention and Visitors Bureau
McAllen Chamber of Commerce (Texas)

Lisa Moldenhauer

Administrative Assistant
Minot Area Chamber of Commerce (N.D.)

Thomas Mullins, CECd

President & CEO
Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce (Texas)

Thomas O'Rourke, CCE

President & CEO
Neponset Valley Chamber of Commerce (Mass.)

Leanne Post

Administrative Secretary and Committee Coordinator
Texas City-La Marque Chamber of Commerce (Texas)

Diane Probst, CCE

President & CEO
Rockport-Fulton Chamber of Commerce (Texas)

Rick Roden, IOM

President & CEO
Greater Jackson County Chamber of Commerce (Ala.)

Michael Seney

Senior V.P., Policy Analysis & Strategic Planning
State Chamber of Oklahoma

Jenny Senter

President & CEO
Texas City-La Marque Chamber of Commerce (Texas)

Tonya Sprengle

Vice President
Joplin Area Chamber of Commerce (Mo.)

Diane Stephenson

Member Services
Hamilton Chamber of Commerce (Ont.)

Cindy Tenwalde

Vice President
Lima/Allen County Chamber of Commerce (Ohio)

Sandra Thompson, IOM

Liaison, Business Services
The Lancaster Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Pa.)

Kay Tweed

Executive Coordinator
Asheville Area Chamber of Commerce (N.C.)

This list is based on personal profile information provided by individual members. If we missed your 25-year anniversary, please let us know so we can acknowledge you in next year's convention guide.



AWARDS FOR COMMUNICATIONS EXCELLENCE

Recognizing best practices in marketing and communications work

24

In late May 2017, six marketing and communications leaders from Arkansas, Louisiana, Manitoba, Ohio, Virginia and Wisconsin gathered at #ACCEHQ to carefully review more than 100 award submissions. These entries highlight some of the freshest and most innovative marketing and communications work coming from ACCE member organizations of all types and sizes.

Each submission was organized by type — advertising and marketing, campaigns, digital and publications — and by the submitting organization's total annual budget range: under \$1 million, \$1 to \$3 million and above \$3 million.

In addition to awards listed below, three “Best in Show” awards will be presented at the 2017 Awards Show.

View entries and learn more at www.ACCE.org/awards/ACE.

GRAND AWARDS

Advertising and Marketing

Williamson, Inc. (Tenn.)

Williamson County Mobility Week

Kalispell Chamber of Commerce (Mont.)

Winter Campaign

Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce (Tenn.)

Chattanooga: Literally Perfect Campaign

Campaigns

Cayman Islands Chamber of Commerce

Economic Growth Matters Campaign

Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce

Northern Virginia Chamber Rebrand

Portland Business Alliance (Ore.)

Portland Can Do Better Campaign

Digital

Greater Greer Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)

GreerMade Learn the Trade Video

Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce (Ohio)

It Matters Where You Make It Video

Tulsa Regional Chamber (Okla.)

FMAC Web Site

Publications

Selma and Dallas County Chamber of Commerce (Ala.)

Selma–Dallas County Find it Local Guide

Conway Area Chamber of Commerce (Ark.)

Off Campus 2016–17 College Guide

Community Development Foundation (Miss.)

CDF Annual Meeting

AWARDS FOR COMMUNICATIONS EXCELLENCE

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Advertising and Marketing

Beaufort Regional Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)
Beaufort Coast Is Clear

Georgia Chamber of Commerce
Advocacy Infographic

Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce (Ill./Iowa)
I'm Invested

Tulsa Regional Chamber (Okla.)
Career Awareness

Campaigns

Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce
"Rise Together" Rebrand

Galveston Regional Chamber of Commerce (Texas)
Lemonade Day Galveston County Campaign

Georgia Chamber of Commerce
Georgia 2030

Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce (La.)
LP BACK 2 BIZ – Disaster Recovery Campaign

Lubbock Chamber of Commerce (Texas)
Go Vote Lubbock Campaign

Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce (Ill.)
Rebranding Campaign

Orleans Chamber of Commerce (Mass.)
Runner Up! America's Happiest Seaside Town

Tulsa Regional Chamber (Okla.)
TYPros Voter Engagement

Digital

Allegheny Conference on Community Development (Pa.)
Greater Pittsburgh Chamber Year in Review

Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce
Website Redesign

Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)
“That’s Why I’m a Member” Video Campaign

Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce (Tenn.)
Greater Chattanooga Economic Partnership Website

Conway Area Chamber of Commerce (Ark.)
125th Anniversary Video

Greater Des Moines Partnership (Iowa)
Regional Momentum Video

Eden Prairie Chamber of Commerce (Minn.)
Flat Pat Social Media Campaign

Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Chamber of Commerce (Ill.)
SAVOR: Edwardsville/Glen Carbon Restaurant Week

Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce (Mich.)
Annual Report

Northwest Metroport Chamber of Commerce (Texas)
Website

Plano Chamber of Commerce (Texas)
Take 10: Legislative Landscape E-Newsletter

Greater Spokane Incorporated (Wash.)
Business AfterSchool Video

Greater Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce (Ind.)
Video Newsletter Highlights

Publications

Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce (S.C.)
State House Guide

Greenville Chamber (S.C.)
Accelerate Brochure

Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce (Texas)
Annual Report

Greater Killeen Chamber of Commerce (Texas)
Greater Killeen Business Quarterly

Lake Houston Area Chamber of Commerce (Texas)
Business Matters Magazine

Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce (Va.)
Annual Report

Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce (Ga.)
Annual Report

Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce
Economic Development Regional Profile

One Acadiana (La.)
Annual Report

Orleans Chamber of Commerce (Mass.)
Truly Orleans: Official Travel Guide

Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce (Ky.)
GO Chamber Magazine

Salt Lake Chamber
Public Policy Guide

LIFE MEMBER AWARD

Honoring a lifetime of service

This pinnacle award is bestowed by ACCE on those who move to the next phase of their lives after stellar careers in chamber leadership. The designation “Life Member” recognizes both the lifetime of success in the chamber profession and the ACCE member-for-life status granted to each honoree.

Nominees must exemplify four principal characteristics: excellence throughout their chamber careers, measurable success in building their communities and organizations, significant contribution to the profession, and mentorship of their own staffs and others seeking growth in the profession.

Learn more about the award and view the list of prior Life Member honorees at www.ACCE.org/lifemembers.



Larry A. Bowman, CCE

Following a 37-year career in the chamber profession, Larry Bowman retired in 2014 as president/CEO of the Lebanon Valley Chamber of Commerce in his hometown of Lebanon, Pa. He began his chamber career as director of government affairs for the Schenectady County (N.Y.) Chamber of Commerce in 1977 and subsequently held executive leadership positions with chambers in Chemung County/Elmira (N.Y.), New Castle County/Wilmington (Del.), Cayuga County/Auburn (N.Y.), Main Line/Wayne (Pa.) and Exton (Pa.).

Larry is a past member of ACCE's Board of Directors and of the U.S. Chamber's Chamber of Commerce Committee of 100. He is also past board chair for both the New York State Chamber of Commerce Executives and the Pennsylvania Association of Chamber Professionals (PACP). In 2011, PACP presented him with its highest honor, the Keystone Award, which recognizes significant contributions and dedicated service to the chamber profession in Pennsylvania. He was also the recipient in 1996 of the inaugural Building a Better New York Award presented by the Business Council of New York State. In addition, the Chemung County Chamber (N.Y.), under Larry's leadership, was presented with the President's "E" Award for Export Service by the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Larry is a 1985 graduate of the Institute for Organization Management at the University of Delaware and a graduate of the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, N.C. He is also a past member of the Board of Regents for the Delaware IOM site.

In 1996, Larry earned the Certified Chamber Executive designation from ACCE and in 2011 was awarded the Pennsylvania Certified Chamber Executive designation by PACP.

Active in numerous organizations in his community, Larry was presented with an Alumni Citation in 2014 by his alma mater, Lebanon Valley College, and served as co-chair of the college's 150th Anniversary Committee in 2016.

LIFE MEMBER AWARD



Donald M. Laird, CCE

Don Laird retired from the chamber profession after 33 years of service with chambers in South Dakota, Kansas, and Missouri. A native of Grand Forks, N.D. and a graduate of the University of North Dakota, Don spent the last 24 years as president of the Columbia Chamber of Commerce (Mo.). In addition to a long career as a chamber professional, Don worked for 3M Company, owned a small business and served 26 years as a U.S. Army officer on active duty and reserve duty, with service in Vietnam. Don received his CCE designation in 1995, followed by a master's degree at the University of Missouri in 1997.

Don is most proud of the many innovative programs and events instituted by the Columbia Chamber of Commerce. Because of fantastic staff and dedicated volunteer leadership, the Columbia Chamber excelled in the state of Missouri and the U.S.

Don was active in the U.S. Chamber Institute of Organization Management. He served on the Institute's board of trustees, was chair of the Winter Institute and was an instructor at eight different sites. He was also president of the Kansas and later the Missouri chamber executive organizations, served on the ACCE Board of Directors, and he was awarded the Top Level Award by the Missouri Chamber Executives.

Upon retirement, Don has become a mentor in the local veteran's court, serves on the local community foundation, a research foundation affiliated with the Truman VA Hospital, the Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau board, his homeowners association, the Boy Scout Board and a local bank board.



Ed Wolking, Jr., CCE

Ed Wolking retired in 2016 after 30 years at the Detroit Regional Chamber, most recently serving as the organization's executive counsel. During his tenure in Detroit, Ed held various roles across the organization, including serving as executive vice president as well as senior vice president of strategic directions, member services and marketing. He also led the Detroit Regional Chamber Foundation and developed and implemented the Chamber's affinity programs and the tiered dues concept and platform. He helped transform the Detroit Regional Chamber into one of the largest in the nation.

Ed helped create the Great Lakes Metro Chambers Coalition and the bi-national Great Lakes Manufacturing Council in response to the region's economic challenges, as well as projects including: a study on the impact of off-shoring on manufacturing in Michigan; and the Great Lakes Manufacturing Forum. His health care duties have included leadership in national and state legislative advocacy; group product design, development, and marketing; regional and state organizations; regional issues and initiatives to reduce costs and increase quality.

His 45-year career in chamber management includes serving as president of the Columbus Area Chamber of Commerce (Ind.); group executive at the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce; and executive vice president at the Clermont County Chamber of Commerce in Ohio.

Ed holds bachelor of arts and master of business administration degrees from Xavier University and holds numerous awards from the organization formerly known as the National Association of Membership Development. He and his wife have four sons and belong to St. Clare of Montefalco Parish.



CHAMBER OF THE YEAR

Recognizing excellence in operations, member services,
and community leadership

ACCE's Chamber of the Year award is the most celebrated recognition of overall excellence recognizing chambers of commerce for their roles in leading businesses and communities.

The competition is a multi-step process. Organizations that enjoyed an exceptional year, or had a program or initiative that went above and beyond expectations, nominate themselves by applying. Applications are reviewed and scored by a committee of veteran chamber executives and former Chamber of the Year winners. One award is given in each category determined by several factors, including population, number of businesses, number of members, total revenue and restricted revenue.

Learn more about Chamber of the Year at www.ACCE.org/COY.

Proudly sponsored by:



FINALISTS

State/Province Category

Georgia Chamber of Commerce

Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce

Category 4

Charleston Metro Chamber (S.C.)

Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce (Tenn.)

Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce (Ohio)

Category 3

Bowling Green Area Chamber of Commerce (Ky.)

Huntsville/Madison County Chamber (Ala.)

Ocala/Marion County Chamber & Economic
Partnership (Fla.)

Plano Chamber of Commerce (Texas)

Category 2

Kalispell Chamber of Commerce (Mont.)

North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce

Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce (Ky.)

Category 1

Des Moines Downtown Chamber (Iowa)

Effingham County Chamber of Commerce (Ill.)

O'Fallon Chamber of Commerce & Industries (Mo.)



ASSOCIATION OF
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
EXECUTIVES

Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives
1330 Braddock Place, Suite 300
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-998-0072