

Guardian hosts Chamber's June Mixer

Finger Lakes Times

GENEVA — The Finger Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce held its June Business After Hours Networking Mixer June 12 at Guardian Glass. Located on Forge Avenue in the industrial park in Geneva, the event drew a crowd of regional attendees who had never visited the facility before and were excited to see the property for 15- or 30-minute on-site guided plant tours.

During the event, the Chamber had a presentation where Justin Hamblin, plant manager for Guardian Glass, spoke about the history of the company and the Geneva facility. He also shared a historical overview and talked about the origins of Guardian and how it came to Geneva.

Some of the highlights included that in August of 1996, Guardian Industries announced that



Riley Earl

Guardian Glass staff and Finger Lakes Chamber of Commerce staff and board members gather for a group photo in front of Guardian Glass Geneva for the Chamber's June Mixer.

Geneva would be the next greenfield site in America. In March 1998, the hires for Geneva were onboarded and traveled to sister plants across the world for training. By April 1997 construction began of the newest addition to the float line fleet. On May 1, 1998, Guardian Glass opened production at the newest facility in Geneva. Production of float glass commenced,

initially producing 600 tons per day. Float glass is a flat glass that's made by floating molten glass on a bath of molten metal, usually tin, during its production process.

Management was proud to share that 18 original employees are still a part of the current Geneva team. Guardian Glass has also been a proud Chamber member and supporter since it came to Geneva

in 1997.

The event was catered and raffles also were drawn for member prizes and featured giveaways. The Chamber spoke about its newest program, an educational Lunch and Learn series, which begins this summer. More information is available on the Chamber website, www.flxchamber.com.

The FLX Chamber's next Business After Hours Mixer will be held on Wednesday, July 10 at Seneca Lake Resorts. Reservations are required one week in advance. The cost to attend Business After Hours is \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members unless individuals have purchased a BAH Season Pass. This event is included for all 2024 Season Pass Holders. Please contact the Chamber via email at info@flxchamber.com or call 315-789-1776 for more information.