


IRG takes it to the park


AUGUST 30, 2009


Members and affiliates of the International Resource Group came together last week for an open-air celebration of summer — a relaxed departure from the monthly educational programs  the group offers.

The IRG sponsored its eighth annual Picnic in the Park at Ellison Park, with European and Middle Eastern beer and Wegmans subs and wings, befitting the Rochester group's cross-border mission.

New to the IRG, Bill Allen of Henrietta, who retired from Valeo Electrical Systems Inc., capitalized on the invitation to expand his network. Allen is getting back in the job market, ideally in a quality control or customer service position.

Speaking about the local economy, IRG board member Brent Smith said, "Some people are still looking for jobs, but for those with small businesses, things are starting to pick up."

Fellow board member  Sherie Cuddy of Greece attributes the uptick in transactions to companies successfully "looking to other markets and tweaking their products if necessary."

To generate business  at Providium, vice president Elaine McKenna of Victor has been working closely with colleague Kristen Sampson to identify companies with an international presence in need of consultation in "global mobility policies — legal and tax compliance and cost analysis and containment."

McKenna leads the Professional Recruitment and Search Division of Providium that was formerly Weterrings & Agnew Inc.

Tom Boubier is searching for a company with manufacturing facilities and a distribution network for his rail system that automates pocket doors. Boubier hasn't marketed locally, concerned with not yet being able to keep up with demand. He currently manufactures the product in his Brighton home.

Board member and past IRG president Sharon Badenhop announced a joint seminar with the International Business Council on doing business in the EU on Sept. 22. Go to www.irgnet.org for more information.

— Jeremiah Curtin