

2009 Oklahoma

Home-Based Small Business Champion of the Year





Harriet says, "Perseverance, Business Classes, Business Coaching and Networking Work."







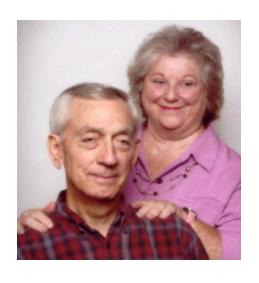


"Success comes with who you are – so define who you are and build on your strengths, then keep building."

Lieutenant Governor of Oklahoma Jari Askins speaking at the 2009 SBA Small Business Awards Luncheon

- Small Business represents the bulk of Oklahoma's economy.
- Small Business represents 97% of Oklahoma's employers.
- 75% of Small Businesses hire fewer than 10 people.
- Small Businesses create 75% of all new jobs.
- 53% of all Small Businesses are Home Based.
- Small Businesses provide more than half of the nation's private sector jobs.





2009 Oklahoma Home Based Business Champion of the Year

Larry and Harriet Schmitz, Owners The Wood Shop, Marlow, OK

Larry and Harriet Schmitz have successful turned a hobby into a profitable home-based business, and they are eager to tell others how to do the same. The couple operates The Wood Shop from their Marlow, Oklahoma home where they custom make writing instruments, bowls, peppermills and boxes using domestic and exotic woods from countries such as South America, Africa and Israel. Mr. Schmitz also uses white-tail deer antlers to create many writing and desk accessories. Harriet's background in financing allows her to provide consulting to entrepreneurs who want to start their own home-based business. Larry's experience as an accountant gives him the expertise to help small business owners understand how to better budget to avoid having to borrow funding to get their businesses started. The Schmitz's are members of the Duncan and Lawton Chambers and the Made in Oklahoma Coalition. Through these organizations they volunteer many hours to encouraging others in developing home-based businesses and improving their potential for success.