

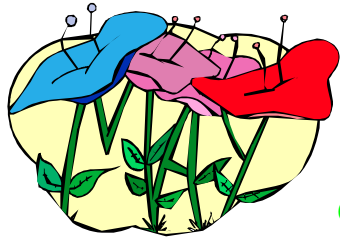


Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce
Chamber POWer
"Working Together for Progress"
167 Members Strong



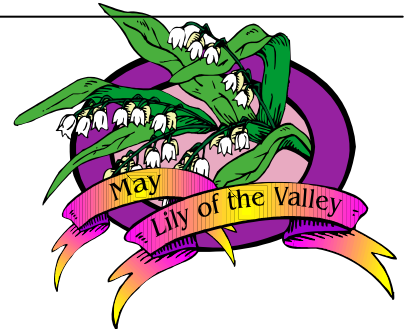
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1. Web Hits in APRIL!

April's unique web hits through April 30th (first time viewers) were 2104 visitors. **Of these visitors, 964 of them added the website to their favorite's list!** April's total visitors were 3415. These visitors looked at a total of 18,439 pages, with 128,618 hits. Behind the USA, Norway was the country with the most pages viewed with 1204! Wednesday was the most active day, and 3PM was the most active time of day.



2. Chamber POWer: *Thanks to the following sponsors of this month's Newsletter.*

First Bank – Craig / 907-826-3254 / fax 907-826-3910 / www.firstbankak.com / Lynnette Logan, manager
A full service community bank offering checking, savings and time deposit accounts; consumer, commercial, construction, and home loans; and online banking services. ATM's located at First Bank and at West Wind Plaza in Craig.

JS Warehouse and Builder's Supply--Craig / 907-826-3632 / fax 907-826-2988 Featuring True Value hardware and paint product line with lumber and building products along with general storage, mini-storage and RV court and parking. Also a maintenance shop with steel and iron supply.

Arrowhead LP Gas—Craig/907-826-2944/fax 907-826-3916/www.arrowheadlpgas.com/ Sharilyn Zellhuber, Manager. Full service propane gas professionals. Whirlpool and GE appliances. RV accessories. Gas fireplaces and water heaters. Sales and installation.

The Computer Palace – Craig / 907-826-2216 / www.pow-tech.com / Computer repairs, upgrades and sales. Video game systems and video game sales.

Tongass Business Center – Ketchikan / 618 Dock St. / Ketchikan, AK 99901 / 1-800-478-9015 / 907-225-9015 / Fax 907-225-9014 / www.tbcenter.com / Call for Catalog. Office Equipment & Supply, Sharp Copiers & Faxes, Printing & Binding, Newsletters, Office Furniture. **Come by the Chamber office for the new catalog!**

3. From the President's Desk:

April was an incredibly busy month, but largely a successful one! Reports on the Awards presentations, the Cancer Coalition Benefits and the Queen Charlotte Island Exchange Visit postponement all follow in this newsletter.

May is not quite so busy but brings with it two pet projects: the annual Scholarship effort for our Prince of Wales Island High School graduates and the Adopt-a-Marathon Mile cleanup project that precedes the International Marathon on May 26th.

Plans for the Fair and Logging Show heat up as that date is now three months away and many decisions need to be made. The button is going to be really easy to see this year, and you won't need to read it to know what it advertises....can't wait to see how the kids interpret the coloring poster!

The office has seen more improvements: DSL is in service and emailing is much better. The Employment Board is up in the window and any of you can send in your job requests for Denise to post there. The Sandwich board will be getting a facelift this week and will be put out on the walkway to call attention to upcoming events.

Denise is doing a fantastic job keeping up the Website calendar, so be sure to let her know about any activities you want posted there. She takes dates from the Island News, other community bulletins, and faxed or emailed notices she receives of events happening on POW. Our goal of making this a valuable tool seems to be working as this was the most viewed page during the month of April!

4 Chamber announces 2006 honorees

On Sunday, April 15th, the Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce announced the recipients of the 2006 Annual Awards in front of one hundred guests attending the Wine Tasting/Cancer Coalition Benefit/Awards Presentation Triple header held at the Craig Community Association Hall. Following are the record of those presentations.

Business of the Year: Black Bear Store

The recipient of the 2006 award for Outstanding Business of the Year is the one business that received multiple nominations for this distinction. "Always Open, Always friendly, Always there" are the words that have been used to sum up the reasons given by nominators and the selection committee in choosing this business. "Always There" includes a generous response to the flood of requests that come through their door to support causes that benefit every community organization on our island. If POW were in the desert, this business would be the oasis. If we were located in any large city, this business would be the 7-11, except we'd have to rename it the 4-12. Located at the crossroads of POW, the Chamber and its members congratulate Black Bear Store and its owners Sandy and Elvin Scott, as the recipients of this award.

Business Person of the Year: Nancy Lucas, Manager of the Clothes Co.

The Business Person of the Year Award seeks to recognize a person who has demonstrated the ability to own or manage and operate a business successfully and been a benefit to their community and the Island. This description has fit this year's recipient during many years of management. It has been noted by numerous High School student visitors that one of the reasons they like coming to POW is to shop in this store. It has been said that adults come here from Ketchikan just to shop in this store! This business operator employs many young people, and responds quietly and generously to those who seek support. The well stocked inventory changes constantly to keep up with the changing needs and wants of an island community. Please congratulate the 2006 Business Person of the Year, Nancy Lucas, manager of The Clothes Company in Craig.

Youth Leader of the Year: Jon Rowan
Written and Presented by Ralph Mackie, 2005 Recipient

It's always a privilege to introduce someone who has made a positive difference in the lives of young people. Young people are impressionable. Their minds are open and hungry for experiences. They tend to think they're invincible, and are generally unaware of how vulnerable they are to danger. Everywhere we look it seems the odds are stacked against them. Sometimes I wonder how any of them are able to grow into caring, responsible adults at all.

So when someone comes along who has not only survived these challenges, but also has recognized within themselves the ability to connect with young people, and has gone on to commit themselves publicly to being a positive influence, well, then we really have someone worth recognizing, someone worth celebrating.

I first got to know the recipient of this year's Youth Leader award back in 1980. Things were a lot different then. It was before the Native corporations started logging. Craig, Klawock and Hydaburg were sleepy little fishing towns, and Thorne Bay belonged to Ketchikan Pulp Company. The State of Alaska didn't think Klawock was big enough for its own high school, so their kids had to catch the bus to Craig every day to attend Prince of Wales High. It's one thing when you have a choice. It's quite another when you're forced to march. Needless to say, school spirit was pretty much nonexistent, and morale was at an all time low. I was the wrestling coach at the time, and out of this gloom came a short, stocky Tlingit kid with a smile on his face and fire in his heart, who did every push up, every wind sprint, and every "do it again" drill with 100% of his effort. He was the kind of kid that makes coaching worth it. He didn't win a gold medal, he wasn't a McDonald's All American, and he probably lost more matches than he won. But in three years, I never once saw him quit.

So it didn't surprise me that he went on to serve his country in the United States Marine Corp., or that he returned home to become a devoted husband and father, and to quietly take his place in one of the local churches.

Beginning a career as a Native Arts teacher at the Klawock School, he quickly developed into a master carver, eventually shouldering much of the enormous burden of restoring and maintaining the cultural treasures of that community and beyond. Today there are upwards of 80 totem poles in need of restoration throughout Southeast Alaska waiting for his hammer and chisel. He has become the heart and soul of the Klawock Heenya Dancers, recently honored as lead dance group for the huge 2006 Celebration in Juneau.

But if I know this guy, he is probably *most* pleased with the fact that there are often kids waiting to start carving with him when he shows up at 6 in the morning. His passion lies not in his own achievements, but in the teaching and nurturing of his students and apprentices, to whom he consistently demonstrates true humility of heart and a genuine respect for the world around him.

It is a *great* pleasure to present the Chamber of Commerce 2006 Youth Leader Award to Jon Rowan.

Volunteer of the Year: Kathy Peavey
Written and presented by Gail Slentz and Barbi Armstrong

I believe that Volunteer of the Year is the most important award presented by the Chamber of Commerce. There is always that handful of people who give generously of their time and efforts for our collective benefit, often behind the scenes and unrecognized. It is my honor today to present this award to an individual who has been among that precious handful for as long as any of us can remember.

She has given of herself in almost every aspect of our community from the ANS to the PTSA. If it involves children, she will most certainly be there. She is as dedicated to the welfare and future of my children and yours as she is to her own. Whether it's a bonfire on the beach, softball practice or collecting trash along the roadside, she has a very special way of instilling good values and character all the while making it a blast for the kids.

I'm constantly in awe of the passion and energy she has for all that she does at church and school events, as assistant coach for a variety of sports, as an artist, mentor, chaperone, housing parent and Chamber volunteer just to mention a few. All done to the highest possible standard, she goes above and beyond just giving her time. More often than not meager budgets are bolstered by her personal funds, special events are fabulously decorated and gift bags are embellished by her creative efforts.

She's crazy, devoted, generous, tireless, fantastic and most importantly, she's ours.

Thanks so much for all you do, Kathy Peavey!

Citizen of the Year: Tim Lacour

Again, the recipient for the 2006 Citizen of the Year Award received multiple nominations in this category. He could be called a "Man for all Seasons" with a job description that changes with the seasons. The criterion for this award seeks a person who contributes unselfishly to the quality of life of his or her community. This recipient has treated each community on POW Island with a personal commitment to public safety that has made a big difference especially during one of the longest snowiest winter seasons in memory. This award goes with an island's gratitude for a job well done and is presented to the 2006 Citizen of the Year, Tim Lacour.

Junior Citizen of the Year: Melissa Peavey

It is common among other Chambers of Commerce and Community Rotary Clubs around the nation to present Junior Citizen Awards to high school students in recognition of outstanding community service. This year a high school student was nominated as a deserving recipient of one of the annual awards. This has presented the POW Chamber of Commerce with the opportunity to debut the Junior Citizen of the Year Award and to give it to a youthful citizen whose example and record of service will become the standard by which all future awards are given in this category. Each and every week, this young citizen can be found at school, church-related, community and civic events volunteering her time, a positive attitude and a smile that never ends. For these same reasons, this young lady was just recognized by the State of Alaska PTA as the winner of a \$1000 scholarship for student leadership...please join the Chamber in congratulating Melissa Peavey as the very first recipient of this award....

President's Award for Distinguished Service: Sharon Briggs

Because Sharon is in Montana receiving cancer treatments, her award plaque and the following letter were personally delivered to her by her husband, Tom Briggs.

Dear Sharon,

It is my great honor to present to you the Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce President's Award for 2006. It is with the blessings of the Board of Directors that we honor you for the many years and many acts of distinguished and generous service that you have given to the citizens of our Island home.

It is not just the volume of work that we honor from Cookbooks to the Craig Foundation, from the Celebration by the Sea to the Prince of Wales Cancer Coalition, and everything in between. It is also the spirit that you brought, the dedication with which you performed each action, the deferential treatment you show to those who work with you, the strength of character that you display. It is also the care that you demonstrate for others while you yourself must deal with the personal challenges that you face. Through your selfless attitude you have inspired all of us!

You humble me with your generosity in the face of extreme challenges to mind and body! I am filled with gratitude for all that you have done, and for the example you have been on the POWER of ONE.

It is that example which has fed the effort to do this current fundraiser for the Prince of Wales Cancer Coalition and I hope that the results will also honor your work in founding this organization and giving hope and support to those challenged by cancer.

I love you and pray for you daily. I know that the Lord holds you in the palm of his hand and gives you strength.

Sincerely and looking forward to the day you come home!

Jan Bush, 2006-07 President, Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce

Sharon wrote back this response, which was read by Barb Stanley to encourage support of the Cancer Coalition, which she helped found.

Dear Jan:

Of all the words and sentiments in your letter which touched me the most was "looking forward to the day you come home." I think of this everyday and it has become my mantra. While life goes on wherever you are, that thing that is emphasized is "quality" and I can't find my quality of life anywhere except on Prince of Wales Island. So, to this end I will continue to focus my attention; coming home and seeing you and all my friends on POW.

My thanks for the wonderful tribute from you and the Chamber of Commerce. This will become my motivation and is treasured already on so many different levels.

The Prince of Wales Cancer Coalition is such a critical part of the "wellness" of our island. It allows for early detection, treatment, follow-up and continued support in the overall treatment of this disease. The support we receive is an essential component to this ongoing care and support for all our island residents. To this end, I want to thank the Chamber of Commerce for their recognition of the importance this indispensable service brings to our island community.

Tom and I fully intended to be with you for the auction today, but because of complications with my cancer, it was strongly recommended I not travel just yet. This was a great disappointment to me but we have faith that with a change of treatment protocol, I will soon be able to join you.

Please know that I am with you in spirit as you work to further this critical service. The need will always exceed the available funding, but those fortunate enough to receive assistance are truly blessed by your efforts. I have been

blessed in so many ways by my friends on POW, and knowing that we have contributed in some small way to their lives is the most meaningful blessing.

May God bless you all for caring enough to recognize the importance of this venture and making the effort to help your brothers and sisters of Prince of Wales Island.

I will never forget you for all that you have done for me and for all our island family. Until we can once more be together, I remain....

Sharon Briggs

5. Prince of Wales Cancer Coalition Benefit

Once all the funds have been collected, it is expected that the benefit to the POW Cancer Coalition will be over \$13,000. These will be funds granted to assist those on POW who need assistance with expenses to get treatment. A complete list of those who helped bring about this phenomenal result will be submitted to the Island News in the weeks to come. The Chamber gives a big thank you to Dolores Owen and Kathy Peavey for coordinating the raffle, silent auctions and live auction, to all those who contributed the items, all those who bought raffle tickets and all those who bid on the auction items.

A big thanks to all those who contributed to the success of the banquet from those who created the centerpieces, provided the table settings, set up, provided dinner music, cooked and served, did the dishes, mopped floors, put away chairs and tables, and all the other jobs performed throughout the evening. Thanks to the 130 people who attended and had an enjoyable time. Thanks to Ralph and Edith Mackie for providing a no-host bar, and to the wine distributors for the dinner wines.

6. QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLAND CHAMBER EXCHANGE postponed

It was a passport issue that derailed the planned April visit from members of the QCI Chamber. With the huge backlog of passport applications, two of our presenters were not going to be able to come via the arrangements to fly into Ketchikan. We are hopeful that this exchange will take place at the end of September. We thank all those who supported this effort and have continued their support for the rescheduled dates. We are still looking for POW items to put into "Favor Bags" for six guests. Does anyone have canvas bags that advertise POW or your business?? We have gathered some great local flavor to put into one, but still lack the bag itself!!

7. FAIR AND LOGGING SHOW COMMITTEE

The Fair and Logging Show committee continues its planning for the 2007 event. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 7th at Thorne Bay City Hall. A potluck meal begins at 6:00 PM with the meeting scheduled from 6:30 until 8:00 PM. Please join us and share your ideas, time and talent to make this year's show an event to remember! The FL Booklet advertising and sponsorship forms need to be sent out in May, so there are some final decisions due to "keep us on target!!!!" What a great job the Button committee did to bring this project to its completion and ready to wear and advertise!



8. THANK YOU to our volunteers

There is a long list of volunteers who helped with the set up and clean up of both the Wine Tasting and the Cancer Coalition Banquet. These events don't happen without the willing hands who perform both the small and big tasks that add up to a success. Thank you to all those unsung heroes!! Thanks also to the tireless volunteers who are serving on the various committees!

9. WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

**Fishmoor
Alaska Glacier Adventures**

10. 2007 Scholarships

As of this writing, underwriters have contributed \$3450 toward the 2007 graduate awards. This translates into seven funded awards, half of the total awarded in 2006. The deadline for submission of the scholarship applications is coming up on May 5th. A survey of High School counselors suggested that we will be receiving a record number of applications, over 20 in number. Please contact the chamber office for a form to help with this annual appeal. These contributions are tax deductible as they are placed into a dedicated fund, solely for these awards.

This year's underwriters who have already responded are: **First Bank, Aleda and Kirk Dahlstrom, Catch a King Charters, Petro Marine Services, Alaska Gifts, Whale Tail Pharmacy, Log Cabin Resort, Cleary Computers, B-3 Contractors, Jody's Seafood Specialties, Southeast Retreat, Black Bear Store, Trophy Inn, Voyageur Bookstore, Changing Tide Inn, and Columbine Inn.**

11. Annual Adopt a Marathon Mile Cleanup

The Chamber office is taking "reservations" for each of the 26 miles of the marathon route. A reservation is for taking on the task of cleaning up both sides of the route, divided by the green milepost markers. Litter bags, gloves and safety vests are supplied to each individual or team of individuals, and can be checked in and out at the Klawock IGA and Thompson House. The clean up period begins on May 12th and goes until the last hours of May 25th. The Chamber posts names on each of the marathon mile markers to recognize all those who participate in this effort. Call the office and sign up your organization, business, or a group of friends. Let's present a clean route to all our runners and walkers who participate in this annual event.



12. MAY 2007 Board Meeting

The May Board meeting will take place Tuesday the 8th at the Chamber office, 6 pm. All are welcome to attend.

13. Island Guide Distribution

Please come by the office and pick up copies of the Guide, or call Denise and if she is going your way, she can bring some by. The Guides come 100 to a box. Please help us in any way you can to get these distributed. Encourage your clients to hand them out to neighbors and send them to friends who want to know more about where you live. Rumor has it that when postage rates go up in May, the postage on the Guide may actually go down!!!

14. Businesses For Sale; Voyageur Bookstore and Black Bear Store

Voyageur Bookstore in Craig. Purchase just the book/toy/gift store portion of this successful small business. Voyageur Coffee Shop will remain under current ownership. Turnkey; regionally well known. Great opportunity on POW Island. Serious inquiries only. Gail Slentz 826-2333.

Black Bear Store: Well established Convenience Store and fuel service located in Klawock at the crossroads of Prince of Wales Island. Business includes property, inventory and equipment. Have been open 365 days a year for 25 years. Serious inquiries, call 907-755-2998.



15. Board of Directors, wishing all Mother's a Happy Day, congratulations to the Class of 2007 and to all our marathoners, we wish you a clean 26.2 mile journey!

President- Jan Bush, B-3 Contractors belle@aptalaska.net

Past President-John Bruns, Prince of Wales Hatchery Association <powha@aptalaska.net>

Vice-President- Julie Isom, City of Thorne Bay & SISD jisom@sisd.org

Secretary- Carolyn Chapman, IFA cchapman@interislandferry.com

Treasurer- Karen Cleary, **Cleary Computer Services** kcleary@aptalaska.net

Director- Mark Jaqua, Southeast Island School District mjaqua@sisd.org

Director- John Moots, **Alaska Power and Telephone** john.m@aptalaska.com

Director-Gail Colberg, **Davies Barry Insurance**, gail@davies-barry.com

Director-Jim Seley, **JS Warehouse & Builders Supply** jseley@aptalaska.net

Office Manager-Denise Daniels

Don't forget to remember all those in service to our Country on Armed Forces Day on May 19th and on Memorial Day May 28th...

