



## Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce Chamber POWER

“Working Together for Progress”

168 Members Strong in 2007, building now for 2008!



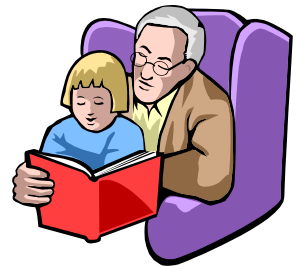
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### 1. Website factoids for the month of AUGUST!

AUGUST unique web hits through AUGUST 25th (first time viewers) were 2162 visitors. **Of these visitors, 770 of them added the website to their favorite’s list!** AUGUST total visitors through the 25<sup>th</sup> were 3117. These visitors looked at a total of 48,573 pages, with 146219 hits. Behind the USA, Great Britain took over second place ahead of Norway for most pages viewed. Saturday was AUGUST’s most active day, and 5PM was the most active time of day. The calendar was the most viewed page; 301 visitors opened up the Island Guide. The average visit was 265 seconds. The Business Directory was viewed 696 times, 378 visitors went to Real Estate, 347 to Accommodations and 328 to Charters.



### 2. Chamber POWER: Thanks to the following sponsors of this month’s Newsletter.

**Stone Arts of Alaska**—Craig / 907-826-3571 / [Jupiter@fidalgo.net](mailto:Jupiter@fidalgo.net) / [www.stoneartsofalaska.com](http://www.stoneartsofalaska.com)  
Take home a piece of Alaska: all of our items are made of Alaskan stone. Gifts large and small. Home furnishings. Decorator items. Sculpture. Jewelry. Crystals. Fossils. Raw stone. No place like it.

**First Bank** – Craig / 907-826-3254 / fax 907-826-3910 / [www.firstbankak.com](http://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.

**Wesley Rentals**—Prince of Wales Island / contact Trish Ellison 401-0367 or email [trishee12@yahoo.com](mailto:trishee12@yahoo.com) or [wesmo@hotmail.com](mailto:wesmo@hotmail.com) / We have Jeep Cherokees and Chevy Cavaliers, and soon to have trucks available. Our vehicles for rent on Prince of Wales (excluding all logging roads)

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### **3. From the President's Desk:**

*We mourn the passing of Sharon Briggs, who was a member of our Chamber from the beginning, and renewed her membership annually. Read her tribute section to find out how you can honor her legacy.*

*August was a busy month as we reviewed and revamped all of our annual membership and Island Guide forms. We also responded to all those who have requested to pay by credit card to get some miles for travel.*

*Membership renewals and the Island Guide contracts have been mailed out to all our members and packets will be sent to others as identified. The packet has also been placed on our website. Please encourage colleagues to join us this year. Please make every effort to get paperwork back to us by October 1<sup>st</sup>. It will help us stay on track for a timely delivery of the Island Guide.*

*The Fair and Logging Show Committee met on August 23<sup>rd</sup> to begin the process of identifying the good things to repeat and the activities that need a change. Mostly this group needs new blood to keep up the awesome effort that it took to present the 2007 show.*

*Come in the office and take a look at the great glass display section that we have added. We are looking for POW- made product samples from our members. We also have the beginnings of a hat section, so bring in a hat to advertise your business!*

*Enjoy the last holiday of the summer, Labor Day, September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Grandparent's Day is Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> and Patriot's Day is 9/11. Please remember those who serve our country and are in harm's way.*

### **4. A tribute to SHARON MCDONALD BRIGGS**

Sharon Briggs, 65, passed away on August 18, 2007 after battling cancer for 17 years. Surrounded by family and friends, Sharon succumbed in the arms of her husband of 45 years, Tom Briggs. A wonderful obituary was printed in the Ketchikan Daily News in the Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> edition. This was written by her children with some blanks filled in by Tom. It states what many of us experienced in knowing Sharon. Among the many things that are a part of her legacy, she was active in philanthropic work here on Prince of Wales, founding the Prince of Wales Cancer Coalition and instrumental in forming the Craig Community Foundation. A dedicated wife and mother, she was a friend to many, and admired by all. She was eternally positive, optimistic and never said ill of anyone.

In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested donations be made to the Prince of Wales Cancer Coalition, c/o PO Box 506, Craig, AK 99921. The contact is Barb Stanley.

## **5. Fair and Logging Show Feedback**

Members of the Fair and Logging Show committee met Thursday, August 23rd at St. John's Church in Klawock for a wrap up meeting. Pizza was provided by the Chamber this time, instead of the usual potluck supplied by the members of the committee who attend.

The tiredness of the 2007 effort was still apparent as the most evident need identified for the 2008 event is more volunteers in all aspects of the weekend. There are so many different projects and pieces to make the weekend a success that anyone and everyone can help by taking on one of the many tasks involved. The committee is really looking for people with good ideas that are willing to take charge of them and make them work.

Again this year, as in many years in the past, lots of people jumped in to help out during the last 10 days before the actual start of the show. The committee tried to list all of the people beyond the committee who gave up some time and talent to lend a hand over the course of the weekend event. Thank YOU Cards were signed by the committee members present and will be sent out to all of these volunteers, hoping that someone has not been forgotten along the way! Every moment of service offered was certainly appreciated, as it was very needed.

There were many things to celebrate about the 2007 event. Among those mentioned were the New Archangel Dancers, the performances by the Bear Mountain Bluegrass Band and the Air force band Top Cover, The Charlie Brown tribute, color guard, carnival court, bingo, breakfast, the Mrs. Alaska exhibit, the covered seating areas, picnic tables, the addition of the log burling pond and the absence of most of the alcohol problems experienced in 2006.

There will be further meetings to deal with the list of things the committee would like to see improved. On the initial list are the need for electrical service and water to the Logging Show arena and more food options offered by more vendors.

The committee will be looking for the best ways to invest \$4000 of button revenue into improvements for the 2008 event. Come to the next meeting on October 1<sup>st</sup> in Thorne Bay and share your ideas, and even more important... your time! This island wide annual event is sponsored by YOUR Chamber of Commerce and your input and assistance is always appreciated so please jump in and help the committee as much and as often as you can.

## **6. Glass Display cases in the office wait to hold your POWmade treasures**

The revenue from the Alaska Airlines/Pacific Airway tickets (about \$1500) is used to improve our Chamber office and Visitor Center. The first purchase was made at the Fair and Logging Show when we got a look at the glass display cases offered for sale by R&M Sporting Goods. They have been transported (Jan and Denise say thanks to Chuck McGee and the Schiewe's for helping with the load in Thorne Bay, and thank you Mike Bush for the use of the pickup!) and set up in the Chamber office (thanks Leo Woods and Megan Hofferber!). They hold a few items we already had, and they have space available for our island treasures.

We encourage our businesses to bring in samples of products that are made here on the island. Supply a card that states where visitors can go to purchase these items. Denise is questioned frequently about where to find locally made items, so bring in small items that give an answer in living color and details! Depending on member's reactions and interest, the office may handle some sales of these items in the future.

One shelf has become home to local business hats, so please bring in one of yours to be added to the advertising collection.

## **7. Back to School Carnival on September 1<sup>st</sup>**

The Chamber's back room looks like a carnival warehouse with all the inventory remaining from the Fair and Logging Show prize inventory. The Chamber is teaming up with the volunteers from Klawock School that gave their time at the Fair and Logging Show. In the empty Klawock Mall

Space a couple doors down from the Chamber office, an indoor carnival will happen on Saturday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. The Klawock School E.L.K.S. will provide more school supply prizes for the student players, and proceeds will be split by agreement to cover each entity's investment. The Chamber will hold a drawing for the jumbo White Tiger that escaped during the Fair and Logging Show....no one won enough prize tickets to claim her! Time is from 10AM to 5PM. Bring the kids, enjoy the challenges, and try your luck at the variety of games too! You have to be an island student to enter the drawing, but you don't have to be a student to play and win prizes from soda pop to the other giant plush animal...the leopard, or the medium sized black panther, or several NFL, MLB, NBA licensed sports treasures!

## 8. SEPTEMBER 2007 Board Meeting



The September Board meeting will take place Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> at the Chamber office, 6 pm. All are welcome to attend. This is one week earlier than usual as some of the directors will be out of town during the second week.

## 9. Businesses For Sale: Voyageur Bookstore, Black Bear Store, Bait Box

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.

The Bait Box in Craig continues to be up for sale.

***Let us know if there are other business opportunities to be added here!***

## 10. MEMBERSHIP AND ISLAND GUIDE ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Concurrent with this newsletter, the renewal packets are being sent out to our current membership AND Julie Hull of Cove Connect added all of it to our website with a can't-be-missed link on the home page. There is a great deal of information shared within the pages. The pages that we need back in the office are stapled together and are colored, except those downloaded from the website, of course! We must have these back to have a complete record of membership. Copies of Island Guide contracts will be given to the Guide publisher, and copies of any changes will be passed to the person who will update website listings. We hope in this way to avoid the problems we experienced last year.

***Please return these to us by October 1<sup>st</sup>.*** There are a couple options for payment to help get these back in a more timely manner this year. If need dictates, members can send in a ½ down payment and the office will invoice the balance due mid November when we hope to have the Island Guide back for review and proofreading. Members can now pay by credit card and that procedure is explained on a separate piece of paper included in the packets. It is also addressed in the next section.

Once we have your paperwork back in the office, Denise has specific procedures to follow so that we can better track all the information needed to complete the Island Guide and Website additions and changes. A spreadsheet will gather all information; accounting is done in

QuickBooks; copies are made for the publisher and webmaster when needed, and your paperwork is placed with copies of checks and receipts in the binder which becomes the resource to which we try to remain faithful! SO THAT'S WHY WE NEED THEM BACK!

## 11. PAY PAL and Credit Card payments now available

At our August meeting, the Board of Directors reviewed all the possibilities for delivering a credit card payment option to our members per the numerous requests received this past year. The one that suits our needs, provides privacy and security to both members and Chamber, comes without fees for this and for that, and can be expanded as we need over the year's events, is through *PAYPAL*. We have created our account, set up the website option, with other options to follow as we learn how to tweak it for our needs. It is NOT NECESSARY for the members to set up a *PayPal* account. You can pay via credit card without a *PayPal* account.

## 12. Early Renewals

Thank you to Karen and Mike Cleary of *Cleary Computer Services*, which was the first business to renew membership for 2008. Karen is south again for more chemo treatment and took care of her Chamber dues before she left! She would reveal that the Directors had a first look at the membership applications, so the errors could be weeded out and changes refined!

The other already returned renewal came from Jan and Mike Bush of *B-3 Contractors, Inc.* Jan reveals hers is in early because she did the test run on the *PayPal* option in order to write up the procedure for online payment before the packets were sent out to the general membership.

Tune in next month for a report on the first business to renew after mail was sent out!

This section will be kept alive for the length of the renewal season, so you can see your name in print right here in the October edition if we receive your paperwork back by then!

## 13. New Members

For now, this space is pretty empty...Help us change that by encouraging others to support the work of your chamber with their membership, and to support their own success with their advertising in the Island Guide and on our website!

## 14. Board of Directors, wishing all a calm entrance into Autumn.

**President-** Jan Bush, *B-3 Contractors* [belle@aptalaska.net](mailto:belle@aptalaska.net)

**Past President-** John Bruns, *Prince of Wales Hatchery Association* [powha@aptalaska.net](mailto:powha@aptalaska.net)

**Vice-President-** Julie Isom, *City of Thorne Bay & SISD* [jisom@sisd.org](mailto:jisom@sisd.org)

**Secretary-** Carolyn Chapman, *IFA* [cchapman@interislandferry.com](mailto:cchapman@interislandferry.com)

**Treasurer-** Karen Cleary, *Cleary Computer Services* [kcleary@aptalaska.net](mailto:kcleary@aptalaska.net)

**Director-** Mark Jaqua, *City of Thorne Bay*,

**Director-** John Moots, *Alaska Power and Telephone* [john.m@aptalaska.com](mailto:john.m@aptalaska.com)

**Director-** Gail Colberg, *Davies Barry Insurance*, [gail@davies-barry.com](mailto:gail@davies-barry.com)

**Director-** Jim Seley, *JS Warehouse & Builders Supply* [jseley@aptalaska.net](mailto:jseley@aptalaska.net)

Office Manager-Denise Daniels

September Newsletter Editor-Jan Bush, with proofreading by Karen Cleary, and contributions by Jim McFarland

If you have an event to add to the website calendar, Call, email or fax Denise in the office today....