



Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce

Chamber POWER

178 Members strong

Volume 20, Issue 4, April 2009

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*From the
President's Desk:*

Is Spring on the way?

*The pace at the Chamber is picking up
as our calendar fills up.*

*We are still awaiting word from the
Governor's office about a possible visit to Prince of
Wales Island. If we don't have a positive response by
the beginning of next week, we will go ahead and
schedule the annual Awards event in May.*

*The Chamber has scheduled a presentation on
borough issues. Put a red circle around May 26th when
Jim Van Altvorst will be here to lay out the Good, the Bad,
and the Ugly. Further information awaits within.*

*The Chamber has a new Tourism Committee
and a report from this group is included. Since their
work will have positive impacts on all of our members,
please consider becoming a member of this group and
lend your support to their efforts.*

*About half of our 2009 Island Guide boxes have been
distributed around southeast, in Washington DC, and other
parts of the Country. Please take a handful of these with
you when you head out to meetings or visits with family.
Be sure your friends and relatives leave with a few in their
hands after a visit.*

*An unusually large number of people are calling the
office or asking for relocation packages. Please bring in a
supply of brochures to fill the racks. As the economic and
political climate worsens in the lower 48, it appears people
are looking at POW as a safe haven?*

Have a Happy Easter on April 12th!

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1. Website factoids for the month of **MARCH**

MARCH's web hits through MARCH 29TH were **259,118!** MARCH'S total visits were **5702.** Behind the **USA, Russian Federation, Canada, and United Kingdom** were the countries with the most visitors. **Wednesday** was the most active day, and **5 to 6PM** was the most active time of day. **Google** was the top search engine used to find us with about 83 percent!

2. Chamber POWER Sponsors for APRIL Edition—*The following businesses have paid for advertising in this spot and help the Chamber cover the costs of mailing and maintaining our email account and website. The editor shuffles the ad locations each month at random. To become a sponsor and have your information appear here each month or for certain months of the year, call the Chamber office. All of this month's sponsors are located here this month. We thank them for their support of this newsletter.*

Douglass Home Builders / Coffman Cove

/ 907-329-2018 / fax 907-329-2019 /

gwd2nd@yahoo.com /

www.douglasshomebuilders.com -- General contractor specializing in remodeling, disaster restoration and new construction of both residential and commercial structures. 30 years-plus of experience with detail-focused approach to all aspects of work.

Tongass Business Center – Ketchikan /

618 Dock St. / Ketchikan, AK 99901 / 1-800-

478-9015 907-225-9015 / Fax 907-225-9014 /

Catalog now on-line at www.tbcenter.com.

Office Equipment & Supply, Sharp Copiers & Faxes, Printing & Binding, Newsletters, Office Furniture.

Black Bear Store—Klawock/907-755-2292

/ Tim and Melissa Lacour, Owners/ Basic groceries. Fuel. Hunting and Fishing licenses and tackle.

Diversified Investments & Insurance –

Ketchikan/ 907-225-9805 / Angela C Salazar, CFP & Associates / Health & Life Insurance and Financial Advisory Services – Securities sold through KMS Financial Services, Inc. We have been serving Alaskan's needs since 1980.



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. ATMs located at First Bank and at West Wind Plaza in Craig.

ISLAND AIR EXPRESS: Craig/ 907-387-8989 / info@Island AirX.com/ www.Island AirX.com/ Headquartered on Prince of Wales, Island Air Express operates modern jet-prop aircraft on amphibious floats. Fully FAA-certified for day and night IFR, our aircraft can transport nine passengers in commuter-style

comfort at speeds up to 200 mph. Island Air Express has terminal facilities at the Klawock and Ketchikan airports.

Cleary Computer Services / Klawock / 907-755-2963 / cell 907-401-0200 / fax 907-755-2121 / kcleary@clearycomputerservices.com / www.clearycomputerservices.com / P.O. Box 109, Klawock AK 99925-- Repairs, installations, Internet, networks and servers, Windows XP & Vista, navigation software. Security software and most replacement parts in stock. Pick-up, drop-off, or on-site service available. 25 years' experience; work guaranteed.

3. FREE QUICKBOOKS TRAINING ON WEEKEND OF APRIL

The Chamber is pleased to help facilitate a second Quickbook Workshops put on by Rose Spinelli, a certified Quickbooks Pro Advisor. The Quickbooks Beginner Instruction will take place on Saturday, April 25th from 9AM to 5PM (with 1 hr for lunch) The Quickbooks Intermediate class will be held Sunday, April 26th.

Both classes will be held at the Klawock School Computer Lab. Space will be limited to the number of computers. **Please call Denise Daniels at the Chamber office to get your name on the list.**

The
to



hands-on **BEGINNER CLASS** is an overview of basic set up the new user. Participants will learn to use the necessary accounting tools and be able to use this program for their business bookkeeping.

The **INTERMEDIATE CLASS** will cover invoicing, using accounts receivable and accounts payable, as well as doing inventory. Participants will be able to refine their own working accounting system. Those wanting to register for the Intermediate workshop should have either taken the Beginner class or be familiar with and currently using Quickbooks software.

The workshops are FREE.

4. APRIL 2009 BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors of the Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce will meet in regular session at 6:00 PM at the Chamber office in Klawock, on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15TH. There are public comment periods at each meeting which allow time for your ideas, suggestions, etc. Please join us, and once we get around all the scheduling conflicts, we'll let you know the date!!!

5. ISLAND GRIND ON APRIL 4TH: CELEBRATING OUR EARTH

Saturday, APRIL 4TH is the day, 7PM is the time, and the Craig High School auditorium is the place.

Buy tickets in advance at the Voyageur Bookstore or at the door! Admission cost is Adults \$5, Students \$3, Children ages 6 & under \$1, and Seniors \$3 (ages 60+). Remember that your ticket proceeds will help fund scholarships to send local youth to next summer's Fine Arts Camp in Sitka.

Volunteers to support the show are welcome. Entertainers interested in performing should call John Bruns or Sally Burch at 755-8899 for more information.

May 2nd: End of the Season Grind



6. COMINGS AND GOINGS ON THE IFA

The IFA carried 1625 passengers and 345 vehicles off the island during the February morning runs to Ketchikan. In February 2008, 1679 passengers and 362 vehicles made this journey.

During the evening return runs, 1646 passengers and 383 vehicles arrived on POW through the Hollis port. In February 2008, 1749 passengers and 408 vehicles were recorded.

On February 6th and 13th, 100% of the deck space was used on the morning run with 25 and 23 vehicles respectively. On the 15th, the deck was full on the return trip with 27 vehicles.

7. TOURISM COMMITTEE MEETING... report by Jeannie McFarland

You may be aware of a new group of tourism business owners meeting about promoting Tourism on the Island. The group is already on a roll having met 3 times in different communities since October and focusing on finding ways to get the information out about our Island. During the last POW Chamber of Commerce board meeting, we requested, and were approved by the board, to be named the POW Island Chamber Island Wide Tourism Committee and received the go ahead to be one of the Standing Committees of the Chamber. Promotion of Tourism and distribution of the Island Guide brochure are two important tasks that the committee will work on.

We are hoping to meet about once a month this spring to get some initial plans put in action. In early May, we will be offering the Ketchikan Visitors Bureau a FAM (Familiarization) tour for some of their staff. KVB has contact with travel writers and packaging agencies interested in Prince of Wales Island that are interested in collaborating with Tourism oriented businesses on our island. We are inviting the KVB staff to do a first hand look so they can give us some ideas on how to proceed. We expect to also offer a FAM tour to a group of Tour operators being brought to Prince of Wales Island by The Alaska Rainforest Islands Organization. The Island wide Tourism Committee wants to give all Tourism Business on the island an opportunity to join us and make contact with the people that can help us tell our story and draw people to our Island.

Our new committee will be doing a “dry run” of our FAM tour on Monday, April 6th followed by our next meeting in Coffman Cove. We will start in Klawock at the Chamber Office in the morning and meet with anyone interested in sharing their information and brochures. We will travel to Thorne Bay and have a “brown bag lunch” meeting with operators there and then on to Coffman Cove for the committee meeting. We are arranging transportation so if you are interested in joining in let us know by calling Jim or Jeannie McFarland at 907-828-3335/floatel@starband.net.

If any of you are interested in joining the Island Wide Tourism Committee or would like to get involved with these tours, please let us know. If you are not currently a member of the POW Chamber of Commerce this is where we would invite you to join. This committee is just one of the benefits.

Contact persons are; Mariana Carter: carters@coveconnect.com ,Jaqie Wetherbee: jaqie@wetherbeeslodge.com, Jeannie McFarland: floatel@starband.net ,Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce: powcc@aptalaska.net .

8. Alaska SeaRoad, LLC

Kent Miller and Bill Altland were at the last Chamber meeting and at the POWCAC meeting To present plans for a new venture. Alaska SeaRoad, LLC is being organized to provide passenger/vehicle ferry service between several ports in Southeast Alaska. With the termination of the Northern IFA run, this venture becomes more viable. The venture is proposing an operating charter of the MV Prince of Wales.

The proposed service would maintain Coffman Cove-Wrangell-South Mitkof service at three round trips per week, linked to one weekly round trip between Coffman Cove and Ketchikan, and one weekly round trip between Ketchikan and Hyder.

In addition to ferry service, the venture proposes to offer two mini-coach services.

At the time of presentation, the venture was proposing to begin service in 2010. Major marketing efforts will begin later this year, and the Chamber will disseminate information that is passed on to us.

9. POWCAC meeting report of March 24th gathering in Thorne Bay

The POWCAC gathering of March 24th began with some ribs for lunch, thanks to the efforts of Thorne Bay! The meeting lasted to almost 4:00, with a long agenda.

The meeting was well run by newly elected Chairperson Leslie Isaacs, current City Administrator for the City of Klawock. Information was disseminated on a variety of topics: POW Transportation Priorities, Northern Electrical Intertie, Reynolds Creek Hydro Project, The Nature Conservancy, Governor's visit, Alaska SeaRoad, Boroughs.

The next meeting will be held at Naukati School on Tuesday, May 26th. The first item on the agenda to begin at 1PM is a presentation, discussion , question and answer period featuring Jim Van Altvorst. The TOPIC: Exposing Boroughs, The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly.

10. PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION HELP NEEDED NOW

More information and an urgent plea for help will be issued across the Island Of Enchantment once we have a date, and a possible visit from our Governor. Look for a special mailing should this happen!

11. Exposing Boroughs: the good, the bad and the ugly

The Chamber has been asked to facilitate a meeting on Prince of Wales Island to educate all of us on the pros and cons of forming an island borough.

Jim Van Altvorst will deliver two presentations to interested residents on Tuesday, May 26th. The first will take place at the POWCAC meeting at Naukati School at 1PM. Anyone interested in their own fact finding mission on this important issue is invited to attend. Jim will be at the top of the agenda.

A second presentation will happen that evening at 7PM at Craig High School Auditorium.

Jim Van Altvorst's experiences on POW and with several community's dealings with the Lane Boundary Commission will aid him in painting a thorough picture of this issue for interested island residents.

12. Mining Symposium

The Organized Village of Kasaan is hosting an Island Wide Mining Symposium **May 5th – May 7th 2009** This will be a three day event held at the Craig Community Association:

- ▶ The first day will consist of sessions with governing agencies on Prince of Wales Island. These sessions will discuss different mining issues that may be of concern to the people of Prince of Wales Island.
- ▶ The second day, mining representatives will discuss current mining projects here on Prince of Wales Island.
- ▶ The third day will consist of a round table discussion with governing agencies, mining representatives, and local citizens in which the three groups can voice their questions, concerns, and thoughts. Following the discussion there will be a dinner and a night of entertainment with performances by local Tlingit and Haida dance groups.

If you have any additional questions or comments, feel free to contact Jeff Sheakley at 907-542-2230 or Neli Nelson at (907)-209-5389.

13. Business Happenings.....a peak into CAMO SHOP, LLC

Kim Scheidecker, owner of Chamber member POW Jeep Rentals, has changed the name of her business. It is now to be known as the Camo Shop, officially, and not just as an answer to where you can find Kim, the Jeep, and the variety of goods that she stocks on her shelves, hangers, walls and in her display windows.

Kim has recently added an embroidery and ink design capability, so you can get a great deal on tee shirts, and keep your dollars circulating locally at the same time.

Kim has a great display of locally made products and art items. And of course, she has a huge inventory of camouflage clothing items for every age...in a whole rainbow of colors!

14. ALASKA GIFTS IS FOR SALE

Business for Sale * Turn –Key Operation, Contents, inventory, equipment & fixtures

After many wonderful years the owners of Alaska Gifts are looking to spend some time off. A truly wonderful shop, a Craig landmark Alaska Gifts caters to the tourist as well as filling a niche market with the Island residents. Alaska Gifts offers jewelry repair as well as a wide variety of authentic Alaskan items, including but not limited to silver & gold jewelry in traditional native design as well as local native art, pelts, carving and art prints. Once in the door, you're hooked! It's a shoppers dream on any budget!

This operation serves as a film drop and offers the only Kodak Picture Maker on the island, great for those eye catching last minute enlargements as well as a full service custom matting & frame center.

A wonderful selection of holiday themed gifts and supplies are always well received. Alaska Gifts carries a nice supply of party goods including cards and candles even Alaskan chocolates and of course locally smoked canned salmon.

Well established 11+yrs. Currently open 7days a week, year round.

Owner looking to semi- retire but will still do jewelry repair.

Serious inquiries only. Please email aplacetostay@aptalaska.net



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PO Box 490, Klawock, Alaska 99925



APRIL
NEWSLETTER
WITHIN!

