



Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce

Chamber POWER

181 Members strong

Volume 20, Issue 6, June 2009

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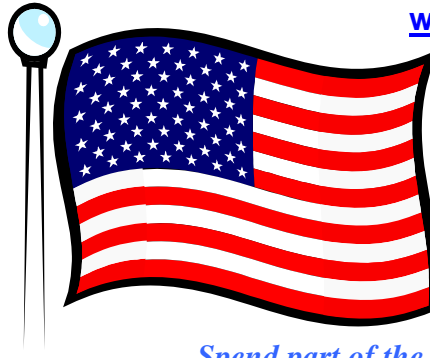
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From the President's Desk:
*Welcome to June 2009! **Flag Day** is June 14th ...long may she wave!!
Father's Day is coming up on our Summer Solstice, June 21st!!*

Spend part of the longest day of the year honoring your dads! You wouldn't be you without him!

***May was a huge Chamber month:** Wine Tasting, Everyday Hero Awards, Tourism Committee sponsored FAM tour, Adopt a Marathon Mile cleanup, tax deadline, graduate scholarships, POWCAC, and many many phone calls seeking information about POW. Look for further details on some of these events in the pages that follow.*

The Board will meet in June and work on the Membership and Island Guide packets for the 2010 edition.

Some old files in the office indicate that the Chamber had its beginnings on Prince of Wales Island in 1989. But since incorporation papers have a 1991 date, we will wait for two years to mark the 20 year milestone.

Anyone who attended the Wine and Brew Tasting event and the Everyday Hero Awards presentations were treated to a display of all the Island Guides since 1994, with the exception of 1995. We have since found a copy of that one. These Guides are in the process of being matted and framed and will be displayed in the office. Five of them are completed and will be hung soon. Henry Williamson is doing an awesome job on these displays and the finished products are going to make an incredible and historical display in the office. Stop by for a look at the fabulously framed and finished first five!

If your business is tourist related, please be sure to read the final article of this newsletter for some important information related to you. There is an opportunity coming up on June 4th on Prince of Wales that our island businesses should not miss.



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

MAY'S web hits through MAY 27TH were **298,069!** MAY'S total visits were **12,080**. Behind the **USA, Russian Federation, Germany, Canada, and Italy** were the countries with the most visitors. **Monday** was the most active day, and **five to six PM** was the most active time of day. **Google** was the top search engine used to find us with about 84 percent!

2. Chamber POWER Sponsors for JUNE 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.*

The Healing Touch Massage Craig and Klawock / 907-530-7080 / cell 775-842-7758
Therapeutic, Swedish, hot stone, chair massage. Paraffin foot & hand therapeutic treatment. Trigger point/ deep tissue, sports massage. By appointment. Outcall to local lodges is available with notice.

Arrowhead Transfer, Inc—Craig/ 826-3419/MikeZellhuber,manager/www.shipaml.com/ Local and Long distance hauling and moving. Agent for Alaska Marine Lines weekly barge, heated mini storage. Packing cartons for sale.

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.

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.

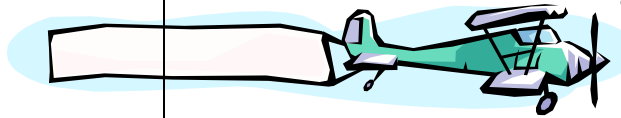
ISLAND AIR EXPRESS: Craig/ 907-387-8989 / info@IslandAirX.com/ www.IslandAirX.com/ Headquartered on Prince of Wales, Island Air Express operates modern jet-prop aircraft on amphibious floats. Fully FAA-certified for day and night IFR, our aircraft can transport nine passengers in commuter-style comfort at speeds up to 200 mph. Island Air Express has terminal facilities at the Klawock and Ketchikan

airports.

Coffman Cove Charters Coffman Cove / 907-329-2044 / 503-377-2505 / lee@coffmancovecharters.com / www.coffmancovecharters.com Fish halibut, salmon and bottomfish with Capt. Lee Harper. Walk-ons are welcome, but reservations are encouraged. Call now to reserve your place in the boat. We'll see you in Coffman Cove this summer

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.

Hollis Adventure Rentals! P.O. Box 1041 Craig, AK. 99921/ Business Phone (907) 530 - 7040 Fax (866) 309-6483 Cell (425) 766- 8969/ Harentals@comcast.net / www.harentals.com / Car rental with kayak, boat and camping gear packages at the Hollis ferry dock. We also offer skiff, van, RV, truck and fishing gear rental at affordable rates.



3. Congratulations to our POW Everyday Heroes!

75 people gathered at the CCA building on Sunday, May 3rd, 2009 to enjoy each other's company at a Wine and Brew Tasting event which concluded with the presentations of seven Everyday Hero Awards. The awards were presented by members of the community from which the honored individuals were nominated and chosen.

Denise James, City of Craig

Craig City Administrator Jon Bolling presented that community's award to Denise James. Bolling read from one of the many nomination forms that named Denise James as an Everyday Hero: "This person singlehandedly kept the Craig Post Office running (efficiently and pleasantly) for several months-even, and especially, during the Christmas season, and continues to do so. The Craig Post Office typically employs three people. She is always kind, thoughtful and selfless when dealing with customers, frequently going above and beyond to ensure the citizens of Craig receive their mail and parcels without delay.....neither snow nor rain nor heat of day nor gloom of night has kept this dedicated courier from the

swift completion of her appointed rounds!" Other nominations received by the city for Denise's selection mentioned her many volunteer efforts at local fundraisers, the quilts she gives away, as well as her popular smoked salmon and berry jelly that is enjoyed by most of the island. Family members made sure that Denise attended the event to receive the personalized plaque and cobalt blue mugs, one personalized and an extra one to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea with visitors.

Jon Bolling also announced the names of other Craig residents who received nominations for the Everyday Hero Award: Marvin Stickman, Victoria Merritt, Paul and Deidra Foster, Jim Seley, Barbi Armstrong, John Steinberg, Tamara Buoy, Rod Landon, John Moots, and Doug Rhodes.

Ann James, City of Klawock

Ann James was presented the Klawock Everyday Hero award by City Administrator Leslie Isaacs. Isaacs recounted the many times that Ann James has shared her time and talent providing music at funerals, weddings, and all occasions in between. Since his own High School days, a period of time not numbered by him, Mr. Isaacs has observed these times and all the other times that Ms. James has been there when community members and friends need a helping hand. A long time teacher at Klawock School, a nomination form also listed the exceptional learning opportunities that she has provided to so many students, as well as being an inspiration for following and maintaining constant healthy living habits.

Jim Wilson, City of Thorne Bay

Jim Gould, Mayor of Thorne Bay, recounted a long list of activities that Jim Wilson has performed during his many years of residency in Thorne Bay that garnered him as the inaugural recipient of the Everyday Hero Award from that community. Called "Mr. Wilson" by young and old residents of Thorne Bay as a sign of respect, this honor was bestowed for a host of reasons.

Since Jim Wilson moved to Thorne Bay with the USFS in 1980 as the District Ranger. He was instrumental in Thorne Bay becoming a Second Class city and was instrumental in the passage of HB 811 which authorized the then owners of the houses in Thorne Bay to purchase the land under them for only the administrative and survey costs. He has worked for the betterment of the community supporting any and all projects that encouraged the residents to embrace the "camp" making it their own. Jim put in his own time and money to make sure the community that became a city would thrive.

Jim was a member of the business community from the start, he co-owned one of the first businesses in Thorne Bay, the Clear Cut Market. When he retired from the USFS in 1982 he started his own business, Prince of Wales Gas. Through his business Mr. Wilson has generously supported many families on Prince of Wales Island. No one was denied the services he provided even in hard times.

Jim Wilson first served on the Thorne Bay City Council in 1984 and remained active on and off the council to 1996. He has been active in The Thorne Bay Business Association since its beginning in 1998 having held the office of president most of those years as he does today.

His love of gardening is seen in the beautiful leaf trees flowering plants all over town, many he has donated in a tireless effort to beautify his city.

Jim has received recognition for his efforts over the years which he gratefully but somewhat reluctantly accepts. He sees his efforts as just part of being a member of the community of Thorne Bay.

Suwan Hanson, Community of Hollis

A special committee of seven Hollis residents reviewed the nominations and selected Suwan Hanson as the 2009 Everyday Hero in their community. Suwan was described by Budd Burnett, President of the Hollis Community Council, as the quintessential volunteer, having volunteered innumerable hours on a myriad of community tasks and projects over the past 20 years. Suwan is a carpenter by trade and enjoys working with wood and subsistence fishing. He also operates a small sawmill and is a heavy equipment operator.

Suwan is one of the most active fire fighters, seldom missing a training meeting indoors or outdoors in any kind of weather. He designed and supervised the construction of the Hollis Fire Department garage, and in so doing volunteered more hours than any other person working on the project. He, along with six other local volunteers, worked numerous hours helping State Archeologists conduct digs in the proposed Hollis cemetery, and volunteered several days of work in clearing and preparing an emergency medevac heliport site near Hollis School. He has never refused to volunteer his time working on community projects.

For the past several winters, Suwan has used his personal snow plow to keep most subdivision access roads and driveways clear of snow so residents could have vehicle access to the Klawock-Hollis Highway. He has received some

monetary compensation for these services from thankful residents, but seldom enough to pay for the fuel he used in his suburban snow plow and his diesel powered skidder. But he keeps on plowing snow because he cares. Suwan has done a variety of construction projects, including building homes for residents at well below market wages. He shares the fish, crabs and shrimp he catches with his needy neighbors and is always ready to give a helping hand to anyone in need. He is very unselfish with his time and is one of the most considerate and generous neighbors anyone could ask for.

Art King, Community of Naukati

Naukati resident Gregg Parsley and wife Beverly were on hand to honor Art King as the recipient of their community's Everyday Hero Award, and to deliver the awards to Art upon his return from Cancer treatments in Seattle. Parsley described how he found Naukati when he moved there, a community without a lot of essential services and infrastructure. Art was president of the Naukati Homeowners Association, has applied for grant funds for the community and has successfully implemented grant-funded projects in Naukati, including the Naukati shellfish nursery, regional shellfish processing facility, and the Weekend Warrior Program. He represents Naukati at POWCAC meetings. He was elected last fall to the SE

Conference Board of Directors and Chairs the conference's Fisheries Committee.

Jerry Hedges, City of Coffman Cove

Jerry Hedges of Coffman Cove was honored as his community's Everyday Hero for 2009. Hedges' daughter-in-law Heather Phillips had to have help from friends Sarah Warner and Jaqie Wetherbee to read a tribute to Jerry that was written by fellow citizen Carolyn Duncan. Jerry was described as a person who leads by example. He is the definition of a loving, caring husband, having guided and daily nursed his wife Caroline through two long term, life threatening illnesses, back to back. Ms. Duncan wrote that "Jerry is probably mortified to be chosen for recognition, but how else do you thank someone for reminding the rest of us that the core promises we make are the ones we must honor most faithfully?" The award was delivered to Jerry at his home in Coffman Cove by his three presenters.

Gregg Cook, Community of Whale Pass

SISD Superintendent Lauren Burch, introduced the Whale Pass recipient, Gregg Cook. Gregg has been a determined advocate for economic development on Prince of Wales Island. He has worked hard to put together a wood pellet project that will bring jobs to the island. He has done everything he can to bring the project to the island rather than somewhere else in southeast Alaska.

4. Everyday Hero glassware available

Is there an Everyday Hero in your life and have you thought about letting him or her know that he or she has made a difference in your life? The Chamber has a supply of the Everyday Hero glassware in the office. They are priced at our cost and were engraved by Alaska Laser Maid in Thorne Bay with the Hero symbol that was created by Deborah Oberndorfer. They would make a great gift for any Hero in your life and they offer a unique way to say thanks for their contributions to you or to your community or organization. Stop by and take a look.



5. JUNE 2009 BOARD MEETING

The REGULAR meeting of the Board of Directors of the Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce is scheduled for Wednesday, June 17th at the Chamber office in Klawock. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 6PM. Work item on the agenda is the Membership and Advertising paperwork for the next membership period and the 2010 Island Guide.

As usual there is a Public Comment period at the beginning of the agenda for the purpose of inviting comment from our members and other interested persons. Meetings are open to all.

6. Special Concert to be held on June 3rd at CCA building in Craig at 7PM

Randy McGinnis, a Cherokee Indian from Knoxville, TN will be playing his Native American flute. The songs that he plays are from the old songs with which he grew up. He taught himself how to play these songs.

Randy was presented with a prestigious award from R. Carlos Nakai for his efforts in the promotion, preservation, and education of the Native American flute.
Refreshments will be served.

7. IFA's 400,000th passenger and the COMINGS AND GOINGS IN APRIL

The IFA agents were on alert during the month of May as they counted the passengers, waiting for the 400,000th to walk down the ramp. It happened on the Ketchikan to Hollis run on May 28th. A surprised Karen Rawding of Thorne Bay was met by Lonnie Adams, IFA Operations Manager and Len Lawrence, IFA Marketing Manager. The IFA gave Karen an IFA hat and a Certificate for a round-trip on the Stikine for 2 passengers and a vehicle. On board, Capt Perry announced her winning and she received a round of applause from the passengers.

The IFA carried 1679 passengers and 417 vehicles off the island during the April morning runs to Ketchikan. In April 2008, 1693 passengers and 459 vehicles made this journey.

During the evening return runs, 1671 passengers and 462 vehicles arrived on POW through the Hollis port. In April 2008, 2417 passengers and 571 vehicles were recorded.

On April 27th, 100% of the deck space was used on the morning run with 28 vehicles, with 137 passengers aboard. On the 17th and the 23rd, the deck was full on the return trip with 26 and 24 vehicles, respectively.

The Chamber thanks Carolyn Chapman of the IFA for providing the monthly stats. Carolyn is a former Director and we are pleased with her continuing support!

8. TOURISM COMMITTEE

The Island Wide Tourism Committee of the Prince of Wales Island Chamber of Commerce is still working on ways to stimulate the Islands' economy by highlighting what we have to offer visitors. Our first effort was to invite staff from the Ketchikan Visitors Bureau to see what we have to offer and help us highlight our Island through their many connections. We had a very successful trip with them starting with the Wine Tasting Event on May 3rd. Dragon London and Anna Marie Mestas were happy to have the lodging, tour and meals the committee offered. They were very complimentary of our efforts and made helpful suggestions on how we can promote the Island on our own and with their help.

One of the best marketing tools we offered them was a Portfolio from Coffman Cove and Thorne Bay. The Portfolio includes a host of information on those communities that can be used by agencies to help promote what we have to offer. The Committee is looking for someone in each of the other communities on the Island to collect the information and make a portfolio with their opportunities.

The next opportunity to "Strut our Stuff" will be with the Rainforest Islands FAM the first week of June. You will find detailed information in the article on their visit, **17. TOURIST RELATED BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY.**

The committee is looking for anyone providing services to the visitor industry to join in the effort. This includes everyone from those providing lodging, and guide services, to artists and retail merchants.

Contact any of the following people to join the committee in meeting their goals of a stronger economy for our island through the visitor industry.

Mariana Carter: carters@coveconnect.com, 907-329-2923,

Jaquie Wetherbee: jaquie@wetherbeeslodge.com, 907-329-2266,

Jeannie McFarland: floatel@starband.net, 907-828-3335,

The Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce: powcc@aptalaska.net, 907-755-2626.

9. MARATHON MILE CLEAN UP

The marathon has been run or walked! And even more miles were covered by the many volunteers who picked up litter on both sides of the 26+ mile route from Hollis to Craig.

Some reports revealed that more than 10 of the large yellow litter bags were needed to hold the amount of litter that was deposited on a mile of roadside since the last cleanup. OUCH! Even disgusting old deer carcasses were removed.

Cleanup coordinator Jan Stevens and the Chamber thank all the great citizens of POW who joined the 2009 effort. Thank you to the AC stores in Klawock and Craig for once again being the Checkout stations for safety vests, litter bags and gloves. Thanks to the City of Klawock for the supply of litter bags and for accepting the trash at the transfer station. Thanks to DOT and others who picked up the filled bags along the highway. And thanks to all the responsible citizens who don't throw their trash or cigarette butts out the windows of their vehicles.

10. POWCAC meeting report for May 26th gathering in Naukati

Chamber Directors Budd Burnett, Jim Gould, and Jan Bush all attended the POWCAC meeting held in Naukati on Tuesday, May 26th. The 1PM meeting was preceded by a tour of the oyster production operation by Gregg Parsley and a wonderful lunch provided by some great cooks and bakers from the community. The meeting was well attended and adjourned about 4PM.

It was intended that a presentation on boroughs be a major item on the agenda. Leslie Isaacs, current POWCAC chairperson received an email just prior to the meeting date that the speaker was unavailable for the May meeting. The attendees did take some time to express questions and concerns that will be addressed in a future presentation, hopefully in July. Any presentation on this sticky subject will receive wide notice, and surely a special emailing to our membership in the days just prior to the event. Questions were submitted by the community of Hollis that are representative of all the POW communities and answers specific to those concerns will be sought for the benefit of all.

Agenda items at the May POWCAC meeting included an update from Sealaska Corporation on the land acquisition legislation before the US Congress, an IFA update, Forest Service Road Storage, Maintenance and Closure plan, AP&T updates of the Northern Electrical Intertie and Reynold's Creek Hydro Project funding update, and Resource Advisory Committee Discussion and update.

Several representatives from Sealaska Corporation were present and received a great deal of feedback from representatives of several communities in regard to concerns over the land selection issues, particularly access and past Forest practices, easements and subsurface rights that cost communities many extra dollars for their infrastructure projects.

Representative Bill Thomas was also present and spoke about his work in the legislature, particularly in regard to the Energy Funds awarded to worthwhile projects in Alaska. Thomas urged communities to submit applications for the remaining moneys available for energy projects that will benefit their people by lowering their power costs.

Forest Ranger Greg Killinger reported that 25 applications were received for the 15 RAC positions. Those 15 positions were filled but the names have not yet been released pending approval. The RAC, Resource Advisory Committee, the first of its kind on POW, will decide how to spend Title II monies.

Craig Mayor Dennis Watson, also on the Board of the IFA, reported on the latest news from the IFA, including a no-go decision on the proposal by SeaRoads, LLC to charter the Northern Run vessel for travel between several Southern Southeast Alaska ports. More realistic expense figures resulted in a concept that would not be economically viable at this time. The IFA board continues to look at alternative funding and other options to put the POW vessel into service.

Thorne Bay Forest Ranger Jason Anderson presented the Forest Service's Access Travel Management Plan which details the roads on Prince of Wales Island that are slated for storage, closure or maintained use over the next several years. The public comment period is open until

mid-July and POW citizens are urged to study the plan and the maps on the Forest Service website and provide feedback.

The next POWCAC meeting is scheduled in Whale Pass on July 28th. The schedule for the following four meetings will take the group to Kasaan in September, to Craig in November, to Klawock in January 2010 hosted by the Chamber and to Klawock in March 2010 hosted by the City of Klawock.

11. 2009 Scholarships Awarded to 12 Graduates

Chamber Scholarship Committee Chairpersons Jan Bush and Sarah Altland announced that 2009 Scholarships were awarded to 12 recipients, six each from Klawock and Craig High Schools.

Former Chamber director Karen Cleary, and current Klawock School Board President, stood in for Jan and presented six awards at the Klawock High School graduation on Friday, May 15th to Ethan Fifield, Laura Steward, Jennifer Plumley, Sean Hall, Rachel Busse, and Noelle Demmert.

Jan Bush presented six awards to recipients at the Craig High School graduation on Thursday, May 28th. The 2009 awards include a framed certificate enclosed in a personalized portfolio that is provided to each recipient each year by B-3 Contractors. The recipients from Craig High School are Stephanie Merritt, Tracey Blanc, Houston Vaughan, Corbin Quigley, Celia Ownbey, and Adam Sadler.

... and other Scholarship news.....

Certificates contain names of all those businesses and individuals who contributed underwriting in 2008. This year, the committee was able to give themselves and underwriters a break from fundraising, as the 2009 awards are funded by the reserve account that has been built over the past five years. The reserve is a sum of interest income and scholarships that have not been claimed by previous recipients. Given the economic conditions, the committee was more than happy not to seek underwriting contributions for the 2009 awards.

For the first time ever, the committee received an unsolicited underwriting! A check arrived from Chamber member *Changing Tides Inn*, Rob and Val Steward of Klawock. Thank you so much!!!! This was the check that covered the 12th award and sealed the deal on the underwriting recess for the many businesses that make this program possible.

Ten years ago, nine awards were presented. The 1999 recipients are names many will recognize: Sarah Whicker, Donny Pratt, Connie Kanen, Astin Bush, Jeff Lund, Michelle Maurer, Kalle Sharp, Chad Askren, and Jessica Metcalf.

Since 1994, the Chamber has been able to award over 170 scholarships worth \$500 each because of the generosity of the business community on Prince of Wales Island. That is an impressive investment in the outstanding youth of our communities. Our recipients have become doctors, nurses, teachers, counselors, lawyers, chefs, pilots, film directors, business owners, construction workers, foremen, supervisors or project managers, professional craftsmen, ministers, as well as parents of some of our current elementary students. Many have served our nation in one of the military branches before beginning their careers or families. We congratulate all of them.

12. The VILLAGE MARKETPLACE is back

The Village Marketplace will happen on Saturday, June 13th from 10AM until 5PM. Located in Craig at the Thibodeau Mini-Mall across from Thompson House, this event presents a great opportunity for local artisans, home-based entrepreneurs, professional crafters and fundraising for local groups and organizations. Spaces start at \$10/day.

On June 13th, the Craig Swim Team will be selling hot dogs all day.

Great local shopping includes spectacular photography, wood carving and hand-crafted furniture, jewelry, clothing, candles, quilts and much more. You can call Briana for information or to reserve your space at 401-0249. You may also call Henry Williamson at 755-2594.

13. Alaska Airlines and Pacific Airways contribute tickets for Raffle

As they have done for the past several years, Alaska Airlines has contributed two round trip, non-directional tickets from/to Anchorage or Seattle, from/to Southeast Alaska terminals. Pacific Airways has again contributed two round trip tickets between Ketchikan and Prince of Wales. Anyone who travels can add up the value of these four tickets.

The Chamber will raffle the package of four tickets with a drawing set for Labor Day on September 7th. The tickets are \$5 each this year and the proceeds will help the Chamber help Prince of Wales Island. The Chamber still expects a visit from the governor and will need some of these proceeds to cover expenses connected with that visit. Funds are also needed to cover costs associated with the Everyday Hero awards, this year's and the ones to come.

Tickets are available at the Chamber office in Klawock and other outlets are needed. If you are willing to sell these tickets in your business, or have a packet of ten with you to sell individually, please call the office and you will be provided a packet of tickets and a flyer.

Budd Burnett has tickets in Hollis. The McFarland's have tickets in Thorne Bay. Jan Bush has a packet with her wherever she goes! Andy Richter has tickets in Naukati and they will be available at the Mudd Boggs throughout the Summer season. You can get them at the IFA office in Craig or the Tongass Federal Credit Union at the AC store in Klawock.

14. Guardian Flight and Emergency Medical transportation

The Chamber has sought to keep POW informed about Emergency Medical transportation insurance and shares the following information that may be received by Guardian Flight Air Care members as they approach the expiration dates of their coverage.

"Guardian Flight Air Care will no longer be operating as a membership program in Alaska, but will defer all business to Apollo Medi Trans. Apollo MT is a guaranteed program that can use multiple carriers in Alaska, including Guardian Flight and Alaska Regional Lifeflight. Apollo Medi Trans is an insurance brokerage that offers products through United Life Insurance Company."

Apollo is offering a \$75 policy that will cover any medically necessary air ambulance transport to the nearest appropriate facility for no out of pocket cost. According to the brochure, the plan covers an entire household for one year and ensures that a person requiring Air Ambulance transport will not receive a bill. They also have a new product for \$100 a year that will cover not only the air ambulance transports but also any ground ambulance transport. This means that if a policyholder ever requires a 911 ground ambulance transport that it will be covered under the new policy regardless of which company does the transport.

For more information, visit www.apollomt.com or call 1-888-457-1711. Corporate and organization plans are available.

The above information is included in a letter from Apollo MT as well as from their brochure. The Chamber is merely passing on information that might be helpful to its members.

15. NEWS FROM AP & T

Alaska Power & Telephone is in the process of making some exciting changes in the Central Office Telephone Switching Center in Craig. Near the end of June, AP&T is scheduled to replace the existing Telephone Switching platform with a state-of-the-art digital Nortel CS 1500 computer-based soft-switch.

What this change means to AP&T customers is the improved ability of AP&T to better integrate, offer and manage the *Internet-protocol* based products and services that customers rely on for their business and personal needs.

As AP&T get closer to the actual cutover date, they will continue to communicate with the business customers to be certain they understand when the cut will take place and any anticipated interruption of service that may accompany the transition. People may notice short term telephone

outages between now and the cutover, but they should only be minutes in duration. If you have telephone problems continue to call the AP&T office.

16. ALL POINTS BULLETIN FOR CRAIG ALUMNI, FORMER STAFF MEMBERS!

A first ever Reunion for staff & students of the Craig Schools is in the works for July 3rd and 4th for ALL who attended between yrs. 1900-1979.

For information email them @ craigreunion@yahoo.com or contact the following:

Janet Charles: 755-2204 or cell 401-0179

Ed Thomas: cell: 723-2283

Pat Gardner: cell: 401-0317

Rachel James: 755-2212 or cell 401-0583

17. TOURIST RELATED BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

THE FIRST WEEK IN JUNE, the Alaska's Rainforest Islands regional marketing group in partnership with the Alaska Office of Economic Development and the US Economic Development Administration is sponsoring an educational/familiarization tour for travel agents and tour operators to Prince of Wales Island, Wrangell, and Petersburg.

This is a great opportunity to showcase our local communities, and the many wonderful options available to visitors to our region. This particular group of travel agents and tour operators has been selected because they specialize in Alaska tours. We expect to have a party of about 9 people (eight guests and one guide), and will spend a total of six nights in the area, from June 3-8. Our itinerary has us traveling from Ketchikan to Hollis on the IFA, spending time in Craig, Klawock, Thorne Bay and Coffman Cove before heading to Wrangell and Petersburg.

Alaska's Rainforest Islands and the Alaska Office of Economic Development's Tourism Division are excited about this opportunity to build the visitor industry in the region, so we look forward to working with you.

Community receptions, an opportunity to showcase local vendors and learn from these industry insiders are scheduled as follows:

DATE	City	LOCATION	TIME
June 4th	Klawock/Craig	Fireweed Lodge	8-9:30AM
	Thorne Bay	Adventure Alaska SE Lodge	12 noon-1:30 PM
	Coffman Cove	Wetherbee's Lodge	3:30 to 4:15 PM
June 5th	Wrangell	Wrangell Museum	6-8 pm
June 7th	Petersburg	Holy Cross House	5-7pm

We hope to have you join us in this rare opportunity to learn from professionals in the business and showcase your products and communities. **If you are not available to make any of the Meeting opportunities PLEASE make sure the Prince of Wales Chamber office has your Brochure or other promotional material to give to these vendors. PLEASE PROVIDE 10 COPIES OF YOUR BROCHURES OR BUSINESS CARDS SO EACH MEMBER OF THIS DELEGATION HAS YOUR INFORMATION.**