



Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce

Chamber POWER

178 Members strong

Volume 20, Issue 3, March 2009

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From the President's Desk:

I hope that the Prince of Wales Island Communities have received many nominations for their EVERYDAY HERO! This month is decision time as final selections are made for the 12 recipients.

In the meantime, the Chamber is seeking designs from our local artisans for an appropriate award for these 12 outstanding citizens. I have seen some design samples and I am truly excited about the eventual award that will be in the hands of all of our locally selected heroes. The award will be locally produced.

We are still awaiting responses from our invitations to the governor and all of our Alaska delegation. In the meantime we are moving forward with plans for an island-wide celebration on May 1st, 2nd and 3rd. We need your help for the many pieces of these events, as identified in the pages of this newsletter.

The Chamber is excited to work with the State Department of Labor and ROPES to bring a FREE training session to Prince of Wales Island for those who use, or would like to use QUICKBOOKS. See the article for details. The training will be held on March 25th and 26th.

March 8th is the switch date back to Daylight Savings Time. Spring forward!

I am still looking for news, so please send me some of yours!!! If it's worth telling to your employees, it is worth sharing it with the rest of the membership. Any building expansions and remodelings happening in your town? Any changes in ownership?

Thanks to the gals at the IFA, I will be adding a regular section of COMINGS AND GOINGS OF THE IFA to let you know how our main link to the outside is doing!

Are you looking for staff for the upcoming tourist season? Consider adding an ad to the Classified Ads section of our website, or give Denise a call and she will post it in the Chamber window in order to target the local population..

Drop by the Chamber office when you are in the neighborhood. Check out the new wainscoting!



IN THIS ISSUE

1. WEBSITE FACTOIDS FOR FEBRUARY
2. CHAMBER POWER SPONSORS FOR MARCH EDITION
3. FREE QUICKBOOKS TRAINING
4. MARCH BOARD MEETING
5. EMERALD GRIND IN MARCH
6. COMINGS AND GOINGS ON THE IFA
7. . CHAMBER SEEKS THE PERFECT HERO AWARD
8. OFFICE IMPROVEMENT
9. POWCAC MEETING ON MARCH 24TH
10. PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION HELP NEEDED NOW
11. BOROUGH PRESENTATION IN THE FUTURE
12. THANKS FOR THE PERFECT ASSIST

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

March's web hits through March 27TH were **137,345!** March's total visits were **12,968.** Behind the **USA, Canada, Germany, and United Kingdom** were the countries with the most visitors. **Sunday** was the most active day, and 4 PM to 5 PM was the most active time of day. **MSN** was the top search engine used to find us with about 78 percent!

2. Chamber **POWER Sponsors for MARCH 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.

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



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.

Birds Eye View Bed & Breakfast

Craig / 907-826-5987 / Cell 907-401-0383 / P.O. Box 383, Craig, AK 99921 Located in downtown Craig. Situated on a hill, one can take in the ocean's activity from the panoramic view. It is presently set up for singles or a couple. Alaskan decor, quiet atmosphere, non-smoking. Private bathroom, TV. Ample parking. Breakfast included. Sack lunch available on request.

3. FREE QUICKBOOKS TRAINING ON MARCH 25TH AND 26TH PLUS ONE ON ONE COUNSELING...READ ON...

The Chamber is pleased to help facilitate Quickbook Workshops put on by Rose SPinelli, a certified Quickbooks Pro Advisor. The Quickbooks Beginner Instruction will take place on Wednesday, March 25th from 9AM to 5PM (with 1 hr for lunch)
The Quickbooks Intermediate class will be held Thursday, March 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 hands-on **BEGINNER CLASS** is an overview of basic set up to 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.

BUILD A SOLID FOUNDATION AND START YOUR BUSINESS RIGHT

ROPE's Southeast Director Dennis Girardot will be also available to provide direct support. Whether you want to bounce around a business idea, find local marketing resources, or are looking for an advisor to assist you through the incubation period of your business, we're available to work with you. FREE!!!

4. MARCH 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, MARCH 18TH. 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 MARCH 7TH: "EMERALD GRIND"

Saturday, MARCH 7th 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.

April 4th: Wizard of Oz

May 2nd: End of the Season Grind

6. COMINGS AND GOINGS ON THE IFA

The IFA carried 1598 passengers and 277 vehicles off the island during the January morning runs to Ketchikan. In January 2008, 1687 passengers and 369 vehicles made this journey.

During the evening return runs, 1724 passengers and 344 vehicles arrived on POW through the Hollis port. In January 2008, 1680 passengers and 411 vehicles were recorded.

On one day, January 30th, 100% of the deck space was used on the morning run with 28 vehicles.

7. Chamber seeks the perfect HERO award

The Chamber is seeking proposals from Island artisans for the perfect award to recognize the twelve individuals who will be recognized on May 2nd, 2009 as their community's EVERYDAY HERO.

The Chamber would like an award that is crafted by an Island Resident, and if possible made from Island materials. The award concept should incorporate a symbol that would embody the character of an Everyday Hero.

The Chamber Board of Directors would like to make an award selection by the end of March.

Please submit your award design to the Chamber office. Questions can be directed to Chamber President Jan Bush via email at belle@aptalaska.net.

8. OFFICE IMPROVEMENT

For years, there has been a stack of beautiful wood paneling on the floor in the back storeroom. It was donated by the late great Dick Jones in appreciation for the work of the Chamber's Forest Products Task Force to help the small mill operators on Prince of Wales Island.

The paneling finally found a willing volunteer to install it, in the person of Dan Larson, who had a bit of time on his hands. We thank him so much for his time and efforts to get this item off of our list of short term goals where it has languished for too long. Thanks to John Bruns for the use of his chop saw to aid the process.

9. POWCAC meeting on March 24th

Participants will undertake a review of the POWCAC bylaws and consider amendments at the next meeting to be held on March 24th at the Thorne Bay City Council chambers.

Agenda will be forwarded to POWCAC members during the week prior to the meeting.

10. PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION HELP NEEDED NOW

The Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce and Prince of Wales Community Advisory Council have invited Governor Palin and both congressional and state delegation representatives to an Island event to take place on May 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 2009.

Planning and preparations will begin in earnest as soon as the needed volunteers are in place for the many components of the visit. The task list includes the following and needs the willing hands and minds of island citizens who will work for the success of this 3-day event:

- Everyday Hero Awards: decide on award and presentation
- Banquet: the theme is *Island of Enchantment* and decorations, menu, tickets, venue, and all the long list of details that go with it.
- 50 Years of Statehood: volunteers can contact board member Janice Lund, and also a staff member at Craig Schools if you want to be involved in this presentation
- Reception for islanders here in 1959: this will call for a method of identifying these people, invitations, funding and carrying out this reception
- Gathering photos of Prince of Wales from prior to 1959, coming to the present and arranging a power point presentation that demonstrates our history
- Municipal and business presentations to the delegation that will enlighten them on the critical issues and projects that will impact our economy and livelihood of our citizens
- Tours of Island
- Housing and Hospitality needs

The Chamber is seeking the able and willing citizens of Prince of Wales to be involved in this upcoming event in order to achieve its most fruitful impact for the Island. It is not anticipated that all of our Alaska delegation will be able to come to POW on those first three days of May, but even one positive response to this invitation will be treated as an opportunity to increase our island's potential for a more positive future.

Please call the Chamber office and leave your contact information for the work on any of the committees in formation.

11. Borough Presentation in the Future

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. We will be researching appropriate experts in the state in order to find someone who will deliver a clear presentation on this very complicated and sometimes contentious issue. We will be looking for someone who will present an unbiased and thorough picture. Stay tuned.

12. Thanks for the perfect assist

If you come by the Chamber office, you will be welcomed by a new look. This is thanks to the effort of Dan Larson who had some time on his hands and a certain gal's encouragement!

Also, a belated thank you to Henry Williamson and Katrina Peavey who put in some office time in January during Denise's extended stay down south.

