



Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce

Chamber POWER

185 Members strong

Volume 20, Issue 9, September 2009

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From the President's Desk:

There is a lot of ground to cover in Chamber Land today, and you'll find additional news in the pages that follow:

- *We have a new director on your Board and a new Vice President to serve the rest of the term. Welcome to Jeannie McFarland, approved by the Board to fill the unexpired term of Paul Crawford, who has moved to Tennessee!*
- *Membership 2010 is underway and we celebrate some new members and several early returns to the office.*
- *The Tourism Summit on September 21st and 22nd has an impressive line up of speakers and topics to be covered.*
- *I am sure you've noticed signs of construction activity in your neighborhood! I have attempted to provide an update on all of that!*

On August 28th I received an email from the Governor's office. We will not be welcoming him to Prince of Wales in September, but we are welcome to invite him again at another time.

Find out which Chamber member has been cleaning up southeast beaches.

Thanks to AP&T for installing a hotspot in the Chamber office. Several people have been observed taking advantage of the wi-fi service as they occupy a bench at the Klawock Mall with their laptops, and cruise the internet and wherever that takes them. Please let your guests know they can access their accounts from the vicinity of the Chamber office. We do have a couch IN the office if it gets cold or wet outside!

The 2 roundtrip Alaska Airline tickets and Pacific Airway tickets will be won by someone holding a raffle ticket on Labor Day, September 7th. If you don't have a ticket yet, you have seven days to get one!

And finally, go to the following website link to read a column by Jeff Lund, son of Board member Janice Lund and the late Fred Lund. You'll be glad you did! www.mantecabulletin.com/news/article/6292/

AND when Jeff has you hooked, search the archives for his other articles that detail his growing up experiences on Prince of Wales Island.

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IF YOU HAVE NEWS TO SHARE, PLEASE EMAIL IT TO JAN FOR INCLUSION IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER!!

CHAMBER WEBSITE EXPOSURE for the month of **AUGUST.**

AUGUST's web hits through AUGUST 28th were **274,944!** AUGUST's total visits were **30,459.** Behind the **USA, Russian Federation, South Africa, Germany** were the countries with the most visitors. **Saturday** was the most active day, and **two to three 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 SEPTEMBER 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.*

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.

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.

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.

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.

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
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Tongass Business Center – Ketchikan /
618 Dock St. / Ketchikan, AK 99901 / 1-800-478-
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755-2963 / cell 907-401-0200 / fax 907-755-2121
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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. Derby ticket sales will yield big money prize drawing on September 26th.

The Craig-Klawock King Salmon Derbies are over for the year, but the drawing for the \$10,000 grand prize is not.

Everyone needs to support the efforts by securing a Derby Ticket. They are just \$35, and even those who don't fish have a chance to win \$10,000 in the drawing on the 26th. Tickets are available at the Chamber office, and at other locations.

4. NEW MEMBERS

We thank the following new members for their support of the Chamber and Prince of Wales Island! Check them out in the Business Directory of the Chamber Website.



SUNNAHAE ARTS COUNCIL

THE FEED STORE

PRINCE OF WALES HEALTH NETWORK (PEACEHEALTH)

RENEWING MEMBERS: In addition to the above, we thank the quick response of our renewing members: **Flyquest Adventures**, **B-3 Contractors**, **St. John's by the Sea**, **Kevin's Cabin**, **Black Bear Store**, **Wesley Rentals**, **POWCAC**, **McFarland's Floatel**, **Fish, Fur and Feathers**, **Southeast Retreat**, **Klawock City School District**.

5. SEPTEMBER 2009 BOARD MEETING

The volunteers who serve on the Chamber Board of Directors will be all over the place in September, so we are going to avoid having a regular September Board meeting. You can find some of us at Southeast Conference, the Tourism Summit and the POWCAC meeting.

6. TOURISM SUMMIT

MONDAY AND TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 AND 22

ANOTHER GREAT BENEFIT FOR CHAMBER MEMBERS

Craig Alaska will be the site of the Prince of Wales Tourism Summit to be held September 21st and 22nd this year. The Summit will begin at 8:30am on Monday morning, and at 8:00am on Tuesday! The Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce together with the State of Alaska Office of Economic Development will be co-sponsoring this event. "We have received assistance from the State of Alaska Department of Commerce and the U.S. Economic Development Administration", said Jan Bush, Prince of Wales Island Chamber president, "through their Developing Alaska's Rural Tourism grant program." The summit will run for two days at the Craig Community Association Building, and all residents of Prince of Wales Island and neighboring communities are invited to attend and participate. "The State of Alaska is pleased to have State Commerce Commissioner Emil Notti invited to be the keynote speaker at this event" said Odin Brudie, Tourism Planner for the Department." The Commissioner will give an overview of the Alaskan economy, and the role tourism plays." The POW Chamber has invited speakers from all over Alaska to give presentations on a variety of topics and then open the floor for questions, answers and discussion. The purpose of the Tourism Summit is to give local tourism entrepreneurs information and networking opportunities to enhance their businesses. Additionally the chamber hopes to promote the use of locally manufactured products and services.

Speakers at the Prince of Wales Tourism Summit on Monday the 21st, also include Patti Mackey from the Ketchikan Visitor's Bureau who will address tourism issues facing the Southeast Alaska Region, Joe Williams from Ketchikan who will talk about cultural tourism, Sarah Leonard from the Nature Conservancy who will discuss eco-tourism opportunities, Jesse Donner a VISTA volunteer for the Southeast Alaska Trail System, SEATrails, who will present the latest update on a regional trails network, and finally Dan Blanchard from Inner Seas Adventures who will talk about the new trends in tourism development. The second day of The POW Tourism Summit will be held on Tuesday September 22nd and will be a series of 2 hour workshops. The workshops will begin at 8am and will go until 5pm and will include topics such as "Financing Your Growing your Alaskan Business" with Brian Holst from the Juneau Economic Development Council, "Marketing a Tourism Business" with professor Rick Wolk from the University of Alaska Southeast as well as a workshop on "How to Bundle your Tourism Product" by the Alaska Travel Industry Association "There is a small cost for the Summit," said Jan Bush, Chamber President, "to help with paying for lunch, but we couldn't have done this without the help of many businesses on Prince of Wales". The Forum will cost \$5.00 if paid in advance or \$10.00 if paid at the door. Sponsors for the POW Tourism Summit include the Inter-island Ferry Authority, the Nature Conservancy, and the University of Alaska Cooperative Extension Service.

Monday evening after the first Day of the Summit, Commissioner Notti from the Department of Commerce will dedicate the new Craig Cold Storage. For more information on the POW Tourism Summit, or to register, please call the Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce office at 755-2626.

The Chamber of Commerce is soliciting catering services for morning and afternoon snacks and for lunch. Email or call the chamber office for the Request for Quotes, and we will email the RFQ form to you. The form contains all the details.

THREE PERFECT DAYS! Come to the Tourism Summit and learn about this competition to design and present your idea of Three Perfect Days on Prince of Wales Island or a combination trip including POW, Wrangell and Petersburg.

7. IFA COMINGS AND GOINGS IN JULY

The IFA carried 2553 passengers and 530 vehicles off the island during the July morning runs to Ketchikan. In July 2008, 2676 passengers and 440 vehicles made this journey.

During the evening return runs, 2985 passengers and 618 vehicles arrived on POW through the Hollis port. In July 2008, 2713 passengers and 532 vehicles were recorded.

During the month of July, the car deck was full for 16 runs, with 7 more runs at 90 percent capacity or better.

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

8. 2009 Island Guide inventory status... going, going.....

The current count of boxes of Guides in the Chamber inventory is 9. Please come in and get a supply to take you through the rest of this year.

9. SE Conference in Haines, POWCAC meeting in Craig

The Fall gathering of the Southeast Conference will be held in Haines September 16-17-18th. Several of our island's community officials attend this conference, as well as members of the Chamber board of Directors.

The next POWCAC meeting is scheduled for September 29th, and will be held in the City of Craig Council chambers. As usual, a lunch will be available at noon, with a meeting to start at 1PM.

10. Southeast Beaches cleanup

Chamber member Kathy Peavey of Island Charters is doing what she always does in the summer time, she is removing trash from the beaches around Craig when she is out and about beachcombing. This year however, she is getting help from a grant to make a dent in the trash inventory.

The Marine Conservation Alliance Foundation in Juneau was awarded \$1 million in federal stimulus funds from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to do what the organization does best, conduct marine debris cleanups across Alaska. The foundation is the 501(c) 3 nonprofit of the Marine Conservation Alliance, a commercial fishing trade group that includes fishermen, CDQ groups, boat owners, processors and anyone involved in the fishing industry either directly or indirectly.

Funding for the foundation comes from federal and state sources, funding organizations and individual donations. Volunteers across Alaska also play an important part in the foundation's work.

Besides Craig, projects are being conducted in Yakutat, Prince William Sound, Alakanuk, Nelson Lagoon, Norton Sound, Sitka, Kodiak, Stebbins, St. Michaels, Port Heiden and in Little Diomedea in conjunction with its community development quota group.

The Craig project is focused on marine debris. In filling out the grant application, Kathy Peavey credited Dennis Watson, Dolores Owen and Gail Slentz with invaluable assistance. Dolores and Gail continue to help Kathy with their insurance and accounting knowledge.

In 2008, the foundation cleaned about 150 metric tons of trash off beaches, many in Norton Sound.

Marine debris is not only an eyesore, but it also can damage underwater habitat by smothering or breaking coral and vegetation. Wildlife can become entangled in nets or soda can plastic holders causing strangulation and death, or be chronically injured. Boats cruising the waters can get derelict line and netting in their wheels also.

Kathy Peavey reported that during her first cleanup with Deputy Director of the MCA Tom Gemmell produced 840 pounds in 280 yards of beach in Port San Antonio. The majority was rope/line, trawl net and then plastics. The workers for that day were Barbi Armstrong, Kathy Peavey, Debbie Head and Tom Gemmell. They found 4 trawl nets and 2 High seas drift nets. To date Kathy and fellow workers have collected 5160 pounds of marine debris from several known collection sites on Baker, St. Johns, Noyes and Lulu Islands. Kathy reports that the project would be much more difficult if Kelly Tidwell, a renowned kayaker, had not heard of this project on the

radio and contacted Kathy to help. The use of his kayak has come in quite handy to tow rafts of netting and debris to her boat when the tides are not right for a beach landing.

The grant for our area is for a total of \$31,756.00. Total wages is \$17,280.00. The rest is for insurance, vessel charter, skiff charters, landfill fees and fuel. Anyone interested in helping with the project as a vessel charter to remove large deposits off the beach can contact Kathy directly at 826-3856. She is also looking for workers and volunteers to go out. The wages are \$18 an hour. The group is in-kind lunch, travel to and from the beach time. They are using a camera equipped with a GPS to document their activity, journaling and recording weights of debris. The project is slated to end at the end of October.

On September 19th, Rob Claus will join the effort and have a SEACC "out in the rain" volunteer cleanup day. Contact Rob or Kathy to participate.

Anyone wanting net for fencing, buoys for decoration or coils of line that are reusable, can contact Kathy.

11. Alaska Airlines and Pacific Airways tickets drawing in September

The Chamber will raffle a package of four Alaska Air/Pacific Air 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.

You can get tickets at the Chamber office and many other outlets.

Budd Burnett has tickets in Hollis. The McFarland's and Riptide Liquor 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, Log Cabin Sports in Craig or the Tongass Federal Credit Union at the AC store in Klawock. They are now also available at the Fish and Game office in Craig.

12. CONSTRUCTION NEWS

Construction continues all over POW for as long as the weather will permit, and more complete information will be shared as these projects are completed. If you haven't noticed, there is a lot going on!

- ✚ Craig Health Clinic, a 3.6 million dollar project being done by McGraw Custom Construction, target completion at the end of March 2010
- ✚ Craig City Paving Project, a 1.9 \$million project awarded to Southeast Road Builders to pave city streets. Another paving contract will be out for bids for more streets to be completed next Spring.
- ✚ City of Craig awarded a contract to Trojan and Sons Construction for repairs to the water system in advance of paving.
- ✚ A separate City of Craig project was awarded to Trojan and Sons to do sitework, cleanup and a retaining wall for the small park/seaman's memorial project on the Ward Cove Cannery Site.
- ✚ Aggregate Construction, Inc. out of Sitka is now prepping the highway for paving between Craig and the end of the Klawock Mall. S&S Construction, a Sitka firm, is replacing worn out culverts and other highway crossing ahead of the paving phase. This 3.8M project completion is scheduled for mid-October.
- ✚ First Bank, Craig Alaska construction contract is underway by Dawson Construction. The new facility will include a drive through service!
- ✚ CCA is working on Phase 2 of the St. Nick Road Improvements. Except for some sections that have design issues, this phase will improve the road up to 3.5 mile. Transportation chief John Huestis will provide a more complete report at the close of the season.

- ✚ CCA is also preparing Craig streets for paving that are considered to be tribal roads.
- ✚ City of Klawock has completed a Harbor parking expansion project, and will be holding public meetings on sewer and water improvements on Bayview Boulevard in anticipation of paving.
- ✚ The Klawock IRA is working on NEPA compliances and City of Klawock utility repairs prior to starting the resurfacing projects on Klawock streets. Tribal transportation Director Dennis Nickerson will keep us informed on the startup.
- ✚ The Village of Kasaan replaced a culvert on their main road, performed earlier this summer by B-3 Contractors. The Village of Kasaan just announced the hiring of Sam Thomas as their Tribal Transportation Director.
- ✚ The Forest Service has performed some fish habitat improvement projects on the Harris River and its tributaries this summer during the short fish window.
- ✚ The City of Thorne Bay has several active projects: Davidson Landing Harbor improvements, Library design, water plant upgrades, and other road improvements on Steep Creek and the Goose Creek Industrial area.
- ✚ The City of Hydaburg will be enjoying newly paved streets, expected to be completed this Fall. Money for this project is being covered by a grant from the Indian Reservation Roads Program.

Members, please pass on any other construction updates that can be shared with our POWer readers.

13. 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