

Wrangell Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

APRIL 2010

Revitalizing Chamber Membership

Have you renewed your membership to the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce? If you have, THANK YOU.

Your chamber membership is a commitment from you to the vibrancy of our Wrangell community. A Chamber of Commerce is as vibrant and enthusiastic as its membership – the life blood of our organization.

As such, we are pleased to announce that the Wrangell Chamber now has an active membership committee, comprised of Tom Duncan, Jeremy Maxand, Woody Wilson, and Mari Selle. The committee has been tackling a number of issues, which is making a big difference for our Chamber.

Membership expansion: The

committee has brainstormed a number of potential businesses and individuals that are not currently on our roster. Each committee member has taken a list of names and made visits and phone calls to those individuals to join the chamber.

This effort has resulted in a number of new and renewed memberships to the Chamber of Commerce. Both Tom and Jeremy have also sponsored advertisements in the Wrangell Sentinel to encourage the public to join the Chamber. The committee has further brainstormed a variety of ways to enhance the public's awareness of the expansive role of the Chamber in our community. Membership structure:

The membership committee has been taking a hard look

at the current membership structure (business, individual, non-profit, etc.) and will be making a recommendation to the full Chamber board with suggestions to make it easier for the public to select the most appropriate membership.

We are also making changes to so that joining is appealing to the greatest number of organizations and individuals, while not compromising chamber revenues from memberships. Membership engagement: As the overall strategic plan for the Chamber is finalized, there will be a number of action items identified to encourage current members to become more engaged in the Chamber of commerce. The membership committee looks forward to taking a leadership role in those activities.

A rumor without a leg to stand on will get around some other way.

[John Tudor](#)

Chamber of Commerce Strategic Planning

As part of the reorganization of the Chamber of Commerce to better serve the community, a committee was formed to develop a five year strategic plan. The plan will address Economic Development, Membership & Recruitment, Communication, Government Relations, Education & Business Support, Finance & Administration and Special Events. The committee met throughout the month of March to develop the plan and the final draft will be presented to the Chamber Board at its next meeting on Monday, April 12, 2010. Thanks to Jeremy Maxand who facilitated the meetings and helped move the plan along at a very rapid pace. Also big thanks to the following who gave up their Saturday mornings to make this happen: Tim Rooney, Woody Wilson, Bill Privett, Tom Duncan, Mari Selle, John Taylor, Noel Rea, Janell Privett, Glenna Ellis and Elaine Torvend. Visit the chamber website at www.wrangellchamber.org to view the final Strategic Plan.

The Salmon Are Coming....

Wrangell 59th Annual King Salmon Derby

May 8th through June 6th, 2010

1st Place: \$6000
2nd Place \$4000
3rd Place: \$2000

Sponsored by the

Wrangell Chamber of Commerce
Derby Drawing: Round trip tickets for two. Each Derby Ticket purchased is automatically entered for drawing! Wrangell/Seattle (VIA Alaska Airlines)

Weekly Prizes: Largest King each week wins \$500
Youth Prizes!
12 years and under Wins \$250
The Art Clark Big Soaker Pioneer Prize
(Largest King Entered Age 65 +)
\$250

Special Derby Days
Memorial Day Weekend (May 29, 30 & 31) \$2500

Bonus Prizes! First King Caught over 50lbs: \$500

For more information contact the

Wrangell Chamber of Commerce
Office at 907-874-3901 or visit our website www.wrangellchamber.org

Guinness Book of Records

Calling all fishermen!
Help us beat a Guinness book of records on Saturday, May 8th!
Sign ups will be at 4 a.m. at the KSTK pancake fundraiser, you pre-sign up and buy your derby ticket there; Derby tickets are \$30. You can also sign up at tables at the hoist on Reliance dock at 5 a.m. To enter the Guinness record attempt all you need is a derby ticket and to sign in; Video and still photos will be taken of the exodus of derby fishermen from Wrangell harbor to validate the attempt. This event will be an attempt to break the record set in Texas of 466 fishermen starting a derby. We need 467 fishermen starting the derby to break it...Please stand up and be counted!

Grandmas Barbershop Fish Classic

Guess the weight of the 2010 Annual King Salmon Derby winning fish closes May 8th at Midnight (Starting Day of Derby)
Ticket Price \$1.00 each

Tickets available at Grandma's Barber Shop. Winner will receive 75% of the winnings and 25% will be donated to a non profit organization and to pay for expenses . Sponsored by Grandmas Barbershop and the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce. For more information call 907-874-2140.

Smoked Fish Contest

The 3rd annual Chamber of Commerce Smoked Fish Contest will be held this year on Saturday, June 5th at 1 p.m. at the Nolan Room at the Elks Lodge. Last year there around dishes were entered that were judged by 5 judges. The judges were volunteers for the event and included Jim Smith, a local gillnetter , Reme Privett, and

Wayne Davenport.

There will be a 1st prize of \$300, 2nd prize of \$200 and 3rd prize of \$100. Previous winners included Jeannie Easterly. We are looking for sponsors for this popular event which is slated to celebrate the opening of the gillnet season.

KSTK Pancake Feed Fundraiser

“ Happy Un-Birthday To Us”

Wrangell Chamber of Commerce

“ Happy Un-birthday to us” Membership Dinner

Speaker: Peggy Wilson

May 7th, 2010

Stikine Inn

6:00pm—No Host Cocktails, 7:00pm Potluck Dinner

Members Bring guest to become a member

Entry: \$10.00 per person all proceeds go to the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce

Fun Begins!!! Clean up Wrangell, “ Get rid of the ugly beard”

We will be taking bids to shave Bruce Harding! Pool your money!

Helpful Websites for Businesses and Individuals

There are hundreds of websites out there that offer helpful facts for individuals, small business, and artists. Below are a few...

www.Buyalaska.com is an advertising opportunity that is free of cost and advertises to thousands.

www.WrangellChamber.org offers information on the community of Wrangell, Local businesses, Wrangell Chamber of Commerce, Community activities, Chamber activities, Local pictures, and much more.

Www.wrangell.com offers information from City Hall and the city Manager. The city managers reports are updated bi monthly.

Www.SBA.gov offers Small Business information and classes and workshops.

Www.Etsy.com is a website for crafters that is low in cost for advertising but a great opportunity for individual artist. This is also a great

way to get ideas for crafts and marketing.

www.alaska.gov/home.html offers everything from Business license, PDF Information, and state regulations.

www.wrangellartist.com offers an opportunity for local Wrangell artist to advertise their art work for little to no fee

Wrangell Community Arts

Wrangell Community Arts Council introduced itself to the community in February with its WCA Fundraiser with the unveiling of the Men of Wrangell Calendar at the Stikine Inn. Since then the WCA has held their official election, Membership Meeting, and has been working on becoming an active organization in our community. Wrangell Community Arts Board Members have been participating in Fisher Fest, Community Health Fair, Christmas Tree Lane, and much more. They plan to have a booth on the 4th of July,

Sponsor a table at the Nolan Center during cruise ship days that will be available for the WCA Members, and a March Fundraiser including art, music, and food.

The WCA Board Consist of Haley Waddington, Haley Gleason, Glenna Ellis, Tiffany Stevens, Megan Talburt, Clara Haley, Kristi Evans, Liz Buness, and Cori Robinson. If you would like more information on any of these events or the Wrangell Community Arts contact Haley Waddington at 907-305-0830 or one of our members.

WCA is working with the Wrangell Artist Studios, directors Tis Peterman and Haley Waddington. Wrangell Artist Studios is helping local artists by featuring them and their artwork on the website that is sold at no cost to the artist currently. WAS also features the Wrangell Community Arts, visit our website at www.wrangellartist.com.

SHED Update

The SHED committee continues to meet the 4th Wednesday each month at noon at the SNO building. A Rasmuson grant was closed out this quarter which paid for an initial assessment by MRV Architects from Juneau. This assessment included reports from a December visit by a structural engineer, an electrical engineer, an architect and Master Carver, Steve Brown. These reports verified that the overall condition of Chief Shakes tribal house

is at a critical stage and if renovation on the major beams is not completed this year, the structure may be closed until they are repaired. The assessments will be posted to the Shakes Island website: www.shakesisland.com. Preliminary architectural drawings for the carving facility have been completed and are available to view by contacting John Martin. A visit by the Murdock Charitable Trust will be on Wednesday, April 7th and will

include a tour of the island as well as a lunch for interested parties the same day at the SNO building. Please come and show your support for the project. The search for funding to complete the project continues.

Chamber of Commerce

224 Front Street
P.O. Box 49
Wrangell, AK 99929

Phone: 907-874-3901

Fax: 907-874-3905

E-mail: wrangellchamber@gmail.com

“Leading our community to a brighter future!”

Mission Statement

The mission of the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce, Inc. shall be:

To advance all of the business, professional, civic and cultural interests of the City of Wrangell as well as regional, state and national interests under the democratic system of free competitive enterprise;

To encourage the growth of existing business activities while giving all proper assistance to any new firms or individuals seeking residence in Wrangell and its environs;

To support activities believed to be beneficial to the community and its citizens and to oppose those which might be detrimental;

To speak for the Chamber's members in city, state and national legislative and governmental matters, while avoiding partisan politics;

To encourage development of surrounding industrial properties;

To cultivate alliance and business relationships with neighboring communities; and in general to promote the welfare of all Wrangell area citizens, following always those policies intended to accomplish the greatest good for the greatest number.

In order to best achieve these goals, the following by-laws have been adopted to govern the procedures and activities of the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce, Inc. and of its membership.

We are on the web
www.wrangellchamber.org !

Wrangell Chamber of Commerce Board

Charlotte Neff

Mari Selle

Janice Stamper

Steve Bean

Augie Schultz

Elaine Torvend

Woody Wilson

Janell Privett, President

LeAnn Rinehart

John Taylor, Vice President

Gene White, Alternate

Glenna Ellis

Cori Robinson

Jessica Whitaker, Alternate

The most important thing is to be whatever you are without shame.

Rod Steiger