

Recent Event

On January 18, 2013 Bay Point received a visit from The San Francisco Foundation's Koshland Committee. The Koshland Program is a neighborhood leadership development program promoting civic engagement throughout the Bay Area.

The San Francisco Foundation established the Daniel E. Koshland Civic Unity Awards in 1982 to honor one of its founders and major benefactors, who built a reputation for practical, bold, and innovative philanthropy to improve the quality of life for all Bay Area residents.

Each year, the Koshland selects a Bay Area neighborhood and makes a five-year commitment to that neighborhood. The Koshland Committee and staff look for low-income, racially diverse neighborhoods in the five Bay Area counties served by the San Francisco Foundation. The Koshland Committee selects up to 15 leaders to receive the Koshland Civic Unity Awards and become Koshland Community Fellows. Koshland community leaders and residents are known in their neighborhood for their innovative and consistent efforts to bring people in the community together to achieve common goals.

The Koshland Fellowship begins with a six-month leadership training Program, based on building skills for more effective communication across diverse communities, promoting active citizenship and political empowerment, and strengthening conflict resolution, mediation, and facilitation skills. Community Fellows then work together to create a comprehensive vision and plan for what they will achieve in the community. In the second through fifth years, the Community Fellows collaborate on a project that: promotes unity within the neighborhood through activities and projects, develops leadership activities; and celebrates diversity within the neighborhood.

During the last two years the Fellows also work on an evaluation and sustainability plan for their chosen project. At the conclusion of our five year partnership, we hope to see not only tangible results, such as a new center or program, but also intangible ones, like newly forged personal relationships, cultural participation, and increased understanding and collaboration.

The Committee will decide whether Bay Point will be chosen as the neighborhood this year and we should know in the next couple of months.



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Please visit our website
www.BayPointChamber.org
for all current events!

Biz News

February/March 2013

25 Things to Do to Support Your Chamber So They Can Support You

Brad Klock, President

Here we are yet again at the beginning of a new year. It's at these times that I think about the bigger picture of what the Bay Point Chamber does, how it positively impacts the community, what more can be done, and how the Chamber can be a larger force within Bay Point to, in turn, help you.

With this in mind, I came upon the following list on the internet, from 2009. The author's intent, then, was to solicit input to round out the "25 Things" that citizens should do to support their local Chambers. Interestingly, there is no final list. I can only conclude that the list was never completed. But that's illustrative of the fact that what Chambers can do is never finite. Further, we are always looking for input from the community.

In March (exact date to be determined), the Chamber is having an "Ideas and Strategy Retreat" at the Ambrose Community Center. For the first hour and a half, the community will be welcome to attend, to provide your brainstorming and input as to what your Bay Point Chamber can do to SUPPORT YOU. We'll email blast and post the details, as we get closer, so that you can RSVP to Mimi Stofer, our Chief Admin. Officer, prior to the event.

In the meantime, enjoy and use this list below. These are all excellent ways for you to support the Bay Point Chamber, so that the Chamber, in turn, can support you!

1. Become a member of your Chamber – it's money well spent.
2. If you're already a member, run for the Board.
3. Encourage other businesses to join.
4. Volunteer to help with Chamber events.
5. Go to meetings.
6. Support other Chamber members' businesses and thank them for being part of the Chamber.
7. Network with other Chamber members with complementary businesses, and create a co-op marketing group.
8. Take your business needs to your Chamber Board and ask for them to consider researching or adding services you need.
9. Take your concerns about the Chamber directly to the Director or Chamber President.
10. Offer your skills and expertise to other businesses in town through a presentation for your Chamber.
11. Link to your Chamber's web site on your own web site.
12. Link to other Chamber members.
13. Hold a Chamber mixer at your business.
14. Advocate for you Chamber at City Council meetings. Keep the Chamber on your City Council's agenda when it comes time to distribute funding.
15. Send a letter to the editor in your local newspaper talking up what your Chamber does for your town.
16. Thank your Chamber Board often for their service to your town and business community.

We look forward to your input for #17 through #25!



Welcome New Member: Los Medanos Community College

Welcome to Los Medanos Community College.

Los Medanos College, founded in 1974, serves primarily the East Contra Costa County. The college consists of the main campus, located in Pittsburg, and the Brentwood Center located in Brentwood approximately 14 miles southeast of the main campus.

Their Mission Statement states "Los Medanos College is a public community college that provides quality educational opportunities for those within the changing

and diverse communities it serves. By focusing on student learning and success as our first priorities, we aim to help students build their abilities and competencies as life-long learners. We create educational excellence through continually assessing our students' learning and our performance as an institution. To that end, we commit our resources and design our policies and procedures to support this mission."

Since 2006, they have increased classroom space by 50%, with a new

library, science building and math building. Their art classroom/lab space was completely remodeled in 2010. The nursing and emergency medical technician classroom was to be completed in 2012, and the student services area remodel is to be completed in 2015.

The average class size is 35 students. Popular majors: Liberal studies, nursing, engineering, math, English,

physical and biological sciences, business, fire technology, child development, administration of justice, process technology, electrical and instrumental technology. In addition are the many student resources, activities and athletics, and there is also child care available at the Child Study Center at the main campus in Pittsburg.

For more information please go to www.losmedanos.edu.



Member Accomplishments

Congratulations to Clarence Wickers, member since 2012.

Clarence received the President's Community Service Award from the Contra Costa Association of REALTORS® at the 2013 Inaugural Dinner and Dance for CCAR for outstanding community service during 2012. In addition, at that

event, he also received certificates of recognition from CC County Supervisor Karen Mitchoff, California Senator Mark DeSaulnier and California Legislature Assembly members Joan Buchanan and Susan Bonilla.

In addition to this award he received a \$1,000

check from CCAR HELPING HANDS for the non-profit of his choice. His choice was Opportunity Junction, an organization that fights poverty by enabling low-income adults to gain skills and confidence to support themselves and their families.

This award was given to that individual who based on

personal contributions was awarded the most points by the Board of Directors of the Helping Hands Foundation.

Again, congratulations to longtime Bay Point resident Clarence Wickers!

Exciting Upcoming Business Event Tuesday, March 19, 2013 2nd Annual TechPalooza 2013 – Multi-Chamber Endeavor



Feet on the Ground

MARCH 19

Business in the Cloud

Register through the Chamber

Location: Los Medanos Community College 10:30 to 5:30

Approximately 15 Panelists speaking on Technology for your Business

A "must attend" event: Tickets will be sold by Bay Point Chamber.

Call Mimi Stofer at **925-698-9994** or office@baypointchamber.org for more information.

There will be 3 panel discussions during the day and participants will be divided into 3 groups. You'll be able to attend all 3 discussions and have a chance to speak with vendors in between. Delicious catered lunch and snacks. Initial price of ticket \$35. As the event gets closer, price does go up.

More information will be forthcoming as to the list of speakers, but the Bay Point Chamber knows how busy everyone's schedule is so we want to give everyone a "Heads Up."



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Deadline for April Newsletter
March 22, 2013



Thank you Bay Point Chamber members and Bay Point residents for a very Successful and Exciting 2012.

Thanks to the many donations given by our member companies and the Keller Foundation throughout the year towards the Memorial Day ceremony, the "Unity in Community" celebration, the very successful Yard Sale, and the Christmas Tree Lighting with two carriages (double the number of 2011). The Bay Point Chamber members, especially our local companies: manufacturing, utility, waste management and others, work both behind the scenes with their monetary donations; and they also physically lend a helping hand at many events throughout the community: clean ups, painting school yards, repairing and "whatever is needed" to make Bay Point a strong community.