# **Welcome To Bay Point Sign Installed**

The new "Welcome to Bay Point" sign has been installed at the intersection of Willow Pass Road and Port Chicago Highway! If you haven't seen it yet, you should drive by it, and take a look. Logos from community groups are in progress, so the logos from the Ambrose Recreation and Park District, Bay Point Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club and Bay Point Garden Club will soon be accompanied by many more.

Many thanks go out to Tesoro, who sponsored the sign, and to Tim Stone and Greg Konley from Ready Print and Sterling Stevenson from the Bay Point Municipal Advisory Council for completing the entire construction!

The current "weed issue" around the sign is being addressed by the "Adopta-Road" Program, sponsored by Sterling Stevenson (see "Adopt-a-Road Program" elsewhere in this Newsletter.) We hope to have volunteers out there soon, knocking down the weeds, and generally beautifying the area.

The sign is a great addition to Bay Point, and we're grateful to all who participated in the planning, funding and installation of the sign.



## The Bay Point Holiday Tree-Lighting and Celebration

The Bay Point Holiday Tree-Lighting and Celebration will be held on December 8, 2011, from 5:30 to 7:30pm, the Ambrose Community Center will literally light up! There will be a carriage ride (donated by the Chamber of Commerce), singing, goodies for munching – all while awaiting Santa's arrival! The Riverview Junior High School band will provide the music, Home Depot will provide the tree, and the event will be sponsored, in part, by Allied Waste (recycle!) and Henkel. Of course, double thanks go to the Ambrose Recreation & Park District for hosting the event again this year!

Last year, a good time was had by all, and we anticipate an even greater event this year. Join us at the Ambrose Community Center (3105 Willow Pass Road, Bay Point 94565), participate in the good will of the season, and realize what a great community we are.



# **Join the Bay Point Chamber of Commerce MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS**

☐ Rhodium.....\$5,000 ☐ Platinum.....\$2,000 Gold.....\$1,500

☐ Silver.....\$1,000 ■ Bronze.....\$500 ☐ Individual.....\$150

■ Non-Profit/Charitable.....\$50 Go to www.baypointchamber.org

to download an application

3105 Willow Pass Road Bay Point, CA 94565 925-698-9994

#### **Special points of interest:**

- What is a 501(c)6?
- Adopt-A-Road Program
- **Ambrose Recreation & Park District: Building Partnerships**
- **Muslims For Life Blood Drive**
- Tri Chamber Mixer
- **New Member News**
- **Welcome to Bay Point** Sian Installed
- The Bay Point Holiday **Tree-Lighting & Celebration**

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



# **Biz News**

**November 2011** 

# What is a 501(c)6?

Brad Klock, President

The simple answer to the question above is, "Your Bay Point Chamber of Commerce is."

"501(c)6" is an IRS designation for Business Leagues. Specifically, this designation applies to approved (via application and acceptance) Chambers of Commerce -- "associations of persons having some common business interest, the purpose of which is to promote that common interest and not to engage in a regular business of a kind ordinarily carried on for profit." This 501(c)6 designation allows the Bay Point Chamber to be exempt from federal income tax. Further, it allows dues paid by our members to be deducted from their incomes as a business expense.

Why am I including this detail in our Newsletter? That answer is because there had been a question as to your Chamber's federal tax status. Again, the Bay Point Chamber of Commerce IS a 501(c)6 organization.

To expand, then, on the "common business interest" mentioned above, what are those? Answers:

Promotion of higher business standards and better business methods. Education of the public.

Establishment and maintenance of the integrity of a local commercial market. Encouragement of the use of goods and services of an entire industry.

To drive the point home a bit further, the IRS explicitly defines a 501(c)6 organization as one "devoted to the improvement of business conditions of one or more lines of business," and in general states that the mission of a 501(c)6 organization is to "focus on the advancement of a particular trade or the interests of a community."

As always, the Chamber is here to focus on the interests of Bay Point. We, that is Bay Point AND the Chamber, need you to be involved. Know what we are doing, be part of it, and help Bay Point to thrive.

# **Adopt-A-Road Program**

Sterling Stevenson, of the Bay Point Municipal Advisory Council, is spearheading a new community project for Bay Point: the "Adopt-a-Road" Program. It is similar to "adopta-highway" programs throughout the state, but is focused on specific streets of Bay Point where litter tends to gather. Organizations, companies, groups and individuals can volunteer to "adopt" a section of a road in Bay Point, committing to keeping it free of litter and Volunteers must be trained by the County, and commit to their "adoption" for a twoyear period of time. Large items of debris (couches, washing machines and the like) are reported to the County by the group sponsoring the street, and are picked up once a month. But smaller debris and litter are the focus of this effort, and their removal is the responsibility of the group

The Bay Point Chamber of Commerce is adopting

adopting the road.

the stretch of road along E. Canal, between Bailey Road and Loftus Road.

This is a fabulous program through which we can show our pride in Bay Point by making it a cleaner and more pleasant place to live. For more information, call Sterling Stevenson at 925-200-6573.



### **Ambrose Recreation & Park District: Building Partnerships**

The last three years have been tough for businesses in the Bay Point community. The same is true for Ambrose Recreation & Park District (ARPD). With less tax revenue and an increased demand for services, the district is building partnerships with local businesses in order to provide much needed community services.

The partnership, the "Friends of ARPD", have successfully combined in the past year on the following projects and events:

Allied Waste: Annual Community Yard Sale and support of the Holiday Tree Lighting Event.

Dean & Margaret Lesher Foundation: Grant to replace aging playground equipment at Anuta Park.

First Five Contra Costa: A variety of low cost recreation classes for children 2-5 years old.

Henkel Corporation and Employees: Breakfast with Santa, the Holiday Tree Lighting Event, and the Renovation of the Teen

Kaiser Permanente & Meals on Wheels: Free senior exercise program at Ambrose Community Center for adults over 50.

Keller Canyon Mitigation Grant / CCC District V Supervisor Federal Glover: Senior Activities in partnership with the CC Café

These are just a few of the partnerships in 2010-2011. in addition to the support

from local non-profits such as the Bay Point All Stars, Pittsburg Pony League, Boy Scout Troop 48 and many others who have come together to make Bay Point a great place to work, live and play.

For further information about the partnership and opportunities, contact ARPD General Manager, Tarry Smith, at (925) 458-1601.

#### **Muslims for Life Blood Drive**

A Muslims for Life blood drive was held all over the country the week of September 5. 2011. These blood drives (more than 150) were held in commemoration of the victims of September 11, 2001, and yielded over

4,000 pints of blood. And the work continues.

As part of this nation-wide campaign, a blood drive was held at the Ambrose Community Center on Saturday Sept 10th, during which 44 people came to give blood. The Bay Point Drive generated over 30 pints of blood, which translates to 97 lives saved through just this local drive.

Ambrose Recreation & Park

District Director Eva Garcia gave blood, as did Tim Stone, Julie Nelson, Daniel Zwickel ben Avram, and Khurram Shah, all four of whom are from the Bay Point Chamber of Commerce.

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#### Tri Chamber Mixer

On Wednesday, October 5th at 5:30pm, if you traveling, eating dinner, lounging about, taking the dog for a walk, fixing dinner, waiting for dinner, watching the news, or otherwise occupied, and you were not at the Tri-Chamber Mixer, you missed a great opportunity to network with other businesses and individuals.

The mixer was hosted by the Bay Point Chamber of Commerce, with the Pittsburg and Antioch Chambers participating. It was great! Good food, raffle prizes, vendor tables, but most of all good conversation and business people getting to know one another. The Dining Room and halls at Ambrose Community Center were buzzing with activity.

Among those in attendance who had tables were Ready Print. Ambrose Recreation and Park District, the Lions Club, Wagging Tail Dog Sitting, Delta Diablo Sanitation, Allied Waste, The UPS Store, Chase Bank,

Point Works, the Bay Point missed, and you missed space for the mixer. Garden Club, Madrona a fabulous opportunity to Naturopathic Healthcare, network with people who Cox Bookkeeping & Tax care about the Bay Point Service, and Opportunity business environment. lunction. Remember, those were just the businesses that

had tables!

the Ambrose Recreation & everyone there.

General Chemical, Bay If you didn't attend, you were Park District, which donated

We hope to have a holiday mixer in December, and we'll be sending out announcements. So. don't Special thanks are due to miss it! We'd love to see

# **New Member News**

Welcome to The UPS Store in the Oak Hills Shopping Center on Bailey Road! We are pleased to announce that they just joined the Bay Point Chamber of Commerce.

The UPS Store provides

copying, delivery service, a notary public, packing, shipping, mailbox services, finger printing, and a myriad of other services. Steven Gee, the owner, is a delightful person with whom to

work, and his staff is

outstanding! Excellence is the norm at The UPS Store, so give them the opportunity to serve you.

Remember, we are here to support one another, so the next time you have packing, shipping,

notary, or copying needs, stop by The UPS Store at 640 Bailey Road, near Safeway. And be sure to welcome them to the Chamber!

