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

Biz News

March 2012

A Camel Looks like a Horse that was Planned by a Committee

Brad Klock, President

The title of my article this month, "A camel looks like a horse that was planned by a committee." is actually a quote. I can't attribute it to a specific person, however, as the originator of the quote is listed as "Anonymous." Perhaps that's because, while there is some merit to the meaning or intent of the quote, the reality is that committees DO have a purpose; perhaps "Anonymous" wanted to remain anonymous because the quote is not correct ALL of the time!

Committees can and do provide value. Committees allow for the introduction and sharing of ideas. They provide for a forum to evaluate, critique, and prioritize actions. Indeed, working with other people provides us all with the ability to produce better results, AND be social in the process.

This month, your Bay Point Chamber of Commerce has formalized a few committees. The Board has voted on the respective Chairpersons, and now those Chairpersons are in the process of identifying and populating their committees with eager and results-oriented members. I ask each of you to consider your interest and desire to work in these committees:

Membership Committee (Chairperson: Louie Esposito (LouieEsposito@aol.com))

Purpose: Identify and communicate with prospective members. Build membership. Ensure membership is aware of Chamber programs and value.

Newsletter Committee (Chairperson: Julie Nelson (jcamillenelson@comcast.net))

Purpose: Collect/prepare articles for bi-monthly Chamber Newsletter ("Biz News"). Prepare submission to Printer. Obtain advertising.

Website Committee (Chairperson: Daniel Zwickel ben Avram (truebadour@earthlink.net))

Purpose: Work with the Chamber Webmaster (Daniel) to maintain the Chamber website, ensure its currency, and keep the site "fresh."

If you are interested in working on one of these Committees, please contact the Chairperson directly (email addresses listed above). Further, if you think there is a need within our Chamber for another Committee, and you have a passion in serving on that Committee, please email me at bklock@genchemcorp.com.

This is the first Newsletter of 2012. As such, the beginning of a new year brings us the opportunity to work on new ideas and do new things. Let us know if YOU have some ideas. You'll read about future happenings for your Chamber in this Newsletter. Maybe they'll trigger some further ideas for you!

I also want you to know that we'll be completing a new 2012 Membership Directory this year. With that comes the opportunity to advertise in it. Rates remain (no inflation!) what they've been in the past...

(Continued on page 2)



(Continued from page 1)

Outside Back Cover (color):	\$250
Inside Front Cover (color):	\$200
Inside Back Cover (color):	\$200
Full Page (black and white):	\$100
Half Page (black and white):	\$50

To reserve advertising space, and if you have questions regarding advertising in the Directory, please contact Tim Stone at Ready Print, tim@readyprint.com, or 925-432-3145.

I hope to see you at our next event. Please read through the Newsletter to see what and where it is...



Carriage Rides

Holiday Celebration

We're already in March, yet it seems like the holidays were just here. And, indeed, for the Chamber, it feels even more so, for the Annual Tree Lighting and Holiday Celebration, put on with the Ambrose Recreation and Park District and its partners was so much fun, and so well attended!

The Annual Tree Lighting and Holiday Celebration was

held at Ambrose Community Center on December 8, 2011 from 5:30pm to approximately 8:00pm. Most of the classes that are offered at the Community Center performed, or did demonstrations for those who attended. Outside, we had music and the Carriage Ride (sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce). Although it was a little chilly outside, the line

for the Carriage Ride lasted until 8:00, when it was closed. Demonstrations, too, were exciting, and showcased the talent in Bay Point, especially among our youth.

We thank K&S Towing for their work coordinating the parking, and serving as extra security personnel, and Walgreen's for a donation of candy canes for the children at the Breakfast

with Santa, which followed the next Saturday. Golden State Water, Tesoro Refinery and J.W. Backhoe supported the Carriage Ride, and we'd like to thank them for their generosity.

Make your plans now for next year! It promises to be just as much fun, and just as effective in giving us all a sense of a true community and holiday spirit.



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Welcome Walgreens!

Welcome Walgreens! One of our newest members is Walgreens, who joined us late last year (2011). Matthew Vierra is the Manager of the store, located at the corner of Bailey and Willow Pass Road.

Walgreens, besides providing excellent service and committing themselves to Bay Point, is an interesting company for a number of reasons. First, they promote from within, making it a place to work where your skills are recognized, and you can reach greater potential than the position into which you were initially hired. Matthew Vierra, the

store manager, started with Walgreens as a service clerk just nine years ago, and has had many opportunities for advancement within Walgreens.

The Bay Point location focuses on convenience, with a drive through window for their pharmacy. Walgreens pharmacies also use the latest technologies to communicate with their customers, such as text or email alerts, 90-day prescription fills, and a Prescription Savings Club (which is a discount plan Walgreens offers to customers without insurance coverage.) It is interesting to note that Walgreens gave a quarter



of the flu shots in the nation last year, and continues to do so this year, with this location taking Contra Costa Health Plan, which covers flu shots. (If you haven't had yours yet, there is still time!)

Founded in 1901, Walgreens provides the most convenient access to consumer goods and services, and pharmacy, health and wellness services, in America. The company has over 36 consecutive years of record sales. They are also taking steps to ensure the company's

continued success in the face of a weakening economy by transforming themselves into a more efficient and customer-focused company, both for drug store customers and for patients and payers seeking quality pharmacy, health and wellness services that are accessible and affordable.

We are truly fortunate to have Walgreens in Bay Point, and even more fortunate to have them as a member of the Chamber of Commerce, further reaching out to the community.



ramar foods international
the flavor of the philippines

Welcome new member Ramar Foods International, with PJ Quesada and his staff. Their operations and manufacturing facilities are located at 1101 Railroad Lane in Pittsburg.

PJ's family came from the Philippines in 1969. Realizing that they were part of a growing population of immigrants, they started their business, making foreign yet familiar flavors of their homeland.

Welcome Ramar Foods International!

Now that the family's second generation is working the business, Ramar Foods has evolved into the largest manufacturer and distributor of frozen Filipino foods in America, with offices in Los Angeles and Honolulu. Some of their offerings include Mango and Ube ice cream, Longanisa and Tocino, Ukoy, Embotido, and Calamansi.

While adapting to local business requirements and making products locally yet holding on to their traditional

values, Ramar Foods has become a significant force and an important part of the Pittsburg/Bay Point Community. It is interesting to note that approximately twenty employees of Ramar foods live in Bay Point.

We are grateful to have Ramar Foods as a new member and appreciate their support.



Supervisor Glover's Corner: Workshops, entertainment highlight Youth Summit

PITTSBURG – The 2012 Contra Costa Youth Summit will be held March 31 at Los Medanos College in Pittsburg.

The youth summit, sponsored by Supervisor Federal Glover, features workshops, exhibits, entertainment and inspirational speakers. The theme this year is "No More Bullies!"

"Bullying occurs in our playgrounds, our schools and on the Internet," says Supervisor Federal Glover.

"It has led to reputations being destroyed and in worst case scenarios – suicide by some victims of bullying."

Last year, the event attracted 700 youth who heard comedian Richard Pritchard talk about surviving teenage traumas in an amusing and touching presentation.

Among the workshop subjects are how to get a job, avoiding gangs, financial literacy, getting to know yourself and planning

for college. There will be resources appealing to young people, from 6th grade to 12th grade.

Demonstrations include police dogs, the sheriff's helicopter, some of the latest dance moves and martial arts.

Other attractions include: a theatrical performance by Kaiser entitled, "Nightmare on Puberty Street," deejay Lady Ray from KMEL, free airbrush tattoos, manicures, dance lessons. Lunch and

a light breakfast will be provided at no cost. Supervisor Glover has been holding the youth gatherings since he was a Pittsburg City Council member. They became county-wide summits when he was elected to the Board of Supervisors in 2001.

"There's a lot of useful information for young people, presented in a non-threatening way. Besides, it is a lot of fun, too," says Glover, who represents District V.



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March 15, 2012 • 8:00AM

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3105 Willow Pass Road, Bay Point, CA

Members - FREE — \$5 for non-members
—includes Light Breakfast—

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AGENDA:

Light Breakfast & Connecting at your table
Welcome from the Chamber
Ten Second Introductions

PROGRAM:

10 POINT CHECKLIST TO MORE SALES

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Tim & Cecilia Stone of Ready Print