



Mountain Home Chamber of Commerce

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 2010

Final Letter from our 2009 President

MH Chamber of Commerce
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January Out with the old and in with the new. January is notorious for creating new goals both personally and professionally. I am excited to see what the New Year brings with your new Chamber of Commerce directors.

Stephanie Bergh has fulfilled her obligations and Robbie Robinson of Home Federal is ready to take over her duties. We are sad to see Mike O'Neal offer his resignation, but we wish him and his family the best at their new location. Nancy Marshall, who manages the local Museum, will be coming on board to fulfill Mike's vacant position. Jessie Roberts of Northwest RCI will be filling the resigning position of Barb Fogleman. I will be taking over Debbie Swearingen's chair as the outgoing President. Toni Noland of Idaho Independent Bank will become the new Vice President. And lastly, Lisa Harvel of McDonalds will become your new Chamber President.

I want to thank you all for allowing me the opportunity to be President for the past year. It has been an enjoyable yet educational experience for me. I have enjoyed meeting and getting to know many of you at the functions that the chamber offers. This experience has given me the opportunity to do and pursue many things that would not have been possible without the Chamber. I am glad that I took the step to experience some new opportunities. Thank you all once again.

I am confident the new board will do a great job in the upcoming year to make the chamber office work for you. Please continue to support your local Chamber and businesses so that Mountain Home may remain to be a wonderful place to live!

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2010 Board of Directors

Lisa Harvel - President
Toni Noland - Vice President

Directors

Jay Phillips
Rich Sykes
Connie McKusker
Robbie Robinson
Nancy Marshall
Jessi Roberts

Staff

Lori Posey - Exec Director

Welcome New Chamber Members:

Wingers

Jackson Street Sweets

Mountain Home Computers

Mountain Home Pro Real Estate

Let's give these businesses a Mountain Home WELCOME.

We encourage you to stop by & introduce yourself.

Welcome....FSS Marketing Department

The FSS Marketing Department at Mountain Home Air Force Base is part of the 366th Force Support Squadron, which provides food, fun, and fitness to enhance the quality of life for our military members and their families. These programs affect the military mission by improving morale, productivity, and retention. We strive to provide a quality of life within our military community that increases unit readiness and keeps our force mentally and physically fit.

There have been some increases in the amount of deployments as well as an increase in the length of the deployment from 4 months to 6 months away from home. In lieu of these recent developments, our Gunfighters need some quality programs and outings to keep their minds off of leaving and on their families who hold down the fort while they are gone. The FSS Strives to support our troops and to provide them, and their families, with quality programs and entertainment. To enhance our efforts, we garner sponsorship from the local community to assist with events. We also sell advertising space at key locations on base in which all money generated goes toward helping our Gunfighters.

If you have any interest in supporting our base events or in advertising for your business, please contact Erika Hendrickson at the Base Marketing department at 828-4519 or by email at erika.hendrickson@mountainhome.af.mil

Business Forum

If you attended the first business meeting this month you had the opportunity to voice your expectations for the Mountain Home Chamber of Commerce. Our members said they liked receiving special notices from our businesses, so I have been combining them in e-mails and sending them out at the beginning of each week. We may have to tweak this process a bit as time and space allow but we will get something established that will help notify other members what businesses are offering in town. We also talked about the After Hours Socials that are scheduled each month. This is not only an opportunity for the hosting business to introduce themselves to the community but also an opportunity for the guests to network and talk about their businesses. Remember, in a tough economy everyone must work a little harder to promote their business. Also, if you think a business is doing a great job please let them know and recommend them to your friends.

Chamber Corner



Wow. You guys definitely are keeping us busy here in the office. New membership fees are coming in daily and we are frantically planning for the Installation Banquet. I feel there are many challenges ahead of us but I want you all to know we are committed to learning more about how a Chamber of Commerce functions and what we can offer for our membership. Someone recently asked me what benefit does their business get by joining the chamber. I told them about all the things they could be utilizing right now that we offer; business training, right start packets, group e-mail contact. I told them about some of the community events that the chamber has been involved with; AFAD, Giving Tree, Christmas Parade, Harvest Festival, Crazy Days. We need to work together so that we offer what your businesses need and that you utilize what we have to offer. I hope that this next year, with your valuable input, we can work on making sure that no one will ever have to ask what benefits there are to be a member in the Mountain Home Chamber of Commerce.

MAC Update by John Marshall

Winding down my term as the Military Affairs Committee (MAC) President is a bittersweet affair. I would like to highlight some of what has happened over the last 18 months as our membership has continued to support the overpowering military presence in our community

- The first known Slushy machine in Afghanistan, a gift that our members sent to a Forward Operating Base. The best part of this act of giving is that it just appeared with no fanfare. Giving anonymously is one of the greatest forms of citizenry, which I know of.
- Resuming the Military Affairs Committee meeting on base and improving the base attendance at our monthly meetings
- Supporting the Republic of Singapore “Bed Down” at Mountain Home Air Force Base.* Improved dialogue with elected Idaho political leadership, on a national level, and with our January legislative day visit more communication opportunities to inform.
- Helping the base enhance their local Media presence with our support of the local Media day and direct media involvement.
- Continued responsible relationship with the Base leadership and support of their missions.

These are just some of the issues that consumed my time as the MAC President and as I worked to lead the committee through a busy year. Our board is very strong and capable as we enter the New Year with a favorable tailwind, for the time being, and smooth sailing into the future of our Air Force Base’s new mission as the premier host for the F-35. With our superior assets including the training range, no encroachment, superior and unanimous community and political support, perfect flying weather and excess capacity for training and operations. I can say with near certainty that we will host the newest Air Force asset, the F-35. Mountain Home Air Force Base’s only unanswered question, “how quick will this happen?”

When talking to community leaders we spread the simple fact that Idaho is what is best for the Country and the Air Force. The fact that we should be the first base to support the effort of our Air Force’s emergence into the newest generation of air power.

Our base has the right combination of pioneer spirit and freedom of thought the Air Force needs. The right “Spirit”, the kind of spirit that helped the Gunfighters courageously put that first gun pod on the F-4’s in Viet Nam earning their proud name “The Gunfighters”. The kind of spirit shown by the 391st during their deployment to Afghanistan last year when they retrofitted their F-15E’s with SatCom capability to allow them to better protect our ground troops with Close Air Support. The kind of legendary legacy the 390th Wild Boars represent.

Our current 366th Wing Commander said it best during Media day when all of his intros to the media started with an enthusiastic, “This is your Air Force!” This is a man who understands the spirit of being an American.

"The Giving Tree Warehouse"

Colleen Swenson took over the Giving Tree several years ago. She did a fantastic job & thousands of children were helped with clothing & toys. When you see her, please extend your THANKS for her time, effort & dedication.

Lauri Erickson took over Coleen's position this year as a first for her in this type of endeavor. She did a terrific job helping over 500 children. She was very organized & spent hours ensuring everything was good for the children & the volunteers. When you see her, we all need to thank her for taking on this task and doing such a fine job of it!



Pictured Above: The Giving Tree Warehouse

Just when we thought the presents were done showing up, folks just kept bringing more & more. A big THANK YOU goes out to Lauri Erickson for organizing this years effort.
The community thanks you for your service!

Annual Installation Banquet

When: Saturday, January 23

Where: Elk's Lodge, 325 South 3rd West

Time: Cocktails @ 6pm / Dinner @ 7pm

Dance @ 9pm with Third Take as our Live Entertainment

Cost: \$30 per person

Payments for attending or sponsoring a table need to be made in advance.

These are due to the Chamber Office by January 11th.



2010 MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We are starting to receive our membership applications. We will be updating our membership lists, the website, and we will be making a membership booklet that will be available for our members. Please try to get your memberships updated as soon as possible and remember our Chamber Buck incentive program for referring new members to the chamber. If we all work together we can make this a fun productive year for everyone!



It wouldn't be a New Year
if we didn't have regrets.
~ William Thompson

Thanks to our 2010 Renewed Members as of first week of January.....

Keller Associates, Inc.
Professional Bookkeeping Services
Foster Health
Continental Loans
It's About Time Clock Repair
Performance Chevrolet
Windjammer Cable
Anytime Fitness
Mtn Home Printing
University of Phoenix
CSHQA
Century 21 ~ Southern Idaho Realty

A Change of Place, LLC
Mtn Home Physical Therapy
Del Shaw
Mtn Home Auto Ranch
Mtn Home Pro Real Estate
Sheryle Landon
Taco John's
Intermountain Gas Company
Brown Wrapper Framing
Idaho Independent Bank
Horizon Home Health & Hospice

This list will grow as new contracts & payments are submitted.....

January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 New Year's Day	2
3	4 Chamber Bus Meeting @ AJs 8:30 am	5	6 Travel & Tourism Meeting @ Chamber Noon	7	8	9
10	11 Right Start Packet Deadline	12	13 Dig-It Meeting @ Chamber Noon	14 Business to Business Meeting @ Chamber Noon	15 Ribbon Cuttings @ Mountain Home Computers	16
17	18 Martin Luther King Jr Bday	19	20 MAC Board Meeting @ Chamber Noon	21 After Hours @ WECRD 5-7 pm	22	23 Installation Banquet 6pm
24	25 Chamber Board Meeting @ Chamber Noon	26	27 MAC Gen Meeting @ Chamber Noon	28 Ribbon Cutting @ MH Pro Real Estate	29	30

MH Chamber of
Commerce

**Mountain Valley
Plumbing & Maintenance**

Complete Plumbing & Remodel Service

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- Plumbing Inspections
- Home Repairs
- Tanks & Drain Fields
- Water/Sewer Leaks
- Line Locates
- Sewer & Water Lines
- Drain Clearing

John D. Gross 599-2440 • Mountain Home, Idaho

"A New Year's Resolution is
something that goes in one year
& out the other"

Happy 2010
Mountain Home!

Have you stuck to your New Year's Resolution so far?



Let's make 2010 a Year to
remember!

If you haven't made your resolution yet, it is not too late to start.
Here are some of the top New Year's Resolutions :

- Lose Weight
- Manage Debt
- Save Money
- Get a better job
- Get Fit
- Quit Smoking
- Drink less alcohol
- Reduce stress
- Take a trip

Whatever your resolution, we wish you Good Luck
& Happy New Year.