

Chamber of Commerce

Chamber News

The monthly General Meeting luncheons are not being scheduled at this time. The Chamber Board is working on other venues for Chamber networking opportunities in 2009. Please contact Co-Presidents Paula Zimmerman or Kathie Sharp at info@portludlowchamber.org should your business or a group of businesses want to host a business mixer.

It's only one more month until the Hood Canal Bridge closure. If you missed the opportunity to attend the Chamber Connections Mixer held Thursday, March 19 at the Inn at Port Hadlock, coordinated and facilitated by the Port Ludlow Chamber for our members and the memberships of the Forks, Quilcene/Brinnon, Tri-Area and Port Townsend Chambers, e-mail info@portludlowchamber.org for the networking results.

The Chamber Connections Mixer offered the opportunity for all Jefferson County business owners to seek out similar businesses for ways to deal with the upcoming bridge closure and the present economic downturn. The following topics were addressed:

- Networking
- Joint Marketing
- Shipping Strategies
- Travel Options for Business Services

Wildflower Project Completed

A special thank you goes to Peter Joseph for coordinating and leading the scotch broom removal and wildflower-seeding project at the Village Center entrance along Paradise Bay Road. We look forward to this added spring beauty to the Port Ludlow business community.

Contact the Chamber

The mission of the Port Ludlow Chamber is to support, enhance, and promote local business. It provides many benefits to its members including contacts with other business-minded people. Port Ludlow Chamber of Commerce membership is open to all individuals, associations, home-based businesses, storefront businesses, service agencies, non-profits, and for-profits. Bottom line . . . membership is open to anyone interested in "promoting the community." 2009 membership dues are \$80. Join now!

What is a Chamber of Commerce?

According to Wikipedia®, the free encyclopedia, "A Chamber of Commerce (also referred to in some circles as a Board of Trade) is a form of business network. Business owners in towns and cities form these local societies to advocate on behalf of the business community. Local businesses are members, and they elect a Board of Directors . . . to set policy for the Chamber. The Board . . . "elects" a President . . . plus "hires" staffing appropriate to size to run the organization.

The first Chambers of Commerce were founded in 1599 in Continental Europe (Marseille, France and Brugge, Belgium). The world's oldest English-speaking Chamber of Commerce is that of Glasgow, Scotland, which was established in 1783. The largest Chamber of Commerce in the United Kingdom is the North East Chamber of Commerce with over 4,000 members.

Like other chambers the Port Ludlow Chamber attempts to serve the following purposes:

- Creating a strong local economy
- Promoting the community
- Providing networking opportunities
- Speaking with government on behalf of business
- Political action, such as getting pro-business candidates elected to office

**See new Advertiser Index
on page 51.**

Kathy Larkin

& Associates PS

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