

Wrangell Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

April 2009

The cure for boredom is curiosity. There is no cure for curiosity.

Dorothy Parker,
(attributed)

*US author, humorist, poet, &
wit (1893 - 1967)*

Breakaway Adventures

Special

Daily Trips

TO: Olson's Log Dump / Petersburg

Departing Wrangell 7 AM and again approximately 12 Noon and 5 PM (upon jet arrival in Wrangell) Great way to spend the day in Petersburg for business, shop and visit friends for the day !!!

From: Olson's Log Dump to Wrangell

Departing Olson's Log Dump 8 AM, 1:30 PM and at 5:30 PM

Great way for air travelers to save time. Multiple trips daily for shopping, visiting, business, freight between our two communities.

Breakaway Adventures operating since 1989 with YEAR around service since 2002 !

\$35.00 per person

including taxes

Call 874-2488 or 1.888.385.2488 for reservations.

Petersburg Airport Temporary Closure Creates Opportunities for Wrangell

Wrangell Chamber of Commerce hosted a "Town Hall Meeting" on the Temporary Petersburg Airport Closure March 23-April 21st on March 6th at the James and Elsie Nolan Center to inform Wrangell of the closure and the effect it would have on Wrangell. Information was provided by Dave Kensinger who talked about mail, freight, and organization of people. Kiana Kegel Petersburg Division Manager for Cruise West spoke about Cruise West's responsibility to transport passengers with their buses to and from Wrangell. Wrangell Airport Manager Elsie Harding informed those in attendance about the logistics of checking in and out if you are traveling with Alaska Airlines. If you are going to provide tours it will be important that you speak with the airport about the time they want passengers back at the

terminal for check in and enough time to make it through TSA.

Michelle Meissner spoke for TSA check in. They will have additional TSA people in place to move people through the check point faster. TSA will be challenged by getting people through security quickly and showing up at the last minute will not be advised. The plane will be on the ground and passengers will go directly through TSA on to the plane which should help with congestion.

For information and questions: tpac@alaska.net for further questions, Web Site: **Temporary Petersburg Airport Closure**.

Noel from the Wrangell Medical Center is working with Petersburg hospital to support any needs they may have.

Good News!

Petersburg can come to Wrangell arriving at 9:14 am and departing Wrangell at 4:00 pm a full day in Wrangell...So what creative ways will you entertain or market coming to Wrangell for the day! Will it be a package; shopping incentives, golfing...it's just a matter of getting together and getting Petersburg to Wrangell. This has not been the case until this year so driving will be much nicer. There will be room for personal cars on the IFA when Petersburg or independent travelers want to go a little farther than Petersburg. Wrangell can go to Petersburg but will have to spend the night...already hearing of incentives to visit Petersburg for a short get away!

Janel R. Privett

CHIEF SHAKES TRIBAL HOUSE RENOVATION AND CARVING

The SHED committee has continued to meet each week to formulate plans for the tribal house renovation. This project also includes the construction of a carving facility that will be located adjacent to the SNO building. Preliminary architectural reports have been received from MRV Architects in Juneau from a visit in December. The next step is to raise funds to complete the architectural plans for construction and renovation. Total cost for these plans are over \$70,000 but will give us a complete cost analysis for both projects. The fundraiser this

month is a raffle for a hand carved Steve Brown silver bracelet. Tickets are \$3 each and may be purchased from any committee member. The drawing will be held June 1st or whenever 750 tickets have been sold. The tickets are going fast so we are anticipating the drawing to be closer to the end of the April. Carving shed T-shirts are also for sale for \$16.00 each and make wonderful gifts. If you have not had a chance, take a minute and visit our website: www.shakesisland.com. We have started a page that includes people's memories of their vis-

its to our island and we hope you will consider adding yours! Our site recently had our 1,000th visitor and to celebrate we had a small contest on who that visitor would be. It turned out to be former Wrangellite, Dave (Ando) Anderson who now resides in Virginia. He was a proud winner of a SHED T-shirt. Congratulations Ando! The committee meets each Wednesday at noon at the office upstairs at the SNO Building and the meetings are open to the public.

4th of July Celebrations

It may seem early but it is time for the Chamber staff to start planning the 4th of July Celebrations. While we are barely out of winter we are already planning the 4th of July celebrations that everybody enjoys with friends and family. 4th of July Celebrations in Wrangell are well known events for residents and visitors alike. We will be continuing the traditional events of the street races, egg toss, and Scrapfish derby with new generation of the Stough/Meissner family.

We are also looking for contestants for the annual Royalty Contest and looking forward to a healthy competitive race for the ambitious individuals that decide to continue this long running tradition that supports the whole 4th of July celebration. The Royalty Contest is a wonderful and fast way for individuals in need of

funds for college and so much more.



The Coronation Ball is where the community finds out the Royalty Contest ticket results and winner of their month long race. In the past this event was a dance for both adults and children but has become a much smaller event over time. This event is still in need of a chairperson to set up and plan for the event. This is a very important part of the weeks celebrations.

The Big Wheel Races is an event for the children between 3-5 at the Kyle Angerman Play ground. This lets your little ones race against each other on big wheels that are provided or that they have brought themselves. A small race track is created for this event. The winners get money for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd. This is great for the children and has a good turn out every year. Its fun for friends and family.

If you are interested in participating as a chair person contact the Chamber office at 907-874-3901

If you would like to help out with any events or create a new one contact the Chamber. Information and pictures can be found on the Chamber website at www.wrangellchamber.org

Wrangell and Petersburg Working Together



January 26th the Petersburg Chamber and company came to Wrangell for a meeting with the Wrangell Chamber and guests. The groups met with each other to collaborate and share ideas on how the chambers could work together to advertise SE Alaska. The day started with a meet and greet at the Diamond C Coffee shop and then on to tours of Wrangell's new facilities including the cold storage, shipyard, and the Nolan Center. There were 32 people who attended the working lunch meeting at Alaska's Old

Sourdough Lodge. John Taylor, Board Member and Vice President and Susan Erickson, Petersburg Chamber President, led the meeting. The meeting agenda included the chambers working together to promote each other and tourism in SE Alaska, the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce website, festivals in Wrangell and Petersburg. Petersburg showed interest in possibly starting their own Harvest Festival over in Petersburg based on the Wrangell Chamber Harvest Festival event. It was a very successful luncheon with both parties feeling that a lot had been accomplished.

SeaTrails.org was also introduced at the meeting by Ryan McFarland of Petersburg.

Sea Trails is a place for travelers of all experience types to find the travel packages and information on Alaska that is needed to plan their vacations. The link can also be found on the Wrangell Chamber Website.

The Petersburg Chamber extended the invitation to Wrangell Chamber to spend the day in Petersburg and discuss issues further. The dates are still being decided but we hope these meetings are leading to a better future !

Tips for Going Green in the Office

Be bright about light, Artificial lighting accounts for 44 percent of the [electricity use](#) in office buildings. Make it a habit to turn off the lights when you're leaving any room for 15 minutes or more and utilize natural light when you can. Make it a policy to buy Energy Star-rated [light bulbs and fixtures](#), which use at least two-thirds less energy than regular lighting, and install timers or motion sensors that automatically shut off lights when they're not needed.

Print Smarter ,The average U.S. office worker goes through 10,000 sheets of copy

paper a year. Make it a habit to print on both sides or use the back side of old documents for faxes, scrap paper, or drafts. Avoid color printing and print in draft mode whenever feasible.

Maximize computer efficiency, Computers in the business sector unnecessarily waste \$1 billion worth of electricity a year. Make it a habit to turn off your computer—and the power strip it's plugged into—when you leave for the day. Otherwise, you're still burning energy even if you're not burning the midnight oil. (Check with your IT de-

partment to make sure the computer doesn't need to be on to run backups or other maintenance.) During the day, setting your computer to go to sleep automatically during short breaks can cut energy use by 70 percent. Remember, screen savers *don't* save energy.

Business Spotlight : Welcoming New Businesses



The Wrangell Chamber would like to welcome its new members for March & April. The Chamber is growing every day and looking for ways to create a stronger commerce in Wrangell, Alaska. We would like to welcome ...

Alaskan Eagle Nest Lodging, LLC., Wrangell's newest business and vacation rental. "Private, spacious & centrally located!"

Alaskan Eagle Nest Lodging, LLC. is owned by Carolyn Ottosen and the property liaison is Rhonda Dawson. Call 1-907-470-3474 for more information or visit their website at www.akeagle.com

Fit for Life, Owner Victoria Martin:

Victoria is a wellness advocate and fitness teacher. She has trained in several different forms of exercise. Victoria also sits on the Healthy Wrangell coalition Board. Victoria can be contacted at 907-470-4547.

GCI is a local cable, internet, and phone service provider. GCI offers scanner ads for advertising and personal messages. You can also find all your cell phone accessories at the local Wrangell store. Contact Rynda at 2392

Stikine River Jet Boat Association, offers a combined 108 years of Stikine River charter experience with more than 175 years of total boating experience. Contact Margey Wood at 907-874-2300 or visit their Website at www.jetboatataskatours.com.

Wrangell Chamber of Commerce Board Members

Janell Privett, President

John Taylor, Vice-President

LeAnn Rinehart, Secretary/treasurer

Charlotte Rinehart

Steve Bean

Janice Stamper

Mari Selle

Augie Schultz

Elaine Torvend

Woody Wilson

Grover Mathis

Glenna Ellis

Gene White, Alternative

Tis Peterman, Finances

Chamber Participates in the Annual Health Fair

Wrangell Chamber had a table at the Annual Wrangell Health Fair which took place April 4th, 2009. Wrangell Chamber was promoting wild Salmon. Chamber President, Janell Privett, and volunteers were available to inform the public of fun facts for children and adults. This was a good time to remind people about how healthy, nutritious, and beneficial wild salmon can be. Our information also tried to educate folks on the difference between farm salmon and wild salmon.

The Chamber supplied coupon books with health facts and coupons from the local businesses in the hand out bags. There were also several giveaways such as

recipes, posters, and helpful information largely supplied by the Alaskan Seafood Marketing Institute..

The Wrangell Annual Health Fair was sponsored by the Wrangell Medical Center. This event is one of only two community sponsored Health Fairs in the State of Alaska. Wrangell Annual Health Fair is fun for all ages with health facts covering all subjects.

Don't stay in bed,
unless you can
make money in
bed.

[George Burns](#)

US actor & comedian (1896 - 1996)

2009 Annual Salmon Derby

Wrangell's Annual Salmon Derby Tickets will be on sale soon !

The **Annual Salmon Derby** will start May 9th and run through June 7th, 2009. Salmon Derby books are available at the Chamber office and other participating businesses. For more information contact the Chamber office at 907-874-3901 or visit our website at <http://www.wrangellchamber.org/derby.php>.

Don't forget about **Grandmas Barbershop Fish Classic**. Guess the weight of the 2009 Annual King Salmon Derby winning fish.

Contest starts in April 9th and closes May 9th at midnight (starting day of derby). Tickets are \$1.00 each and the winner will receive 75% of the winnings and 25% will be donated to a non profit organization and pay for expenses. Last year's donation went to Evergreen Elementary. If you are interested in purchasing a ticket contact Clara Haley.

New this year is the **Wrangell Fisher Fest** taking place Saturday, April 25th. This event is organized by the Stikine Middle School IEA Students and endorsed by the Wrangell Port Commission. There will be fun events for all ages, small fry to salty Seniors! An Action packed one day opening !

Event schedule coming soon and can be found at the following locations www.wrangellchamber.org, bulletin boards and the Wrangell Sentinel.

**WRANGELL CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**

P.O. Box 49
224 Front Street
Wrangell, AK 99929

Phone: 907-874-3901
Fax: 907-874-3905
E-mail: wchamber@pci.net
www.wrangellchamber.org

*"Leading our community to a
brighter future!"*

We're on the web ,
www.wrangellchamber.org

Wrangell Chamber of Commerce Membership Benefits

As a member, you will have free access to the following services:

Certificate of Membership
Online notices of upcoming meetings and events
Listing on the Chamber of Commerce website
including links to both your email & website

Displaying Brochures
Referrals
Business and Industry Publications
Listing in the Chamber of Commerce business publications
Bulk Mailing Permit Use

Capability to submit classified ads and articles to Chamber website upon approval

Additionally, for a nominal fee, we also offer the following services:

Copier Use * Faxing * Lamination* Advertising opportunities* Print Raffle
Tickets * preparing bags for meetings and conventions * Chamber Office for Meetings

Chamber Sponsorship Includes:

All annual events * Wrangell's Annual Salmon Derby * Harvest Festival

Tax Free Day * Festival of Lights * Royalty Contest/ 4th of July

Other Chamber Activities..

Anchorage Chamber of Commerce

Anchorage Chamber Citywide Cleanup
week begins on May 2, culminating with the **Clean Sweep Celebration** on May 7. Follow "**Captain Cleanup**," the official Anchorage Chamber Citywide Cleanup mascot, on Twitter!

Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau

Tourism Lunch at Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce Luncheon
April 14
Noon at Carlson Center

Fairbanks Outdoor Show
April 17 - 19
Fairbanks CVB Annual Banquet
April 18

Homer Chamber of Commerce Chamber Luncheon

Senator Gary Stevens
State of the State - Legislative Update
Tuesday, April 28, 12:00 Noon
Upstairs at the Best Western

Annual Clean-Up Day

Saturday, May 2
9:00-3:00PM
HQ - Homer Chamber Parking Lot
Contact the Chamber at 235-7740

2009 Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival

The 17th Annual Kachemak Bay Shorebird Festival is May 7-10. Themed Celebrating Birds in Culture: Our Brothers & Sisters Return. For more information: [Shorebird Festival webpage](#), or contact Festival Coor-

dinator Christina Whiting, 235-7740 or shorebirdster@gmail.com.

Petersburg Chamber of Commerce

Little Norway Festival
May 14 - 17
One of our biggest events, the entire community celebrates with food and craft booths downtown, parade, a Scandinavian pageant, costume show and Kaffe Hus, music, and much more! Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, 907-772-3646.

Sitka Chamber of Commerce

Spring Fling
April 17-19
Merchants will be having special sales from Friday through Sunday.