

Chamber News

Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce

By Ashlee Tondre Bates

Monday morning we had a very interesting visitor come to view the Steinbach House. Thierry Kranzer is an Alsace native from the village of Obersa Asheim who currently resides in New York. He has visited Castroville many times, usually staying with Guy and Shirley Holzhaus and this time stayed with David Jungman. He was one of the volunteers who worked on the Steinbach House back in 1998 when they first began the construction of it. He was also a part of the group which worked on the Garden of Roots in the Regional Park. He was a very nice young man and was so excited to see the finished product of the house construction and enjoyed taking pictures. He even took a picture of Pat and me to show everyone back in New York. He works for the United Nations and is part of L'Union Alsacienne which is an "organization of Alsatians living in the United States, and of Alsatian-Americans, dedicated to upholding the Alsatian heritage, and to promoting Alsace." He told us all about their website, www.alsace-newyork.com and how they can help you find your Alsatian ancestors. They have someone who does extensive genealogy and is always willing to help. So if you are trying to find some information on your Alsatian ancestry, check out their website. He was also so excited about the Alsatian Flags that we sell that he is going to have us send him several of them for those in his organization.

Speaking of Alsatian Flags, the Chamber is going to place an order very soon so we can have the flags on hand for the businesses and locals who are interested. These flags are a great bargain at only \$10 each and would make a great addition to your business store front or your home. Let's show our Alsatian pride and have as many flags flying as possible in town. And what a great gift they make for your Alsatian family who don't live in Castroville. So let us know today if you are interested in purchasing an Alsatian Flag so we can be sure to order enough. Help us direct visitors to your shop by flying the Alsatian flag!

Don't forget to purchase your tickets for the 2010 Annual Chamber Banquet which will be held on January 21 at the Grande Hall at the Hofmann Ranch. Tickets are just \$30 each and include a chance at the raffle which will feature a grand prize basket filled with goodies and gift certificates from local merchants totaling around \$1,000. The banquet is open to the public, however seating is limited so please make your reservations now. The last day to purchase tickets is January 15th.

The PTC at St. Louis School will be hosting a Rummage/Bake Sale and Raffle on Saturday, February 6, 2010 and they are in need of donations. Anyone who would like to donate an item to the sale or sponsor the event can call (830) 931-3544. All proceeds raised will go directly to St. Louis School Fund. The event will be held in the school parking lot from 8am to 4pm. If you are an avid baker, I am sure they would love to have some of your specialty goodies to sell.

The American Legion Scholarship Dinner starts back up this Friday at 5pm at the Legion Hall. Dinner is just \$6 a plate and they are planning on serving spaghetti. Sunday head on out to the Shooting Star Museum for a free movie starting at 6pm. And as always, popcorn and ice cream are also free. Have a great weekend everyone!