

Chamber News

Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce

By Ashlee Tondre Bates

Can you believe it's already February? Where did January go? The Chamber was very busy with the Annual Banquet this past month and we are already gearing up for our next event, the Chamber Wine Fest, which will be held on Friday, April 9, 2010. The event will again be held at the Hotel Alsace & Spa Resort and we plan to have several wines for you to sample as well as some great food to taste. The Live Auction will be back again this year by popular demand and we are currently looking for items to feature. If you or your business would like to donate to the live auction, please let us know. We are looking for large items, weekend trips or parties and anything else you think will make a great live auction item. Just give us a call and let us know what you would like to donate. We will also have the cigar bar again this year as well as beer for those non-wine drinkers. And make it a weekend affair by staying at the hotel for a special rate. We will have much more information to come soon so mark your calendars now and plan to be at our next event!

Next week kicks off the first after hours mixer co-hosted by the Chamber of Commerce. On Wednesday, February 10th, head on over to Fiorella Street to visit the many businesses that will be open from 5pm to 8pm. They will have refreshments and drinks and you can take a look around each business including Castroville Café, Albros Casa y Garden, Bippert's Bottle Shop, the Law Office of Anna Whorton, the Rushing Law Firm, and the Castroville News Bulletin. The Chamber will be working with local businesses throughout the year to host an after hours mixer to help promote their business and let people know where they are and what they do! We still have a couple of dates later in the year open so if you are interested in hosting a mixer, let us know. And don't miss our first one of the year, next week on the 10th along Fiorella Street.

The Chamber will be working on our annual Membership Directory soon and you don't want to be left out. If you haven't paid your dues for 2010, please send them in soon to ensure that you get listed in the directory. This directory is handed out to every current Chamber member and all future Chamber members. It is your tool to keep the local business' information at your fingertips. We will also be offering advertising spots in there as well and will get more information out on that soon. If you are unsure of what you owe for your dues, please contact Pat Davila at the Chamber at (830) 538-3142.

This Friday, the Hotel Alsace & Alsatian Restaurant are hosting a Texas Microbrewed Beer event starting at 7pm. Tickets are just \$20 per person and can be purchased ahead of time or at the door. The event will feature a Mexican themed appetizer bar and four different beers, Alamo Gold Ale, Rio Blanco Pale Ale, Fireman's #4 and Brew-House Brown Ale. Make it a weekend with an overnight special which includes a room, tax and entry to the beer event for two for just \$132 for one queen sized bed or \$149 for two queen sized beds.

Also taking place this weekend is Fiorella Friday starting at 5pm on Friday night. Check out the local shops and taste some delicious wines. Sid Fly will perform live as well. Saturday head over to the St. Louis School for a Rummage/Bake Sale and Raffle. They will have plenty of items and baked goods for you to purchase. All proceeds go to the St. Louis Catholic School. Sunday morning start your day over at the David DeCock Gym for the annual St. Louis Pancake Breakfast. Food will be served beginning at 8am and the event runs until 10:30. After church, head on over to the Landmark Inn where they are hosting their 4th Annual Quilt Exhibit. View many beautiful hand-made quilts from private Castroville collections. The show is open daily 8am to 5pm and it is just \$4 for adults. With so much to do in town this weekend, why go anywhere else. Have a great one!