



www.castroville.com

Chamber Recognizes Individuals at the Banquet

Inside this issue:

<i>Chamber Recognizes Individuals at the Banquet</i>	1
<i>Twinning of the Cities: Ensisheim & Castroville</i>	2
<i>Bike Race Coming to Castroville</i>	2
<i>New Members since January 1, 2009</i>	2
<i>February Calendar of Events</i>	3
<i>Quilt Exhibit returning to the Landmark Inn this Month</i>	3
<i>Business of the Month - The Grande Hall at The Hofmann Ranch</i>	4

Special points of interest:

- Chamber Luncheon— February 3, 2009, 12 noon at Sammy's Restaurant.
- Don't miss the Twinning of Cities in March.
- Free yoga classes at Grace Community Church, Monday & Wednesday evenings, 6:15-7:15.
- Want to put something in the Newsletter? Email us and let us know: chamber@castroville.com

It was a surprising and entertaining night for many at the Chamber's annual banquet held on January 15th at the Grande Hall at the Hofmann Ranch.

One of the most surprised was Ernie Ayala who was recognized as Citizen of the Year for 2008. Since arriving in 2003, Ernie has done a lot of hard work to make the Regional Park the wonderful place it is today.

Also surprised was a recognizable face, the friendly UPS delivery man Ray Saucedo. He was the lucky recipient of the President's Award presented by former president Tot Albro who spoke both kind and comical words about Ray and the job he does here in town.

Awards were also given to the Jr. Boy and Girl Citizens of the Year, Brandon Stein and Sarah Vielma. Each were asked to write an essay on what their community meant to them. Along with their award, they will also receive a \$200 scholarship from the Chamber of Commerce.

The night kicked off with a getting acquainted hour with drinks donated by Monte and Stacy Bippert of Bippert's Bottle Shop and appetizers

donated by Kenneth & Arlene Smith of The Old Alsatian Steakhouse.

Before dinner the JROTC group from Medina Valley High School presented the colors and Boy Scout Troop 471 led the pledge of allegiance. The National Anthem was sung by Ashlee Bates and the invocation followed, led by Pastor JC Ballard of Calvary Chapel.

A delicious meal was served and donated by Castroville Café followed by a cheesecake dessert donated by local Bed and Breakfasts. These include Gladys & Charles Clark of 3 Cedars Ranch B&B, Kenneth & Arlene Smith of The Old Standby Saloon B&B, Burl & Janie Brock of the Brock Haus B&B, George and Joan Voneiff of Castro Cottages, Janice Bell of Home Sweet Home B&B and Bette Hamby with Life Designworks.

Beverly Gruber, of the Medina Regional Hospital, was the guest speaker who spoke about the recent renovations and expansion of the hospital. Its nice to know such a wonderful facility is in our own backyard.

Our wonderful Master of Ceremonies, Frankie Kempf,

was back again this year to lead the evening and help present the awards. He, along with Polly Edlund of Medina County Emergency Service District One, presented the community awards. This year's winners were the entire Castroville Volunteer Fire Department, Josh Chessher of the La Coste VFD, Al Bishop of the Mico VFD, Greg Grothues of the Medina Lake VFD and Viola McHorse who received the Outstanding Medina Valley EMS Award.

The night ended with recognition of current directors, welcome to new directors and a goodbye to our former president, Tot Albro.

Back again this year was the popular raffle which featured over 20 prizes donated by local businesses and a grand prize valued at over \$1,000, which was won by Charles Green.

Thank you to everyone who came to support this wonderful cause and the great people of Castroville. And thanks to all the sponsors and donors of the event. Because of your support over \$3,000 was raised which will go towards the Chamber Building Fund.



3 Cedars Ranch Bed and Breakfast

"Your home away from home!"

Charles & Gladys Clark, Hosts
830.538.2816 / 210.846.4722
210.845.8049

www.3cedarsranchbedandbreakfast.com
cgclark651@sbcglobal.net

MainStreets
OF TEXAS
Mortgage

Debbie Martinez

Office: 830-931-3900

Toll Free: 866-883-9211

Allen Wurzbach

Owner



10730 Potranco Road, Suite 122
San Antonio, TX 78251

210.520.5584 Tel
210.520.5668 Fax
store5771@theupsstore.com

"Choose us for your shipping,
packaging and mailbox services."

The UPS Store

Twinning of the Cities: Ensisheim & Castroville

From March 20-23rd, 32 Alsatians will be visiting Castroville to partake in a twinning ceremony of the city of Castroville with Ensisheim, France.

The group, which will be led by Mayor Michel Habig and tour guide Gilbert Hadey, will be hosted by local families for the weekend.

On March 21st, a civil ceremony will be held at St. Louis Catholic Church at

4pm. Mayor Bob Lee will officiate the ceremony and Msgr. Lawrence Stuebben will be in attendance. Everyone is invited to attend the ceremony.

Following the ceremony, a celebration will be held at the Grande Hall at the Hofmann Ranch. Everyone is invited, however seating is limited. Dinner will be served by the Castroville Café and the Broken Toe Band will be there to provide

entertainment.

Tickets are \$25 per person and can be purchased at the Chamber of Commerce and City Hall.

Mayor Michel Habig was one of the Alsatians who volunteered his labor to construct and repair the Steinbach House, where the Chamber is currently located.

We hope to see you all at this historic event.

Bike Race Coming to Castroville

The Alsatian Country Bike race will be back in town on Friday and Saturday, February 7th and 8th. This is the second year for the event in Castroville and what a success it was last year.

This year, Andrew Willis, the promoter of the race, expects over 400 racers per day. Some riders are even coming from Germany this year to race. How amazing is that!

This year's race will be bigger and better than last year with several more events added. In addition to the Regional Park and Road Race, there will also be a

Time Trial, which is what Lance Armstrong excelled at in his 7 Tour de France wins.

Also included this year will be a Children's Bicycle Rodeo on Saturday afternoon at the Regional Park. All children age 10 and under are invited to participate and learn bike safety as well as partake in a bicycle obstacle course. It is totally free as well!!

The large races begin on Saturday morning with the 10 mile Time Trial from Iron Haus Fitness to Rio Medina and back. The Regional Park Criterium will

begin later in the day with various categories running throughout the day.

Sunday morning starts the Road Race which will begin and end at the Hotel Alsace, however the course will be different and more challenging this year.

Prizes will be given for each race as well as a special prize for the racer with the most points at the end of all races.

Everyone is invited to partake in this fabulous event. Please visit www.alsatiancycling.com for more details and schedule of events.

New Members since January 1, 2009

Alsatian Care Enterprises (Urgent Care Center) - Max Best, Jr., Benson Hausman, & Richard Neel

Alsatian Golf Course - John Garcia

Integrated Communications Technology - Edward Pfeiffer

Medina Regional Hospital - Beverly Gruber

Ponce's Lawn and Landscaping - Jose Ponce

Salon TLC - Tina Connell

Starr Realty & Ranch - Starr Neutze & Dawn Ham

Whorton Law Firm - Anna Whorton

Newsletter Information

Editor: Ashlee Tondre Bates

Asst. Editor: Pat Davila

February Calendar of Events



Here's what's happening in Castroville in February. All details can be found on the calendar of events at www.castroville.com. If you have an event to add, please email all the information to the web mistress at ashlee@castroville.com.

Every Thursday: Live Music at Cora's by Greg Walden, 6 - 9pm

Every Wednesday: Rotary Club of Medina Valley Meeting, 11:45am, Old Alsatian Steakhouse
Free Computer class at the American Legion Hall, 9-11am

- 03: Chamber Luncheon, 12 noon, Sammy's Restaurant. **All Members invited!**
- 04: Blood Drive, Community National Bank, 9am-11am
- 06: Fiorella Friday, live music, artisans, wine tasting and much more, 6-9pm
- 07-08: Alsatian Country Bike Race, Castroville Regional Park, (512) 779-7356
- 07-21: Quilt Exhibit at the Landmark Inn, 8am-5pm, 931-2133
- 08: St. Louis Pancake Breakfast, David DeCock Gym, 8-10:30am
- 08: Movies at Shooting Star Museum, 6pm. FREE!! 931-3837
- 13: American Legion Scholarship Dinner, 5-7pm, American Legion Hall, 538-9182
- 13: Friday Night Fever, Lundquist Automotive, 6-10pm, evening of cars, trucks, bikes, food, music and shopping, 931-2479
- 14: Regional Park Work Session, 8-11am, sign in at the pool, 931-2692
- 15: St. Louis Anniversary Dinner, 10:30 am Mass with dinner following at Braden Keller Community Center, 931-2826
- 24: Chamber Director's Meeting, Castroville Café, 12 noon
- 27: Cruisin' God's Country, Hondo TX, evening of cars, music and shopping, 830-426-3037

SALLIE L. HARBORTH
209 HWY 90 W, STE. 1
CASTROVILLE, TX 78009
(830) 931-9816
*Business and Personal
Insurance*



FARMERS



T-SHIRTS • TROPHIES
BANNERS • MILITARY COINS
BUSINESS & POST CARDS
MILITARY COINS
PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS
BUSINESS GIFTS & MORE!

(210) 254-7881 www.promo-sa.com
info@promo-sa.com

Quilt Exhibit Returning to the Landmark Inn

For the third consecutive year, the popular Quilt Exhibit will be showing at the Landmark Inn State Historic Site from February 7th to the 21st.

Over 50 handmade quilts from numerous private Castroville collections will be on display from 8am to 5pm each day during the exhibit.

Cost of the exhibit is \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors

and children 12 and under are free. All proceeds will benefit the preservation of the Landmark Inn.

A special treat you won't want to miss is guest speaker Lynn Deal, who will speak on Southern Quilts on Tuesday, February 10th at 10 a.m. Exhibit admission will apply. Bring your lawn chair for an outside presentation (weather

permitting).

If you've never been to the Landmark Inn, please make it a point to stop by and visit the museum and take a walk on the grounds where you will find one of the oldest grist mills around.

And remember they offer eleven beautifully decorated rooms for your Castroville visitors.

ALAMO CREDIT RECOVERY, LLC
1004 20th Street, Suite 200
Hondo, TX 78861
830-426-2400 or 1-877-814-2400
www.alamocredit.com



"Your partners in roping in your collections"

Castroville Area Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 572
100 Karm Street
Castroville, TX 78009

Phone: 830-538-3142

Fax: 830-538-3295

Toll Free: 800-778-6775

E-mail: chamber@castroville.com

We're on the web

www.castroville.com



Business of the Month: The Grande Hall at The Hofmann Ranch

As the bride walks into the beautifully decorated hall, she is awe struck by the gorgeous centerpieces, the sparkling chandeliers and the exquisite place settings. Where is she you might ask? She has just entered her reception at the beautiful Grande Hall at The Hofmann Ranch.

Nestled amongst a 370-acre ranch just 4 miles down 471 N, the Grande Hall sits on a hilltop surrounded by nature's beauty. When owners, Hans and Charlotte Hofmann found this spot, they instantly fell in love and knew they had to share this beauty.

With three new indoor and outdoor facilities, The Ranch can host your special event whether it be a wedding, anniversary party or corporate function. Seating for 200 to 300 people makes this the place to book your next event.

Designed to resemble the hand-crafted ranch houses of yesteryear, as you walk into the Grande Hall, you are greeted by a stunning double oak staircase that leads to a

balcony with a view. The ceiling is 20 feet high and tall windows and French doors show off the beauty that surrounds the Hall. It also offers a full-service kitchen, an LCD screen for your presentation or slideshow, two bars and a screened in patio.

From the Hall, take a walk onto the brick-paved patio illuminated at night by stringed lights and lamp posts. Enjoy an outdoor dinner or cocktail party complete with refreshing breezes and amazing landscaping.

If an outside venue is what you are looking for then the large Pavilion with its wood columns, pine ceilings and chandeliers is the place you want to be. And who could forget the fabulous view of the Medina Valley and large oak trees as far as the eye can see. The Pavilion can host a dinner and dance as well as a wedding ceremony.

Hans and Charlotte spared no detail in building this magnificent venue which also features catering,

entertainment and floral options for your special occasion.

Not quite ready to leave this place after your event is over? Then stay at the luxurious bed and breakfast located behind the patio. It features two bedrooms with king-sized beds, a full bath, a dining area and living room with a rock and brick fireplace. Enjoy a continental breakfast on the covered front porch.

So the next time you need the perfect setting for your special event, check out the *Elegant Country Comfort* of the Hofmann Ranch.

448 PR 4742
(830) 931-9257
(210) 771-0002

www.hofmannranch.com

