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Rain Lets up in Time for Chamber Wine Fest

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With rains hitting Castroville hard all week, we were worried the Wine Fest would be a downer. Luckily the skies cleared up just in time for another successful Chamber Wine Fest.

The Hotel Alsace again made for a beautiful setting for the event where approximately 120 people enjoyed great wine, great food and great fun.

As participants arrived, they were given a commemorative wine glass to begin sampling the delicious wines chosen again by Castroville's own Charlie Suehs.

This year featured a Zinfandel, a Sauvignon, a white and red Bordeaux and a delicious Italian Sparkling Wine. Along with the wines, everyone feasted on a large array of appetizers including pasta, pesto, smoked salmon, cheeses, fruit, olives and more. The Alsatian Restaurant really outdid themselves this year with over 10 feet of appetizers!

Live music was heard during

the early evening provided by Frank Francis. Thank you Frank for donating your services.

For those non-wine drinkers, there were a couple of kegs on hand for all to enjoy. Thanks to the Alsatian Restaurant and Teri Barrow for donating the kegs.

Raffle prizes, donated by Castroville locals, were given out throughout the evening.

The highlight of the night was the Live Auction led by local auctioneer Vance Runnels. Vance really got the crowd going and was able to help us raise over \$3,000 on the live auction which featured a large selection of items donated by Chamber members.

The prizes featured were a Framed Arial View of Castroville, photo print of the Medina Dam Construcion, NAPA Car Care Bucket, Paul Mitchell Products Basket, a Framed Cheetah Art, Texas A&M Canopy, a case of wine, a new Coach Purse, a large birdhouse, Golf Package

from the Alsatian Golf Club, a Wine and Chocolate basket, a Hotel and Spa Retreat Package and a Private Party for 30 at the Castroville Café.

We want to thank all our raffle and live auction donors: Albros Casa y Garden, the Alsatian Restaurant, Tim & Teri Barrow, Tommy & Janet Bednarz, Bourquin Automotive, Castroville Café, Sula Combs, Community National Bank, Dr. Frank & Carmen Danna, David & Cheryl Dollase, The Hotel Alsace & Spa Resort, The Old Alsatian Steakhouse, Reagan Rothe, Richard & Hazel Russell, Stephanie's Salon & Spa and Mutzie Suehs.

Thank you to everyone who joined in the fun at this year's 4th Annual Wine Fest. We were able to raise about \$4,000 for the Chamber's General Fund.

We look forward to this event next April and we hope you all will plan to attend again. Look for more Chamber events to come this year including a Golf Tournament & Oktoberfest!

Special points of interest:

- Chamber Luncheon—May 4, 2010, 12 noon at Sammy's Restaurant.
- Purchase an ad in the Newsletter, just \$40 per month or \$400 for an entire year!
- Congratulations to those celebrating their anniversary this month:

Kathleen Bachus - 5 yrs
Hondo Executive Inn - 10 yrs.





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Chamber to Hold Father's Day Golf Tournament

The Castroville Chamber of Commerce will be hosting their first Father's Day Golf Tournament this June and we are looking for both players and sponsors for this event.

This golf event is a great opportunity for you to entertain clients and gain exposure to potential clients. The event will include golfers from around the community and beyond.

The tournament will be held on Saturday, June 19th at the Alsatian Golf Club in Castroville, Texas. A Friday

night kick-off event will get everything started with registration, live music, happy hour, putting contest, longest drive contest and a player auction.

We plan to have a "Taste of the Town" on Friday night with different restaurants serving some of their favorite dishes. Everyone will be invited to the Friday night festivities for a small fee and participants in the tournament will get in free.

A shotgun start will get the tournament going on Saturday at 1:30pm. Plan to

join us for a full day of exciting events and competitions, auction and many great prizes.

We also plan to have food stations at each par 3 so the players can enjoy snacks throughout the tournament.

Saturday evening will feature an awards ceremony with dinner catered by the Alsatian Restaurant.

We will be looking for players, hole sponsors, food sponsors and more in the next few weeks so look for more information to come in your mail and email.

Castroville Bicycle Tour Heading to Town

On Saturday, May 8th, the City of Castroville will hold their first Bicycle Tour to help raise money for the newly identified Lion's Sports Complex.

This will be the first of many events to help raise funds for this complex.

The race will be held at the Regional Park with on-site registration starting at 7am. A staggered start begins the ride at 8am. There are 3 rides taking place including a 62 mile, 40 mile and 25 mile.

The bicycle tours offers a scenic tour of the historic Medina County rural countryside. Indoor restrooms/shower facilities are available to all riders free of charge.

There is still time to register for the event. Registration is \$40 per rider.

All money raised will go to the Lion's Sports Complex which is located on the city block just north of the Castroville Elementary School.

It currently houses one

fenced baseball field, two-50 year old restrooms, dilapidated bleachers, a concession stand and several treeless lots covered with weeds and rocks.

With the money raised they plan to renovate the existing facilities plus add jogging/walking trails, several soccer fields, practice fields, a skate park and playground areas.

For more information on the race or how you can get involved please email donnajaklich@sbcglobal.net or call (830) 444-1057.

New Member since March 1, 2010

Banker's Life & Casualty Company, Leona English Insurance
 Black Rose Writing, LLC, Reagan Rothe
 Sally Coyle & Lloyd Ross
 Lumpy's BBQ, Seafood, Steaks & Burgers, John Gilmore
 The Income Solution Group, Brad Livingston & Rick Moose



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Newsletter Information
 Editor: Ashlee Tondre Bates
 Asst. Editors: Pat Davila & Kimberly Frangesh

May Calendar of Events

Here's what's happening in Castroville in May. 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 Wed: Rotary Club of Medina Valley, 11:45am, Old Alsatian Steakhouse

Every Monday & Thursday: Free Computer Class at the Library, courtesy of American Legion

- 01: Grand Opening & Ribbon cutting of Archeryholic, 12 noon, (830) 299-3553
- 03: Chamber Board of Directors Meeting, 12 noon, Castroville Cafe
- 04: **Chamber Luncheon, 12 noon, Sammy's Restaurant. All Members invited!**
Speaker: Kim Davis, Director of Castroville Public Library
- 07: Fiorella Friday, live music, artisans, wine tasting and much more, 6-9pm.
- 08: Market Trail Days, Houston Square, 9am-4pm, (830) 741-2313
- 08: Castroville Bicycle Tour, Regional Park, 8am, (830) 444-1057
- 09: **Mother's Day!!**
- 09: Movies at Shooting Star Museum, 6pm. FREE!! (830) 931-3837
- 12: Monthly After Hours Mixer-Farmers Insurance/Sallie Harborth, 5pm, (830) 931-9816
- 12: WOW Social, MV Methodist Church, 12 noon to 3pm, cards, games and fellowship
- 12: Breast Cancer Support Group, United Methodist Church in Hondo, 6pm, (830) 741-7190
- 14: Friday Night Fever, Wommack Automotive, 6-10pm, evening of cars, trucks, bikes, food, music and shopping, (830) 931-2479
- 14: American Legion Scholarship Dinner, 5-7pm, American Legion Hall, 538-6483
- 14-15: Fiddlin Frenchie Burke Music Festival, Lytle TX, (830) 772-5843
- 15: Fly in 2010, Hondo Army Airfield, 10am-5pm, (830) 741-1162 or (210) 218-4386
- 20: Meet & Greet at Medical Clinic of Castroville, 5pm, (830) 538-3035
- 22: Old Iron Trail Ride, Mumme's in Hondo, <http://old-iron-trail-ride.0catch.com/>
- 26: WOW Social, MV Methodist Church, 12 noon to 3pm, cards, games and fellowship
- 31: **Memorial Day**





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Memorial Day

Chamber Welcomes New Director for 2010

Even though its already May, the Chamber is welcoming a new Director for 2010.

Due to a change in his job and location, Justin Johnson was no longer going to be able to finish out his term. The Board quickly decided they needed someone to take his place and they called on Carol Ruhaak.

Carol is a former Chamber Director who was in office from 2004 to 2007. She

held the officer position of Education Chairman (2004), Vice President (2005), President (2006) and Past President (2007).

"I enjoy being part of the Chamber because of the people involved with the Chamber," says Ruhaak. "As a group, we are all looking out for the future of Castroville."

Carol has resided in Castroville for over 16 years now and has two wonderful

sons, Zachary and Preston.

She works for Stewart Title in Castroville where she has been for the past 8 years working as an Escrow Officer and Assistant Branch Manager.

Carol will finish out Johnson's term which ends in December of 2010. At that time she will be able to run for a re-election.

We hope you will help us welcome Carol into her new position at the Chamber!

SEE YOUR AD HERE

**NEWSLETTER BEING
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BULLETIN EVERY
MONTH!**

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: Hotel Alsace & Spa Resort

It will be 5 years this July since Joseph and Jana Winkler purchased the Hotel Alsace and quickly began renovations on what they saw as a jewel in the rough.

The Hotel Alsace & Spa, which now features a large array of amenities including a luxury spa, restaurant, ballroom, wedding facilities and so much more, has blossomed from a motel scene into a beautiful hotel which guests are excited to return to time after time.

Owners Joseph and Jana strive to make your stay both relaxing and pleasurable. They reside in Castroville with their 3 small children, Jett 6, Jonah 3 and Julia 1.

"We are very happy to be integrated into this community," says Joseph. "We feel it is the best place to raise our children."

The 38 newly appointed guest rooms feature queen size beds,

private baths and balconies, digital cable, free WiFi, fine bed linens and luxury spa robes for guests to use during their stay.

The spa, which is run by co-owner Jana Winkler, features customized services tailored to your unique needs. It's the perfect place for your next bridal shower, birthday or just a place to get away and relax.

With a menu offering facials, massage, tinting, tanning, waxing, nails and body treatments, they are sure to create a perfect spa experience for you to enjoy.

Their knowledgeable staff can help you create a spa package just for you. Jana herself has over 10 year of spa experience and looks forward to helping you relax and rejuvenate yourself.

Your hotel experience would not be complete without visiting the Alsatian Restaurant which is

open every day of the week. They, along with the hotel, offer breathtaking views of the Medina River Valley and Castroville from their covered patio.

They serve lunch daily from 11am to 2pm and dinner Thursday through Saturday from 5pm to 9pm. Their all you can eat buffet is featured every day at lunch for just \$9.95 and offers a different menu each day.

Their menu features fine Alsatian cuisine and many other options including soups and salads, sandwiches, pasta dishes, seafood, steaks and more.

Looking for a place to host your next wedding, corporate party or other special occasion? Then look no further than the Hotel Alsace and Spa which offers up to five different event spaces.

The Dining room offers over 2100 square feet and can accommodate 120 people. The

ballroom can hold up to 100 people and can be combined with the dining room for a large reception area. The terrace is open to all hotel guests and offers a beautiful view of the town. The café has seating for up to 35 people and is available for private parties. And the spa, of course, offers an intimate space for your small get together.

Next time you are looking for a place to go to get away, or have company coming into town, remember the Hotel Alsace and Spa Resort and all they have to offer. You won't be disappointed!

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www.thehotelalsace.com