



DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

by T. Janet Musgrove
 2008 Parade Chairperson

LOOKING AHEAD TO A GREAT PARADE

The Pine County Fair Parade has been in the planning stages since early this year, with input from Wendy Johnson, Carolyn Kolar, Patrick Schifferdecker and Becky Schueller. Donations are solicited, pledged, and in many instances, received. While donations are somewhat down from last year, you will be treated to a fine parade with a variety of entries.

Local businesses, service groups, and nonprofits have been invited to participate in the parade. Their entries add to the personality of the parade each year. Entries were due on Friday, June 6. We will continue to accept entries until the lineup is full. If your group wishes to be in the parade, please contact the Chamber office at 320-629-4565 for additional information.

Scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 2, 4:00 p.m., the parade will follow the same parade route as in past years. Units include the T-6 flyover at 4:00 followed by the "on the ground" portion of the parade: Osman Shrine Cycle Corps, Zurah Mariners, Zurah Pipes and Drums, and many others, including royalty groups representing their communities.

The entire county owes thanks to the organizations and businesses that invest in the Pine County Fair parade. Donations pay the fees for groups like groups named above. Businesses invest in promotional materials and design floats to please the parade audience and to promote their business and services. Much planning and thought goes into the parade each year by many people, all of whom volunteer their time and efforts.

It has been my pleasure to chair the parade committee for the past five years, following in the footsteps of Teresa Davidson, an extremely able organizer who planned great parades. I extend my personal thanks to the Pine County Fair Board, Patrick, Wendy, Carolyn, Becky for their participation in planning this year's parade, and Todd Cummings and Frank Christopherson for their assistance on the day of the parade marking the lineup slots. I know that Wendy and Carolyn will continue the proud tradition of the Pine County Fair parade in upcoming years.

CHAMBER AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

Coordinated by Wendy Johnson, the Chamber Ambassadors welcome new businesses with a visit on the second Wednesday of each month. To learn more about the benefits of Chamber membership, please check out our Web site or call our office at (320) 629-4565. We look forward to visiting with you.

Chamber Ambassadors Wendy Johnson, Rick Herzog and Becky Schueller, were accompanied by Mayor Jane Robbins, and City Planner Nathan Johnson for the May 14, visits.

Minnesota Real Estate Group

217 Main Street S, Pine City, (320) 629-8030; Owner, Amanda Wimmer. "Minnesota Real Estate Group is a Full Service Brokerage, located in downtown Pine City. At Minnesota Real Estate Group you will find educated agents and professional staff. Our mission is to provide Buyers and Sellers with resources to meet ALL of their Real Estate needs."



L-R: Nathan, Wendy, Amanda Wimmer, Mayor Jane & Rick

The Bamboo Needle: A Knit Shop

20082 Beroun Crossing Rd, Owners Jennifer & Steve Allman, (320) 629-7585 "The Bamboo Needle Knit Shop is a new yarn store in the area that specializes in high quality yarn, yarn for all seasons. We offer beginning Knitting classes and some crocheting also. We have gift cards available. Stop in for helpful friendly service."



L-R: Wendy, Steve & Jennifer Allman, Mayor Jane, Rick & Nathan

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

As the Pine City Area Chamber of Commerce strives to make a difference in our business community through seminars, fundraisers and support of our area businesses, we must remember to thank all of the Chamber members for their continued support. We would like to welcome the following Chamber businesses as they join us for 2008.

- The Creek's Edge – Located on the corner of Hwy 70 & Hwy 61, The Creek's Edge offers the northwoods traveler a place to stop and share a cup of coffee while browsing the unique selection of home and cabin décor. For more information or store hours contact the shop at 320-629-3680.
- Mac-Clair Mortgage Corporation – At Mac-Clair Mortgage we strive to provide a quality experience for someone looking for residential mortgage financing or re-financing. Just one of our many services...call Chad Faur or Eric Rysdam today for an appointment at 320-629-5003.
- Iron River Plumbing Services, LLC – Chris Maas, President, invites anyone looking for residential remodel, repair or new construction plumbing services to contact him today for information on the variety of services offered at Iron River Plumbing. Visit their Web site at www.ironriverplumbing.com or call 320-629-8155 today.

TRIATHLON ENTRY DEADLINE APPROACHES

A new event will take place this year during the annual Freedom Fest Celebration. On Saturday, July 5 at 9 a.m. there will be a mini-triathlon in conjunction with the day's activities. The Freedom Fest Mini-Triathlon consists of a 300-yard lake swim, 12-mile bike ride and 2-mile run/walk and is not intended to be a competitive event but solely for the purpose of fun and exercise. The triathlon event is being coordinated by the Pine City Chamber of Commerce under the direction of Elisa Mill. Individuals may enter and do all three events or three people may form a team and each compete in an event. The exact route and information will be provided on Saturday morning at the Pine City Beach.

To enter the Freedom Fest Mini-Triathlon, each individual or team must complete the entry form and pay the registration fee of \$10. All entry forms must be postmarked by June 16 and only original forms will be accepted (no fax or e-mails please). The entry form includes an accident waiver and release of liability form that must be signed by each individual that is participating. Entry forms are available to be downloaded from the Chamber Web site at www.pinecitychamber.com or can be picked up at the Chamber Office in Pine Technical College or at the front desk at City Hall. For more information, please contact Becky at (320) 629-4565.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR ¹⁹ X

Don't miss out on these exciting events!

Friday, June 13

Application deadline for the Little Miss Pine City Pageant. Must be received or postmarked by this date to be eligible.

Friday, June 13

Join the Chamber Directors and the American Dairy Association for "Dairy Days" night at Art in the Park. The Chamber will begin serving at 5:30 p.m. and the menu includes: cheeseburgers, chips, milk and ice cream. The cost per plate is \$5.00.

Monday, June 16

Application deadline for the Freedom Fest Mini-Triathlon. Must be received or postmarked by this date to be eligible.

Wednesday, June 18

The Pine City Pizza Pub will be hosting a Pizza Buffet from 5-7:30 p.m. All proceeds from the evening will be donated to the Freedom Fest Fireworks that will be presented on Saturday, July 5 at dusk. Bring the family out for a night on the town and support this great community event.

Friday, July 4-Sunday, July 6

Freedom Fest weekend. There will be a variety of events happening this weekend including a street dance on both Friday and Saturday evening and fireworks on Saturday at dusk. Watch the Pine City Pioneer for the complete listing of events in the coming weeks.

For more details on any of these events, visit the Chamber Web site at www.pinecitychamber.com for complete description and details of the event.

The mission of the Pine City Area Chamber of Commerce is to promote economic development and business in the area.

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Rick Herzog,

President
 (Pizza Pub)

Mike Anderson

Vice President
 (Pine Agency)

Casey Anderson

Director Emeritus
 (Individual)

Julie Anderson

(Voyageur Bottle Shop)

Lori Buck

(MINPACK, Inc.)

Frank Christopherson

(US Bank)

Jeff Flaherty

(Red Dog Billy's Bar & Grill)

Beth Iallonardo

(Wal-Mart)

Wendy Johnson

(Prodigy Real Estate)

Carolyn Kolar

(Horizon Bank)

T. Janet Musgrove

(Coldwell Banker Results)

Bruce Nelson

(Culligan)

Kerri Schumacher

(MINPACK, Inc.)

Patrick Schifferdecker

(North West Co. Fur Post)

Joel Peterson

(Student Director, Pine Technical College)

Katie Kopyy

(Student Director, PCHS)

Jade Fedder

(Student Director, PCHS)

JUNE BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Chamber President Rick Herzog presented a proposal to the Board of Directors on creating some tourism dollars for the community by investing in signs. The blue highway signs on Interstate 35 are currently only showing two of our restaurants and there is room for six. The cost to advertise on these signs is \$540 per year and would entice more people to stop in our community. The Board encourages our area restaurants to use this service to promote their business as well as Pine City.

A second sign proposal that is being researched is the placement of a "Downtown" business sign that would allow our downtown businesses to get some interstate traffic. The sign would have an annual fee for businesses to participate in order to cover any maintenance costs needed for the sign.

The Board of Directors will soon be setting a date for a fall installment of the "Business Tours." Possible dates were discussed and mid-September seems to be the best fit.

The Freedom Fest Street Dance on Saturday evening, July 5, will feature the band "Rich and the Resisters." The evening will be hosted by the Chamber and will serve as our main summer fundraiser. Volunteers are needed that evening and all Chamber members are encouraged to volunteer or attend the evening event. For more information contact Becky at 629-4565.

Frank Christopherson will be facilitating the creation of a bi-monthly roundtable networking event for the Pine City Community. These networking opportunities will be an informal opportunity to meet and network with other business people in Pine City. All business owners and managers are encouraged to participate. The meeting times have yet to be determined but will meet during the second and fourth week of each month, with one early morning meeting and one late afternoon meeting. More information will be available in the coming weeks.

The Pine City Planning Commission had a busy month according to Frank Christopherson. A few of the items that were discussed include: a Planned Unit Development for Senior Housing located on Hwy 361 just west of Northwoods Bank, a new business office development across from the Pine County Courthouse, and the bowling alley addition to Red Dog Billy's Bar & Grill.

For the complete Board Meeting Minutes, visit our Web site at www.pinecitychamber.com. If you would like to receive a printed copy of our minutes each month, contact the Chamber office for details.

Current Chamber members are encouraged to attend our monthly meetings. All interested and potential Chamber members also are invited to join us as well. The next Chamber meeting will be on Tuesday, July 1 at 1 p.m. in the Community Room in City Hall.



Miss something? Forget a date?
 Get filled in at
pinecitychamber.com