

President's Message



by Christina Blackman
WCC Board President
Yolo Federal Credit Union

Have you noticed the chill in the air? It seems that Fall has finally arrived with Winter and the Holidays just around the corner. Many of us are

making plans for this holiday season albeit differently due to the state of the economy. Budgets are tighter than ever and consumers are more cautious, spending less than in previous years. As business owners, you're likely finding your own profit margins tighter and are looking for ways to increase your business revenue and expand relationships with current customers as well as reach new and potential customers.

In the past, we've surveyed you, our member, asking what role you feel the Chamber should support. Many of you responded with Networking as the number one priority for your business. Your Chamber continues to provide various events and opportunities to network and advertise your business to chamber members as well as the community at large.

This year through events and Chamber advertising, our members were able to reach approximately 4,000 possible contacts. I have met several new members that have taken the opportunity to get involved, attending events and participating in Chamber committees and the feedback I've received has been nothing but positive. The Chamber website has a list of events as well as information on various committees. It's a great resource and although we've had a few hiccups, the staff is working diligently to keep the information up to date and available 24/7. If you have not attended events in the past and are looking to get involved, please contact Diana Sindeff at the Chamber office.

Each year, we try to add something new to

"President's Message: cont'd on page 2"

Can You Believe it is that Time of Year?

The holidays are right around the corner and once again preparation of the "Tree Lighting Event" is underway. A new tree has been donated and will be planted in the Heritage Plaza prior to the ceremony. The Historic Woodland Downtown Association, co-sponsored by the City of Woodland, will host the Tree Lighting Ceremony on Friday, November 21st this year. Councilmember Jeff Monroe is this year's Master of Ceremonies.

The agenda for the evening is as follows:

5:30 - 6:00: City Hall Tree Lighting in partnership with the US Marine's

6:00 - 7:30: Santa Claus and his helpers in Heritage Plaza

6:00 - 6:30: Heritage Plaza Tree Lighting

6:00 - 8:30: Horse drawn Carriage Rides

Luminaries will line Main Street from 6th to Walnut and along First Street. Music in Heritage Plaza will be performed by the Bay Side Choir throughout the evening. And, Carolers will be singing throughout the downtown streets while the Boy Scouts continue their tradition of roasting chestnuts.

Shoppers are encouraged to patronize the downtown shops and enjoy dinner or a drink in one of the several fabulous restaurants which WILL BE open.

There is much to do over the next 6 weeks in preparation of the event. Volunteers are needed. If you'd like to help with the Luminaries 2-3 nights before or during the event, please contact Emilie Hamilton at Hamilton Insurance. She can be reached at 530/668-8818 or emilie.mhilton2@farmersagency.com. If you'd like to help with crowd control, loading of the carriages or other activities, please contact Anita Long at 530/661-9596.

44th Annual Woodland Holiday Parade

The Woodland Chamber of Commerce invites you to join in the sponsorship of the 2008 Woodland Holiday Parade, also the 44th annual!

The Woodland Parade has successfully evolved over the years into one of the largest in Northern California, thanks to organizers who have continually strived to make it better.

This year's theme is "Winter Wonderland" it will be held on Saturday, December 13, 10 a.m. on Main St. The parade in past years has brought over 30,000 people to Woodland for the day. We anticipate over 200 entrants this year; and we will again have some of the famous Ben Ali Shriners units.

The cost to operate the Christmas Parade is over \$8,000 and is only possible through the continued support of voluntary contributions. We invite you to join us in co-sponsoring this, the 40th annual by donating \$15, \$25, or more....

Please mail your check today to the Chamber office. If interested in a major sponsorship contact Cynthia at cynthias@woodlandchamber.org Thank you.

Deadline for parade entries is November 25, stop by the office for an application or go on line: www.woodlandchamber.org



307 First Street, Woodland, CA 95695
Phone: 530.662.7327 Fax: 530.662.4086

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Volunteer Office Manager

President's Message (continued from page 1)

our events. In 2008, your chamber hosted a special luncheon in honor of the Agri-Business person. This year's recipient is Blake Harlan, a life-long resident and farmer in Yolo County. Blake's contributions to the community and local ag is inspiring and the recognition is well deserved. Congratulations Blake!

The Farm City Harvest Festival also experienced some changes this year. This event is one that has always been well attended but needed a little boost. The facility change to Heidrick Ag was terrific. The booths as usual were tons of fun and the volunteers were exceptional. I would like to thank all of our sponsors, committee members and volunteers for making this event a success.

See you at the Christmas Parade!

Dear Fellow Chamber Members;

My name is SFC Terry L. Reitzel, with the California Army National Guard and I would first like to thank each and every one of you for your undivided attention and time in reading my note. As a soldier for the past 25 years I can tell you that the letter you will be reading below should touch close to home as 450 of my fellow "Brothers In Arms" needs each and every one of our assistance. They do not have a PX (Post Exchange) any where near where they are located. This is like a small shopping mall usually put in some small trailer or building just to help make a soldier's day so that he or she can buy a Gatorade, pack of chewing gum or what ever they may need to pass time. As you will see by the letter they are in critical need of most any thing we can put together for them.

Please find it in your hearts and God Bless you for what you may be able to help these soldiers with.

Thanks SFC Terry L. Reitzel (530) 903-7615

CW2 Jason Hutchins
5th Squadron 1st Cavalry Regiment
FOB Caldwell
APO AE 09324

Dear Mom, Please feel free to put this out everyone you can. We do not have a PX here on the FOB so what we have is what we brought with us. If you can pass this onto any local churches or organizations maybe they can buy some stuff and send it to us. Here is a list of things that we really need.

Any and all personal hygiene things, tooth paste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, aftershave, razors, shaving cream, handiwipes, etc.

Mom I have all this stuff so I won't need a re-supply for a couple of months, but I am not sure how much of this stuff my guys brought with them. What I really need is a set of Sheets for a Twin bed. Everybody will need sheets and we can't get them here. We have 450 people in the Squadron. There is no Library here so anything to pass the time are good. Books and PSP games (everyone has a PSP)

Of course all home made foods and peppered beef jerky are always a big treat. I would like to try and get this out to everyone we can ASAP and try to get this stuff on the way. The unit that we are replacing had a couple of churches sending them monthly supply's and goods so I would like to try and get the same thing going for us.

Thanks and I love you
Jason



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The Elephant Hut

39492 Kentucky Ave., Woodland, CA 95776
(530) 666-2266

Woodland's newest deli replacing the former Croccodeli's. The Elephant Hut, ran by Vickie Limas who has been in the business for 16 years and is a former Croccodeli employee, is known for their hospitality, speediness and cleanliness. They offer breakfast and lunch items for either Dine-in or Take-out. If you choose the Dine-in option you can enjoy free wireless internet. The Elephant Hut also offers delivery services to businesses and catering.

The Q Shack

85 W Court Street, Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 669-7957

At the Q Shack they slow smoke fine cuts of pork, beef, turkey and chicken rubbed with a secret blend of spices. They also prepare great homemade southern side dishes such as mac-n-cheese, fried okra, mashed sweet potatoes, collard greens and you can't forget the traditional favorites, potato salad, pasta salad, bbq beans, fries and onion rings. They offer fantastic burgers as well as bbq. They even offer a great Cobb salad. What ever you're bbq hankerin is, I'm sure you will be pleased. The Q Shack is open 10 am to 10 pm seven days a week.

CR LockSmith

916 Main Street, Ste. A, Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 662-5397

CR LockSmith is a full service locksmith. Whatever your locksmith issue, CR LockSmith can provide the solution. CR LockSmith has been located in Yolo County since 1982 they are licensed and bonded. They can provide emergency services whether it's your business, home, auto or safe.

Workability Works for You!

WorkAbility I is a program which:

Provides pre-employment skills training, work site training and follow-up services for youth in special education who are making the transition from school to work

Offers special education students the opportunity to complete their secondary education while obtaining marketable job skills.

Benefits students, employers, and the community at large.

Seeks employers in the business community who will give students with special needs a chance to prove themselves.

WorkAbility I is driven by California Education Code and was established in 1981. Woodland JUSD applied for and received funding in 1985. The program has been funded for the past 23 years and has been a model transition to work program. WorkAbility I in our district has expanded to include a component at the Middle Schools.

The mission of WorkAbility I is to promote the involvement of key stakeholders including students, families, educators, employers and other agencies in planning and implementing an array of services that will culminate in successful student transition to employment, life-long learning and quality of life.

Susan Purcell and Lisa Fettig run the WorkAbility I program here in Woodland. Several teachers and a counselor provide services at the Middle Schools. If you would like more information about how you can work with WorkAbility, please call Susan Purcell at 530-867-0973 or Lisa Fettig at 530-867-1962.

WOODLAND HEALTHCARE
Occupational Health Services

Woodland Healthcare Occupational Health Services specializes in meeting the business health needs of Yolo County employers through a fully integrated system of healthcare services. We offer:

- Convenient locations and hours
- Treatment for work related injuries
- Drug and alcohol testing
- Physical examinations
- Multi-language capability
- Medical surveillance services

Woodland Office 1707 Fairchild Court Woodland, CA 530.668.2660	Davis Office 2330 West Covell Blvd. Davis, CA 530.406.2885
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November 2008 Chamber Calendar

Save
the
Date



**Parade Entry Deadline is November 25, 5 p.m.
This year's Parade Theme: "Winter Wonderland"**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <p>Calendar Sponsored by:</p> <h1>PG&E</h1> </div>						1
2	3	4 Business Education, 4-5 p.m., Woodland Chamber of Commerce	5	6 Ambassadors Noon American Red Cross	7	8 Woodland Fitness Center & Sports Park Grand Opening Cabrillo Club Installation - Holy Rosary Com. Ctr. 662-5853
9	10	11 Veterans Day – Chamber Office is Closed	12	13 Business Connection Luncheon, noon, Heidrick Ag Center	14	15 Cabrillo Club Pedro Card Party – Sr. Ctr. 11:30 am - 3 pm
16	17	18 Water Mtg., 8 a.m. Farm Bureau Business Issues Mtg., Holiday Inn Express 3:30 p.m.	19	20 Chamber 2009 Planning Session – R.H. Phillips Winery	21 Tree Lighting Ceremonies – Downtown 5:30 p.m.	22
23	24	25 Parade Entry Deadline 5 p.m.	26	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>Happy Thanksgiving!</p> <p>Chamber Office is Closed</p> </div>		29
30						





Chamber of Commerce
CEO, Kristy Wright

Wright Writes!



This month I'd appreciate it if you would take a few moments to answer the following questions to assist the Chamber Board at their Planning Session for 2009. Just photo copy this page, answer the questions and fax it to me by November 14 at 5 p.m. Or, you can mail it to 307 First Street, Woodland, CA 95695.

A more detailed and formal electronic ZOOMERANG survey from the California Chamber was sent out October 28th to your email. Thank you for your assistance in taking the time to answer that survey.

1. What time during the day do you prefer to attend committee meetings?

- Morning 8:00 or 8:30 – 9:00 or 9:30 a.m.
- Lunch Hour Noon – 1 p.m.
- Late Afternoon 3:30 or 4:00 to 4:30 or 5:00 p.m.

2. If you play golf, where would you prefer the next annual tournament be held?

- Yocha De He – Cache Creek Resort
- Yolo Fliers Club (just west of Woodland)
- Wildhorse in Davis

3. The Chamber newsletter Connections has gone electronic. Do you still wish to receive a hardcopy in the mail?

- Yes
- No

4. Do you like the Chili Cook-off held on a Saturday or would you rather have it go back to Sunday?

- Saturday
- Sunday

5. Would you or employees of your company be interested in serving on any of our committees or special events task forces?

- Yes
- No

If yes, we will contact you regarding what you'd like to be involved with.

6. Would you be interested in speaking with our Special Events Coordinator regarding discounted Sponsorship Packages for 2009?

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure

7. Would you be interested in hosting a Business After Hours Mixer in 2009?

- Yes
- No

8. Would you like to be a sponsor of a Business Connections Luncheon in 2009?

- Yes
- No

9. Is there a program topic you think would be of interest to the membership or do you have a speaker you would suggest we contact?

Name:

Business:

Please return via fax to (530) 662-4086. Thank you again for your time.

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Fax completed form to 530-662-4086

Coats for Families

Linda Alvarado a member of New Testament Church has for the past few years gathered Coats for Families in need of winter clothing. Once again she is gathering from churches, businesses, individuals and other agencies to distribute to Woodland families and guests of the Yolo Wayfarer Center.

Coats must be in good condition, clean or new. All sizes are

accepted. If you would like to donate please bring them to the New Testament Church, 108 W. Woodland Ave., Woodland, 530-662-3956. Also if you have families that need coats please call and give us names, sizes and contact information.

DLZeck, Pastor, New Testament Church

Meal and Rest Compliance Unresolved - Case to Watch!

Compliance with California's meal - and rest-period requirements - mainly the question of whether employers must ensure breaks are taken or just simply provide them - has been a source of significant litigation in both federal and state courts. In early 2008, class certification for a meal- and rest-period lawsuit was denied by a federal district court, which found that nothing in California law required the employer to ensure that employees took their meal breaks, but rather the employer need only supply or make such time available to employees. *Brown v. Federal Express Corporation* 249 F.R.D. 580 (2008)

However, because this is a federal court ruling it did not change the law in California that employers must ensure employees stop working during their meal breaks. As such, merely providing meal breaks to nonexempt employees is insufficient.

Then, in July 2008, a California court of appeal denied class certification for almost 60,000 restaurant employees because the lower court did not properly consider the elements of the employees' claims in determining if they were susceptible to class treatment. Specifically, the court found that:

While employers cannot impede, discourage or dissuade employees from taking rest periods, they need only provide, not ensure, rest periods are taken.

Employers need only authorize and permit rest periods every four hours or major fraction thereof and they need not, where impracticable, be in the middle of each work period.

Employers are not required to provide a meal period for every five consecutive hours worked.

While employers cannot impede, discourage or dissuade employees from taking meal periods, they need only provide them and not ensure they are taken.

While employers cannot coerce, require or compel employees to work off the clock, they can only be held liable for employees working off the clock if they knew or should have known they were doing so.

Because rest and meal breaks need only be made available and not ensured, the court also found that individual issues predominate and, based upon the evidence presented to the trial court, they are not amenable to class treatment. Further, the off-the-clock claims are also not amenable to class treatment because individual issues predominate on the issues of whether employees were forced to work off the clock, whether the employer changed time records and whether the employer knew or should have known employees were working off the clock. *Brinker v. Superior Court* 165 Cal. App. 4th 25 (2008) This case was appealed to the California Supreme Court, which stayed the holding. The Supreme Court had not yet decided whether it will hear this case as of the date of publication.

Frequent Flyer Frenzy!

Promote your business to 700+ members in December. Advertise an up-coming event. Run a holiday special

Great opportunity to let the Chamber assist you in making this your most profitable holiday season ever.

Bring your colorful 600 copies to Diana at the Chamber Office we insert and mail for you. Also send an electronic version for the website and electronic newsletter.

Email or call Diana at dianas@woodlandchamber.org Call 662-7327 to reserve your space now!

Full page flyer \$100 (\$50 Savings). And print both sides if you like!

Deadline is Friday, November 21st



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- Home Improvement
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- New Car
- Vacation

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