

TWENTYNINE PALMS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND VISITORS BUREAU

MONTHLY RECAP REPORT: February, 2006

The Chamber completed the “You Need to be Heard” with downtown merchants. There were 26 individuals in attendance for the January 27th meeting and 18 individuals in attendance for the February 10th meeting. Chamber received a total of 19 written responses. The responses have been forwarded to Alex Meyerhoff.

Mr. Steve Brown, publisher of The Sun Runner has been appointed the Chamber Board of Directors. Mr. Brown will be sworn in on March 16, 2006, at the regular Board meeting.

Chamber staff is producing a “Historical Points of Interest” map at bequest of the Historical Society.

Christina Dooley, Chamber Executive Director, has been appointed to the DARTA Board of Directors. She is scheduled to take her seat in March 2006.

VISITOR SERVICES

New information/publications available in the Visitor Center include:

- Chamber 29 News-March Edition;
- March 2006 SBA classes;
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Gift Shop -

- Sales in Gift Shop for February 2006: \$140.50

February New Members: 5

Total Chamber Members: 245

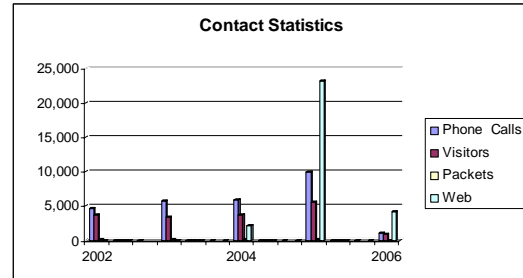
Contact Statistics: February 2006:

Phone Calls: 425

Visitors: 345

Web Count: 1,937

Information Packets Mailed: 10



	Phone Calls	Visitors	Packets	Web
2002	4,651	3,660	154	0
2003	5,789	3,424	106	0
2004	5,846	3,756	131	2153
2005	9,991	5,623	116	23,244
2006	978	835	19	4,141

MARKETING

- Tourist Committee of the MBEC has started to put a budget together for FAM tours for Coachella concierges.
- Chamber BOD authorized payment for Free Spirit Productions-Southwest Blend advertising, February 2006;
- Public Service Announcements have been offered, without charge, by kcdz107.7 and Copper Mountain Broadcasting. This opportunity will give the community a quick informative overview of Chamber news and events;
- Preparing for submission of articles with information regarding Spring

Events to newspapers, magazines, and clubs;

TOURS, CONFERENCES & MEETINGS

- Chamber sponsored “Downtown Revitalization” meeting with downtown merchants, February 10, 2006, 7AM @ Wonder Garden Cafe;
- Chamber Event Committee met for planning stages of the Street Fair and Car Show, February 14, 2006;
- Chamber Event Committee met for 2006 Grand Marshal for Pioneer Days, February 23;
- Chamber staff presented “Child Labor Laws,” at Twentynine Palms High School, 02/27/06;

OTHER MARKETING

- Chamber Staff will attend the “25th Anniversary California Conference on Tourism,” March 27-29, 2006, Disneyland Resort, Anaheim, CA;

Chamber will capitalize event information regarding the following:

- Mixer is scheduled for March 16, 5pm to 7pm, **location TBA;**

The following articles highlighted Twentynine Palms area and events:

- *Tripadvisor: February posted ,positive comments regarding stays in the Harmony Motel, Circle C Lodge, Holiday Inn Express, and the 29 Palms Inn by travelers;*
- *La Qunita Chamber of Commerce, January 2006, “Toy Donation Record Set;”*
- *New Museum, New York, Andrea Zittel: “Critical Space;”*
- *New York Magazine, 01/23/06 “The Non-Manhattan Project;”*
- *Eve Selis, 01/29/06, “15th Anniversary;”*
- *Marine Corps News Room, 01/30/06, Sensational Country Music Romance is Hot as Jessica Hawthorn’s “High Heels” Album;*
- *USA Today, 01/31/06, “Dominic Monaghan finds his realities;”*
- *Marine Corps News, 01/31/06, Transition teams focus on teaching Iraqi forces;”*
- *Marine Corps News, 01/31/06, “Former Rifle Company Commander is Now Deploying to Iraq as a Chaplain;”*

- *Fullerton College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, 02/06, “NAF-funded Southern California Ecosystems Research Program;”*
- *Desert Report, Winter 2006, Eagle Mountain Garbage Dump Suffers Major Defeat;”*
- *Top Palm Springs Attractions, 02/06; “Joshua Tree National Park, Twentynine Palms;”*
- *Frommer’s Destinations, 02/06, “Joshua Tree National Park Trip Planner;”*
- *“Joshua Tree Photo Gallery,” 02/06, by Daniella T;*
- *Commercial Carrier Journal Magazine, 02/06, “California driving school steers toward military;”*
- *Iraq War News, 02/01/06, “The Marines;”*
- *The Journal News, 02/02/06, “Clarkstown police collect bullet proof vests for Iraq-bound colleague;”*
- *Navy and Marine Corps Medical News, 02/03/06, “The Few. The Proud. The Corpsmen;”*
- *Marine Corps News, 02/03/06, “ITT makes weekend getaways happen;”*
- *Marine Corps News, 02/03/06, “Marine Corps provides tools to make best of paycheck;”*
- *New York Times, 02/03/06 “Rethinking the World by Cutting it Down to Size;”*
- *Stryker Brigade News, 02/04/06, “New Stryker Variants Gear up for Testing;”*
- *San Francisco Chronicle 02/05/06, “History is for sale sin the high desert;”*
- *StrangeWeather.info, 02/07/06, “A Thorn Tree in the Garden;”*
- *CBS News, 02/08/06, “U.S. Eyes Protection for Polar Bears;”*
- *CNN.com, 02/08/06, Polar bears may get endangered status;”*
- *Baltimore Independent Media, 02/08/06, “FEMA Concentration Camps, Locations and Executive Orders;”*
- *Military.com, 02/09/06, “3/8 Strikes Mojave Viper;”*
- *Marine Corps News, 02/09/06, “Infantry Marines prep for convoy ops;”*
- *Merced Sun Star, 02/09/06, “US Geological Survey to study Southern San Andreas Fault;”*

- *Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, 02/10/06, "On The Road Again, Richard Pombo Takes Taxpayer Funded Vacation,"*
- *San Francisco Chronicle, 02/10/06, Pombo family park tour cost taxpayers \$4,935 to rent RV;"*
- *National Geographic News, 02/10/06, "Polar Bears Being Considered for U.S. Endangered List;"*
- *ZEENEWS.com, 02/11/06, "Polar bears may get endangered status;"*
- *San Francisco Chronicle, 02/12/06, "Securing Iraq,"*
- *San Francisco Chronicle, 02/12/06, "Desert blooms need more rain for a good show;"*
- *The Stakeholder, 02/13/06, "Pinballing Pombo;"*
- *Think Progress, 02/13/06, Pombo Doesn't Know What He Did Last Summer;"*
- *LA Times, 02/15/06, "Democrats Challenge Rep. Pombo's Expenses,"*
- *Orange County Register, 02/15/06, "Iraqi-American helps pay America back;"*
- *Boston Herald, 02/18/06, "Marine prank rankles ranking officer, cops;"*
- *Stylus Magazine, 02/18/06, "A Week in the Musical Life;"*
- *Americas, the beautiful, 02/20/06, "Desert digs appeal to artistic souls,"*
- *The Desert Sun, 02/21/06, "Proposals for golf communities near Joshua Tree park spark debate;"*
- *The Washington Monthly, "Pombo-Palooza, Part 2;"*
- *Tracy Press, 02/24/06, Pombo critics take Aim;"*

NETWORKING

- Participated in JTNP Tour February 8, 2006;
- Stars and Stripes Valentine Ball on behalf of OneLegacy and Sgt. Mgr. Ricker, Riverside, CA, February 11, 2006;
- City Hall Mixer, February 16th, 2006;
- Three Chamber Tourism Committee met February 23, 2006;
- California Desert National Parks Funding Steering Committee, February 23, 2006;

- Chamber Staff lectured at the High School, Labor Law and Minors" February 27, 2006;

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BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Chamber will sponsor "Downtown Revitalization" meeting with downtown merchants, February 10, 2006, 7AM @ Wonder Garden Cafe;

LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

MILITARY AFFAIRS

- Chamber Staff will attend Battle Color Ceremony , 03/09/06;
- Chamber staff will attend retirement ceremony of Colonel A.F. Weddington, 03/10/06;
- Chamber staff will attend Relief and Appointment Ceremony of Sergeant Major James Ricker, 03/15/06

M.A.C. Assistance Fund The Chamber has continued to maintain a small fund of donated monies which has been set aside to assist military personnel and their families with urgent needs. Military personnel are eligible to apply for assistance upon referral from the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society.

EVENTS

- 03/09/06 Battle Color Ceremony, USMC Base, 11am;
- 03/16/06 Chamber Mixer, location TBA, 5pm-7pm



STAFF REPORT

To: City Council
From: City Manager
Date: 20060314

Subject: Universal Waste

Recommendation: Receive information, discuss, give direction as appropriate

Summary: – Universal Waste (electronic waste), New Law changes disposal of common household items like batteries and electronics. Due to these changes in state law, after February 8, 2006, batteries, electronic devices, fluorescent light bulbs and other items, called universal waste, should not be placed in regular trash.

Discussion: Beginning February 9, new California state laws require all electronic waste to be recycled, rather than dumped in the trash and shipped to landfills. According to the state, in 2003, 515,000 tons of electronics were dumped into California landfills; 44% of the waste by volume consisted of CRTs and TV sets. Consumers will be required to take their old microwaves, laptops, fluorescent lighting and the like to state-managed household hazardous waste collection centers. California's laws, designed to stem the spread of toxins, have been in effect for businesses for four years, giving both the state and consumers a grace period, to set up the collection centers and transition into using them

Universal wastes are a category of hazardous wastes that are generated by several sectors of society, rather than a single industry or type of business. Hazardous wastes contain harmful chemicals, (lead, mercury, cadmium, and chromium) which, if put in trash may harm people and the environment.

These items include:

- Common Household Batteries and button batteries like those found in hearing aids;
- Fluorescent Tubes and Bulbs and Other Mercury-Containing Lamps;
- Older Thermostats that contain mercury;
- Electrical Switches and Relays;
- Pilot Light Sensors;
- Mercury Gauges;
- Mercury Added Novelties like greeting cards that play music when opened;
- Athletic shoes with flashing lights in soles that were made before 1997;
- Mercury maze games;
- Mercury Thermometers;
- Electronic Wastes such as televisions, computers, computer monitors;
- Printers, VCR's, stereos, cell phones, telephones, radios, and microwave ovens.

The best way is to store items that cannot go into regular trash container in a separate container or area away from children and pets.

E-Waste and other Universal Waste disposal available in Twentynine Palms:

1. Cell phones, by state law, can be disposed of at no charge at any store that sells them.
2. Other Electronic waste may be brought to the Waste Management* Site at on Amboy Road Tuesdays and Fridays from 8-5, FREE of charge. This service is available only to WM customers. In addition to the electronic waste disposal, Waste Management will recycle certain materials such as fluorescent tubes and mercury lights that require special handling in accordance with law. WM customers are urged to call Waste Management and discuss the kinds of waste they are disposing of prior to driving to the site.
3. a. Other universal waste items, such as batteries (excluding car batteries), thermostats, fluorescent lamps, paints, Non-Empty Aerosol Cans that Contain Hazardous Materials; etc., are accepted (twice) annually at the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Recycling Cleanup sponsored in various cities by San Bernardino County Environmental Health. These items are accepted FREE of charge from Twentynine Palms (San Bernardino) residents ONLY. The dates for 2006 are yet to be set by SB County Environmental Health.
3. b. Universal waste disposal is available and offered by SB County Environmental Health the 3rd Saturday of every month at 62499 29 Palms Highway in Joshua Tree Village.
4. Additionally, each residential household in Twentynine Palms, via the City's Franchise Agreement with Waste Management may dispose of large household items as part of their customer entitlement to 'Bulky Item Pickup.' This requires the customer to call Waste Management to establish a time of time of pickup. As a courtesy to the customers, Waste Management* has agreed to combine the disposal of their electronic waste with their 'bulky pickup.'

* Waste Management is currently recycling e-waste for it residential customers in the City of Twentynine Palms at no charge and has been doing so for over a year. This no-cost courtesy is subject to change depending on volumes and changes in state requirements for special handling and disposal.