

PASADENA Commerce

November-December, 2014

News and Events of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce & Civic Association

VOL. 9, NO. 6

President's Message

These are very exciting times for the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce. We have had seven years of increased revenues due to new and renewing membership rates, added events and additional profits from existing events. We are also having to move our offices as our current lease is expiring.

The very exciting news is that, after more than 25 years, the Pasadena Chamber is purchasing a modest building at 44 North Mentor Avenue for our headquarters. We were very lucky to find an affordable building and very favorable financing so that the monthly payments on the building would be about equal to what renting a comparable space in today's market. We may also have the opportunity to generate some revenue from portions of the building, as well.

As I said, we got very lucky.

We are also very fortunate to have had help from Chamber members and our Board of Directors. Chris Robertson of **Robertson Commercial** acted as our broker to help locate, then negotiate a fair price for the property. We were able to make a competitive offer and secure the funding necessary thanks to our friends and loyal Chamber members at **IUOE, Local 12** who see the Pasadena Chamber as a good investment.

The Chamber Board appointed an ad hoc committee to oversee any acquisition or relocation. These individuals, George Falardeau, CL Keedy and Ben Green, with enthusiastic assistance from Patty Waggoner, made the acquisition possible. George helped develop our relationship with Chris Robertson. Patty worked hard to help identify a site and then arranged the funding deal for us and even helped identify a contractor member, **Syntax Builders**, to do some of the required improvements.

We are very excited at the prospect of moving in somewhat larger space. I am very grateful for the help and support of so many Chamber members and friends who made this happen for the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce.

President's Breakfast Honoring President Richard Chinen and Pasadena Tournament of Roses December 4th

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce will honor Tournament of Roses Association President Rich Chinen at the annual President's Breakfast at the Sheraton Pasadena on Thursday, December 4, 2014. Breakfast begins at 7:30 a.m. followed by a festive celebratory program. Sponsors of the 2014 President's Breakfast are **The Tournament of Roses** and **Wells Fargo**.



2014 Tournament President Scott Jenkins and the Rose Court at the President's Breakfast.

Chamber members, friends and the general public are invited to share *Inspiring Stories*, the theme for the 2015 Tournament of Roses, with honored special guests the Royal Court, as well as Tournament presidents past, present and future.

A highlight of the morning's breakfast is a chance to hear from Mr. Chinen, president of the Tournament of Roses for the 2015 Rose Parade and Rose Bowl Game share his experiences representing the Tournament.

Born in Tokyo and raised in Hawaii, Mr. Chinen lives in Pasadena with his wife

Kimberly. They have two grown daughters, Megan Oakes and Erin Pommer. Mr. Chinen is a partner in Chamber member law firm **Palmero, Barbaro, Chinen & Pitzer, LP**.

Mr. Chinen has been a volunteer member of the Tournament of Roses Association since 1989 and was elected to the Executive Committee in 2007. Throughout his extensive Tournament career, Mr. Chinen has served on and chaired various committees including Alumni, Float Entries, Judging and Queen & Court.

Tickets to the Tournament Breakfast are \$75 each. Corporate tables of ten are \$750. Sponsorships are \$1500. Those sponsoring the event receive a table with recognition, acknowledgement in all publicity materials and will enjoy breakfast with a member of the Royal Court as their guest. Self parking is included in the cost of breakfast and sponsorship. For more information, or to purchase tickets, please call the Chamber office at (626) 795-3355.

Chamber Holiday Party and Toy Drive at Castle Catering Romanesque Room December 18th at 5pm

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce hosts its annual Holiday Party for members and friends at **The Romanesque Room at Castle Catering** at 50 East Green Street in Pasadena on Thursday, December 18th at 5:00 p.m. The party is organized and executed by the Chamber Ambassadors. 90 minutes of free parking is available across the street in the Schoolhouse parking garage.



The Chamber Holiday Party is also the culmination of the Chamber's annual toy drive to support local children's service organizations. This year the chamber is supporting Operation Santa Claus, the Pasadena Jaycees' program that delivers toys to needy children on Christmas Eve. Chamber members and others attending the Holiday Party are asked to donate an unwrapped toy or gift card.

Chamber members who donate toys at the Holiday Party receive free admission. Toy-bearing non-members and Pasadena Chamber members without a toy pay \$10. Non-members without a toy to donate pay \$20 admission. You can donate to the Chamber Toy Drive by bringing an unwrapped toy to the Holiday Party or leave it at the Chamber offices during business hours.

For more information about the Toy Drive or Holiday Party, please call the Chamber office at (626) 795-3355.

New members (below, from left) introduced at our Luncheon Alliance in September were Thomas Folan with **NRG eVgo**. Sam Najarian of **Simplicity Bank** was also recognized as a new member. At the October lunch we met Tom Boland with **American Fitness and Nutrition Academy**. At September's Connection Breakfast we met Howard Ursettie of **Financial Focus Counseling**.



Chamber Member Openings, Events and Celebrations



Chamber Board Chair Ben Green joined Andrew and Peggy Cherng to open Panda's first Innovation Kitchen.

Olympian Rafer Johnson was a featured speaker as the City of Pasadena was named a host city for the 2015 Special Olympics being held in Los Angeles next summer.



More than 450 people were in attendance at the Taste of Pasadena at the Rose Bowl. The team from Green Street Restaurant won the SIP-tember Cocktail Bracket Challenge Finale with the Vin de Pamplemousse.

New Members for August, 2014

Adriana's Insurance, Tracey Gomez, (909) 991-4361
American Fitness and Nutrition Academy, Tom Boland, (626) 782-6200
Dead Letter Design, Russell Pinkston, (919) 413-6621
GB Pictures, Kevin Erikson, (949) 933-1627
Glendale Adventist Medical Center, Steven Stubbs, (818) 409-8000
Grand Canyon University, Jeri Resor, (602) 639-8217
NRG eVgo, Thomas Folan, (310) 621-7581
Panda Innovation Kitchen, Apo Chavez-Arreola, (714) 404-7063
P.I.E., Inc. - Accounting & Management Services, Laurette Clash, (818) 649-7574
The Spa Sante and Salon, Gigi Mui Chow, (626) 833-1026

New Members for September, 2014

Ben Green Insurance Agency, Ben Green, (626) 290-0888
Braise and Crumble, Laura Page, (626) 460-8600
Burns & McDonnell Engineering Co., Inc., Christopher P. D'Sa, (626) 817-7904
California Institute of Advanced Management, Jennie Ta, (626) 618-7791
Francis Krahe & Associates Inc., Paula Mamuri, (213) 804-3646
HandySpaces.com by General Ingenuity Inc., Kavita Anand, (626) 552-8156
Hywood International Co., LLC, Avery Ai Yang, (626) 910-5088
Laquer, Urban, Clifford & Hodge LLP, Jackie Brown, (626) 449-1882
Los Angeles Bach Festival, Diana Waters, (818) 203-3325
Mi Colombia Mia, Natalia Silva, (310) 802-9025
Papa Nacca's Jerky, John Naccarato, (626) 379-7369
Rose City Catering, Diego Fernandez, (626) 376-3701
San Luis Sourdough, Jaime Nassar, (909) 896-1111

Travel With the Chamber-Visit Tuscany, Cruise the Danube, South Pacific and Australia



Visit Tuscany with the Pasadena Chamber. Book now and save \$250 off the regular double rate of \$3,399. See the best of Italy for only \$3,149 per person. Cost includes round trip airfare from Los Angeles, bus travel between destinations and to and from attractions, English-speaking guides, admission to venues and activities, eight breakfasts and five dinners. This is a great deal! The trip departs from Los Angeles on March 12, 2015, returning March 21st.

Cruise the Danube with Jet Vacations aboard a 5-star luxury riverboat from Budapest to Nuremberg from October 20 to October 28, 2015. The price of \$3,699 per person includes airfare from Los Angeles, transfers to your luxury cruiser, meals, drinks and more. See Bratislava, Vienna and more as you enjoy the food, people and sights of Europe's most storied and beautiful river.

Enjoy Australia and the South Seas from November 2 to November 14, 2015, for \$4,349 double occupancy. See the Great barrier Reef, Sydney and the Sydney Opera House, Cairns and more before you depart for Fiji and paradise. Cost includes round trip airfare, hotels, tour and destination fees, meals.

For information or a tour brochure, call the Chamber office at 626-795-3355 or email leanne@pasadena-chamber.org.



Renewing Members for August, 2014

One to Five Years

Beckham Grill
California Bank & Trust
Casa de las Amigas
Community Construction Group Inc.
Computer Guys, The
Guardian
Lauren Lewis Public Relations & Communications
Law Offices of Timothy Bowles

Sotomayor Law
Torres Web Design

Six to Nine Years

La Grande Orange Café
Luggage Room Pizzeria, The
State Farm Insurance-Nadine Shokoufi

Ten to Fourteen Years

Milestone Products

Fifteen to Fifty Years

Al Brooks Rose Bowl Tours
Bob Hope Airport
City of Pasadena
Corcoran Bookkeeping & Tax Services
ICM Inc.-Independent Capital Management
Sheraton Pasadena Hotel

Renewing Members for September, 2014

One to Five Years

Asolva Inc.
Bikram Yoga Pasadena
Chandler School
Edward Jones Investments-
Marengo Ave.
Green House Gift Shop
Hair by Cesare, Inc.
Hastings Ranch Nursery School
Ideal Youth
Law Offices of Donald P. Schweitzer
Neurofeedback & Neurorehab
Institute, Inc. (NNRI, Inc.)

Osawa Shabu Shabu & Sushi
Pacific Crane & Equipment Sales
Pasadena Community Foundation
Roses Road Inc.
Seismic Safety
Servpro of Arcadia & Pasadena North
Treasure Little Children Foundation

Six to Nine Years

Avanti-LSSSC
Cushman & Wakefield
Melting Pot LLC, The

Ten to Fourteen Years

Community Health Alliance Pasadena
(CHAPcare)

Fifteen to Fifty Years

Air-Tro, Inc.
Art Center College of Design
C W Wong & Associates
Castle Green
ForensisGroup
HEAR Center
A.J. Longo and Associates
Old Republic Construction Program
Group, Inc.
Pacific Clinics
Pasadena Unified School District
Polenzani Benefits & Insurance
Services, LLC
Sharp Seating Co.
Stanislawski & Company, Inc.-
A Certified Public Accountant

PW's Best of List (cont. from back page)

Accountant: Robert Hall Assoc.
Attorney: Cotman IP Law Firm,
Hahn & Hahn
Bank: Wells Fargo, Bank of America
Car Wash: Arroyo Car Wash
Chiropractor: Premier Wellness
Cardio Workout: Push Pull
Credit Union: Pasadena Federal
Dance Studio: Pasadena Conservatory
of Dance, Arthur Murray



Stone Brewing's beer selection is a favorite with Pasadena Weekly readers.

Day Care: Kids Klub
Day Spa: Massage Envy, Salt Studio
Cleaner: Pasadena Laundry, Bryan's
Funeral Home: Cabot & Sons
Hospital: Huntington, City of Hope
Hotel: Langham Huntington, Courtyard
by Marriott, Hilton, Sheraton, Westin
House Cleaning: Maid Brigade
Mortgage Broker: Rob Levy (Homestreet)

Party Rental: Dolphin, Town & Country
Photographer: Nicola Borland
Real Estate: Podley Properties
Self Storage: Arroyo Parkway
Senior Living: Fair Oaks Regency Park,
Pasadena Highlands, Villa Gardens
Speech/Hearing: HEAR Center
Summer Camp: Tom Sawyer
Yoga: Bikram Yoga
Auto Dealer: Rusnak, Honda Pasadena,
Toyota Pasadena
Eyewear: Linden
Farmers Market: Pasadena Certified,
Old Pasadena
Flea Market: Rose Bowl, PCC
Flower Shop: Jacob Maarse
Furniture: Fedde Furniture
Gift Boutique: Lula Mae
Bookstore: Vroman's,
Shopping Destination: Old Pasadena,
South Lake, Paseo Colorado
Specialty Food: Beyond the Olive, Whole
Foods,
Stationery: Vroman's
Thrift Shop: ACTS, Goodwill
Wine Shop: Everson Royce

Cheeseburger Week Returns January 11, 2015

Join us the week of January 11th as the Chamber celebrates Cheeseburger Week in Pasadena. We can expect lots of old favorites and some new participants for the Cheeseburger Challenge.



Cheeseburger Challenge entries have included the Mars Rover Burger from Kings Row Gastropub

Celebrate Lionel Sternberger's culinary genius in placing a slice of cheese atop a burger and being the first to serve it to a customer at the Rite Spot in Pasadena in 1924.

Enjoy burgers (and more) and vote for your favorites from January 11th through the 16th. Look for more information and a full list of participants at www.pasadenarestaurantweek.com. Sponsored by the City of Pasadena and Trusted Choice Agents of Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena.



PASADENA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 844 EAST GREEN STREET,
 SUITE 208
 PASADENA, CA 91101
 (626) 795-3355
 (626) 795-5603 FAX
 WEBSITE: WWW.
 PASADENA-CHAMBER.ORG

**PASADENA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MISSION STATEMENT:
 WE ARE AN EFFECTIVE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL FORCE
 FOR OUR MEMBERSHIP.**

Pasadena Commerce is published bi-monthly by the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce & Civic Association. Third class postage paid in Pasadena, CA. Send address changes to the Chamber.
 © 2014 by Pasadena Chamber.

OFFICERS

Ben Green, Chair	Thomas Daly, Chair-elect
Paul Little, President & CEO	CL Keedy*, Immediate Past-chair
Patty Waggoner*, Secretary	Ron Carter, Treasurer
Karl Bird Vice-chair	Michael D'Antuono*, Vice-chair
Bob Baderian, Vice-chair	Joan De Souza, Vice-chair
George Falardeau*, Vice-chair	Ishmael Trone, Vice-chair
	Justin Tsui, Vice-chair

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wendy Fujihara Anderson	Timothy Lusher
Heidi Bloks	Lauren Marlis
Dennis Buckley*	Margaret Martinez
Jeff Christoffel	Robin McCarthy
Salomon Davila	Bob Oppermann
Kevin Duffy	Valerie Prince
Darryl Dunn**	Brad Ratliff**
Eric Duyshart**	Armando Ramirez
Michael Gallego	Evan Scott
Blake Longo	Gail Schaper-Gordon

STAFF

Kelly Shearer, Office & Member Services Manager
 Leanne Waggoner, Events & External Services Manager
 Linda Whaley, Staff Support Services

Luncheon Alliance

Joan's Candles and Home Decor sponsors our networking Luncheon Alliance on Wednesday, November 5th at 11:45am.

Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation sponsors the networking lunch on December 3rd at 11:45am.

The *Luncheon Alliance* starts promptly at 11:45am at **Altadena Town & Country Club** at 2290 Country Club Drive in Altadena.

Breakfast Connection

Thursday, November 13th at 7am, Joseph I Lee of **L&B Law Firm** sponsors our *Connection Breakfast* at **The Courtyard by Marriott** at 180 N. Fair Oaks Avenue.

On Thursday, December 11th **Villa Esperanza Services** sponsors our networking *Connection Breakfast*.

Due to increased costs, price for the lunch and breakfast are now \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members.

Chamber After Hours Social and Mixer

Enjoy *Majestic Colors of Autumn* at Castle Catering's Romanesque Room as **Joan's Candles and Home Décor & WOW! Event Productions & PR** host our *Chamber After Hours Social and Mixer*. Join us at 50 E. Green St. in Pasadena on Thursday, November 20th, 5pm-7pm.

Admission is free for Pasadena Chamber members, \$10 for others.

Our annual Holiday Party is December 18th.

Pasadena Chamber members dominate PW's Best of List

For 2014, Pasadena Chamber members were singled out in the annual Best of Pasadena edition of Pasadena Weekly. Recognized for excellence were:

- Restaurant: Twohey's, La Grande Orange
- New Restaurant: Major Dave's Chicken, Lavender and Honey
- Business Lunch: Green Street Restaurant
- Cheap Eats: Dog Haus, Major Dave's
- Outdoor Dining: La Grande Orange, PICNIK, Café Santorini
- Restaurant Staff: All India Café, Gale's Restaurant, El Portal, Kabuki
- Romantic Restaurant: The Raymond Restaurant
- Special Occasion Dining: Bistro 45
- Family Restaurant: Twohey's, La Grande Orange
- Late Night Snack: Du-par's Restaurant
- Sunday Brunch: Mijares Mexican, Langham Huntington Hotel
- BBQ: Robin's
- Breakfast: Twohey's
- Buffet: Souplantation, Panda Inn
- Burger: The Counter, Slater's 50/50
- Burrito: King Taco
- California Cuisine: Green Street
- Chinese: Panda Inn
- Cupcakes: Confexion
- Deli Sandwiches: Pasadena Sandwich Company
- Dessert: POP Champagne
- French: Café Bizou
- Fried Chicken: Major Dave's, Big Mama's Rib Shack
- Health Food: Real Food Daily
- Hot Dogs: Dog Haus
- Coffee House: Lavendar & Honey, Copa Vida
- Ice Cream, etc.: Yogurtland
- Indian: All India Café
- Italian: Gale's, Celestino's
- Japanese: Kabuki, Sushi Roku
- Brewery: Stone Brewing
- Pizza: The Luggage Room
- Mediterranean: Café Santorini, Pita Jungle
- Mexican: Mijares, El Portal, El Cholo
- Seafood: Cameron's, Roy's Hawaiian
- Soul Food: Big Mama's
- South American: Malbec, Bar Celona
- Spanish Food: Bar Celona
- Steakhouse: Ruth's Chris
- Taco: King Taco
- Tea Room: Huntington Rose Garden
- Thai: President thai
- Vegetarian: Real Food Daily
- Bar: Speakeasy at New York Deli
- Cocktails: Bar 1886 at The Raymond
- Comedy Club: Ice House

- Happy Hour: Kabuki, Ruth's Chris
- Live Music Bar: Kings Row
- Gastropub, redwhite+bluezz
- Live Music Venue: Ambassador Auditorium
- Live Theater: Pasadena Playhouse, A Noise Within
- Margaritas: Mijares, El Portal
- Movie Theater: Arclight, iPic
- Place to Dance: ix-tapa
- First Date Place: Huntington Library, Art Collections, The Raymond
- Pub Grub: Kings Row, Barney's Beanery
- Radio Station: KPCC
- Sports Bar: Barney's, Buffalo Wild Wings
- Theater Production: Pericles (Noise Within)
- Wedding/Banquet Hall: Noor, Castle Green, Athenaeum
- Wine Selection: Vertical Wine Bistro
- Annual Event: Rose Parade, Make Music Pasadena
- Art Gallery: Huntington Library
- Historic Landmark: Pasadena City Hall
- Higher Learning: Caltech, Art Center, Pasadena City College
- Kid Fun Spot: Kidspace
- Local Charity: Union Station, Five Acres, Hillside
- Non-profit: Pasadena Humane Society
- Museum: Kidspace



- New Business: Lavendar & Honey
- Outdoor Recreation: Rose Bowl
- Place of Worship: All Saints Episcopal, Lake Avenue
- Place to Work: Caltech, JPL
- Private School: High Point, La Salle
- Public School: Don Benito, Marshall
- Art School: Art Center
- Music School: Pasadena Conservatory of Music