# Commerce

Metry year

January-February, 2014 News and Events of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce & Civic Association

VOL. 9, NO. 1

# **President's Message**

The Board of Directors of the Pasadena Chamber has three main responsibilities. They approve and oversee the annual budget, ensuring the Chamber maintains a stable financial enterprise. They hire and evaluate the performance of the CEO. Perhaps most importantly for the membership, the Board sets the goals and objectives of the organization for each year. This informs our work plan for the next year and provides a five-year vision for the Chamber.

Every five years, the Board takes a close look at our long-term goals and objectives. This year the Chamber Board examined our vision statements and the mission of each of our subcommittees and areas of emphasis.

The Board focused very closely on the services the Chamber provides for our members. We will continue to focus on service to the membership. It is critical for our success and the ongoing prosperity of our members that the Chamber be flexible and able to adjust to the changing needs of our entire membership. With that in mind, the Board and our Member Services Committee will continue to invest in technology and expand our support to members through activities, programs, events and more.

The Board also focused on the Chamber's role in building and supporting a healthy economy in the greater Pasadena area. We will renew our efforts to support recruitment of companies to our area and work to ensure our economy can grow. The Chamber will continue to build an economy that can provide opportunity for the broad diversity of our members. As we work to entice new businesses to Pasadena (and the Chamber), we will focus on ensuring the ongoing success of our existing members.

Even as we invest in new technologies, we will not diminish the traditional, core activities that make membership in the Chamber valuable. We will offer enhanced opportunities for members to interact and find ways to do business together. We will continue to refer only to Pasadena Chamber members and encourage you to interact, collaborate and do business with each other.

The Pasadena Chamber will also touch base with you to see how we're doing and where we can improve.

# Pasadena Chamber GolfTournament

Join Pasadena Chamber members, business and community leaders for the annual *Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament* on Friday, April 4, 2014, at **Brookside Golf Club**. Shotgun start is at 12noon following the putting contest. Registration begins that morning at 10:30am.

Anyone wishing information or who wants to sign up to play or sponsor the tournament can call the Chamber at 626-795-3355 or email leanne@pasadena-chamber.org. Information and sign up forms are posted at www.pasadena-chamber.org.

Golfers of all abilities are welcome to join the fun. The Tournament can only accommodate 144 golfers, so register early to ensure a place. The Chamber holds a raffle, sells mulligan packages, hosts putting, longest drive and closest to the pin contests and adds a few special nuances to play, making the tournament fun for everyone. **Honda of Pasadena** is donating a 2014 car as the holein-one prize. Pasadena Chamber members are invited to donate a raffle prize to promote their business.



All golfers get golf, a cart, gifts, on-course snacks

and a hosted cocktail reception and awards ceremony. You can sign up as a single, two, three or foursome. Cost for golfers is \$150 each or foursomes for \$600. The cocktail reception costs \$50. Our spring golf tournament is a very popular event. Golfers get an afternoon of fun that raises money to support events and activities that benefit our membership. You really just can't find a better time to be on the golf course in Southern California than early April.

Sponsorships are also available. For \$2000, Gold Sponsors receive signage recognition, two foursomes, the cocktail reception, two tee signs, a 'thank you' award and recognition in event publicity and materials. Silver Sponsorships are \$1000 and include one foursome, the reception, a tee sign and publicity recognition. Advertising tee signs are \$100 each. The awards reception and bar can be sponsored for \$2500.

As of this date, **Parsons Corporation** is a Silver Sponsor of the 2014 Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament.

# **Travel to Peru and Machu Picchu**

Join fellow Pasadena Chamber members, and travelers from other chambers on a once-in-



First class accommodations, 16 meals (seven breakfasts, four lunches and five dinners), motor coach transportation, admissions and baggage handling are included. You will explore Peru with the help of a professional tour guide are included.

The Chamber is promoting the trip with our member **Chamber Explorations**, who make all the arrangements for travel, hotels, meals and guides. For information on the trip please call the Chamber at 626-795-3355 or email Leanne@pasadenachamber.org.

a-lifetime adventure to Peru and Machu Picchu. For the low price of \$3,999 you can visit three UNESCO World Heritage Sites with tours and transportation to Machu Picchu, Cuzco and Lima. You also enjoy a local "Casa" hosted dinner, see the Awanakancha Breeding Center and Ollantaytambo Fortress, Sacsayhuaman Ruins, Qengo and enjoy an Andean folklore show. The trip departs on April 7th for nine days. The

The trip departs on April 7th for nine days. The \$3,999 price includes round-trip airfare from Los Angeles (LAX), all air and fuel surcharges, and departure taxes and fees.

Explore historic Lima.

COMMERCE

New members (clockwise from right) introduced at our Luncheon Alliance in November were Val Skylar Robinson of **Bikram Yoga**, Jacqueline Fox and Leah Rodemich of **Casa de las Amigas**, Ronald Labran with **Golden Heart Senior Care** and James Jacobs with the **Jacobs Deliverance Foundation**. We also met Anthony Quach of **Twelve55 Creative** and Steven Chan of **Yogurtland Pasadena**.





At the networking lunch in December, we introduced Dr. Elda Mehrabayan with AccessorEyes Optometry. Mary Eubanks of Children of America Dolls, Inc., Realtor Chris Griffiths with Century 21 Golden Realty and Sun Jin (Nancy) Choe Marriage and Family Therapist. We also met Carmen Ramirez with Carmen Décor and Design. We also met Peggy Kelley with Timeless Celebrations.



(Below, from left) At our November Connection Breakfast we introduced Lauren Lewis of Lauren Lewis Public Relations, Topher Hopkins of Neighbor Face and Kim Gauthier of Red Shoes Marketing and Five Sisters Designs. At December's networking breakfast we met Frank Paduganan of Momentum Therapeutic Massage and Melinda Sanchez with Planet Beach.



# **Chamber Member Openings and Celebrations**

(From below left) **Bikram Yoga** celebrated its anniversary and membership in the Pasadena Chamber with a ribbon cutting ceremony. **Collective Voices Foundation** kicked off its first walk-a-thon with a ribbon cutting. . Michael Shanklin cut the ribbon to celebrate the opening of **Kidspace Museum's** new Imagination Workshop. Melody Schoenfeld cut the ribbon to celebrate the opening of **Flawless Fitness** on East Washington Boulevard. Meschell Sohl celebrated the first anniversary of **Mimi et Cie Private Jewelers** by cutting a ribbon at her Arcade Lane Store.

# New Members for October, 2013

- Babylon Mediterranean Restaurant, Sarkis Terzian, (626)395-7772
- Blisserry Frozen Yogurt, Garen Feroyan, (626)786-5596
- Collette Vacations, Tyler Reardon, (866)422-7183
- Five Sisters Designs, Kim Gauthier, (626)628-5208
- Grist & Toll, Nan Kohler, (818)634-4488
- Jacobs Deliverance Foundation, James Jacobs, (626)676-8353
- Jericho Road Pasadena, Melanie Goodyear, (626)319-6466
- Jet Vacations, LLC, Funda Askin-Bonino, (212)986-3800
- Los Angeles Premier Sports, Barry Ritson, (626)318-7835
- Mac Renewal, Mohammed Saeed, (626)229-9650
- Oasis Café, Eric Chang, (626)535-9700
- **Pasadena Gardening & Tree Service**, Armen Boyagian, (626)755-9631
- **RED SHOES Marketing Consultants**,
- Kim Gauthier, (626)628-5208 Valley Alarm, Cristina Medina, (818)285-1500

## New Members for November, 2013

- A R Wilson & Associates, Annabelle Wilson, (626)792-1664
- AccessorEyes Optometry, Dr. Elda Mehrabyan, (626)577-8881
- Audio Element, Brian Berdan, (626)793-7229
- CCN Sunrise, Tami DeVine, (626)344-8314
- Century 21 Golden Realty, Chris Griffiths, (626)354-8000
- Children of America Dolls, Inc., Mary Eubanks, (626) 797-6182
- **Collision Auto Repair Specialist**, Ray Akramian, (626) 796-3634
- CoStudio Pasadena, Loren Tripp, (530)794-8868
- **Door of Hope**, Adam Benjamin, (626)304-9130 **Healthy Living Medical**, Joshua Jacobi,
- (626)716-9206 LegalShield, Erin Mackey, (310)730-3601
- Medallion Telecom, Gary Khechoom, (818)795-5564
- Neighbor Face, Topher Hopkins, (323)629-3204
- **Strategic Support Investigations**, Peter McHugh, (626)709-4251
- Sun Jin "Nancy" Choe Marriage & Family Therapist, Sun Jin "Nancy" Choe, (626)737-1727
- **Timeless Celebrations**, Peggy Kelley, (626)222-1808



## **Renewing Members for October, 2013**

#### **One to Five Years**

1810 (Eighteen Ten) BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse Century 21 Golden Realty College Launch, Inc. **Contemporary Services Corporation** Dog Haus & Dog Haus Biergarten Elizabeth House Eric Olberz, CPA Forever Active Hillcrest Retirement Community Historic Resource Group John Moran Auctioneers, Inc. Law Office of Tarek Shawky William Leitch Malbec New Argentinean Cuisine Massage Envy Spa Massages by Avo Mayfield Junior School of the Holy Child Jesus Pasadena Tour Company **Redstone Commercial Real Estate** Right At Home Ruth's Chris Steak House

## **Renewing Members for November, 2013**

#### **One to Five Years**

Arthur Murray Dance Studio Atelier Femme Bank of America Home Loans Beyond the Olive Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation **Consolidated Electrical Distributors** (CED) **Eagle Star Security** Flintridge Center Ganahl Lumber H & R Block Haven Gastropub Healing Lotus Acupuncture HealthCare Partners, Glen Oaks iPic Theaters **Kyocera Direct Operations** La Fiesta Grande Mexican Restaurant & Cantina M Local Mediterranean Grill

#### Safe n' Ready Slater's 50/50 Sofa Company Stone Brewing Company-Pasadena Town & Country Event Rentals Western Justice Center

#### Six to Nine Years

Arcadian Retirement Center Eugene Masuda US Bank

#### **Ten to Fourteen Years**

Chiropractic Health Center Grandview Foundation, Inc. Guidance Software, Inc. Habitat for Humanity-San Gabriel Valley Impact Japon Bistro Maranatha High School Now You're Poppin' Old Fashioned Kettle Korn Co. Sign Solutions

Meg Middleman-Century 21 Masters Pasadena Quarterbacks Club Phillips, Fractor & Company, LLC Roy's Restaurant Storrier Stearns Japanese Garden Togo's Violin Place Inc. Wayne S. Nakamura, D.D.S. Inc

#### Six to Nine Years

Jake's Billiards Joan's Candles & Home Décor KBD Construction Keller Williams Realty Mountain Views News Pacific Harps Pro Fitness Network

#### **Ten to Fourteen Years**

Kilroy's Sandwich Factory tw Telecom

#### **Fifteen to Fifty Years**

Californian-Pasadena, The CALSTART Chevron Car Wash City of Pasadena Dolphin Rents Eagle Associates Ellen's Silkscreening, Embroidery & Promotional Employment Development Department Fairmont Pharmacy Five Acres-The Boys' & Girls' Aid Society G.G. & M. Construction, Inc. Morgan Stanley Smith Barney Pasadena Tournament of Roses Union Station Homeless Services

#### **Fifty Years or More**

Cabot & Sons, 62 yrs. Jet Propulsion Laboratory, 52 yrs. Volkswagen Pasadena, 52 yrs. Vroman's Bookstore, 92 yrs.

#### **Fifteen to Fifty Years**

American Red Cross-San Gabriel Pomona Valley AnKara Designs The Business Park of Pasadena Comfort Inn "Near Old Town Pasadena' in Eagle Rock Corcoran Bookkeeping & Tax Services Courtyard by Marriott-Monrovia/ Pasadena Green Hotel Apartments Holly Street Village Apartments Holmes Body Shop Konoske Consulting Oak Tree Inn Pasadena Fire Fighters Local 809 Pasadena Meadows The Planetary Society **Rosemary Children's Services** Space Bank Mini Storage SuperShuttle

## **Chamber Member Openings and Celebrations**





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.

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#### Luncheon Alliance

There is no Luncheon Alliance in January due to the New Year holiday. Intellectual property law firm **Sheldon**, **Mak and Anderson** sponsors our networking Luncheon Alliance on Wednesday, February 5th 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, January 9th at 7am, Ashley Cole of New York Life sponsors our *Breakfast Connection* at The Courtyard by Marriott at 180 N. Fair Oaks Avenue.

On Thursday, February 13th, **The Law Office of Donald P. Schweitzer** sponsors our monthly networking *Breakfast Connection*.

Due to increased costs, price for the lunch and breakfast are now \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members. Those reserving after the Monday deadline pay \$5 more.

#### **Chamber After Hours Social and Mixer**

Enjoy New Year Networking at **BJ's Restaurant** & Brewhouse for our Chamber After Hours Social and Mixer at 234 E. Colorado in Pasadena on Thursday, January 16th from 5pm-7pm. Parking is available in the Paseo Colorado.

On Thursday, February 20th, **Wells Fargo** invites you to meet *Fresh Friendly Faces* at 3701 E. Foothill in Pasadena. Food and drink are hosted by Wells Fargo.

## Pasadena Chamber and City of Pasadena Host First Economic and Business Summit

The City of Pasadena sponsored our first Economic and Business Summit at the **University Club** in late October. Presented by the Pasadena Chamber, the event featured a keynote address on the national, state, regional and local economy by Bill Allen, President and CEO of the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation (LAEDC). A panel of local business leaders discussed their industry, its place in Pasadena and their business outlook. Panelists were Andy Ogden, dean of the Graduate School of Industrial Design at **Art Center**, Mike Giardello of Materia and **Innovate Pasadena**, Kin Hui of **Singpoli Group** and Zareh Astourian, CEO of engineering firm **TTG**.

Mr. Allen's presentation was cautiously optimistic about economic growth in the nation, state and region. The LAEDC anticipates modest growth for 2014 and 2015 as our city and the San Gabriel Valley slowly recover from the looses of the recent recession. While California is number two in job growth for 2012-13, and "California also has the fifth best GDP growth rate in the U.S.," Mr. Allen said. "But it will probably be the end of 2015 or early 2016 before we replace all of the jobs we lost during the recession."



Mr. Allen noted that the San Gabriel Valley lost 53,000 jobs in the economic downturn and has grown back only 13,000. Mr. Allen noted thatkey industries driving the Valley's business and employment growth are health care services, higher education, international trade, food manufacturing and processing, biomed and medical device manufacturing, and retail and restaurants.

Panelists appreciated being headquartered in Pasadena, noting the support they receive from City staff. Zareh Astourian, president and CEO of TTG, a said he likes being headquartered Pasadena. "I would like to invite you all to my office," he said. "I have a view of the San Gabriel Mountains. Pasadena is a uniquely beautiful city and home to some of the top engineering companies in the world."

## Board Strategic Planning Session Sets Pasadena Chamber of Commerce Program of Work for 2014

The Pasadena Chamber Board met in September for the annual Strategic Planning Meeting. During the meeting, led by Board Chair CL Keedy of **UBS Financial Services**, the Board examined the goals and objectives of the organization. They looked at our mission and vision statements and analyzed our effectiveness at meeting the needs of members, supporting the local economy and enhancing the quality of life in the greater Pasadena area.

The Board of Directors proposed the following new endeavors, which are included in the Pasadena Chamber work plan for 2014:

- The Chamber will explore, with our Member Services Committee, presenting a half-day workshop for members focusing on how to optimize marketing, utilize social media, websites and mobile technology to improve your bottom line.
- The Member Services Committee will also examine our dues structure and consider implementing membership levels that include sponsorships of events and advertising opportunities.
- We will also look at creating a series of monthly workshops for members on enhancing business, cutting costs, marketing, promotions and more.
- The Chamber will convene a working group to examine Pasadena's entitlement, permitting and inspection processes and propose recommendations to lessen the time and costs associated with opening or expanding businesses in Pasadena
- The Chamber will work with PUSD and our members to create a workshop for 6th graders in local schools focusing on financial literacy, workplace expectations and personal internet safety.
- The Chamber will do a better job of communicating with members about legislative initiatives and how elected officials respond to our positions.

The Pasadena Chamber will continue to expand our efforts to support our member companies. We will also present a second Procurement Forum in March for our small business members can interact and learn how to do business with large company members. We will also partner with the City of Pasadena to present the second Economic and Business Summit in October.