

Richmond CHAMBER NEWS

A Richmond Chamber of Commerce Publication
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CHAMBER LISTS FOR 2005

by Gretchen Grover, Chair

During the holiday season we see many types of lists: there are the wish lists for presents, there are the year-end summary lists that news outlets make and there are the New Year's resolutions – good intentions for improvement in the new year.



As I take over as Chair this month, I thought it might be helpful to provide a list of a few of the things the Chamber has on its plate for 2005 – a combination wish list and “to-do” list. Here goes!

The new City Manager – a wish for someone with the fiscal and management skills to follow the positive changes Interim City Manager Phil Batchelor has made and a promise that the Chamber will continue to provide the City with the business perspective on issues.

Redevelopment – a wish for renewed focus on the Downtown and Macdonald Avenue project areas, a hope that a strong economy will bring to fruition some of the projects that the City has been talking about for years, and a promise to participate in the process as the Redevelopment Agency looks at expanding/adding project areas.

City Hall – a STRONG wish that we finally see movement on this project.

Planning – a thank you for the improvements we've seen, but a reminder we're still wishing for the master sign ordinance and an administrative review process for business projects similar to the one approved for residential projects.

Convention and Visitors' Bureau – a wish for new members. Now that the hotels are collecting the taxes and the CVB Board is in place, it is time for other related businesses to be brought in and for the CVB to get down to its core business functions. The Chamber is pleased to provide the administrative support for the CVB, and we look forward to business referrals, as well as the brochures, promo-

tions and a website promoting Richmond as a destination.

Chamber website – a thank you to the task force members who looked at the current site and to those businesses that responded to the survey. Watch for exciting changes and new advertising opportunities as the site is rebuilt.

Education – a thank you for those who worked to create the new Education Foundation and a challenge for everyone to get involved who feels strongly about the need to improve education.

If I could have anything I wanted in 2005, it would be for you to get involved in what the Chamber is doing. If you are concerned with issues affecting the community, participate in the Education or Government Relations Committee. Or bring us your concerns, so we can take the issues to the City – to the Council or the department involved. We're strongest when everyone participates.

Have a happy, prosperous 2005!



Reserve your tickets now!
See flyer inside or
call 234-3512.

- Crab Feed -- Friday,
Feb. 11, 2004



photo by Ellen Gailing

Chamber Chair Mark Howe and Branch Manager Lisa Damman present a prize at the Holiday Mixer at the Mechanics Bank.

events

CALENDAR

January	February
Jan. 13 - 5 to 7 pm Mixer TBA	Feb. 11 - 6 pm Crab Feed Auditorium
Jan. 26 - 7:45 am Breakfast for Business RPD Chief Bennett Courtyard by Marriott	Feb. 23 - 7:45 am Breakfast For Business Council Member Gayle McLaughlin Courtyard by Marriott
Jan. 17 Office Closed	Feb. 21 Office Closed
Jan. 21, 22 Board Retreat	

chamber MEETINGS

January	February
Jan. 4 - 8 am Government Relations	Feb. 3 - 7:30 am Board
Jan. 4 - noon Ambassadors	Feb. 1 - 8 am Government Relations
Jan. 18 - 8 am Education Committee	Feb. 1 - noon Ambassadors
Jan. 19 - 7:30 am Executive Committee	Feb. 15 - 8 am Education Committee
Jan. 19 - noon CVB	Feb. 16 - 8 am Executive Committee
Jan. 20 Leadership Day	Feb. 16 - noon CVB
Toastmasters meets every Monday at noon in the Chamber Boardroom.	Feb. 17 Leadership Day

flyer deadline!

The flyer deadline for inclusion in the February issue is Jan. 14. Reach almost 800 businesses! Call (510) 234-3512 or email: newsletter@rcoc.com

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RENT CONTROL AND "JUST CAUSE" EVICTIONS

In late 2004 there were proposals floating around that Richmond change some of the rules for evicting tenants and that the City Council even consider establishing rent control. While these proposals seem to have died by the end of the year, if they resurface in 2005, the Chamber wants to be ready.

Can we enlist your help? At any meeting dealing with evictions, the Council will hear from renters – and they will paint a desperate picture. We need to make sure they hear the other side of the story – from landlords who have successfully dealt with problem tenants. If you own or manage rental property and would be willing to attend a Council meeting and voice your opinions on rent control or evictions, let the Chamber staff know.

Or, if you would simply like to be notified of any proposed changes to City ordinances in this subject area, we can put you on our e-mail or fax notice list. We'll get word out to you whenever something comes up at the City Council.

Can the Chamber help you with landlord-tenant issues? Would a workshop on landlord rights and responsibilities be helpful? We'd like to hear from you.

WELCOME **NEW** MEMBERS

Ms. Leslie Philbrook, Vice President
Biesheuvel Scarpa & Co.
 6333 Potrero Avenue
 El Cerrito, CA 94530
 (510) 235-1044
 www.bscoconsulting.com
 Business Consultants

Ms. Jennifer Barry-Smith, Marketing Mngr.
Burnham & Brown
 1901 Harrison Street, 11th floor
 Oakland, CA 94612
 (510) 835-6713
 www.burnhambrown.com
 Attorneys

Mr. Steve Duran, Director
Community & Economic Development
 1401 Marina Way South
 Richmond, CA 94804
 (510) 307-8140
 www.ci.richmond.ca.us

Mr. Sal Vaca
RichmondWORKS
 330 25th Street
 Richmond, CA 94804
 (510) 307-8014
 www.ci.richmond.ca.us
 Employment & Training

Ms. Victoria Jones, Co-Owner
The UPS Store #4612
 15501 San Pablo Avenue, Space G
 Richmond, CA 94806
 (510) 758-1991
 www.theupsstore.com
 Packaging, Mailing

11/8/04 to 12/9/04

chamber ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations!

and happy anniversary to the following businesses for their continuous years of Chamber membership:

11/8/04 to 12/8/04

11 TO 15

All American Tile & Terrazzo, Inc.
 Bay Area Rescue Mission

6 TO 10

BOC Gases
 Custom Assembly & Packaging
 Carla Della Zoppa Real Estate
 Kiwanis Club of Richmond
 Magallanes Automotive
 The Masquers Playhouse
 Miller/Watts Constructors, Inc.
 Prudential California Realty
 Richmond Museum of History
 Stich Properties
 Workforce Development Board of CCC

1 TO 5

16th Street Associates
 Approved Lending
 Cazuelas Grill
 Cohn-Stone Studios
 Girl Scouts of the SF Bay Area
 La Strada Ristorante
 Sydney Barbara Metrick Ph.D, CPCC
 Richmond Wholesale Meat
 Safeway Beverage Plant
 Michael Stead's Hilltop Chrysler
 Plymouth Jeep Eagle
 Veolia Water North America Operating Services
 Watson Electric, Inc.
 Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.



Please patronize these businesses



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- Crab Feed -- Friday, Feb. 11, 2004



photo by Ellen Gailling

Raully Butler, Mechanics Bank Retail Banking Manager, welcomes the Chamber to the Holiday Mixer.

Richmond Chamber of Commerce Board Members

Helen Carr / Contra Costa College
 Sharon Craig-Carter / Chevron Richmond
 Carla Della Zoppa / Security Pacific Real Estate
 Jane Del Simone / WCC Adult School
 Michael Fenley / Hilltop Mall
 Virginia Finlay / Signature Realty
 Joshua G. Genser / Attorney-at-Law
 Barry J. Gordon / The Mechanics Bank
 Karl Gramm / UPS
 Gretchen G. Grover / EBMUD
 Peter A. Hass / Watson, Hoffe & Hass
 Jerrold Hatchett / SimsMetal
 Sherie Hickman / Kaiser Permanente

Mark Howe / MSH Management
 Ivonne Inurritegui-Folster / Orton Develop.
 Larry Landry / General Chemical
 Richard McCombs / MBA Polymers, Inc.
 Judy Morgan / Richmond Chamber
 Peter Nuti / Richmond Sanitary Service
 Carl Overaa / C. Overaa & Company
 Mark Quilici / California Casting Inc.
 Will Rigney / SBC
 Melanie Shelby / P.G. & E.
 John Zieshenne / M.A. Hays Co.
 Ex Officio
 Gloria Johnston, Ph.D / WCCUSD



Wed., Jan. 26
 Guest:
**Outgoing RPD Chief
 Charles Bennett**

Wed., Feb. 23
 Guest:
**New Council Member
 Gayle McLaughlin**

Space is limited.
 Make your reservations now.

3925 Macdonald Avenue Richmond, CA 94805 P (510) 234-3512 F (510) 234-3540 www.rcoc.com