

BASSNANZA A SUCCESS FOR SALLISAW AND CHAMBER!



Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce

Judy Martens, Exec. V. P.

OCTOBER 2007 ISSUE

Inside this Issue

- 1** Bassnanza brings fishermen to town!
- Chamber Publicizes City of Character at Parade
- 2** Sallisaw Improvement Corporation Topic of Meeting
- 3** Chamber Honored at Redbud Gala
- 4** Upcoming Events

SALLISAW

A CITY OF CHARACTER!

October Character Trait:

Thoroughness – Knowing what factors will diminish the effectiveness of my work or words if neglected.

Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce
301 E. Cherokee
PO Box 251
Sallisaw, OK 74955
1-918-775-2558

SALLISAW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Racing Toward the Future, while cherishing the Past.



Bassnanza Reaches Goal

The Third Annual Bassnanza Fishing Tournament was held Saturday, September 22nd on Kerr Lake with the weigh-in at Applegate Cove Marina. Most of the 48 fishing teams were from communities other than Sallisaw. With the goal of events such as Bassnanza being to bring people into Sallisaw, obviously the Chamber of Commerce succeeded. Many positive comments were heard from the teams participating and the Chamber plans to continue the tournament on this September week-end in the future. Our greatest appreciation goes to all the businesses that made Bassnanza possible through their sponsorship of the prize money given. For these generous sponsorships we thank: **People, Inc., GRDA, IT Partnergroup, Sallisaw Ford, Cox Exterminators, Blue Ribbon Auto Group, and Armstrong Bank.** To enhance the tournament, several very nice door prizes were given courtesy of: **The Sequoyah County Times, Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative, Flurry’s Outdoor Store and Simon’s Ace Hardware in Vian.** The Chamber congratulates the following fishermen on placing in the top eight places for the tournament: **Gary Younger & Kevin Benge (1st Place-\$5,000), Charles Christie & Russell Rogers (2nd Place-\$2,500),**

Eric Karr & Tommy Simms (3rd Place-\$1,250), Larry Flanary & Ernie Collins (4th Place-\$750), Danny Cox & Dearl Anderson (5th Place-\$550), Jeff Slavens & Ray Glass (6th Place-\$450), Jackie Copeland & Darren Mize (7th Place-\$350), Chuck Lawless & Steve Brown (8th Place-\$250). The Big Bass winning team was **Grey Fowler & Sam Filippo** taking home \$1,500. As an added incentive for fishermen to enter, \$500 was awarded to the “smallest stringer weight” which was won by **Al Monks & Johnny Newell**, along with a “mystery weight stringer” won by **Jason Kinsey & Kelly Kinsey.** It is the hope of the Chamber of Commerce that all the fishing teams had an enjoyable day and will once again fish in the Annual Bassnanza again next year.

Chamber Participates in Homecoming

The Chamber of Commerce will be giving away free hamburgers, hot dogs and cold water on the lawn of the Stanley Tubbs Library from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Friday, October 12th before and during the Sallisaw High School Homecoming Parade. In an effort to publicize the fact that Sallisaw is a City of Character, the water bottles have labels with several of the monthly character traits listed on them. Everyone is encouraged to come downtown and join the Chamber members for this fun time of sharing and free food! If you are Chamber members and could possibly help with this event, please contact Robin or Judy at the Chamber Office, 775-2558. All help is appreciated!

Local Leaders Explain Organization

At the September Chamber of Commerce Monthly Membership Meeting three community leaders explained the history, purpose and future of the Sallisaw Improvement Corporation. Mr. George Glenn, former Mayor of Sallisaw gave the crowd a history of why and how the SIC began in the 1960's. Because of the SIC, we now have the Roy Frye Industrial Park which houses BorgWarner, Tegrant, Inc., Avaigen and several other industries. According to George, "memberships to the SIC were sold for \$5 a month which sure didn't buy much land. Because of the generosity of several land owners at that time, the SIC was able to operate on a pay as you go basis purchasing land as needed for incoming businesses." Gary Schaefer, current Treasurer of the SIC educated the crowd as to what projects the SIC has recently completed such as the Cellofoam building located on George Glenn Blvd. Schaefer said that "because of the working relationship between the SIC and the City of Sallisaw, we

were able to build a building for Cellofoam and create 50 new jobs for Sallisaw." The SIC is currently renovating the north side of the Chamber of Commerce Building for usage as a business incubator. "Again, with the help of the City of Sallisaw and a grant from the USDA, SIC will be able to create more jobs through the business incubator", according to Schaefer. Current Mayor of Sallisaw, Shannon Vann discussed the future of the SIC and its role in the economic development of Sallisaw. The Mayor indicated that times have changed somewhat in the fact that many businesses looking to relocate expect land to be given to them free along with many other local incentives. According to the Mayor "recruiting new industry is very competitive and the SIC has the ability to negotiate many times where the City does not have that ability." The Mayor also extended his appreciation to all the members of the SIC for their time and efforts in creating jobs for Sallisaw. "We have a wealth of business knowledge on that Board all on a volunteer basis, the City could not afford to hire that much

experience." A membership drive for the SIC will be held during the month of October. All current Chamber of Commerce Members will receive a letter asking them to support this worthy organization whose goal is to increase the economic vitality of Sallisaw through the recruitment of new businesses to the area.

Sallisaw Receives Centennial Clock

Through the efforts of State Representative Glen "Bud" Smithson, Sallisaw was the recipient of a \$25,000 grant, issued through the Oklahoma Centennial Commission, for a Centennial Clock. Some additional funds will be furnished by the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Sallisaw to get the clock permanently placed on the lawn of the Stanly Tubbs Memorial Library. The clock will be set-up and in operation by November 10th. The Clock and two Centennial benches, courtesy of Grand River Dam Authority, along with flowers and shrubs will create a park setting on the lawn. Shortly after that time, a dedication ceremony will take place honoring Oklahoma's Centennial and those individuals making the Centennial Clock a reality for Sallisaw.

Historian to Address Membership

Mr. David S. Turk, Historian of the United States Marshals Service will be the keynote speaker for the October Chamber of Commerce Membership Meeting. The meeting will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Sallisaw CASC Campus on Wednesday, October 24th, 12:00 noon. The Chamber feels that having Mr. Turk as our speaker is of great importance at this time because of Fort Smith being chosen as the site for the US Marshal's Museum. The addition of this great historical attraction means a huge increase in tourism for communities like Sallisaw. Please plan to join us for this educational and informative meeting.

Executive Board – 2007

President – Matt Caldwell, NBS
President Elect – Debbie Edgmon, BorgWarner Morse TEC
Treasurer – Terry Nation, Armstrong Bank
Past President – Cheryl Mills, Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative

Board Members – 2007

Gary Schaefer – BHC Insurance
Larry Randolph – Charlie's Chicken
Buddy Spencer – President, SIC-Blue Ribbon Auto
Ronda Vinson – ARVEST Bank
Dwight Spencer – Blue Ribbon Auto Group
Terry Nation – Armstrong Bank
Darlene Pearson – First National Bank
Buddy Holt – Red Bird Smith Health Services
Bill Baker – City Manager, City of Sallisaw
Shannon Vann – Mayor, State Farm Insurance
Ron Wyrick – Superintendent, Sallisaw Public Schools
Jayne Hadley – McDonald's **Holly Martens** – Sequoyah Memorial Hospital
Dr. Bob Wells, DDS – Family Dentistry
Judy Martens – Executive Vice-President
Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce

Community News



Chamber Wins Statewide Award!

The Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce is extremely proud to announce that they are the recipients of a 2007 Redbud Award which is issued by the Oklahoma Department of Tourism and Recreation. The awards were distributed at the Annual Governor's Conference on Tourism, October 1st at the Renaissance Hotel in Tulsa. The Chamber submitted an application for the Diamond Daze Centennial Festival in the category of Outstanding Centennial Project. There were 93 entries in 10 categories. Judges chosen for the applications were from states other than Oklahoma. The judge for the Outstanding Centennial Project is a native Oklahoman but currently lives in New Mexico where he owns and operates a widely distributed newspaper. The Redbud Awards Gala was the largest event of the Governor's Conference with over 300 in attendance. Sallisaw was well represented by Chamber members and city leaders.

Lieutenant Governor, Jari Askins and Hardy Watkins, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Department of Travel and Recreation Department hosted the event. All Redbud Award Winners will be featured in the Oklahoma Travel Guide. This too, will lend

publicity to the future Diamond Daze Festivals. The most important thing to bring from this award is the fact that everyone who played any part in making the festival a success should take pride and feel ownership in receiving this statewide recognition. It feels good to put Sallisaw on the map in a positive light! Be proud of yourselves!

Annual Women's Fair Slated for October

It's time once again for the Annual Women's Fair. The event will be Wednesday, October 17th at Choctaw Blue Ribbon Downs. This year there will be over 50 booths to visit from the hours of 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We are delighted to have Ms. Lorie Robertson, Ambassador for the Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Ozark Affiliation as our speaker. For the enjoyment of the crowd, there will be a fashion show, courtesy of Stage. During the entire event, Mrs. Rhoda Wilson will entertain the group with her lovely piano music. Lunch will be provided by Ole' South Restaurant with drinks being furnished by Wal-Mart and the Chamber of Commerce. There will be numerous door prizes and give-away items from the booth entries. Ladies, plan to take your lunch hour from work or take advantage of the time the kids are in school, and come join us for this great time of food, fun and sharing!

"StamSpeed" Come to Town!

Be sure to join the fun on Saturday, October 13th on Cherokee Street as the Sallisaw Main Street Organization sponsors their Annual StamSpeed Car Show and Chili Cook-Off. Festivities begin at 8:00 a.m. and run through 1:30 p.m. For more info. contact Carol Brown, 775-9555 or Rob Mize at 774-0100.

*HERE WE GROW AGAIN!
NEW MEMBERS FOR:
August & September*

**THUNDER RALLY SKATEWAY
AMERICAN RED CROSS
SUN LOAN COMPANY**
Thank you for joining the Chamber. Your commitment to making Sallisaw a better place is appreciated.

RENEWING MEMBERSHIPS

**GREENLEAF PROPERTIES
PETERS AGENCY CARE MANAGEMENT
COX EXTERMINATORS
LONG JOHN SILVERS / A&W
PEOPLE, INC.
ELIZAN WEB DESIGN
SONIC DRIVE-IN
THE JOURNEY CHURCH
EASTERN OKLAHOMA WORKFORCE
CHARLIE'S CHICKEN
A-OK PRINTING
GRDA
SALLISAW PASTOR'S FELLOWSHIP
MISS KRISTY'S DAYCARE CENTER**

Thank you for renewing your membership with the Chamber. With your continued support, we can work together in the growth and development of our great community.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce is to enhance the economic vitality of the Sallisaw area while striving to create the best quality of life possible for our citizens.

Chamber Champs!

The Chamber would like to recognize Charlie's Chicken and Ole' South Restaurant for sponsoring our Character banners for September and Journey Church for sponsoring those in October. Thank you for your generosity and desire to see Sallisaw encourage good character.

Remember! The holiday season is just around the corner! Purchasing Chamber Checks is a way of pleasing everyone on your list while keeping sales tax dollars at home, in Sallisaw!

Upcoming Events

OCTOBER 2007

- | | |
|------------|--|
| October 10 | Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting
12:00 noon – Chamber Building |
| October 12 | Chamber Celebrates Homecoming-hotdogs, cold water on the Library Lawn-12:00 to 1:30 p.m. |
| October 17 | Annual Women's Fair-Choctaw Blue Ribbon Downs -11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. |
| October 13 | Main Street "StamSpeed" Car Show & Chili Cook-Off-8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.-Cherokee Street |
| October 23 | Red Cross Blood Drive– Sequoyah Memorial Hospital |
| October 24 | Chamber Membership Meeting -CASC Campus-12:00 noon |

Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 251
301 E. Cherokee
Sallisaw, OK 74955
USA

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED