

# SALLISAW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*Racing Toward the Future, while cherishing the Past.*



**Bassnanza Planned!**

**JULY-AUGUST**  
Sallisaw Chamber of  
Commerce

Judy Martens, Executive  
Vice-President

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SALLISAW

A CITY OF CHARACTER!

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## Bassnanza Fishing Tournament Planned

This year will mark the 6<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the very successful fundraiser for the Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce. While bringing much needed income for the Chamber, it also gives local as well as professional fishermen the chance to win some big prize money. The tournament has been set for Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> on Kerr Lake/Arkansas River. The Chamber is excited to announce that the weigh in and free dinner will be held at **Applegate Cove Marina** instead of the Applegate Recreation Area. With the Marina under new ownership the Chamber expects all the fishermen to welcome this change of venue. For the first two years of the tournament all activities were held at the Marina but for the past three had to be moved over to the boat ramp and recreation area. The Marina has a great place to hold the meal, announce the winners and also gives the fishermen ample space to tie up their boats. The entry fee for this year's tournament has not been increased and the "Big Bass" portion of the event is still in tact. For each boat, the entry is still \$150 with an additional \$25 for those entering "Big Bass". The prize money to be given away is \$10,000 with \$1,000 for Big Bass. The Chamber is still in the process of trying to secure some door prizes to be given away while the weigh in is in progress. If you would like to donate any type of door prize, please contact the Chamber Office at 775-2558. Any gift certificates, gift cards or items would be greatly appreciated! The Chamber is extremely grateful to the following

sponsors who have made this year's tournament a possibility: **Cherokee Casino, Sallisaw; Grand River Dam Authority; AT&T, People, Inc.; Sequoyah County Times; Blue Ribbon Auto Group; D & R Dozer and Backhoe; Casey's Motor Services; Armstrong Bank; Pradco; Cox Exterminators; Valley Land & Title; Sallisaw Ford; State Farm Insurance; First National Bank.** Without the generosity of these financial sponsors, events like Bassnanza would not be possible. These types of events continue to bring a positive quality of life to the residents of Sallisaw and the surrounding areas.

## New Chamber Directory to be Distributed

The new Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce Membership Directory has been printed and will be distributed within the next week to all who subscribe to the Sequoyah County Times. The directory will also serve as a very important tool for the Chamber in recruiting new residents, visitors and vacationers to our area. Each time a packet is requested the Chamber always includes the directory. The last directory was done two years ago and has been very popular with visitors who come to the Chamber Office for information regarding our area. The directory will also be placed in local motels, restaurants and any other business that would like to have them. The Chamber wishes to thank all members who advertised in the new directory. Without those ads, this publication would not have been possible. All advertisers will receive several copies of the publication to display in their businesses.

## Chamber Committee's Continue Progress

Several of the six committee's formed by the Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce Board have continually met during the summer months. The Retail Committee spearheaded the recent "YeeHaw Sallisaw" campaign which aided the local retail community in boosting sales tax revenues during the rodeo. Some great prizes were given away to lucky shoppers while retailers appreciated the additional shoppers in their stores. The Legislative Committee has been hard at work planning and executing the recent Political Forum which was held on Monday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. This Forum showcased all candidates for public offices that affect Sequoyah County. Now that the primary is over and after the run-off election, another Forum is planned for Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at the People, Inc. Conference Center, 6:00 p.m. This Forum will showcase the Democratic and Republican candidates running for National, state and county offices that again, affect Sequoyah County voters. All residents are encouraged to attend this Forum! As was the practice in

the last Forum, no candidate is allowed to bring or display any type of campaign information. This includes t-shirts, posters, caps, etc. Not even ink pens may be distributed. The Tourism Committee met and has reviewed two possibilities for a new Sallisaw brochure. Each was very appealing to the entire committee and both will be used to attract appropriate age groups to Sallisaw. Those brochures will soon be published and placed at the I-40 Information Center along with many locations in Sallisaw. Please stop by the Chamber Office and see these two great tourism tools. Sallisaw Young Professionals Group has met twice during the summer and has another event planned for Friday, August 20<sup>th</sup> for a Game Night, at the Mallory-Martin Community Building. This is a great time for our younger professionals, ages 21 – 35 to meet, share ideas, and enjoy things they all have in common. The Membership Committee has contacted those members who have recently renewed their membership with the Chamber and thanked them for this renewal. They also are making sure the Chamber is meeting their needs and supplying information that is pertinent to them and their business. The

Education Committee has taken a break for the summer but will resume their activities with a meeting to be held on Thursday, Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup>. If you feel led to be a part of any of these committees please feel free to contact Judy at the Chamber. All input and support is welcomed and encouraged.

## Legislative Luncheon Proves Very Successful

The June Membership Luncheon was featured this year as a Legislative Luncheon sponsored by the Legislative Committee of the Chamber. The luncheon featured all legislators who represent Sequoyah County in any way. The Committee was extremely pleased with the number of legislators who took time from their schedules to attend and speak at the meeting. Those were: State Rep. Bud Smithson, State Rep. Ed Cannaday, State Senator Kenneth Corn and special guest, Lt. Governor, Jari Askins. Corporate tables were purchased by many Chamber members for this event which aids the Chamber in its duties as the liaison between them and our public officials. Our thanks to: **Armstrong Bank; Arvest Bank; Blue Ribbon Auto Group; Cherokee Nation Career Services; Cookson Hills Electric Cooperative; District Attorney Jerry Moore; Edward Jones, Vian; First National Bank; Gem's/Caring Heart Home Health; Health & Wellness Center; National Bank of Sallisaw; BHC of Oklahoma; Sequoyah Manor; and Valley Land & Title** for making this event a true success. Our greatest thanks goes to Tony Demaree and his staff for the delicious meal and beautiful surroundings in the People, Inc. Conference Center. People, Inc. is always so gracious to allow us usage of their facility and for that we are most thankful.

### Executive Board – 2010

**President** – Dale Wood, Woody's Diner  
**President Elect** – Dr. Bob Wells, Bob Wells, D.D.S. Family Dentistry  
**Treasurer** – Gary Schaefer, BHC Insurance  
**Past President** – Marley Abell, First Financial Center

### Board Members – 2010

**Jeff Allred** – Journey Church  
**Kasey Moran** – TRAC, Inc.  
**Mike Neer** – National Bank of Sallisaw  
**Cheryl Mills** – 7 Oaks Ranch  
**Dr. Kathy Harrell** – Carl Albert State College – Sallisaw Campus  
**Michelle Mings** – First National Bank  
**Dr. Amanda Trudeau** – Total Eye Care  
**Terry Nation** – Armstrong Bank  
**Bill Baker** – Ex-Officio Member-City Manager  
**Shannon Vann** – Ex-Officio Member-Mayor  
**Ron Wyrick** – Ex-Officio Member-Superintendent of Schools  
**Buddy Spencer** – Ex-Officio Member-SIC Pres. - Blue Ribbon Auto  
**Judy Martens** – Executive Vice-President  
Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce

### August Character Trait

### SECURITY

*Structuring my life around that which cannot be destroyed or taken away*

## **Community News**

### **Chamber to Host New Business Workshop**

Twice a year the Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce along with the Small Business Development Center at Carl Albert State College host a New Business/Tax Workshop for anyone considering starting their own business. The workshops are conducted by Amy Lomon of the OSBDC and Dewey Brandon, Public Affairs Officer from the Oklahoma Tax Commission. The next workshop will be Wednesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> 9:00 a.m. at the Sallisaw Chamber of Commerce. This free workshop is designed to familiarize all current and prospective business owners on how to collect and pay taxes. Other questions concerning every aspect of a new business will also be answered by Amy and Dewey. Amy is also willing to set up appointments with individuals to help them develop and implement their business plan. She will take someone from that level all the way through the entire start-up process. Pre-registration is not necessary for this workshop on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Anyone is welcome to attend. For more questions please contact the Chamber Office at 775-2558.

### **Town Hall Meeting Set**

Senator Tom Coburn will hold a Town Hall type meeting on Thursday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 a.m. at the People, Inc. Conference Center. All residents are encouraged to attend this meeting. This meeting is part of a series of meetings Senator Coburn will be holding across the state to address and discuss current issues and answer questions from his constituents. Should you have questions prior to this meeting, please feel free to contact Connie Pearson at 918-581-7651.

### **August Meeting Features Local Business**

The Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that SLW Automotive, Inc. (formerly BorgWarner), will be the featured business at the August Chamber Membership Luncheon. Mr. Alan Garner, General Manager of Europe and North American Operations will be the keynote speaker for the meeting. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 25<sup>th</sup> at the People, Inc. Conference Center. Lunch will be provided for a cost of \$8 each. Chamber members are encouraged to bring a friend, co-worker or possible new member to the luncheon.

### **Chamber Welcomes Input**

In an effort to accommodate all Chamber Members, the Chamber Board of Directors would welcome your input on the idea of an evening Chamber Meeting with a dinner meal rather than a noon time luncheon. In the past, the Chamber has held the "Chamber After-Hours" event from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. quarterly. This was simply a time of networking and visitation. But, this type of event does not include a keynote speaker, community announcements, awards, etc. If you are unable to attend the monthly luncheons and would enjoy attending something in the evenings, perhaps once a quarter, please contact Judy at the Chamber by e-mailing her at: [sallisawchamber@yahoo.com](mailto:sallisawchamber@yahoo.com). Again, the Chamber wants to accommodate all of their members in terms of keeping them informed and educated on all Chamber activities. Your opinion counts!

**"Don't waste life in doubts and fears; spend yourself on the work before you, well assured that the right performance of this hour's duties will be the best preparation for the hours and ages that will follow it" Ralph Waldo Emerson**

**HERE WE GROW AGAIN!  
NEW MEMBERS FOR:  
June & July 2010**

Stephen Highers  
Courtesy Realty – Hillcrest Auto  
Steven O'Neal CPA, PC  
Nix's Medical Supply  
CS Web Internet  
Sentry Stor  
Pandora's Box

*Thank you for joining the Chamber. Your commitment to making Sallisaw a better and more prosperous community is appreciated.*

### **RENEWING MEMBERSHIPS**

Allen's Used Cars  
Napa Auto Parts  
Hog Creek Auto Sales & Salvage  
State Farm Insurance  
Sequoyah Memorial Hospital  
Sallisaw Ford  
AlternaCare  
Red Bird Smith Health Center  
Amedisys Home Health  
BoNita's Bibles, Books, Gifts & Music  
Casey's Motor Sports & Service  
Downey Publishing  
Scoufos Law Offices  
Delia Medical Clinic  
Sequoyah's Cabin  
THE Family Clinic  
Pit Stop  
America's Best Value Inns and Suites  
United Country-Batory Group, LLC

*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.*

# Upcoming Events

## August - September

**Character Banner Sponsors  
for July:**

**Abundant Life Church  
And  
Blue Ribbon Auto Group**

**for August:**

**Arvest Bank  
And  
First National Bank  
Thank you for being our  
**CHAMBER CHAMPS!****

**If you would like to sponsor a  
monthly Character Banner please  
contact the Chamber Office at:  
775-2558**

**August 18**

**Small Business Tax Workshop – 9:00 a.m. to noon  
Chamber of Commerce Conf. Room  
SIC Board Meeting – Chamber of Commerce Conf.  
Room – 12:00 noon**

**August 19**

**Town Hall Meeting – Senator Tom Coburn – People,  
Inc. Conference Center – 10:00 a.m.**

**August 20**

**Sallisaw Young Professionals “Game Night” 7:00 p.m.  
Mallory-Martin Meeting Facility**

**August 25**

**Chamber of Commerce Membership Luncheon – 12:00  
noon – People, Inc. Conference Center**

**September 8**

**Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting – 12:00 noon –  
Chamber Conference Room**

**September 22**

**Chamber of Commerce Membership Luncheon –  
location TBA**

**September 27**

**Legislative Committee Political Forum – People, Inc.  
Conference Center – 6:00 p.m. Public Encouraged to  
attend!!!**

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301 E. Cherokee  
Sallisaw, OK 74955  
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**

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