Mark West Area Chamber of Commerce and VISITORS CENTER

BRINGING BUSINESS & THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER!

The Lark

March Volume XII Issue 3



2008 Member Directory

NEW MEMBER DIRECTORY TO BE PUBLISHED:

The Chamber will be printing the 2008 Membership Directory in early April. Members will be listed by business category and alphabetically. Please check the online member directory to be sure your category, contact info and business description is correct: www.markwest.org

Advertising is available for members - please contact the Chamber office at 578-7975 to order your ad space, or order online - by April 1st!

Business card size ads are \$75, 1/2 page ads \$180 and full page ads \$225.

Inside Cover and Back Cover Ads are available - call the office for pricing!

Please act now to get first choice on the placement of your ad!

MEMBER PROFILE: JUST TRANSPORTATION

"It's good business to do business with Chamber Members"!!

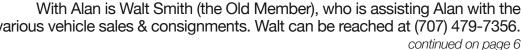
A New Member, Alan Parks, is the Owner/Dealer of this Pre-owned vehicle business recently relocated to the Mark West Area. The address is: 5690 Old Redwood Hwy, Santa Rosa, 95403. His telephone number is: (707) 280-4402.

The Lot is just north 1/3 of a mile from the Fulton Road intersection with the Old Redwood Hwy, and approximately 2/3's of a mile South of Shiloh Road.

With Alan is Walt Smith (the Old Member), who is assisting Alan with the various vehicle sales & consignments. Walt can be reached at (707) 479-7356.



Walt Smith & Alan Parks of Just Transporation





AFTER HOURS BUSINESS SOCIAL March 13, 5:30 - 7:30pm hosted by GRP WEALTH STRATEGIES GROUP 160 Wikiup Drive, Suite 101 Bring your business cards!

HELPING PEOPLE AND CHANGING LIVES - GOODWILL

is so much more than stores - come learn more. FREE one-hour breakfast or lunch (not a fundraiser). Come and learn about Goodwill Industries of the Redwood Empire in Sonoma County. Please call Stephanie at 523-0550 ext. 213 to reserve your place.

Wednesday March 19, 2008 @ Noon

Wed May 21, 2008 @ 8:00 AM

...more about the Social on page 3

February Social hosted by Kobrin Financial Services

4787 Old Redwood Highway, Suite 101 Santa Rosa, CA 95403 Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 1 - 4pm

707.578.7975 markwest@markwest.org www.markwest.org

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BRINGING BUSINESS & THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER!

Our Mission: The Mark West Area Chamber of Commerce is organized to advance the economic wellbeing and uniqueness of the Mark West Area so that its citizens and all areas of its business community shall prosper.



Walt Smith, President

The next Board of Director's meeting is March 11 at Grace Fellowship, 608 Larkfield Center 11:30 am - 1:00 pm All Members Welcome!

Be more concerned with your character than your reputation. Your character is what you really are while your reputation is merely what others think you are.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our Chamber was blessed recently by an anonymous donation of a HP Printer, which we sorely needed. It produces both black & color copies as well as a fax machine. Someone knew that our old printer was ready to be retired, but didn't wish to be recognized for this gift. So, to whomever you are out there (must be an Angel), we thank you very much. So many of our Chamber Members have stepped up to the plate and have hit "home runs" for us during this past year. Without all of you "Angel's" we couldn't have accomplished so much. Our little Chamber is growing, thanks in part to our new building and mainly to our beautiful lighted, expensive, sign. Our visibility to the public is bringing in visitors!

We still need some more volunteers to join our office staff as we are expanding our "open" hours and days. If you know of someone that would like to spend a few hours a week, or even one day, please pass this information on to them. As we promote our Visitors Center, this will be a great help. The duties are light office work, or just be there to answer the telephone. You may call the Chamber Office at (707) 578-7975 or me, Walt Smith at (707) 479-7356.

April 26 & 27th are two dates to schedule for our E-Waste Drive. We will be assisting Goodwill Industries on this project. They will have a truck parked in our parking lot behind the Chamber Office. This should be of a great help to all of us in disposing used, worn-out electronics. Please pass this information onto your friends, neighbors, etc.

The Business Community is growing in the Mark West Area. As such, the Chamber wishes to extend our Services in promoting all of the businesses in this area. By being a Member of our Chamber it helps us in marketing this entire area, as well as helping you promote your business and/or profession. Joining the Chamber helps ALL the Community, which is especially important in slow economic times.

We are having some wonderful turnouts to our monthly Socials, held on the second (2nd) Thursday of each month. I wish to encourage you to join us as it is a great way to network, promote your own business/profession, and meet people. The schedule is posted in this Newsletter, on our Website, and we try to put out calls to all the Members as a reminder just prior to the Social. You may want to mark your calendars as a "must attend". We also encourage you to bring a guest. Great "Door Prizes" are given away too! Bring several Business Cards.

The "Ide's of March" are upon us!! March 9th is the beginning of "daylight saving's time"...set your clock's ahead one (1) hour. St. Patrick's Day is on a Monday, the 17th. Spring will be here on the 20th and Easter Sunday is the 23rd. F.Y.I.!!

With best regards, Walt Smith



CODE LOANS

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REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE LOANS

Marc Hunter

Realtor

(707) 570-0850 office (707) 322-3260 mobile (707) 284-5540 fax

marc@code3loans.com

4795 Old Redwood Hwy. Suite A, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

Dan Parun of Kobrin Financial Services,

with Tony Geraldi of Sonoma County

Airport Express

FEBRUARY SOCIAL

hosted by: KOBRIN FINANCIAL SERVICES

February's Chamber Social was graciously hosted by Kobrin Financial Services on Valentine's Day evening. It was well attended, especially considering many people had special plans already committed with their "loved ones".

Kobrin Financial Services is located at 190 Wikiup Drive in the Wikiup Professional Park. Host & Hostesses were Don and Brenda Kobrin, and their daughter Angela.

Very nice snacks, great wine, beer, soft drinks AND some wonderful chocolates were served. It was truly a nice evening with good conversations and networking amongst the members & guests.

Some of the new attendees were Lee Rink, Sutter Medical Center, Donald B. Henry, M.B.A., Tom Nunes & Dian Nunes of TD & Associates, Toni Chase, Cookie Lee Fashion Jewelry, and Victoria Schnur, Pacific Trust.

Kay Schultz, Superintendent of the Mark West Union School District provided us with an "update" regarding the District's issues, activities and accomplishments. We are so very fortunate to have Kay and her wonderful staff working with the children in our District.

Several of our Board Members and Ambassadors were also in attendance. Thank you all for attending, and thank you Kobrin Financial Services for hosting the Social.

Walt Smith, President Visit www.MarkWest.org/February2008Social for more photos



Host Don Kobrin with Dayrl Anderson of Wikiup Properties



Host Brenda Kobrin (center) with (I-r) daughter Angela, Jeanne M. Haddorff of Healthy Are We, Pat Moreili & Joyce Partington, Chamber



Kay Schulz of MWUSD, Victoria Schnur of Pacific Trust, Nancy Wheeler of Creative Property Services, Windsor, Len Sevall of Sevall, Thwaites, Soper Insurance photos by Walt Smith & Sonoma CONNECTION

Serving the Wine Country Since 1979

- Project Planning
- Civil Engineering



Network with the Chamber in 2008

BUSINESS-AFTER-HOURS-SOCIALS

MAR 13 GRP WEALTH STRATEGIES GROUP

SC AIRPORT EXPRESS & **APR 10 AACTION RENTS**

MAY 8 BENJAMIN TIRE & BRAKE

REALTY WORLD/TOWN & JUNE 12 COUNTRY PROPERTIES

HEALTHY ARE WE JULY 10

AUG 14 FINAL EDITION

WINE COUNTRY HARVEST FAIRE AND BUSINESS SHOWCASE 2007



SC Sheriff Dept.



Wells Fargo Center for the Arts



ScoreONE



Interested in joining our Ambassador Club? Contact Dana Larson dmlarson@sonic.net 571-1573



Healthy Are We - SHAKLEE



Sonic.net





Rincon Valley Fire District



Serving Sonoma County Since 1959
Family Owned and Operated
We offer more to our shoppers.
Stop by our Gourmet Cheese Counter and
Sample Imported and Domestic Cheese

522 Larkfield Center, Santa Rosa 707/546-0307



David Hartman

15 Lark Center Drive Santa Rosa, CA 95403 707-546-5717 FAX 707-546-0902

FYI: MARK WEST UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT 2007-2008 STRATEGIC PLAN

The Mark West Union School District is proud to offer your child(ren) the ideal educational experience in an elementary school setting. Our fundamental purpose is to educate young people with the highest possible quality instruction; to nurture students' intellectual, physical, and social growth, helping each to achieve to his/her highest potential. The District's dedicated staff provides an excellent learning environment for approximately 1300 Kindergarten through sixth grade students attending our three elementary schools. The District also offers a K-8 Home Study program and a 7th and 8th grade Charter School.

WHAT IS SPECIAL ABOUT MARK WEST UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT?

- All schools have STAR test scores above 800
- Dedicated and Caring Staff
- Before and after school day care is provided at each of our campuses
- Bright Students
- Parent Involvement
- Instructional Assistants
- Financial Solvency
- Small Class Size
- Reading Teachers at every school
- Active PTA
- Cultural Arts Assemblies
- Music Program
- Rich and engaging curriculum
- Maintain a high level of achievement
- Transportation is also available

If you live outside of the Mark West Union School District but your employer resides within our district boundaries, please give the District Office a call at 524-2970 to request an "Interdistrict Transfer Form, Parental Employment" and we will be happy to process this for you as your first step in enrolling your child in our District.

We believe that all students deserve an education rich with learning experiences that prepare them for the future. Please call one of the principals to set up a tour of our schools. We look forward to working with you in educating your children.

Visit www.mwusd.org

Kay Schultz, Superintendent

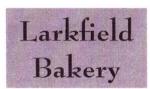
Half Moon Bay Chinese Restaurant Larkfield Shopping Center (next to Molsberry Mkt.)

Mandarin Fine Dining
Food to Go
(707) 578-0603
Chef Specialties
DAILY

Chamber Members receive 10% OFF your order







Fresh Danish from Scratch Sandwiches on Fresh Baked Bread Cakes * Pies * Muffins * Donuts

> Sunday Mon-Thurs Fri-Sat

6 am - 12 pm 6 am - 6 pm 6 am - 7 pm

Just North of the LBC on Old Redwood Hwy 57° Larkfield Center Santa Rosa, CA 954°3 707-579-4991



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NEW MEMBERS

Wine Country Entrée Karen Krimont & Marlene Holland 488 Larkfield Center Santa Rosa, CA 95403 542-2846 www.winecountryentrees.com

SonoME Tours, Inc.
Mathhew "Matt" Hook
650 Larkfield Center,
Ste A-4
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
568-7131 (F) 568-7131
matthook@att.net
www.sonoMEtours.com

RENEWING MEMBERS

| Airport Business | |
|---------------------|--------|
| Center | (1989) |
| Sevall, Thwaites & | |
| Soper Insurance | (1997) |
| Burgess Lumber | (1997) |
| Aaction Rents | (1998) |
| Action Mortgage | (1998) |
| American Red Cross | 3 |
| of Sonoma County | (2002) |
| Charles Coppock, | |
| Attorney at Law | (2002) |
| Flamingo Conference | e |
| Resort & Spa | (2006) |
| Klohe Insurance | (2007) |

BRINGING BUSINESS & THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER!

MEMBER PROFILE: JUST TRANSPORTATION

continued from page 1

They not only sell pre-owned cars, vans & trucks, but also Motor Homes and a few Boats. Their inventory is much too large for this location, so most of it is in a nearby storage yard as well as another location in Sonoma. Usually the inventory exceeds 100 vehicles, some as new as 2006 down to classics.

They take "trade-ins" and do "consignments" also. In House financing is available on some vehicles. Most of their vehicles are priced well below Kelley Blue Book suggested retail. Call for details.

Alan has been in Sonoma County all his life. His parents owned Jim & Jim's Yamaha Motorcyles & Scooters from 1978 to 1987 and had five (5) locations. Alan managed the Sonoma location. He opened his first car lot in 1998. Overall, Allan has some 30 years experience in the business and Walt has 25 years in this business.

UPDATE FROM THE MARK WEST COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

On February 11th the MWCSC met with Supervisor Paul Kelley and other members of the County to discuss the feasibility study for the formation of a community services district in the Larkfield/Wikiup area. The meeting included a discussion with representatives of Economic and Planning Systems. The EPS firm was selected by the county to complete the study and develop the data that could be used for district formation. The representatives from EPS hope to have the work complete by the end of April. The MWCSC will continue to support the efforts related to district formation and will provide updates as new information becomes available.

The MWCSC continues to seek volunteers to help communicate with the community and to work on district formation. Anyone interested in assisting with a community fund-raiser should contact the MWCSC.

The MWCSC may be contacted by e-mail at: mwcsd@markwestcsd.org

FEBRUARY 2008

The Sonoma County Economic Development Board (EDB), in partnership with the Sonoma County Workforce Investment Board (WIB), is pleased to bring you the Winter 2008 Local Economic Report Series:

Highlights from the Winter 2008 Local Economic Report include:

Steadily rising domestic and foreign demand for wine, particularly boosted by the falling dollar, should help hold the local economy steady.

Housing prices are still correcting and affordability remains poor, but lower prices may alleviate affordability issues in the near future.

Increased venture capital activity and broad Bay Area growth may spark the local technology industries, a sector with considerable growth potential in Sonoma County.

Ben Stone, EDB Executive Director (707) 565-7170

MARK WEST AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITORS CENTER

MARK WEST AREA COMMUNITY INFORMATION

AREA POPULATION - within a 3 mile radius - 20,000

ELEVATION - 160 feet above sea level

BOUNDARIES - Area approximately bounded by: Shiloh Road - North Piner Road - South

West Olivet Road - West Lodge on Mark West Springs Rd - East

The Lark Newsletter is published monthly under the direction of:
The Mark West Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center
4787 Old Redwood Hiwy, Suite 101, Santa Rosa, CA 95403

ADVERTISING: 6 months \$107.50; 1 year \$200

FLYER INSERTION: \$35 per issue.

You supply 200 copies of your 8.5" x 11" flyer on 20# paper.

The Lark Newsletter is mailed to member businesses each month. For more information, contact Office Manager Patricia Morelli, at 578-7975.

Editors: Kathleen Palmer & John Essman (707) 433-8774 Sonoma CONNECTION info@sonomaconnection.com

Printing: Clone Digital Printing & Copying (707) 527-6565

Deadline for publication is the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Please email your materials to info@markwest.org

Promote your business with your flyer in the Chamber newsletter.
You supply the flyers - We do the work!

CHAMBER MEMBERSHIP DUES

Effective May 1, 2006

| Standar | d Dues | Non-Profit Dues |
|----------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| \$125.00 | Business (1-5 Personnel) | \$110.00 |
| \$175.00 | Business (6-10 Personnel) | \$155.00 |
| \$245.00 | Business (11+ Personnel) | \$215.00 |
| \$625.00 | Corporate Sponsor | |
| \$ 95.00 | Individual (no business affiliation) | |
| | | |



Sonoma CONNECTION

John Essman Kathleen Palmer

P O Box 1381 Healdsburg, CA 95448

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Web Site Design & Marketing • Computer Consulting Digital Photography • Search Engine Optimization

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Patricia Dearmin 539-4945

Corporate Treasurer

Leonard Sevall Sevall, Thwaites & Soper Ins. 546-2146 lens@callatg.com

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Daryl Anderson Wikiup Properties 546-8000 andybaum@sonic.net

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Sue Sloat Mark West Union School District 524-2970 ssloat@mwusd.org

Doug Williams Rincon Valley Fire District 539-1801 dwilliams@rvfire.org

HEAD AMBASSADOR

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OFFICE MANAGER

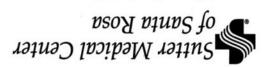
Patricia Morelli

578-7975 markwest@markwest.org

OFFICE ASSISTANTS

| Deanna Gutmann | 544-9076 |
|------------------|----------|
| Joyce Partington | 291-0399 |
| Patricia Dearmin | 539-4945 |
| Janet Bergman | 570-0312 |

A Sutter Health Affiliate

















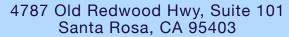
Thank You To Our Corporate Sponsors!







Mark West Area Chamber of Commerce and VISITORS CENTER



AFTER HOURS
BUSINESS SOCIAL

MARCH 13, 2008 5:30pm - 7:30pm

hosted by
GRP WEALTH
STRATEGIES GROUP
160 Wikiup Drive
Suite 101

BRINGING BUSINESS & THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER!