



The Twain Harte Beat

JANUARY 2008

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From the President...

My last hurrah!

First and foremost the Chamber Board of Directors wishes to congratulate **Dave and Wendy Vallenlunga**, owners of **Twain Harte Lumber and Hardware** for winning the Twain Harte Area Chamber's Christmas Display perpetual trophy! They also win a free membership for 2008! We appreciate all of the effort and creativity that they put into making Christmas a little brighter for all of us!

To **Richard and Marilyn Knudson**, owner of **Twain Harte Mini Golf**, **Laurie Smith of Twain Harte Shell**, **Kathy Kopyn** and all of the many "elves" that devoted time and energy to the Twain Harte Winter Wonderland Parade.....it was the best year ever!! The rain didn't dampen anyone's spirits and the show went on! Good job!

We received many return votes for the slate of new directors for 2008 and we are very proud to announce that **Vic Utterback, owner of Wildwood Inn**, **Lonnie Taylor, owner of Big Daddy's BBQ**, **Tony Monteverde, owner of Courtside Bar and Grill** and **Gwen Rogers, owner of Elegant Cottage** has been overwhelming approved by our membership and will be joining the Chamber Board of Directors January 1, 2008. Under President Halvorsen's leadership, we look forward to an exciting year!

Unlike many other Chamber Boards, our Board is and always has been a very involved, working Board. The hours and efforts that our Board and our volunteers put into every event that goes on over the year is staggering, but it just goes to show how committed and concerned many of the people that volunteer are about our community and it's success. We can also tell that you, our Chamber members, also appreciate the time and efforts that our Board and volunteers put into all of the different events by how many of you continue to support the Chamber through your membership dues and sponsorships. To say that it's appreciated is an understatement. Thank You!!

Dave Hawkins of Highlander Paint and Design will be serving on the Design and Review Board as a representative of the Chamber in 2008. We are pleased that he has signed on for the year and we are certain that he will do a great job. Thank you Dave!

This past year has been one of the most interesting and challenging for many of our businesses. Although some of our Chamber members have experienced a very prosperous year, some businesses are having a tough time making it; a couple has closed and a couple of new businesses have opened. It is more important than ever, especially over the winter, that we support our local businesses. We help one another....that's what small towns are famous for.

I want to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone that helped the Chamber accomplish all of the things that we set out to do over the year. Although at some times very challenging, it was a phenomenal year! New events were created, such as Halloween's Mansion of Horror, at the Twain Harte Shopping Center and a Blues Festival is in the works for next year. A new fundraiser was implemented with the beautiful playhouse that was raffled off; the movies were upgraded with the purchase of a new projector and a high tech sound system was donated; the concerts were infused with new energy and enthusiasm; Oktoberfest was the biggest it's ever been and will be bigger and better next year and the wine tasting during the Art's and Crafts festival was jam packed with people ready to partake of the libations. All of this was made possible by your Chamber Directors and many volunteers behind the scenes willing to roll up their sleeves and make it happen. Thank you.

It's been a wonderful year and now I am stepping away from the box.

Yvonne Hilton
President 2007

Twain Harte Area Chamber of Commerce

Inside the Chamber

Jerrie Rhine
Office Manager

There have been very few visitors into the Chamber office recently as there is no snow to bring the people from out of town up our way, to date. However, as I write this, Dodge Ridge is planning to open on December 20th. On the other hand, the locals have been busy decorating the town for the holidays and it looks beautiful.

Another year is about to begin and everyone is making New Year's resolutions. We all have hopes of keeping our resolutions all year. Typically, resolutions have something to do with the words diet and exercise, healthier lifestyle choices and generally do not last as long as we wish they would. Here's an idea for a New Year's resolution that Chamber members can make, do a little volunteering for the Chamber. It doesn't need to be much. You may volunteer to bring a gift to a mixer or better yet, host a mixer. You may volunteer to work at an event or if you have a little more time, maybe you can volunteer to be on a committee to help plan an event. You do not have to be a Director to be on a committee or chair a committee.

So as we prepare to bring in a new year, think about this beautiful community that we live in and what you could give back as a Chamber volunteer. It is very rewarding and lots of fun at the same time.

A Happy and Prosperous New Year to all!

Jerrie Rhine
Office Manager

Chamber Inquiries for December 2007

3 Information about a Chamber business
0 Information about a non-Chamber business
4 Visitor Information
11 Event Information
6 Miscellaneous

10,081 Website Hits

2008 Officers

President	Doug Halvorsen
President Elect	Open
Past President	Yvonne Hilton
Treasurer	George Farrell
Secretary	Open

2008 Board of Directors

Cheryl Clark	US Bank
Sunny Deardorff	7-11
George Farrell	Sportsman Café
Rebecca Halvorsen	The Harte Collection
Yvonne Hilton	Associate Member
Rohn Mein	Associate Member
Brad Menary	Business First
Tony Monteverde	Courtside Bar and Grill
Gwen Rogers	Elegant Cottage
Lonnie Taylor	Big Daddy's Smokin BBQ
Vic Utterback	Wildwood Inn
Michele Vinci	Associate Member

Office Staff

Office Manger	Jerrie Rhine
Asst. Office Manager	Susan Goodwin

COMING EVENTS

January 3, 2008— THACC Board Meeting - 5:45 p.m.

January 8, 2008— Mixer at Sportsmen's Coffee Shop – 5:30 p.m. (Hosted by Sportsmen's Coffee Shop, Business First and The Harte Collection)

Newsletter Ad Rates:

Flyers 20# paper	\$35
Flyers 24# paper	\$50
Biz Cards	\$25

The Gardener's New Year..

Many people think of spring as the beginning of the gardening year, but the truth is, in January when outdoor temperatures are too cold for plant growth, thoughts of leafy green vegetables, sunny warm air, and bright fragrant flowers is more than comforting; It's down right irresistible.

In the winter, what gardener doesn't enjoy pouring over gardening catalogs and books, plotting out their new gardening beds, and reviewing notes on last year's successes and failures? Whether you are creating your first Mountain Garden, or refining an established garden, planning is an essential step in the process. Creating a good plan can be the difference between having a bed full of struggling plants or having your dream garden. The key feature of a good garden plan is to list the plants you want to grow, the number of plants needed, and a scale drawing that shows where each plant will be placed.

Keep in mind these 5 tips as you decide on the broader outline of your garden for this coming year:

(1) **Look On The Sunny Side.** Nearly all vegetables produce better with 5 to 8 hours of full sun per day. Fill in the partly shaded areas with plants that like some relief from the heat, like lettuce, carrots and peas. Do the same with flowers.

(2) **Raise Growing Beds.** Because very few plants like to sit in soil that is constantly wet, the loose earth in raised beds will definitely give your plants a boost. Be sure that the beds are 6 inches to a foot higher than the surrounding soil.

(3) **Choose Your Lineup.** One of the most common mistakes that gardeners make is to plant far more than they have room for or can reasonably care for.

(4) **Hedge Your Bets.** Some years the weather just doesn't cooperate, no matter how great the plan. Usually gardening areas have high and low sides, with the low side staying fairly wet in the spring and fall, and the high side staying dry even in the rainiest of seasons. By planting some of everything on both sides, you are virtually assured of getting good results no matter what Mother Nature blows your way. (You can do the same with flowers).

(5) **Plan for the final height.** Remember that tall, leafy plants will shade out the shorter plants, unless you place them on the north side of the garden. Plant lettuce and spinach where taller crops will cast a shadow. This helps to keep them from bolting and turning bitter in the heat.

In zone 7, Now is the time to direct-seed sweet peas, and prune your crape myrtles.

In zone 9, Start tomatoes and peppers indoors, and direct-seed California poppies and nasturtiums. Pruning geraniums soon will stimulate bushy new growth.

If you have Mountain Gardening questions, contact a Master Gardener at the University of California-Cooperative Extension by calling 209 533 5696 or email me at bettyhensley@mlode.com.

May all or most of your New Year's Resolutions come to being. Have a Happy and Healthy New Year!



Betty Hensley, Master Gardener



PLAYHOUSE RESULTS



Congratulations to Marcie Baumbach who has won the drawing for the Playhouse. Marie has a darling daughter and we hope this playhouse brings her many hours of enjoyment.



VERY SPECIAL THANKS to Susan Bailey (Any Habitat) and Ken Bailey (Acorn Art) for all of your hours of hard work in building this playhouse and then taking it to Sonora and Twain Harte for people to see. Your Chamber support is greatly appreciated!



Note from George

A big Thank You to **Eric Carlson** and **Jerrie Rhine** for all of the assistance you have given me as I became your Treasurer.

Happy New Year
George Farrell

MIXERS, MIXERS, MIXERS
We do have some open dates for hosting a mixer—great way to showcase your business and network. Call the Chamber office for available dates.

The Twain Harte Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the following new members:

- ◆ **Advantage One Home Loans**, a mortgage company located at 18752 Joaquin Gully Road, (next to La Morenita), contact person is Jonathan Schreurs at 586-2392.
- ◆ **Big Daddy's Smokin' BBQ** located at the Twain Harte Golf Course, contact persons, Lonnie and Carrie Taylor at 586-2558.
- ◆ **Laureta & Associates**, architectural design and drafting, contact person is Danny Laureta at 586-4567.
- ◆ **Twain Harte Evangelical Free Church** at 21191 Mark Twain Drive, contact Pastor Matthew Funk at 586-3835.
- ◆ **Alpine Interior's Shutter Shop** at 22930 Twain Harte Drive, Twain Harte, contact persons Rick & Amy Torres at 586-9611

We welcome you one and all!

Holiday Treasures

Our Fifth Annual Holiday Treasures of Twain Harte was held on Dec. 14 & 15. Friday evening saw a wonderful horse drawn carriage ride through downtown Twain Harte. Jim Scott was our guide and told our guests about our sponsors of the ride. Cover's Apple Ranch provided a hay ride on Friday and Saturday evening at the Village Square Center. A variety of church groups provided carolers strolling around town singing beautiful Christmas carols. On Saturday evening, Santa was in the Chamber office to meet some bright eyed children some shy and some very happy to tell him what they would like him to bring. And of course, the shops in town stayed open late for our visitors.

Thanks to **Becky Halvorsen (The Harte Collection)**, **Gwen Rogers (The Elegant Cottage)**, **Carol Ann Bisnett (Coldwell Banker Real Estate Sonora)**, **Rohn Mein**, and **Mike Lane (Twain Harte Market)** for your help in planning this event. A big Thanks to those of you who donated toward the carriage ride or a gift that was raffled off as a "Holiday Treasure", those Chamber Directors and volunteers who kept the office open and to Santa for sharing some of your time in this busy season.



TWAIN HARTE'S WINTER WONDERLAND PARADE

It was the first Friday of December and the phones in the Chamber office were ringing off the hook. The queries were all the same. Would Santa be coming to Twain Harte? All inquiries were met with the same response, the annual Christmas parade, under the arch, is a rain or shine event. And, as local historians were quick to point out, it has not rained on our parade in 37 years (snowed maybe, but supposedly, no rain).

As the sun set and the skies darkened, record crowds assembled along the parade route. Mountain spirits are not easily dampened. Suddenly, there it was..... the grand tree in town circle was ablaze with lights. Soon old glory rounded the turn and passed under the arch as the color guard carried the flag and the 38th Christmas parade had begun.

What was that? Some said a non-existent mist, others called it a perceptible precipitation. From the cheering crowd to the excited faces of the children it was readily apparent that most called it wonderful.

There were the uniformed scouts of troop 500 and the mobile nativity from the All Saints Church, followed closely behind by the musical renderings of the marching Kazoo band. Corvettes and fire trucks, the Rodeo Queen, Katie May Broderick, and the Knudson's brightly adorned holiday float all announced that Christmas was coming to our mountain hamlet. The marching homeowners with their illuminated trash picker-uppers chanting "Join our team, keep Twain Harte clean" passed, followed by Randy carrying a torch in his automated wheelchair, when suddenly it was time. The moment we all had been anticipating. The grandest float of all made the turn and there he was. Santa had come to Twain Harte and another of our charming mountain traditions had been fulfilled.

Did it rain on the 38th annual Christmas parade? I suppose that depends on who you asked. Was it great fun? Incredibly. As the big guy on the grand float said...."Merry Christmas to all...".

As seen through the eyes of
Rohn Mein

Umpqua Bank in Twain Harte was the site of our December Mixer. The spirit of Christmas was in the air as the members enjoyed the food and drink presented by Erin Matthews and her staff. We thank them for hosting this annual mixer and everyone enjoyed the packages of coffee generously donated by Umpqua Bank for all to take home. Thank you Umpqua Bank!

<i>Donated by</i>	<i>Prize</i>	<i>Winner</i>
	Winner of \$50 Pot	Gary Sipperly
	Business Card Winner	U.S. Bank
D&D Maintenance	Christmas Decoration	Jerrie Rhine
Steve Derkum	LED Flashlight	Bill Wurz
Susan & Ken Bailey	Bottle of Merlot Wine	Lynn Merrifield
Umpqua Bank	Poinsetta Plant	Susan Bailey
Twain Harte Area Chamber	Raffle Ticket for Playhouse	Mike St. Clair
Twain Harte Area Chamber	Raffle Ticket for Playhouse	Liz Beyer
Twain Harte Area Chamber	Raffle Ticket for Playhouse	Liz St. Clair
Twain Harte Area Chamber	Raffle Ticket for Playhouse	Ruth Marcipan
Twain Harte Area Chamber	Raffle Ticket for Playhouse	Joanne Wurz

SAVE THE DATE

The 4th annual Community Garage Sale sponsored by “High Country Friends” will take place on Friday, Jan. 18th and Saturday, Jan. 19th from 9am – 2pm each day. Proceeds will benefit various programs at the Twain Harte, Mi- Wuk and Pinecrest branch libraries. This year, the fund raiser will be held at the Twain Harte Golf Course in the Banquet Room.

Be the first to preview and purchase all donated items by attending a special two hour Preview Party which will take place on Thursday, Jan. 17th from 4pm until 6pm. There is a \$7 donation per person to attend this special preview. Early arrivals will enjoy refreshments provided by Big Daddy’s plus complimentary wine and coffee. There will also be a **Silent Auction** with variety of special items donated by local merchants and friends. This year, items will not be pre-priced. Just make a reasonable offer and it’s yours...it’s that simple!

If you would like to donate items for this sale, they can be dropped off at the Golf Course’s Banquet Room on Thursday, Jan. 17th from 8am – 2pm. Please **DO NOT** drop off items at the Twain Harte or Mi-Wuk branch libraries. Large items, exercise equipment, ski equipment, computers, TVs, baby strollers & car seats, undergarments and socks are not being accepted. Items such as small household goods, small appliances & tools, clothing and books are welcome. Your generous donations will be tax deductible because this event is sponsored by “Friends of Tuolumne County Library”, a non-profit with a 501c3 tax exempt status.

If you would like to assist with this fund raiser, we can use the help. Please contact Rohn Mein at 586-3636.

Twin Harte Area
 Chamber of Commerce
 PO Box 404
 Twin Harte, CA 95383



January 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Happy New Year	2	3 Board Meeting	4	5
6	7	8 Chamber Mixer	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		