

CHAMBER CHAT

January 2023

2023 – A Year to Engage

By Andy Mayer/President & CEO

The Chamber's main goal this year is to strengthen engagement with you, our members. The nature of that engagement is up to you because each of you has a different set of needs for your business and time to invest. Whatever your needs are and the level of involvement that you seek, works for us. To give you an idea of how you might engage with us we have defined four types of members, recognizing that there is plenty of overlap.

You are a "Business Builder" if you are looking for leads, exposure, connections, and marketing. If this describes you, consider participating in networking Luncheons, referral groups, After Hours, marketing opportunities, and more.

Or you may be a "Business Investor" if you are primarily interested in how to best manage your business successfully. Business training, access to experts and best practices are your primary interests. Our presentations on a variety of management topics, direct business assistance, and the Marketing Master Minds program that we share with the Burlington Chamber fit here. We also help you to be aware of the best resources and programs available to you, outside of what we offer directly.

The "Community Builder" and "Community Investor" types of members are very similar. You are interested in a sustainable, thriving economy, community leadership/involvement, public policy/advocacy, and strategic direction and vision for our area. If you are one of these members our goal is to keep you informed (and involved if you would like) on our efforts in government/legislative affairs and participation in key issues of housing, workforce development, homelessness, and others. You may also be interested in our special events that build community.

We're thinking a lot about your needs and how to help you be engaged with us. We'll be in touch but also please reach out to us anytime!



LEGACY MEMBERS

GOLD



SILVER



Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce

(360) 428-8547

mountvernonchamber.com

Thank You Renewing Members

35+ Years

J.D.'s Laundry

30+ Years

Community Action of Skagit County
Puget Sound Energy
Skagit Valley College

25+ Years

The Learning Ladder Child Development Center

20+ Years

Fortiphi Insurance
Strauss Jewelers
Volunteers of America

15+ Years

Chicago Title Company
Copy & Print Store
Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton
Lyon's Furniture

10+ Years

Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County
Children's Museum of Skagit County
Conway Pub and Eatery

10+ Years

Country Meadow Village
Dick's Restaurant Supply
Fire Mountain Solar LLC
Foss Heating & Cooling
I Love Skagit
Lefeber Turf Farm
Lithtex Northwest
Natural Way Chiropractic and Massage
Thousand Trails Mount Vernon

5+ Years

American Red Cross
BCC Directories
Fernandez Dental
Good Vibes Body Art
Ground Zero Gymnastics LLC
Guardian Security Systems, INC.
Northwest Youth Services
Skagit Valley Food Co-op
Sonitrol Pacific

Less than 5 years

Cascadia Eye

Calendar of Events

Multi-Chamber After Hours at Dwayne Lane's Skagit Subaru

Thursday, January 12
4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m.
640 Auto Blvd
Burlington

Latino Business Leaders - Preparando sus Impuestos -Presented in Spanish-

Wednesday, January 18
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Skagit Station
105 E. Kincaid, Mount Vernon
[Register here](#)

thrivent[®]

Shawn Steffens, ChFC, RICP
(360) 707-7677

Ribbon Cutting at Ca Phe Song

Saturday, January 21
12 p.m.
303 Pine Street
Mount Vernon

Annual Awards Luncheon

Wednesday, January 25
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Hillcrest Lodge
1717 S 13th St
Mount Vernon
[Register here](#)



Welcome New Members



ABS Cabinets & Counters

Ally Chen

(206) 504-6973

www.absbuildingsupply.com

1509 Riverside Dr Ste B

Mount Vernon

We are a factory direct store specializing in kitchen remodeling, offering a wide selection of cabinets and countertops to fit any style and budget. Our team is dedicated to helping you create the kitchen of your dreams. With over 100,000 square feet of warehouse space in the Pacific Northwest, we always have a wide variety of products in stock to choose from.

Araphel Greene Marketing Co

Kelley Denman

(760) 994-2075

www.araphelgreene.com

We are a marketing company, specializing in market research, surveys, focus groups, product development including brand. Traditional marketing: digital, content development, SEO, and PPC.

Azusa Garden Centre LLC

Laura Lucci

(360) 424-1580

www.azusagardens.com

14904 State Route 20

Mount Vernon

Azusa is a retail nursery, offering a wide variety of indoor and outdoor plants, products, and seasonal display gardens.

Birrieria Tijuana - Bellingham

Fredy Zavala

(360) 933-1458

www.birrieria-tijuana.com

3040 Northwest Ave

Bellingham

We are proud to represent the Mexican flavors and be able to put them at your disposal. We have a very pleasant atmosphere in which you can go to enjoy with your family or friends.



Chikara PR, LLC

Tina Kies

(360) 630-9300

www.chikarapr.com

Full service public relations, content marketing and event planning agency with nearly 25 years of experience serving a variety of industries from healthcare and non-profit to retail and design.



CHIKARA PR
PUBLIC RELATIONS • MARKETING • EVENTS

BRONZE LEGACY



Welcome New Members



Ca Phe Song

Ed Iracheta
303 Pine St
Mount Vernon

Opens January 21! Café serving Vietnamese coffee (cà phê sữa), sandwiches (bánh mì), boba tea (in a variety of options), and seasonal menu items to include additional Vietnamese delicacies (spring rolls, Pho, etc).

Big Box Outlet Store

Steve Hopkins
(360) 399-2910
www.bigboxoutletstore.com
525 College Way Ste A2
Mount Vernon

Washington's leading liquidation store. We find deals on a large variety of products which ranges from new-manufacturer direct, seasonal closeout, refurbished, and open box product.



Diventa Solutions LLC

Garry Priam
(564) 209-1503
www.diventasolutions.com

Organizational management consultants in Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, change management and leadership development.

Weaver Insurance Agency, Inc - Farmers Insurance

Lisa Weaver
(360) 663-4400
www.agents.farmers.com/wa/mount-vernon/lisa-weaver

2017 Continental Pl 2
Mount Vernon

As your local Farmers agent, I like to help customers identify the insurance coverage that best fits their needs. This process is straightforward and personalized. Quotes are free so give me a call.

Denisse Davis Real Estate

Denisse Davis
(425) 770-1147
www.facebook.com/denissedavisrealestate

Bilingual Realtor specializing in residential homes in Washington State. Her hard work, charisma, and true passion for her business has helped Denisse's success.

Farmers Equipment Co.

Tom Shields
(360) 757-6081
www.farmersequip.com/about-us/locations/burlington
17893 State Rte 20

Burlington

Agriculture, construction and harvesting equipment to meet your demands at work and at home. Committed to fulfilling your agricultural, material handling, irrigation and construction equipment needs.

Parker, Smith & Feek

Nick Wallace
(360) 319-7999
www.psfinc.com
2233 112th Ave NE

Bellevue

Commercial Insurance Brokerage

Pure Cleaning Services

Maria Del Rayo Nancy Galindo Acevedo
(360) 391-9856
www.facebook.com/galace2021

Residential and commercial cleaning. Our services include basic, deep cleaning, new construction.

The Groesbeck Group - COMPASS

Taby Perron
(360) 553-0715
www.thegroesbeckgroup.com
809 7th St

Anacortes

In addition to the extensive resources provided by COMPASS, at The Groesbeck Group, we have a group of full-time real estate professionals to help you every step of the way.

Board of Directors

Chair - Brian Ivie

Skagit Regional Health

Past Chair - Bill Henkel

Community Action of Skagit County

Treasurer - Tammy Reim-Ledbetter

Alaska USA

Member at Large - DUBY PETIT

Skagit Publishing

VIRY DELGADO

COA Mexican Eatery

Peter Donovan

City of Mount Vernon

Diane Fox

All About Hearing

Matt Gill

Marathon Petroleum Corporation

Robert Knoll

Puget Sound Energy

Flora Lucatero

Children of the Valley

David Lukov

Kern Funeral Home

Andrew Miller

Todd Owsley

Farmstrong Brewing Company

Julia Phillip

Julia Phillip Realty

Dr. Amanda Rentschler

Roosevelt Dental Center

Jon Ronngren

Mount Vernon School District

Liz Theaker

Camp Korey

Tony White

Skagit Valley Food Co-op

STAFF

Andy Mayer President/CEO

Silvia Reed Business Development and
Foundation Director

Jeremy Kindlund Operations Director

Marinus Rouw & Bob Johnson

Visitor Information Services

Member Announcements



Boys & Girls Clubs of Skagit County Members Shopped with a Hero last Holiday Season!

Through the efforts of Edgar Serrano & Brent Thompson with the Mount Vernon Police Department, the event will include Heros (Police, Sheriff's Dept & Fire Department) from all over Skagit County and the generous shopping took place Monday, December 19 at Walmart in Mount Vernon from 3-6pm, and happening earlier in the day for non-Club & non Mount Vernon kids.

Alaska USA Foundation Raises Funds Through the Annual Cash for Cans® Fundraiser

Alaska USA Federal Credit Union members contributed generous funds in support of the Alaska USA Foundation's annual Cash for Cans® donation drive, which helps the Foundation support local food banks and pantries in the communities we serve.

Alaska USA Federal Credit Union and the Alaska USA Foundation teamed up for the fundraiser, collecting cash donations at Alaska USA branches during the month of September, which is National Hunger Action Month. The event raised more than \$108,000, including an additional donation from the Alaska USA Foundation. With this donation, numerous food banks and pantries in Alaska, Maricopa County in Arizona, the High Desert region of California, and Washington State will benefit and be able to further combat local hunger.

Tune In
Chamber Chat
Wednesday Mornings

The New **102.1 KAPS** Country
8:05 a.m.

KBRC CLASSIC ROCK
8:20 a.m.

For more member announcements, visit
mountvernonchamber.com/member-announcements

Send your announcements to
Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com

Membership With Silvia

I often ask our members how their business needs may have changed and how we could better support those needs. When presenting this question to our chamber connections members last December, some of those answers were:

“I like how the chamber has programs that are relevant for my business”

“When talking to other organizations I often ask them to look at what you (referring to the MV Chamber) are doing because it’s helping our businesses”

On December 16 the **Skagit Valley Herald** featured a story about our small businesses impact on our local economy. The story featured a testimonial by Glenda Herrera of Custom Cleaning Services who highlighted the support her business has received from the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce and how her business is growing.

Last month we wrapped a membership campaign that brought close to 30 new members to our chamber during the last quarter; many of them came as referrals from chamber members and ambassadors. Sharing your testimonial with our business community is not only extremely valuable for the chamber but for our members. A chamber that keeps on growing delivers a high value to its members.

Please continue to share your testimonials. For us at the chamber it is vital to know how your business is doing and how we are serving your business needs. Together with your photo you can send me your 2-3 paragraph testimonial by email Silvia@MountVernonChamber.com Whether featured on the newsletter or not, please share your Mount Vernon Chamber member experience with our business community.

Thank you Glenda Herrera – Custom Cleaning Services, our morning Chamber Connections members Wendy Lucas, Crystal King, Carol Harris, Viktor Lawryniuk, John Combel, Brian Williams, Ted Sindell, Hannah Smith who shared their testimonials last month and our chamber ambassadors whose referrals helped up wrap up a successful 2022

Ambassadors

Chair - Liz Theaker

Camp Korey

Betsy Anorbe

Betsy Anorbe Real Estate

Marla Chapa

Skagit Social

Susan Cooper

Susan Cooper

Ector DeLeon

Tulip Valley Winery

Joley Garner

WAFD Insurance Group, Inc.

Gerardo Gonzalez

Umpqua Bank

Carol Harris

PrimeLending

Jaime Huss

Washington Federal

Crystal King

NW Technology

Brian Largent

Flatstick OTG LLC

Blake Rawlins

Guardian Northwest Title &

Escrow

Tammy Reim-Ledbetter

Alaska USA

Tony Salas

Eden Home Health

Clarissa Wong

CrossCountry Mortgage, LLC

Partner Members

Allstate - Mayra Nava Agency, Barron Smith Daugert, PLLC, Best Western PLUS, Skagit Valley Inn, Birch Equipment Co., Budget Towing & Repair, Coastal Farm & Ranch, Costco Wholesale, D&P Electronic Home Monitoring, Foothills Toyota, Fortiphi, Haggen Food & Pharmacy, Hampton Inn & Suites, Infinity Painting & Renovations, Kern Funeral Home, Landed Gentry Homes & Communities, Loving Farms, Max Dale's Steak and Chop House, Mount Vernon School District, North Coast Credit Union, Northwest Escrow, LLC, Pacific Premier Bank, PogoZone, Port of Skagit, Puget Sound Energy, SERVPRO, Skagit Public Utility District 1, Skagit Valley Casino Resort, Skagit Valley College, Skagit Regional Health, Tacos Tecalitlan, Testing and Commissioning Services, LLC, Walmart, White Branches, Williams & Nulle, PLLC, CPAs

December in pictures



Ribbon Cutting at
Birrieria Tijuana - Bellingham



Ribbon Cutting at
Blue Taco



Members network at the
Chinn GYN After Hours



A fun time was had at the
Latino Business Leaders Holiday Social



New members are welcomed at the
Biz Buzz Networking Luncheon



Chamber Connections group met for
a fun holiday gathering



Ambassador Bowling Party



Jamie Huss, Washington Federal 2022
Ambassador Bowler of the Year



2023 MARKETING & SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

<p>Membership Meeting Sponsor</p> <p>Includes your logo in the monthly Chamber Chat, weekly email, website event calendar, newsletter email to over 900 businesses, 5 minute presentation at the meeting, display table and exclusive right to distribute flyers on the tables.</p>	<p>\$300 (Act quickly because these go fast! Not available in November)</p>	<p>Exclusive Sponsor of "Your Chamber This Week" Email</p> <p>Your display ad or logo sent to over 900 email addresses each week with an active link to your website. We have a special rate for yearly sponsors.</p>	<p>\$100/week</p>
<p>Skagit Chili & Chowder Cook-Off</p> <p>A fantastic way to get exposure as Skagit County's best battle it out. This competition features both amateurs and professionals and is a sure fire hit with the crowd!</p>	<p>\$325-\$1,250 Sponsorships Available</p>	<p>Chamber Chat Newsletter Inserts</p> <p>You provide the PDF, we do the rest! Perfect for events, sales and announcements; sent to over 900 business professionals in the monthly Chamber Chat Newsletter.</p>	<p>\$100/insert</p>
<p>Riverwalk Summer Concert Series</p> <p>A family-friendly event on the Riverwalk in downtown Mount Vernon Concert Series featuring an eclectic mix of genres from talented local musicians. Sponsorships include radio promotion, social media, display table and option to announce your business during the concert.</p>	<p>\$350-\$5,000 Sponsorships Available</p>	<p>Chamber Chat Newsletter Ad</p> <p>Place your ad in the award-winning Chamber Chat newsletter and be seen every month. Reach out to fellow business leaders and potential customers with over 10,000 copies distributed annually.</p>	<p>\$700-\$1,500 Varies by Size</p>
<p>Skagit Wine & Beer Festival</p> <p>The premier social event featuring regional wineries, breweries, distilleries, cideries and restaurants. Sponsorships include promotion in chamber marketing materials, radio advertisements and social media.</p>	<p>\$350-\$5,000 Sponsorships Available</p>	<p>MountVernonChamber.com Display Ads</p> <p>Extend your marketing reach to over 136,000 annual visitors on our website with your display ad linked directly to your website. Three sizes/ styles of display ads available.</p>	<p>Cost varies by size and length of ad run.</p>
<p>New Member Welcome Basket</p> <p>Be one of the first to introduce your business to new chamber members by providing your company swag or special offer, to be included in every welcome basket.</p>	<p>FREE Just supply us with your promotional items.</p>	<p>Door Prizes</p> <p>Keep your business name and brand in front of potential customers by donating a door prize during any one of our events.</p>	<p>FREE Provide us your door prize prior to start of event.</p>

Company Name: _____ **Contact:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

For more information contact Jeremy Kindlund - (360) 428-8547, or Jeremy@MountVernonChamber.com.


Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce - PO BOX 1007 Mount Vernon, WA 98273, www.MountVernonChamber.com.




Fiber Internet for Condos & Apartments

City of MOUNT VERNON Washington


- Lower pricing and quality service means Higher Occupancy Rates!
- Elevator phones, Kiosk parcel storage, HVAC are available!
- Common area WiFi
- Turnover is lower when value is High!
- Speeds up to a Gigabit
- Affordable TV
- 24 hour Support
- 100 MBPS Upload
- Telephone Services
- Fiber Optic Speeds
- Friendly help
- Month to Month



High-speed Internet



Locally owned & operated



Unlimited monthly access

1. Get the services you want: Pick your Internet speed, add Phone, Fax, and TV if you like. Our process is seamless for making changes... **That's PogoZone!**
2. If you have older infrastructure and don't know how the owner will consider spending thousands of dollars on new wiring? **Think PogoZone!**
3. Saving time and money while upgrading services for your tenants? **PogoZone!**

AND...

We can make your infrastructure run circles around our competition and usually on your existing wiring! **We are PogoZone!**



Internet speed 100/100
Starting at
\$49.95/month

HD pzTV Service
Starting at
\$34.95/month

Phones & Fax Solutions
Starting at
\$24.95/month



Contact us for more information
 (360) 676-8772 - Option 3 (sales)
 Sales@Pogozone.com

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