



2010-2011 Annual Report



tourism



members



community

Founded in 1919



city



business

A Message from the Chair of the Board



We have so much to celebrate at the Chamber and in our community! Our dedicated members, the City of Peoria staff, the Mayor and the City Council, plus the greater Peoria area, have created our success through partnerships, outreach and a true commitment to keeping our Chamber vibrant.

The 2010-2011 fiscal year ended on June 30 and I'm proud to report that in challenging economic times, the Chamber is very stable. We have completed one year at our new location and the facility is definitely a thriving hub of activity. The Chamber's center is convenient to tourists, easily accessible to southern and northern Peoria members.

Our business relationships have remained strong with key partners and we truly value the support of all companies that have sponsored events, provided free resources and extended a helping-hand to the Chamber's members and local community.

We experienced many organizational transitions this year, including changes to our board elections process, updating our bylaws and reviewing the Chamber's internal controls to protect your investment. I am proud of the Chamber we are today.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your Chair of the Board. Thank you for supporting of the Peoria Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely,

Gina Kowacz

Board of Directors 2010-2011

Election to the Board is based on a majority vote as outlined in the Bylaws of the Peoria Chamber of Commerce. Members of the Chamber may choose to seek election to the Board after holding membership for at least one calendar year. Each member is elected for a 3 year term. After serving on the Board for one year, a Director may be selected to serve on the Executive Board comprised of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

Gina Kowacz, Chair, Peoria Diamond Club
Jeanne Blackman, Vice-Chair, APS
Steve Shmatko, Secretary, Edward Jones
Dee Baginski, Treasurer, Company
Chuck Strange, Max Save Card
George Thorne, Jobing.com
Mike Heath, Salt River Project
Michelle Laurienti, BBB Systems, Inc.
Charlene Young, Arizona Broadway Theater
Carl Swenson, Ex-Officio, City of Peoria

Member Benefits

The Peoria Chamber of Commerce is strategically focused on providing excellent business opportunities for members while reaching out to the local community with support. During each fiscal year, the Chamber features over one-hundred luncheons, breakfasts, mixers, ribbon cuttings and other member networking events. Each function is an opportunity for members to showcase their business and introduce future members to the Chamber.

A summary of all events includes the following:

- 50 Ribbon Cuttings for New Businesses & New Members
- 40 Evening Networking Mixers
- 12 Monthly Opportunities to be Published in Local Newspapers
- 12 Networking Breakfasts with Relevant Speakers
- 1 Annual Member Luncheon
- 12 Luncheons Providing Valuable Content and Networking
- 6 Committees that Meet at Least 2 times per Month
- Annual State of the City Address by Mayor of Peoria

The Chamber's major events serve to showcase business members as sponsors and contributors to each event. Corporate contributions significantly assist the Chamber in providing quality member functions with valuable business networking.

During the 2010-2011 fiscal year the business development committee provided many small business based seminars and workshops for Chamber members.

Committees of the Board of Directors

Ambassadors Committee

The Ambassadors Committee mission is to initiate contact with and actively seek opportunities to develop connections between new and existing members, our community, and businesses in order to promote pride in the City of Peoria and the Peoria Chamber of Commerce.

Business Development Committee

The mission of the Business Development Committee is to develop programs to educate and enhance the business community of the Peoria Chamber of Commerce and the City of Peoria. During the 2010-2011 fiscal year the business development committee provided many small business based seminars and workshops for Chamber members.

Governmental Affairs The Peoria Chamber of Commerce's Governmental Affairs Committee is a liaison between the Chamber membership and the city, county, and state governments regarding issues that affect business in and around Peoria.

Military Affairs Committee Partnering with our military community and Veterans is a top priority for this committee. The committee is focused on programs at Luke Air Force Base that support and benefit military personnel, military families and graduating Peoria JROTC students.

Chamber Networking Groups

Peoria Connections The 1st and 3rd Tuesday Networking Group is a valuable way to make business contacts. On the average 45+ business members attend this networking activity. Everyone has the opportunity to speak about their business to the attendees. One business is spotlighted and has the opportunity to speak for 10 minutes.

Connecting the Chamber & Community

The networking group "Connecting the Chamber & Community" focuses on bringing businesses in north Peoria together with the rest of the community. "This was a great event that was well attended by the small business leaders in North Peoria. The format afforded the opportunity for everyone to network and share ideas in an informal setting.

Major Events

Golf Tournament, September 17, 2010

Hilcrest Golf Course, Sun City West

The annual Golf Tournament is a fantastic way to connect businesses with Chamber members and future members. Each year a wide variety of businesses provide support through title sponsorship, executive sponsorship, foursomes, t-signs, and even the "goodie" bags for players. The morning tournament includes a continental breakfast plus lunch during the awards banquet immediately following the event.

Sponsors Cox Communications, Holly Asphalt, Daily News-Sun, SRP, R/S Service, Peoria Times, Hawkeye's Heart, Westside Sign-A-Rama, Service Master—All Care, Gold Canyon State Bank.

Highlights

- 140 Players
- City of Peoria Color Guard presented colors and led the pledge
- Texas Roadhouse provided lunch
- Mayor Bob Barrett played
- 50/50 winner received over \$1200



Luke Picnic

The Military Affairs Community Service Project

November 10, 2010, Luke Air Force Base

The Chamber's annual Like Picnic is a fundraiser for Luke Air Force Base. Chamber members and non-members pay an exhibit fee to participate and **100% of the funds go back to the Base and the two Junior ROTC programs in the Peoria School District.** The Chamber provides two \$1000 JROTC scholarships to deserving students in the District's program.

The Luke Picnic provides a fun afternoon of lunch, vendor booths, games for kids and an opportunity for Chamber members to offer information, resources and discounts to active military personnel and Veteran's.

committees

events

Taste of Peoria

March 31, 2011, Peoria Sports Complex

The Taste of Peoria and Casino Nite is an annual event where a variety of restaurants provide delicious food while attendees play various casino games to win raffle gifts and bid on silent auction items.

Sponsors APS, Salt River Project, PMT Ambulance, Cucina Tagliani, Culver's, Famous Dave's BBQ, Firebirds, Fleming's, Fratello's Café, Jason's Deli, Margaritaville, Prime Pizza, Texas Roadhouse, Satara, Skye Supper Club

Awards Banquet

May 19, 2011, Skye Restaurant

The annual awards banquet is our signature event for recognizing community leaders in the Chamber and throughout the City of Peoria and the greater metropolitan area. These awards are supported through committee nominations and recipients must demonstrate extraordinary contributions to our community.

Awards

- SRP—Business of the Year
- Member of the Year—Mike Heath
- Community Awards—Bert Anzini, Texas Roadhouse,
- Community Service Award—Ken Parsons, President, Peoria North Rotary
- Community Volunteer Award—Jerry Baginski.
- Non-Profit of the Year Award—Peoria Diamond Club
- Chair of the Board of Directors Award—Carl Swenson, City of Peoria
- Chair of the Board of Directors Award—Bert Anzini, Texas Roadhouse
- Mayor's Award—Bert Anzini, Texas Roadhouse

Sponsors

APS, SRP, M&I Bank, Holly Asphalt, Turf Soaring School

Highlights

- 135 members in attendance
- City of Peoria dignitaries included Mayor Bob Barrett, Carl Swenson, City Manager, and Counsilar and Mrs. Carlo Leone and Chief Roy Minter, Peoria Police Department.

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Financial Highlights

The members of the Peoria Chamber of Commerce and the City of Peoria make an investment annually. In turn, the Chamber uses member dues to provide services that extend the reach of our stakeholders. The Chamber is a 501(c)6 organization which is the appropriate designation for chambers of commerce under the United States tax code.

A summary of the Chamber's financial position is below.

Income

Member Dues	37%
Contributions	2%
City of Peoria Grant Revenue	29%
Special Events	25%
Committees	2%
Advertising	1%
Program Services	4%

Total Income \$384,279

Expenses

City of Peoria Grant Expense	1%
Special Events	19%
Committees	3%
Advertising	4%
Program Services	73%

Total Expenses \$350,192

