

MIXER RECAP

The 50's Sock Hop Mixer was held Sept. 18 in the Prudential California Realty parking lot—and included several Elvis sightings! This was certainly one of the most popular mixers this year, featuring many classic cars, 50's rock-n-roll favorites played by Big Cat and the Church Mice, rolled jeans, bouffant hairdos and even a ducktail or two. Contest winners were: Best Elvis and Best Dressed Man: Forrest Letzring; Best Dressed Woman: Candace Yamer; Best Dressed Group: Ramona Beauty Supply's Beauties; Dance Contest: Bobbie McCreary and her husband.

Co-hosts were Prudential, Ramona Sears, 20/20 Eyesight, Cotton Candy Diner, Seidl's Party Supply, Denver/First American Title, Dave N Pop's Auto Detailing, Dimension Surveying and Mapping, Sharon Davis/Designer, Rochelle/California Title, Ramona Sentinel, White Locksmith, First Capital Mortgage and Scott Field/Farmers Ins. Prize donors were: Ramona Sorinmel, Sears Ramona, Sharon Davis, Hair People, Country Photo, Charlotte's in the Country, Doreen Smith, Karen Clendenen, Denver/First American Title, Ramona Winners, Lowest Price Auto Glass and White Locksmith. Photos by Julie Walker



UPCOMING EVENTS

SCHOLARSHIP FUND GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Ramona Chamber of Commerce will hold its Scholarship Fundraiser & Ed Bolen Memorial Golf Tournament on Oct. 24, at the San Vicente golf course. Last year, the chamber raised \$10,000 for scholarships, and this year's goal is to meet or beat that, said chair George Romero. Entry fee is \$125 per person and includes a round of golf, the opportunity to win a \$10,000 hole-in-one prize, other contests, lunch, beverages on the course and the awards dinner where prizes will be presented. Those wishing to attend just the dinner can do so for \$25.

The tournament will begin at 12:30 p.m., with a shotgun start. Check-in begins at 11:30 a.m. Volunteers are needed to help that day, and tee and green sponsorships are available.

For information call the chamber office at 789-1311 or call George Romero at (858) 947-2318 or on his cell phone at (619) 507-4481.

GHOSTS & TREATS

The Chamber's annual Halloween Merchant Trick-or-Treat event will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. on Oct. 31. Participants have a supply of goodies on hand for the youngsters who trick-or-treat up and down Main Street. Anyone interested in being listed on the event flyer (\$15) that is posted in participating merchants' windows should call the Chamber office at 789-1311.

Chamber of Commerce
900 Main Street
Ramona, CA 92065



Inside OCTOBER 2003

Volume 18, No. 10

Chamber of Commerce

Business and Community News

Chamber hails Jacob's positive reaction to town-center proposal

"I like it!" was the reaction of county Supervisor Dianne Jacob to a Chamber-backed proposal for "Ramona specific" zoning ordinances for the town center area. The idea was presented to Jacob and other county officials in a meeting with Chuck DeMund, the Chamber's first vice president; Bryan Woods and five other Ramona citizens on Sept. 8.

They asked her to support the development of "Ramona specific" zoning ordinances that would facilitate the preservation and promotion of Ramona's downtown area. The idea of such community-specific zoning is to tailor regulations to goals that were developed at a two-day community workshop held in Ramona in April.

Among the proposals is a bypass plan to divert Highway 67 traffic to two one-way streets to the north and south of Main Street in Old Town to allow that part of Main to become a walkable, attractive and calm town centerpiece. Mid-block medians would add to the ambience. Other ideas concern equestrian access improvements, increased parking, and improving and/or adding identifying signs, a nature preserve area and pocket parks.

Jacob's comment upon hearing a summary of the ideas presented was: "I like it!" It was music to the Ramona group's collective ears.

The Ramona contingent, with Woods as spokesperson, asked that a local workshop group, tentatively called Ramona Citizens for a Revital-



VOTE

Ramona Chamber members have an opportunity to help chart the course the Chamber takes in the coming year by participating in the annual election for the Board of Directors.

Ballots will be mailed Oct. 1, along with biographical information on the candidates for the five seats to be filled on the board. They are being mailed only to those who were paid-up Chamber members as of Sept. 30.

The candidates are: Charlotte Jensen (Charlotte's in-the-Country), Sharon Davis (designer), Dave

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Karen Clendenen

Letter from the President

When driving through Ramona, we see the signs of a prosperous community: a new bank, a new school, small business openings and a new library in the works. Ramona is not the quiet country town it once was.

Many people are stricken with what is known as "snail envy," i.e., longing for the simplicity of life that would allow them to simply get up and go.

Everything they own would be right there on their backs. No change ... no decisions ... no moves. However, opening the door to the mind also opens the door to new opportunities. There are new neighbors to meet, new restaurants to try, more music to enjoy and much more.

Growth in Ramona will always have its pros and cons. We all remember conducting business with a handshaker, but times have changed. Hopefully, one thing we all can agree with is that any growth in Ramona must be carefully planned and thoughtfully controlled.

Successful business will always require networking to some extent. This will never change. With this in mind, please come to the Chamber mixers on the third Thursday of each month, and bring a pocket full of business cards. You will be surprised at the number of new businesses in our town.

Stop in at the Chamber office and say "hi" to Dolores at the front desk. It's

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Donate old cell phones and help state's environment — Page 2

Community Information Corner — Page 3

Calendar of events — Pages 4-5

Worker's comp misconceptions detailed — Page 7

Member-to-Member Discount Directory — Insert

Mixer

Thursday October 16 6 PM

hosted by Karen Clendenen/Century 21 Ramona Home Journal Eagle Eye Property Protection at Century 21 San Vicente

Don't miss your chance to win the

Rollover Jackpot \$487.40

Must be a chamber member and present in order to win

Ramona Chamber of Commerce
 960 Main Street
 Ramona, California 92065
 Telephone: (760) 789-1311
 Fax: (760) 789-1317
 E-mail: info@ramonachamber.com
 Web site: ramonachamber.com

Mission Statement

The mission of the Ramona Chamber of Commerce is to develop and maintain a climate for viable economic growth, to promote loyalty to, and networking for local businesses and to demonstrate an outstanding leadership role in our community.

Officers

President Karen Clendenen

1st Vice President Century 21-Sun Vizeati, 787-3210

2nd Vice President Chuck DeMund

DeMund Foundation, 788-1181

..... Jeff Rutland

Sears, 788-8080

Secretary Jo Fox

Prudential California Realty, 803-8506

Treasurer Patrick Meskett

..... Edward Jones, 787-1113

Directors

Jeffrey Agnew Law Office, 788-2123

Kimberley Brock (619) 258-9900

Marketing Worx

Scott Field Farmer's Insurance, 789-0664

Carroll Fowler (522-1777

..... 789-9080

Josephine Hegon Visual Communications Design

Bill Jenkin Vintners Go-Op, 788-4181

George Romero (858) 947-2318

Landmark National Bank

Dave Smithley Albertson's, 789-0023

Daniel Vengler 789-1155

Randy Waltman RAE Automotive, 788-4912

Staff

Sharon Anderson Office Manager

Dolores Garcia Receptionist

Advertising

The Ramona Business and Community Chamber of Commerce

Membership includes a monthly newsletter. To advertise in the newsletter, or to submit an article, please call Jo Fox at (760) 803-8306.

Space around the calendar is on an availability basis. **Deadline for all copy and advertising inserts for the newsletter are due at the Chamber office by the 20th of the preceding month, with a check for \$55 for each set of inserts.**

Reprinters: send address changes to Ramona Chamber of Commerce, 960 Main St., Ramona, CA 92065. Permitted postage paid at Ramona, CA 92065. USPS 004701.

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SPOTLIGHTING NEW MEMBERS

Blumberg Lorber Nelson LLP

Robyn Rankis, Esq.
 137 N. Acacia Ave, Solana Beach
 (858) 509-0600 • rabinlaw.com

The law firm, which is looking for satellite office space in Ramona, has more than 35 years of experience in business litigation, including real estate zoning and land-use, partnership disputes, employment law, equity law and corporation formation.

Claudia's Draperies

Claudia Dufresne
 15920 Caras Court, Ramona
 789-0025 • powaycurtains@cox.net
 Claudia offers custom-made draperies, curtains, pillows, cushions, bedding, slipcovers and upholstery. She also offers design services, such as room arranging, paint color selection and coordination of tile, carpeting and furnishings.

Ideas In Wood

Lynn and Gary Passavanti
 8580 Main St., Suite 106, Ramona
 (788)-1560 • sales@ideasinwood.net
 The Passavantis specialize in cabinet and furniture craftsmanship manufacturing and have had a retail store in Julian since 1979 and will hold an open house and grand opening of their new 2,400-square-foot Ramona kitchen design center and furniture store Oct 4-5, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Nicki's Bean Dream

Nicole Glaser
 1350 Main St., Ramona
 (760) 533-6425

Gourmet coffees, fresh-baked muffins and pastries, Italian sodas and fruit smoothies are available at Nicki's Bean Dream. Nicki is familiar to Ramonans who frequented Pages Book Cafe until it closed earlier this year.

Pepper Creek Equine Center

Joe Johnson
 385 Creelman Lane, Ramona
 788-1795
 joe@peppercreekequine.com
 Joe describes Pepper Creek as a premier horse boarding and training facility. There are 20 x32 paddocks, with two large riding arenas and 10 large turn-out pastures. The arenas offer ample room for both hunter/jumper and dressage disciplines.

San Vicente Flower Company

Carol Fowler
 1572 Angel Place, Ramona
 (760) 522-1777
 Carol, formerly the executive director for the Ramona Chamber, has established a flower kiosk business, offering fresh-cut flowers. She specializes in flowers for special occasions and weddings.

Donate old cellular phones: help state's environment and get a tax benefit

Donate your old, unused cellular phones to support statewide environmental efforts. Keep California Beautiful (KCB), a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) environmental organization will receive \$1 to \$15 per phone (based on model, make and condition) donated in this effort.

The phones will be refurbished and sold to third-world countries as low-cost alternatives to high-priced cell phones. Mail or drop off old, unused cellular or PCS handheld phones to: Keep California Beautiful Inc., 3914 Murphy Canyon Road,

Information You Can Use

President's Message, from page 1

a real treat to have her and her expertise and contagious humor on board. She and Sharon make a great team.

The election of new directors will take place next month ... so be sure to pay your dues in advance so you can vote.

Thanks to the Ambassadors for inviting me to their luncheon meeting last month ... what an enthusiastic group. If you want to have fun and get more involved in the community, join our Chamber Ambassadors ... just contact Joe Mollick at 787-1662.

No one limits your growth but you. "If you want to earn more, learn more" ... Tom Hopkins. "Success seems to be largely a matter of hanging on after others have let go" ... William Feather.

Karen Clendenen
 President

Ten Most Common Workers' Comp Misconceptions

Workers' Compensation laws continue to become more complicated. Many employers cannot control their costs nor stay in compliance because they do not know or understand the law. The following are the ten most common misconceptions regarding Workers' Comp and the correct explanations of the law.

1. Owns physician should be treated by their own physician for all work-related illness or injury.
 You have the right to select the doctor who provides care for your employee's work-related injuries or illnesses for the first 30 days following an incident, unless the employee has pre-designated his/her personal physician. You have similar control for up to 180 days of treatment (or 90 days if you do not provide health insurance) if you provide occupational health services through an HCO and the employee has not pre-designated a personal physician.

2. Time away from work for work-related illness or injury is not included in other protected leaves of absence.
 Employers subject to FMLA/CFRA should advise eligible employees that workers' compensation leave runs concurrently with leave under FMLA/CFRA for up to 12 weeks and give them applicable family medical leave notices.

3. If I offer an injured employee temporary modified duty, I must pay his/her regular rate of pay.
 An offer of temporary modified

duty to an employee who is receiving temporary disability benefits does not have to be at his/her regular salary. The pay rate can be appropriate for the modified job and the employee can receive partial temporary disability pay from workers' compensation.

4. I must continue my employee's health benefits for the entire duration of workers' compensation leave.
 Employers with health plans subject to ERISA do not have to continue health benefits for the duration of an employee's workers' compensation leave. Benefits must be continued for as long as you would provide them for employees on non-occupational medical leaves. Thereafter, COBRA rights must be offered.

5. Workers' compensation insurance only covers injuries occurring on the company's premises.
 Injuries that occur outside the workplace, even in an employee's home, may be covered by worker's compensation, provided they arise out of employment and occur in the course of employment. This may include injuries that occur during commuting to and from work, if you control the employee's route of travel or the employee is allowed to engage in work activities during the commute, such as cell phone calls.

6. Stress in an employee's personal life is a major factor in workers' compensation stress claims.
 In order to receive workers' compensation for stress, the employee must show that work accounts for more than 50% of all sources of stress. Thus, evidence that the majority of stress factors can be attributed to non-work circumstances is an effective defense against stress claims

7. A new employee who is unable to cope with the pressures of his job is a prime candidate for a successful workers' compensation stress claim.
 An individual who has been

employed by you for less than six months will not be compensated for work-related stress, unless the stress results from a sudden and extraordinary employment condition. Also, lawful, non-discriminatory, good faith personnel actions (such as discipline and terminations) are not grounds for stress claims. Early action should therefore be taken when a new employee is identified as unable to cope with a job.

8. First aid cases need not be reported to my workers' compensation carrier.
 If an injured worker requires only first aid treatment and suffers no time lost from work beyond the date of the illness or injury, you may pay the doctor for services direct, and avoid payment by your workers' compensation carrier. The Doctor's First Report must still be filed.

9. I can refuse continued employment to an employee unless and until he/she fully recovers from a work-related injury.
 An employee who is disabled as a result of a work-related illness or injury will likely be considered disabled under state and/or federal law. Employers must comply with disability discrimination laws and provide reasonable accommodation to such injured workers who can perform essential job functions. Failure to do so may result in a claim under both workers' comp law and disability discrimination law. However, you are not required to create a position or displace another employee.

10. A case of serious injury or death from a work-related incident need not be reported to Cal/OSHA until all the details have been identified.
 You must report any work-related serious injury or death to Cal/OSHA within 8 hours after you know of the incident. Failure to properly report can result in heavy fines and criminal prosecution.

Town center

Continued from page 1

ized Village, be formally recognized and allowed to continue its work. He emphasized the need to capitalize on the many creative visions for the community that came out of the workshop.

Funding to cover the cost of refining the ideas as well as county staff time to write the new zoning regulations could come from Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). Jacob offered to prepare a bond letter to instruct staff to begin the task if funding is found.

Election

Continued from page 1

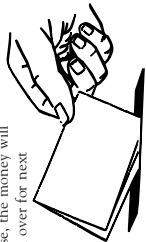
Smithley (Alberston's), Chuck DeMund (DeMund Foundation), Bryan Woods (Ramona Pharmacy) and Lyle Castle (The Lock Castle).

When your ballot arrives, vote for five candidates and return the ballot, by mail or in person, to the Chamber office at 960 Main St., no later than 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 16. Ballots must actually be in the Chamber office by that time on that date. Incoming ballots will be placed in a locked box and delivered to the Election Mixer, to be held the evening of Oct. 16. No ballots will be accepted at the mixer.

During the mixer, which will be held in the Century 21 San Vicente parking area, a committee will open the ballots and tally the votes. Later that evening, the results will be announced.

The Election Mixer is being hosted by Chamber president Karen Clendenen of Century 21 San Vicente; Ramona Home Journal and Eagle Eye Property Inspections and will begin at 6 p.m. In addition to the announcement of election results, the Rollover Jackpot's potential winner will be announced.

Our Rollover Jackpot continues to grow and is at \$487.50; all Chamber members are eligible to win; but the winner must be in attendance in order to claim the jackpot. Otherwise, the money will be rolled over for next month's mixer.



VOTE

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 Complete Mailing Address: **1885 Rancho Villa Road, Ramona, CA 92065**
 Full Name: **Jeff Kulaard, Executive President**
 Complete Mailing Address: **2221 Main Street, Ramona, CA 92065**
 Full Name: **Julie Fox, Secretary**
 Complete Mailing Address: **2221 Main Street, Ramona, CA 92065**

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 I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (18 U.S.C. 1001, 1024).

Ramona Community Information Corner

PTG offers free services to library fund donors

Progressive Technologies Group (PTG) will add value to any donation made to the Ramona Library Fund until Nov. 1. Depending on the size of the donation, PTG will offer free computer classes, computer tune-ups, website hosting or website facilities. Businesses and individuals are eligible. Call 788-6736 for information.

Day of events benefits Ramona Senior Center

The Ramona Senior Center will hold its annual spaghetti dinner Oct. 25. The dinner will cap off a full day of events that will include a huge garage sale (vendor space available), craft sale and bake sale. For ticket and space information, call Ray Cardona, 788-0440.

Refurbished theater opens

Cheryl and Orrin Day have opened the doors to a spanking new "old" Ramona Mainstage Theatre in Old Town Ramona.

Kiwamis' Boogie Ball benefits children

Ramona Kiwanis Club will hold a Boogie Ball Oct. 11 at the Crystal Ballroom, 414 N. Magnolia in El Cajon. The event will feature the Big Band and Jazz Hall of Fame Orchestra with music of the 30s, 40s and 50s, and dinner. Proceeds will benefit San Diego Children's Hospital and countywide programs for

students. Tickets are \$40. For information, call 788-6200.

Pioneer Casino Night to raise funds for community

Ramona Rotary Club will host Pioneer Casino Night & Wine Tasting Nov. 8 at Mountain Valley Ranch. Rotary fundraisers benefit Ramona groups, including the Ramona Library, Senior Center and the Boys & Girls Club of Ramona. The event also will feature live and silent auctions, as well as a reverse raffle; the last ticket called wins \$2,500. Event tickets are \$25 a person. Reverse raffle tickets will be sold. Attendees are invited to come in pioneer costume. For event information, call co-chair Carol Fowler at (760) 522-1777.

Ramona Senior Center receives large donation

The Ramona Food & Clothes Closet has donated \$12,484 to the Ramona Senior Center, which serves seniors in Ramona and the adjacent backcountry with services, in-home meal delivery and social activities. Chamber member Ray Cardona is the executive director for the Ramona Senior Center.

Items gleaned from the pages of the Ramona Home Journal, San Vicente Valley News and the Ramona Sentinel.



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