

June 2011 VISION

Newsletter from the Schertz Chamber of Commerce



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May Lunch Highlights

At our May Luncheon, we honored winners in many areas. Congratulations **Lisa Connolly**, who was our 2011 Steve Simonson Community Service Award winner; **8th grader, Jasmine Schuder** our "Taste" poster winner, who was presented a \$100 Savings Bond from **Larry Anthis** of Frost Bank; **Terri Donahoe** and **Amar Torres** who were RAFB Quarterly Civilian Award Winners who were presented with gift certificates from **Texas Shine Car Wash, BG's Catering, Taza's** and **Gillman Honda, Anytime Fitness** and \$50 Savings Bonds from **United SA Federal Credit Union**.

In addition, we also welcomed three new Members to our Chamber: **Advocare – Laurie Crites; Manco Structures, Ltd; and Jones Communications**. Congratulations to all! A special thanks to **Simply Charming Cakes** for donating the delicious cake, **Black Tie Catering** for catering the meal, and **Schertz Civic Center** for being our host.



2011 Steve Simonson Winner: Lisa Connolly (center), pictured with nominator: Val Wilinichik



Jasmine Schuder & Larry Anthis of Frost Bank



Terri Donahoe (center), pictured with Maggie, Ambassador Whitney Wiedner, Kevin White & Bob West



Amar Torres (center), pictured with Maggie, Ambassador Mary Turnbull, Herb Cooley, & Bob West



Advocare
Laurie Crites

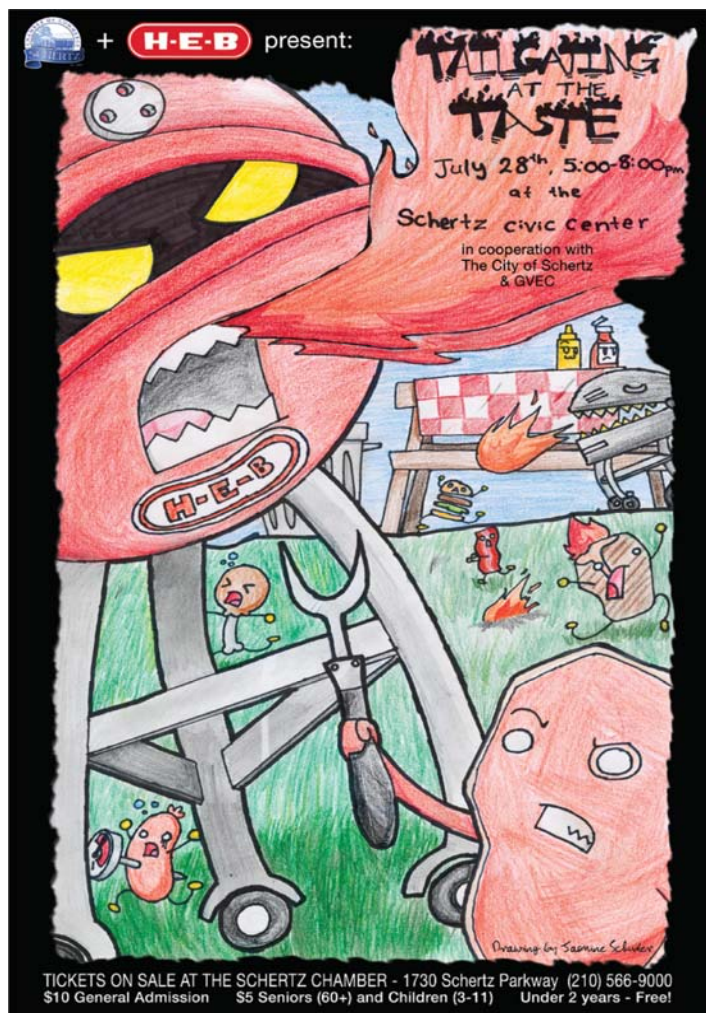


Willie Guerra
Manco Structures, Ltd.



Jennifer Martin
Jones Communications.

2011 "The Taste"



VENDORS: Reserve your booth today! Space limited to 25 and going FAST! Download Application from our web: www.schertzchamber.org

Date: Thursday, July 28th

Time: 5 – 8 pm

Location: Schertz Civic Center

Tickets on sale NOW at Chamber Offices/ Visitor Center.



Special Guest Celebrity Judge Leslie Mouton
from KSAT 12 News

Did you know?

Our wonderful covers for the Visionz monthly Newsletter are designed by Ambassador Whitney Wiedner, Graphic Designer.



June Luncheon – 6th Year Anniversary!

Join us on **June 21st** at the Schertz Civic Center for our monthly luncheon, featuring guest speaker and **Realtor, Tim Brown of Re/Max Corridor** to talk about “How’s the Market?” We will also be celebrating **6 years of the Schertz Chamber!**

RSVP by June 14th to nkotzur@schertzchamber.org or call us at 566-9000

Cost: \$15 SCOC Members/\$25 (pre-paid) non-Members

Lunch Policy: *As a friendly reminder: All meals are prepaid according to the RSVP count. Cancellations must be received no later than 7 days before the event. In the occurrence you cannot attend, please send another representative in your place; otherwise you will be billed as a “no-show”. Thank you for your support!*

Ground Breaking & Grand Opening



Merritt Lakeside Community Village broke ground at 1222 Borgfield Road in Schertz on May 5th. It is due to be completed by 2012 and will offer luxury, upscale accommodations for seniors. Pictured above are Schertz City Council Member **Jim Fowler**, Mayor **Hal Baldwin**, Chamber President Maggie Titterington, Engineer and Developer **Colby Denison**, City Council Members **David Scagliola** and **Cedric Edwards**.



Guadalupe Valley Electric Cooperative proudly opened their new Western Operations Center on May 26th. This facility will consolidate current operations in Seguin, Schertz, and La Vernia. Guest speakers included **GVEC** General Manager and CEO **Darren Schauer** and **GVEC** Board President **Lewis Borgfield**. **GVEC** is an electric cooperative that serves over 67,000 meters across 13 Texas counties.

Schertz Shoot-Out Highlights

Our Speed Networking Event

brought out numerous businesses who exchanged cards in a fun environment! Those who took part in our Shoot-out walked away with loads of business cards! Thanks to **SWBC** for sponsoring the event and donating so many wonderful door prizes. Thanks also to **Black Tie Catering**, Ambassador **Lauren Burns** with **Valance Security** and Volunteer **Kari Bridges**.



After-Hours Mixer

Thank you to the **Vineyards Restaurant** for hosting our May Mixer. Members networked with one another while sampling some of their delicious appetizers and enjoying a glass of wine. Congratulations to **Tamara Pearis**, our lucky Ambassador, for not only winning a gift certificate to the Vineyards, but also our \$250 cash prize!



JUNE AFTER-HOURS MIXER

When: June 15th @ 5:30pm – 7pm

Where: **United SA Federal Credit Union**
6000 FM 3009, Suite 206 (Schertz)

What: Food, drinks, fun, prizes & Chamber Cash
Must be present to win!

RSVP to 566-9000 or nkotzur@schertzchamber.org

Ambassador Mixer

Want a front row seat to all the newest businesses, professionals and exciting Chamber Events? Join our Ambassador Committee! Six openings are available. Join us for food, fun, and facts about how to become part of this exciting group!


Date: Thursday, June 30th

Time: 5:30 – 7pm

Location: Schertz Chamber/Visitor Center, 1730 Schertz Pkwy



Community Calendar

June 2:  Meeting @ Tazas @ 11:30 – 12:30pm

June 9: **ACMG Educational Health Fair/Dance**
9am -11am @ Schertz Civic Center. RSVP 210-380-2045

June 15: Mixer at **United SA FCU** @ 5:30 – 7pm

June 19: Father's Day

June 21: **Chamber Luncheon & 6th Year Anniversary**
Schertz Civic Center @11:30am

June 22: **Biz-Ed Breakfast** @ 7am

June 30: **Ambassador Mixer** @ 5:30

Visitor & Call Log Report

Total Walk-in traffic: 88

- Maps/Visitor Guides/Area Information - 44
- Chamber Business - 27
- New Member interest – 4
- Other - 13

Total Phone calls to Chamber: 257

- Business Inquiries/Referrals - 12
- Visitor Center/City Questions – 23
- Chamber Event Inquiries – 73
- Misc. Chamber Questions – 62
- New Member interest – 10
- Other – 77

Volunteers Needed!

The City of Schertz is seeking volunteers for the 36th Annual Jubilee. Many areas & times available. If you are interested, please see contacts below to sign up:

- Ticket/Beer Booth – Gail Douglas @ 210-619-1712
- BBQ Judge/Helper – Nancy Kotzur @ 210-566-9000
- Apple Pie Judge – Cindy Raleigh @ 210-619-1031



President's Corner

I cannot believe that it is summer again and I have (today) completed my first year as your Chamber president. When I began last June 1st, I really had no idea of the full impact of what I was taking on (and I mean that in a good way...). Running a business myself, I understand the complications and needs that can arise when having problems with a difficult economy, lack of revenue or simply trying to keep up with the current "ins". In speaking and meeting with all of our Chamber Members, I have learned to appreciate the diversity of what each of you do, received constructive criticisms on what needs to be improved upon and so much encouragement that my cup truly runneth over. It has thus far been my biggest challenge mentally, emotionally, physically and even spiritually (again, in a GOOD way!)

I have to confess, when my business was asked to participate in a Chamber years ago; my question was, "Why? How will that help me?" I didn't understand what a Chamber was for or even what it was. NOW, from those very questions I asked, from direction and guidance from a wonderful Chair and Board and my experience this year, I can tell you what it's for: it's relationship, investment and unity within the community.

When I invest my membership dollars into my Chamber, I am helping to fund education for new and existing businesses that show them how to be successful; I am creating a personal rolodex of valuable vendors and contacts for not only my needs but for my clients, contacts that I PERSONALLY know and not just a name in a book; I am investing in the future of my business community by supporting Young Professional programs who, in turn, invest in the very community I live and work in by volunteering their time in giving back; I am helping to support programs that enhance my City and bring more visitors, tourists and local area residents to spend their money HERE; I am investing in YOUR business to keep it successful and growing as you are investing in MINE. Remember that Faberge commercial, "and then they told two friends, and THEY told two friends, and so on and so on..." Our mission statement is to engage in projects that have a positive economic impact on the citizens of the Schertz area and/or members of the Schertz Chamber of Commerce. Since June 1st of last year, we have grown from 90 members to 181, went from 19 to 30 investment sponsors, added 4 new programs, changed quarterly mixers to monthly, had our first member appreciation luncheon, had an attendance of over 700 local residents to our first solo Taste of the Town, created a new business directory/visitors guide and map, created a new branding logo for the chamber for our coin and decal and best of all, an 80% retention rate for membership. I tell you all of this NOT to toot my horn, but YOURS. Your active participation and membership are reinforcing and making our mission statement a reality. Thank you for this first year and I look forward to many more with you.

We here at the Schertz Chamber of Commerce and its Board of Directors has an open door policy because you ARE important to us. Stop by our offices or visit with us at our many chamber events. And don't forget – Choose Chamber!