

POWELL COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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'THE CHAMBER POT'

NEWSLETTER

www.powellcountymontana.com

FALL 2010

Welcome to *THE CHAMBER POT*, the Newsletter for the Powell County Chamber of Commerce.

CHAMBER OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday
10am till Noon - 1pm till 3pm
(Closed Nov 11th, Nov 25th,
Dec 24th)

EVENTS CALENDAR

Oct 29-31 - Old Prison
Haunted House
Oct 30 - Deer Lodge Art Club
Bazaar
Nov 19 - Chamber Banquet
Nov 22 - Avon Country Bazaar
Dec 3 - Christmas Festival at
The Pen
Dec 4 - Christmas Stroll
Deer Lodge
Dec 5 - Holiday Open House,
Grant-Kohrs Ranch

As we adjust to Fall weather, we reflect on a very successful Summer Season for Deer Lodge and Powell County, which saw an increase in visitors and several changes to the landscape.

Visitor numbers to our region were up this year. The Old Prison Museums and Grant-Kohrs Ranch reported a healthy increase over 2009's figures. This positively impacts our local restaurants, Motels and Campgrounds and other local businesses. A large turnout at Territorial Days and a healthy number of cars at the Demolition Derby proved that if you build it, they will come. With the hours of hard work and effort from Chamber Members and volunteers, it was very pleasing to see so many locals and visitors enjoying themselves at these and the many other events held in Deer Lodge and Powell County over the summer. Lets keep up the good work, increase our efforts to bring more people to the area and bolster our local economy in these difficult times. Together we can all make a difference in 2011.

2010 bought a number of changes to the face of Deer Lodge. The Old Prison Museums has a new Director, R-B Drive Inn, Scharfs Family Restaurant and Scharfs Motor Inn (now the Budget Inn) have new owners and several other businesses have changed hands or names or moved location. Also, a new Hospital is now under construction at the north end of the City. We welcome all of the new business owners, and look forward to working with you in 2011.

A new resident arrived in Deer Lodge in July. Milwaukee railroad engine E9 number 36A was hauled from beside the Deer Lodge depot to it's new home, the parking lot of the Old Montana Prison Museum. There it joined sister engine E-70 'Little Joe' and a newly installed Milwaukee Road caboose. This collection of railroad exhibits makes quite an impact as you arrive from the south of town, and will be a great attraction to visitors.

Now that Fall is here, the Grant-Kohrs Ranch and Old Prison Museums have adjusted their opening times and days. The Ranch is still open 7 days a week, from 9am till 4:30pm. The Museums are now closed on Monday and Tuesday, open from Wednesday through Sunday from 10am till 4pm. This includes both the Old Prison and Montana Auto Museum, the other museums on the other

side of Main Street are now closed until next Spring. Speaking of the Grant-Kohrs Ranch, the Powell County Chamber of Commerce was happy to once again be the main sponsor for their annual Pumpkin Sunday, held on October 17th. Check their website on www.nps.gov/grko for future events at the Ranch.

On a more frightening note, the Old Prison will once again play host to a variety of scary antics, as it holds it's annual 'Haunted House' on October 29th, 30th and 31st. Details on their website at www.pcmf.org

If your business has an event coming up, or you know of something special that is going on in Deer Lodge or the surrounding communities, please contact the Chamber Office on 846-2094 and we will be happy to include information on our website and in future editions of our newsletter. We are also looking for business articles. If you have been operating a business in Deer Lodge or Powell County for a number of years, or are new to the area, we want to hear your story. Please e-mail your article to chamber@powellcountymontana.com and it will be considered for publication.

The Internet is a very powerful medium for promoting business. The Chamber office receives thousands of inquiries each year from people planning to visit, stay or relocate to our area. Check out our website at www.powellcountymontana.com, and ensure your business is listed on our Local Services page. All Chamber Members receive a free listing on our website, a link to their website (if available) and inclusion in our 'Deer Lodge' printed demographic brochure, which is mailed out to hundreds of interested parties each year.

The Annual Chamber Banquet is on November 9th, and this year our Guest Speaker is Governor Brian Schweitzer. I look forward to seeing you all at the Broken Arrow.

David Williams, Executive Director

