



The Wamego Outlook

VOLUME 2011, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2011

POINTS OF INTEREST

April's Annual Meeting will begin at 11:45 a.m. Monday, April 18, at the Columbian Theatre.

State Representative Richard Carlson will speak.

Lunch will be catered by the Friendship House.

To RSVP, please contact the Chamber at (785) 456-7849, or at wchamber@wamego.net.

DIAMOND MEMBERS

Caterpillar

City of Wamego

Cotton O'Neil Clinic

First National Bank of Wamego

KanEquip

Kaw Valley State Bank

Landmark National Bank

Midwest Concrete Materials

Wamego City Hospital

Wamego Telecommunications

Tulip Festival Layout Make-Over Proves Successful

The 24th Wamego Tulip Festival got off to a great start on Saturday, April 16, after uncertain weather on Friday.

This year there were many layout changes due to the expected large number of vendors and the desire to spread out the festival to be safer and more connected to downtown.

For many years the food court has been near the tennis courts, and the committee felt with the input of the City of Wamego and Fire Departments / EMS that it would be less of a bottleneck and safer in case of an emergency to close 5th Street alongside the City Hall for the food vendors. This made the food accessible to everyone even if they didn't desire to see the crafts.

Another big change was the closing of Ash from 5th to 6th streets for the non-profits, climbing wall and train turn-around that allowed more craft vendors in the area of the train depot and with the addition of the children's inflatables in the grass along Ash completed a nice walk-able entrance to



Photo by Mary Lyn Barnett

Visitors to the 2011 Tulip Festival enjoyed the new layout along the city park sidewalks!

the festival and better use of the existing playground and surrounding picnic tables.

The 1st Infantry Division Band, Jessica Furney and many local musicians/poet were very popular in the bandstand area with convenient bleacher seating. There were a total of 148 craft vendors, 16 food

booths, 17 non-profits, and 15 business information booths.

The crowds were tremendous and we had many compliments on all the changes.

Now on to our 25th Tulip Festival on April 14-15, 2012!

Cinco de Mayo Golf Tournament & Chamber Business After Hours

The Cinco de Mayo Golf tournament is at the Wamego Country Club on May 6, 2010, with tee times starting at 1:00 pm.

This year there are drawings for many special prizes, including his or hers Justin full-quill ostrich boots, an Apple iPad, and a 32" Flat-panel TV with DVD player.

Each entry will receive a \$50 gift card to Callaway.com from Brown Chevrolet Buick, Inc.

If you make a hole-in-one, prizes include a 2011 Buick Regal, three Escort Drive Smart prize packages, and two sets of Callaway Diablo irons 3-PW.

After the tournament starting at 5:00 pm, the Wamego Country Club is sponsoring a chamber after hours. Come out and join us!

Business Information

It is important to us that we know the ins and outs of each of our membership's businesses.

We would like to invite our membership to send us a short, informational piece that best describes the products provided or areas of service for your business.

Please limit your descriptions to two sentences. Descriptions will be utilized throughout Chamber publications.

For more information, please contact the Chamber at (785) 456-7849, or at wchamber@wamego.net.

Snap Shots of Tulip Festival Fun

RIGHT: The tulips around the park were especially brilliant this year and still blooming at Tulip Festival time. BELOW LEFT: The crowds were terrific and used the sidewalk to advantage when visiting the numerous vendors placed along its length. BELOW RIGHT: The Ft. Riley 1st Infantry Division Band was a hit with everyone and the crowd really enjoyed the big band and country music. BOTTOM: Including the huge obstacle course inflatable was one of the advantages of moving the play area to the west side of City Park along Ash. This allowed the children to run back and forth to the playground and gave parents plenty of space to spread out and enjoy the park or sit and enjoy some terrific food from the food vendors nearby.



Photo by Mary Lyn Barnett



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Chamber Board 2011

Chamber President Jody Price, Kaw Valley State Bank; Chamber Vice President Chris Hupe, RW Milling; Past-President and Treasurer Dwight Faulkner, First National Bank; Doug Conwell, USD 320; Scott Kohl, Highland Community College; Kim Kohler, Landmark National Bank; Mike Morton, Bluestem Electric; Mark Portell, The Wamego Times; Heidi Rice, Living Stone Ranch; Bart Stewart, Stewart Funeral Home; Barbara Torrey, ERA The Conderman Group; Becky Wassom, Civic Member; Lance White, First National Bank.

Annual Report

On April 5, chamber board member Doug Conwell presented at the Wamego City Commission meeting along with the Wamego Convention and Visitors Bureau an [Annual Report](#) detailing how the Chamber did financially and our stewardship of the income we received from dues and events in 2010. The commissioners extended many thanks for the Chamber's positive turn-around after a difficult year in 2009.

Ultimately, by building a realistic budget, trimming expenses and implementing work plans to have more organized events, as well as a continued commitment from our membership, 2010 was a terrific year!

Ribbon Cutting by Ambassadors



Totally You Salon owner Brenda Packard, employees, and ambassadors gather to cut the ribbon at a grand opening ribbon cutting on April 1 at 527 Lincoln Avenue.

Letter from the Executive Director

Tulip Festival! That is all that needs to be said for April. We were fortunate to have Amy Okeson lead our committee again this year and decided to make major changes to the layout in anticipation of the 25th festival next year.

It was the dedicated volunteers / committee members who got us through a challenging set-up on Friday that included at least one tent catapulting across the tennis courts in the high wind! Everyone stuck together through the

chilly day and welcomed the vendors to our wonderful park and city. We have a reputation for our helpfulness during the set-up / clean-up and many remarked on how organized we were despite the tough conditions.

Because of the temperatures and wind, most vendors decided to set up on Saturday morning, and it was incredible to see it all come together in such a short time before the opening of the festival at 9 am. The day was clear and cool, but warmed up

fast and we couldn't have had better crowds to see all there was to offer.

Our goal is to have a nice variety of hand-made items, great food, lots of fun for the children, and free entertainment for families to enjoy, and we received many compliments on those things in addition to positive comments on the layout. But without the support of the community and the amazing volunteers it couldn't have happened. I can't wait for Tulip Festival 2012!



Mary Lyn Barnett,
Executive Director for the
Wamego Chamber of Commerce /
Mainstreet

TIAK Webinar

On April 26, Wamego Telecommunications hosted the Wamego Convention & Visitors Bureau participation in a webinar, "Spice Up Your Sales Efforts with MSG: Attracting Meetings, Sports and Group Tours to Your Community" in their board room. There were five people who attended and listened to ways we can make our community a destination for different organizations.

Mainstreet Training: Transforming Ordinary People into Effective Board Members & Fundraising Superheroes

Seneca Downtown Impact hosted the Kansas Main Street quarterly training on April 15. The speaker, Carol Weisman, president of Board Builders, walked us through the different steps of fundraising: cultivation, the ask and stewardship, and the importance on the people soliciting the gifts to be equally financially engaged. She reminded us that no one joins a board because it is a great opportunity to fundraise, but with the right training, and pairing people up with different skills, can be less daunting than most people realize.

In the afternoon we covered the roles and responsibilities of a board, how to recruit individuals to fill specific needs, and orienting and organizing your board to use your time wisely. I walked away with some terrific ideas about providing a proper orientation, teaming up board members, and assessing their satisfaction and ongoing level of commitment.



Small town. BIG experience.

Wamego Chamber of Commerce / Mainstreet

Mary Lyn Barnett, Executive Director

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Wamego, KS 66547 Fax: (785) 456-7427



Mission Statement

“To promote the business community, benefit members, and strengthen the community of Wamego through networking, promotion, economic development, and by serving as a resource from which ideas, energy, and finances can be drawn.”

Visit us on the web at www.WamegoChamber.com

Thank You to our Chamber Membership 2011

Diamond Members

Caterpillar Work Tools
City of Wamego
Cotton-O'Neil-Wamego
First National Bank of Wamego
KanEquip, Inc.
Kaw Valley State Bank
Landmark National Bank
Midwest Concrete Materials
Wamego City Hospital
Wamego Telecommunications

Gold Members

Bennington State Bank
Briggs Super Center
CR's Tire & Muffler
Construction Inc.
Dick Edwards Ford Lincoln Mercury, Inc.
Dyer's IGA
Dymax, Inc.
Ebert Construction Co., Inc.
Kansas Gas Service
KBS Constructors, Inc.
Pott. Co. Economic Development Corp.
Reese & Novelty, PA
R-Tech Tool & Machine, Inc.
Short Stop #8
Stewart Funeral Home
Tri-County Waste
USD 320
Vanderbilt's
Wamego Inn & Suites
Wamego Self Storage

Silver Members

Bluestem Electric Coop, Inc.
Campanella-Evans Mortuary
Concordia Tractor Inc.
Higgins Stone Co.
Lichtenhan ACE Hardware

McPeak & Pugh Real Estate
McPeak, Dr. Gail
McQuillen, John D., DDS, PA
Mid-America Office Supplies
Smoke Signal
Superior Roofing, Inc.
T2 Wireless
Trust Company of Manhattan
Varney & Associates, CPA's, LLC
Vintage Park
Vision Source! - Wamego
Wamego Dental Center
Wamego Times

Bronze Members

Advanced Promotions
Aflac
American Family Insurance, Chris McDonald
AMI Plumbing, Heating & Cooling
Area Wide Electric, Inc.
Auto Clinic
Berner Jewelry
Black Jack Hills
Body Works Massage Therapy
Bowman Bowman Novick Inc.
Brilliant Beginnings
Brown Chevrolet Buick, Inc.
Bruce McMillan, AIA, Architects
Butler Plumbing & Heating, Inc.
Calvin's RV Camping
Carnahan & Associates Real Estate
Celebrations
Century Business Systems
Clutter Proz
Copeland Insurance
Dynamic Management Solutions
Edward Jones Investments
Family Eye Care
Farm Bureau Financial Services, Jim Waters
Farmers State Bank

Farmers Union Co-op Assn.
Flower Mill
Fox Business Systems
Friendly Cooker
Frontier Farm Credit
Gambino's Pizza
Good Samaritan Society Valley Vista
H&R Block
Heartland Physical Therapy
Highland Community College
Imagemakers
Karnowski Building, Inc.
Kaw Valley Exterminator
Key Express Heating & Air
K-State Federal Credit Union
Lang, John E. (P.A.)
Last Stop
Oakhill Estates Apartments
Oz Museum
Oz Winery
Pizza Hut
Positive Air LLC
Pugh & Pugh Law Offices
Quilts & Crafts
REED Company
Riley Construction
R-W Milling
Salon Generations
Sink, Gillmore & Gordon
Sonic Drive-In
Spirits of '76
State Farm Insurance, Michele Jacobs
Suther Farm
Suther Farms
TC Retail Liquor
Tidalwave Entertainment
Totally You Salon
Toto's Tacoz
Wamego Country Club
Wamego Drug Store

Wamego Veterinary Clinic
Ward, Lisa - Attorney
Whirling Earth Pottery

Non-Profit Members

Advocate Home Specialty Care, Inc.
American Red Cross
Columbian Theatre
Community Health Ministry
First Baptist Church
Kansas Rural Communities Foundation
Living Stone Ranch
Manhattan Area Technical College
Manhattan Association of Realtor's
Manhattan Workforce Center
Nek-Cap Inc.
Pottawatomie Consortium
RSVP of the Flint Hills
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Three Rivers Inc.
UFM Community Learning Center
United Way of Riley County
Wamego Community Foundation
Wamego Historical Society
Wamego Hospital Foundation
Wamego Housing Authority
Wamego Public Library

Civic Members

Ditto, Dr. Bill
Eichman, Casie
Stewart, Luranell
Symons, Susan