

# Wamego Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet

August 2006

## Board of Directors

Michael Malin—President  
Dave Karnowski—Vice Pres.  
Susan Symons—Treasurer  
Michele Jacobs—Past Pres  
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Ken Hitch  
Steve Peddicord  
Amy Okeson  
Cheri Pugh  
Ken Werner  
Brian Wells  
T-Shane Roberts  
Sue Woods  
Teresa Zerbe—Exec Director

## Welcome New Members

**July**  
Castle Painting

Amy Okeson, Mary Kay  
Independent Beauty Consultant

Mid-America Office Supplies



Happiness does not consist in pastimes and amusements, but in virtuous activities.  
**Aristotle**

# The Wamego Outlook

## Wamego Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet Receives National Main Street Accreditation

The efforts of the Wamego Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet over the past year has earned it recognition for commercial district revitalization by meeting standards for performance set by the National Trust for Historic Preservation's National Main Street Center. The Wamego Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet joins 625 other Main Street revitalization programs nationally recognized as 2006 Accredited National Main Street Programs.

"The National Accreditation means the Main Street program is meeting our national standards of performance for what a Main Street program should be doing," said Doug Loescher, director of the National Trust's Main Street Center. "The organizations we name each year as National Main Street Programs are those that have demonstrated the skills needed to succeed in Main Street revitalization."

The annual accreditation process

evaluates commercial district revitalization programs based on criteria ranging from having an active board of directors and paid professional manager to tracking economic progress and preserving historic Main Street buildings.

"Rebuilding a district's economic health and maintaining that success requires broad-based community involvement, active support from both the public and private sectors, and sound management," said Loescher. "Having a solid organization at the foundation of that revitalization effort is so important to long term success."

The organization's performance was evaluated by the Kansas Main Street through the Kansas Department of Commerce, which is the coordinating organization for Main Street programs in Kansas.

Wamego's strong, solid foundation can only be credited to all the volunteers that make so many activities, programs and events

possible. Many, many hours of planning and involvement are needed each week to make things possible. Wamego is blessed with having to have so many dedicated volunteers to make things possible.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a private, non-profit membership organization dedicated to protecting the irreplaceable. Recipient of the National Humanities Medal, the Trust was founded in 1949 and provides leadership, education, and advocacy to save America's diverse historic places and revitalize communities. Its Washington, DC headquarters staff, six regional offices and 25 historic sites work with the Trust's 200,000 members and thousands of local community groups in all 50 states. For more information, visit the Trust's web site at [www.nationaltrust.org](http://www.nationaltrust.org).

## Governor's Award for Excellence on Main Street

Kansas Main Street is accepting nominations for the Governor's Award for Excellence on Main Street. Award categories include, but are not limited to: Outstanding Promotion/Marketing Activities, Outstanding Organizational Activities, Volunteer of the Year, Executive Director of the Year, Outstanding Economic Restructuring Activities, Outstanding Design Activities-including façade improvements in 3 categories.

If you would like more information, instructions or copies of the forms, please call Teresa at the office.



## Many Activities are scheduled for Ridiculous Days

- ◆ Rock Paper Scissors Tournament on Saturday, August 19. The contest is open to all ages. Registration will be from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. the morning of the contest. The tournament will begin at 10:30 a.m. at Railroad Park, 4<sup>th</sup> and Lincoln, in Downtown Wamego.
  - ◆ 3rd Annual Salsa Contest will run from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, August 19. The public is invited to spend some time downtown, sample the salsas and vote for their favorite. Prizes will be awarded. Call the Chamber office for more information or to pre-register.
  - ◆ A lemonade stand contest will once again be part of the Ridiculous Days. The contest will be held from 1-3 p.m. up and down Lincoln Avenue on Saturday, August 19. Participants are encouraged to bring plenty of lemonade. This year, the public will be invited to sample the lemonade and vote for their favorites. Prizes will be awarded. Call the Chamber office for more information or to pre-register.
  - ◆ A new event this year is the digital scavenger hunt. Bring your digital camera and a team of friends to participate on Saturday, August 19. The contest starts at 9:30 a.m. at the Railroad Park, 4<sup>th</sup> and Lincoln, in downtown Wamego. Teams will be given a list of Wamego landmarks and local merchants to "scavenge" photos from. One camera allowed per team. Prizes will be awarded.
- Ridiculous Days is an annual three-day citywide retail sales event sponsored by the Wamego Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet, August 18, 19 and 20.

## Chamber/Mainstreet to Form a Christmas Committee

Christmas will come early for a group of eager elves this year. The Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet is forming a new Christmas Committee and looking for volunteers to help plan the annual "Christmas in Wamego" holiday celebration.

"Christmas in Wamego" has grown in recent years to include a park lighting celebration, Santa visits, merchant promotions and a creative marketing campaign. Previously the Wamego Christmas had been organized by the Community Life Committee, but it has grown to deserve its own committee and chairperson.

"Some people are just Christmas people," said Chamber/Mainstreet President Mike Malin. "They think about it and plan for it all year long. Those are who we are looking for. We already have a couple volunteers excited to get started. It should be a lot of fun."

If you or someone you know is interested in chairing or helping out with the Christmas Committee, a meeting has been scheduled for August 23 at noon here in the Chamber/Mainstreet office. If you would like to be on the committee, but can't make it to the meeting, contact Teresa at the office.

## Want to Market to Newcomers to Town?

The Wamego Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet has Welcome Wagon Buckets that are full of our Chamber member's information only. These buckets are given out by the City, when someone new comes to town.

If you would like to participate in this simple and easy method of distributing information, please bring your information to the Chamber/Mainstreet office. Information to put in these buckets is always needed, as there have been a lot of these buckets given out lately.

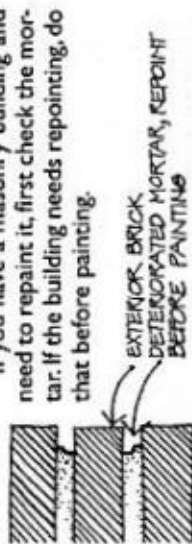
# PAINTING YOUR BUILDING



Painting can be one of the most dramatic improvements you make to your building. But you must know what steps to take. The following procedures will help smooth the way for a successful paint job:

1. Determine what you need to prepare for painting. Check all the wood. Is it sound or rotting? Does it have insect damage? Repair or replace any damaged areas that you find.

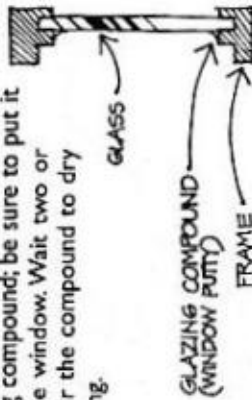
If you have a masonry building and need to repaint it, first check the mortar. If the building needs repointing, do that before painting.



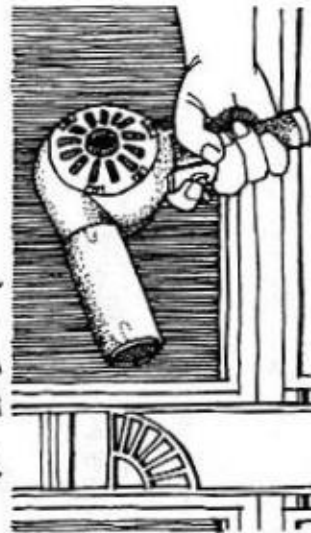
2. Plan a painting schedule. Some times of the year are better than others for painting. Good weather usually ensures a better paint job. Ask your local paint dealer for assistance.



3. Check the condition of your windows. Install new glass as necessary. Replace any deteriorated putty with a glazing compound; be sure to put it all around the window. Wait two or three days for the compound to dry before painting.

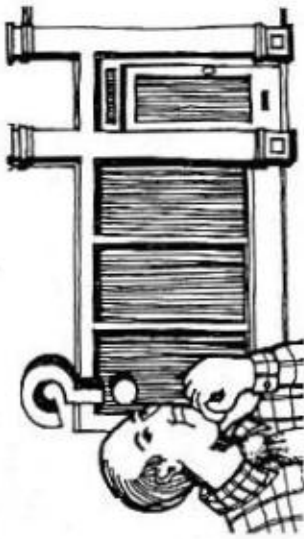


4. Prepare the surface adequately. Be sure to remove all peeling and loose paint. A variety of tools can be used: a wire brush, a scraper, a blow torch, or an electric heat gun. Use these last two devices carefully; employ only enough heat to soften the paint so that it can be easily removed.



5. A primer should be used for all bare wood surfaces as it helps the final coat adhere. Mix a little of the finish coat paint with the primer to achieve a richer color.

6. Determine the type of paint best suited for your building. Stone, brick, wood, concrete block, and metal all require different paints and primers.



7. Which kind of paint should you use, oil or latex? There are advantages and disadvantages to each.

- More durable
- Some feel it preserves wood and adheres better
- More difficult to clean up
- Less durable
- Easier to apply
- Easier to clean up



An important reminder: Once you use latex, you must continue to use it. It is difficult to switch back to oil. If you have been using an oil-based paint, it is best to continue with oil.

8. Be aware that there are three degrees of shine for paint: gloss, semigloss, and flat or matte.

9. Remember that quality paint will last longer than a cheap brand. It will not fade or peel as quickly and usually gives better coverage.

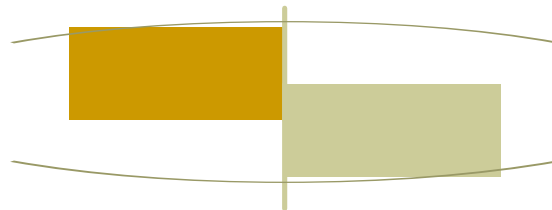
### A Note on Lead Paint

If your building is more than 50 years old, it may contain lead-based paint. If you are removing the existing paint as part of the repainting process, have a sample tested. It is imperative that the testing be done by a reputable company or by a state testing lab. If there is a problem, contact your state environmental department for information on options for removing or encasing the lead-based paint.

## Wamego Chamber of Commerce/Mainstreet

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*Reading is to the mind, what  
exercise is to the body.*

*Sir Richard Steele*

## Chamber Calendar

**August 11**  
Teachers Welcome Back to School Breakfast

**August 18, 19 & 20**  
Ridiculous Days

**August 21**  
Membership Meeting

## Chamber/Mainstreet's OZtoberfest Committee

If you are interested in being on the OZtoberfest Committee, we are looking for volunteers to join us in this 2nd Annual event. The Chamber/Mainstreet is responsible for the craft/food vendors, as well as some other activities. A meeting has been scheduled for August 2nd at 5:45p.m. here at the Chamber/Mainstreet Office. If you would like to be a part of this committee, but can't make the meeting, call Teresa at the office and we will keep you informed of upcoming meeting times and locations.

