calendar

Thursday, November 2  11:45am
Ambassador Meeting
Chamber Office

Tuesday, November 7  8:30am
Retail Trades Meeting
Chamber Office

Tuesday, November 7  10:00am
Marine Trades Division Meeting
Chamber Office

Wednesday, November 8  2:30pm
Economic & Development Division
Chamber Office

Thursday, November 9  11:30am
Chamber Luncheon
“State of the Port” at Swinomish Casino

Friday, November 10  Office Closed, Veterans Day

Wednesday, November 15  3:30pm
Marketing & Promotions Division Meeting
Chamber Office

Friday, November 17  10:30am
Finance/Executive Meeting
Chamber Office

Thursday, November 16  5:30pm
Business After Hours
Toastmasters at H2O

Tuesday, November 21  3:30pm
Chamber Board Meeting
Anacortes Public Library

Tuesday, November 23  Office Closed for Thanksgiving

Friday, November 24  Office Closed for Thanksgiving

Tuesday, November 28  11:00am
Visitor Center Holiday Party
Majestic Inn & Spa

Thursday, November 30  5:30pm
Port Community Round Table
Seafarers’ Park

chamber luncheon

Port of Anacortes Executive Director Dan Worra will deliver the annual, “State of the Port” address at the chamber luncheon, November 9, 2017 at 11:30am at the Swinomish Casino & Lodge. Dan is pleased to share the port’s accomplishments of the past year and to highlight business operations and upcoming projects. The mission of the port is to, in partnership with public agencies and private business, develop and manage facilities and services, which stimulate private job creation and commerce, while protecting the quality of life, needs and desires of area residents. In keeping with its mission, the port is an important economic engine for Anacortes with its tenants providing more than 1,000 jobs in our community. Come hear how the port is working for the benefit of Anacortes residents and visitors alike.

The October luncheon is sponsored by Puget Sound Energy who is the local energy provider for neighborhoods and communities across Washington State. As the state’s largest utility, they are proud to keep the lights and heat on for more than 1.5 million customers. In Skagit County alone, PSE serves over 60,000 people and businesses.

PSE is one of a few utilities in the nations to have an optional renewable energy program to help our large business and municipal customers meet their clean energy goals. Their Green Direct program sold out within weeks of being announced, with some of the region’s most recognizable organizations like REI, Starbucks, Whatcom County and the City of Anacortes.

For the past 135 years, they have powered customers and communities with the energy to do great things, and will continue to do so now and into the future.

The lunch will take place at the Swinomish Casino and Lodge at 11:30am. Please RSVP and pay online or in the chamber office to receive the $15 luncheon rate. Payment at the door at the time of the luncheon will be $18. Bring a gift for the giveaway.

business after hours

Please join Anacortes Dockers Toastmasters Club at H2O on Thursday, November 16th from 5:30 – 7:00pm for this month’s Business After Hours. The Dockers are the local branch of Toastmasters International, with millions of members around the world. At their weekly meetings, held upstairs at Village Pizza every Tuesday at 12:05pm, members learn and practice new skills in communication, public speaking, and leadership. They provide a safe and thoughtful environment where listening is as important as speaking. Everyone who wishes can participate. The Toastmasters experience provides members with personal growth and understanding that connects to every aspect of their lives.

Find out more by attending our Business After Hours at H2O, Thursday November 16th from 5:30 - 7:00pm for food, fun and excellent door prizes! Food will be provided by H2O Please RSVP online or by calling 360-293-7911. Gifts for the giveaway are always welcome!
In October we held our annual board planning session and scrutinized the bones of our organization. We had not reviewed our structure and our mission and vision in a long time and took this opportunity to assess where we are, what’s working and what can be improved upon. At the November board meeting we will look at a final plan for goals for 2018 and share those with you.

One thing I can roll out is a revised mission that we feel is more in line with the vision. As you know, a vision statement looks to where you strive to be, and a mission statement may be how you plan to get there.

Vision: To be the most livable and economically vibrant waterfront community in the Pacific Northwest.

Revised Mission: To promote economic prosperity through innovative leadership, advocacy and collaborative community engagement.

I do want to take this time to publicly thank Chris Long from Jolly Man Charters. Chris has been a great leader as he worked his way through the chairs and he is a great fisherman. He is relieved of duty as the Past Chairman, but I know he will stay engaged. Patti Anderson (Williams & Nulle) also completed her board tenure and I appreciate her investment.

I am following Brian Johnson (Anacortes Construction Services) into the chairmanship role – his work boots are going to be hard to fill. Brian was ever present, and laser focused. I am glad he will remain as Past Chairman lending his sage advice for my year of leadership, with John Olsen (Anacortes Oil & Vinegar) coming in as Vice Chairman I feel safe having a marine on either side of me. Thank you, gentlemen, for your service.

I am thankful for the many board members who advance our organization and welcome new directors to the table: Barry Harter (Central Payment Corporation), Lori Maul (Classic Style & Company) and Reid Meyers (Law Office of Reid E. Meyers) – I feel they are all great assets to the board.

This is going to be a great year with some exciting new initiatives – and it WILL be fun.

Chamber board members and staff invest their time and talent at this year’s planning session.
YOUR TIME IS VALUABLE.
We take the burden of business supply management off your shoulders.

With an Ace Commercial Account, we deliver:
• Janitorial and sanitation products
• Property management supplies
• Paper products and more

Contact our B2B specialist Brent at brobi@aceanacortes.com or call 360-402-5589 or apply online today at TheSupplyPlace.com/05588

We had great representation at our Candidates Forum for the October membership luncheon. Thank you to all the candidates who were able to attend. This was a very informative session.
new member renewals

Cimarron Enterprises Inc
Gene Ashe
(360) 293-0176
319 34th St Anacortes
www.cimarron-enterprises.com
Transportation, Garbage Collection and Transport

Hillcrest House, LLC
Laurie Towey
(206) 284-3332
Toweyl@gmail.com
418 Hillcrest Drive Anacortes
Real Estate, Short or long term upscale rental home.
Fully furnished, ADA Wheelchair built. Month-to-month. No lease.

Do you know about our Shop Anacortes Dollars? They are a great way to encourage spending with local merchants, and give a local gift that’s just as good as cash.

For buyers/customers: These are sold in $5 increments at the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce. They’re great to give as teacher appreciation gifts, stocking stuffers, or any other reason you might want to treat someone! There’s no expiration date, and they never decrease in value.

For merchants: Customers spend Anacortes Dollars with you and they are treated like cash at your business. If a customer gives you $15 in Anacortes Dollars for a $12.95 receipt, you give them $2.05 in cash back. You turn the Anacortes Dollars back into the chamber, and you are reimbursed face value minus a three percent (3%) print/processing fee. You can turn them in as often as you’d like, and checks are cut at the chamber every two weeks.

Currently participating business can be found online here: http://anacortes.org/shopanacortes

If you are interested in joining the program, please contact Amanda Hubik to have your name added to the list! Attached is a small graphic that gives you an idea of what they look like. As always, if you have any questions, please give us a call at 360-293-7911.

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• 7-Eleven Food Store
• Academy Mortgage Corporation
• Allen Construction
• ALT Insurance Group
• Anacortes Arts Foundation
• Cascade Pest Control - Skagit
• Cellular Connection
• Chandler’s Square Retirement Community
• Deception Distilling
• Farmhouse Restaurant
• Fidalgo Artisan Yarn Company
• Fidalgo Island Quilters
• Guemes Island Resort
• Humane Society of Skagit Valley
• Iona Theatre Center Foundation
• Nantucket Inn
• ProScapes, Inc.
• Shrimp Shack, The
• Zap Pro Lube & Brake

Thank you to the following businesses for bringing a giveaway prize.

• Anacortes Construction Services LLC
• Bella Ve Permanent Makeup & Healing Arts
• Classic Style & Company LLC
• Dakota Creek Industries
• Express Employment Professionals
• Fidalgo Living Magazine
• Jon Petrich
• LeBros Buchanan & Paul Law Offices
• Louis Auto Glass
• Native Springs Spa
• Scott Richards Insurance
• Skagit Land Trust
• Welcome Wagon

Thank you to the Apothecary Spa for hosting our October Business After Hours. Thanks also to the following businesses and individual members for bringing a giveaway prize.

• Apothecary Spa
• Classic Style & Company LLC
• Interpreting Technology
• Jennings Chiropractic, Inc. P.S.
• Native Springs Spa
• Toy Stories

In addition to this certificate from the city, the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce, its staff, board members and the volunteers of the VIC are donating a bench to be placed outside of the Visitor Information Center in Wilma’s honor.

Ray and Sharon Henderson moved to Anacortes in 2005. First, renovating a log house on Campbell Lake and after seven years, decided to move in to Old Town. Always longing for a view of the water again and needing more elbow room, they relocated to Oakes Avenue with a view of the channel and the bright lights of the ferries at night.

Ray had a 20-year career in the Coast Guard with a choice tour of duty in England for three years. Upon retirement, he worked in Vessel Documentation and Admeasurement for another 20 years. Because of Ray’s career working with boat builders and making many trips to Anacortes and the islands, this area seemed like the place to be. Ray’s first tour of duty (all four years) was as a lighthouse keeper on Patos Island in the San Juans. He married Sharon and she spent two years there with the stipulation that she cook and board the civilian engineers who were installing new generators and AC power to the island. Sharon retired from the Shoreline School District as an administrative assistant after 20 years, then went on to become a Master Gardener.

Ray and Sharon have been volunteering for the Anacortes Visitor Information Center since 2005. What the couple likes most about Anacortes is the beautiful scenery, the water, the forest lands and the small-town resort feeling.
chamber officers

Executive Board

CHAIRMAN
Mary LaFleur ALT Insurance

VICE CHAIRMAN
John Olsen Ancortes Oil & Vinegar Bar

TREASURER
Gina Walsh Peoples Bank

BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE
Dennis Richards Island Hospital

PAST CHAIRMAN
Brian Johnson Ancortes Construction Services

Board of Directors

Sandra Benton Think Studios
Cory Ertel Shell Puget Sound Refinery
Kristi Gabrielse Windermere
Barry Harter Central Payment Corp.
Mayor Laurie Gere City of Ancortes
Matt Gill Andeavor
Barry Harter Central Payment Corporation
Diana Jordan-New Bank of the Pacific
Lori Maul Classic Style & Company
Reid Meyers Law Office of Reid E Meyers
Jeff Pleet Edward Jones
Leslie Powell Lighthouse Memory Care
Teresa Wainman San Juan Lanes Bar & Grill
Mark Wenzel Ancortes School District
Allen Workman John L. Scott
Dan Worra Port of Ancortes

Chamber Staff

Stephanie Hamilton President
Sandy Swartos Visitor Information & Operations Director
Amanda Hubik Marketing & Promotions Director
Nancy Ryland-Carey Events & Communications Director
Kristi Daniels & Crystal Johnson Licensing Sub-Agents

vic (visitor information center) statistics

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Thank you, volunteers!

Visit us on the web at www.anacortes.org

Bluegrass & Microbrew Celebration
November 3rd & 4th

Brewgrass!

14th Annual
3 Clubs
6 Acts
51 Handles

more info online at:
anacortes.org/brewgrass

Coast in. Hang out.™