

DECEMBER 2011

# Chamber Works

## OldOregon.com Visitation is Up - Submitted by Regina Willkie, AWACC Marketing Mgr.

In this age of the Internet, many businesses find that their online presence, whether through website or social media, is a crucial point of contact with their customers - existing and potential. Well, this is true in the Chamber and Tourism Industries, too. The Chamber's website, [OldOregon.com](http://OldOregon.com), serves visitors researching a trip to our region, focusing referrals to our member businesses and organizations, as well as locals. We saw 240,000 visitors to our site this year, a 5% growth over last year. About 25% of our site visitors return again and again, using [OldOregon.com](http://OldOregon.com) as a resource. The average visitor looks at 4 pages on our site and spends about 3.5 minutes there - we understand this to be typical in our industry. Here are some interesting stats about our site's visitors in the last year (Nov. 1, 2010 through Oct. 31, 2011) from our Google Analytics report:

**Top Pages Viewed:** Homepage, Lodging, Visitor Info, Events, Goonies, Crab Festival, Dining, Trolley, Visitors Guide

**Traffic Sources:** 70% of the site's visitors find our site through a search engine, 18% are from referring sites that link to ours, and 12% type our URL into their browser's address bar. Of those coming to us via search engine, here are some keywords that make up their **top search terms:** Many variations of Astoria or Astoria, OR contribute to about 30%; A few variations of Astoria-Warrenton Chamber

of Commerce, Warrenton, Oregon, and even Astoria, Washington; Several individual attractions like Fort Clatsop, Flavel House and Goonies made the top 20 terms; and the list was rounded out by a few variations of Astoria Warrenton Crab, Seafood and Wine Festival. The **top sites that link to ours** include [Sunset.com](http://Sunset.com) (10% of referrals), [Google.com](http://Google.com) (7%), [TheGoonies.org](http://TheGoonies.org) (7%), [Facebook.com](http://Facebook.com) (5%), [TravelOregon.com](http://TravelOregon.com), [VisittheOregonCoast.com](http://VisittheOregonCoast.com), [Old300.org](http://Old300.org) and [TripAdvisor.com](http://TripAdvisor.com). We are seeing a larger use of mobile devices accessing our page, with the Android Browser being the 4th most popular **browser**, behind Internet Explorer, Mozilla Firefox and Google Chrome.

**Geography:** Our website visitors come from all over the world, but most (94%) are here in the US. Combined, Canada and the UK account for 3% of our international web visitors. Our domestic visitors are primarily from Oregon (40%), Washington (26%), and California (9%) - very similar to the makeup of those visiting our Welcome Center!

We hope you'll take a look at our website, make sure your directory listing is current with a photo or logo along with a description of your business or organization, hours of operation and a link to your own site. Starting in the next issue, we will include monthly stats about visitation to the site and any interesting trends we notice.



## Save on Prescriptions with Oregon Rx Card!

Save up to 75% on prescription drugs immediately by using your Oregon State Chamber "Oregon Rx Card", courtesy of Astoria Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce. Nothing to buy, just show the card to any of the participating pharmacies. Get your card by emailing Rose at [rose@oldoregon.com](mailto:rose@oldoregon.com) and she'll send it your way. More information and the card will be included in January's newsletter as well, but don't wait to save, email today!

## Jingle Bell Quiz

Question: How can you support fellow Chamber members while satisfying everyone on your holiday gift list?  
Answer: Buy Chamber Checks!

Chamber Checks are the perfect answer for that hard-to-buy-for family member or friend with over 500 options for spending them. You won't pay a service fee, they don't expire and AWACC guarantees it 100%. Stop by the Chamber and finish off your list in no time at all by purchasing a \$5, \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, or \$100 Chamber Check today!



## ASTORIA GOONIES MERCHANDISE IS BACK IN STOCK!

Short Sleeve T-shirts, Zippered Hoodies, Stickers, Keychains, Mouspads, Pint & Shot Glasses, Doubloon Coins, More!



Visit the Chamber or our online store to place an order for gifts or a treat for yourself!  
(shipment to arrive no later than Dec. 5)

## *Director's Corner*

Talking about your Chamber Board of Directors, at this time of year, is always a little bittersweet for me. On the one hand I am so excited about working with our newly elected Directors, but at the same time, it's hard to let go of the GREAT Board members who have served our organization and our members so very well. With this feeling of mine in mind, I would like to share with you a little about our new folks and why they were chosen and I'll also share with you who we are losing and what we will miss about them.

### **YOUR NEWLY ELECTED ASTORIA/WARRENTON CHAMBER BOARD MEMBERS**

- **Loran Mathews**-Loran is retired and lives here in Astoria. He retired several years ago from the position of Business Manager for the Astoria School District, a position he held for thirty some years. He is a tireless volunteer on many community events, most notably the Scandinavian Midsummer Festival, where he has held a major leadership role for more years than I can remember. Loran agreed to "climb back into the saddle" once again after his one year "vacation" from the Board as required by our Bylaws. Loran sets a very high standard of commitment wherever he serves and is a joy to work with.

- **Jake Carls**- Jake is the Executive Director of Coast Rehabilitation Services in Warrenton. He is an active member of Astoria Rotary and seems to never hesitate to take on additional responsibilities. At CRS Jake leads a wonderful team of individuals who are dedicated to "giving a helping hand" to those who need it the most. I also have the privilege of working with Jake as a member of the CRS Foundation Board of Directors. Jake and his non-profit experience will be a great asset to our AWACC Board.

- **David Reid**- Any of our Chamber members who have attended ANY of our Chamber events just have to know David Reid and his wife Lisa. Both "shine" as Chamber members and we all worry about their well being if they are missing from an event. David is one of our GREAT Ambassadors, as well as contributing greatly to our community as an extremely active Rotarian. David is an Aflac Insurance Representative and is truly committed to serving the needs of his clients and their employees.

- **Pat O'Grady**- Pat O'Grady is the owner of Warrenton Auto and Marine Repair (behind the Mini Mart in Warrenton) and has earned a stellar reputation by providing high quality auto and marine repair services, coupled with "hometown" customer service for many years. Pat has been very active in the Warrenton Business Association, was honored with the of Warrenton's Business Leader of the Year Award and has earned, from your Chamber staff, the "unofficial title" of "Mr. Clean-up After a Chamber Event".

- **Sara Meyer**-While certainly not "new," Sara has been selected to serve on your AWACC Board of Directors for an additional three year term. Originally Sara was chosen by the Board to fill the unexpired term of Peter Hackett, who left the area and she has done a wonderful job. When asked by the Nominating Committee as to whether she would be willing to serve a second three year term on the Board, she said YES and we are all glad that she did. Sara is very helpful and involved at every Board meeting. She asks GREAT questions that often make the rest of us do some very "critical thinking". Sara is a real asset to your Board's decision making responsibilities.

### **OUR SINCERE THANKS TO THOSE WHO ARE LEAVING THE BOARD**

- **Dan Bartlett** (Mr. Beer to his friends)- Dan will also be sorely missed at the Board level. As Astoria's former City Manager, Dan is a superb resource when we are dealing with any local government issues or anything having to do with government regulations. Dan has finished his second three year term and now has to "sit out" at least one year before looking at a "return engagement". Having great board members who are willing to give our members the "full meal deal" gives your Board a tremendous amount of stability and maturity that is absent in most organizations. In addition to being a long time LCTC member, Dan is also the Chamber's "official Brew Pub representative" welcomed and honored at any Brew Pub in the World. His vast knowledge of and appreciation for the world of Beer, is shared with all who visit our communities when they get introduced to Dan's very own "invention"... The North Coast Beer Trail. Dan, you have done an unbelievable job serving on our Board and we all thank you.

- **Mac Burns**- Mac is yet one more example of a "two term wonder" that will be terribly missed. As the Executive Director of the Clatsop County Historical Society, Mac has always brought HUGE amounts of experience to your Board. His absolute love for our local history, as well as our local characters, has many times been a guiding factor in the direction your Board has taken the Chamber. Mac has served as Board Secretary for several years. He is often sought out when we need that required second signature on all checks and is happy to lend us his "John Hancock." Mac is just another one of the honest, hardworking, stable and committed Board members that we hate to lose. Mac, we all thank you for your services.

- Madam President, **Cindy Johnston**—As with Mac and Dan, Cindy also is finishing her second term, although her second "three year" term will last four years instead of three. It's not like Cindy is slower than the rest and it is taking her longer to "graduate", it's that on her last year Cindy was selected by her fellow Board members to serve as BOARD PRESIDENT. Our Bylaws allow for a Board member serving their last year of service, as Board President, to remain on the Board for an additional year to fulfill the office of PAST PRESIDENT. Allowing Cindy to remain on the Board and serving on the Executive Board provides for continuity between the Officers of the chamber, leading to a much smoother transition. Cindy has done a beautiful job as your President and is more than willing to share her experience and talents with our next year's President, Mr. Jeff Parker of Wauna Federal Credit Union. We all thank you Madam President for your service to the Astoria/Warrenton Chamber this past year. You have served our members well and we all look forward to working with you in your new role as Past President.

**Astoria Warrenton Area  
Chamber of Commerce  
2011-2012 President's Circle**

**EVENT PRESENTERS**

Safeway  
2012 Crab, Seafood & Wine Festival  
Pacific Power  
2011 Great Columbia Crossing

**PLATINUM LEVEL SPONSORS**

Coast River Business Journal  
Columbia Memorial Hospital  
Fred Meyer  
Georgia Pacific - Wauna Mill  
Holiday Inn Express  
Wadsworth Electric

**GOLD LEVEL SPONSORS**

Bank of Astoria  
Columbia River Bar Pilots  
Gimre's Shoes  
LEKTRO  
Lum's Auto Center  
Medix  
P&L Johnson Mechanical  
Warrenton Auto & Marine Repair  
Wauna Federal Credit Union  
Wet Dog Cafe

**SILVER LEVEL SPONSORS**

Englund Marine & Industrial Supply  
NW Natural  
Oregon LNG  
Pig 'n Pancake Restaurant  
State Senator Betsy Johnson  
Western Oregon Waste

**BRONZE LEVEL SPONSORS**

Anchor Graphics  
City Lumber  
Clatsop Community Bank  
Ocean Beauty  
The Ship Inn  
Suzanne Elise Assisted Living Center  
Teevin Bros. Land & Timber  
Youngs Bay Plaza

**Annual Banquet – RSVP Online Today!**

Shuffleboard, cruise hosts and even a splendid cocktail hour await your arrival during this year's Astoria Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting & Dinner Banquet! Mark your calendar for Saturday, January 21, at the Clatsop County Fairgrounds. This year, we're using an online registration system for easy RSVPs!!

Don't forget your sunglasses because this year's banquet will emphasize our nautical surroundings with the theme: "Cruising into the Future!" and focus on how the economy is affecting our local businesses.

RSVP required. Learn more at [OldOregon.com](http://OldOregon.com) – just click on the Annual Banquet near the top of the page.



**Nominations Due!**

Do you know someone who always steps up to the plate when others aren't willing or able to help? During the Astoria Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting & Banquet, we take time to honor members of our community who go above and beyond to make this a better place to live, work & play.

Take time to nominate someone today! You have two opportunities:

- The "**George**" Award is derived from an old saying, "Let George do it," – a tongue in cheek comment that means let someone else do it. This person is someone who always says 'yes' when others are too busy.
- The **Richard Ford Distinguished Service Award** is given to a person who has devoted time and energy in countless ways to our community. The award is aptly named after the late Richard Ford, a Warrenton resident whose impact was far reaching. Ford worked for the city of Warrenton as the building inspector and fire chief, but most importantly volunteered much of his free time helping his neighbors.

Nomination forms are available at [OldOregon.com](http://OldOregon.com) and also at the Astoria Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce and Warrenton City Hall. All nominations are due by Friday, Dec. 16th. Each community's independent awards committee evaluates the nominations, makes the selection and notifies the Chamber of the person to be awarded. Learn more at [OldOregon.com](http://OldOregon.com).

**Seeking Crab Festival Vendors**

Vendor applications for the Astoria Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce Crab, Seafood & Wine Festival are now available online at [OldOregon.com](http://OldOregon.com)! Applications are due by Friday, January 20, and the event will take place April 27-28-29. We will be celebrating the 30th Annual Crab, Seafood & Wine Festival with great coastal cuisine, arts and crafts, wine tasting and more! If you make and/or produce your own product – don't miss out on this opportunity to reach approximately 18,000 potential customers. Learn more at the Vendor Information page online at [OldOregon.com](http://OldOregon.com).



**Astoria - Warrenton Chamber of Commerce**

*To drive prosperity by supporting our business community, while celebrating our unique history and heritage*  
111 West Marine Drive | PO Box 176 | Astoria, OR 97103 | (503) 325-6311 - voice | (503) 325-9767 - fax

## Welcome New Members

### 116th Air Control Squadron – Camp Rilea

Joshua Paddock, Recruiter  
91588 Rilea-McCarter Rd.  
Warrenton, OR 97146  
*Mailing:* 9904 SE Washington St.  
Portland, OR 97216  
(971) 404-7716, (800) 392-1801  
[joshua.paddock@ang.af.mil](mailto:joshua.paddock@ang.af.mil)

### Astoria Community Coupon Magazine

David Posalski  
19350 SW 89th Ave, Ste C  
Tualatin, OR 97062  
(503) 570-3404 or (503) 536-5396  
[davidposalski@gmail.com](mailto:davidposalski@gmail.com)  
[gozuno.com](http://gozuno.com)

### Bank of Astoria – Warrenton Branch

Kristin Talamantez,  
AVP Branch Manager  
670 SE Marlin Ave.  
Warrenton, OR 97146  
*Mailing:* PO Box 1000  
Warrenton, OR 97146  
(503) 861-9750  
[ktalamantez@bankofastoria.com](mailto:ktalamantez@bankofastoria.com)  
[bankofastoria.com](http://bankofastoria.com)

### CRS Thrift Store Consolidates

Coast Rehabilitation Services of Warrenton has combined their Furniture Warehouse with their Thrift Store located at 207 7th Street in Astoria. The move will better serve customers by creating a one-stop location for the purchase of clothes, home furnishings, cookware, and other items in the spacious store. In addition, parking and access to the new location is superior to the old location.

The move will enable the staff at CRS's Thrift Store to better support people with developmental disabilities through training, encouragement, and support. These efforts prepare people with developmental disabilities to find jobs in our community.

Coast Rehabilitation Services is a non-profit organization that supports people with developmental disabilities as they strive to achieve the life they are intended to lead. CRS maintains a person-centered philosophy when it comes to supporting the people in our organization. CRS believes that encouraging people with developmental disabilities helps them to become meaningful and contributing members of their communities. It allows their unique and delightful qualities to enrich everyone.

CRS always welcomes donations of goods or services at all times. All donations to the Thrift Store go directly to the support of people in our community.

### Carruthers/ Marlen International

Pete Johnson, General Manager  
441 30th Street  
Astoria, OR 97103  
(503) 468-0441  
[pete.johnson@marlen.com](mailto:pete.johnson@marlen.com)  
[www.carruthers.us](http://www.carruthers.us) / [www.marlen.com](http://www.marlen.com)

### Dana Gunderson

Individual Membership  
PO Box 63  
Astoria, OR 97103

### EcoTours of Oregon Day Tours

Jeff Davies, President  
5125 SW Dover Lane  
Portland, OR 97225  
(503) 475-0226, (888) 868-7733  
[info@ecotours-of-oregon.com](mailto:info@ecotours-of-oregon.com)  
[www.ecotours-of-oregon.com](http://www.ecotours-of-oregon.com)

### TMB Financial, LLC

Teresa Brown, Owner  
1087 Nautical Dr.  
Hammond, OR 97121  
(503) 861-9402  
[teresa@tmbfinancial.com](mailto:teresa@tmbfinancial.com)  
[tmbfinancial.com](http://tmbfinancial.com)

### Tiki Charters

Oly Olson, Owner  
350 Industry  
Astoria, OR 97103  
(503) 325-7818  
[www.tikicharter.com](http://www.tikicharter.com)

### Wauna Federal Credit Union – Safeway Branch

Jeff Parker, Branch Manager  
3250 Leif Erickson Dr., Astoria, OR  
*Mailing:* 100 Columbia, Astoria, OR 97103  
(503) 338-1808, (888) 773-3236  
[jeff.parker@waunafcu.org](mailto:jeff.parker@waunafcu.org)  
[www.waunafcu.org](http://www.waunafcu.org)

### Wauna Federal Credit Union – Warrenton Branch

Susan Harkleroad, Branch Manager  
107 S. Hwy 101  
Warrenton, OR 97146  
(503) 338-1802, (888) 773-3236  
[susan.harkleroad@waunafcu.org](mailto:susan.harkleroad@waunafcu.org)  
[www.waunafcu.org](http://www.waunafcu.org)

---

*Is your business prepared for a power outage?  
Check out the tips from Pacific Power at  
[www.pacificpower.net/outage](http://www.pacificpower.net/outage)*

### Ribbon Cutting for New Location

Darlene Warren has moved her Farmers Insurance Agency to a new location and welcomes everyone to a Ribbon Cutting on Saturday, December 3rd, at noon in celebration. Her sparkling new office is located at 1639 SE Ensign Lane, Suite B105, in the newest building in the Warrenton Highlands shopping center near Staples. Come join us as we congratulate Darlene on her new digs!

### Ring In a New Career at CCC

Clatsop Community College, in collaboration with MTC Works, will be hosting a career exploration event on Wednesday, December 14th, from 4-7pm on the main campus in Astoria. Help CCC promote this event by posting the enclosed **flyer** in your business or community!

The event will provide participants an opportunity to identify career paths that make the most of their skills and interests, provide information about what's hot on the career front regionally, and introduce attendees to CCC students who have built their skills through a variety of CCC programs. Participants will learn about CCC's admissions process and how they can earn 6 free credits at CCC through the college's Lives in Transitions program. In addition, they will hear about retraining options available through MTC Works.

This event is FREE. Registration is required and accessible online at [www.clatsopcc.edu/new-career](http://www.clatsopcc.edu/new-career) or by phone at (503) 338-2371. Specific details regarding the event location will be provided upon attendee registration.

## Market Research Firm Names KMUN #1

The professional market research firm, Eastlan Ratings, has ranked KMUN 91.9FM the top rated radio station in its market. Eastlan's research compiled in winter, 2011, has been published showing that KMUN totals more weekly listeners in its market than any other radio broadcaster.

"This is Eastlan's first survey of our market since Fall of 2006," says Tom Hartland, Development Director of Coast Community Radio operating KMUN 91.9FM, "and just as they reported with that survey, KMUN remains our market's #1 station among listeners age twelve and up."

Broadcasters in markets nationwide rely on professional research to help attract potential advertisers. Stations demonstrating greater numbers of listeners tend to justify higher advertising rates. "Advertisers want to know their budgets are giving them the best exposure to their market," explains Hartland. "That's true for advertisers whether they're considering radio, TV or even newspaper ads."

Listeners in the Astoria and Seaside region were the focus of Eastlan's research which found a total of 18 stations commanded a measurable audience among those listeners.

Totalling the number of listeners for the entire week, the newly released data shows KMUN at the top, followed by KAST AM with KVAS scoring 3rd in the rankings.

## Chamber Member Orientation

**Date:** Tuesday, December 6th

**Time:** 10:00am to 11:30am

**Location:** Chamber "Green Building"

This program is designed to help you take advantage of all your Chamber benefits! New, "old" and prospective members welcome! RSVP's would be appreciated as space is limited.



**POLK RILEY  
PRINTING**  
& Design

FULL SERVICE COMMERCIAL PRINTERS • FROM DESIGN TO DELIVERY

503.325.7775 • 92816 HWY 202 • ASTORIA

## ASTORIA'S BEST

Registered and Bonded  
Computer Sales and Service

LEO FINZI | BRIAN FINZI

1020 Commercial St. #2  
Astoria, OR 97103  
503-325-2300  
503-325-4900 (fax)  
503-440-5054 (emergency)  
AstoriasBest.com

FAST, FRIENDLY AND ECONOMICAL



## Astoria-Warrenton Ambassadors Report

Our November meeting took place at the Bridgewater Bistro. Location for meetings rotate quarterly between member restaurants in Astoria and Warrenton, and we discussed where our next locations would be.

**Scholarship Committee update:** We will be meeting in December to discuss getting the information out to counselors and coaches in the county's high schools.

**Ambassadors Officers update:** Nominations were put forth for the 2012 Ambassador Officers. The slate to be voted on at the December meeting includes:

President – Karen Shinabery

Vice President – Christa Svensson

Financial Rep – Jennifer Bennett

Secretary - Lynne Fuller and Virginia Olson

Please plan to attend the Business After Hours this month at the Cellar on 10th. It's a wonderful opportunity to acquaint yourself with local businesses and vendors. Happy Holidays!

*Article submitted by Donelda Annat.*

## How to Conduct Employee Investigation

The Lower Columbia Human Resource Management Association (LCHRNA) is pleased to present Tim Timmons for our January monthly meeting who will speak on how to conduct an employee investigation.

Corporate Integrity Officer Tim Timmons will take us through a process that works for investigating any type of employee complaint – from ethics or compliance violations, to harassment, to complaints about disciplinary action taken, to whistle-blower allegations.

Tim's background includes six years as an officer and aviator in the U.S. Marine Corps, a bachelor's degree in economics, 15+ years as executive vice president and chief operating officer of a 454-bed hospital in Salem, and, for the past thirteen years, he has assisted organizations with the implementation of ethics and compliance programs. He has presented on compliance-related topics at national conferences and to numerous regional and statewide organizations.

The meeting will be held on January 4, at the Baked Alaska Restaurant in Astoria, from 11:30am to 1:00pm. You need not be a member to attend. Register online at [www.lchrma.org](http://www.lchrma.org). The cost, including lunch prepared by the Baked Alaska, is \$15 for SHRM members and \$20 for non-members.



**SECURITY  
SIGNS**

**Custom Interior  
& Exterior Signs**

**503.232.4172**

[www.securitysigns.com](http://www.securitysigns.com)

*Serving the coast since 1925*

## CHAMBER CALENDAR - DECEMBER 2011

*Note: The Chamber is now on our winter hours, open Monday to Saturday from 9am to 5pm.*

- 6 **Chamber Member Orientation**  
10:00 am @ Chamber "Green Building"
- 7 **Chamber Executive Board Meeting**  
1:30 pm @ Chamber "Green Building"
- 7 **Chamber Ambassadors Meeting**  
5:30 pm @ Bridgewater Bistro, Astoria
- 8 **Lower Columbia Tourism Committee Meeting**  
8 am @ Chamber "Green Building"
- 15 **Newsletter Articles & Advertisements Due**
- 15 **Chamber Board of Directors Meeting**  
4:00 pm @ Wet Dog Cafe  
*Staff will join the Board for this meeting, the Chamber will close at 4.*
- 15 **Business After Hours**  
5:30 pm @ The Cellar on 10th
- 20 **Newsletter Inserts & Payment Due**
- 25 *Merry Christmas! Chamber office will close at Noon on Dec 23 through Dec 26.*
- Jan 1 *Happy New Year! Chamber office will be closed Jan 1-2.*
- NO **Chamber Circle Breakfast**  
None in December - Happy Holidays!

### Business After Hours

**Date:** Thursday, December 15th

**Time:** 5:30 to 7 pm

**Location:** The Cellar on 10th, 1004 Marine Dr., Astoria

The Chamber Ambassadors and the host business invite you to attend this evening filled with food, beverages and plenty of good company at Business After Hours, typically the 3rd Thursday each month. Chamber members and their guests will enjoy this fun evening of networking, refreshments and door prizes! Don't forget, you must be present to win the member-only cash pot drawing.

### "Business After Hours" Schedule Open

Sign-up now if you would like to host a "BAH" next year at your place of business. This is a unique opportunity to market your goods and services to fellow business owners and leaders in the community, and build referrals. There is no charge for these events and only six slots remain open for 2012. Please contact Rose at the Chamber via email ([rose@oldoregon.com](mailto:rose@oldoregon.com)) or by phone (503) 325-6311 if you would like to sign up to host a BAH or participate in one of the multi-BAH's.

### Civic Organizations Meeting Dates

- Astoria Downtown HDA** — 1<sup>st</sup> Fri. @ 8:30am, Baked Alaska
- Astoria Rotary** — Mondays @ Noon, Elks Club
- Elks** — 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays @ 8pm, Elks Club
- Kiwanis** — 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays @ Noon, Golden Luck
- Moose** — Wednesdays @ 6:30pm, Moose Lodge
- Warrenton Bus. Assoc.** — 1<sup>st</sup> Tues. @ 6pm, Warrenton City Hall
- Warrenton Rotary** — Wednesdays @ 7am, Doogers

## Abundant Holiday Season Events

*Here is a sampling of events that were submitted to the Chamber for inclusion in the newsletter.*

### 5th Annual Scrooged in Astoria

**When:** Dec 1-18: Thurs-Sat, 7:30pm; Sun. 11 & 18, 2pm

**Where:** ASOC Playhouse, 129 W. Bond, Astoria

**What:** Shanghaied in Astoria characters and melodrama style loosely based on the timeless classic by Dickens.

**Cost:** \$8-15 tickets - in advance or at the door

**More:** (503) 325-6104 / [astorstreetworkcompany.com](http://astorstreetworkcompany.com)

### 16th Annual Starving Artist Faire

**When:** Dec. 2, 7-10pm; Dec. 3, 10-6pm; Dec. 4, 11-4pm

**Where:** St. Mary's Star of the Sea Aud., 1411 Grand, Astoria

**What:** Handcrafted art by 50 fine Craftsmen, local musicians including the "Scrooge" Choir & Santa Claus

**Cost:** \$2 sugg. donation at the door will go to the ASOC.

**More:** (503) 458-6250 / [astorstreetworkcompany.com](http://astorstreetworkcompany.com)

### Astoria Winter Market

**When:** Sat. & Sun. to Dec. 18, 11 am – 4pm

**Where:** Fort George Showroom at 14th & Duane

**What:** Bringing the best of the Astoria Sunday Market indoors! Brewery Tours at 1 & 4pm

**Cost:** Free Entry

**More:** (503) 325-1010 / [astoriasundaymarket.com](http://astoriasundaymarket.com)

### Maritime Museum Community Day

**When:** Sunday, Dec. 4 11am - 3pm

**Where:** Columbia River Maritime Museum

**What:** Tour exhibits, shop the store

**Cost:** Free admission with Food Bank donation

**More:** (503) 325-2323 / [www.cmmm.org](http://www.cmmm.org)

### Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

**When:** Sunday, Dec. 4, 4pm

**Where:** Warrenton

WBA will announce more details soon.



### Spa at CPH - Holiday Open House

**When:** Thursday, Dec 8, 5-7pm

**Where:** Spa at Cannery Pier Hotel

**What:** Specially priced gift certificates, food, drink, treats, a free raffle and other surprises. Tour the facilities. Meet the professional therapists and explore the Spa.

**More:** Flyer in this newsletter or (503) 325-4996



[www.OregonLNG.com](http://www.OregonLNG.com)

## OregonLNG

➤ Bringing energy and jobs to Northwest Oregon.

5 North Highway 101, #500 • Warrenton, Oregon 97146

## 2011 Board of Directors

(year shown is term expiration)

### Officers:

President - Cindi Johnston	2011
Bank of Astoria	
Secretary - Mac Burns	2011
Clatsop Co. Historical Society	
Treasurer - Lon Mathis	2012
Flowers by Laurelwood	
President Elect - Jeff Parker	2013
Wauna Federal Credit Union	

### Members at Large:

Dan Arnoth	2012
Individual	
Dan Bartlett	2011
Individual	
Mark Gagnon	2013
Clatsop Distributing	
Chris Gramson	2012
Wadsworth Electric	
Norma Hernandez	2013
Lower Columbia Hispanic Council	
Sara Meyer	2011
Individual	
Lorrie Radu	2013
P & L Johnson Mechanical	
Jill Storey	2013
Dairy Queen	
Mike Wallis	2012
WWC Business Solutions/Cellar on 10th	
Caroline Wuebben	2012
Holiday Inn Express	

### Advisory Board:

Astoria City Manager. – Paul Benoit  
 Warrenton City Manager – Kurt Fritsch  
 Clatsop County Manager – Duane Cole  
 Astoria School Dist. 1C – Craig Hoppes  
 USCG – Capt. Bruce Jones  
 Education Rep. – Tita Montero, TPJCC  
 Chamber Ambassadors – Joyce Rangila  
 CEDR – Kevin Leahy

### Staff & Volunteers:

Executive Director - Skip Hauke, [skip@oldoregon.com](mailto:skip@oldoregon.com)  
 Bookkeeping - Sheila Johnson, [sheila@oldoregon.com](mailto:sheila@oldoregon.com)  
 Assistant Director - Rose Alsbury, [rose@oldoregon.com](mailto:rose@oldoregon.com)  
 Marketing Mgr. - Regina Willkie, [regina@oldoregon.com](mailto:regina@oldoregon.com)  
 Event Mgr. - Alana Kujala, [alana@oldoregon.com](mailto:alana@oldoregon.com)  
 Visitor Services Mgr. -  
 Suzanne Cannon, [suzanne@oldoregon.com](mailto:suzanne@oldoregon.com)

### Astoria Welcome Center Staff:

Dave Cannon, Nancy Hoover, & Barb Roberts

**Chamber Volunteers:** Donelda Annat, Bob Baltimore, Barbara Campbell, Bob Chopping, Marlene Colendich, Jim Durham, Emily Gray, Elsie Hansen, Ella Hill, Vickie Joseph, Marilyn Jensen, John Jensen, Marie Kujala, David Nelson, Jerry Olson, Libby Person, Marcella Price, and Susan Wentworth

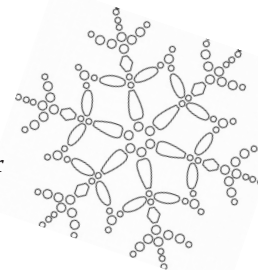
## Holiday Season Events Continued

### 23rd Annual Christmas Food Parade

When: Dec. 8-9-10, 6:30-8:30 pm  
 Where: Multiple Astoria Neighborhood Routes  
 What: Astoria Fire & Rescue personnel will be picking up non-perishable food items and donations, with decorated fire trucks, holiday music and Santa! 24/7 donation bin at Fire Station, too.  
 More: Flyer in this newsletter / (503) 325-2345

### Holiday Concert at Liberty

When: Sunday, Dec. 18, 3:00pm  
 Where: Liberty Theater, Downtown Astoria  
 What: The Coats vocal performance, with special guests Geoffrey Castle and SHS Vocal Choir  
 Cost: Tickets are \$15-25, available at Box Office  
 More: (503) 325-8108 / [www.liberty-theater.org](http://www.liberty-theater.org)



### Bicentennial New Year's Eve Blowout

When: Saturday, Dec. 31  
 Where: Liberty Theater & Banker's Suite  
 What: Celebration with 5-course meal, silent auction, games, dancing, more  
 Cost: \$50 party only: \$100 dinner and party  
 More: (503) 325-2203

### 3rd Annual Teen Scene Dance Party

When: Dec. 31st, 8:00pm - 12:30am  
 Where: ASOC Playhouse, 129 W. Bond, Astoria  
 What: All ages, chaperoned dance party with DJ, Ring in the New Year for every US Time Zone, concessions, fun prizes and more.  
 Cost: \$5 at the door - fund-raiser for ASOC  
 More: (503) 325-6104 / [astorstretoprycompany.com](http://astorstretoprycompany.com)

### Tamale Sale! Fund-raiser for LCHC

The Lower Columbia Hispanic Council is offering a delicious way for you to contribute to their organization with a Tamale Fund-raiser. Tamales are available in three flavors and are \$2 each. They can be pre-ordered through the 9th, and will be available on Dec. 14-15 for pick up or delivery. Tamales make an easy dinner just in time for the busy holiday season! Or bring in a meal for your office or club meeting! No order is too small or too large. To order, or for more information, contact the LCHC at (503) 325-4547 or see the flyer in this newsletter.



Psss...

Scrooged  
 In Astoria

is coming...

To the ASOC Playhouse  
 Dec. 1st to 18th 2011  
 AND THE 16TH ANNUAL

STARVING  
 ARTIST  
 FAIRE

STAR OF THE SEA AUDITORIUM  
 DEC. 2ND 3RD & 4TH

& ON SATURDAY DEC. 31ST 2011  
 3RD ANNUAL ASOC TEEN SCENE DANCE PARTY  
 ASOC PLAYHOUSE 129 W. BOND STR. ASTORIA




---



---

## MEMBER OF THE MONTH

---



**Goodwill Industries / Job Connection**  
 1450 SE Discovery Lane  
 Warrenton, OR 97146  
 (503) 861-9517  
[www.meetgoodwill.org](http://www.meetgoodwill.org)  
 Belinda Dorosh, Manager

### CHANGED LIFE: The North Coast's Alan Isaksen - A Lesson in Perseverance

It cost him at least ten jobs, "Employers didn't know what kept me from excelling, but knew something was wrong." That "something" also greatly affected Alan Isaksen's school years; "My mind sees the row of numbers, but my hand writes something different." Struggling to keep up, he was held back in third grade and had to wait until his 32nd year of life to learn he was born with dyslexia.

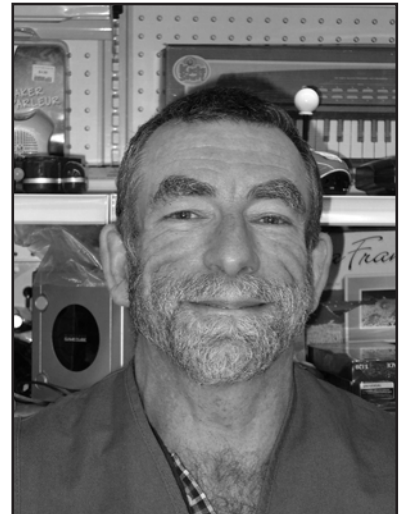
Doctors tell us dyslexia causes problems with the brain's ability to recognize and process symbols, though it does not affect thinking or understanding complex ideas. Alan explains that what he did learn well in school was how to become invisible, "Eventually, I learned to stay in the back, avoid observation. I struggled as best I could to pass."

In addition to dyslexia, he copes with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). Adults with ADD often experience difficulty managing day-to-day tasks and responsibilities "The last job I lost was as a merchandising manager. I have trouble organizing things", Alan says. He held onto that position less than three years.

With Goodwill, Alan felt safe applying for work. We immediately saw his great potential and hired him only a week after the Warrenton Goodwill store opened in October 2010. Store Manager Belinda Dorosh says Alan is dependable and extremely capable, "He is positive and thorough -- an outstanding employee in all aspects. We love having Alan as part of the team!" It's no wonder; competent in both receiving and processing donations as well as producing electrical items, Alan routinely works at an impressive pace.

Alan is also thankful that the store is accessible by public transportation. He explains his ADD makes him feel both overwhelmed and distracted when driving.

When not at work, Alan's passion is expressed in a local shop he and his partner of 18 years own called The Troll's Nook. Offering collectables from the 1850s to present, it also showcases soft sculpture, bags, period aprons, dolls and crafts Alan has made. "Sales are down right now, the economy being what it is adds to that. But in the summer season we see more of our customers." He says the beautiful North Coast beaches draw summer tourists, and many locals walk one block over to their store either before or after visiting Sunday Market, the area's farmers market.



Content now at work and happy to create at home, Alan finds himself in a better place these days. "I love everything about Goodwill. I'm made to feel my work is appreciated and I love being a part of the mission." It is clear to us that our new employee models not only dedication, but a willingness to learn no matter the barrier. His hard work and sunny attitude exemplify the Goodwill mission.

*Article provided by Dale Emanuel of Goodwill Industries*