



The Village Current

An e-Newsletter of the
Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce

The mission of the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce, through the efforts of our membership, shall be to contribute to the cultural, social and economic development, growth and sustainability of Blowing Rock while preserving the charm and character of the village.

REMARKABLE Customer Service

Everybody dealing with the public delivers customer service. The question is, "What KIND of customer service are you delivering?" Is it bad or is it good? Is it good enough or is it great? Is it so great that customers tell others about you? That's REMARKABLE! Join the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce for the third in our How to Grow When It's Slow Seminar Series: REMARKABLE Customer Service. Our presenter for June 10th's discussion will be Bill Barr of Handel Barr Learning, Inc., Performance Consulting. Barr has over twenty years experience as a performance and management trainer. Come learn



how to deliver REMARKABLE customer service every time to everybody you meet. Then you will be "the talk of the town." And have all the friends you want as well. Come learn the ten top tips to REMARKABLE service that

will help you. be successful in your job. It will make the job more fun and rewarding, and keep your customers coming back for more. The seminar will take place Thursday, June 10, 2010, 8AM -10AM at the Blowing Rock Fire House Meeting Room IN THE NEW FIREHOUSE ON 321, Valley Blvd. Doors will open at 7:30am for coffee. This seminar is free to members of the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce; non members may attend for \$20. You can call the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce to sign up, seating is limited and is on a first come first serve basis. Come to the seminar that everybody will be talking about. It's REMARKABLE!

Concierge 101: We'll See You at Tanger on Tuesday!

The Blowing Rock Chamber is inviting all of the "purveyors of fun things to do" to set up a free booth at the Tanger Outlet Center on Tuesday, June 8, 2010 from 3 – 6pm to show off their products and services. This is great place to learn about our area attraction, arts, recreation, restaurants, publications and businesses that offer seminars or special tourism related services. "We need for those folks who work the front lines with our visitors to know who's out there when a visitor asks what there is to do in or town,"

said Charles Hardin, Executive Director of the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce. "In a sense, we're all a concierge in a town with a lot of visitors, and we need to know how to answer the questions they often have." The event is open to the public. Attendees will meet area outfitters, rafting guides, shopping, arts events, restaurants and the area's major attractions. Concierge 101 is like a crash course in all the fun things in our area. Those in attendance find out quickly that the answer to the question of

what there is to do is: LOTS. Restaurants will offer samples of their fare, giving attendees a taste of the many kinds of dining that can be found in Blowing Rock. Many people comment that they didn't realize there were so many things to choose from. Booths will be set up outside in the Tanger Outlet Center courtyard and parking is plentiful. For more information call or e-mail Stephanie at 295-7851 or membership@blowingrock.com.

Volume 5, Issue 10

Friday,
June 4, 2010

Inside this issue:

Meet Your Board: Genie Starnes	2
Enhance Your BlowingRock.com listing	2
Turn Your Treasures Into Cash at the Auctions	2
Symphony by The Lake	3
Meet the Symphony by the Mountains	3
Links to Keep Your Informed	4
This Week in Photos	4

Calendar of Events

- Tuesday, June 8, Concierge 101, Tanger Outlet Center, 3pm – 6pm
- Thursday, June 10, How to Grow When It's Slow, Customer Service, New Fire Department Meeting Room, 8:00am - 10:00am
- Saturday, June 12, Art in the Park, American Legion Grounds, 10:00 am - 5:00pm
- Tuesday, June 15, Business After Hours, Christopher's Wine & Cheese, 5:30-7:00pm
- Tuesday, June 15, Blowing Rock Auctions, American Legion, Auction begins at 7pm



Meet Your Board:

Genie Starnes, Individual Representative

Genie Starnes is a member of the Board of Directors.

A native North Carolinian and UNC- Chapel Hill graduate, Genie and her husband, Jerry, have lived in Blowing Rock as year round residents for the past nine years. They are owner/partners of Blowing Rock Real Estate. They have two children Christi, who lives in Memphis, Tennessee with her husband and two children and Chad, who resides with his wife in Dallas, Texas. "Jerry and I enjoy our children and grandchildren and visit with them often. Their love of Blowing Rock rivals ours." A

former teacher and realtor, Genie is fully retired and enjoys volunteering in the community. Most recently she has been Chairwoman for the Showcase House which benefited the Blowing Rock Hospital and is currently involved as Co-Chairperson for Groovy Nights II, which will raise funds for the Community Foundation. Serving on the BRAAC board is a passion. You only have to look around to see the colorful flowers, baskets and plantings BRAAC has worked hard to provide.

BRAAC's efforts helped to make Blowing Rock "The Prettiest Small Town in North Carolina. Being a member of the Chamber Board offers each of us the opportunity to work together to benefit our beautiful and special Town. I want everyone to love Blowing Rock as we do. My hope is that many others will become involved and work positively for this community by supporting our merchants, business owners and citizens. Working together, we can accomplish anything!"

Enhance Your BlowingRock.com Listing

Are you looking to enhance your presence on the Blowing Rock Chamber website? Here is an opportunity to do so by adding a 30 second or 1 minute video commercial about your business. Blowing Rock video producer Tom

Santay is offering a special price for Chamber members through June 10th. Call Tom at 828-773-9585 or visit his website TomSantay.com to view examples of his work. Your commercial will be added to your listing on the Chamber website, and is available for

use on your own website and on video sharing sites like YouTube. Feel free to contact Tom for a free quote for your specific video needs.

**ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!****BLOWING ROCK AUCTIONS — TUESDAY NIGHTS LIVE!!!!**

Turn your Treasures into CASH for YOU!

NOW LOOKING for CONSIGNMENT ITEMS

For JUNE 29,2010 Auction

Information greatstateauction.com (ASAP)

Randall Woodruff *or*

BR Chamber Representative Ms Miller suziline@bellsouth.net

We need 160 items so do not be bashful. Give us a ring

Thank you

Symphony By the Lake is Just Around the Corner

Spend an evening under the stars by beautiful Chetola Lake with the Symphony of the Mountains at the 23rd Annual Symphony by the Lake, Friday, July 23. This annual outdoor performance of symphonic music, sponsored by the Chamber, on Chetola Resort's sweeping lawn has become the high point of Blowing Rock's summer season. Concert goers are welcome to bring a picnic basket or enjoy a picnic or dinner buffet prepared by The Manor House Restaurant at Chetola. Following the music, a spectacular fireworks show will cap off a fantastic evening. Purchasing a patron tent is a fun option for our business members. Patron tents can be used for many purposes. A business could choose to host a staff or customer apprecia-

tion party. Because many people stop by and "visit" at each tent, it can also be a way to meet and greet potential customers. Single tents come with twelve tickets, chairs, and an eight foot banquet table. Of course, individuals and families are welcome to purchase patron tents as well. Some patrons really enjoy participating in the tent decorating competition, and show off the creativity of their business or family in this way. Patrons are also granted special parking and can pick up and drop off at the tent for their set-up and break-down. Patron tents are popular and are limited in number, if you are interested in a patron tent, you must call in advance to be placed on a waiting list. The Blowing Rock Chamber provides a free shuttle from the

Food Lion Shopping Center in Blowing Rock to Chetola. The shuttle is handicapped accessible and drops concert goers off at the lawn with a minimum of walking. Tickets are \$26.00 for adults and \$10 for children under the age of twelve. Tickets are now available at the Visitor Center /Chamber of Commerce or by calling the Chamber office at 828-295-7851. Parking is also available at Tanger Shoppes on the Parkway. The gates open at 5:30pm for picnicking by beautiful Chetola Lake at Chetola Resort, the performance will begin at 7:30pm, followed by fireworks.



Meet the Symphony of the Mountains

From www.SymphonyoftheMountains.org: Symphony of the Mountains was formed in 1946 as the Kingsport Civic Symphony. Twenty-seven musicians attended the first rehearsal and the number grew rapidly to more than forty. The first concert was free to the public and neither the conductor nor any of the musicians were paid. Today Symphony of the Mountains serves the entire Northeast Tennessee/Southwest Virginia region. It is a fully-professional orchestra of more than 65 musicians, drawn from the Tri-Cities area as well as sym-

phony orchestras in Knoxville, Asheville, Roanoke and beyond. Symphony of the Mountains is conducted by Maestro Cornelia Kodkani-Laemml. Maestro Kodkani-Laemml joined the Symphony of the Mountains in 2006, the Symphony's 60th year. Born in Switzerland, she brings a wealth of experience to Symphony of the Mountains. Cornelia holds three Master's Degrees, one in piano from the conservatory of Winterthur, one in choral conducting from the University and Conservatory of Zurich and one in Orchestra Conducting from Northwestern University,

where she studied under Maestro Victor Yampolsky. Before coming to the United States, Mrs. Kodkani taught music history, theory, choir, orchestra and voice. She has also conducted various choirs, youth and community orchestras, operas and musical productions throughout Europe. You can learn more about the Symphony of the Mountains at their web-site: www.SymphonyoftheMountains.org.



Maestro Cornelia Kodkani-Laemml.



**The Blowing Rock
Chamber of Commerce**

**The Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce
2010 Board of Directors**

Contact the Chamber:

7738 Valley Blvd Phone: 828-295-7851
PO Box 406 Fax: 828-295-4643
Blowing Rock, NC 28605 E-mail: info@blowingrock.com

**Keep Up with the Latest on Issues that Effect
Your Business.**

Links to help you Stay in The Know

[US Chamber of Commerce](#)

[NC Chamber of Commerce](#)

[United States Senate](#)

[United States House of Representatives](#)

North Carolina General Assembly :

[Senate](#)

[House of Representatives](#)

E-Mail Your Elected Officials:

U.S. Rep. Virginia Foxx – 202-225-2071 - [Web Email](#)

State Sen. Steve Goss – 919-733-5742 – [steveg@ncleg.net](#)

State Rep. Cullie Tarleton – 919-733-7727 –
[culliet@ncleg.net](#)

Officers

Nancy Santay, President

Cabin Fever

Margaret Holder, Vice President

Chetola Resort

Rita Davis, Past President

Wachovia Bank

Linda Gilleland, Secretary

Greystone Insurance

Deborah McDowell, Treasurer

Mountaineer Inn

Members of the Board

John Aldridge

Individual Representative

Tim Miller

Blowing Rock Frameworks & Gallery

Betsy Collins

Individual Representative

Joellyn Gibbons

Individual Representative

Don Hubble

Individual Representative

J. B. Lawrence

United Community Bank

Cathy Robbins

Tweetsie Railroad

Doug Pegram

Village Real Estate

Cindy Milner

Bistro Roca

Dick Goosman

Meadowbrook Inn

Christopher Brantley

Christopher's Wine & Cheese

Julie Robertson

The Last Straw

Genie Starnes

Individual Representative

Cathy Williamson

Kilwin's Chocolates & Ice Cream

Steven Price

Westglow

&

Jerry Burns, In Memory

Individual Representative

This Week in Photos



Say Cheese. If you have photos you'd like to share, please send them to Stephanie@blowingrock.com.

We're especially looking for photos from our Business Members in their Businesses!



Scenes from the 2010 Chamber Picnic. Thanks to Franks n More, Pats Almost World Famous Cheeseburgers, Chetola and Poppy's by Design for helping to make the event great!