

September Chamber Corner
By Marji Graf, Executive Director
Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber would like to thank the [Green Mountain Banquet & Conference Center](#) for hosting and serving great food for our **3rd Annual Business Expo** on August 10th.

40 businesses exhibited their products and services. Thank you to the [Message for the Week](#) for being our media sponsor. Thanks to **Adam Rosenberg** who sang and played his guitar for us. Thank you to the many companies that donated generous free door prizes! One lucky winner received the grand door prize of a gift basket worth over \$100 donated by [Peoples United Bank](#). The silent auction winners were: Dan Cote was the highest bidder for [TD Banks](#) wooden Wine Box w/coppola claret. Elaine Corino was the highest bidder for [New England Deck and Patio's](#) flowers and ceramic planter. Christina Smith was the highest bidder on [Springfield Medical Care Systems](#) bear & fleece zip up. Susan McNeely was the highest bidder for [Inn Victoria's](#) 2 high teas. Elaine Corino was the highest bidder on [Connecticut River Bank's](#) maple basket and Kathy Sarnes was the highest bidder on [Calm Moments Spa](#) Facial w/micro dermabrasion.

It was great seeing chamber members connecting with one another and being able to learn more about each others' products and services. The venue was a great opportunity for the public to learn about the different businesses that make up the Okemo Valley region, all under one roof. Feedback from the vendors suggest we have the 4th Annual Business Expo on a Saturday in May next year in conjunction with a home & garden show! This would bring in more of the public.

Thank you [Okemo Mountain Resort](#) for hosting a party for chamber members on 8/23 from 4-6 so we could personally experience the new Adventure Zone. My son and I loved the mini golf, bungee jumping and timber ripper mountain coaster. Didn't get to play the disc golf yet.

The Chamber has been hosting free continental breakfasts in each town, to share with the community what the Chamber is doing, and what resources we might be able to bring to each community that we serve. Please join us:

September 15 - Wilder House Restaurant at [President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site](#) in Plymouth

October 24 - [Bryant House](#) - Weston
Please join us at 8am. Feel free to invite a guest

Chamber **Golf Tournament** is Thursday, **September 15** at [Okemo Valley Golf Club](#). Call the Chamber office to sign up your foursome. All are welcomed.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for this special event: Wednesday, **September 21st 5:30-7:30pm at Bella Luna Ristorante - 2012 Women of Okemo Valley Calendar reveal party!** You don't want to miss this! Purchase your calendar at the door (\$20). All proceeds benefit the VT/NH Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure for breast cancer and the Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce. Meet the women who participated in the calendar and you will be able to get them to autograph their page. We will also be auctioning off select items used in each shoot!!! This event is for adults only!

Be sure to watch our Okemo Valley Chamber show on LPC-TV.org
I interviewed new members Patrick Ciriello of Hawks Mountain Consulting and Tyler Austin of Heartland Payment Systems.

Free coupon offers on www.yourplaceinvermont.com
Our coupon offer button on our website received over 2,000 hits!

The Chamber welcomes the following **new members**:

[Morningside Hang Gliding & Paragliding](#) - Claremont, NH

[Green Mountain Marketing & Advertising](#) - Killington, VT

[Bowyer Marketing, LLC](#) - Ludlow, VT

[Milne Travel American Express](#) - West Lebanon, NH

We are promoting the following 7 events in our Google Adword campaign for the Fall.
Plymouth Folk & Blues Festival
Plymouth Cheese & Harvest Festival
2nd Annual Mini Cooper Rally
2nd Annual Big Buzz Chainsaw Carving Festival
Weston Antiques Show
Chester Fall Craft Festival
Weston Craft Show

Be sure to check out our [blog](#).
We're always looking for more writers (especially from each Town).

Our Fall marketing includes co-op ads in our usual:
Travelhost of Vermont
Southern VT Arts & Living
Vermont Vacation Guides (inside front and inside back covers)

NEW...Sept/Oct issue in Cape Air Magazine.

NEW...brand ad in Vermont Life - Winter Edition

NEW...Dec/January 2012 issue of USA Travel Guide

We will be participating in the New York Times Travel Show March 2-4, 2012 and the Boston Globe Travel Show on February 10-12, 2012 with Stowe again next year.

LPC-TV turns 10 years old this month. Save the date: September 14th at 5pm (rain or shine). Join their 10th anniversary celebration & Awards Night.

Out of area:

HUBBARDTON, Vt. - A day of remembrance will be observed on Sunday, September 11, at the Hubbardton Battlefield State Historic Site for those who wish to contemplate or honor heroes from the past and present. The museum and facilities will be open, free of charge, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The site offers quiet and tranquility within its beautiful, open, rolling meadows and scenic mountain views.