



December CHAMBER CORNER article

Submitted by Marji Graf

Executive Director, Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

The month of December is a busy time in the Okemo Valley.

You can take Scottish Dance classes at MacLaomainn's Scottish Pub in Chester on Tuesday nights, sing and play at open mic nights at Curtis' All American Restaurant on Wednesday nights or have dessert and listen to Spencer Lewis at the Gill Home in Ludlow on Thursday night December 4th.

The weekend offers so many great things to do, it will be hard to decide. On December 5th and 12th, Chester hosts their Overture to Christmas from 10am – 7pm.

On Saturday December 5th there is a scavenger hunt throughout Chester, the Stone Village and Ludlow. You can pick up your "clues" at the following participating merchants: Blue Sky Trading Company, Chapter XIV, Wine & Cheese Shop, Hunter Lea Gallery, Bonnies Bundles Dolls, DaVallia Art & Accents, Hugging Bear Inn & Shoppe, JNB Country Store, Misty Valley Books and Gallery 103. Once you find all 10 clues, bring your sheet to the Chamber Office to qualify for a prize. There will be 1 prize given away every hour beginning at 12noon.

Also on Saturday December 5th, Weston is hosting their Old Fashioned Christmas from 11am-5:30pm.

On December 9th we are having our Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting at the Gill Home in Ludlow. All are welcome. Our guest speakers are Secretary of State Deb Markowitz, Linda Rossi from SBDC and Darcy Carter from the SBA. Learn what resources are available for small businesses. You must call the Chamber office to rsvp.

During the Holiday Season, several area businesses have band together to raise funds for two local food banks; Black River Good Neighbor Services in Ludlow and the Chester Food Bank. 12 local businesses have chosen to “almost” bare all, to bring food and heat to their neighbors who may have to go without this winter. With an exclusive printing of “The Men of the Okemo Valley 2010 Calendar”, the Chamber of Commerce hopes to raise money for these area food banks and other projects throughout the year to promote our Okemo Valley.

The businesses include:

Northern Ski Works

Timber Inn Motel

The Killarney

CZ Construction Management

MacLaomainn’s Scottish Pub

Lisai’s Chester Market

Pleasant Valley Foods

Cool Moose Café

Hunter Lea Gallery and Frame Shop

Stone Hearth Inn & Tavern

Misty Valley Books

Blue Sky Trading Company

Calendars will be available for \$20 on December 9th after the annual meeting and December 10th at the above-mentioned businesses and the Chamber office.

December 11 & 12th Black River Academy Museum presents 9th Annual Open House and Play “Motley Tales” 6:00pm in Ludlow.

December 12th the Mount Holly Elementary School has a Craft Fair from 9am-4pm and President Calvin Coolidge State Historic Site has an open house in Plymouth from 10-4pm.

On December 16th we will have our Chamber Holiday Party and “Okemo Valley Calendar Men” Reveal from 6-8p at the Cool Moose Café in Ludlow. Get autographs and Vote for your favorite month, cutest, bravest, funniest, most courageous, etc. Cool Moose treats and cash bar. Come enjoy a fun evening!!

Please check out Chamber website for all events happening in the Okemo Valley www.yourplaceinvermont.com or call 228-5830.