



April Chamber Corner submitted by Marji Graf, Executive Director
Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce

The Okemo Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce has been busy. Our first project is hosting the State of Vermont's Ambassador Program from 9a-12n at the Green Mountain Banquet and Conference Center in Chester (American Legion complex). This is an opportunity to learn about the different departments in the State and what they offer. Next, we are the 'test' market for the Vermont Information sign program. Learn how your business can partner with the State to become a Vermont Info Center ambassador. This program is open to all businesses within the Towns of Andover, Cavendish, Chester, Ludlow, Mount Holly, Plymouth and Weston.

Another project we are working on is to make Route 100 a byway recognized by the State. There are currently 6 byways throughout the State and Route 100 is not presently included. We have begun meeting to compile lists of our intrinsic qualities that make up Weston, Ludlow and Plymouth. We have also invited Londonderry and Killington to expand on our efforts to continue the Route 100 byway to the North and South of us.

Our third project is looking at alternative locations for Chester businesses that will be affected by the bridge closings in 2011. We're thinking of a temporary incubator space that can offer retail opportunities that these businesses can co-op.

Our golf committee has begun meeting to plan another extraordinary Golf Tournament on September 15th at 1pm. Please call Mary Knight at 228-2260 to participate and/or sponsor the event. We're keeping the prices the same as last year!!

We have exciting programs on the Agenda for the rest of the year:

Besides our Ambassador Program on April 13th,

April 14th is our Chamber mixer at William Austin Antiques in Chester at 5:30pm-7:30pm.

May 6th from 8-10am Guy Payne will be conducting a customer service follow up training in the Octo Room at Okemo Mountain Resort.

May 12th is our Chamber mixer at Bella Luna Ristorante in Ludlow. Collette Tours will be speaking about our upcoming Tuscany trip from 11/4-13/2010. This is open to the public. 5:30-7:30pm

June 9th we will have a panel discussion with Efficiency Vermont as well as Chamber members speaking about how they became energy efficient and the savings they realized. 5:30-7:30pm Cornerstone room at Jackson Gore Inn in Ludlow.

July 14th is Social Media mixer at Good Commons in Plymouth. Bring your laptops and learn how to facebook, twitter and blog. 5:30-7:30pm

August 11 – Mixer at President Calvin Coolidge Museum and Education Center in Plymouth Notch. 5:30-7:30pm.

September 8 mixer at Bryant House in Weston 5:30-7:30pm

September 16 is our Business Showcase at Fletcher Farm School for the Arts & Crafts in Ludlow.

October 13 mixer at Stone Hearth Inn & Tavern in Chester

November 10th tentative date for Okemo Mountain Resort mixer

December 8th is our Annual Meeting at The Fullerton Inn in Chester.

Please feel free to join us. Check out our website www.yourplaceinvermont.com for all the latest events.