

# Jefferson County Chamber Chronicles

Volume 1 Issue 12

December 2007



Christmas Drawing **THIS** month! Plan to attend on December 20<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 – 7:30 pm. After Hours & Christmas Party at Denison State Bank, Meriden!

## Oskaloosa Chamber Social

*December 13th, 2007*

Paul & JoAnn Flower's house  
Please contact David Taylor at  
785-640-1573 for more information.

**Oskaloosa  
Chamber of Commerce**  
*December 12th*  
*7:30 am*  
**At the Friendly Kansan**

## Meriden / Ozawkie December After Hours & Christmas Party



**Thursday, December 20th**  
**5:30-7:30 pm**

**Denison State Bank**



# Jefferson County Chamber Chronicles

## Calendar of Events

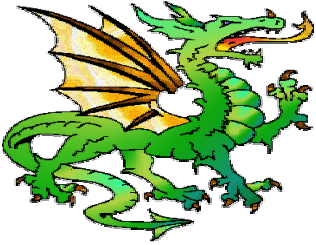
### December

- 1<sup>st</sup> Oskaloosa 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Hometown Christmas, Lighting of the tree 7pm  
10 am activities @ the square, open houses, etc.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Valley Falls Chamber of Commerce  
Noon at the Kendall State Bank Community Room
- 7<sup>th</sup> Lambda Tau Christmas Sale, Ozawkie Township Hall
- 8<sup>th</sup> Santa visits @ Ozawkie and Valley Falls
- 10<sup>th</sup> City of Ozawkie Council Meeting, 7 pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> City of Meriden Council Meeting, 7 pm
- 12<sup>th</sup> Oskaloosa Chamber Meeting, 7:30 am at the Friendly Kansan
- 13<sup>th</sup> Oskaloosa Chamber Social – Paul & JoAnn Flower's House  
909 West View, Oskaloosa, Ks
- 16<sup>th</sup> Oskaloosa's Residential Lighting Contest- See Minutes for information
- 21<sup>st</sup> Meriden/Ozawkie Chamber After Hours & Christmas Party  
Denison State Bank 5:30 – 7:30 pm

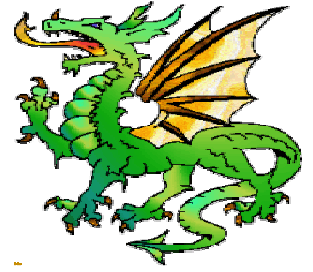
### January

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Valley Falls Chamber of Commerce  
Noon at the Kendall State Bank Community Room
- 8<sup>th</sup> City of Meriden Council Meeting, 7 pm
- 9<sup>th</sup> Oskaloosa Chamber Meeting, 7:30 am at the Friendly Kansan
- 14<sup>th</sup> City of Ozawkie Council Meeting, 7 pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> Meriden/Ozawkie Chamber Social – sponsored by Ernest Spencer & Economic  
Development, 5:30 – 7:30 pm @ Ernest Spencer, 3323 E 82<sup>nd</sup> St, Meriden, Ks
- 24<sup>th</sup> Oskaloosa Chamber Social – Watch for location details next month!





## VALLEY FALLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



### Minutes of the November 1, 2007, Meeting)

**Minutes** of the meeting of October 4 were approved by voice vote; motion made by Paul Heinen and seconded by Gary Satter which included spelling Stewart correctly instead of “Stuart“, a comma added after chair when reporting Loraine Gentry’s involvement in the sponsorship of the C of C Halloween parade, and the word Humane was typed as “Human”.

**Treasurer’s Report** made by Paul Heinen who indicated “not much activity”, financial status O.K. through the year. Discussion concerning the financial loss on Grasshopper Falls Day event due to rental of inflatable play equipment. Report approved by voice vote... on motion by Jayne Coleman, seconded by Jim McGrath.**City Report** given by City Clerk Denise Streeter reporting the water plant renovation is “going along well”.

**Economic Development Report** given by Executive Director Jim McGrath: Thursday January 24 is a celebration of the Spencer Metal expansion project in Meriden between 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., sponsored by the Jefferson County Economic Development Committee (JCEDC) and the 3 County Chamber of Commerce organizations. The \$1.7 million dollar project is a big boost for the County’s economy. The public is invited and Chambers’ members encourage to attend. The expansion could see a total of 120 employees or more when new equipment is installed. Negotiations are being conducted by the JCEDC about the Circle S Ranch (SW of McLouth) for the former Wakarusa Riverfest (formerly at Clinton Lake) to be held next summer for 4 days each year in June. Predicted attendance is 20,000 for the event. This would be a long-term (5 year) contract with \$4 million in ticket sales and a boost for the County in sales tax collection amounting to an estimated \$40,000, with another \$20,000 to \$50,000 for liquor taxes; about \$3,000 fees from vendors would be possible. There would be 15 to 20,000 participants. They would want infrastructure (roads, water, electricity) for a permanent festival park. The rest of the year the park could be used for a Renaissance Festival like event that is held near Bonner Springs each fall. **Old Business: Communications** by phone with High School to June Huston saying a hypnotist (Ron Diamond) would be at the school on Friday evening, November 2, at 7 p.m. Tickets would be \$10 and children \$8. Susan Phillips said there was an ad in the school mailer. **Riverside Park Sign (Update)** by Jayne Coleman relates that the sign is finished by Megan (Thomas) Turner. Gary Coleman said the “Hello from Texas” sign needs painting and Gary asked Jayne to talk to Megan about this. **New Business: Hometown Christmas/Santa’s Visit** Committee asked for volunteers to make phone calls. Santa’s visit will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday in December; there will be plenty of time for people to sign up.

**Rotary Foundation Project** was announced by Gary Coleman, a contract with Chip Blaser, Executive Secretary of the Douglas County Foundation which the Valley Falls Club will join after review by the Club; it would be after the first of the year before it “gets going”.

**Announcements:** Denise Streeter reported that no one had a “Trunk or Treat” in Valley Falls, but Becky Wise reported that Oskaloosa had a successful effort held at the Methodist Church and Farm Bureau parking lots. Trick or Treats by children on Liberty Street amounted to 200 to 250 children. Jim McGrath reported Meriden’s effort with “Trunk or Treat” was a success with 300-400 persons involved with “wall to wall traffic” at the Mall. The event cut down on traffic downtown. Andy Conser suggested we have “Trunk or Treat” on Broadway next year held after the Parade, leaving Halloween night for “trick or treat” activity in the residential areas. Andy announced that the Taste of Elegance raised \$35,000, continuing its success. Paul Heinen reported that Kristy Murphy will have an editorial in the Vindicator concerning a benefit for Bill King on November 16 Community Hall will be the place for chili, hot dogs, etc. Announcement was made about the November 17 Recreation Commission event will be held in the Community Hall. Monica Mackinson announced that once again they would be serving Thanksgiving Dinner for anyone not having a Thanksgiving Dinner to attend.

Secretary, Frank Shrimplin



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**November 15<sup>th</sup> –Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was held at the Watering Hole in Meriden.

**Christmas Drawing:** Contact Tamie Ferrell or Mary Ghetto to let them know what prizes you are donating. The sign up to give away things was discussed. Each participating business will have a drawing box and slips in their business. The drawing will take place at the Christmas Party on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> 5:30 -7:30 pm at the Denison State Bank community room. A number of prizes will be listed in the Vindicator.

**Jeff Van Petten Announced:** the results of the Director's Election; Stuart Bach, Neal Spencer, and Jerie Tichenor. Officers stayed the same. Congratulations to you all!!

**Recreation Commission:** Jeff Van Petten talked about the upcoming vote for a recreation commission that is being sponsored by the home adult education of Y- type activities utilizing school facilities open to the committee. This would help keep people in our community and involved.

**Economic Development:** Jim McGrath talked about the Wakarusa music and camping festival, June 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. This is a group trying to move their festivities to Jefferson County. This will bring in lots of revenue for the county.

**50/50 drawing winner** is Stuart Bach! Congratulations!! And THANK YOU!! Stuart donated his winnings to the sign committee.

**Jeff Van Petten** went over what the Chamber has done this year!! One \$500 Scholarship, Trunk or Treat(with 400 children), participated in the Meriden Fun Fest & Easter Egg Hunt, 2 Pancake Feeds (made \$2000 for scholarships), 4-H fair(purchase of animals), Welcome signs for Meriden, Networked with area chambers, Christmas Drawing, and the coupon book. Good job to everyone who helped with these projects!

***Upcoming Meetings:***

After Hours & Christmas Party – DSB Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7:30 pm

After Hours – Ernest Spencer – co-hosted by Economic Development, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 5:30-7:30 pm.

**Thank you** to everyone  
participated in the

**Christmas Drawing  
& Coupon Book!**

***Meriden/ Ozawkie Area  
Christmas After Hours***

***Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
5:30 – 7:30 pm***

***Denison State Bank***



## OSKALOOSA CHAMBER MINUTES



The meeting was called to order by President, Dave Taylor.

**MINUTES:** Laura Thompson, Secretary was not present so copies of the minutes from the last meeting were distributed, read and a motion was made to approve them as presented by Becky Wise and seconded by Paul Flower. Motion carried. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Brad Hammel gave the Treasurer's report. There is currently \$1,428.00 dollars in the account. The Old Settlers need to reimburse Chamber for the tables that were purchased. **CITY REPORT:** No one was present from the City. Dave reported that because the city is in need of more space they would like for us to move the Christmas Tree that is currently being stored in their building. This is a tree that was found in the old storage trailer when it was cleaned out. Paul Flower will check with the Historical Society and see if they would like for it to be set up out at old town, if not Dave volunteered for it to be stored in one of his barns. **EDC REPORT:** Jim McGrath reported on a group which is wanting to obtain a special events permit in Jefferson County. The Wakarusa Music and Camping Festival made a presentation to the County Commissioners regarding their 2008 event which they would like to hold on a portion of the Circle S Ranch. It is estimated that about 15 thousand + attend the festival and 80% of those will actually camp on the campgrounds. The economic impact on Jefferson County could be \$120,000 –to- \$126,000 which would come in part from over two and ½ million dollars in ticket sales. The festival already uses one Jefferson County business, Shawn Ball, for trash pick-up. Jim asked for the support of the Chamber and for at least one Chamber member to attend the Commissioner's meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> to personally express the Chamber's support. A motion was made and seconded that the Chamber support the Wakarusa Music and Camping Festival effort in obtaining a special events permit. Dave said he would attend the Commissioner's meeting. Jim said all members were welcome and encouraged to attend the meeting also. **COMMUNITY CENTER REPORT:** They are still looking at pictures and discussing some basic ideas for the center. Brad has purchased a new facility for his business and after he moves the committee is discussing the possibility of doing some reconstruction and then using his old office as the temporary community center.

**HUMANE SOCIETY:** Wine for Waifs raised \$450.00. The shelter is looking at a grant of \$2,000.00.

**TRUNK OR TREAT:** Janet Wise reported that she had some very positive feedback. Most participants reported having over 220 trick or treaters.

**4<sup>th</sup> HOMETOWN CHRISTMAS** – Dec. 1, 2007 – the next meeting is Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. at Dave & Terry's. Major Participants: Eagles – Merchants – Old Town & Oskaloosa Booster Club – Watch the paper for details – Don't forget the Window Decorating Contest!

**ART WALK** – Was rained out – will try for next year. **AFTER HOURS** – Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> at Cedar Ridge Development (Peggy Miller's House) Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> at Paul & JoAnn Flower's house/ Sponsored by Paul and JoAnn and Westside Liquor

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE** – Terry, Debbie & Peggy presented a slate of officers: Dave Taylor, President; Debbie Hunt, Vice President; Brad Hammel, Treasurer. No name was presented for Secretary and no one was nominated. Slate of officers approved.

**OLD SETTLERS** – Next meeting January 21 – all committee heads need to be present with outline of their event and a budget proposal if needed.

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

Nov 15<sup>th</sup> – After hours at Cedar Ridge Development

Nov 20<sup>th</sup> – Hometown Christmas meeting at Dave & Terry's at 7:00 P.M.

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Hometown Christmas Event

Dec 12<sup>th</sup> – Oskaloosa Chamber of Commerce meeting

Dec 13<sup>th</sup> – After Hours at Paul and JoAnn Flower's house, 909 West View, Oskaloosa

Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> – Residential Lighting Contest – Have your lights on between 7:00 P.M. & 9:00 P.M. if you wish to be considered.

Jan.-Combined Chamber meeting at Ernest Spencer Metals, Sponsored by Ernest Spencer Metals & EDC  
Jan 21, 2008 – Old Settler's Meeting at Dave & Terry's – All Committee Heads need to be present  
July 10, 11 & 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008 – Old Settlers

Chamber of Commerce  
PO Box 288  
Meriden, KS 66512

## Visit the Meriden/ Ozawkie Area Chamber Website!

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

### **Membership Benefits** – May vary between Chambers

Business and customer referrals	Listing in business directory
Networking	Business counseling
Redemption of Chamber gift certificates	Ribbon cutting and ground breaking ceremonies
Use of Chamber logo in advertising	Membership plaque
Discounts on Chamber sponsored events	Newsletter
General membership meeting programs	Event coordination
Web site promotion	Association with other leading businesses in Jefferson County

**If you have information for the newsletter, please contact:**

**Editor: Tamie Ferrell, Denison State Bank**

Please send an e-mail to: Call 785-484-3322, or fax 785-484-2780

