

# MONTANA AMBASSADORS

Leaders in business, education, and the professions with a common dedication to living and doing business in Montana and furthering the best interests of the state.

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2010  
ISSUE

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1984-2010

**26**  
YEARS OF  
DEDICATION

Know some "good gossip" on a fellow Montana Ambassador? Send it to us for the next newsletter.

## MONTANA AMBASSADORS

### 6th ANNUAL MONTANA BUSINESS OPEN...Two Champions!

The Old Works was in fine form under summer skies on August 19th. Over 80 golfers enjoyed great networking, wonderful food, visiting with Governor Schweitzer and prizes. Mark your calendar for the 7th Annual Business Open: August 18, 2011.



#### 1ST PLACE LOW GROSS: 3 BOOMERS AND A Y

L to R: Jeff Heutmaker, Mark Dobeck, Troy Bentson and Chris Shover



#### 1st PLACE LOW NET: NORTHWESTERN ENERGY

L to R: Sharon Peterson, Mark Gronley, Barry O'Leary and Greg

Thanks to our sponsors for making this the best Montana Ambassador Business Open yet:

**Hole Sponsors:** Governor's Office of Economic Development \* CTA Architects Engineers \* Montana Chamber of Commerce – Safety Choices WC/Chamber Choices \* WGM Group, Inc. \* McKinstry Montana-Dakota Utilities \* NorthWestern Energy \* The University of Montana \* PPL Montana \* Montana State Fund \* Grouse Mountain Lodge \* Heutmaker Law, PC \* First Interstate Bank \* Big Sky Resort Montana Angel Network \* D.A. Davidson & Co. \* MDOC Energy Division \* BioGrid Access Systems \* Glacier Bank \* Solution Mountain \* Center for Advanced Mineral and Metallurgical Processing/MT Tech and \* Montana Business Leadership Network.

**Prize Donors:** Thompson Distributing, Sun Mountain Sports, Grouse Mountain Lodge

**Lunch Host:** NorthWestern Energy

#### SAVE THE DATE!

MONTANA AMBASSADOR ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE  
FEBRUARY 24TH—25TH, GREAT NORTHERN HOTEL, HELENA, MT

# MONTANA

## AMBASSADORS

DISCOVER how Montana Ambassadors support the efforts of other groups to contribute to the economic vitality of the state.

### 2010 Board Members

(\* Executive Committee)

\*Channing Hartelius—Great Falls  
President/Chair of Board

\*Carl Kochman—Helena  
First V.P./President's Circle

\*Jeff Laverdiere—Helena  
Second V.P.

\*Dore Schwinden -Helena (Ex-Officio)  
Montana Department of Commerce  
Montana Ambassadors Secretary

\*Jon Marchi-Polson  
Treasurer

\* Bill Johnston—Missoula  
Immediate Past President

### Other Directors:

\*Evan Barrett-Helena (Ex-Officio)  
Governor's Office of Economic Development  
Tyler Disburg—Missoula Chapter V.P.  
Melanie Schwarz-Billings Chapter V.P.  
Dale Mahugh-Butte Chapter V.P.  
Craig Herbert—Glasgow/Sidney Chapter V.P.  
Tennis Tennyson-Great Falls Chapter V.P.  
Kirk Van Alstyne-Pacific NW Chapter V.P.  
Jeannie Luckey-Kalispell Chapter V.P.  
Heather Bellamy-Bozeman Chapter V.P.  
Tom McGree, Helena Chapter V.P.  
Tagen Vine, Kalispell  
Rob Bargatze, Bozeman  
Lisa Perry, Billings  
Bob Nystuen, Kalispell  
Steve Holland, Bozeman  
Carol Donaldson, Billings  
Rick Edwards, Butte  
John O'Donnell, Bozeman  
Ken Richardson, Missoula

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### Message from your President:

## CHANNING HARTELIUS



The Montana Ambassadors are still on the move and in the right direction! For example, Montana Ambassadors sponsored the recent 2010 Montana Economic Summit, held in Butte. The presence of our Montana Ambassadors was significant at the Summit sponsored by Senator Max Baucus. At least two of our members were presenters: Jon Marchi and Steve Holland.

Donna Hartelius and I manned the Montana Ambassador booth in the exhibit hall for the Summit and met a variety of people interested in our organization and what we do. And again, Montana Ambassadors were everywhere with booths: Don Collins, Ken Richardson, Heather Bellamy, Jon Marchi, Dale Mahugh, Dore Schwinden and...more.

Thanks to Dale Mahugh and Jackie Williams for an outstanding 6th Annual Montana Ambassador Business Open. This event gets better every year. This year's event was especially outstanding as four businesses were represented that are either expanding into Montana or building in Montana.

Montana Ambassador Ron Kaminski and I attended a national birthday event: Walter Breuning's 114th birthday party. As you know, Walter is an Honorary Montana Ambassador. Please note I was not mistaken for Walter at any time during the event.

Congratulations to Jeff Laverdiere on his move to a new position with Town Pump in Havre, eventually moving to Helena. No, Jeff is not pumping gas; he is managing hotels.

It never hurts to be charitable, no matter how embarrassing. I put on a wig as Austin Powers, Dancing with the Stars and won with my go go girls! Now I know what it is like to have hair-but not quite as long as Carl Kochman's. Proceeds went to United Way.

Finally, Donna and I received recognition for contributing a work of art re: the Lewis and Clark expedition to the University of Great Falls. Supporting education is one of the core values of the Montana Ambassadors.

So if anyone has news of Ambassadors, please let Gloria know or myself. I will put the proper spin on any awards, successes and/or accomplishments. As always, I am honored and blessed to be your President.

Let's keep the Montana Ambassadors moving forward.

Regards,

*Channing Hartelius*

**Yes, it is that time of year. Send in your nominations today!**

## **Montana Ambassadors Annual Awards Nomination Process:**

**(Section 2.6 Montana Ambassadors Handbook)**

**Nominations may be made by any member of the Montana Ambassadors organization.** If an individual wishes to nominate a business for both Entrepreneur of the Year and Business of the Year, they **must fill out a second application and explain how the individual or business meets that award criteria.** A dual nomination on one form will not be accepted.

**Nominations for Annual Awards will be reviewed by the Montana Ambassadors Awards Committee. The committee recommendations by category will be submitted for approval to the Montana Ambassadors Board of Directors at the quarterly meeting scheduled on October 27th, 2010. Awards to selected nominees will be made at the Montana Ambassadors Annual meeting February 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> in Helena, Montana.**

**Ambassador Plenipotentiary.** The Governor may, upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors, confer the title and rank of Ambassador Plenipotentiary upon any member of the organization who has rendered especially meritorious service to the industrial or economic development of the State. This title shall be honorary in nature and shall continue throughout the lifetime of the recipient. No more than three such titles shall be conferred in any one calendar year.

**Ambassador of the Year.** The “Montana Ambassador of the Year” award may be presented annually to a Montana Ambassador who performed exemplary service in the preceding year to assist in the State’s industrial and economic development effort.

**Montana Ambassadors’ Entrepreneur of the Year.** The “Montana Ambassadors’ Entrepreneur of the Year” award may be presented annually to one Montana business person who is committed to ensuring Montana’s quality of life and has demonstrated a sense of leadership and innovation in their field of endeavor and an entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to the economic development of the State of Montana.

**Montana Ambassadors’ Business of the Year.** The “Montana Ambassadors’ Business of the Year” award may be presented annually to one Montana business that has demonstrated extraordinary innovation and success in their field of business. The business will also have demonstrated a commitment to their employees, community and to the economic development of the State of Montana.

**Montana Ambassadors’ Educator of the Year.** The “Montana Ambassadors’ Mike Malone Educator of the Year” award may be presented annually to one or more educators who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishment, excellence and leadership in the field of education. This award embodies the values of Mike Malone, PhD, former president of Montana State University.

**Montana Ambassadors’ Legislator of the Year.** The “Montana Ambassador’s Legislator of the Year” award may be presented annually to one or more legislators who have demonstrated outstanding service to the industrial or economic development of the State.

**[DOWNLOAD THE FORM AND SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATIONS BY OCTOBER 15TH!](#)**

### \*\*\* MEMBERSHIP AND CHAPTER NEWS \*\*\*

#### Great Falls

- ⇒ Montana Ambassador President Channing Hartelius believes in supporting a good cause. Courtesy of the Great Falls Tribune, the photos demonstrate Channing Hartelius dancing a routine to "Austin Powers" with Julie Duffy and Heather Palermo as part of Dancing with the Stars of Great Falls. The group won, earning \$200 for United Way.



#### Missoula

- ⇒ The Missoula Chapter, under the direction of Tyler Disburg, requested Montana Ambassadors sponsor an Ignite Missoula event on behalf of the organization. The event will take place on October 14th at the Elks Lodge, 112 N. Pattee, at 6:30pm. The Ignite format has been described as "Enlighten us, but make it quick." It is a community event celebrating the passion and creativity of geek culture. Ignite events showcase a series of speakers who, in rapid succession, give five minute talks on whatever ignites their passion. This is an opportunity to encourage a younger audience to join and/or be aware of Montana Ambassadors. More information is available at <http://www.ignitemissoula.com>

#### Kalispell

- ⇒ Jeannie Luckey, Kalispell Chapter V.P., is working with the Governor's Office of Economic Development to kickoff a series of regional meetings around the state. The Kalispell Chapter invites you to attend the presentation of Evan Barrett, Montana's Chief Business Development Officer, regarding Montana's Economic Development Report Card. Mr. Barrett will outline the positives of Montana's current economic situation that can be capitalized upon to encourage more business investment and job creation. Here are the details: Friday, October 15 Red Lion Inn, Kalispell Center Mall 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. RSVP: Carol Oberndorfer, 257-7711 Ext. 2. There will be a short menu to choose from and attendees can pay by cash or check at the Red Lion on Oct. 15. All menu items are under \$10.

#### Billings

- ⇒ Melanie Schwarz, Chapter V.P., is planning a social before the Thanksgiving Holiday and hopes to generate more involvement within the Chapter.

#### Bozeman

- ⇒ Heather Bellamy, Chapter V.P., is excited to see new members joining the Bozeman Chapter. Heather hopes to create new energy in the Bozeman area as a result.

#### Butte

- ⇒ Under the leadership of Chapter V.P. Dale Mahugh, the Butte area Montana Ambassadors met on September 29th to discuss award nominations for 2010. The Butte Chapter will be submitting at least one nomination for each award category.

#### Bay Area

- ⇒ The evening of February 3rd is the date set aside for Governor Schweitzer to visit with businesses and Montana Ambassadors in the Bay Area. Montana Ambassador Lynda Colucci will be making the meeting arrangements.

#### Pacific Northwest

- ⇒ Kirk Van Alstyne, Chapter V.P., reported the next Speakers Series event is pending. It is possible Senator Max Baucus will be the guest speaker. The PNW Chapter has been busy working with companies capable of and/or interested in moving or expanding to Montana. The PNW Chapter is recruiting new members as it lost several due to job changes or transfers.

#### Helena

- ⇒ Tom McGree, Chapter V.P. was instrumental in connecting a need of the Montana BEAR Program with a resource within Payne Financial. Payne Financial will make a presentation during the 2010 BEAR Roundup, November 15th, to share information on how new insurance laws effect Montana's small businesses.

**Welcome to our new Montana Ambassadors!**

*The following nominees were approved by the Montana Ambassador Board during the meeting on August 18th:*

**Waded Cruzado**, President of Montana State University, was recommended to Montana Ambassadors by Steve Holland and Cathy Conover.

**Terry Beaubois**, Director of Creative Research Lab, College of Arts and Architecture, MSU Bozeman, was recommended to Montana Ambassadors by Heather Bellamy and Carl Kochman. Terry lived in the Bay Area and will no doubt be helpful in establishing the Bay Area Chapter.

**Wayne Rebich**, CEO of TractionWorks, Everett, WA. Wayne was recommended to Montana Ambassadors by Kirk Van Alstyne and James Thompson.

**Kathy Hildebrand**, Owner, Arrow Solutions Group, Inc., of Billings, was recommended to Montana Ambassadors by Rick Reid and Lisa Perry.

**Sharon Peterson**, Montana BioScience Alliance (Executive Director) and Leadership Montana (Co-Director), of Billings, was recommended to Montana Ambassadors by Melanie Schwarz and Chris Aageson.

**Mike Thatcher**, Community Counseling and Correctional Services, Inc., of Butte, was recommended to Montana Ambassadors by Dale Mahugh and Rick Edwards.

**Chantel McCormick**, Vice President of Grasslands Energy, Bozeman was recommended to the Montana Ambassadors by Governor Schweitzer and Evan Barrett.

**IWT GRANT UPDATE**  
**TRAINING DOLLARS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR EMPLOYEES**  
*Montana Ambassadors assist BEAR Teams regarding IWT Grants*

The Department of Labor and Industry's Workforce Services Division, in partnership with several entities recently launched the Incumbent Worker Training Program in Montana. This program provides job training funds for small businesses to re-train workers to meet changing market demands. Montana Ambassadors around the state serve on BEAR Teams and provide input on the IWT applications. For more information contact the Montana Ambassador office at 406.563.5353.

**Statistics from April 16—September 10, 2010**

Current Level Funding	Number of Grant Applications Processed April 16—June 30, 2010 (2.5 months)	Number of Grant Applications Processed July 1—September 10, 2010 (2.5 months)	Total Amount Granted to Date
\$590,000	46	72	\$117,000**