

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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1984-2011

27
YEARS OF
DEDICATION

Interested in sponsoring the MT Business Open?
Contact:
Lisa Perry
406.237.6914



MONTANA AMBASSADORS 7th Annual Montana Ambassador Business Open August 18th, Jack Nicklaus Old Works Course

A Message from your Business Open Golf Committee:

The weather is improving and thoughts now turn to outdoor activities (finally). With that in mind, be sure to put the 7th Annual Montana Ambassadors Business Open on your summer calendar!

This year's event will be held again at the premier Jack Nicklaus Old Works course in Anaconda, MT on August 18th. Join friends and colleagues from Business, Government and Education for an event filled day of networking and golf.



Dale Mahugh
Longtime Tournament Chair

You will find a personal invitation from the Governor and registration form in this newsletter. Let's make this year's event the biggest and best yet.

Remember, this is not a members only event. If you have associates or business relationships with others that you would like to see take part in the event, please extend an invitation to them. See you at the Fairmont Social the evening of the 17th and at the Old Works on August 18th!

Dale Mahugh, Chair; Heather Bellamy, Lisa Perry, Jackie Williams and Chantel McCormick



Don't Golf? Don't Worry! Join us for the Fairmont Social at 6:00pm on August 17th and catch this wonderful networking opportunity with business leaders, government representatives and Montana Ambassadors from around the state. Also, join us at the Old Works on the 18th—help out, relax, and enjoy fun and great food. See the enclosed registration form to sign up.

Golf Gossip says..... "Chicks with Sticks" will be back!

As this is the 7th year for the Montana Business Open, several teams have made it a tradition to join the tournament every year. Team names are becoming familiar—as well as fun. Here are a few favorites:

- Chicks with Sticks
- Hi-Line Hackers
- Pro-Fun Tour
- Baby Boomers
- Grizzly Grinders



Chicks with Sticks
Left to Right: Lisa Perry, Melanie Schwarz, Carol Donaldson and Vicki Judd

Start a tradition and bring your team.

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

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*Jeff Laverdiere—Helena
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*Tagen Vine—Kalispell
Second V.P.

*Dore Schwinden -Helena (Ex-Officio)
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Montana Ambassadors Secretary

*Jon Marchi-Polson
Treasurer

* Channing Hartelius—Great Falls
Immediate Past President

Other Directors:

*Evan Barrett; Jackie Williams Helena
(Ex-Officio) Governor's Office of Ec Development

Tyler Disburg—Missoula, & Chapter V.P.

Melanie Schwarz-Billings, & Chapter V.P.

Dale Mahugh-Butte Chapter V.P.

Leslie Messer—Glasgow/Sidney Chapter V.P.

Tenis Tennyson-Great Falls Chapter V.P.

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Rob Bargatze, Bozeman

Lisa Perry, Billings

Bob Nystuen, Kalispell

Steve Holland, Bozeman

Carol Donaldson, Billings

John O'Donnell, Bozeman

Ken Richardson, Missoula

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<http://www.montanaambassadors.com>

Message from your President:

RICK EDWARDS



Rick Edwards
also served as
President in 2006.

Well, the kids are out of school, and summer is upon us! What a great feeling! In Montana, we are truly blessed with many gifts, some of those being beautiful lakes and rivers, two premier national parks, many outstanding golf courses, and, of course, great weather (unless of course it snows on the 4th of July). Because of these gifts, we have the opportunity to showcase our great state and attract new residents and businesses to Big Sky Country. As Ambassadors, we should be looking for every opportunity to tout our advantages and lure folks to this fine state.

We are gearing up for and looking forward to our [7th annual Business Open Golf Tournament](#). Not only is this a fundraiser for the Ambassadors, it is also an opportunity to bring together leaders in business, government, and education in a social setting. I would like to personally invite all of you to participate in the golf tourney on August 18th at the Old Works Course in Anaconda. Even if you don't golf, I still encourage you to attend and partake in the festivities. I am certain that the Kalispell Chapter will be prepared to defend the trophy they won last year, and the other chapters will be loading up to unseat them. Additionally, we will be hosting a networking opportunity at Fairmont on August 17th beginning at 6 PM. Please join us to network and tell some great golf stories!

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, I have three major goals for our organization in 2011. *First*, we have heard loud and clear that our members want a clear focus and some tangible projects to work on. Based upon the Governor's direction and our strategic plan, I believe that we have some things to 'sink our teeth into'. *Additionally*, we plan to meet with the Governor over the next few weeks to identify other opportunities for the Ambassadors. Next, I want to improve the visibility of our group. This will be accomplished through our efforts in genuine projects, the establishment of additional out of state chapters, the promotion of our golf tournament, and hosting major events across the state. *Finally*, at the conclusion of my term, I hope that the Ambassador's are just a bit better off financially than when I took over. This will happen through prudent management of our resources and the identification of opportunities that will make a difference. I am happy to report that we are making progress in all three of these focus areas.

In conclusion, I look forward to working with each of you. This is a group, for the members, tasked with improving the economic livelihood of the state. It is truly a privilege to serve as your President. Have a great summer, and please be safe!!!

Rick Edwards

MONTANA AMBASSADOR

FYI

Events, Trainings, Resources...and More

- ⇒ Check out this FAQ page from **Montana Department of Commerce**. It is a one-stop-shop for many business needs in Montana. <http://businessresources.mt.gov/brdFAQs.mcpX>
- ⇒ **In need of flood recovery resources?** A statewide call was recently held by Montana Economic Developers Association that gathered Federal and State representatives. A [resource page](#) follows a summary of the discussion.
- ⇒ One of the best resources around is **Montana Ambassador Russ Fletcher's website** at <http://www.matr.net>. A quick visit will explain why this website gets over a million hits per month.
- ⇒ **MT Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) Legislative Review:** Evan Barrett, Montana's Chief Business Officer for Governor Schweitzer, is traveling the state sharing outcomes and next-steps as a result of the 2011 Legislative Session. A great meeting was held in June by the Missoula Chapter; Helena is hosting a meeting on July 13th. Contact [Chapter V.P. Tom McGree](#) for more information.
- ⇒ Senator Jon Tester's next **Small Business Opportunity Workshop** will focus on creating jobs by expanding opportunities for Montana's entrepreneurs with a specific focus on women. Tester's workshop will be held on July 22 at Montana State University-Billings' downtown campus, from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. Tester's workshop is free and open to the public; RSVP at tester.senate.gov/workshop.
- ⇒ Please join **NorthWestern Energy and TechRanch** on July 19 for an afternoon with Venture Capitalists and Private Equity Investors who are actively seeking investments in the Clean Tech and Energy sectors. This event is part of the Montana Ener-Tech Alliance Speaker series. For more information, visit www.montanaener-tech.org
- ⇒ Save the date! MT Ambassadors will be assisting with the **Wind Energy Summit** to be held in Big Sky September 25-28, 2011.



L to R: Montana Ambassador Jim Smitham, Chancellor Don Blacketter and Vicki Blacketter

Welcome to Montana Tech's Chancellor

Montana Tech Chancellor Frank Gilmore retired recently and was named 2011 Montana Ambassador Educator of the Year.

New to the position is Montana native Dr. Don Blacketter, joined by his wife, Vicki. Both Don and Vicki were raised in Bozeman, Montana and are happy to be back in Montana.

Butte area Montana Ambassadors have met the Blacketter's and will no doubt encourage participation in this organization.

MONTANA

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LEARN why Montana Ambassadors are a vital constituent to furthering the state economically and put the best interests of the state before their own.

Your invitation.....

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR STATE OF MONTANA

BRIAN SCHWEITZER
GOVERNOR



JOHN BOHLINGER
LT. GOVERNOR

June 20, 2011

Dear Montana Ambassadors and Colleagues,

It has been my pleasure to take an active role in the partnership between my administration and the Montana Ambassadors organization. Together, we have furthered the best interests of the state and improved our business environment. As a result of a good economy and sound fiscal management, **Montana is one of only two state governments that has been operating totally in the black and we continue to have record cash in the bank.** In addition, recent state ratings show that **Montana ranks 8th in overall business climate and 6th in overall best tax climate for business.** We have top rankings in many areas as you can see on the enclosed "Economic Development Report Card".

Today, I am pleased to extend a personal invitation to you to participate in the Montana Ambassadors' 7th Annual "Open for Business" Golf Tournament at the beautiful Jack Nicklaus Signature Old Works course in Anaconda, Montana on Thursday, August 18th. In addition to serving as a fundraiser for the Ambassadors program, the tournament is a valuable opportunity to build business and policy relationships that will undoubtedly contribute to a bright future for Montana.

The Montana Ambassadors play a unique role as advocates for Montana and all it has to offer. I want to thank you for all the time and energy you have given to our efforts to spread the word that Montana is more than a place to visit, and hope you will continue to help me spread the message about our favorable business climate, our educated workforce, and the tight knit communities that make us unique in the nation.

A reception at Old Works will directly follow the tournament as an opportunity to continue the networking conversations that began on the course.

A registration form for the tournament is enclosed. Register today to ensure your place at tee off. Together we will strengthen Montana...and have some fun while we're at it!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Schweitzer".

BRIAN SCHWEITZER
Governor

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TELEPHONE: 406-444-3111 • FAX: 406-444-5529 • WEBSITE: WWW.MT.GOV

You are Invited to the

2011 7th Annual Montana Ambassadors' Business Open

Connecting Business, Higher Education and Government for a better Montana

MONTANA
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Immediately following golf, a reception hosted by Governor Schweitzer and/or his representatives will take place at the Old Works and tournament prizes will be awarded.

When: Thursday, August 18th, Shotgun Start, Scramble format at 9:00am
Following golf, a reception hosted by the Governor will take place at the Old Works and tournament prizes will be presented.

Where: The Award Winning Jack Nicklaus "Old Works" Course in Anaconda, Montana



Who: The Montana Ambassadors, their invited guests, key out-of-state business executives, representatives from Montana's University System and State Government will be participating.

Cost: 18 holes of golf, cart and a special gift included for \$175

Pre Event Reception: Last year's pre event reception was such a great networking success, we are going to have one again this year at Fairmont Hot Springs on August 17, beginning at 6pm. Cost is \$25.

Hole sponsorships are available for \$150 to highlight your business. This includes your signage at a hole and on the sponsor board at the clubhouse. Save when you sign up for golf and a Hole Sponsorship (see below).

Easy sign up:

Name _____

Business/Affiliation _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

HANDICAP _____ (If you don't have a handicap, that's OK)

Yes, I want to sponsor a hole!

Business or individual's name as you want it on the sign _____

Bring A Friend: We encourage you to bring a guest(s) and create a team!

Name (Team Captain): _____	Team Name: _____
Business: _____	Other Team Members:
Address: _____	1) _____
Phone: _____	2) _____
Email: _____	3) _____
Montana Ambassador Chapter represented (needed to award the Chapter prize) _____	

* Round of Golf and Cart.....\$ 175.00 * Hole Sponsorship Only.....\$ 150.00

* Hole Sponsorship plus Golf\$ 300.00

Guest(s): number _____ @\$175.00 \$ _____

Pre event reception: number _____ @\$ 25.00 \$ _____

TOTAL.....\$ _____ Number attending the Governor's Social: _____ (included)

PAYMENT OPTIONS: (sorry we can't accept American Express)

- Credit card payment: Card Type _____ Card# _____ Expiration _____
Name as it appears on the card: _____
- OR Invoice me at the above address _____
- OR mail payment to: Montana Ambassadors, P.O. Box 722, Anaconda, MT 59711
- OR pay online at <http://www.montanaambassadors.com> – go to the current events link.

Please fax this form to: (406) 563-5476 Thank you!