

CHAMBER NEWS

Alhambra Chamber of Commerce celebrates 107th Installation Dinner



Carmelita Haltom, Alhambra Auto Kraft, was installed as president of the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce at the Chamber's installation dinner last month.

The Alhambra Chamber of Commerce went retro for its 107th installation dinner. Guests poured into the Almansor Court dressed in leather jackets, rock T-shirts, and frizzy hairstyles from decades past. Classic cars were on display while Ronny and the Classics played memorable tunes. But while the good ol' days were celebrated, so too was the future, as Alhambra Auto Kraft's Carmelita Haltom officially became president of the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce.

"I decided a long time ago that the best contribution I could make during my tenure is to do what I enjoy most, and that's to promote our city, promote our

businesses," said Mrs. Haltom. She gave special thanks to her many friends and especially the VIP table sponsors Alhambra Hospital, Allied Physicians, The Alhambra/Ratkovich Company, Superior Scientific, The Gas Co., and G.E. Properties. President Haltom also thanked the Grand Prix table sponsors—city of Alhambra, East West Bank, Rotary Club of Alhambra, the Edison Company, West San Gabriel Valley YMCA, Al's Towing, and W.Y. International.

The new president said she wants to focus on specific goals and simply go for it.

"The one that I really want to go for is getting the Chamber's Web site up to the next level and on a par with our newspaper *Around Alhambra* and provide

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CITY NEWS



High-speed rail in your neighborhood

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) is considering four route alignments on which to build a high-speed rail system, including options along the San Bernardino Freeway corridor from the east city limits to west city limits. The options being considered include building tracks down the center of the freeway and parallel to the freeway along Ramona Road, the latter of which causes great concern to the city. These proposals are part of a larger \$40 billion project to build a high-speed rail between San Diego and San Francisco or Sacramento. If approved by the California High-Speed Rail Authority, the Ramona Road options may have a serious impact on this community including the possible displacement of some Alhambra residents.

As proposed, there would be a 50-foot wide deck set on top of 35-foot high posts placed every 100 feet. There are other serious concerns as well, including loss of possible travel lanes or parking on Ramona Road, potential for train noise, an effect on property values and property tax revenue, possible removal of city trees, and an impact on

city infrastructure.

Although this is not a city project, the city has coordinated the following public meetings to give residents the opportunity to learn more and to gather their input:

- Aug. 9 – California High-Speed Rail Authority presentation to the City Council at its regular meeting (7 p.m., Alhambra City Hall-Council Chamber). Residents' comments (verbal or in writing) are welcome at the meeting.

- Aug. 12 – Special Community Meeting, 7 p.m. at Fremont Elementary School, 2001 Elm St., Alhambra 91803.

The city of Alhambra encourages residents to attend these meetings and to contact the California High-Speed Rail Authority at 925 L Street, Suite 1425, Sacramento, CA 95814, 916-324-1541. The city urges residents to write letters or contact legislators with opinions, as this will be the best way to affect the final outcome of this proposal.

For additional information, please contact Ann-Marie Hayashi or Jessica Keating in the City Manager's Office at 626-570-5011.

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ACADEMIC NEWS

Alhambra schools continue to be recognized for distinguished education

A major honor came to two Alhambra elementary schools this year when Fremont and

Marguerita were named 2010 California Distinguished Schools. The State Board of Education gives the award to around 5% of public schools annually. This year, 484 schools were named to the

distinction.

Winning schools are chosen based upon meeting criteria that includes measures based on No Child Left Behind, Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), and the Academic Performance Index (API) requirements.

"These schools have persevered despite state budget cutbacks

that have cut deeply into the budgets of local school districts," State Supt. of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell announced in a statement.

The criteria for school selections are based submitting an application that must include a description of two of the school's successful signature practices and

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CITY OF ALHAMBRA
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ALHAMBRA, CA 91801



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Outgoing Chamber President Marissa Castro-Salvati, Southern California Edison, was presented with a plaque by Executive Director Owen Guenthard in honor of her service.



Stephen Chan, G.E. Properties, was presented with the Outstanding Community Service Award by Paul Talbot.



Vice Mayor Gary Yamauchi presented the Business of the Year award to Victoria Deise Wilson, senior development manager for The Alhambra, who accepted it for the Ratkovich Company.



The 2010-2011 Chamber board was sworn in at last month's installation dinner. Front row, from left: Victoria Deise Wilson, Helen Romero Shau, Carmelita Haltom, Marissa Castro-Salvati, and Yvonne Chtong. Back row, from left: Valarie Gomez, Dr. David Snyder, John Chappell, David Wong, Paul Yao, Frank Chen, Mark Paulson, Laura Greenberg, and Walter Tang.



Ramona Convent graduates and Chamber of Commerce Scholarship recipients, Annelise Hager and Jamie Garcia, pose with Sr. Kathleen Callaway at the Chamber of Commerce installation dinner in July. Annelise was awarded the Yonemoto Physical Therapy Scholarship and Jamie was awarded the Alhambra Foundation Scholarship.

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more opportunities for people to promote their businesses and advertise," she said.

Also recognized at the event were two of the 2010 Chamber scholarship winners from Ramona Convent Secondary School: Annelise Hager and Jaime Garcia. President Haltom also acknowledged the Daily Blossom Florist and the Candy Chef for their assistance with the installation.

As Mrs. Haltom became the new president, members also congratulated Immediate Past President Marissa Castro-Salvati on her successful year of service. She thanked her family and the Chamber staff for their support in helping to make the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce one of the best organizations of its kind in Southern California.

"I am proud to announce that despite our current economic slump that we've been experiencing these past couple of years, the Chamber continues to weather the storm," she said. "The Chamber has maintained its top 10 ranking county wide in terms of budget. Compared to other larger chambers, we have a larger and more diverse budget than any chamber in the county."

At the dinner, the Chamber of Commerce also installed two new board members: Chris Teng of Teng Properties and Colleen O'Dell of California PEO Home, while Stephen Chan of G.E. Properties and David Wong of W.Y. International retired from the board. Master of Ceremonies Mark Paulson introduced Congressman Adam Schiff, who rushed in straight from the airport to swear in the new members.

"I want to thank all of the outgoing board of directors and thank even more the incoming board of directors for the extraordinary work you're doing. Chamber work is vital in any kind of economy, particularly in a tough economy to connect people to businesses, businesses to businesses," said Congressman Schiff. "Thank you for your tireless efforts. It is much, much appreciated."

The Ratkovich Company won the 2010 Outstanding Business of the Year Award. Past President Paul Talbot was on hand to present G. E. Property's Stephen Chan with the prestigious Past Presidents Award for community service.

"I always believe in giving back to the community, and this community gave me a chance to give back," said Mr. Chan. "I stand before you very, very proud. We will continue to do whatever we can for the community, for the citizens, and business."



**Alhambra Chamber of Commerce
OPEN INVITATIONAL
GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Alhambra Hospital Challenge Cup Competition
FRIDAY, SEPT. 24, 2010
Alhambra Golf Course • 700 S. Almansor, Alhambra

• Check-in: 10:30 a.m. • Shot Gun Start: 12 Noon • Dinner & Awards: 4:00 p.m.

CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS

Includes 4 paid golf entries, electric golf carts, bag lunch, 6 gourmet dinners, 2 sponsor placards on golf carts, special sponsor gifts and tee prizes, recognition in the Around Alhambra newspaper.

INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS

Includes golf entry, electric golf cart, bag lunch, gourmet buffet dinner, trophies to top teams, longest drive, closest to pin, most accurate drive, and tee prizes.

TROPHIES & AWARDS

- "Alhambra Hospital Challenge Cup"
- Best Corporate Sponsor Team
- Best Team Trophies (1st thru 3rd)
- Closest to the Pin
- Longest Drive Contest
- Much More

Our goal this year is to once again commit a share of the tournament proceeds to benefit Alhambra's youth programs:

- \$1,000 scholarships for local graduating high school seniors

.....

Name _____ Firm _____

Address _____ Day Phone () _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Corporate Sponsorship	\$700
Individual Player	\$125
Tee or Green Sponsor	\$100
Gourmet Buffet Dinner	\$ 30
"Friend of the Chamber" I regret I cannot attend - please accept my donation	\$ 50

Players:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Name on Tee Sign: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please make checks payable to the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce to 104 S. First St., Alhambra, CA 91801

"Fore" more information please contact the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce, 104 S. First St., Alhambra, CA 91801 (626) 282-8481 FAX (626) 282-5596 e-mail: alhambrachamber@yahoo.com