

2008 Vallejo Chamber of Commerce Officers and Directors

Officers

Freda Dill, Board Chair
US Bank

John Feldman, Treasurer
Concierge Coverings

Past Chairmen

Richard Hassel
Touro University - California
Verna Mustico
Mustico Realty

Divisional Vice Chairmen

David Jones, Political Advocacy
Foster Lumber Yard, Inc.
Jerry Wilkerson, Economic Development
Umpqua Bank
Barbara Chavez, Membership Services
Mustico Realty
Peter Wilson, Community Promotion
Benicia Vallejo Humane Society

Directors

Larry Asera, Asera Group, LLC
Tom Atwood, Vallejo Insurance Associates, LLC
Clark Blasdell, Suburban Alternatives Land Trust
Dr. Mary Bull, Vallejo City Unified School District
John Bustamante, Enterprise Wireless Solutions
Phil Elfstrom, Skyview Memorial Lawn
Norbert Frost, Law Offices of Norbert Frost
Eric Gilbert, Six Flags Discovery Kingdom
Terry Glubka, Sutter Solano Medical Center
Tony LoForte, Zio Fraedo's of Vallejo
Paul Nannar, Round Table Pizza
Kenny Ross, Team Superstores

Vallejo Chamber of Commerce Management and Staff

Rick Wells - President and Chief Executive Officer
Rich Geist - Membership/Sponsorship
Marketing Communications
Jenny Klimisch - Graphic Design
Constance Howard - Community Promotions Coordinator
Bobbie Dill - Finance
Jason Dunn Accounting - Finance
Josette Lacey - Administrative Assistant

Vallejo Chamber of Commerce
427 York Street
Vallejo, CA 94590
www.vallejochamber.com



2008 PINNACLE SPONSORS



Times-Herald



Message from the President and CEO



To Our Valued Members,

It is with great pride that we present the 2008 Annual Report. During the past year, the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce has worked with determination to provide the best possible benefits for our members. In doing so, we attempted to positively affect the entire Vallejo business community.

Our accomplishments in 2008 reflect the Chamber's continued commitment to Vallejo's future. We initiated the Vallejo Business 1st Preference Policy for the City of Vallejo and launched the first campaign for the Shop Vallejo 1st program, both focused on the Development of Economic Growth in Vallejo. We were successful in our efforts to ensure that the Vallejo Ferry services were protected in the State takeover, and we partnered with the City and the Fighting Back Partnership to achieve a major grant for neighborhood revitalization. And we continue to push the City to look at a Comprehensive City Charter Review which we believe is critical to making Vallejo more attractive to new businesses and development.

As you know, our community faces significant challenges. Only through sustainable economic development will Vallejo reach its vast potential. There is a tremendous amount of future development and redevelopment that will transform our city. But it is our local businesses that must thrive in order for us to see these developments through. Our main commitment is to work each day to help you, the members of this organization, build your businesses and grow your investment in this great community.

Thanks to our members, our board, and to our dedicated staff, the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce was awarded in 2008 the U.S. Chamber of Commerce 4-Star Accreditation for sound policies, effective organizational procedures, and positive impact on the community. We are one of only four Chambers in Northern California, and one only ten in the entire state, to receive the U.S. Chamber's 4-Star rating. With your help, the Vallejo Chamber will continue to thrive. Together, we will continue to make the Vallejo business community stronger and more prosperous in 2009 and beyond.

Rick Wiers

Mission Statement

The Vallejo Chamber of Commerce is organized for the purpose of advancing the commercial, industrial, civic and general interests of Vallejo and the surrounding area.

Awards in 2008

U.S. Chamber 4-Star Accreditation

California Chamber of Commerce Compliance Partner of the Year (3rd consecutive year)

Western Association of Chamber Executives Special Merit "Electrononic Newsletters"



Accomplishments in 2008

Making A Difference - Your Business Advocate

Strengthening the Local Economy

- 2,000+ Member Business Referrals.
- Supported new Major Development Projects, including the Touro University Cancer Center, Solano County Fair Visioning Plan, and La Clinica Vallejo Primary Care Center.
- Initiated Sacramento Board Task Force for Economic Development.
- Developed and presented the Vallejo Business 1st Local Business Preference Policy for City of Vallejo purchases.
- Launched Shop Vallejo 1st program to encourage and promote businesses and residents to buy locally to promote economic development and the community.

Political Advocacy

- Worked with City of Vallejo and State Representatives to ensure Ferry Clean-Up Bill (SB1093) protected existing services and planned economic development.
- Successfully advocated for In-Depth Analysis and Discussion of Mare Island Community Facilities District Fees on behalf of Mare Island businesses.
- Endorsed the Solano County General Plan Update, which was passed by a majority of Solano County voters in the November 2008 election.
- Supported the City's Draft Fiscal Emergency Plan and a Comprehensive City Charter Review.
- Recommended Board Member Wanda Chihak for the Planning Commission; she was appointed to the Commission in June 2008.

Community Leadership

- With the Vallejo Rotary Club, provided 1,800 Dictionaries to Vallejo 3rd Graders for 9th Consecutive Year.
- Provided three (3) Chamber Scholarships to Vallejo High School Students through the Merchants Hall of Fame and Ambassadors programs.
- Formalized agreement with Vallejo Business Alliance members to work together as inclusive entity to promote business and economic development.
- Partnered with Fighting Back Partnership and City of Vallejo to achieve \$1.1 million Federal Grant for neighborhood revitalization.
- Recognized Business and Community Leaders by sponsoring Merchants Hall of Fame, Spirit of Solano, Teachers Reception, Businesses of the Year, Vallejo Chamber Bud Butler Man of the Year, and Athena awards.

Member Services & Networking

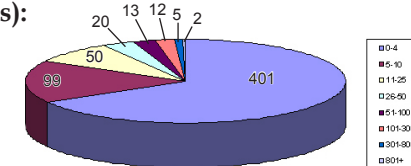
- Hosted three (3) Quarterly New Member Receptions which include Chamber Orientation and Networking.
- Developed 1st Annual Winemakers Dinner & Auction which was attended by more than 100 members and guests.
- Converted Member Database to Enhanced Software System enabling for more effective Communications and Marketing for Members.
- Delivered 26 Vallejo BusinessWire Electronic Newsletters and 11 Vallejo Business Newsletters to our Members.
- Connected hundreds of Members and the Community at major Chamber Events: 133rd Installation, 45th Annual Golf Tournament, and 11th Annual Great Vallejo Ducky Derby.

Chamber at a Glance - 2008

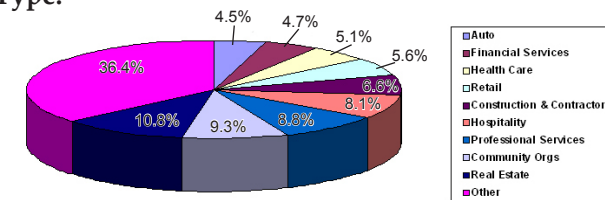
Number of Members: 602
Employees Represented: 11,200+
New Members in 2008: 116

Membership

By Size (Number of Employees):



By Category Type:

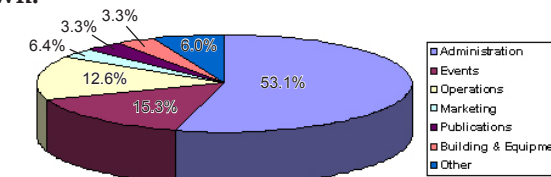


Financial Summary

Total Assets (Restricted and Non-Restricted) as of 12.31.08: \$414,503

2008 Operating Budget: \$570,000

Expense Breakdown:



Revenue Breakdown:

