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It's YOUR Klamath County...

Join with Chamber members who are working to make it a better place in which to live and make a living!

That's what the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce is — a group of more than 600 individuals who have voluntarily joined their efforts to enhance the livability and prosperity of the County.

They are proud of their individual parts in our economy, and they are glad to spend extra time in Chamber activities for the mutual good. The Klamath County Chamber of Commerce is the only organization that exists exclusively to achieve this purpose.

The Chamber is governed by a board of 15 directors, five of whom are elected by the membership for three year terms each year. The board elects its president, vice presidents and treasurer. The immediate past president is ex officio.

The work of the Chamber is specialized and varied in nature. Groups of members who are qualified on the various projects work together on specific committees throughout the year. The primary committees are:

AVIATION COMMITTEE. Private, commercial and military aviation are the concern of this committee. The committee works with the city for better commercial service, on applications for new routes and extensions of others. Facilities for private flying and the full use of Kingsley Field by all flying interests are fostered.

COMMUNITY HOSPITAL. The research and evaluation of hospital needs and the capabilities, methods and techniques for financing hospital construction have been conducted by the Chamber in past months. Now organization for community action is under way.

FOREST PRODUCTS. This is a new committee directed solely to working with the major segment of our industrial economy. The Forest Products committee, with other civic, business and industrial leaders, proposed creation of a new national forest with headquarters in Klamath Falls to perpetuate the forest lands of the former Klamath Indian Reservation in the best interests of all our citizens.

LOCAL AND STATE AFFAIRS. This new committee works for coordination of local government activities, aids liaison between the city, county and Chamber, and in some matters works with other Chamber committees.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT. This committee not only initiates work toward broadening and strengthening the industry of the County but works as a liaison group for all individuals active in this field. The Chamber recognizes that it is just as important to help keep present industry and its payrolls healthy as to assist new industries to locate here.

MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCE. The "Eye Openers," a group of 18 Chamber members meets once a month. The name comes from the time of meeting, 7:30 a.m., plus the purpose, that of opening the eyes of newcomers and others to the benefits from membership in the Chamber.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS. This committee last year conducted the very successful Action Course in Practical Politics which 54 persons completed. Now, with the Congress in session, this committee is working continuously in study of pending legislation and is providing briefs and recommendations to the Chamber board of directors for appropriate action with the public and our legislators.

OTI AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS. Following up the purchase of the new Oregon Technical Institute site and its acceptance by the State Board of Higher Education, money for the purchase of an additional three acres was quickly raised. The committee worked successfully for the passage of ballot measure 6, which assured speeding up construction of non-instructional buildings on the new OTI campus.

RATES AND TRAFFIC. This is a highly technical field and a very important one. The committee studies discriminatory rates affecting the marketing of our agricultural crops and our flow of commerce, and intervenes with authorities for the correction. It promotes the advantage we have that a shipper can serve the western states at less transportation cost from Klamath Falls than from any other point.

ROADS AND HIGHWAYS. The year around work of this committee peaks each year in working out with the county and city a priority schedule for needed improvements as a recommendation to the State Highway Commission. High on the priority list is completion of the Klamath Falls West Side By Pass. Winnemucca-to-the-Sea, and the new route to Rogue Valley via Lake of the Woods and Eagle Point. Work on the second phase of the by-pass will start this summer; the other two are under way.

TAXATION. This committee is of particular importance this year as the state legislature is in session. This essentially is a specialized study group which recommends to the Chamber Board of Directors for decisions and action.

TOURIST AND CONVENTION. This committee has many activities. One of the recent outstanding ones was production of the Klamath vacation movie, "Wish You Were Here." It has been shown in every major market in the land. A spring 1961 project is a booth at the Los Angeles Sportsmen's and Vacation Show April 6-16. Selected pages from this Progress Edition will be distributed among the 80,000 persons anticipated at the show.

UPPER KLAMATH LAKE. This committee arranged for a Department of Agriculture survey on the possibilities for a mosquito abatement program. This is a continuing project with a target for first action this summer season. It is working with the State Fish and Game Commission for boat launching sites and other recreational facilities. It is working on tests and research of new chemicals for algae control.

OFFICERS

Robert Kent, president
Fred B. Ehlers, 1st vice president
Jim Monteth, 2nd vice president
Richard Laudenschlager, treasurer
W. H. Graham, ex officio

DIRECTORS

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