

Hang Your Hat In History

OZONA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

& VISITOR CENTER PARK

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CHAMBER DIALOGUE

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Chamber membership selects The General Store as the 2015 Business of the Year

With 134 reservations, the Ozona Chamber of Commerce held its 53rd Annual Chamber of Commerce banquet Tuesday, March 22nd, at the Ozona Civic Center.

The evening began with an invocation given by Pastor Jean Reardon of the United Methodist Church.

Guests enjoyed a buffet meal catered by the Sutton County Steakhouse, a Chamber member.

Chairman of the Board, Paige Skehan, welcomed and introduced the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and staff. “We thank our members, non-members and out of town guests for your attendance. The Chamber banquet is open to anyone who would like to attend in hopes that we can educate more people on how the Chamber works for our community,” said Paige.

Board of Director, Laurie Hale, recognized and thanked eleven businesses who sponsored the evening’s events. Chamber Ambassadors were introduced and acknowledged for their volunteer service to the Chamber.

Chamber President, Shanon Biggerstaff spoke to guests about 2015 Chamber accomplishments and member benefits. “If you are a Chamber member and it has been awhile since you have reviewed your benefits, we encourage you to take advantage of the services we are proud to provide.”

“Of the 111 votes, which represent 63% of the membership, votes were cast for every 2015 Business of the Month candidate. However, as the ballots continued to roll in, one business in the end captured the majority of the vote. It is my privilege to announce that the membership of the Chamber of Commerce has selected The General Store as the 2015 Business of the Year,” said Board of Director, Art Roane.

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Chairman Paige Skehan ended the business portion of the program by thanking all guests, sponsors, the caterer, Ambassadors, the Civic Center for hosting the event, and the Way Off Broadway Players for providing the entertainment.

The remainder of the evening left the crowd in laughter as the Way Off Broadway Players performed the musical Assisted Living. Guests were welcomed into the Pelican Roost, a full service retirement village for those embracing their twilight years, and all of the hilarious challenges that come with getting older! We were introduced to some very colorful characters and learned that everything your Granny told you about assisted living, forget it!



Left to right: Owner-Tony Shields, Office Manager-Amy Rodriguez, Technician-Danny McPherson

The Chamber of Commerce recognizes Ozona Cable & Broadband as our Business of the Month

The Ozona Chamber of Commerce would like to recognize Ozona Cable & Broadband as our Business of the Month.

“I bought the business from Circle Bar Cable and we opened as Ozona Cable & Broadband in July 2012”, said owner Tony Shields.

“Since we first opened, we have added high speed internet, which we are constantly upgrading. We have also added numerous channels to our lineup.”

“We are slowly putting all channels in Digital and/or HD by the end of the year, and we will be adding channels to our basic lineup in Digital and HD,” said Tony.

Currently, along with high speed internet access, the Digital/HD Basic Channel package, which requires a flat screen TV, includes 60 channels. Additional Digital/HD Channels are offered which require a set top box. This package includes 84 channels. Ozona Cable & Broadband also offers premium channels including Cinemax, Starz, Encore, HBO, and Showtime.

Ozona Cable & Broadband services Ozona, Sterling City, Mertzon and Eldorado.

“There are three of us here at Ozona Cable & Broadband looking forward to doing business with you. Danny McPherson is our Technician, and Amy Rodriguez can answer any questions you have about our packages,” said Tony.

The Ozona Chamber of Commerce would like to recognize Ozona Cable & Broadband as an asset to our business community and recognize them for their commitment to provide quality.

Ozona Cable & Broadband is located at 906 11th Street. You can reach Ozona Cable & Broadband at 325/392-3323, or by e-mail at info@ozonacable.com, or you can visit their web site at www.ozonacable.com.

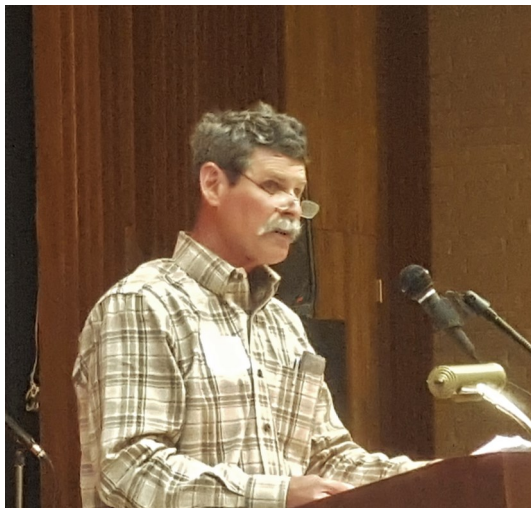
Chamber Banquet



Chairman welcomes guests



Board of Director Laurie Hale recognizes banquet sponsors and Ambassadors



Board of Director Art Roane announces 2015 Business of the Year



The General Stores accepts the 2015 Business of the Year Award

Happy Anniversary

The Ozona Chamber of Commerce would like to wish the following members a *Happy Anniversary* and **thank them** for their support of their community, our organization and its programs and services. We would like to recognize and express our *SINCERE* appreciation to the following members who joined during the month of March:

KYXX Ozona 94.3 RM Real Country-1996
Circle Bar Truck Corral-1997
Triple C Hardware Lumber & Rental-2002
Natgas, Inc.-2010
Nana's Homestyle Cooking-2015

Travelodge-1996
John Stokes, CPA-1997
Escondido Draw Recreation Area-2008
Baker Acre Enterprises-2012
Southern Living RV Park-2015

Wool Growers Central Storage-1996
Ozona Country Club-2000
Will M. Black Real Estate-2010
Ozona Flour Mill & Goods-2012

Ribbon Cutting for Pizza Mia on the Square



Family, County Judge Deaton, Commissioners Tambunga and Childress and other county representatives, the Chamber President, as well as Chamber Ambassadors, met for a Ribbon Cutting event hosted by the Chamber on Wednesday, March 30, 2016 for Pizza Mia on the Square. Dora Aiguier and Sandra

Marmolejo were on hand to talk to guests about their new business.

“With a wide variety of homemade specialty hamburgers and Neapolitan pizzas, we have something for everyone,” said Sandra. “We specialize in 10 & 16” pizzas with flavors like pepperoni, Canadian bacon, Hawaiian, spinach mushroom and more!”

“Our Facebook fans are raving about our Bean Burger and we’ve added a jalapeno popper burger,” said Dora. “We also have sides like fresh hand cut fries and onion rings.”

Pizza Mia on the Square is located at 512 9th Street. You can call in orders at 206-2634 or 226-1314. Check out their Facebook page and watch for special menu items. You can follow them on Instagram or go to Ozona.com to print a menu with pricing.

Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, from 11am to 2pm and 4pm to 8pm. Open Saturdays from 8am-8pm.

Who walked into the Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center in February

Visitor Center

- Walk-in traffic into the Visitor Center was-443 people, 29% above same period last year.
- Where are they from? Texas Visitors-201, Out of State-149 Local-70, Foreign-23
- Top states visiting Ozona-CA, NM, AZ, MI, NM
- Top cities visiting Ozona-San Angelo, San Antonio, El Paso, Midland, Houston
- Chamber related inquiries 26%, Tourism related 74%
- Week days in order of the busiest-Tuesday, Friday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday
- Top Requested Items: Maps, lodging, directions, Interpretive Trail, museum, restaurants, hotel coupon books



Advertising

-Year-to-date the Chamber has filled, in response to our advertising, 1,895 requests for information on Ozona. An additional 346 brochures have been handed out to walk-in visitors and mailed to travel information centers.

What is Ozona.com doing for our members and the community?

For **February 2016**, Ozona.com had 3,570 sessions: 2,567 new 1,003 returning.

Of these 3,570 sessions, there were 7,251 page views – of these 5,518 were unique (1st time views)

The 3,570 sessions were from 50 countries and 3,343 sessions were from US.

Top 5 States:

Texas	2,822
California	101
Louisiana	66
Florida	49
Arizona	44

Top 5 Texas Cities:

Houston	510
Dallas	264
Austin	256
Brownwood	189
Ozona	142

Top 20 Content Pages Visited

1. Hunting Lease	1,645	11. Chamber of Commerce	93
2. Homepage	1,207	12. Location	90
3. Mobile Homepage	570	13. Hot Deals	89
4. Lodging	192	14. Restaurants	88
5. Local Attractions	182	15. Membership Directory	86
6. Interesting Facts	123	16. Mobile Local Attractions	81
7. Events Calendar	122	17. Daytrips	81
8. County Officials	109	18. Mobile Hunting	77
9. Public Services	108	19. Mobile History	73
10. Job Postings	97	20. Itineraries	69

Chamber Master (Membership Directory Data Base)

Business Directory Searches	879	Hot Deal Hits	296
Hot Deal Searches	155	Member Page Hits	2,090
Job Searches	110	Job Posting Hits	4

Social Media Pages

Facebook

2,108	Fans
49	New Likes
190,704	Total Paid Reach
3,045	Total Organic Reach
7,660	People Engaged
315	Daily Logged-in Page Views

Google+

1,307	Search
43	Google+ Page Views
254	Post Views
1,678	Photo Views
24	Clicks to Website
6	Clicks for Driving Directions
5	Clicks for Phone Calls

Twitter

46	Total Followers
1,700	Impressions

Pinterest

12	Total Followers
0	Total Likes
13	Repins
915	Impressions
422	Users Reached
1	Clicks on Tweets

Instagram

18	Total Followers
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Top Searched Chamber Master Service Categories:

Roadside Assistance	23	Media	9	Medical Services	8
Feed Store	12	RV Parks	9	Recreation	8
Remodeling	11	Towing Services	9	Water Hauling	8
Oil & Gas Services	10	Arts & Culture	8		
Restaurants/Fast Food	10	Garden Supplies	8		

What Services are sought on the www.Ozona.com web page

For the month of February, at www.Ozona.com, there were 879 business directory searches, and 2,090 actual *member page hits*! **These are people looking for YOUR services. Following are the top twenty members that received 20 or more page hits:**

Barnhart Shaw's General Repair-54	Pon Seahorn Real Estate-48
Pizza Mia on the Square-42	Monster Roadside Tire & Lube-39
Devon Energy Corporation-37	Wool Growers Central Storage-37
Encino RV Park-35	Ozona Chamber of Commerce-33
Ozona Flour Mill & Goods-33	Ozona Truck Trailer & Emergency Repair-33
Gallery Café-32	Ozona Cable & Broadband-32
Crockett County Water Department-31	Family Health Center of Ozona-30
Ozona Body Shop-30	The General Store-30
Ozona Mercantile-26	Venegas Construction, LLC
Rusty Gold on the Square-25	Catherine Paige Skehan-Attorney-24
G & H Oil & Lube-24	Close to our Hearts-23
Village Drug-23	Eldorado Animal Clinic-22
Super 8 Motel & RV Park-22	Ozona Remodeling & New Construction-21
Lopez Construction & Remodeling-20	West Central Wireles-20
Will M. Black Real Estate-20	

As demonstrated above, the Chamber of Commerce & Visitor Center is the front door to our community. ***So are you taking advantage of your member services?*** Having a sale? Offering a holiday discount? Have old inventory you would like to move? Do you have a new product to introduce? Hiring?

As an added Chamber member benefit, the Chamber Dialogue is an ideal vehicle to gain additional exposure to 178 businesses and individuals. Simply drop off or e-mail your flyer to the Chamber office by the third week of the month. We will mail your flyer along with the newsletter to all Chamber members. Extras will be distributed to visitors at the Chamber office.

You can also post your special "Hot Deal" or event on the Chamber web site, along with job postings. Please note that in 2015 there were 3,034 Hot Deal hits and 23,457 member page hits on our web site. Every time a Chamber member posts a new Hot Deal, the membership receives an e-mail notifying them of the available specials.

Have an event or available job you need to promote? Post it on our web site.

Use your Chambermaster login name and password to post updated member information, or contact us at 392-3737 for help.

HELP US to make your member benefits work for YOU!

Map includes I-10 & Ozona in the perfect US road trip



[Discovery News](http://news.discover.com) (resource news.discover.com) blogger Tracy Staedter sought to put an end to tedious road trips last year after discovering a road map that claimed to route all of the nation’s major landmarks. Staedter realized the map wasn’t just inaccurate (more than a few states were missing), it was also terribly inefficient.

“Wouldn’t it be nice to have a map that hit landmarks in every state and not only that,” she mused. “Wouldn’t it be great if the map represented the optimal, most efficient route across the country?”

To create the perfect road map across the country, Staedter contacted Randy Olson, a Michigan State University doctoral student. Olson used an algorithm to generate the map, factoring in logistics for traffic, turns, and alternate routes.

Even though the route isn’t technically “perfect”, it’s about as close as the curious adventurer can get to the most efficient roadmap across the U.S.

The trip wound up having three simple parameters:

- It would make at least one stop in all 48 states in the contiguous U.S. That means no state is left out!
- Each stop would be at a National Natural Landmark, National Historic Site, National Park, or National Monument
- It would be a true road trip, taken by car and not leave U.S. soil.

All of the stops are in the Continental United States, which is ideal for traveling by car. The route can be started from any state, and would be 9.33 days worth of driving. Olson reassures that, in actuality, the round trip would take around 2-3 months.

Staedter handpicked the stops, which she thinks provide a “nice mix of history and natural wonder”. Sounds like the perfect combination for the spirited traveler.