Hang Your Hat In History
OZONA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
& VISITOR CENTER PARK
P.O. Box 1135, 505 15th Street, Ozona, TX 76943
325/392-3737, 325/392-3485 Fax, www.Ozona.com



CHAMBER DIALOGUE

Volume 13

Number 8

September 2016

The Chamber of Commerce recognizes the

X Bar Ranch Nature Retreat

as our Business of the Month

In the summer of 1915 CL Meador put the first pieces of the puzzle that would become the X Bar Ranch together in southwest Schleicher County. Fast forward eighty years, and the third, fourth and fifth generations ushered in the next generation of ranching by starting the X Bar Ranch Nature Retreat. Now,

after recently celebrating their 100th anniversary of ranching

heritage, in 2016 the Meadors are proud to have been hosting guests from around the state, country and world for 20 years.

The X Bar Ranch Nature Retreat features a lodge and eight cabins, campsites (tent and RV) as well as two guest houses. One of those, the ever unique Round House, has provided respite from daily life for the Meador family as well as guests who have been able to call it home for a few days at a time. Guests can enjoy activities such as hiking, star gazing, photography, bird watching, swimming and hanging around the outdoor cook shed and fire pit. They can also extend their stay to enjoy nearby attractions located in Ozona, Sonora and Christoval.

The site has been host to endless events such as family reunions, weddings, church retreats, anniversary parties, annual girl's outings, craft and scrap book groups, mountain bike races, star parties, youth activities as well as workshops and dinner shows and simply people looking for a quiet and comfortable place to spend some time. Hunting is also a key component of the recreational offering both white tail deer and turkey. Currently, the marquee event is the 14th Annual Eldorado Star Party which is an event that attracts between 110-140 people from across the globe for a week-long star gaze each October.

Continued on page 2-Business of the Month



X Bar Ranch in Eldorado- Round House

Chamber Dialogue

Continued from Page 1-Business of the Month

"Whether our regional neighbors are looking for a place to house visiting family and friends, a close-to-home get away, or to host a family reunion or celebration, we are happy to help you plan your next special event," said Stan Meador.

"We are especially honored to have been selected as the Chamber's Business of the Month. We deeply appreciate the special relationship we have with the professional staff at the Chamber and the hard work they do to promote economic growth and tourism in the area," Meador concluded.

The Ozona Chamber of Commerce would like to recognize the X Bar Ranch Nature Retreat for their commitment to providing the best quality service to local residents as well as travelers that visit this region of Texas. Their long-term partnership and assistance is very much appreciated.

For more information or customized group package pricing, you can contact the ranch at: 325-853-2688, or by e-mail at <u>stay@xbarranch.com</u>, or visit their web site at <u>www.xbarranch.com</u>.

Welcome new Board of Directors

Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors recently appointed G.L. Bunger and Melissa Perner to the Chamber board. Their willingness to serve the organization and their community is greatly appreciated.



Serving 2016-2018



Serving out term of former director 2016-2017

Welcome new members

The Chamber would like to welcome our newest Hunting Lease members. If you have property you are looking to lease for hunting, you may contact the Chamber for assistance. Go to Ozona.com for information about these Hunting Leases.

Buchholz Ranches

Bob Buchholz-Owner 325/853-3939 OR 325/650-5331 1251 CR 220, Eldorado, TX 76936 Hunting Lease

Wildlife Systems, Inc. Greg Simons-Owner 325/947-7703 or 325/234-4408 3312 Town & Country Drive, San Angelo, TX 76904 Hunting Lease



Chamber Dialogue

Page 3

Happy Anniversary

The Ozona Chamber of Commerce would like to wish the following members a Happy Anniversary and thank them for their partnership, continued support and investment in their community. In addition we thank them for their support of 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 September:

SEPTEMBER

Unifirst - 1997 Soto, Inc - 1998 DCP Midstream Partners, LP - 2002 Jody K. Upham, Attorney at Law - 2006 Carmen Sutton - 2010 Valliant Ranch - 2010 Approach Resources, Inc. - 2011 Ambit Energy - 2012 Francine Friend - 2012 Star Ranch Exotics - 2015

Representative Murr visits with local residents



The Chamber of Commerce was contacted and hosted a visit by Representative Andrew Murr on Wednesday, September 21st. A reception was held where guests could come and go at their convenience visiting one on one with Representative Murr.

Close to twenty residents stopped by to discuss their issues.

Following are Representative Murr's staff and contact information:

Campaign Office-Junction– Murr4Texas@gmail.com

Regan Ellmer-Chief of Staff-Austin 512-463-0536

Kellie Early-District Director-Kerrville 830-257-0432

David Griffith-Constituent Services-Llano 512-463-0536



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

Visitor Center

-Walk-in traffic into the Visitor Center for the month of August-428 people

-Where are they from? Texas visitors-271, Out of State-67, Local-88, Foreign-2

-Year to date traffic into the Visitor Center is 4,164, a 22.25% increase over the same

period last year, or an average of 520 visitors into the center per month.

-Top states visiting Ozona in August-CA, AZ, NM, IL, NV

-Top cities visiting Ozona in August-San Antonio, Austin, Alpine, San Angelo, Midland

-Year to date Chamber related inquiries 20%, Tourism related 80%

-Week days in order of the busiest in August-Wednesday, Thursday, Monday, Tuesday, Saturday, Friday

-Top Requested Items in August-General Tourism, Interpretive Trail, Maps/Directions, Restaurants, Relocation Packets (new teachers)

Advertising

-Year-to-date the Chamber has filled, in response to our advertising, 10,791 requests for information on Ozona. An additional 2,063 brochures have been handed out to walk-in visitors and mailed to state wide Travel Centers.

What Services are sought at www.Ozona.com

For the month of August, at www.Ozona.com, there were 1,549 business directory searches, and 1,995 actual *member page hits*! These are people searching for YOUR services. Following are the top members that received 20 or more page hits:

Devon-60 Crockett County Water Dept.-56 Family Health Center of Ozona-47 OTTER-44 Barnhart's Shaw's General Repair-39 Ozona Cable & Broadband-36 Encino RV Park-35 Lopez Construction & Remodeling-35 L & B Automotive-33 Ozona Remodeling & New Construction-27 Sunoco Energy Services, LLC-26 Pikes Peak Energy Services, LLC-25 J Cleo Thompson-23 Tobar Tire Company-23 Jack & Janie Riggs Ranch, LTD-20

Venegas Construction, LLC-58 Will M. Black Real Estate-53 Wool Growers Central Storage-45 The General Store-41 Discovery Natural Resources, LLC-38 Crockett County Abstract Company-35 KYXX Ozona 94.3 FM Real Country-35 Pon Seahorn Real Estate-34 Pizza Mia on the Square-33 The Ozona Stockman-27 Ozona Mercantile-25 Stokes Drilling Company-24 Ozona Flour Mill & Goods-23 Ozona Tire & Lube-22 Ozona Country Club-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?*



-	gust 2016, Ozona.com				3,035 new	868 ret	•	
	e 3,903 sessions, ther					ique (1st ti	me views)	
The 3,9	03 sessions were from	m 51 cou	untries and 3,63					
	Top 5 States:	2.00	-0	Top 5 Texas	s Cities:	460		
	Texas California	2,95	59)9	Houston Dallas		468 445		
	Louisiana		55	Austin		443 299		
	Arizona		14	San Antonio		178		
	North Carolina		39	Brownwood		159		
Тор 20	Content Searches							
1.	Homepage		2,359	11.	Photo Galle	ry	1	20
	Hunting		1,238	12.	History	5	1	12
3.	Itineraries		394	13.	Games		1	11
4.	Lodging		285	14.	County Offi	cials		95
	Events Calendar		260	15.	Area Attract			93
	Restaurants		202	16.	Interesting I	Facts		93
	Local Attractions		189	17.	Search			90
	Location		182	18.	Shopping			78
	Membership Directo	ory	166	19. 20	Public Servi	ices		72
10.	Job Postings		138	20.	Real Estate			61
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