



# The Hawthorne HOTLINE

THE OFFICAL NEWSLETTER OF THE HAWTHORNE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Volume 04

Issue 09

September 2004

## Government Affairs

### Mission of the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce

- Act as a spokesperson for the business and professional community and translate into action the group thinking of its members.
- Render specific services to its members and to the community as a whole.
- All businesses within and around the city of Hawthorne are invited to join the chamber and participate in its various community events.

### Chamber Hours of Operation

- **General Board Meeting**  
All Chamber Members are welcomed to attend on the first Wednesday of each month at 8:00 A.M. in the Chamber Office.
- **Chamber Hours**  
Monday—Thursday  
9:00 A.M.—5:00 P.M.  
Friday  
10:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.  
(310) 676—1163  
[hawchamber@aol.com](mailto:hawchamber@aol.com)

Tom Elias wrote the following article that appeared in the August 26, 2004 *Daily Breeze*.

Big businesses have never been reluctant to spend large sums of money on California ballot measures that figured to feather their nests. But it's likely they'll spend more than ever before this fall. Expect major corporations led by McDonald's, Macy's West, Nike and others to spend well over \$50 million to beat back one law they fear and pass another they badly want.

Twin propositions spearheaded this fall by the State Chamber of Commerce have captured businesses' attention. One is an attempt to beat back a health insurance law enacted last year, shortly before the recall of ex-Gov. Gray Davis. If it takes effect, this law will require all businesses with 20 or more employees to provide them with health insurance, or pay the state a fee comparable to the cost of coverage. The law has been in abeyance since the Chamber formally filed papers to run a referendum on it -- now on the ballot as Proposition 72.

A measure big business craves is Proposition 64, designed to weaken the State's existing unfair business competition law, preventing consumer groups and private citizens from suing companies for fraud or other misdeeds unless they have actually been harmed by those actions. In short, consumer groups would no longer be able to sue polluters until after the pollution's harm was done and visible. They would not be able to stop false advertising campaigns until after lots of folks had been victimized.

Many legal scholars believe the change business seeks would have prevented the tobacco industry settlements, which now provide billions of dollars to cities and counties.

Plus, one analysis by the State's nonpartisan legislative analyst and another by the State Department of Finance both concluded that Proposition 64 would impose indirect costs

on local governments by increasing what they must spend on health care due to lessened enforcement of public health and safety laws.

The chamber notes that while individuals and consumer groups would lose much of their standing to sue, the State Attorney General and local district attorneys could still move against offending companies. But attorneys general in this state long have made a habit of enforcing laws they and their backers like, while generally ignoring those they dislike.

Meanwhile, it's obvious why outfits like McDonald's and Macy's are so dead-set against the now-stymied health insurance law: Their stores pay many workers minimum wages or not much more and they fear any added expense. McDonald's, in fact, has mounted an effort to get individual franchise holders to put up donations -- and about 200 ponied up in the first quarter of this year alone, while petitions to qualify the referendum for the ballot were still circulating on the streets. Carl's Jr., Darden's Restaurants (Red Lobster and Olive Garden stores), Wendy's and Outback Steakhouses also oppose the insurance law.

The chamber maintains the health care requirement would cost companies with 200 or more employees \$5,718 per worker each year and smaller firms about \$2,200 for each covered employee.

The basic argument of the chamber is that this is not a good way to solve the health insurance crisis, which sees about 7 million Californians now without coverage. Responds one official of the California Medical Association: "We've said to the business community that if they have a better idea, we're open to it. They have nothing to offer."

In both cases, big business figures to outspend its opponents by margins of at least 3-1, which ordinarily means victory. But maybe not this time, on issues as popular as health care and fighting fraud and pollution.

## Presidents Message

### Center Stage- Act2

We are just finishing our 2<sup>nd</sup> month of this new year and things are really rolling. Rolling?!! Did I say that? Speaking of rolling.....we had a whole bunch of folks rolling the dice at the Hangar Party Casino Night last Friday night!! Ahhh.....a warm August night, good food, Big Band music, WWII planes, an airplane hangar.... These all made for a wonderful atmosphere for this event to kick off the Hawthorne Air Faire which took place the next day. We had a lot of compliments on what a really nice event this was and definitely plan on doing it again next year – and it will be bigger and better, too!

Yours truly was privileged to be a sponsor in Hawthorne's very first participation in the Walk for Life fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. We had a great turnout from the community and raised approximately \$13,000 for the fight against this deadly disease.

As I mentioned last month, we are co-sponsoring a workshop for restaurants and food service providers on August 31<sup>st</sup>. This is really important and I'm asking everybody to help spread the word about this event. There's been a lot of press about this issue the last few months and this presents

an opportunity for something positive to be done.

The Women's Council has been meeting and growing fast!! They are planning a Wine Tasting event on September 23<sup>rd</sup> which will be a brand new event. We've also been given approval to do a Farmers Market so stay tuned for further news on that new event as well. Women from other cities chambers have been coming, too. We expect great things from this new division of the Chamber! Keep up the good work, Pat!

Again, I'd like to mention all the positive changes going on at the Chamber office. Please stop by and see what's going on. Oh, yeah....and bring a new member, too. You'll be glad you did!

Don Harris, President

### Chamber Hangar Party Opens Air Faire Weekend Festivities

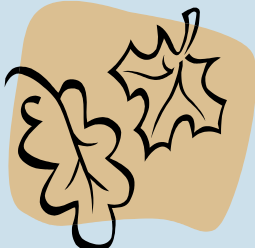
More than 200 business and civic leaders along with eager aviation enthusiasts enjoyed an evening of dining, dancing and casino games during the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce's first annual Haw-

thorne Air Faire Hangar Party Casino Night, August 13th at Security Aviation. Sponsored by The Gas Company, Bare Elegance, Advanced Party Rentals and Bell Event Services, the gala event served as a fundraiser and opportunity for new and existing Chamber members to meet in a social setting with civic leaders and visiting pilots and aviation industry representatives.

"I am really excited about the turn out and the wide spread support the chamber is now enjoying from our city leaders and community partners," noted President Don Harris. "Chris Miller and the staff of Security Aviation really came through for the Chamber again to accommodate our event."

The chamber hosted the visiting U.S. Marine Corps ground personnel who were assigned to the Air Faire in support of the USMC F-18 Hornet fighter, which arrived at Hawthorne Municipal Airport shortly before the party began. The Air Faire attracted more than 7,000 spectators the following day and was presented by the Western Museum of Flight. Chamber staff supported the Air Faire by coordinating the participation of vendors and exhibitors.

## Upcoming Events

<p><b><u>Wednesday, Sept. 1</u></b></p> <p><b>Hawthorne Chamber Monthly Meeting</b> 8 am Hawthorne Chamber Office, 4444 South El Segundo Blvd. Hawthorne CA 90250 (310) 676-1163 (310) 676-7661</p> <p>*****</p>	<p><b><u>Tuesday Sept. 7</u></b></p> <p><b>Hawthorne Lions Club</b> 7 pm, BHS Training Center, 15519 Crenshaw Blvd. Gardena (310) 679-9126</p> <p>*****</p> <p><b><u>Monday Sept. 20</u></b></p> <p><b>Teen Challenge 2nd Annual Golf Tournament</b> La Mirada Country Club, 15501 East Alicante Road, La Mirada, CA 90638 Contact Maggie at (310) 644-3695, or <a href="mailto:tcla@earthlink.net">tcla@earthlink.net</a></p> <p>*****</p>	<p><b><u>Tuesday Sept. 21</u></b></p> <p><b>Hawthorne Lions Club</b> 7 pm, BHS Training Center, 15519 Crenshaw Blvd. Gardena (310) 679-9126</p> <p>*****</p> <p><b><u>Wednesday, Sept. 29</u></b></p> <p><b>Hawthorne Chamber Board of Directors Meeting</b> 8 am Hawthorne Chamber Office, 4444 South El Segundo Blvd. Hawthorne CA 90250 (310) 676-1163 (310) 676-7661</p> <p>*****</p>	<p><b><u>October Chamber Mixer</u></b> date and location to be announced</p> <p><b><u>Monday, October 18</u></b></p> <p><b>Registration Deadline for the Nov. 2nd Election</b> Request Voter Registration from Post Office, Library, or City Clerks Office</p> <p>The Hawthorne Hotline welcomes your upcoming community event or business mixer. To have it listed here, please contact the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce with your flyer or general information.</p>
<p><b><u>Tuesday Sept. 7</u></b></p> <p><b>Women in Business Council Meeting 7:30 am, Ayres Hotel</b> Contact Pat Feldman for information (310) 342-7676</p> <p>*****</p>			

## Community News

### SOUTH BAY BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER OPENS

The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (South Bay WIB) officially launched the South Bay Resource Network (the Network) during a kickoff breakfast and ribbon cutting ceremony held August 19th at the beautiful Ayres Hotel in Hawthorne. The Network is an economic development support program created by the South Bay WIB in cooperation with a broad coalition of public and private organizations. Partners such as ADP, Inc. California Dept. Of Rehabilitation - Los Angeles and South Bay District, California Employment Development Department - South Bay Job Services, CSU Dominguez Hills - Extended Education, Centinela Adult School, County of L.A. Dept of Public Social Services GAIN Region I, El Camino College Center for International Trade Development, L.A. Southwest College, Manpower, Inc., Milt Wright and Associates, Inc., South Bay Business & Career Centers- located in

Gardena, Inglewood and Beach Cities, South Bay Economic Development Partnership, South Bay Workforce Consortium, Inc., Southern California Indian Center, Inc., Southern California Regional Occupational Center, Southwest L.A. County Small Business Development Center, and U.S. Veterans Initiative, Inc. helped in the creation of the Network and will play an intricate role in supporting its efforts. Some of the services available to businesses are staffing assistance, business and entrepreneurial development, labor exchange, disability services, human resource solutions and corporate services. Jan Vogel, Executive Director of the South Bay WIB, welcomed everyone and acknowledged elected officials in attendance. During opening remarks, Larry Guidi, Mayor of Hawthorne, spoke of the businesses coming to Hawthorne and encouraged everyone to utilize the services available through the South Bay WIB. Maxine Waters, Congresswoman for the 35th Congressional District, offered congratulations

to the South Bay WIB for being "pioneers" and on the "cutting edge" in their efforts to better serve the business community. She also assisted Jan Vogel in the ribbon cutting.

Other local elected officials in attendance were Hawthorne Councilmember Pablo Catano (also representing Senator Edward Vincent), City of Inglewood Mayor Roosevelt Dorn, Redondo Beach Councilmember Don Szerlip, and Clarence Griffin representing Assemblyman Jerome Horton, all came to show their support of the Network. Following the breakfast and ribbon cutting were the first in a series of ongoing business seminars for area businesses. ADP, Inc., and Milt Wright and Associates discussed California's new Paid Family Leave Act (FMLA) and Job Credits. Businesses can learn more about the Network by calling 310-970-7799 or by accessing the website at [www.southbayresource.net](http://www.southbayresource.net)

## Advertising Opportunities

### Advertise Your Business Here!



**LARRY BENDER**  
President

**HAWTHORNE CABLE USAGE CORPORATION**  
4455 WEST 126TH STREET  
HAWTHORNE, CA 90250  
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(310) 970-7033 FAX  
(310) 860-5843 PAGER  
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### THOMAS H. QUINTANA

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### Advertise Your Business Here!

The HAWTHORNE HOTLINE is the official newsletter of the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce, Hawthorne, California, and is published monthly, the third week of the month preceding the publication date. Requests to be included in the newsletter should be sent to: Candy Cargill-Fuller at Behavioral Health Services, (310) 679-9126 phone, (310) 679-2920 fax, or at [candy@bhs-inc.org](mailto:candy@bhs-inc.org). The HAWTHORNE HOTLINE welcomes comments, suggestions and story ideas.

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Website: [hawthorne-chamber.com](http://hawthorne-chamber.com)



Thanks to Behavioral Health Services for publishing our newsletter.

## Hawthorne Chamber and Community Events



Mayor Larry Guidi and Pam Baxter and Ernesto Hernandez at the Walk for Life fundraiser for the American Cancer Society held August 21, 2004 at Hawthorne High.

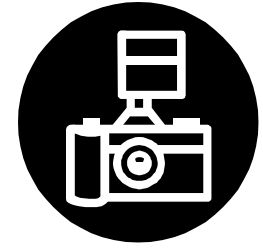
Board members and chamber staff were introduced at the July 13th Hawthorne City Council meeting which was rebroadcast on Hawthorne Cable Television Channel 22. In photo at right, Mayor Larry Guidi and City council members present the official City of Hawthorne Flag to Chamber President Don Harris (at right).

Attendees include: President Don Harris; Treasurer Larry Franklin; Directors Bill Salfity, Jeff Lyman, Jacqueline Williams, Candy Cargill-Fuller, Tom Boren, Betty Patterson and Catherine Blaylock; and staff members Tom Quintana and Laila Jameson.





Congresswoman Maxine Waters joins with Jan Vogel, Chief Executive Officer of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board, to cut the ceremonial ribbon marking the opening of the South Bay Business Resource Network. The Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce is one of the coalition partners of public and private organizations that comprise the network.



Have pictures of an event or mixer that you would like to see featured in the HAWTHORNE HOTLINE? Just contact us with the pictures (digital format only) and the highlight of the occasion and we will put it in the next issue of the HOTLINE. We also welcome comments or suggestions for upcoming events.



President Don Harris welcomes guests to the chambers first annual Hawthorne Air Faire Hangar Party Casino Night at Security Aviation. Joining him is Cindy Macha-Skjonsby, President of the Western Museum of Flight, which presented the Hawthorne Air Faire.

Chevron's annual Mixer in the Park attracted more than 150 participants from four area chambers of commerce. Some of Hawthorne's attendees included Pam Fees and Mayor Larry Guidi (at far left), and President Don Harris (front row, third from the right), pictured with representatives from the Manhattan Beach, El Segundo and Redondo Beach Chambers of Commerce.



**ADVERTISE THROUGH THE HAWTHORNE HOTLINE!**

The Hawthorne Hotline will accommodate your business and give it the exposure it needs at incredibly low rates for any size or duration.

**NEW MEMBER BONUS**

The Hawthorne Hotline will express its gratitude for new members by advertising their business for FREE in the upcoming issue of the Hotline! Do not miss this opportunity and join the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce today.

For all information regarding price rates and offers, contact the Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce.

**Hawthorne Chamber of Commerce  
Board of Directors**

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Farmers Insurance Group

**Treasurer**

V.P. Larry Franklin  
Commercial Capital Bank

**Executive Director**

Tom Quintana  
Public Information Consultant

**Directors**

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Union Bank of California

Michael Bell  
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Catherine Blaylock  
South Bay Workforce Investment

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Candy Cargill-Fuller  
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Jeff Lyman  
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Betty Patterson  
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Hawthorne School District

Bill Salfity  
G & S Printing

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The Hawthorne

**HOTLINE**

4444 W. El Segundo Boulevard  
Hawthorne, CA 90250

[www.hawthorne-chamber.com](http://www.hawthorne-chamber.com)