



THE BERMUDA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAMBER

Newsline

June 2009

THE POWER, INFLUENCE AND VALUE OF A UNIFIED VOICE

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As I write this initial article for the Chamber monthly newsletter, I am reminded of the fact that I have assumed the presidency of the Bermuda Chamber of Commerce at a time which many of us believe is an extremely challenging period in the history of our organization. Clearly this is the case when we look at the continuing impact the recession is having on our local economy and the rest of the world.

Although we may be at ease with the fact that we are surrounded by a natural barrier of reefs which have protected us for the past 400 years, we are not able to take any comfort that they will protect us from local and international economic uncertainty that continues to affect each and every one of us.

This is a statement that is widely held and supported by several different sectors of our community, and in my opinion our Chamber must be seen as an efficient and effective body that continues to provide support, guidance and beneficial services to our members and industry sector divisions, whilst at the same time continue our work and support of organizations such as the Association of Bermuda International Companies (ABIC), Association of Bermuda Insurers and Reinsurers (ABIR), Bermuda Employers Council (BEC), Bermuda International Business Association (BIBA) and Bermuda Hotel Association (BHA). We are a partner in this endeavor, and this is a responsibility that must be evident to all, especially our members, existing and prospective.

We will also continue to build on the foundations established by past presidents of the Chamber in working closely with the Bermuda Government in order to provide both opportunities and benefits for our members that ultimately brings real and sustainable value to our economy.

It would be remiss of me to assume that this is something that I can achieve solely with only the support of our extremely hard working and committed administrative team in our Chamber office led by our Executive Vice President, Mrs. Diane Gordon. In fact as you will have seen at our Annual General Meeting at the Fairmont Hamilton Princess Hotel on April 23rd 2009, our Chamber has on board a highly committed and enthused Executive Board, and on the operational / administrative side, a management committee who meet on a monthly and weekly basis respectively to provide real value, support and commitment to the running of our Chamber.

Our ability to maintain effective services to our members has a very high reliance on your support in the form of prompt payment of membership dues, which historically has provided the funding, along with our signature events to maintain our core operations.

The downturn in our economy has had the knock on affect of reduced revenues associated with the collection of membership dues, and to this end efforts are underway to identify and introduce a broad range of diverse and interesting social activities and events that are intended to provide alternate income streams for our Chamber. In the coming months you will see notices promoting them and I would encourage you to join us along with your friends, coworkers and family members in supporting these events.

In my opening remarks I stated that we are facing challenging times, however I truly believe that this also presents us with real opportunities to position our Chamber to be an effective body as we face and overcome these challenges together. I'm looking forward to working on your behalf to achieve positive results and I am sure that this is a realistic objective based on your ongoing support of our Chamber of Commerce Executive Board, Management team and administrative office group.

By Stephen Todd
President

HARBOUR NIGHTS MOVED!

This year the Chamber is moving Harbour Nights to Thursday, June 11th in celebration of the Tall Ships Atlantic Challenge. Not only have we moved the date, we are also partnering with Up Town Market Association to connect both Harbour Nights and Culture Fest which happens in North Hamilton on Thursday's. A train will connect the two events for visitors and locals to move back and forth. We encourage all of you to join in on the festivities as the evening will be full of entertainment, with the line-up consisting of Dancers, cheerleaders, Saltus Jazz Band, the Unit, clowns, magicians, a fashion show and the Places Gombey's. The Tall Ship's extraordinary beauty is something that cannot be seen in everyday life and that in itself is something that everyone should see.

Visit our Website!
www.bermudachamber.bm

The Royal Naval Dockyard
Celebrates 1809 • 2009

ATTENTION!

If you are or know of anyone who is a past recipient of an **International Company Division and/or Chamber of Commerce Scholarship** between 1970 and 2000, we want to hear from you! Please contact Caitlin Gordon at 295-0331 or bccquest@bcc.bm.



SAVE THE DATE

- **Information Session: Thriving 30's "The Best Investment Decade"** - Wednesday, June 3rd, from 5:00pm to 6:30pm (wine and cheese to be served). **Venue:** Argus Financial. For more information contact cstroble@bcc.bm

Bermuda's Emerging Professionals (BEPRO) Save The Date

- **Thirsty Thursday's (TT)** Thursday June, 4th from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. **Venue:** Café Ten. For more information contact flines@bcc.bm
- **Information Session: - "Purchasing a Home; Managing a Mortgage"** Thursday, June 18th from 12:00pm to 1:00pm **Venue:** Chamber of Commerce. For more information contact info@bepro.bm or you can sign up at Thirsty Thursday.

WIRED WEDNESDAY!

When: Wednesday, June 3rd from 5:30pm to 7:30pm

Venue: Fairmont Hamilton Princess (Harley's & Flagpole Terrace)

Have you ever wanted to get local content and applications on your Blackberry? Attend this event and they will tell you how.

Sponsored by: CellularOne, M3 Wireless, Digicel, Ministry of Energy, Telecommunications and E-Commerce and RIM.

If you have any questions or suggestions for our newsletter, please contact Carrie Stroble (Editor) at:
Phone: 295-8763
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ROYAL NAVAL DOCKYARD

When a person hears of The Royal Naval Dockyard they may be very misled by its extremely official title. Dockyard is a place that is believed to be purely historic in Bermuda's history, and although this is true, Dockyard offers so much more than a history lesson nowadays. There are events and activities for all, for the young and the old, the local community and the one time tourists. There is a gap between Bermuda locals and the tourists that constantly visit this beautiful sanctuary. But with Dockyard's fun-filled events happening this June the gap between these two groups will be bridged.

If you are looking for a good after-dinner activity on a Monday night then Destination Dockyard is the perfect place to be. There are so many things for people to see, taste and touch; such as different foods, arts, crafts, and fun children's activities which are all at a person's dispense from 8:00pm - 10:30pm every Monday until August 10th. People of any age can attend this event and it is perfect for families of various ages and interests. There are many other options for those who are not keen street festival lovers or for those who need a great place to grab a bite before the festival. The Frog and Onion Restaurant and Bermuda Craft Market are well known on the island for their "Taste of Bermuda" every Monday & Thursday from 6pm - 8pm. They provide a tasteful collection of locally brewed beers, Gosling's rums, and many other Bermudian products, and I forgot to mention the best part, it's all free! Although this "tasting" is only available to the public for two hours, it is well worth a visit. Bone Fish Restaurant has "Salsamania" every Monday & Thursday from 8:30pm-11:30pm and not only do you have the choice of delicious foods and Latin inspired drink specials, but you can "dance the night away under the stars on the spacious deck." All in all, Monday can undoubtedly no longer be called "the boring night."

This month there are some special events being held in Dockyard that you don't want to miss. On June 7th, there will be a Festival of the Sea in celebration of the Tall Ships arriving in Bermuda. There will be events starting in the morning going all day and night. Whether you want to see a free Dolphin Show at Dolphin Quest, get your face painted or see the Town Crier, there is something for anyone and everyone. Not only will we be celebrating the Tall Ship's Challenge but it will also be the 200th Anniversary of the Royal Naval Dockyard.

On June 9th Snorkel Park will be holding a Pirate Party that is sure to be exciting. Snorkel Park is one of Bermuda's newest attractions with a wonderful beach full of activity. During the Pirate Party, a BBQ will be provided as well as live entertainment which is never a bad combination. Snorkel Park is known for holding extravagant concerts and rocking parties that attract the local crowd as well as please the tourist's desire to experience Bermuda's party life. The Billfish Release Cup will also be a well rounded attraction. It is a two day boat race starting June 26th that is based around the concept of trying to catch the biggest fish. Although this is something that is quite different, it is an activity that defines part of Bermuda life and will also attract the local community as well as the tourists.

Dockyard is not only exciting during extra special events but on a regular basis. The Clocktower Mall is open seven days a week from 9am - 6pm except on Mondays when the stores stay open later to accommodate Destination Dockyard visitors. Dolphin Quest is also open throughout the summer offering guests the unique opportunity to touch, feed and play with dolphins! Kid's can explore the mysteries of dolphins, sea turtles, and other creatures of the deep at Dolphin Quest's popular summer camp. Whether you are a tourist looking to have a beautiful Bermuda experience or a local looking for something exciting to do, Dockyard is the place to go. Don't simply read about Dockyard's history, experience its fun!

TALL SHIPS

On Thursday June 11th, 2009 all Tall Ships will enter Hamilton and dock along Front Street and the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club. When the Tall Ships are in Hamilton, there will be a number of road closures and other restrictions that you should all be aware of.

Street Closures:

- From Thursday, June 11th to Saturday June 13th, Front Street between Court Street and Albuoy's Point will be closed to all through traffic from 6:00pm to midnight.
- On Saturday, June 13th, Front Street between Court Street and Albuoy's Point will be closed to all through traffic from 9:30am to 11:00am to accommodate the Queen's Birthday Parade. The street will re-open at 11:00am and close again to all through traffic at 6:00pm until midnight.
- On Sunday, June 14th Front Street will be closed to all through traffic from 6:00am to 11:00pm.
- Access to the Tall Ships by caterers and other delivery vehicles throughout the four-day period will be arranged upon prior notice to the Tall Ships race headquarters stationed in No. 6 Passenger Terminal.
- Monday, June 15th: Front Street will revert to normal usage from 6:00am.

Parking: There will be no parking on Front Street between Court Street and Albuoy's Point - and no parking in No. 1 and No. 5 car parks - from 6:00am on Thursday, June 11th to midnight on Sunday, June 15th. Delivery vehicles will be permitted to stop along Front Street between 8:00am and 10:00am daily to service Front Street retail outlets.

Pedestrian Walkway: From Thursday, June 11th to Saturday, June 13th a 6-foot pedestrian walkway will be roped off along the south side of Front Street from 6:00am to 6:00pm while still allowing two-way motorized traffic. (Ropes to be removed from 6 p.m. to midnight when street is closed).