

# Greater Port Austin Area Chamber of Commerce

MEMBER NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2008

## What's New Around Town?



This charming new fountain graces the area in front of The Stock Pot & The Landing and has drawn a lot of attention (and picture-taking) by visitors.

Sponsored by the Port Austin Lions Club, the fountain is a wonderful addition to the downtown area.



### Work gets underway on Bird Creek seawall

As soon as the holiday weekend came to a close, heavy equipment was moved into place near the Port Austin State Harbor - as work began on replacing the seawall along Bird Creek.

Additional improvements are slated for the east parking lot.



### PACP gets a mini "face-lift"

The facade of the Port Austin Community Playhouse is sporting an improved look - a brand new awning - installed just in time for the group's annual fundraiser, The Great Event Raffle & Party.

The improvements are part of the multi-million dollar waterfront development project being planned by the Village of Port Austin and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. The project encompasses the Civic Center area, the state harbor area, and Veterans Waterfront Park and beach and will be done in stages over the next few years.



## 5th Annual Ducks Unlimited Banquet set for Sept. 27

The 5th Annual Fundraiser Membership Banquet for the Upper Thumb Area Chapter of Ducks Unlimited is slated for Saturday, September 27, at the U & I Club in Port Austin.

According to organizer Dave Dybowski, the doors will open at 5:30 p.m., with dinner at 6:30 p.m.

There will be a Live and Silent Auction (including limited edition art prints, decorative decoys and more), a Sponsor Table (including many waterfowl related items), a Greenwing Table (free merchandise for Greenwings in attendance, 17 & under), a Ladies Table (with selected items just for the ladies in attendance) and Bucket Raffles (one of the best bucket raffles to be found!). In addition, there will be a raffle of guns, mobile GPS unit, digital camera and much more.

Everyone in attendance will receive a special gift only available at the Upper Thumb Area banquet.

To purchase tickets or for more information, contact Dybowski at 989-553-4535.



### Art in the Park a huge success

TAG's annual "Art in the Park" juried art fair featured 35 artists and their works, a kids' craft tent, a puppet show, food and live entertainment - all with beautiful, sunny weather at Gallup Park.

The 2nd Annual Thumb Fiber Arts Festival at The Haven Antiques was also well-attended.



### Farmers Market has largest turnout ever!

Labor Day weekend proved to be a record-breaking turnout for Saturday's Farmers Market. Over 230 vendors participated - and buyers turned out in record numbers as well.

Reminder to vendors - set up has been moved to 6:00 a.m. beginning September 6 through the end of the season.

### Reminder - get your tickets for the "300 Club Raffle"

The Port Austin Area Historical Society is sponsoring their 2nd Annual "300 Club Raffle" and tickets are now on sale.

For a cost of \$30 per ticket, you have 29 chances to win over a period of four weeks - and you need not be present to win!

The first drawing will take place at 11 a.m. at Farmers Market on Saturday, September 27. There will be five tickets drawn, each for a \$100 cash prize. The second drawing is the same place and time on October 4, again for five \$100 cash prizes. October 11 is the third drawing at Farmers Market, also for five \$100 cash prizes.

The final drawing is on Saturday October 18. All of the winning tickets from the previous three weeks go back into the final week's drawing. There will be 14 tickets drawn that day. There will be ten \$100 cash prizes, plus fourth prize of \$250, third prize of \$250, second prize of \$500 - and first prize of \$1,000 in cash!

Please help support this important fundraiser for PAAHS.

# Good Music\* Dancing\* Food

## First ever “Oktoberfest” set for October 4



Port Austin’s first annual “Oktoberfest” Heritage Festival is set for Saturday, October 4 in Port Austin and promises to be lots of fun!

Two popular German bands - Enzian Aus Detroit and Hank Haller Ensemble - are the featured entertainment - along with authentic professional dancers in German costume.

German food, beer and wine will be available at the venue - which will be held at the Port Austin Gymnasium and large tent set up next to the gym.

The festivities begin at 12:30 p.m. and run until 11:00 p.m. A nominal admission fee will be charged.

Come join in on the fun!

The festival is sponsored by the Port Austin Area Historical Society, and the event is being chaired by Paulette Jandreski.

## Polka Fest promises lots of music & fun!!!



The 3rd annual Polka Fest is slated for September 13 & 14 in downtown Kinde, beginning at noon each day.

Saturday’s activities run from noon until midnight. The entertainment features Pan Franek & Zosia; Eddie Blazonczyk’s Versatones; Danny Mateja & the Downtown Sound; and Polka Sound.

On Sunday, entertainment will be provided by Eddie Blazonczyk’s Versatones; Stephanie - America’s Polka Sweetheart; Old Polka; and Polka Music Sound. The tent will be open from noon to 9:00 p.m.

A Poka Mass is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on Sunday.

There is a wooden dance floor. Food, refreshments, beer and wine will be available.

Admission each day is \$15 for adults; \$10 for those 16 to 20 years of age; and Free for those under 16.

A softball tournament is also planned for the weekend. The first annual Kinde Polka Fest Golf Scramble will take place on Friday, September 12 - sponsored by Independent Bank.

For more information call 989-874-4070 or go to [www.kindepolkafest.com](http://www.kindepolkafest.com)

Don’t miss the fun!

## Mark Your Calendar - September 2008

### Workshop Wednesdays at Huron City Museums:

- \*10 Writing Family History
- \*17 Writing Poetry
- \*24 Stained Glass

- 13-14** Polka Fest, downtown Kinde
- 19-21** Kayak & Yoga Weekend Retreat
- 19-21 & 26-28** Harvest Days (aka Scarecrow Days)
- 27** Ducks Unlimited Annual Banquet
- 27** Nature Center Fall Dinner & Program
- 27** 2nd Annual Port Austin Area Historical Society Raffle Drawings begin - every Saturday through October 18 - at Farmers Market
- 28** Poetry Reading with The Bards of Bird Creek, at Huron City Church

### COMING SOON:

- \* Oktoberfest/Heritage Festival - Oct. 4 - Port Austin Gym
- \* Halloween Festival at the Huron County Nature Center - Oct. 18
- \* Fall Musical at the Port Austin Community Playhouse - *Little Shop of Horrors* - Oct. 24, 25, 26, 31 & Nov. 1 & 2
- \* Oct. 25 - last day for Farmers Market. Special "trick-or-treat" day for kids - come in costume!
- \* Kids' Halloween parade downtown & party at Civic Center - Oct. 31
- \* Trunk & Treat, United Protestant Church, Oct. 31

Reminder to all who have upcoming events  
- please provide details to the Chamber so  
that we can help promote your activities!

### 2008 Chamber Board Members

President:	Dave Dybowski - 553-4535
Vice President:	Michel Ricou - 738-8729
Treasurer:	LaNette Wiese - 874-4500
Secretary:	Lori Babcock - 550-7936
Trustee:	Laura Mayes - 738-5136
Trustee:	Steve Schmidt - 738-5235
Trustee:	Pam Gabriel - 738-5254

## Poetry Reading September 28

Huron City Church will be the setting for the September 28 "Poetry Reading" at the Huron City Museums.

The Bards of Bird Creek will lead the poetry readings. Everyone is welcome to not only attend, but encouraged to participate - either by reading their own poetry or their favorite poems.

Local harpist, Mary Barnes, will provide music. The event begins at 3:00 p.m. and is free and open to the public.

### Annual Chamber Election September 11

Please remember that there will be four openings up for election at the annual meeting in September: President, Secretary and two Trustees. Those currently serving in those positions (Dave Dybowski, Lori Babcock, Laura Mayes and Pam Gabriel) do not plan to seek re-election, so please consider running.

The Annual Meeting is set for Monday, September 11 - at Captain Morgan's Grindstone Grill.

The regular board meeting (all are welcome and encouraged to attend) - begins at 5:30 p.m. From 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. will be a social 1/2 hour (refreshments provided). The annual meeting and elections are at 7:00 p.m.

Attendance at this important meeting is vital to the continued efforts of the Chamber of Commerce to promote tourism in the area.

### Greater Port Austin Area Chamber of Commerce

Phone: (989)738-7600  
E-Mail: [pacofc@airadv.net](mailto:pacofc@airadv.net)  
Web: [www.portaustinarea.com](http://www.portaustinarea.com)

#### Office hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday  
from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.