

President's Message

Is Pasadena losing its uniqueness?

In August, the Chamber lost three of our restaurant members to closings.

POP Champagne Bar and Restaurant, Central Grille and Big Mama's Rib Shack each ended significant tenures among Pasadena's restaurant community. Late in August, Robin Salzer announced he is closing **Robin's Wood Fire BBQ** in east Pasadena and retiring. Robin's catering business will continue under the ownership of Camillo DiMasi, who has overseen catering for Robin's for years. The restaurant will close, though Mr. Salzer has said he is negotiating with a potential tenant, so another eatery may occupy the Foot-hill/Hastings Village site.

Each of the business owners cited higher costs as the reason behind closing. Even Robin's had cut operating hours to three days per week at the restaurant to maintain profitability. Central Grille ownership had the opportunity to abandon their lease without penalties and jumped at the chance.

Each of these restaurants were locally owned. Each was unique in the Pasadena dining environment. Each faced significant competition. And, each could no longer cope with the rising cost of doing business here.

There was not one single factor. It wasn't only rising rents, or minimum wage increases, or material and food costs or decreased business due to competition in Pasadena and surrounding cities. The result, however, is that we now have four fewer distinctly Pasadena restaurants.

We are still fortunate to have more than 600 restaurants to choose from-many with great food locally, regionally and nationally owned.

We can't legislate who opens in what space, but maybe Pasadena can identify spaces where locally owned businesses can get started, grow and prosper. Are there ways to assist locally owned businesses that may be in peril? Can we be creative to keep Pasadena unique?

Business and Economic Summit 2019 Focuses on Opportunities and Threats to Pasadena Prosperity October 22nd at University Club

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce and **Verizon** invite leaders of business and industry to a forum on the local economy and the future of business in Pasadena at the seventh *Pasadena Business and Economic Summit*. Join us on Tuesday, October 22, 2019, at 11:30am at **The University Club** at 175 North Oakland Avenue in Pasadena as experts on our economy and local industry discuss *Will Pasadena's Prosperity Endure?*. Cost to attend is \$50 and includes valet parking and lunch. A corporate table of eight, including signage and recognition on the program, costs \$400.

Somjita Mitra, Ph.D., Director of the Institute for Applied Economics at the **Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation** will give an overview of the economy, including factors that could influence our local prosperity, focusing on the San Gabriel Valley and Pasadena. Pasadena Economic Development Manager

Eric Duyshart will highlight Pasadena development and economic contributors. Jesus Roman of Verizon will briefly explain the positive impact of 5G communication technology on local businesses.

The panel discussion will focus on the hospitality, convention and tourism industry and local retail and commercial real estate. Colleen Carrey, Founding Principal of **Lee & Associates** will discuss current trends in retail and office leasing, including challenges faced in Pasadena. Others will discuss travel, tourism and hospitality and communication technologies and the impact on local business and industry.

Invitations will be mailed in mid-September. If you would like to be added to the invite list, please email Leanne@pasadena-chamber.org. You can sign up and pay online at www.pasadena-chamber.org/forms/business-and-economic-summit. For information call the Chamber at (626) 795-3355 or visit our website at www.pasadena-chamber.org.



Taste of Pasadena Returns to the Rose Bowl October 10th

The *Taste of Pasadena* on October 10th at the Rose Bowl features delicious food from many of the Pasadena-area's favorite restaurants as well as the culmination of *SIP-tember: A Celebration of the Cocktail* and the *SIP-tember Cocktail Bracket Challenge*. Everyone 21 years or older attending the *Taste of Pasadena* will be able to vote for your favorite among the four finalist cocktails. Join us at the Rose Bowl from 6pm to 9pm for delicious food, delightful cocktails and more.

Last year, more than four hundred people were on hand for the *Taste of Pasadena* and *SIP-tember Cocktail Bracket Challenge Finale*. For 2019, in addition to the four cocktail finalists, guests at the *Taste of Pasadena* can enjoy treats from **El Cholo, Clearman's Northwoods Inn, La Grande Orange, Dave and Busters, Paradis, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Stark Spirits** and more.

The Rose Bowl generously hosts the *Taste of Pasadena* on October 10, 2019 from 6pm to 9pm. **Dance Syndicate** is providing entertainment at the *Taste of Pasadena*. The *Taste of Pasadena* is sponsored by **Wells Fargo** and the **Rose Bowl**, along with our restaurant members. Please enjoy the *Taste of Pasadena* responsibly.



Clockwise from right, new members introduced at our networking events in July were Marjorie Schmitt with **Ms. Travel Planner**, Kristina Oseniece with **KFrey, LLC** and Nelson Huang and Ian Lang of **OsteoStrong**. We also met Tommy Tam with **Merrill Lynch**, Rachel Rapport with **Prestige Management and Consulting**, Terry Steele with **Ooma, Inc.** and Keshini Wijegoonaratna and Aeshea Jayasinghe of the **Sri Lanka Foundation**.



New Members for June, 2019

Amy Foell Consulting, Amy Foell, (415) 305-2219
BBSI, George Sagadenky, (818) 383-5487
KULE Yoga & Ayurveda, Keely Totten, (626) 714-7900
Sri Lanka Foundation, Keshini Wijegoonerathna, (213) 400-7705

New Members for July, 2019

Angel of Hearts, Sharon Gonzales, (818) 433-1958
APEX Wellness Chiropractic, Daniel Vargas, (818) 275-4325
Better Life Insurance Services Inc., Johnny Cosio, (626) 817-9560
Cal-Quake Seismic Construction, George Boujie, (310) 621-7390
Card One International, Erick Flores, (310) 826-7000
Community 2.0, Greg Apodaca, (626) 437-6735
Dan Modern Chinese, James Kim, (626) 817-9799
Fusion Academy Pasadena, Candace Siegle, (323) 258-2012
Judgment Collection LA, Paris Liang, (213) 321-3337
KFrey, LLC, Kristina Oseniece, (301) 775-4320
La Tea Da, Alannah Isherwood, (818) 495-5526
Meli Medi Spa and Wellness, James Kuo, (626) 314-3033
Ooma, Inc., Tony White, (916) 220-8669
Pangolin, Julian C. Ma, (757) 784-3960
Pasadena Neighbors West, Michael Thatcher, (818) 454-3081
Rose Bowl Legacy Foundation, Dedan Brozino, (626) 577-3100
Saybrook University, Joline Pruitt, (626) 316-5340
SeaQuell Consulting, LLC, Cynthia Mansbridge, (626) 768-2046
Starke Marketing, Adam Benjamin, (626) 209-1194
Zoho, Tyler Bussani, (925) 858-7060

New members are introduced at our monthly networking breakfast and lunch events.



Below, from left, introduced during August were new members Maureen Li and Judy Kim with **Meli Medi Spa and Wellness**, Reverend Scott Olson with **Ahiah Center for Spiritual Living Pasadena**, Stephanie Yamashiro with **New York Life**, Keely Totten with **KULE Yoga & Ayurveda** and Jennifer Ciulla and Jake Shepherd with **Hyatt Place Pasadena**.



In August, we also met Cynthia Mansbridge with **SeaQuell Consulting, Inc.**, Lori Sheldon with **Brain Balance Pasadena**, Paul Labindalawa and Sharon Gonzales with **Angel of Hearts** and Sophie Brascia and son Bene with **Federico's Bakery**.



Emblush Beauté opened in Old Pasadena with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Pasadena Chamber Member Celebrations, Grand Openings and More



D'Veal Family Services opened their new East Pasadena facility with a ribbon cutting.



Rose Bowl Legacy unveiled the statue honoring the 2009 Women's World Cup champions.



Santa Teresita opened the new Cristo Rey Cottage for assisted living residents.

Renewing Members for June

ONE TO FIVE YEARS

A1 West Commercial Real Estate
 Collaborate Pasadena
 Cozy Stylish Chic
 Nishan International
 Paul Martin's American Grill
 Residence Inn Old Town
 San Gabriel Valley Lawyer Referral Service
 Travel Gallery-Panda North America
 TravelStore
 True Food Kitchen
 White Horse Bar Lounge

SIX TO NINE YEARS

Blue Chip FoodSystems, Inc.
 Chefs Center of California
 Dolan & Knight Property Management Inc.
 Greater Los Angeles Area Council-BSA
 Hello! Home Care
 Law Offices of Timothy Bowles
 Pacific Coast Regional Small Business Development Corp.
 Point C, LLC
 Timeless Celebrations
 Western Supreme Rooter, Inc.

TEN TO FOURTEEN YEARS

Club Champion Gymnastics
 The First Tee of Greater Pasadena

Go Green Solutions for Kitchen & Bath-Design & Cabinetry
 Hollywood Piano
 Journey House | A Place for Former Foster Youth
 Modern Parking, Inc.
 PM Realty Group
 Professional Child Development Associates
 Young & Healthy

FIFTEEN TO FIFTY YEARS

Art Rodriguez Associates
 Avison Young
 Community Bible Community Development Corp.
 Courtyard by Marriott-Old Pasadena
 Dolphin Rents
 Hathaway-Sycamores Child & Family Services
 Honda of Pasadena
 Maria's Italian Kitchen
 Parsons Corporation
 Pasadena Federal Credit Union
 Pasadena Highlands
 Tyent Water Premium Authorized Dealer

MORE THAN FIFTY YEARS

George L. Throop Company, 96yrs.
 Krost CPAs & Consultants, 63yrs
 Typecraft Wood & Jones, 86yrs.

Renewing Members for July

ONE TO FIVE YEARS

Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc.
 City National Bank-Commercial Banking
 EtcO Homes, Inc.
 Exceptional Quality Professional Development
 First Choice Bank
 Fong and Aquino, LLP
 Hackler Flynn & Associates, APC
 HealthCare Partners Urgent Care Center
 John Wells Golf Shop-Brookside
 NewFront Insurance
 Optimum Seismic
 Paul Mitchell The School-Pasadena
 Skeehan & Company
 TextMarks

SIX TO NINE YEARS

Armed Exterminators
 Fox Junk Removal
 Green Street Restaurant
 Merry/San Marino Plumbing

TEN TO FOURTEEN YEARS

F & M Business Center
 Journey House |A Place for Former Foster Youth
 Kimberly C. Covey, CPA
 Pasadena Hastings Center
 Retirement Benefits Consulting
 Trio Apartments

FIFTEEN TO FIFTY YEARS

Al Brooks Rose Bowl Tours
 Calamigos at L.A. Equestrian Center
 FVO Solutions, Inc.
 Hollywood Burbank Airport
 Junior League of Pasadena, Inc.
 Office Depot #599
 Pasadena Convention Center
 Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA
 Shuster Financial Group, LLC
 Stanislawski & Company, Inc.
 -A Certified Public Accounting & Business Consulting Firm
 Temple City Dental Care
 Trumark Real Estate Management
 Woodbury University

MORE THAN FIFTY YEARS

The Gas Company, 99yrs
 Jet Propulsion Laboratory, 58yrs

These Members Had Milestone Anniversaries with the Pasadena Chamber

FIVE YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Fong and Aquino, LLP
 HealthCare Partners Urgent Care Center
 John Wells Golf Shop-Brookside
 San Gabriel Valley Lawyer Referral Service
 TextMarks

TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY

The First Tee of Greater Pasadena
 Hollywood Piano
 Journey House |A Place for Former Foster Youth
 Modern Parking, Inc.
 Pasadena Hastings Center

TWENTY YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Avison Young
 Office Depot #599

THIRTY-FIVE YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Hathaway-Sycamores Child & Family Services

FORTY-FIVE YEAR ANNIVERSARY

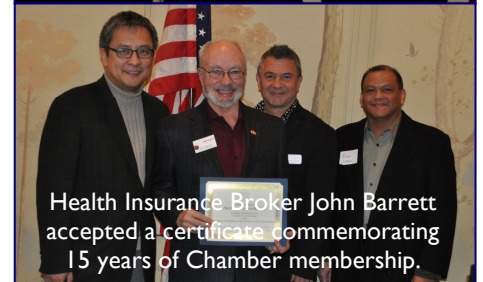
Pasadena Humane Society & SPCA

FIFTY YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Al Brooks Rose Bowl Tours



John Leano accepted a certificate recognizing Bryan's Cleaners for 80 years of Chamber membership.



Health Insurance Broker John Barrett accepted a certificate commemorating 15 years of Chamber membership.



Laurette Clash of P.I.E., Inc. Accounting Management Services was recognized for 5 years of Pasadena Chamber membership.



PASADENA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIC ASSOCIATION
 44 NORTH MENTOR AVENUE
 PASADENA, CA 91106-1745
 (626) 795-3355
 (626) 795-5603 FAX
 WEBSITE: WWW.PASADENA-CHAMBER.ORG

PASADENA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MISSION STATEMENT: WE ARE AN EFFECTIVE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL FORCE FOR OUR MEMBERSHIP.

Pasadena Commerce is published bi-monthly by the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce & Civic Association. Third class postage paid in Pasadena, CA. Send address changes to the Chamber.
 ©2019 by Pasadena Chamber.

OFFICERS

Justin Tsui, Chair	Paul Little, President & CEO
Robin McCarthy*, Immediate Past-chair	John Leano, Chair-elect, and Vice-chair
Raphael Henderson, Treasurer	
Nerissa Sugars, Secretary	Don Schweitzer, Vice-chair
Amir Johnson, Vice-chair	Ishmael Trone*, Vice-chair

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thomas Daly*	Margaret Martinez
Elizabeth Dever	Rashmi Menon
Jesse Dillon	Alejandro (Alex) Montes
Aida Dimejian	Greg Sanchez
Darryl Dunn**	Charles Stanislawski
Eric Duyshart**	Deborah Unruh
Bernardo Godoy	Amy Wainscott**
Hope Hayman	Lloyd Wong
Betty Ma	

*past chair **ex-officio

STAFF

Kelly Shearer, *Member Services Manager*
 Leanne Waggoner, *Events & External Services Manager*
 Linda Whaley, *Office Manager & Staff Support Services*

Luncheon Alliance

The October 2nd Luncheon Alliance is sponsored by Craig Valine and **Enhanced Marketing Performance**.

The Luncheon Alliance on Wednesday, November 6th is sponsored by Joan De Souza. Hear about how your small business can benefit from involvement with **Business 4 Business (B4B) Think Tank**.

The *Luncheon Alliance* starts at 11:30am.

Connection Breakfast

On Thursday, October 10th, at 7am Lee Owens and **Caviar Dreams** sponsors breakfast.

Join us on Thursday, November 14th as Greg Sanchez and **Home Instead Senior Care** sponsors the networking event.

Lunch and breakfast are held in the Mediterranean Room at Brookside at 1133 Rosemont Avenue. Cost is \$30 for members/\$35 for non-members. Those reserving after the deadline pay \$5 more.

Chamber After Hours Social and Mixer

Enjoy great food and drink as **Monte Cedro** hosts the *Chamber After Hours Social and Mixer* on October 17th at 2212 El Molino in Altadena from 5pm to 7pm.

November's mixer is at Old Pasadena favorite **Sushi Roku**. Join us at 33 Miller Alley (in One Colorado) on November 21st. 90 minutes of free parking is available in the city lots nearby. *Admission is free for Pasadena Chamber members. Others pay \$10.*

Sexual Harassment Awareness Workshop October 15th Presented by Hunt Ortmann FREE for Pasadena Chamber Members-Space is Limited, Sign Up Now!

California law newly requires an employer who employs five or more employees, including temporary or seasonal employees, to provide at least two hours of sexual harassment training to all supervisory employees and at least one hour of sexual harassment training to all nonsupervisory employees by January 1, 2020, and once every two years thereafter.

Pasadena Chamber of Commerce member **Hunt Ortmann Palffy Nieves Darling & Mah, Inc.** will provide interactive, in-person training to satisfy the requirements under California law in an informative and informal format for all employers *FREE for Pasadena Chamber members*. The two sessions will include training sessions for both supervisory and non-supervisory employees, as required under California law.

Hunt Ortmann will provide this *FREE* sexual harassment training, one session each for both supervisory and non-supervisory employees, to Pasadena Chamber of Commerce members on a first come, first-served basis on October 15, 2019. Training will take place at the **Women's City Club** at 160 N. Oakland Avenue in Pasadena. Free parking is available in the club's lot off Madison Avenue.

Attendance is limited to the first fifty people who register for each session. *Each employee or manager must be registered individually. Only Pasadena Chamber member companies and employees are eligible.* Register at eventbrite.com/e/free-sexual-harassment-training-for-pasadena-chamber-members-managers-tickets-69481917285 or employees-tickets-69488220137.

The Sexual Harassment Awareness Training is presented by Hunt Ortmann, sponsored by the Pasadena Chamber and the Women's City Club.

Seismic Retrofit and Earthquake Preparedness Workshop for Commercial Property Owners November 4th

Do you own commercial property? Do you know how earthquakes work and why we are at risk? Are you aware of regulations regarding retrofitting commercial properties? Are you prepared to help your employees, clients, customers and the public? Can your business tenants stay in business?

Pasadena Chamber member **Optimum Seismic** sponsors a free workshop for commercial property owners. Learn the basics of earthquake safety and the importance of appropriate and adequate retrofitting. New laws related to commercial retrofits will also be explained. Presenters include **Caltech** seismologists, earthquake retrofit professionals, first responders, preparedness and recovery experts.



Aftermath of the 6.7 Northridge earthquake in 1994.

Earthquakes: Safe? Secure? Prepared? is hosted by Optimum Seismic on Monday, November 4, 2019, from 11:30am to 1:30pm. Reservations are required. Commercial property owners and representatives only. Lunch is provided courtesy of Optimum Seismic. Free parking is available in **Rose Bowl** Lot D.

For information email leanne@pasadena-chamber.org or call the Chamber at 626-795-3355.

SAVE THE DATES

Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
 President's Breakfast

December 5th at The Hilton Pasadena

Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
 Holiday Party

December 10th at The Romanesque Room