

Business Advocacy

Business Expansion
 and Retention

Coordinate with
 Other Agencies
 (Partnerships)

Promote Military
 Presence

Leadership



Chamber insight

Our Committees working for you

by James (Jim) E. Morin
 Chair, Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce

This year has been exciting with our committees working diligently on behalf of members. I thought it would be beneficial to provide an update on what we are doing.

Business Advocacy Committee, chaired by Michael Morrison, has been fully engaged in this year's biennium session. We have engaged a professional lobbyist to represent our positions in Helena. Please see the article by Michael Morrison in this issue. I would also encourage you to check our Website at www.greatfallschamber.org regularly to see specifically actions we are taking. We



James (Jim) E. Morin
 Chamber Board Chair

provide weekly updates under Legislative Session, Ongoing Reports on the upper right side of the home page.

Leadership Programs are getting close to completion. We anticipate we will graduate 43 High School juniors from our Leadership High School Program and 38 adults from our Leadership Great Falls Program. Leadership Great Falls annual project is the 1,000 Hour Challenge where they are working to provide 1,000 hours of volunteerism for our community. Check their progress on the Chamber Website.

Membership Committee, chaired by Sue Warren, is working to keep members informed with quarterly reports to members. They have developed our Business-4-Breakfast, which has received exceptional comments from participating members. We have initiated a new member orientation program to enhance members understanding about the Chamber and what we do for members. We entered into an agreement with the Who Can Help

Program that is a free member benefit and they are currently working on a Workers Compensation Group Program for members to receive premium refunds for those insured through State Fund.

Central Montana Defense Alliance, chaired by David Weissman, has been diligently working with Congressional representatives and the Governors office to retain jobs at the Montana Air National Guard. They are planning a trip to Washington DC to address this specific issue. Their intent is to keep the current flying mission for as long as possible while working to secure companion missions in order to retain manning at current levels.

Military Affairs Committee, Chaired by Steve Grooms, had an exception MAC Ball with Keynote Speaker Major General Don Alston, the 20th Air Force Commander. They are now planning for the Air Show to be held in