



Bowie Chamber of Commerce

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Board of Directors

*Nancy-Jean Welker, President Bruce Austin, Vice-President
Jennie Redman, Secretary Dan O'Neal, Treasurer Dave Terry, Member*

Your Gateway to the Hot Well/Dunes Recreation Area, Ft. Bowie National Historic Site and Chiricahua National Monument

"Happy 2012!", from the Bowie Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

The Bowie Chamber of Commerce is an active community organization with a long history of serving the community. We thank those business, groups and individuals who have supported the Chamber as we have strived to make Bowie a better place for everyone.

The Welker-Scott Memorial Park is a lighted green area thanks to the involvement of the Chamber, Bowie Lighting Improvement District, Sulphur Springs Valley Electric Cooperative, Fort Bowie National Historical Site and local volunteers. Tables, recreation equipment and historical information are present for visitors' enjoyment.

The Chamber supports our local businesses, encourages new quality businesses and industries to locate here and promotes tourism of our area. We own 25 acres of vacant land and billboards. Renovations to our billboards were completed last year with donations and help from Bowie Power Station, Arizona Billboards Company and DC Outdoor. We maintain an informative website with many links and several means of communication. We also distribute a professional quality pamphlet about Bowie and the surrounding area.

Here is a list of some of our other recent activities:

- We are a member of the Southeast Arizona Economic Development Group
- We founded the Bowie Economic Development Group, which is a Standing Committee of the Chamber
- We are one of the founders of the South East Arizona Rural Chambers Alliance
- Due to the Chamber, Bowie was picked as the "Pilot Community" for a project by the U of A Regional Center for Sustainable Economic Development. Two of the assets realized by our community through this honor were the regional economic forum which was held at Bowie Schools with many speakers and attendees from various places throughout Arizona and the formation of the local 4H Program for our children
- We have representatives that support Bowie at Regional, County, State and Federal levels by making contact with our County Supervisors, State Corporation Commissioners, U.S. and State Representatives and Senators, Cochise County Tourism Council, Northern Cochise Fund (part of the Arizona Community Fund) and Arizona's First Things First Program
- We worked with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to secure new signs in town for the Hot Well/Dunes Recreation Area and to change the proposed plan for Business 10 through town, which would have eliminated parking on the street and one traffic lane each way
- We continue to work with ADOT to improve I-10 Exit 362 and develop a way for objects taller than our Apache Pass and Roberts Farm Roads underpasses to access the area south of I-10
- We worked with the County to have Free Dump Days for our community to clean up before our friends at the Pistachio Corporation of Arizona began paying the County so our community could have free trash dumping

- We donated lunch for the hard working community volunteers who, with the help of the Pistachio Corporation of Arizona, cleaned up our beautiful Desert Rest Cemetery
- We welcomed the riders on a tourist train which stopped in Bowie by giving out locally grown nuts and pertinent information; and, continue to work to establish this as a regular event
- We have applied for grants and continue to look for grants to improve our community
- We supported the 4th of July Celebrations whose proceeds went to help keep the Bowie Swimming Pool open
- We helped support the Perfect Attendance Incentive Program at Bowie Schools
- We gave donations to the Bowie students picked for the SSVEC Washington, DC Youth Tour
- We donated to the Bowie Fire Department's Christmas Parties for our children
- We purchased T-shirts for the participants of the Chess Tournament held at the Community Center

Our plans for this year include renovating the park, and in September, we will be hosting the "Cochise County History On The Move" traveling exhibit of historic images. You can read about this on our website.

If you are already a 2012 Member of the Bowie Chamber of Commerce, we are grateful for your commitment!

If you are not a 2012 Member, we would like to invite you to join us. We have enclosed a Membership Form which gives you several options, and you may choose one or more of them. It should be noted that a business may hold only one membership (one vote), but the representative of that business may hold an individual membership, too. We appreciate any level of participation you feel that you can contribute, from fully active to just sending us your good thoughts. Membership payments and donations will be acknowledged with a receipt and our thanks. Members will also receive a certificate with our gold seal.

Our regular meetings are on the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. Presently, we are meeting in the Fellowship Hall of the Community Methodist Church.

We hope 2012 will be a happy and prosperous year for you and yours.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors
Bowie Chamber of Commerce