

PM&D Chamber of Commerce Year in Review for 2010.

I'd like to thank everyone for coming out tonight to our AGM and hope you enjoyed your dinner. 2010 was another busy year for the Chamber - mainly with our annual Spring and Fall Smorgs. It takes many people to help with the organization and responsibility of feeding the masses on those days. The smorgs remain the Chamber's only source of revenue for the Chamber from which, we, in turn, financially support and promote many numerous organizations and community events.

We couldn't continue the 40 - 50 year tradition of the Chamber Smorgs, without the generous donations of time and energy from the residents of Pilot Mound and district. Our faithful citizenry turn up year after year to help us - until they are no longer able. It is this dedication and support which the Chamber can't do without; from the initial set-up of the hall, to the cooking crews and the many more necessary functions which make these smorgs a success. No one goes away hungry!!

We respectfully acknowledge those volunteers, who have passed on, or cannot be the work-horses they once were; we miss them, remembering their contribution with grateful thanks for the many years of service to the Chamber. It never ceases to amaze me just how it all comes together: small town community spirit and cooperation is alive and well in Pilot Mound. It gives us the much-needed energy we need and we'll keep doing this till we drop.

In the past, I've commented on what I thought was the local disinterest from the younger generation for the Chamber - especially the monthly lunch meetings. But I've come to realize, come smorg time, they and their kids magically appear to help out where ever they are needed. We, in the Chamber, fully understand the time constraints of young families - we've been there, done that; both parents working, 2.5 kids in school, sports activities of all kinds, other organizations, all the responsibilities of raising a family - and we truly thank you for your time and support at smorg time.

We started 2010 with plans for the AGM and the membership drive in February.

- Attention was being paid to the new sports sign at the Complex with Roland in charge. Roland has found it challenging to acquire old pictures of the sports stars and teams from this area. But it's looking good and creates great interest in the pictures we now have on the sign.
- The website continues to attract many hits from across Canada and the world, and many inquiries are emailed requesting information on various aspects of Pilot Mound and district.
- We donated to the Grand Opening of the Sports Complex on April 24, 2010, which was very successful.
- The mandate of the PM&D Chamber is to promote and publicize Pilot Mound - and we did that and assisted with an excellent article in the Winnipeg Free Press by Todd Lewis - re PM community efforts and volunteerism.
- We also supported the Manitoba First Nations on October 11, 2010 with their Honouring Ceremony on top of the Old Mound and the feast afterwards in the Kin Centre.
- In late July the town garage sale was organized.
- We supported, and recognised with floral arrangements - Smith Flowers relocation, Mound Services expansion, Tyler Amell purchase of Sherri's Gas and Grill, Mound Farm Supply expansion, new business - JP Autobody, DJ Computers new location, new business Prairie Sky Massage Therapy & Reflexology.
- The Chamber delivered Meals on Wheels for September.
- \$1,500.00 was allocated for the new kitchen door and installation at the Complex which is nearly completed.
- We also would like to thank Harley and June Evans for looking after the old car with such great care and maintenance. It gets hauled out many times a year to various events.
- Many thanks to Ez Collins for maintaining the Current Events sign - even in the dead of winter, fingers frost bit and getting the old van stuck, as usual.
- Breakfast with Santa had our bags of candy again this year.
- I'd also like to thank our tireless secretary/treasurer Elaine who has kept us up-to-date with everything and also is the new smorg chairperson- not an easy task.

- Congratulations once again to our volunteer of the year award recipients - Clare and Dorothy and Elgin Phair.
- Also a big thank you goes to the present Chamber members who faithfully attend our monthly meetings, for their support, ideas and participate in our lively discussions.

This concludes the PM&D Chamber of Commerce AGM for 2010. Thank you for coming tonight and for your continued support during 2011.
Carolanne Bayne, President