



Opening & Introductions:

The meeting was held at the New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce Honors Hall. Al Ranzau opened the meeting by welcoming members and guests.

Members present were:

Ameridrives/Altra, Central Texas Technology Center, Comal ISD, Detex Corporation, FedEx Services, Hawkins Personnel Group, ITM, MEDA Technical Services, New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce, New Braunfels Utilities, New Braunfels Smokehouse, Priority Personnel, The Coach Approach, and TXI Hunter Cement.

Guests present were:

Brian Savage of Supplize, Chris Snider of Texas Tito's, Denise Cordova of NBU and Austin Robertson of Ameridrives.

Officer's reports:

Secretary/Treasurer: James Ross
Bank Balance: \$10,471.92

Committee Reports:

Scholarship Committee: Jerry Negrete
No report at this time.



Featured program:

The program will consist of a panel of local distinguished leaders. New Braunfels Police Department Chief Tom Wibert, New Braunfels Fire Department Chief John Robinson, and Comal County Sheriff Bob Holder.

Sheriff Bob Holder informed that he has 45 years of experience in the Law Enforcement business and that 15 years as the Sheriff of Comal County. His department works very closely with the other agencies of this county. Sheriff Holder has seen a lot of new technology within his department also.

Klaus Weiswurm asked what the biggest challenge was last year and the Sheriff answered that the drought brought in a lot of issues. The Sheriff stated that the next biggest challenge would be to build a new jail for the county. The Commissioners Court is now evaluating its options.

Chief of Police Tom Wibert stated that he is from East Lansing, Michigan where he worked in Law Enforcement. He is very blessed and happy to be here in Comal County.

His priorities are:

Children-raising children to raise their children and investing in their future.

Officers take time to talk with the children.

Partner-partner up with other agencies within the surrounding county.

Better communications between businesses and Service Clubs.

Drunk Driving-the Police, EMS, Comal County Sheriff Department and the Fire Department see 1st hand of this.

Education programs are already in place.

Gangs & Drugs-We want to make this a place where you want to raise your families.

IH 35 Corridor, Crack Houses, DEA Task Force, Comal County Task Force and the Sheriff's Task Force.

Klaus Weiswurm asked what the biggest challenge was last year and the Police Chief answered:

River Issues-very resource demanding

Missing Baby Joshua-lots of work and resources involved

Politics of the River Issues

Fire Department Chief John Robinson stated that the New Braunfels Fire Department is one of the oldest around the state. In 1970 the Fire Department took on the duties of the EMS Department. They were the 1st EMS in the Region. The Fire Department receives about 7400 calls a year and 85% of those are for EMS Service. The Fire Department works very well with the other agencies and that is has about 45 sq. miles that it responds to. John stated that the biggest challenge was overcoming a history of doing things this way or that way just because it was always done that way.



The city ordinances vary with businesses but the Fire Department tries very hard to remain consistent. The Fire Marshall is in charge of Ordinances. He stated that some of the things that they are continually improving on are:

Fighting the status quo.

Responding to calls or large emergencies

Meeting folks in the communities

Responding and working with the local Volunteer Fire Departments.

Klaus Weiswurm asked what the biggest challenge was last year and John stated that we experienced an 8% increase in calls and it was because of the growth.

We also need to be aware of the Interstate and the Railroad traffic of Hazardous Materials and that catastrophic events will happen in time.

One of the questions that was asked was: Why does a Fire Truck always go out with the EMS? John Robinson stated that 2 people cannot handle the call alone. It will take about 5 people to handle a Cardiac Arrest.

Thank all of you for a very informative discussion and updates on your agencies!

Chamber Report:

Rusty Brockman reported on the following:

Small Business Development Center is open 5 days a week:

800 West San Antonio St.

Its' about Marketing, HR Services and developing Small Businesses.

Work at the new Hospital site is developing and the Diabetes Center is now open.

There are 3 Apartment complexes that will be going up.

The racking system within the Lacks building is being removed.

The Airport expansions are continuing.

CTTC Report: Sandi Boyd

No report at this time.



Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on November 15, 2011 at 11:45am at the New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce Honors Hall. The scheduled program will be announced accordingly.

Respectfully submitted by:
James Ross
Secretary/Treasurer 2011