

## **Cougar Country Business Association CCBA – Quarterly Meeting, May 12, 2014**

### Intro

Bay Cities Radio – Savannah will see who would like to make changes for their June ads. Then we will start planning for the Jul/Aug/Sep three month radio program to do next. Cat Co is sold out already for May – so if you want to be on it for July – August we should schedule soon. Savannah will be in touch.

Mr Derek Tate, Youth apprenticeship, several schools in area in consortia. Coleman 's rep is Mr Tate, so he works with students and employers. State and governor supportive of program, pushing high school kids to career paths earlier to increase their skills for chosen career, workforce development grants, money goes to student/school to keep program running. Jobs have different career pathways (brochures/outlines), businesses can come to Mr Tate if they need a student for a particular job. School can often get funding for additional training you might require. Training for C.N.A. nursing, Ag students and placement in these fields is good in area. They have trouble getting students into welding, business/office, manufacturing. Students are paid by employer – you pay all like any employee, and Mr Tate works with you on counseling etc. to increase their skills and knowledge for improvement of future employment opportunity. Allowed to leave 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> hour to get out of school early, or come in an hour late. Currently have at least 2 in mechanics, 4 in nursing, etc. CCBA will put the Youth Apprenticeship brochure on the website and will continue to assist with promotion of this program for benefit of students and employers.

Don Bader, President of Coleman Booster Club, spoke to us to explain part of Booster Club versus other fundraising. Booster club started in 2006. Their committee gave away today \$10,000 – 11,000 today. There are 3 times a year they determine funding, so all requests/applications have to be put in prior to: January, May, or September. They tried to eli eliminate everyone selling stuff, however they only fund programs for 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students and they only have so much money and try to pay for larger items. Money has gone to items like new gym floor, digital sign in front of school, score boards, skybox for football field is an upcoming project (Fiedorowicz family made donations for this). Cookouts to earn funds at Pelkins, every Friday, 10 Fridays allows kids out front with coaches to work to make some money. August golf outing is also a major fundraiser for them. Banquet in August at Romy's, they give prizes, sponsorship includes 2 dinner tickets,etc. Contributed to sound system for school. Their funding cover items for teams that stay with team, not a personal item for a child with a name embroidered. It must be for team use.

The Football group sells the Cougar card as a major fundraiser. They do extra fundraisers because of safety requirements and high cost of team equipment like helmets, etc. Cougar Card will be available in August for purchase to support this program.

Wrestling Parents Club – has always been a Parent's Club from when wrestling was not supported as a sport in Coleman many years ago. Sport is expensive as they go so many places and the youth program has grown so much and the Booster Club does not cover all the students under 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

The school itself budgets so much money for each sport, and each has separate accounts. Example: School set aside \$6000 out of school budget for football, but Mr Bronson had to come up with \$2000+ for this year, so they had to earn that. In addition to equipment, for the on the road games, they have to feed kids. Asked booster club for \$200 for a \$900 program to get games recorded, Mr Bronson explained.

Funds from cookouts go to Booster Club. Typically they end up giving it back to the groups that work.

You can request up to \$1000, or come to meeting and explain why you need more. Don provided a list of past donations which include a variety including things like Accelerated Reading program.

Each year, money is kept back for future, it is not necessarily all spent in a year.

Gary mentioned the new CCBA website and calendar. Facebook page, all sports and school and Cougar Booster schedules can be put on our calendar, or linked so everyone is aware of schedules and easy access to help support these programs.

June 7 at School Witt Ford, Sign and Drive, sign up, drive a ford, after so many take a drive, school gets money, have earned about \$6000 in past years. Another program, we hope our members can support

Creations by Inez – Seamstress, new member, told about her business and what she does.

New Member – Clifford Patz, Patz Maple & Honey Farms

Spring Sale – 27+ participants now, Katie will do maps and distribute maps this week Thursday. We will have on CCBA website, Coleman and Pound websites hopefully. Peshtigo Times should have ad sale dates, maps available at these locations 11 x 14 ad. Info on one side, map on other side. 8am-3pm Friday and Saturday, May 16-17

Fall Craft Fair and Business Showcase – Trying to come up with Community Event themes to get more people to come. A suggestion made to have a scavenger hunt through the nature trail and the business showcase booths and be entered for a prize. Have to stamp card in all booths to go in for big prize? We need to know which businesses want to be a stamped location which means having an extra person at your booth to stamp cards while you are talking about your business to others. Looking for organizations to jump in and do fundraising events that day in conjunction with CCBA to really make it a Community Event. Perhaps organizations can sponsor a kids bouncer, or face painting for example. We will send email out to all to join in our planning meeting, next meeting in June to be advised.

School needs supplies for Closet, Nurse also has a clothes closet. We want to continue to support these programs in our efforts as well.

Coleman Pound Area Library – books donated at Business Showcase will go to library.

Placemats – proofs out, still need more info from a couple businesses. Should be printed June.

May 19 event – Please put some pictures of your business and a short paragraph about business on a thumb drive and bring to 6pm meeting at school computer lab next Monday, May 19 to get yourself/business in a better position on internet when people are searching for a business or service. We currently have 21 people signed up. You are encouraged to attend, bring your laptop or tablet, or just come with paper and pen and watch and learn. Please tell your neighboring businesses, this is a fabulous opportunity for a free seminar with WI Business Alliance.

Meeting dates – we are told 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of month is Lions' meeting, so our quarterly meeting conflict with that. Is it possible for us to move our meetings in September and November to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month? Does anyone know of any group that meets then that would be a conflict or can that be a solution? Please advise

Judy if you know of any regularly scheduled meetings, so we can put on our website calendar and then we will all know if we want to join an organization when it meets?????

Shop local window decals and buttons – any business that has not received these, please contact Franny at Coleman Floral.

Officer candidates and board members needed for CCBA. Please advise Vern, Kevin, Judy or Michele if interested.

Website – we ran out of time to really SHOW the new look of website. Please go to [www.cougarcountrybusiness.com](http://www.cougarcountrybusiness.com) and check it out. Let us know if any corrections or additional info needed. We need PICTURES, please email us pictures of the area, area events and businesses, etc. We want to rotate pictures and spotlight our members!

Also Facebook: cougar country business association Like us and let us know if you have items/sales/promotions to post on there. Send to [board@cougarcountrybusiness.com](mailto:board@cougarcountrybusiness.com) and we'll try to share your info!

Have a great week and see you May 19!