

ALPINE - DESCANSO - PINE VALLEY

MEMC News



By KEN GARY

2010 is already looking to be a great year for the MEMC. First, we would like to thank Ben Tulloch again for all of his help and for the use of his equipment to take down the Christmas lights.

Our Open House/Meeting in January was a success. Recently the MEMC donated \$1000 to the Descanso School for their Robotix program and we were treat-

ed to a robot demonstration by one of the students. If you missed the Open House, don't worry, men from throughout the back country and beyond are invited to join the MEMC at anytime. Join and get the satisfaction of knowing that you are doing something good for your community.

We are also very excited to be bringing the car show back to town. On May 22th, Pine Valley will once again have the Monday Night Car Club and their friends for a day of custom cars, street rods, classics and more. If you would like to show your car, sponsor a trophy or be a vendor, contact George (619-440-6168 or Dave (619-449-3159) from

the Monday Nite Car Club or any MEMC member. During the event, Old Highway 80 will be temporarily closed, but the MEMC will be working hard to ensure a minimal disruption of services for the community as possible.

We have also begun to make plans for Pine Valley Day. If you would like to help be a part of this year's event, please contact us at mountainempiremc@hotmail.com

For further information on events and how you can help support the MEMC please visit our website at www.MountainEmpire-MensClub.org.

Soroptimists invite you to join

Enjoy an organization of women dedicated to serving our communities, with special recognition and charity programs for women and girls.

Soroptimist of Mountain Empire improve women's lives. Helping women and girls do better for themselves and their communities is a key part of the Soroptimist International of Mountain Empire.

Soroptimist International

works to promote social justice, equity and empowerment of women through economic independence and more participation in decision making at all levels. Soroptimists goal is to be an active influence for positive change in society through awareness, advocacy and action.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 09, 2010, 6:00 P.M. at El Rancho Restaurant Bar &

Grill, 29804 Oak Drive, Lake Morena, Campo, CA 91906

To RSVP, call Kelly Weiss at 619-445-2722 or email Kelllweiss@aol.com

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DA chief outlines East County crime, prosecution

ALPINE ---- There might not be as much crime in rural East San Diego County as in the urban areas, but the region often poses challenges for the San Diego County District Attorney's office.

Deputy District Attorney Glenn McAllister, chief of the East County Division of the county District Attorney's office,

highlighted what his office encountered Jan. 12 in Alpine.

McAllister was guest speaker at the monthly Hot Topics Business Networking Breakfast of the Alpine Mountain Empire Chamber of Commerce.

"There are a lot of issues that East County has to deal with than downtown

San Diego ever has to deal with," McAllister said in Fuller Hall at the Alpine Community Church.

During the meeting, he told Chamber members and guests that the District Attorney's office tries to resolve cases before they go to trial, because the courtroom process is very

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Money possibilities pop at financial seminar

SUBMITTED BY KELLY WEISS, ALPINE-MOUNTAIN EMPIRE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Options and ideas about the best ways to get the most out of money had people paying attention at the recent "Client Appreciation Luncheon and Outlook for 2010 Seminar" of James Whitener of LPL Financial.

Held Jan. 13 at the Viejas DreamCatcher Lounge in Alpine, Whitener gave his roomful of clients and guests an optimistic, cautious overview of what this year will bring.

"I feel a little bit better than what I did," but the economic hurricane that struck in 2008 may not be over yet, the financial advisor said before introducing experienced speakers who covered a wide range of financial possibilities.

Whitener, named by San Diego Magazine among its regional "Five Star Wealth Managers," talked frankly and personally about the highlights of the recent stormy economy.

The accredited asset management specialist, a member of the Alpine Mountain Empire Chamber of Commerce, said his goal

is to make sure clients get a better average return on their money annually through his independent financial planning services than they would get elsewhere.

"I feel very comfortable with him," Robert Stamm of Japatul Valley, a retired Viejas employee, said later. "I feel secure with what he tells me. He doesn't beat around the bush. It's not like somebody's talking over your head."

Whitener's guest speakers also were upbeat and encouraging.

Sarah Lyons, regional manager for Lord Abbett - --- one of the oldest money management firms in the U.S., explained that her firm has always managed money "in a very conservative way."

"Today the bond market is much more healthy than it needs to be," Lyons said, adding that she is very optimistic about the stock market. "Companies are leaner and they're doing more with fewer people." Paul Manese, regional vice president of Realty Capital Securities, noted that health care is the "one industry during the past 10 years that has grown." Investing in

medical office and hospital real estate is an option now, he said.

"Our feeling is we want to be as conservative as we can," Manese said. "I think the key thing to take away here is dip your toe in the (financial) pool."

Options for securing and protecting assets and estate planning issues were covered by Ben Geraci of the Protective Life Insurance Co. His information included clever, legal ways to deal with estate taxes.

"Take a look at what you own and how you own it," Geraci said. "Make sure it's positioned properly. We're here to help."

Pat Kenison of San Diego, a former teacher, said the event gave her ideas about what she can do with her retirement portfolio.

"I was very impressed," Kenison said. "He (Whitener) seems to be here for his clients, with the best interest of the clients in mind."

For detailed financial information, call Whitener at (619) 741-8257.

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DESCANSO JUNCTION

RESTAURANT

8306 Highway 79, Descanso (619) 659-2199

In these days of fast food, quick service and hurry-and-get-it-done, we can get quite nostalgic for times when life's pace was slower and quieter; when cooking and eating were family activities that served to nourish the heart and relationships as well as the body.

Descanso Junction Restaurant strives to recreate this atmosphere for busy families, without having to do the dishes afterward.

WEEKLY SPECIALS

Mon - Beef Stroganoff
Tue - Taco Tuesday
Wed - Homemade Chicken Pot Pie
Thu - Recipe Contest Winner
Fri - Cod Fish Fry
Sat - Prime Rib
Sun - Fried Chicken

**Open Daily:
7 am to 8 pm**