CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
LEADING THE WAY FOR OTHERS

It is the mission of the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce to BUILD solid relationships and provide quality services which SUPPORT chamber members and businesses, in order to DRIVE the economic vitality of our community.

Volume 43, Number 1 JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2023

2022 in Review

As we begin the new year, we wanted to take some time to look back on our events and programming during 2022. This past year saw many firsts for our chamber: a new community-focused publication, our Community Picnic and Local Hire Job Fair event, and our 2022 Business Expo and Taste of Irwindale event. Take a look back with us!



42nd Annual Board Installation & Awards Luncheon presented by Vulcan Materials Company – Friday, February 4, 2022

Photo Credit: Eagle Photography

Our first in-person Installation since 2019! We welcomed our new Board of Directors, including our 2022 Chair of the Board, **Rosemary Luna of Vulcan Materials Company**. Also recognized at this event was our Business Award Winners and our Citizen of the Year award winner (listed below). The chamber was proud to introduce a new award to Installation: Spirit of the Chamber, created to honor a Chamber Member who has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the Chamber's mission and core values.

Joe DiShanni Business of the Year: California Custom Fruits and Flavors

Non-Profit of the Year: **Business4Business**Ambassador of the Year: **David Bonilla, Bonilla Partners**Business Person of the Year: **Doris Ford, Ford Benefits Group**

Citizen of the Year: Raul Hernandez

Employee of the Year: **Shayna Balli, Irwindale Public Library**

Spirit of the Chamber: **Elizabeth Ramirez, Athens Services**For more information on each winner, please visit
https://www.irwindalechamber.org/annual-awards.

41st Annual Golf Tournament presented by Athens Services – Monday, May 16, 2022



Photo Credit: David Bonilla

Our annual Golf Tournament tradition continued, this time on Monday, May 16, 2022 at South Hills Country Club! The 41st Annual Golf

Tournament presented by **Athens Services** SOLD OUT, and even garnered a waitlist of potential golfers. The popular all-day event brought our membership and local business community together for a fun day out at the golf course, with opportunities to meet local businesses and play fun mini games along their trek. Our popular day on the greens will continue again in 2023 with our 42nd Annual Golf Tournament slated for Monday, April 17 at South Hills Country Club!

As we get closer to tee time, keep an eye out on Golf Tournament page for event details:

https://www.irwindalechamber.org/golf-tournament

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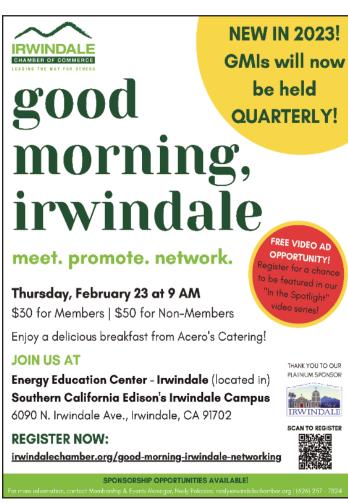
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Phone: (626) 960-6606 IrwindaleChamber.org info@irwindalechamber.org	

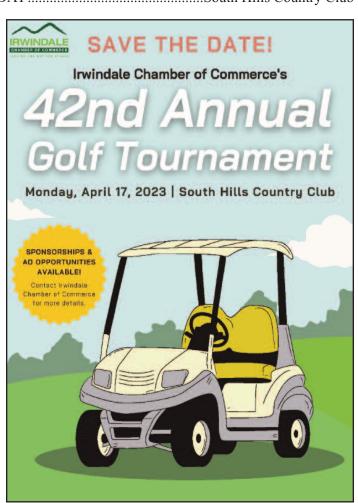
Calendar of Events

February

1	City of Irwindale Council Meeting	6:30 P.M	Virtual/In-Person
7	·		Twisted Sage Café
15			Virtual/In-Person
	,		SCE Energy Education Center

April





For event details, or to make reservations for the next event, please visit our calendar at www.irwindalechamber.org or call the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce at 626-960-6606. www.IrwindaleChamber.org

Businesses of the Month

January - Vulcan Materials Company



Vulcan Materials Company is the nation's largest producer of construction aggregates—primarily crushed stone, sand and gravel—and a major producer of aggregates-based construction materials, including asphalt and ready-mixed concrete. Our coast-to-coast footprint and strategic distribution network align with and serve the nation's growth centers.

Vulcan Materials Company is one of the chamber's first members, joining in our inaugural year - 1980. Their active dedication and service to our chamber has spanned over the past 40 years, with our current chair of the board position held by their own **Rosemary Luna**.

Vulcan Materials Company is a member of our Board of Directors and Cornerstone Club.

February - Elite Office Solutions



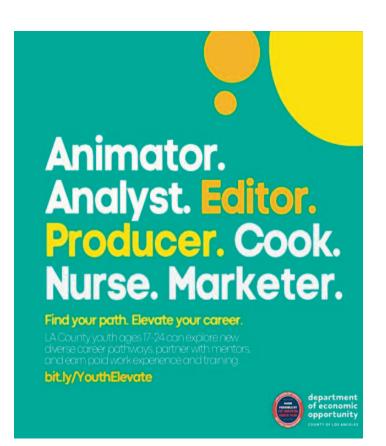
Elite Office Solutions offers an award-winning range of device technology and integrated business process improvement solutions that work together seamlessly. From desktop printers and multifunctional printers to robust color and black & white multifunctional products and business applications, our solutions turn otherwise complex data and document workflows into simple, efficient processes.

Elite Office Solutions is a newer member of the chamber, joining in 2022. They have been an active member of the chamber during this time, with their President, **Richard Contreras**, always being a friendly face at our Good Morning Irwindale networking events. Their kindness spreads to their services, always ready to help their fellow chamber members with finding solutions to their office needs.

Welcome New Members!



TailoredSpace



2022 continued from cover

Community Picnic and Local Hire Job Fair presented by Yellow Iron Real Estate – Thursday, June 16, 2022



Photo Credit: Nesly Palacios

One of our new events added to this year's programming, the Community Picnic and Local Hire Job Fair presented by Yellow Iron Real Estate was created in partnership with the City of Irwindale. We invited local residents and job seekers to visit the Irwindale Speedway on Thursday, June 16 for food, live music and an opportunity to connect with each other and local businesses! We had 16 exhibitors at this event and was our first free and open to the public event since 2020. All Irwindale residents in attendance were treated to free lunch by chamber member, Big Guyz Grill! After seeing the value of this experience for our residents and local business community, we are proud to announce Community Picnic and Local Hire Job Fair will return for a second year!

For a full list of exhibitors and event details, please visit

https://www.irwindalechamber.org/community-picnic

Designer Handbag Bingo Night – Friday, September 16, 2022



Photo Credit: RJ Ford

After the success and demand Virtual Designer Handbag Bingo Night brought to our members last year, we decided to hold the event again, but in-person! The idea for Designer Handbag Bingo Night came from the popularity of our Bingo activity during our Food & Brew Night; we wanted to try our hand at creating a whole event encompassing Bingo. Attendees had the opportunity of winning a designer handbag or accessory from Coach, Kate

Spade, Marc Jacobs or Michael Kors. Alongside the event, we held a silent auction for two Burberry bags! Outside of Bingo, attendees had the opportunity to visit our local food vendors with samples from Acero's Catering, Black Stallion Coffee Company, Bonduelle/Ready-Pac, Lemon Drop Cookie Shop, and by our gracious host, Irwindale Brew Yard. After another successful Bingo Night, we proud to announce that Designer Handbag Bingo Night will be back for another year!

For a full list of vendors and prizes, please visit

https://www.irwindalechamber.org/bingo

Business Expo & Taste of Irwindale presented by Athens Services – Thursday, October 13, 2022





Photo Credit: Jeanette Wagner Photography

Another new event added to our programming this year, we hosted a Business Expo & Taste of Irwindale presented by Athens Services, in partnership with the City of Irwindale. Our focus for 2022 was to bring our business community and local community together and what better place than at a Business Expo & Taste of Irwindale! We had 23 businesses and 14 food/beverage vendors showcased at our first ever Expo and Taste of Irwindale, all located in or around Irwindale. Some of our exhibitors also spoke during the event in our Breakout Stage area, with information talks ranging from leadership skills to learning about financial resources for your business! Local radio station POWER 106 served as our M.C. for the event, and Irwindale Brew Yard graciously hosted us.

For a full list of exhibitors and event details, please visit https://www.irwindalechamber.org/business-expo First Responders Appreciation BBQ presented by Irwindale Brew Yard – Thursday, November 17, 2022



Photo Credit: Nesly Palacios

The holiday season is a time when many of us take time to thank those who we appreciate, and we wanted to join in! In November, we thanked our local first responders and non-profit members at our First Responders Appreciation BBQ presented by Irwindale Brew Yard. In attendance were LA County Fire **Department, Irwindale Police Department, LA County Sheriffs Department** and **Medic-1 Ambulance** and several of our non-profit members. Each group had an opportunity to speak with attendees and express their gratitude for their appreciation. Everyone was treated a delicious BBQ lunch by Big Guyz Grill and an 80s/90s/2000s music mix by DJ Val, underneath the beautiful backdrop of Santa Fe Dam.

Annual Holiday Networking Luncheon & Milestone Member Celebration – Thursday, December 15, 2022



Photo Credit: Kevin Williams

During the holiday season we also took time to thank members who reached a milestone in membership years! On December 15, we hosted our Annual Holiday Networking Luncheon & Milestone Member Celebration at Pomona Valley Mining Company. Guests were treated to a beautiful view and a delicious surf-and-turf holiday lunch. After lunch, everyone got up on their feet and performed a rousing rendition of "12 Days of Christmas," with each of our 12 tables singing one verse of the song. During the event, we also took some time to thank our Business of the Month for November and



December, **Bonilla Partners** and **Fit 4 Duty** respectively.

Thank you to our milestone recipients! We appreciate your continued support and investment in our chamber and local business community!

Celebrating 5 Years (2017 to 2022): Forever Kids, L.I.F.E. Management Systems, Lemon Drop Cookie Shop, SERVPRO of Glendora/San Dimas & Irwindale/Baldwin Park and Yellow Iron Real Estate

Celebrating 15 Years (2007 to 2022): AMC Solutions, Pasadena Tournament of Roses, Sarah Parker (Ambassador for Life) and Sorrell Law Group

Celebrating 20 Years (2002 to 2022): Avolio's Italian Restaurant and San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership

Celebrating 30 Years (1992 to 2022):

James A. Gallo, Attorney at Law
Celebrating 35 Years (1987 to 2022):

Q & B Foods, Inc. and Spragues' Ready
Mix

Good Morning, Irwindale (GMI) – Monthly



Photo Credit: Ashley Bendanillo

As we headed outside more in 2022, we were excited to bring back in-person, monthly Good Morning Irwindale networking breakfasts! Each month at 9 AM, we hosted a breakfast at a local restaurant or business and provided an hour for local companies and non-profits to connect with one another. During this

time, we also honored our Business of the Month and new members and provided each attendee an opportunity to practice their elevator pitch with the crowd. As the year went on, we turned our elevator pitch portion into a game, challenging each of our participants to see if they could recite their pitch in under a minute! This year, our networking hour will be back, now as a quarterly meeting, instead of monthly.

HUTdogs Marketing Sessions – Spring/Summer 2022





During the year, we were proud to partner with local marketing agency and chamber member, HUTdogs, for a threepart series about marketing! Each part discussed a different outlet your business could market to your customers and garnering future customers: via email with ConstantContact, on social media with Facebook and in person at a local networking or chamber event. The series consisted of two seminars on each subject - the first seminar would be a round table discussion on the platform and the second seminar would be a live demo/workshop on how to use the platform, along with some handy tips and tricks to stand out among other companies.





Legislative Luncheon - Quarterly



Photo Credit: Marlene Panoyan

One of the most exciting additions to our events calendar was our Legislative Luncheon program. Each quarter, we provided our members the chance to hear from and interact with a local member of government. As the chamber starts to focus its attention to legislative work, we thought creating a Legislative Luncheon series would be a great first step into the world of our government. Thank you to Assemblymember Blanca Rubio, State Senator Susan Rubio, LA County First District Supervisor Hilda Solis and their respective staff for taking time to meet our membership! Due to overwhelming support for these events, we are honored to host our Legislative Luncheon series for a second year!

Be sure to visit our Legislative Luncheon page regularly to find out when and who will be at our next luncheon: https://www.irwindalechamber.org/legis lative-luncheon

Lunch & Learn Seminar - Year Round

An important function of chambers of commerce is to provide resources and support for local businesses. We thought what better way to help chamber members than learning from fellow chamber members! Last year, we hosted three intimate Lunch & Learn seminars for our members to learn about issues concerning their workplace: California's new law on organic waste rules with Athens Services and the City of Irwindale, creating retirement plans for employees with Rogers & Associates and Trilogy Financial, and anti-harassment training with Human Approach HR. The intimate setting provided members a chance to take advantage of the full hour with our presenters and ask any questions they had about the presentation.

Congratulations to Lemon Drop Cookie Shop & Chefelle on Four Years at their Duarte Location!







Thank you for your renewal!











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Irwindale Chamber of Commerce and the City of Irwindale Proudly Present

MEET

MAYOR



TUESDAY

FEB 28

Join us from 5 to 7 PM at

BUTCHER BLOCK BBQ

5240 Irwindale Ave, Irwindale, CA 91706

Join us for an evening reception with Mayor H. Manuel Ortiz. Light refreshments served.

TICKETS

\$25 MEMBERS | \$40 NON-MEMBERS

REGISTER NOW!

HTTPS://BIT.LY/MEETMAYOR



IRWINDALE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

16102 E. Arrow Highway, Irwindale, CA 91706 Street Address: Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2307, Irwindale, CA 91706-1168

Phone: (626)960-6606

E-Mail: info@irwindalechamber.org

2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chair of the Board: Claudia Lin Trilogy Financial Services 1st Vice Chair: Ricardo Flores SCE Federal Credit Union 2nd Vice Chair: John Edwards Yellow Iron Investments Treasurer: Victoria Rogers Payroll Vault

Secretary: Wende Lee The Print Spot

Immediate Past Chair: Rosemary Luna Vulcan Materials Company

Directors: Doris Ford Ford Benefits Group

Kearny Real Estate Company Steven Hillgren Sharelle Jones City of Hope

Steven Librenjak Athens Services

Absolute International Security Lucy Lin

Bonduelle Joel Perez Brandon Saeteurn Martin Marietta

Andre Saldivar Southern California Edison Sharon Weissinger Fit 4 Duty Consulting

Staff: Nicole Shahenian CEO/President

> **Nesly Palacios** Membership & Events

Manager

Ashley Bendanillo Communications

Coordinator/Staff Assistant

Marlene Carney Consultant

CHAMBER MEETINGS

Board of Directors First Thursday

4:00 p.m. VIRTUAL

Business Ambassadors 2nd Thursday

> Alternate meeting times 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Location Varies

IRWINDALE SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

Irwindale Educational Foundation

P.O. Box 2307, Irwindale, CA 91706-1168

Board Meets 2nd Thursday, 7:30 a.m. at the Chamber

Irwindale Sister City

PO Box 2333, Irwindale, CA 91706 Rosalva "Rosie" Breceda, 626-523-2263

Email rbreceda2019@yahoo.com

Irwindale Lions Club

PO Box 2093, Irwindale CA 91706 Board Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesday at Irwindale Community Center-11:45 a.m.

Contact Gary Hall (909) 228-7189

CITY OF IRWINDALE

City Hall

5050 Irwindale Avenue Irwindale, CA 91706-1168

Phone: (626) 430-2200 Website: www.irwindaleca.gov

City Council

Mayor: H. Manuel Ortiz Mayor Pro Tem: Albert F. Ambriz Council Members: Mark A. Breceda, Larry G. Burrola, and Manuel R. Garcia

City Council Meetings

2nd and 4th Wednesday, 6:30 p.m. at City Hall

City Staff

City Manager Julian A. Miranda Assistant City Manager Theresa Olivares Finance Director & City Treasurer Jeanette Duran Chief Deputy City Clerk Laura Nieto City Engineer / Building Official Arsanious Hanna Community Development Director Marilyn Simpson Assistant to the City Manager Iris Espino

Planning Commission

Chair: Suzanne E. Gomez Vice Chair: Enoch Burrola Commissioners: Richard Chico, David Fuentes, Robert Hartman

Parks & Recreation Commission

Chair: Paula Fraijo Vice Chair: Belen Zepeda Commissioners: Marguerite Lopez, Teresa Ortiz, Carmen Roman

Senior Citizen Commission

Chair: Virginia Diaz Vice Chair: Maggie Guzman Commissioners: Caroline Acosta, Patsy Gonzales, Iris Rodriguez

Library.....(626) 430-2229 City Librarian: Shayna Balli sballi@irwindaleca.gov 5050 Irwindale Avenue

Recreation.....(626) 430-2224

16053 Calle de Paseo Fax: (626) 962-3022

Recreation Manager: Priscilla Zepeda pzepeda@irwindaleca.gov

Senior Center.....(626) 430-2283

16116 Arrow Highway Fax: (626) 430-2275

Senior Center Manager: Eloise Beltran ebeltran@irwindaleca.gov

Public Services Maintenance.....(626) 430-2231

16034 Calle del Norte

Public Works Maintenance Supervisor: Pedro Rodriguez

Aquatics.....(626) 430-2247

16053 Calle de Paseo Building #2 Aquatics Supervisor: Daniel M. Grijalva

Police Department

Police Chief Ty Henshaw thenshaw@irwindaleca.gov

Emergency..... 9-1-1

Phone (non emergency)...(626) 430-2244 5050 Irwindale Avenue Fax: (626) 962-8212

Los Angeles County Fire- Irwindale Station Emergency..... 9-1-1

Phone (non emergency)...(626) 337-8919

15546 Arrow Highway, Irwindale



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE





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