

Special Thanks

Thank you to the businesses and individuals who donated auction items and/or sponsored plaques, tickets, and tables.

Thank you to Logan's Market for providing the catering for this event.

Thank you to Steve Hawkins of Hawkins Auction Service for serving as our auctioneer.

Thank you to Brady Sharp and FFA members for assisting with serving and clean-up.

Thank you to U.S. Bank for creating the auction numbers.

Thank you to everyone who attended the banquet for assisting us with honoring tonight's guests as well as raising money for future Chamber events.

Vale Chamber Banquet Committee

Brent Barton
Logan Hamilton
Brian Wolfe
Heidi Zanotelli



2nd Annual Awards Banquet and Auction

March 20, 2009



◆ **TICKET SPONSORS** ◆

7U Hunting Ranch and Sporting Clays	Crying J Stacking
Dairy Queen	Global Realty Northwest
Mike Mahoney	Producers Livestock
Scout's Books	Larry Sullivan
Zanotelli Law Office	

◆ **PLAQUE SPONSORS** ◆

Pam and Brent Barton	Dairy Queen
Malheur Drug	SK Construction
Scout's Books	Carol DeHaven Skerjanec
Sterling Marketing	Zanotelli Law Office

◆ **TABLE SPONSORS** ◆

7U Hunting and Sporting Clays	Ironhead Construction
Dr. Jacob Atkinson, DMD	Jamieson Produce
Field Waldo Insurance Agencies	Logan's Market
Greater Oregon Federal Credit Union	Malheur Drug
Les Schwab Tire Centers	Malheur Enterprise
Luzetta's Flowers and Gifts	Philpott Farms
Malheur Federal Credit Union	Rootz Hair Salon
Sterling Savings Bank	USNG, Inc.
U.S. Bank	Yturri Rose, LLP
Vale Farmers and Crafters Association	
Vale Heritage Reflections Mural Society	

Upcoming Vale Chamber Events

April 11th
Hunt

Easter Egg

Wadleigh Park
1:00 p.m.

June 19th - 20th

City Wide Yard Sale

June 24th
*Clean-
Barbeque*

*City Wide
Up and*

July 1st - 4th

*Oregon Trail
Days, Fun Run,
4th of July
Parade,
Booth at the
Rodeo*

The Vale Chamber of Commerce meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 8:00 am at City Hall. The 4th Tuesday of each month the meeting is held at noon at City Hall.



PRESENTERS



Bill Romans

Presenting the Award to Johnson Feedlot/Mud Flat Ranch

Jill Justus and Angie Rieber

Presenting the Award to Olsen Lumber and Paint

Amy McGourty

Presenting the Award to Dentinger's Feed and Seed

Logan Hamilton

Presenting the Award to Brian Wolfe

Frank Yraguen

Presenting the Award to Sheri Nalivka

Adam Tolman

Presenting the Award to Vale Lions Club

Darlene McConnell

Presenting the Award to Jeff Wagner

Matt Hawley

Presenting the Award to Jeff Jacobs

Mary Jo Sharp

Presenting the Award to Darlene McConnell

2009 Award Winners

Agriculture Business of the Year
Johnson Feedlot/Mud Flat Ranch

Businesses of the Year
Olsen Lumber and Paint
Dentinger's Feed and Seed

Citizen of the Year
Brian Wolfe

Volunteer of the Year
Sheri Nalivka

Lifetime Achievement Award
Vale Lions Club

*Elementary School Teacher
of the Year*
Jeff Wagner

High School Teacher of the Year
Jeff Jacobs

Lifetime Educator Award
Darlene McConnell

Meet the Award Winners

The Vale Chamber is proud to recognize the following individuals, businesses and groups who consistently looked beyond the reasons to not be involved, and instead chose to be motivated to make our community a better place.

Johnson Feedlot/Mud Flat Ranch *Agriculture Business of the Year*

Johnson Feedlot was purchased in 1948 by Lew & Roselind Johnson. The current owners of Johnson Feedlot and Mud Flat Ranch are Rick, Jason & Travis Johnson, son and grandsons of Lew & Roselind. Rick and Jason have lived in Vale their entire lives. Travis Johnson and his family moved back to Vale in 2004. Johnson Feedlot started as a cattle finishing & farming business. In 1993, they purchased Mud Flat Ranch and changed to a cow-calf & warm-up feeder business. The Johnsons farm about 500 acres and run mother cows at Mud Flat and in the Vale area. They have 3 full time employees and seasonal day help. They also purchase grain, hay and silage from neighbors and local growers.

In addition to the many duties on their ranch and feedlot, the Johnsons also take time to be involved in the community. Rick served on the Vale School Board for 5 years and currently serves as the Bishop of the Vale LDS 2nd Ward. Jason oversees the Vale Youth Basketball program, coaches AAU softball, is the Vale Grange Master, and is currently

the Girls Varsity Basketball coach. Travis serves on the Vale City Council and is the Scout Master for Troop 454.

Darlene McConnell *Lifetime Educator Award*

Darlene began her career with the Vale School District as a Social Studies and P.E. teacher at the middle school in 1978. From there, Darlene moved into teaching P.E. and Health classes at the elementary and middle schools on a full time basis. Additionally, Darlene coached volleyball, basketball and track. In the late 1980's, Darlene became a student herself, returning to college to obtain her Master's degree in School Administration. In 1996, Darlene took over as principal of Vale Elementary School.

Darlene will be retiring at the end of this school year. Darlene reported that she has been blessed to work as the principal in a school district with such good teachers in combination with tremendous community and parental support. Darlene also indicated that it is rewarding to her to see children grow up and make positive contributions to the Vale community.

The nomination we received for Darlene illustrates the generations that have been affected by her leadership. Part of one of the nominations read "Darlene has been involved with school as long as I can remember. She was my P.E. teacher and is now my daughter's principal. She has the dedication and commitment that schools need"

Darlene, while the community is saddened to loose such a dedicated individual we hope you enjoy your retirement. May the fish always be biting!

Brian Wolfe
Citizen of the Year

A native of Vale, Brian has served as the Undersheriff of the Malheur County Sheriff's Department for 12 years. Prior to that, Brian worked in law enforcement for the Nyssa and Ontario Police Departments.

Brian is the President of the Vale Chamber of Commerce and has served on the TVCC Foundation Board, the Vale Rodeo Board, the Malheur County Commission on Children and Families, and is past President of the Oregon State Sheriff's Command Council.

As if that wasn't enough, Brian and his wife, Barbara, own 7U Hunting and Sporting Clays. Brian and Barbara have four children and enjoy family time outdoors and working with horses. Church and community events round out Brian's involvement in Vale. One of the people nominating Brian for Citizen of the Year noted that Brian is a "great role model for the youth of the community and a strong, leading example for all". We couldn't agree more.

Sheri Nalivka
Volunteer of the Year

Sheri is the President of the Vale Heritage Reflections Mural Society and is an active member of the Vale Chamber of

Commerce. Sheri was the key organizer of Oregon Trail Days, the 4th of July Parade, and the unveiling of the newest mural, Patriots on Parade. Additionally, Sheri and her husband John are also members of the newly organized Vale Grange.

Sheri and John have lived in Vale for 15 years and own Sterling Marketing. They have 3 children, Susie, Joe, and Ross who have all graduated from college. In nominating Sheri for Volunteer of the Year, it was indicated that "anyone who has come in contact with her when she promotes an idea is aware that her enthusiasm is matched by her energy to carry forward". A great combination in a volunteer!

Vale Lions Club
Lifetime Achievement Award

The Vale Lions Club have been long time supporters of the Vale community. In the last year alone, the Lions have raised and donated over \$13,000.00 to various organizations, such as Vale High School sports programs, the Vale Food Bank, eyeglasses for local people, Shriners Hospital, and Help Them To Hope. In addition, the Lions have donated hundreds of hours of volunteer time in raising this money and assisting other organizations as needed, including helping the Chamber with the annual Easter Egg Hunt as well as assisting with the New Year's Fireworks show. Additionally, the Lions have signs at each end of town that they keep updated regularly with upcoming events.

The Lions currently have 23 members and run various fundraising programs, including the 50/50 raffle, 4th of July breakfast, football cookshack, duck race and selling popcorn

at the Vale Rodeo. A nominator of the Lions noted “What an amazing group of individuals”!

Jeff Wagner
Elementary School Teacher of the Year

Jeff Wagner has lived and taught in Vale for 27 years. Jeff currently teaches 4th grade at Vale Elementary School. In prior years, Jeff has also taught 5th and 6th grades.

Outside of the classroom, Jeff has coached various sports at the middle school and high school level. Jeff is currently the chess coach at the elementary school, something he has enjoyed doing for a number of years. Jeff reported that they had over 50 kids in chess club this year. Jeff also serves on the board of the Foundation for the Arts in Vale (FAVE).

Jeff reported that one of his favorite things about being a teacher is the look on a child’s face when they “get it”. Jeff also enjoys helping children develop self-confidence and a sense of well being. One of the children who nominated Jeff for this award noted that Jeff “has helped many kids get farther in life with his powerful speeches and inspirational words of knowledge”.

Jeff Jacobs
High School Teacher of the Year

Jeff Jacobs currently teaches Weights classes and Health classes at Vale High School. This is Jeff’s 18th year in the Vale School District. Prior to teaching at the high school, Jeff taught English, as well as P.E. at the elementary and middle school levels.

Jeff has dedicated 18 years to the Vale High School football program, with the last 7 years as the head coach. Jeff has also coached basketball, baseball, and track during his time in Vale. Additionally, Jeff is a Junior class advisor. One of the nominations received advised that Jeff “is a really good teacher.....and really makes his students think deep and hard about all sorts of things”.

Olsen Lumber and Paint
Dentinger’s Feed and Seed
Businesses of the Year

We considered flipping a coin, but, given the family connection, we hoped they wouldn’t mind sharing this honor. When choosing Business of the Year, the nominating committee looked at the length of time in business, the quality of the business, as well as the overall commitment to Vale in the form of community involvement. Both the Olsen and Dentinger families exemplify what it means to be “Business of the Year”.

Olsen Lumber and Paint opened in 1968 by Ole Olsen. The Olsens have lived in the Vale area since 1958. Currently owned by Mike Olsen and Sue Keller, brother and sister, Olsen Lumber and Paint continues to be strong supporters of the Vale Lions Club and various Vale High School programs such as athletics, 4H and FFA. One of the nominations we received for Olsen Lumber and Paint indicated that “Olsen Lumber exhibits everything a business of the year should, community support, friendly assistance, and the personal touch to a business relationship that makes you appreciate you live in a small town”.

Dentinger’s Feed and Seed was started in 1938 by Stanley and Nona Dentinger. Dentingers is currently owned by Lindy Dentinger, son of Stanley and Nona, and his children Rick and Pamela. The Dentingers have lived in Vale since Lindy was three years old. Over the years, Dentingers has been a strong supporter of the community, with Lindy being active in the Vale Lions Club and the American Legion. Rick served as a City

Councilman and also worked with Vale Fire and Ambulance for 20 years. The Dentingers are long time supporters of the Vale Chamber of Commerce as well as school functions and events throughout the years. The nomination letter we received noted that “Lindy Dentinger sets a good example for current generations and generations to come”.