

The May meeting of the Greater Searcy County Chamber of Commerce was held May 12, at the Ozark Heritage Art Center in Leslie. In the absence of President Clint Freeman, our Vice President, Lee Walsh, presided over the meeting. The following members were present at the meeting: Bob King, Ken Fariss, Richard Grove, Betty Watts, Dorothy Hare, Lee Walsh, and Merrily Hartwig. Also in attendance were Lene Sutterfield, Talitha Hardin and Adrienne LaFargue.

Lee Walsh presented the Financial Statement showing the Chamber's balance as of May 11, was \$6,462.88. Several checks are still outstanding. Lee also announced that we had acquired a new member, Treadwell Scenic Cabins on Zack Ridge Road.

Ken Fariss told of a jelly bean contest at Home Bank. Ken had acquired a large jar of jelly beans and, as he couldn't eat them and his wife doesn't like them, he took them to the bank for a contest. For any amount of donation, people can try to guess how many jelly beans are in the jar. The proceeds from the contest will go to benefit the Veterans' Memorial building.

Ken also showed us a name badge he had made and told the members that if they would like similar badges, they could call Jack Treat at the bank and Jack would order the badges. The cost for a badge is \$6.

A brief discussion was held concerning something to identify Chamber Members. Lee will look into obtaining window decals for members to display in their businesses.

Lee and Ken reported on the Marshall City Council meeting which was held on May 10. Several Chamber members were in attendance to seek the City's help in cleaning up the area for Spring Fling and to ascertain whether or not there were ordinances on the books concerning blight. The City Council was quite receptive to the idea of getting the area cleaned up and said that there were ordinances that should be enforced. They seemed to have a very positive attitude toward the need to clean up the City.

Bob King talked briefly about Westfest which will be held in the fall at the Pine Grove Trails. He said it would be nice if the Chamber had a presence at the event and suggested that the Chamber look into purchasing a 10 x 10 pop-up and a nice 8' table to be used at events such as this. He will look into getting a pop-up and table prior to the next meeting and will poll several members and officers as to his findings.

Merrily gave a brief update on the Buffalo River Spring Fling.

The last piece of business was to welcome Pine Grove Trails (Lene Sutterfield) and National Yellow Pages (Talitha Hardin) as our newest Chamber members.

Respectfully submitted,
Merrily Hartwig, Secretary