

BIG SUR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

December 28, 2022

Big Sur Chamber Members

Re: 2023 Annual Meeting and Dues

Dear Big Sur Chamber Members,

The Big Sur Chamber of Commerce was founded just over 50 years ago by Coast Gallery Owner, Gary Koepfel, and several other local business leaders to represent the interests of the Big Sur business community.

Amongst its first notable accomplishments was funding the workers compensation premium cost for the nascent Big Sur Volunteer Fire Brigade, thereby allowing a dedicated group of volunteers led by the legendary Walter Trotter, to create what has now become an integral and invaluable community emergency service provider – Big Sur Fire.

Over the years, the Chamber has been a consistent and steadfast advocate for the business community as a charter member of the Big Sur Multi-Agency Advisory Council and the Coast Highway Management Plan Byways Committee and has worked closely and collaboratively with Caltrans, California Department of Parks and Recreation, the United States Forest Service, our elected representatives, and with Big Sur Fire in the incident command during natural disasters, such as the 1998 El Nino winter highway closures, the 2008 Basin Complex Fire, the 2013 Pfeiffer Fire, the 2016 Soberanes Fire, the 2017 Pfeiffer Canyon Bridge failure, the 2019 Mud Creek slide, the 2020 Dolan Fire, and the 2022 Palo Colorado Fire.

The Chamber is typically the primary point of contact for media inquiries about Big Sur issues, ranging from natural disasters and highway closures to public interest stories about the majesty, challenges, and opportunities for visitors to visit and enjoy the natural splendor of our area.

Additionally, the Big Sur Chamber has sought to promote responsible visitation and provide critical visitor information about the natural resources of the coast and the attributes of its member businesses through the Big Sur Guide and the Chamber's website at www.bigsurcalifornia.org.

The Chamber has sought to keep its dues as affordable and reasonable as possible over the years and we are now faced with the same pressures that all businesses are facing in this economic environment and need to increase our dues, for the first time in over 20 years.

Next month, we will be sending out membership dues invoices for the 2023 year and I hope and trust you will continue to appreciate the value of your membership investment.

Please also save the date of Thursday, January 12, 2023, as we will be holding our Annual Members Meeting/Mixer at the Big Sur River Inn at 4 PM.

Thank you very much for your continued support of the Big Sur Chamber of Commerce.

Regards,

Kirk Gafill
President

Big Sur Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 87
Big Sur, CA 93920
January 1, 2023

Dear Big Sur Chamber of Commerce Membership,

We are looking forward to your continued support and your continued participation in 2023. After decades of not raising our membership fees we are updating our membership fee structure to more accurately represent the cost to maintain the Chamber of Commerce

Website

We are continuing our partnership with MCCVB to promote sustainable tourism practices throughout Big Sur and Monterey County. To motivate sustainable tourism we host a page on our website encouraging visitors to preserve our scenic beauty for generations to come. This includes recommendations on how to handle Big Sur with care while visiting the area. Also, a section of the Big Sur Guide is dedicated to promoting sustainable tourism by advancing these same sustainable principles. We will continue maintaining the website to better serve our customers and to encourage them to visit Big Sur for vacations, weddings, honeymoons, special events, holidays, lodging, camping, and to explore the diverse ecology of Big Sur including hiking, bird watching, whale watching and sea otter gazing, to name few.

In addition to the website we maintain our Twitter account (@BigSurCC) The Big Sur Blog (www.thebigsurblog.com), and Facebook.com/BigSurInformation, all of which are helpful in distributing information about upcoming events in Big Sur, local emergency information, Highway 1 updates, and press releases supplied by Caltrans, USFS, and others. It is unclear if we will have the funds to produce the hard copy of the Big Sur Guide this year but we will publish a digital version which will be posted on the website, as we always have.

Expanded Services

The Wedding Planner and Real Estate sections have proven to provide the special emphasis for our customers who are coming to Big Sur for their weddings and other special functions that require catering, event planning and real estate needs. To be included on either of these expanded services pages one must be a Big Sur Chamber of Commerce member in good standing and pay an additional fee of \$300.00.

When paying your membership dues please make all updates for the website and the Big Sur Guide on the attached form. You are always free to modify your website listing throughout the year simply by sending an email to us with the changes.

INVOICE

Membership Dues Structure

Gross Income:	Membership Dues:
\$1.00 - \$50,000	\$200.00
\$50,001 - \$100,000.00	\$300.00
\$100,001.00 - \$200,000.00	\$450.00
\$200,001.00 -	\$750.00

Please forward your membership dues to PO Box 87, Big Sur, CA 93920. Make checks payable to the Big Sur Chamber of Commerce. Clearly note in the space provided below if you are paying for the expanded services on the website such as Wedding Planner, Real Estate pages. Thank you for your continued support and may the be prosperous for everyone.

Your support is greatly appreciated,



Stan Russell, Executive Director

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

No need to include your E-mail address if you are already on the list.

E-mail:
Name:
Business:
Membership Dues: \$200 \$300 \$450 \$750 Circle applicable fee(s) and enclose check
Expanded Services: \$ 300 Wedding, \$ 300 Real Estate
Total: \$
Please supply any changes in text for the Big Sur Guide or the website here or attach your printed copy. If you prefer to email them, please send to info@bigsurcalifornia.org