

Vancouver Area Networking Opportunities

Monday's

Professional Connections

11:45 -1PM Professional connections meets at Peace Health Memorial Fir Willow Room 3400 Main St Vancouver, WA 98660. Usually 30-40 people attend the meetings. Each week they have a different speaker. This is a free event that you order off the menu is you want to eat. Contact Paul Dicker at (360) 606-8804 for more information.

Tuesday's

Bridges Networking Group

Meets every Tuesday 7:30 to 8:30 AM at Elmers located at 11310 SE Mill Plain Blvd, Vancouver WA 98684. For more information contact Ginger Fishback at fishbacksmarkay@gmail.com One industry per person and no annual dues. Website is <http://bridgesnetworking.com/clubs/vancouver/> . Usually attendance is around 10 and growing.

ProNet

Meets every Tuesday at 7:30 at Legacy Hospital Salmon Creek – 3rd Floor Cafeteria. Non-compete, annual fee \$50. Contact Jeff Stay at jeff@american-underwriters.com to inquire if your industry is represented. Usually 20-25 people in attendance.

CC Leads Direct

This is a non-compete group that only allows one person from each profession in and meets every Tuesday from 11:20 to 12:30 at La Costa formerly Azteca Restaurant by Van Mall. Annual cost is \$10.00 for their webhosting fee. There are usually 45 people that attend and you can contact Ray Aberle at ray@kelcema.com for more info or see their website <http://clarkcountyleadsdirect.com>.

Real Estate Vancouver Investor's Network (REVIN)

The Real Estate Vancouver Investor's Network meets every other Tuesday 12:00-1:30 @ 1505 SE 164th Ave, Vancouver, WA 98683. Contact Trevor at revinetwork@gmail.com for more information. Cost is free to join and usually about 30-40 people attend.

Commercial Real Estate Vancouver Investor's Network (CREVIN)

The Real Estate Vancouver Investor's Network meets every other Tuesday 7:30-9 PM @ Silver Star #286 Masonic lodge 907 SE Grace Ave, Battle Ground, WA 98604. Contact Trevor at revinetwork@gmail.com for more information. Cost is free to join and usually about 30-40 people attend. Opposite week of REVIN.

i Take The Lead

Three chapters meet weekly in Clark County. One in Ridgefield on Wednesday mornings from 8-9AM and two in Vancouver from 12-1. i Take the Lead groups are always open to visitors but use a non-compete format. The group has 5-15 members, for more or you can to <https://www.meetup.com/i-Take-The-Lead-Networking-Events/events/> or www.itakethelead.com.

Costal Conservation Association

This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month from 6:30 PM to 8 PM at Camas Meadows Golf Coarse. If you are a fisherman or want to save salmon from extinction, you need to join the CCA. The annual membership is 25.00 per year and a group of 100-150 people who meet once a month to get involved and change laws to save our stocks of fish. Did you know 30 cents of every dollar go to protecting salmon of our power bill? If we eliminate commercial gillnetting from the Columbia River (which is the only river in the U.S. which still allows commercial gillnetting) we will lower our rates and save our fish from extinction. Visit CCAPNW.ORG or contact Kris Thomas at 360-600-3386 for more information.

Local Connections Group

Local Connections is a group of merchants and business owners from Camas and Washougal who meet together in an informal setting to share resources, expand their network, learn and support each other! They meet for breakfast the last Tuesday of each month from 8:20 AM to 9:30 AM. Locations vary so contact Ken Cline, the Local Connections Facilitator, at KenCline@riverviewbank.com.

Professional Business Network (PBN)

Meets every Tuesday at 8:15-9:15 AM (excluding holidays) at Cameo Cafe (by Green Meadows Golf Course), 7703 NE 72nd St, Vancouver WA 98662. We offer exclusive representation, low quarterly dues, a fun meeting atmosphere, speaking opportunities, and off the menu breakfast. First Time visitors have breakfast provided by the group. John Cozzi, Jr. Membership Chair, 360-718-9168 or johnjr@tailored-logistics.com, www.ProfessionalReferral.net.

Woodland Chamber of Commerce

The Woodland Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit organization comprised of businesses, individuals, and professionals working together to improve the business climate and quality of life in the greater Woodland and Southwest Washington area. The Chamber meets every Tuesday from 12 – 1 p.m. at the Casa Tapatia 1175 Lewis River Road Woodland, WA 98674 located off exit 21 in Woodland. These meetings are free and open to the public and lunch service is optional. Each meeting covers topics relevant to business and industry in Southwest Washington, and guest speakers are listed on the calendar page of our website at www.woodlandwachamber.com. Our After Hours events and legislative phone calls are listed on our website calendar or you can call (360) 225-9552 for more information. We invite you to visit us at one of these meetings or stop by our office located at 900 Goerig Street in Woodland.

ewomenNetwork

Meets the second Tuesday of each month from 10:45-1:30 PM. Event includes a full plate lunch. The website is www.vancouverWANetworking.com and the contact person is Brittani Nelson at businessmatchmaker13@gmail.com. At eWomenNetwork our purpose is to support, promote and showcase our members' products and services and to help them achieve their professional goals.

Wednesday's

The Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce (GVCC)

Connecting you with quality business leads; this business membership organization hosts a wide range of events. Expand your circle of influence and check out **Southwest Washington Leads and Needs Networking** on the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 7:30 – 9 a.m. at Beaches Restaurant, 1919 SE Columbia Drive, Vancouver, 98661. Members of Battle Ground Chamber, Camas Washougal Chamber, East Vancouver Business Association, Fourth Plain Business Coalition, Greater Vancouver Chamber, Hazel Dell/Salmon Creek Business Association, North Clark County Chamber, Portland Business Alliance, Ridgefield Business Association, Vancouver's Downtown Association, and Woodland Chamber are welcome to attend and sponsor. Refreshments provided. The quarterly drawing is back! Cost: \$5. Find the latest offerings on GVCC's events calendar at www.vancouverusa.com, or get added to their e-mail list to receive weekly updates. Please contact Susie Bauder for information about events, 360-567-1093 or call Matt Hoffstetter at 360-567-1058 for information about becoming a member of the GVCC, which currently has over 1,000 members.

Loving Them Forward

Meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 1:30-2:30 PM located at community home health and hospice grief center at 3102 NE 134th St, Vancouver, WA 98686. It's a meeting for people in the senior and retirement community as well as people who help caregivers and people with disabilities can network. We have 1-3 speakers at the meetings and go over any events people are having that will benefit seniors and caregivers. It is an open meeting with no cost. For more information you can find us on FB at Loving Them Forward, Email: lovingthemforward@gmail.com, Phone 360-524-4344, or 360-901-8221 Christina Keys, or on our website at www.lovingthemforward.org

E.P.I.C.C (Emerging Professionals in Clark County)

This will be a time to meet other young professionals that are interested in meeting new people and furthering their careers. E.P.I.C.C. of Vancouver meets every month at a local hot spot. Our meeting schedule is: First Wednesdays at 5-7PM. There is usually 50-75 people attend. For more information contact Andrew Gratzer Andrew.Gratzer@iQcu.com.

Green Drinks

Meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at various locations around Vancouver, WA starting at 6:00 PM. With attendance of 20-40 people, this is a no-host and loosely structured monthly gathering to network with friends and colleagues who share an interest in local environmental and social issues. See www.tinyurl.com/VancouverGreenDrinks for more information.

WEO ~ Women's Entrepreneur Organization

The Women Entrepreneurs Organization of Southwest Washington (WEO) is a warm and welcoming group of women entrepreneurs dedicated to sharing knowledge, connecting with and supporting other women business owners. WEO meets the third Wednesdays (September through July) at the Heathman Lodge in Vancouver WA. Guests may visit twice. Low-cost annual dues for members. Currently, there are about 50 + members and about 30 that attend monthly. Open competition. Most meetings feature member Spotlight speakers (7 minutes each) plus a Keynote speaker. More info at www.weowa.org/

HAZEL DELL/SALMON CREEK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month (except August) from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at 40 et 8 Annex, 7607 NE 26th Ave.(just off 78th St.). Meetings feature topics and guest speakers on current issues that impact and interest the Hazel Dell/Salmon Creek business community. Visitors and guests are always welcome. The charge for lunch is \$8.50. Should you wish to become a member of the HAZEL DELL/SALMON CREEK BUSINESS ASSOCIATION the annual membership fee is \$75.00; applications are available at the meetings, or by contacting me directly. All members will receive a monthly newsletter that is published monthly, either via e-mail or postal service. We look forward to meeting you. If you have any questions or would like any further information, we can be reached by phone at 360-573-7376 or FAX at 574-6262, and by ilastanek@hotmail.com.

Clark County Professional Alliance Group

Formed in November 2010 to preserve vitality of the business community and help local companies rebuild and retain that executive talent pool. The group meets every week allowing professionals to exchange job leads with one another. New members are added each week. One program that makes CCPAG different from other business groups is the Loaned Executive Program. This is a feature that allows a company to "borrow" a member executive for a pre-determined amount of time for evaluation with the end goal of permanent employment. The arrangement allows benefits for each party in that the company retains a seasoned executive to "try out" without a long term commitment, and the executive has the opportunity to retain permanent employment based on performance. Group meets every Wednesday at 9am at the Java House 210 W. Evergreen, Vancouver. Contact JR Cantrell for more information at 360-936-9388.

Jewish Business Network

The Jewish Business Network is comprised of Jewish business owners and professionals from all over Clark County. The JBN enables those professionals to combine business talents towards a common goal – improving the lives of underprivileged families within our local Jewish community and beyond. We invite you to join our 2nd Wednesday of the month lunch from 12-1 pm at the Marshal House, 1301 Officers Row, Vancouver WA. The meetings include a guest speaker, JBN project updates and networking. The meetings for 2017 will be 9/13, 10/11, 11/8, 12/13. For more information, contact the JBN at info@theJBN.org or (360) 597-3942.

Networking with Results

Every Wednesday 9:30-11AM located at Beaches Restaurant, 1919 SE Columbia River Dr., Vancouver, WA 98661. Ready to Get Noticed Fast and Gain Business Faster? Are you tired of the antiquated ways of networking? What if you can cross promote your services across chapters just like a multi-chamber event? Now you can. Network with Results is introducing a new way to network and our Vancouver Chapter is really building! There is nothing like it. Guest are welcome to attend. This is a semi-open group but is limited to 3 of each profession only. You can find them on Facebook under Networking with Results Vancouver or contact Kim Blahnik at (360)513-3105 or at kim.blahnik@realliving.com.

Thursday's

Clark County Green Business Morning Blend

Every third Thursday of the month, attend Clark County Green Business Morning Blend to network and learn about how business leaders have found efficiencies, decreased their environmental impact, and engaged employees. These Morning Blends are from 8:00-9:00AM at a different certified green business each month and are free to attend. Get the latest information about recycling, energy efficiency and other environmental topics. To find the next Morning Blend location visit <https://clarkgreenbiz.com/news-and-events/morning-blend> or contact Sarah Keirns at info@clarkgreenbiz.com. Average size of the group is 15-30 people.

Thursday Member Focus Group

Member focus groups meet every Thursday from 8-9 AM based on the weekly calendar and have 10-20 people at these events. This is a free networking event that meets: 1st Thursday—Umpqua Bank Hazel Dell 600 NE 99th Street, Vancouver, 2nd Thursday The Quarry, 415 SE 177th Ave, Vancouver, WA 98683, 3rd Thursday is at Glenwood Place 5500 NE 82nd Ave Vancouver, WA 98662. 4th Thursday is at Courtyard Village Media Room, 4555 66th Ave (SR500/ Andresen & 40th St). These are free meetings to attend Contact: Alexis Mason (360) 314-6463 Alexis@AlexisLLC.com for more information.

Portland Area Business Association (PABA)

Meets Thursdays at noon at Key Center. This is a pay group that meets in Portland and Vancouver locations. You can attend free before joining to see if you want to be a part of it.

BIA Nothing but Networking

This group meets quarterly on the first Thursdays of the each quarter from 4pm to 6pm. 75+ people show up for this event and the events are free. The locations for this group will vary. Contact Karen Hall KHall@BIAofClarkCounty.org. The BIA also meets monthly for dinner meetings at the Heathman Lodge on the third Thursday of each month. More info at www.biaofclarkcounty.org under events.

Partners In Business of Clark County

Our purpose is to join others and become a “*Partner in Business*” with non-competing businesses in our community. We are Working Together to improve our business through educational programs, networking and referrals. We meet the 2nd Thursday of each month from 11:30 to 1:00 at Rocky's Pizza in Battle Ground – Party Room. No cost to join other than your meal at the meeting. For additional information contact: Rusty Lee, Rusty@CallMyPcDr.com - (360) 687-2838.

LeTip

This group meets every Thursday for lunch from 11:30 to 1:00PM. They are actively seeking new members of their group. This is a non compete group currently with about 10 members and growing rapidly. Please contact Jonathan Ayers at jonathan.ayers@biggsinsurance.com or at 360 828 3728 for more information about open categories and how to be his guest at an upcoming meeting.

Christian Chamber Northwest

“Lunch and Learn” with the Christian Chamber Northwest. Meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month in addition to regional meeting on the 1st Friday of each month. The meetings will be at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 730 SE 160th Ave, Vancouver, WA 98684. Times are from 11:30 to 1:30.

Vancouver Business Club

Get together with other business owners in Vancouver, Washington. Our goals are to provide a strong support system, networking opportunities and education for those on the great adventure of owning, operating and growing their own business. We do not limit our membership to one person per industry, because we believe everyone brings their own unique gifts based on their individual perspective. We meet every third Thursday, 11:30-1:00, at Golden Tent Mongolian BBQ in the conference room; 4902 NE 94th Avenue in Vancouver. Grab lunch if you'd like; no other dues or fees to join or attend. Questions can be directed to cassandra@allaccountsfc.com.

Friday's

East Vancouver Business Association (EVBA)

This organization meets the third Friday of every month. Memberships range from \$75.00 (basic) - \$250 (added benefits) a year and meetings are \$5.00 for members and \$10 non-members for each monthly NetEvent. These events focus on networking with between 40-80 business owners and managers attending. There is always an informative speaker and tidbits to nibble on and everyone is welcome to come and see if EVBA is a good fit before joining. Funds raised at the annual golf tournament in August go to scholarships for students at the Evergreen School District, Clark College and Washington State University Vancouver. Meeting dates periodically change so please visit the calendar on the evba.net website to see if this month is a morning or evening event.

Networking 4 Newbies

Are you new to networking, new to business, or new in town and looking to get connected with other small business owners? Networking for Newbies helps those new to business networking ("newbies") get comfortable with the basics of networking, including introductions, connecting one-on-one, and more in a safe, facilitated environment that will get you into the swing of networking easily. Location: SoHo Marketing Institute, 951 Officers Row, Vancouver, WA 98661 Date/Time: the First Friday of every month, 9:30-11:00 am. Cost: Free RSVP: <http://www.meetup.com/Networking-Newbies> (RSVP highly recommended as to space limitations)

Christian Chamber

The Christian Chamber Northwest resumes their monthly meetings starting in June on the 1st Friday (previously held on the 3rd Friday) of each month. The meetings are scheduled for 7:30 to 9:00 am on the 3rd floor (adjacent to the cafeteria) of Legacy Hospital located in Salmon Creek. Meetings are open to the public and attendees pay a small \$5.00 fee. Each participant will have an opportunity to introduce themselves and the business/organization they represent as part of the meeting. Stewart Kent – Media Coordinator, www.ChristianChamberNorthwest.com For Information call James Autry, 503-515-5647.

All Other Various Times

Christ at work Wednesdays and Fridays

Points of contact: Website - www.christatwork.com Vancouver-area Meeting Locations:

Ross Reid: rossr@aelusa.com, 503-431-2011, Ext 103 - Wednesday, 6:30am: 201 NE Park Plaza Dr (Park Tower Addition, 1st Floor, Conf Rm 6)

Evan Wiggs: evansusan@comcast.net, 360-606-7412 - Friday, 11:30am: 201 NE Park Plaza Dr (Park Tower Addition, 2nd Floor, Conf Rm 4)

Gary Meier: gameier@garymeier.com, 360-514-8114 - Sunday, 9:45am: 11005 NE Highway 99

Jim White: jwhite@yourcpas.com, 503-697-4118 - Contact Jim White for Portland-area groups

Portland Business Alliance

Meets several times though the month you can attend two events free to see if you would like to join. Contact 503 224 8684 for more information and check out their website at www.portandalliance.com/events.

BNI (Business Networking International)

There are 17 chapters currently meeting within the Portland/Vancouver (7 in Vancouver) area.

Tuesday "NW Power Partners" 40 et 8 Box car building at 7607 NE 26th Ave, Vanc WA 98665.

Tuesday "Clark County" 2211 E. Mill Plain Blvd. Vancouver 98661.

Wednesday "NW Business Alliance" 4105 NW Camas Meadows Dr. Camas WA 98607.

Thursday "Vancouver" 709 NE 136th Ave, Vancouver WA 98684.

Thursday "Vancouver Referral Partners" 11815 NE 113th Street, Suite 110, Vanc , WA 98662.

Thursday "North County Business Connections" 1710 SW 9th Ave, Battle Ground WA 98604.

Thursday "Vancouver Reign Makers" 1601 Broadway St, Vancouver WA 98663.

Visitors are welcome to visit twice before being asked to submit an application for membership.

This is a non-compete group which allows only one person per classification. For additional information you can contact the BNI Oregon & SW Washington regional office at 503-621-3284 or visit www.bnioregon.com.

Look in the Vancouver Business Journal for other events. The publication comes out weekly and has up to date information on Business Associations or other types of meetings (i.e. Chambers around the county). An online DateBook calendar is also accessible to view events or submit your business related event. To subscribe, call 360 695 2442 or visit www.vbjusa.com

There are several other groups, Lions, Rotary, Elks, LeTip, BNI etcetera. The best thing is look in the Sunday Columbian and in the business section they have a business calendar that has a lot of the groups, locations and times with contacts as well.

I hope this helps, as this is only a few opportunities and groups in town. The more you get out the more you find out about. There are also many health fairs, bazaars and trade shows you can rent a table at and display your brochures. What make networking successful is going to events and finding out what a good fit is for you. Once you find an event that works for you, attend regularly. Use each meeting to get an introduction and collect their card. Don't try to sell them on your services or tell them everything about your business on the first appointment. This is just an introduction. Ask them to go to coffee or lunch and use the second appointment to get to know each other sharing equal time. They might not be an ideal contact for you, but they may know someone who is (THIS IS BIG).

Keep in mind that networking is about being genuine and authentic, building trust and relationships, and seeing how you can help others.

Become known as a powerful resource for others. When you are known as a strong resource, people remember to turn to you for suggestions, ideas, names of other people, etc. This keeps you visible to them.

Let me know how I can help,

Kris Thomas

360 600 3386 Cell

kbtsolutions1@gmail.com

Revised 1/6/2020