

April 13

Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens

Met with Roxanne, Marketing Coordinator. Still seeking new ED, about ready to hire. May not do Art in the Gardens due to lack of event coordinator. Open to having tent for Festival of Lights set up 2 weeks early to host Mushroom Festival signature event.

Blackberry Inn

Met Cathy at front desk of Blackberry Inn in Mendocino. Toured 3 themed rooms (some have Jacuzzi tubs). Very comfortable feels just like home not like a hotel. Gorgeous ocean views. Owners are in their 90s and live next door. Managers are husband Lou and wife Melissa (off Tuesday-Wednesday).

Agate Cove Inn

Met with Roger and Laraine at Agate Cove Inn. They are seeking a new husband/wife team to manage/live on property. 12 rooms. Grabbed some rack cards.

Sea Rock Inn

Met with Susie at Sea Rock Inn. AAA had just come through for their annual inspection. Toured several rooms, lovely options from small cottages with kitchenettes to larger family size cottages, also junior and full suites that can sleep up to four. Spa room on property that allows for on-site massages. When fully booked property has a capacity for 36 guests.

April 15

Inn at Newport Ranch

Met with Creighton and Cindy, managers at the ranch. They have had a busy winter season that exceeded expectations and are expecting a very busy summer with several weddings booked. Weddings require guests to rent the entire property. B&B model is very similar to Brewery Gulch Inn, they provide a full home cooked county breakfast in the morning and lite bites with wine for dinner. Guests can also request a private sit down dinner for an additional charge which is gaining in popularity. Full liquor license has just been approved. The spa is now open with a variety of treatments available. Heather Thompson continues to do a great job handling PR for them, they have 2 exciting media mentions coming up at the end of April and attribute their success to a great deal of media hits. Handed off a stack of Visitor Guides, mini guides and event calendars for them to share with guests.

Westport RV and Campground

Stopped in to see how their summer is booking up. Pretty RV/camping spot at the edge of nowhere. Guests enjoy fishing from the rocks, access to abalone cleaning station on site, horseshoe pits, volleyball, playground, boogie/surfboard rentals, bike rentals, fishing licenses can be purchased onsite. Guests also have access to coin operated showers and laundry facilities. On site rec room available to rent out for weddings and special events. They requested info on hiking, sent them Rock Walks brochures.

Westport Store

Said hello to owner Maria. She let me know of new 9 hole Frisbee golf course at the top of the road, mentioned they have had a few well attended tournaments. The Westport Inn is now open again with food served for dinner at the Abalone Pub Thur-Sat. Special tea options too. The other hotel in town had the previous owners pass away. Son is now trying to renovate but likely won't be open for a while if ever.

Westport Inn

Main entrance was locked. Will email them with updates to the Abalone Pub website listing.

Pacific Star Winery

Met with Marcus, husband of Sally Otteson winemaker. Good sense of humor. Saw several large purchases of wine while there 3 cases, 1 case, 1 club pick-up (\$500 in ½ hour period on a Friday). Marcus indicated the weekends are always packed and very successful for them. Left my card for Sally who was out delivering wine.

April 18

Highlands Estate

Attended Wedding Fair at Highlands Estate in Yorkville. Mostly bay area vendors and wedding planners there. Gorgeous venue with large event barn and two sites to hold weddings. Also have a great vehicle (like a large golf cart) that people can rent to transport guests up and down the hill.

May 3

Mendocino Farmhouse B&B

Met with owner Margie who has been running the B&B since 1985. Toured property and had breakfast. Capacity for 12 guests (14 if 2 are kids). Most of the rooms are in the house, 2 guest rooms across the road from main house. She sometimes hosts small weddings on the lawn. Margie reported a slow 2016 so far. Suggested some marketing tips and discussed her listing on the website. Dropped off maps, VG's and event calendars.

May 4

Holiday Inn Express

Stopped by Holiday Inn Express, manager Pam was busy but provided VG's and event calendars along with a quarterly report.

Coast Inn and Spa

Stopped at Coast Inn and Spa. Worked with owner Chang on website listing. Dropped off quarterly report, VG's, event calendars and let her know I would bring some maps by. She commented that she didn't recall any visits from us in the past (Donna mentioned that wasn't true). Commented on challenges over not being included on Fortbragg.com website due to being outside of the City Limits.

Motel 6

Stopped by Motel 6 in Fort Bragg and spoke with GM Omie Berns. Dropped off maps, quarterly report, VG's and event calendars.

Vacasa Vacation Rentals

Called Austine Hover, manager of Vacasa and left message about meet and greet.

May 6

Stopped by Travelodge to post agenda for BOD meeting. Dropped off VG's and toured a couple of rooms with Jitu. 55 rooms, 8 jacuzzi suites, built 18 years ago. Conference room on property that holds up to 35 people. Recently renovated rooms with marble counter tops and flatscreen TVs.

May 11

Mendocino Preferred Vacation Rentals

Met with Jim Hay owner of Mendocino Preferred Vacation Rentals. He has 20 properties that they manage but only one of them is listed on our website. Let him know I would work on developing each individual vacation rental with a website listing and also keep the listing for Mendocino Preferred up. Dropped off tear off maps and quarterly report.

Headlands Inn

Stopped at Headlands Inn to drop off maps to Denise and Mitch. Toured property with Denise.

Digeridoo Inn

Dropped off tear off maps and Visitor Guides to Digeridoo Inn. Owner was not in.

Sweetwater Inn & Spa

Stopped in at Sweetwater, they were just finishing up with renovations and have recently taken over ownership of the spa. Hope to reopen the spa for Memorial Day weekend. Dropped off tear off maps. GM invited me to come back and tour when renovations are complete.

May 12**Mendocino College**

Partnered with Erica Tyner at Greater Ukiah Chamber of Commerce to present on tourism and career options to 200 high school students.

May 17**Caspar Community Center**

Met with Sienna Potts, toured Caspar Community Center venue. Discussed events, mushroom festival success of Pub Night. They have a commercial kitchen on site and rent the entire venue out for as low as \$800 for the full day and \$300 for ½ day. Recommended they may want to raise their rates in order to stay competitive with other wedding venues.

KOZT

Stopped by KOZT radio to check in with owners Vicky and Tom. Inquired why event calendar has been down (computer got hacked by bots and they were getting 1000 hits per minute) working on getting it fixed. Encouraged Tom if he would be able to make Festival Committee meeting on Thursday.

Albion River Inn

Dropped off tear off maps to Albion River Inn. Spoke to Flurry to see how business has been going, he indicated it is starting to pick up.

May 18**Brewery Gulch Inn**

Met with owner Guy Pacurar and toured the inn. Large family suite available as well as ADA room/bathroom. Guy indicated he has been hearing less from VMC/MCTC since Scott's departure. He encouraged visits from more FAM and media. Discussed the best way to communicate opportunities with BGI is to call or email directly verses listserve opportunities.

Boont Berry Market

Stopped by Boont Berry Market, asked owner Bert if he still had info flag. Bert indicated Richard had picked the flag back up some time ago. We discussed the spider issue at the visitor kiosk, perhaps need to get a non-violent spray to keep the daddy long legs away. Both of us agreed the kiosk is valuable and many visitors frequent it. Bert mentioned he may put up an umbrella or awning to help with problem of brochures bending and fading.

May 24**Hopland MAC**

Met with several business owners in Hopland to discuss plans for holding a new signature event at Campovida similar to the old days at Fetzer Valley Oaks with cooking demos, vendors and workshops.

The event would be on Saturday, Nov 12 during the Mushroom, Wine & Beer Festival. They inquired if MCTC could help provide funding to develop a new event. Will review policy with Festival Committee to bring to BOD for approval.

May 26

Winery Tours

Toured wine writer and rep from Delta Sky Magazine around with Bernadette from MWI. Visited Nelson Family Vineyards to see their new and improved wedding venue. Also visited with John Fetzer at Saracina Vineyards. John feels like Hopland is finally seeing the positive changes needed to bring it back to life as it was several years ago.

May 27

Django's

Visited and dined at new restaurant in Fort Bragg called Django's Rough Bar. Lovely spot right on the water at Noyo Harbor owned by Dusty Dillon. Discussed how to promote live music and boat rowing trips held on the weekends. Also discussed better ways to promote Noyo Harbor as a visitor destination. Agreed to set up a website listing focused on Noyo Harbor and the various activities and restaurants located there.

June 3

Celebration of Commerce

Helped Greater Ukiah Chamber of Commerce to set up their annual awards dinner.

June 7

Sheepdung Properties

Reached out to Sheepdung Properties about doing a site visit. Renee the office manager works part time so isn't always around but was willing to let me stop by and check out the properties in between guests.

Indian Creek Inn

Called Indian Creek Inn and spoke with Travis about meeting for a site visit. He indicated he is very busy at the moment and would prefer to meet next month.

June 8

Wildflower Boutique Motel

Called and spoke with owner Laura Cover at The Wildflower Boutique Motel. They have pushed the opening date back from July to September 2016. There will be a total of 14 rooms and in a couple of years they will complete renovations on the property across the street adding an additional 16 rooms. We discussed challenges over the loss of the 1% BID in Point Arena and how to work with key players in Point Arena to hopefully be able to include them as part of our promotional efforts in the future. Let Laura know that once they are open we would love to come visit and see the property.

Dolphin Isle Marina

Dined at Dolphin Isle and toured area. Inquired if they do any boat or RV rentals (they don't but referred me to someone who does RV rentals). Grabbed brochures for marketplace.

Liquid Fusion Kayaking

Jeff & Cate weren't in but helped some tourists with other suggestions on where to kayak, birdwatch and encouraged them to stop by the marketplace for more info.