

Sandy Chamber of Commerce gets groovy to help local charities

By Brenda Fisher

The beautiful gardens at La Caille were filled with bell bottoms and tie-dyed clothes as the Sandy Chamber of Commerce Foundation held its second annual 101 Ways to Give Back event Sept. 23. The event raised more than \$34,000 for local charities. Guests were asked to dress in 60s garb and had the opportunity to have their picture taken in a VW van photo booth and to test their skills with the hula hoop.

"What a great event," said Peggy Larson, Workers Compensation senior VP for marketing.

More than 100 corporations and individuals donated money and they doubled the attendees this year, said Brad Snow, chairman of the board. Helping out local businesses is what the Chamber of Commerce does. They have found their role in the community to be even more important with the downturn in the economy by supporting Sandy's charitable and educational causes that impact Sandy City.



Participants at the second annual 101 Ways to Give Back event pose in front of the VW photo booth. Party goers were asked to channel their inner hippies and come dressed in 60s garb. The event raised more than \$34,000 for local charities.

1. The foundation is currently reviewing applications for the funds raised and hopes to make a decision by the end of October. Last year, the Sandy Boys and Girls Club was the recipient of the money raised.

"It's been such a great event and we're happy to be able to give back to Sandy," foundation committee member Wanda Bolerjack said. "A lot of people aren't real-

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ly aware that we are doing this so we weren't inundated with requests this year. We hope to get the word out to help more people next year."

Organizations requesting funding were required to send a nomination letter that addressed how the money would be used in accordance with the foundation's goals, the number of individuals the money would benefit, recommendation letters, financial statements, and a budget detailing how the money will be spent if received.

The evening's festivities included live entertainment, food and a silent auction, which included an African safari, helicopter rides, a sushi dinner at the winner's home for 24 people prepared by a professional chef, and tickets to the Bees, Jazz and the Miller Motor Park. There and wellness packages from Alta View Hospital.

This year's event raised more money than the previous year and the foundation credits that partially to La Caille owner and Sandy Chamber Board of Directors member Steve Runolfson's willingness to not only host the event at La Caille, but also the restaurant offsetting a large portion of the event costs, which allowed more money to go to the charity. La Caille also donated hundreds of gift cards to the event.

"We feel that this is a great way to give back to the community that has helped us for so many years." Nancy Workman, president and CEO of the Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce said.