

### 1. Main Street Notes

All four committee for our program are busy working on their respective workplans for 2010. We are continuing to work with all of our Main Street property owners to gain their input into the direction for downtown. We also continue to engage the outlying businesses and residents to be certain their voices are heard too.

### 2. Educational Opportunities

There is a Main Street Quarterly Training session scheduled for March 30-31, 2010 in Owosso. The topics at these sessions are always interesting and I leave them with great ideas for helping our community.

As always, I continue to learn everything that I can about being a great Main Street Manager for our community. If you have a tidbit of knowledge or experience that you believe would help us, please feel free to share it with me, I will gladly utilize the information to our benefit!

### 3. Community

A committee has been formed for a National Night Out event on August 12, 2010. The Neighborhood Watch coordinator, Bob Andreotti, is spear-heading this event. The event will also be Clare's Safety & Crime Prevention Day. This is an opportunity to meet in a block-party atmosphere, with kid's carnival games, music, and lots of fun activities. Also, area law enforcement, rescue units, fire-departments, and other agencies will have informational displays at the event.

I continue to assist the Clare Area Chamber of Commerce through committee work and as a Board member. Also, I continue helping as the Program Director, and now Board member, for the Clare Rotary Club. As a reminder, I have developed a presentation to help people learn more about our DDA/Main Street Program. Please let me know whether there is a group or organization that would like to hear this presentation, I would be happy to present our information to them.

### 4. Committees

The Promotion Committee is continuing their marvelous work on the brand new Beat the Winter Blues Festival held February 12-13, 2010 was a big success. This event was super fun with Clare turning from green to blue for these two days! Stores offered Blue Tag Specials, restaurants ran Blue Plate Specials, some businesses provided free entertainment with Beat the Blues Music, and many stores and organizations held children's activities! A total of 35 businesses participated in the brochure that was produced for the event and many other businesses also participated throughout the community. Already, plans are underway for next year's event!

Also, the committee is working on the Irish Golf Scavenger Hunt which will be held in conjunction with the Irish Festival March 10-14, 2010.

The Design committee is working on having bicycle racks produced by a local business for downtown. These will be ready in the Spring when the Rail-Trail usage picks up again. They also continue to work on the National Register for Historic Places application. Steady progress is being made in the effort to complete the application to have our Main Street District listed on the National register for Historic Places. We are excited to be able to tell "the story of downtown Clare" for this purpose.

The Organization Committee has started "organizing" for the New Year. Projects they are currently working on are Clare Main Street's newsletter, Street Talk which will be available the first week in March.

In addition, the committee is working with the Clare Pride Day Committee. Plans are underway for this super cool event that will take place on April 22, 2010 which is Earth Day again this year. This award-winning project is exciting to work on, and the committee can't wait to see all of the volunteers! The committee is once again planning a volunteer recognition event during Clare Pride Day. Join us in celebrating all of our wonderful volunteers!

The committee is also working on some fund-raising ideas for 2010. Several really fun projects have been suggested and they welcome any new ideas. They are always looking for new committee members and volunteers and will welcome both with open arms.

The Economic Restructuring Committee is continuing to monitoring the Rental Rehab Program. A progress report will be presented when more activity takes place with this project.

Thank you for your dedication to our community and your support of our Main Street program. If I can assist you in any way please let me know.

Lori Schuh  
Main Street Manager