



Cranberry Festival Preview September 2012

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Visit the Wild Rivers Coast Alliance, title sponsor for the 2012 Cranberry Festival.

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Chamber membership makes good business sense for 2012 Grand Marshals Don and Marykay Whitmer.

It's almost time to flood the field and step into a pair of waders. The Southern Oregon Coast boasts some of the most fertile acreage in the state, producing the sweetest, brightest cranberries grown anywhere in the country. And harvest is right around the corner.

Since 1997, the Bandon Chamber of Commerce has organized the annual Bandon Cranberry Festival—66 years and going strong thanks to local cranberry growers, business owners and community partners.

Mark your calendars, then cast away to Cranberry Island!



**Find Festival
Updates Online**

2012 Festival Committee Members

Julie Miller, Executive Director
 Colleen Showalter,
 Festival Chairwoman
 Dan Barnett, Queen of the Kitchen
 Lynn Barnett, Queen of the Kitchen
 Cathy Bernal, Coronation
 Jami Gallagher, Marketing and
 Cranberry Eating Contest
 Al Greenfield, Music Chairman
 Grover Hatcher
 Jan Hester, Parade Chairwoman
 Robin Koch, Court and
 Coronation Chairwoman
 David Koch, Coronation
 Terrie Loomis, Administrative Support
 Jan Moore, Web Administration
 Chris Powell
 Clyde Showalter, Marketplace
 Joe Sinko
 Karen Sinko
 Bart Stein, Not-for-Profit Chairman
 Wanda Young, Photo Contest
 Anthony Zunino, Parking and Security



"They just rock it out," said Festival Chairwoman Colleen Showalter, talking up the 2012 festival committee. "We have a fun event because of their commitment."

The festival is all about cranberries—the food, the harvest, the heritage. Showalter is proud of the professional and personal stamp each committee member places on the festival.

"I love seeing new events and reinvention of old events," she said.

When committee members take the reins, Showalter sits back and waits to be wowed. In the last two years, the Cranberry Eating Contest has emerged as the most-attended event in the Old Town Marketplace. According to 2012 Miss Oregon Nicole Mead, Miss Oregon winners look forward to their visits to Bandon. Where else can they don a crown and dive into a bowl of cranberries?

From the Queen of the Kitchen competition to Cranberry Row, the 2012 list of events is longer than ever before. Showalter said it's her turn as Festival Director to act as keeper of the tradition. And she hopes to do as well as the generations before her.

Images cover photo Wood Sabold; page 2 court photo Angela Cardas, Cardas Photography; page 3 harvest photo detail Wood Sabold, contributed photo Jim Seeley; page 4 parade photos Geneva Miller, marketplace photo Robin Koch; page 5 marketplace photo Julie Miller, court photo Angela Cardas; page 6 contributed photo Don Whitmer



Connecting with sponsors is one of the most highly anticipated elements in each year's festival planning. The title sponsor grant awarded by Wild Rivers Coast Alliance for the 2012 Cranberry Festival benefits both the alliance and Bandon's business community.

Funded by proceeds from the new 13 hole Bandon Preserve course at Bandon Dunes Golf Resort, WRCA seeks projects that promote long term ecological conservation and economic vitality on the Southern Oregon Coast.

"We're the vehicle that (owner Mike Keiser) has chosen to have the resort philanthropically involved in the future," said WRCA Executive Director Jim Seeley.

Seeley said Cranberry Festival sponsorship meets two WRCA objectives. Shared festival marketing builds the WRCA audience and promotes local tourism.

Of course, Seeley is also interested in cranberries. He took the WRCA post in January and now works with members of the alliance steering committee and potential grant recipients. Visiting farms and touring rivers and streams helps him understand how local landscapes have developed through successive generations.

2012 will be Seeley's first Cranberry Festival. But don't look for him at the WRCA booth. He'll be out in the Marketplace, eager to meet visitors, local business people and cranberry growers—and answer questions about WRCA.

**Title Sponsor:
Wild Rivers
Coast Alliance**



"We do look for the triple bottom line like it says on our logo: community, conservation and economy." Jim Seeley, Executive Director, Wild Rivers Coast Alliance

<http://wildriverscoastalliance.com>





2012 Officers

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Vice President
Margaret Pounder

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Cathy Underdown

Treasurer
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Johnna Hickox

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Peter Braun
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Chris Powell
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Executive Director
Julie Miller

Legal Counsel
Robert S. Miller III



TALK OF THE TOWN

Know an avid photographer?
Expert chef?

There's a festival event for
everybody!

Plan ahead and pass the word:

- Sea Port Airlines Raffle
Tickets on sale now! Tickets available at the Visitors Center or contact your local Cranberry Court Members
- Parade Registration Entry Form, deadline August 26
- Queen of the Kitchen Contest Entry Information
- Cranberry Photo Contest Registration
- Lions Cranberry Run Registration
- Coronation Tickets available at the Visitors Center or contact your local Cranberry Court Members

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five for \$20
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Save the Date

Festival Events

September 7, 8, 9

Friday

9 AM to 3 PM
Queen of the Kitchen
Cranberry Food Fair at
Harbortown Events
Center

11 AM
Blessing of the Harvest
NE 2nd St & Ohio Ave

7 PM
Cranberry Court
Coronation at Sprague
Community Theater,
Bandon City Park

Saturday

10 AM
Cranberry Festival
Parade along Highway
101 and 1st Street

10 AM to 5 PM
Old Town Festival
Marketplace, Cranberry
City, Tractor Show,
Children's Activities,
Cranberry Eating
Contest, Live Music

10 AM to 5 PM
Queen of the Kitchen
Cranberry Food Fair at
Harbortown Events
Center

Saturday cont.
5 PM
Cranberry Bowl Football
Game at Bandon High
School

Sunday

10 AM to 5 PM
Old Town Festival

10 AM to 5 PM
Queen of the Kitchen
Cranberry Food Fair at
Harbortown Events
Center

More Bandon Events

Bandon Historical
Society Museum
Cranberry Court
Dresses Past and
Present, September 1 –
15, 10 AM to 4 PM,
Monday through
Saturday, Highway 101
and Fillmore Ave, \$2
adult admission,
children free

Ladies Auxiliary VFW
3440 Craft Bazaar,
Friday, Saturday and
Sunday, 9 AM to 3 PM,
VFW Hall, Bates Road

Bandon Quilt Guild
Show, Friday through
Sunday, 10 AM to 4 PM,
Oddfellows Hall,
Highway 42S,
\$2 admission

More Events cont.
Farmers Market, Friday
10 AM to 4 PM,
Saturday and Sunday
9 AM to 3 PM, Port of
Bandon Old Town
Marketplace

Disk Golf, Saturday,
1 PM, Bandon City Park
Baseball Diamond, bring
your own disk

Ladies Auxiliary VFW
3440 Breakfast, Sunday,
8:30 to 11:30 AM, VFW
Hall, Bates Road

Bandon Lions Cranberry
Run, Sunday, 2 PM,
Bandon City Park



"I believe in what the chamber does," said Don Whitmer.



**2012 Cranberry Festival
Parade Grand Marshals
Marykay and Don
Whitmer, owners, Big
Wheel General Store in
Old Town Bandon**

Big Wheel owners Don and Marykay Whitmer are Bandon's 2012 Cranberry Festival Parade Grand Marshals. Chamber President Bart Stein said Don and Marykay's professional success reflects their expert marketing and ethical approach to business.

"They are so willing to help other people with ideas," Stein said.

Don believes chamber membership is essential because it provides opportunities to explore business building ideas.

Don and Marykay purchased the Big Wheel General Store and joined the Bandon chamber in 1986. Both are chamber volunteers. Don served as a board member from 1986 to 2011. He is proud of the chamber's evolution in recent years and said he's happy to see new members volunteering with the chamber and the Cranberry Festival.

The invitation to join the 2012 festival as grand marshals was a surprise for the couple. And they look forward to lots of smiling and waving in the parade.

"It's nice to be recognized," said Don.



**BANDON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
POST OFFICE BOX 1515
BANDON OR 97411**