



CHAMBER NEWSLETTER

CHAMBER NEWS



Travis Palmer,
Executive Director

Note from the Director

Our free summer concert series at Bohemia Park has begun and the Main Street Chili Cook-off is just around the corner. With numerous community events on the horizon such as Bohemia Mining Days, Wings & Wheels, Art Walk Fridays, racing at the speedway, KNND's Rock, Roll, 'N Rumble Car Show and several others, you can easily guarantee yourself a busy and fun-filled summer without even leaving town. That is of course if you don't let yourself get beat by the heat.

The summer temperatures have come up fast and the high heat seems to be the talk of the town, especially when it comes to attendance at outdoor events. Not surprisingly, there are two very different conversational themes taking place, depending on where you happen to join in with the discussion. If at the office water cooler or from behind a computer screen, the conversation will likely be about how unbearable the heat is and how anyone would be crazy to want to go outside and sit in the sun. On the other hand, if you go to any of the events and talk to the people that are there, they'll be more likely to talk about the cool breeze that blows across the pond and over the crowd at Bohemia Park. They'll talk about how quickly it cools off when the sun is at your back as the races begin at Cottage Grove Speedway and they'll talk about how an umbrella can be just as useful in the sun as it is in the rain.

I have a theory about why the second group has such a different conversation from the first group. Sure some people can handle heat better than others but at the end of the day, heat is heat, and people are people. The difference is that the second group (whether they know it or not) has resolved to embrace the heat and do what they want to do regardless of what the thermometer tells them. They can't control what Mother Nature has planned but they

know what they can do to handle it. If they don't want too much sun, they use sunscreen, find some shade or they bring their own. If they want to cool down, they drink ice water, dress appropriately, and use those handy neck coolers that really do make a difference. The point is that they control what they can, and acknowledge what they can't. They go into the situation with the expectation that even though there are obstacles to being comfortable and having a good time, they have prepared themselves are ready for whatever may come.

The philosophy of "control what you can and be ready for what you can't" has the power to affect far more than the ability to have a great time at an outdoor event. If applied properly, it can make you a better business person, a stronger community leader and it can even lower your stress levels and change your outlook on life. In life and in business, there will always be a heat wave from time to time. Some people will choose to stay indoors and wait for the heat to end and others will head right out into it and do what they can to avoid getting burned. No one can say which choice is right and which is wrong, but you can bet that when the two groups of people talk about their experiences, their conversations will be very different.

Travis Palmer, Executive Director
Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce

July Business After Hours

This month Lane Electric Cooperative will host Business after Hours on Thursday, July 16 from 5:30 – 7:00pm, at Coiner Park. Bring your business card to enter the door prize drawing, learn something new, and have some fun! Your attendance reinforces the spirit in which the Chamber provides these monthly activities. We look forward to seeing you there! Many thanks to those who support our efforts by attending this Chamber program.

Main Street Chili Cook Off

The Main Street Chili Cook Off along with KNND's Rock, Roll N' Rumble will fill the streets of Historic Downtown on July 25, 2015. We hope you'll join us and enter your favorite chili against your friends and neighbors in this year's cook off! We're pleased to hold this event in conjunction with KNND's Rock, Roll N' Rumble and look forward to a big crowd! Cook your chili on-site or cook it at home. Either way we want you to enjoy an afternoon of fun!

This is how it works

- Tasting kits are sold at the information booth.
- Each kit includes three tasting cups, one voting ticket, a spoon & napkin.
- Those who purchase the kits will present a tasting cup for a taste of chili at the chili booth(s) of their choice.
- The public must present an unused tasting cup for each taste.
- Tasting cups are not allowed to be reused.
- For every three tastes, the public gets one vote for their favorite. The more tasting kits purchased, the more chili gets tasted, and the more votes get cast!
- Chili is also collected for judging by a panel of judges.
- Contestants are encouraged to provide "extras" to serve with the chili (i.e. cheese, onions, crackers, etc.)
- Contestants are encouraged to decorate as there will be judging for Most Festive booth in addition to awards for Judges Choice, and People's Choice. Awards are presented at the end of the day.

We encourage churches, restaurants, financial institutions, and any other groups to find your favorite recipe and challenge your peers to a cook-off! Start thinking now about how you will decorate your booth for a chance at the Most Festive Booth award in addition to Judges Choice and People's Choice Awards. So pull out your recipes and form your teams. We need your CHILI and those secret ingredients that make this event a success! Entry forms are available at the Visitor Center, 700 E. Gibbs or on the chamber website www.cgchamber.com.

It Just Gets Better and Better

The Bohemia Park Foundation continues to develop the Bohemia Park for the community's enjoyment. Their newest addition will be chess tables and we're helping them celebrate

with a Ribbon Cutting/Dedication ceremony at Bohemia Park, 101 N. 10th Street, date to be announced. We hope you'll join us!

MEMBER NEWS

Renewing Members:

Friends of the Cottage Grove Public Library, Cottage Grove Moose Lodge, Pure Naturopathic Healthcare, Best Little Printhouse, Universal Trucking.

Thank you for your continuous support of our efforts through your membership and your commitment to helping make Cottage Grove a better place to live and do business!

We encourage you to support Chamber member businesses and our local economy and

"Shop Chamber Members first"!

A Better Way to Light Your Business

- Submitted by Pacific Power

A typical retail establishment operates its lighting more than 5,000 hours a year. With that many hours of operation, there's ample opportunity to realize savings from energy-efficient lighting improvements.

Besides saving money each month on your electric bill, upgrading to high-efficiency lighting can make your workplace safer and reduce maintenance costs. It can also make your workforce more comfortable and productive. The right lighting can improve the appeal and color of displayed merchandise and help drive sales.

Pacific Power and Energy Trust of Oregon team up to connect you with contractors, cash incentives and ways to make your business more profitable by making it more energy efficient. To learn more about incentives for efficient lighting and other equipment, visit bewattsmart.com.

| 2015 Visitor Center Stats | 5/29 Thru 6/25 | YTD |
|------------------------------|----------------|-------|
| Phone calls | 210 | 1491 |
| Walk-In Visitors | 454 | 2125 |
| Relocate Requests | 1 | 14 |
| Visitor Requests | 5 | 26 |
| Referrals to Chamber Members | 130 | 681 |
| 2015 Website Stats | | |
| Business Directory Searches | 1039 | 5854 |
| Members Listed in Results | 2895 | 20666 |
| Member Page Views | 1078 | 9132 |
| Links to Member Website | 161 | 1087 |
| Event Searches | 1755 | 8750 |
| Event Page Hits | 1042 | 4044 |
| Hot Deal Searches | 48 | 282 |
| Job Searches | 30 | 195 |



2015 Chamber Board of Directors: Thank you for your hours upon hours of volunteer time, commitment, and service!

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Paul Tocco, Vice President
Amanda Akers, Treasurer
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Buster's Main Street Cafe
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City of Cottage Grove
South Valley Athletics
Retired, Past Board President
Shampoo Dolls Salon
Fort Rock Construction
Retired, Past Board President
CJW, LLC

2015 Chamber Board of Directors, Advisors and Staff

Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce

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PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center

City of Cottage Grove

City of Cottage Grove

South Lane School District

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