



# CHAMBER NEWSLETTER

**Our Mission:** The Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce is organized to promote the economy and business environment of the Cottage Grove area so its citizens and businesses will prosper.

## Director's Note

### No on 97, Yes on 98

One of the goals the Chamber's Board of Directors set for this year was to "Increase communication with our members about legislative issues that affect business." To achieve that goal we formed a Legislative Committee which has been following many of the proposals being discussed by our representatives in Salem. There are two particular issues that our members asked us to take a much closer look at and if warranted, take a position to either support or oppose.

The Legislative Committee first examined Measure 98, which aims to improve vocational and career-technical education for all Oregon Students. Deep budget cuts over the last two decades have eliminated many of the career and technical education programs that would help students who may not be planning to go to college but instead want to pursue skilled labor or trades such as welding, fabricating, etc. Measure 98 will bring back many of these lost programs and will add much needed technology to make Oregon students more competitive in the workplace after graduation. Because Measure 98 "does not create any new taxes or take away money from other programs," our board of Directors voted to SUPPORT Measure 98. It "directs new state revenue to three things: career-technical education, college-level classes and high school dropout prevention." Regular audits and strong accountability procedures give us confidence that in this case the money will actually go where it is intended.

Measure 97 was also examined in depth by the Chamber's Legislative Committee but in this case, their recommendation was to oppose the measure and after discussion by our Board of Directors, the Chamber indeed voted to take a position to VOTE AGAINST Measure 97. While the issues surrounding this measure are quite complicated and the information circulating on both sides are very contradictory to each other, there are a few simple reasons why we oppose 97. First, this would be the largest single tax increase in Oregon's history at a staggering 33% approximate increase. Second, because of the way this proposed tax is structured, it does not fairly assess the tax to all "big corporations" equally. It depends on what classification of corporation they are, so two similarly sized companies could be taxed very differently. Finally, multiple sources of legal counsel agree that there are no guarantees that the money will be used for Education, Healthcare, and Senior Services as the measure suggests. It should be noted that everyone on our board would like to see more funding for the three aforementioned categories, but Measure 97 is simply the wrong tool for the job.

We at the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce hope you will take the time to personally study these and all other legislative matters before you vote. For those who haven't been able to do the research yourselves, we offer these two positions as a collection of opinions from representatives of the local business community. We hope you'll join us in voting No on Measure 97 and Yes on Measure 98.

### Board Member Election Results

Reaching out to our members seeking those who will serve on the board for a two year term begins in July each year. A slate of candidates is presented to the board by the nomination

committee. Because we are a membership organization, our members have the right to petition additional names of candidates to serve on the Chamber Board. As there were no petitions filed, board nominations are closed and the nominated slate of candidates was declared elected by the Board of Directors at the October board meeting. Those who will serve for the 2017/2018 term are:

- Danny Solesbee – 5 Flying Monkeys
- Don Williams – Retired, Past President
- Gary Manly – Cottage Grove Sentinel
- Judd Van Gorder – Carousel Delicatessen & Ice Cream Shoppe

A special thanks to you for your commitment to our community and assisting in our goal to make Cottage Grove a better place to live and do business!

### Be seen and be safe this fall with FREE lights!

With shorter days upon us, more children and parents may find themselves traveling home in the dark or stormy weather. Point2point at Lane Transit District and Oregon Department of Transportation wants to help pedestrians and cyclists stay safe during the darker winter hours. Staff will be distributing FREE bike and walking lights, in Cottage Grove during a "Be Seen Be Safe Light Giveaway" event on Thursday, November 17, 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm at the Bohemia Park Shelter. Whether you walk, bike, or skate, you need to be seen to be safe. While supplies last. Additional Information: Contact Cammie Harris at 541.682.6206 or E-mail: [cammie.harris@ldt.org](mailto:cammie.harris@ldt.org).

### Christmas in Cottage Grove – December 3rd

Bundle up and join us for some family fun! To kick of the day, have breakfast with Santa at the Fire Station, take advantage of various merchant discounts, participate in a scavenger hunt, have your picture taken with Santa after the tree lighting ceremony, tour Dr. Snapp's House on River Road and find that special gift for someone on your shopping list at their annual bazaar. This year the downtown Christmas tree will be located at the All-America Square on the corner of 7th & Main. What a great way to start the Christmas season!

### A Special Thanks!

During this season of Thanksgiving we want to offer a special thanks to the following businesses for their expression of confidence over the years through continuous support with their membership of 25 years or more!

### Chamber Awards & Installation Banquet – January 21, 2017

Plan to attend the 2017 Chamber Awards and Installation Banquet - "A Red Carpet Event". The event will be held at the Cottage Grove Armory and will prove to be an evening to remember! Awards for Business of the Year, Non Profit of the Year, and First Citizen are among the recognitions presented and we need your help. Please be thinking about who you will nominate. Deadline for nominations is November 14th. Nomination forms are available on the Chamber Programs tab at [www.cgchamber.com](http://www.cgchamber.com), pick one up at the Chamber Office, 700 E. Gibbs, or request one by email to [beth@cgchamber.com](mailto:beth@cgchamber.com).

## SMITH-LUND-MILLS FUNERAL CHAPEL & CREMATORIUM

### Celebrating 50 Years as a Chamber Member!

Dot's Trophy Shop .....	35 years
Banner Bank.....	34 years
Birch Avenue Dental, Inc. ....	34 years
Buller, Wuite, Olsson & Rosenberg PC, CPAs .....	34 years
Cottage Grove Sentinel .....	34 years
First American Title Insurance Company .....	34 years
Les Schwab Tire Centers.....	34 years
Northwest Community Credit Union.....	34 years
Northwest Natural .....	34 years
Pacific Yurts, Inc. ....	34 years
PayneWest Insurance .....	34 years
RG Media Company .....	34 years
Safeway .....	34 years
South Lane School District .....	34 years
Umpqua Bank .....	34 years
Weyerhaeuser Company.....	34 years
Emerald People's Utility District.....	32 years
Starfire Lumber Company.....	32 years
The Flower Basket & Gift Boutique.....	32 years
Jim's Point S Tire and Auto Service.....	31 years
McDonald's Restaurant.....	31 years
Charter Spectrum .....	30 years
Cottage Grove Ranger Station .....	30 years
Lane Community College Cottage Grove Center .....	30 years
PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center .....	30 years
KNND 1400AM.....	29 years
Pacific Power.....	29 years
Coast Fork Nursing Center, Inc.....	28 years
South Lane Wheels, Inc. ....	28 years
Hoyer Accounting .....	27 years
Auto Art Body & Paint, Inc. ....	26 years
Gifford & Gifford LLP, Attorneys at Law.....	26 years
Carl's Jr. ....	25 years
Farmers Insurance Group.....	25 years

### "Think Local Shop Cottage Grove" – The Gift Certificate Program is a Member Benefit Highlight

As a chamber we strive to educate the community of the value of supporting our local merchants the Gift Certificate Program is one way we encourage shopping local. Purpose: 1. Promote shopping at CG Chamber Member businesses. 2. Support chamber members with dollars spent in Cottage Grove.

This program makes gift giving easy while supporting local merchants and it promotes "Shop Chamber Members First." To become a participating business, contact the Chamber at 541-942-2411.

Participating businesses to date are:

- Apothecaria
- Books on Main
- Boyce & Sons, Inc.
- Buster's Main Street Café
- Carousel Delicatessen & Ice Cream Shoppe
- Cascade Home Center
- CG Habitat for Humanity
- D & D Automotive
- Dirtcheapcopies.com
- Earthclick.net
- El Tapatio
- Lavender Field Embroidery
- Pinocchio's Pizza

- Safeway
- South Lane Wheels
- Territorial Seed Company
- The Bookmine
- The Espresso Bar'n
- The Flower Basket
- Wal-Mart

### Residential Lighting Contest

Organized by the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by: Pacific Power, Lane Electric Cooperative, and Emerald People's Utility District

\*Open to any residence within 5 miles (by road) of Cottage Grove' City Limits

\*Decorations must be visible from the street

\*1st 2nd and 3rd place prizes will be awarded

Nominations must be submitted by 5:00pm, Monday December 19, 2016 to the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce, by mail 700 E. Gibbs, phone (541) 942-2411, or email to [info@cgchamber.com](mailto:info@cgchamber.com).

### Cottage Grove Residential Lighting Contest Nomination Form

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contestants may self-nominate  
Return to 700 E. Gibbs Avenue Cottage Grove, OR 97424  
541-942-2411 or [info@cgchamber.com](mailto:info@cgchamber.com)



## 2016 Chamber Board of Directors, Advisors and Staff

### Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce

700 E. Gibbs • Cottage Grove, OR

[info@cgchamber.com](mailto:info@cgchamber.com) • [www.cgchamber.com](http://www.cgchamber.com)

P. (541) 942-2411

**2016 Chamber Board of Directors:** Thank you for your hours upon hours of volunteer time, commitment, and service!

#### Officers

- |                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Joe Raade, President             | South Lane County Fire & Rescue |
| Candace Solesbee, Vice President | Shampoo Dolls Salon             |
| Rhonda Worley, Secretary         | CJW, LLC                        |
| Amanda Akers, Treasurer          | Commonwealth Financial Network  |

#### Directors

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Chloe Bekes     | Jack Sprats                              |
| Dean Kruschke   | Cascade Home Center                      |
| Lindsay Laycock | Lindsay Laycock – Keller Williams Realty |
| Gary Manly      | Cottage Grove Sentinel                   |
| Cameron Reiten  | KNND                                     |
| Danny Solesbee  | Five Flying Monkeys                      |
| Don Williams    | Retired, Past Board President            |
| Lloyd Williams  | South Lane Television                    |
| Judd Van Gorder | Carousel Delicatessen & Ice Cream Shoppe |

#### Advisors

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Diana Knous      | Pacific Power                                      |
| Garrett Bridgens | South Lane School District                         |
| Mayor Tom Munroe | City of Cottage Grove                              |
| Richard Meyers   | City of Cottage Grove                              |
| Shauna Neigh     | Cottage Grove Main Street Program                  |
| Tim Herrmann     | PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center |

#### Visitor Center Volunteers:

- Heidi Abbott, Dotti Bittner, Tara Sue Hughart, Susan Jeppesen, Suzy Kanich, Marie Longfellow, Jennifer Robinson, Sharon Van Gorder, Jim Vander Plaats, Sherry Wendt, Penny Westling, Nolene Wheeler.

#### Staff:

- |               |                    |
|---------------|--------------------|
| Travis Palmer | Executive Director |
| Beth Martin   | Office Manager     |
| Mavis Bradsby | Bookkeeper         |

#### 2016 Chamber Goals

- Increase membership by 25/year
- Increase networking opportunities by one/month
- Increase advertising efforts outside Cottage Grove
- Organize and be viewed as a business conduit and resource for businesses
- Improve communication about legislative issues affecting business