



# CHAMBER NEWSLETTER

**Our Mission: The Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce promotes economic vitality through advocacy and collaboration with its members and the larger community.**



**Travis Palmer,  
Executive Director**

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE:

**Want to know what to look forward to in Cottage Grove this summer?**

In addition to a summer schedule packed with events, the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce is working to bring our members more networking opportunities, more training opportunities and more information about local, state and federal issues that affect small businesses. Here are just a few of the events to look forward to this summer in Cottage Grove:

April 8th – Season Opener at Cottage Grove Speedway Fast paced, high-octane action on one of the fastest ¼ mile dirt tracks in the Pacific Northwest!

April 22nd – Earth Day in Coiner Park and a group clean-up of the Historic District.

April 28th - Art Walk begins in Cottage

Grove's Historic District

On the last Friday of each month through October, local businesses stay open late and display the works of local artisans and craftsmen. 6-8pm at participating businesses. Look for the yellow flags!

May 21st – The Oregon Gran Fondo

This Italian-style bicycle event is great for families as well as experienced racers. Pick your course and ride some of the most scenic areas in Cottage Grove and all of Oregon.

May 29th – Memorial Day Celebration hosted by the Cottage Grove chapters of American Legion and VFW.

June 1st through 4th – Davis Shows Northwest Carnival in Bohemia Park.

June 24th – Cottage Grove Wings & Wheels at the Cottage Grove Airport

Aircraft and autos, modern and vintage on display from 11am to 4pm

June 28th through August 30th – Concerts in the Park at the Bohemia Park Amphitheater

FREE, family friendly outdoor concerts from 6:30-8pm (weather permitting) Bring the family, unplug, and enjoy great music and fun every Wednesday night.

July 7th & 8th – The Cottage Grove Rodeo

July 13th through 16th – Bohemia Mining Days at Coiner and Bohemia Parks.

Music, entertainment, games, food, vendors, a carnival and more. Don't miss the Grand Miner's Parade on Saturday!

July 22nd – The Chamber of Commerce Main Street Chili Cook-Off

Paired with KNND's Rock, Roll, 'N Rumble Car Show and Cruise, both events will take place in Historic Downtown Cottage Grove on Main Street. Cool cars and hot chili make this a good time for the entire family! All Day Saturday. The cruise starts at 6pm.

Also on July 22nd – The Rolf Prima Tri At The Grove

A top rated triathlon featuring Cottage Grove Lake and surrounding areas

July 24th – The Eugene Symphony returns to the Bohemia Park Amphitheater for a fantastic and FREE performance.

August 5th & 6th – Jim Wright Memorial Stearman Fly-In at the Cottage Grove Airport

Vintage Stearman aircraft on display and Biplane rides

August 18th through 20th – Western Oregon Exposition Family Heritage Fair and Timber Show

Crafts, livestock, fruits & vegetables, vendors, games, timber sports and more.

**For details on these and other events, go to [www.cgchamber.com](http://www.cgchamber.com) and check out our community events calendar. Add your events to the community calendar for free!**

## APRIL BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Cottage Grove Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Ram will host Business After Hours on Thursday, April 20 from 5:30 – 7:00pm, 2800 Row River Road. Please join us for a time to network with others, learn something new, and have some fun! And don't forget your business card to enter the door prize drawing. Your attendance reinforces the spirit in which the Chamber provides these monthly activities. Cottage Grove and Creswell Chamber members are encouraged to attend this classic, fun networking event!

## MEMBER NEWS

The chamber's number one goal is to create a strong local economy. All of the programs and benefits supported by your membership investment go toward achieving that goal. Your membership is also a commitment to the entire community and a pledge of support for the economic growth and vitality of the Cottage Grove area. Thank you! We look forward to a successful and profitable year!

## LOOKING FOR A WAY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

Chamber members and their employees can participate on any of the Chamber committees. Below are our current chamber committees and their purpose.

**Budget And Finance Committee** - Meets monthly at the Chamber office

This committee is responsible for assisting the Treasurer and the Executive Director with the creation of the annual budget for adoption by the Board. The committee will make recommendations regarding funding and support, as well as financial practices for the benefit of the Board, Treasurer, and Executive Director.

**Bylaws/Policies & Procedures Committee** – This committee meets as needed at least once annually and is responsible for review and recommendation to the Board of updates, as necessary annually, of the Chamber Bylaws and Policies & Procedures. The Committee will also make sure that where correlation between the two documents is necessary that one will accurately support and reflect the other.

**Chamber Greeters** - Meets Monthly

The purpose of the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce Greeters Committee is to aid the Chamber in welcoming new businesses to the area, assisting the Executive Director to gain new members to the Chamber as well as to the Greeters, manage ribbon cuttings and Business After Hours functions, offer support at events, maintain the Greeter's float and participate in fund raising for the Greeters Scholarship Program.

**Promotions Committee** - Meets monthly at various locations

The purpose of the promotions committee is to support and promote the Chamber through community events, fundraisers, and such other activities that support the Chamber's mission and role within the community. Some of those events include but are not limited to: The Annual Awards & Installation Banquet, the Main Street Chili Cook-Off and Christmas in Cottage Grove

**Membership Committee** – Meets monthly at various locations. The purpose of the Membership committee is to maintain and promote the growth of the Chamber membership. The membership committee will seek to create and foster member benefit programs and member activities in keeping with the Chamber mission, which includes membership enhancement events, review of the membership dues structure, membership mentoring and the creation of a membership orientation program.

**Training & Education Committee** – Meets monthly. This committee is responsible for the development, promotion and implementation of member education opportunities such as forums, orientation, and other activities as requested for the benefit of our members.

**Government Advocacy/Legislative Affairs Committee** – Meets monthly. This committee monitors local, state and national legislative matters that effect our local business community. Issues can be brought to the committee for investigation and/or they can choose to focus on issues that they believe our members want more information about. The committee can also make recommendations to the Chamber's Board of Directors for further discussion and possible political action.

**Tourism Committee** Meets monthly in the Shepherd Room at the Community Center. The purpose of the Tourism Committee is to develop and market the "Cottage Grove Brand" and support visitor readiness. The tourism committee will assist the director in marketing and advertising of tourism related events.

## TURN COMMUTE TIME INTO ME TIME

Are you commuting from the Cottage Grove area to Eugene? Why not join a vanpool with other commuters like you? Vanpooling is a cost efficient, relaxing, and comfortable way to travel to and from work. Reclaim hundreds of hours each year for reading, napping, or chatting with your fellow vanpoolers.

Valley VanPool is coordinating a new vanpool route from Cottage Grove to Eugene. The cost of the vanpool includes the lease, maintenance and fuel, and is divided among the riders of the group. Valley VanPool also provides a monthly subsidy to further reduce the monthly cost of commuting. The monthly rate of a Cottage Grove to Eugene vanpool will be about \$70 - \$125, depending on the number of riders.

Commuters find that vanpooling allows them to relax, read, work, or even sleep instead of fighting traffic on the way to work. *"Since riding in the vanpool, I have made new acquaintances, been more productive with my commuting time (can check mail and do work), and arrive at the office rested and ready to focus on the day's work,"* says Ollie, a Eugene to Salem vanpooler.

For more information please call 541-682-6183 or email [vanpool@ltd.org](mailto:vanpool@ltd.org)

## 2017 Chamber Board of Directors, Advisors and Staff

### Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce

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**Chamber Members! Give us a call if you want to learn how to maximize your presence on our website:**

- Enhance your home page information with pictures and text
- Post hot deals, job openings, and events
- Add keywords to help consumers find you when they run searches
- Run reports to see statistics for your home page



### 2017 Chamber Board of Directors:

Thank you for your hours upon hours of volunteer time, commitment, and service!

#### Officers

Candace Solesbee, President

Chloe Beckes, Vice President

Ruth Linoz, Secretary

Gary Manly, Treasurer

Joe Raade, Past President

Shampoo Dolls Salon

Jack Sprats

South Lane Wheels

Cottage Grove Sentinel

South Lane County Fire & Rescue

#### Directors

Ryan Gifford

Dean Kruschke

Layla Beth Munk

Danny Solesbee

Don Williams

Lloyd Williams

Judd Van Gorder

Gifford & Gifford Attorneys at Law

Cascade Home Center

CG Body Studio

Five Flying Monkeys

Retired, Past Board President

South Lane Television

Carousel House B&B and Catering

#### Advisors

Tim Herrmann

Diana Knous

Richard Meyers/Mike Fleck

Garrett Bridgens

PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center

Pacific Power

City of Cottage Grove

South Lane School District

#### Visitor Center Volunteers:

Heidi Abbott, Dotti Bittner, Tara Sue

Hughart, Susan Jeppesen, Suzy Kanich,

Marie Longfellow, Judd Van Gorder,

Sharon Van Gorder, Penny Westling,

Nolene Wheeler.

#### Staff:

Travis Palmer, Executive Director

Beth Martin, Office Manager

Mavis Bradsby, Bookkeeper

#### Five Year Vision Statement:

The Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce promotes Cottage Grove as a prosperous destination community. Economic vitality is at the heart of everything we do. As a resource for businesses, we are the conduit that provides advocacy, marketing, education, and networking opportunities to over 300 members.