



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.

Director’s Note

Last weekend, our Board of Directors convened for a strategic planning retreat. This annual meeting gives us the opportunity to review and re-establish a plan for how The Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce will promote our member businesses and advance commerce in the community. We looked at our core competencies, which are:

- a) Advancing a vibrant and prosperous local economy,
- b) Representing business interests to government,
- c) Promoting the community,
- d) Connecting businesses and people.

We spent a great deal of time discussing the current status of the Chamber as well as any possible course corrections that should be made about how we attempt to achieve our goals. We looked at the goals set during last year’s retreat and analyzed our successes and failures. There are four objectives that the board identified as areas to focus attention and effort:

- 1. Value proposition to our members
- 2. Organizational health and sustainability
- 3. Member recruitment and retention
- 4. Tourism

As the Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, my job is to use available resources to further the mission and goals of the organization to the best of my abilities. I report to, and take direction from the Chamber’s Board of Directors, which is comprised of up to 15 people who represent the local business community. At the Chamber of Commerce, we need your feedback, as well as your support. We strongly encourage all of our member businesses to provide insight and suggestions about how the Chamber of Commerce should try to establish a stronger and more diverse business community. If you like what we are doing, tell other business owners and encourage them to join the Chamber of Commerce and support our efforts. The ongoing economic development of Cottage Grove depends on support and engagement from the entire business community. If you have ideas about how to improve our organization, please contact the chamber office or one of our board members and let us know what we can do to better serve your business. If you are not a member of the Chamber of Commerce and you want to talk about how to shape the future of Cottage Grove’s economy, please contact the Chamber office or one of our board members about how to become a member and get involved. If your business is struggling, it’s time to take a hard look at your business plan and make some important decisions about how you want your business to evolve and how you can help the entire community to move forward at the same time. This month’s Director’s Note is a call to action. For our members, we are calling upon you to engage in the conversation and make sure our board members know how to best represent your interests in the community. For those who are not yet members of the chamber, we challenge you to step up and make a commitment to support the organization that is working every day to help you succeed. Those who show up, and those who speak up are the ones whose voice and ideas will be heard. I want to thank all of the businesses and individuals who improve the local economy through their membership in the Chamber of Commerce. Please visit www.cgchamber.com to see a complete list of our members and help us thank them for making Cottage Grove a better place to live, work, and conduct business.

Chamber Board Election Results

The Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce

is a nonprofit membership organization 501 (c) (6). The role of the Board of Directors is to advise, govern, oversee policy and direction, and assist with the leadership and general promotion of the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce so as to support the organization’s mission and needs. All nonprofit boards are responsible for setting policy. However, members of “working boards” such as ours are responsible for implementing the policy as well.

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. Those who will serve in 2019 are:

- Cameron Reiten** - KNND
- Cassandra Washburn**- Oregon Aviation Historical Society
- Chloe Beckes** - Jack Sprats
- Danny Solesbee** - 5 Flying Monkeys
- Gary Manly** - Cottage Grove Sentinel
- Judd Van Gorder** - Carousel House B&B & Catering
- Kate Brown** - Brunneis, Pacific NW Productions
- Ruth Linoz** - South Lane Wheels
- Ryan Gifford** - Gifford & Gifford Attorneys At Law
- Stan Simonsen** - Cascade Home Center

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!

Chamber Board of Directors Retreat

We’d like to offer special thanks to Enhanced Members Cottage Grove Sentinel, Lane Electric, and Pacific Power for supporting our annual Board of Directors Retreat. This meeting is of significant importance to the Chamber because it sets the course and the tone for how we will offer support to the local business community. At the retreat our board members get an in depth look at Chamber bylaws as well as the annual budget. They look at the previous years’ successes and failures and determine each committee’s goals for the upcoming year. We sincerely appreciate the time and dedication that each of our board members brings to the table. Without their efforts, the Cottage Grove business community would not be what it is today. Thanks again to our sponsor, supporters, and those who volunteer their time and knowledge to make this all possible.

Support Chamber member businesses and our local economy - “Shop Local and Shop Chamber Members first”! - With the arrival of fall, we are reminded of the season of thanksgiving and all that we have to be thankful for. The Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce would like to send our members a special thank you. Thank you for participating in chamber membership, by doing so you are also participating in the economic growth and development of the Cottage Grove community. After all, when you own a local business where are you generally doing business? Locally, right?

When asked to name our favorite restaurant, café, or shop, it is typically a unique Cottage Grove shop with personal appeal. Our town is loaded with these types of businesses. The challenge is that these local merchants rely on our business. Without us as shoppers they could close their doors. The Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce would like you to consider redirecting some of your spending this holiday season. When local shoppers spend \$100 in Cottage Grove, \$45 of that revenue actually goes back into the local economy, in the form of wages, rents, and materials. If we spend that same \$100 in Eugene little to none will come back to Cottage Grove. So let’s “Think Local” this holiday season - There is literally something for every shopper at our local businesses. In one day

of shopping you can support a myriad of businesses and meet the goal of your shopping needs.

The day after Thanksgiving is the biggest shopping day of the year. We encourage you to “Think Local” and shop Cottage Grove for all your holiday needs!

Fall Tip: Protect your businesses and yourselves. In the fall and especially in Cottage Grove, the leaves start coming down off the trees pretty fast. If the sidewalk in front of your business starts collecting leaves, be sure to sweep or blow them off as quickly and as often as possible. Leaves hide bumps and cracks in the sidewalk that may cause a person to have a serious fall. They can also get very slippery when they accumulate even a small amount of moisture. It only takes a few minutes and removing leaves and other debris from areas where people walk by your business not only prevents injury and potential lawsuits, but it also makes your business look good and is more inviting to potential customers.

November Business After Hours

Village Green Resort will host Business After Hours on Thursday, November 15, 925 Row River Road in the Cascadia room from 5:30 – 7:00pm. 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!

Next Month’s Business after Hours: December – Cottage Grove Sentinel

THANK YOU!

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!

Army Corps of Engineers.....	26
Auto Art Body & Paint, Inc.....	28
Banner Bank.....	37
Birch Avenue Dental, Inc.	37
Bob Baysinger	32
Brad’s Cottage Grove Chevrolet, Inc.....	26
Carl’s Jr.	27
City of Cottage Grove	26
Cottage Grove Ranger Station	32
Cottage Grove Sentinel.....	37
Dot’s Trophy Shop	38
Emerald People’s Utility District	35
Farmers Insurance Group	27
First American Title Insurance Company	37
Gifford & Gifford LLP, Attorneys at Law.....	28
Grace Olson	34
Hoyer Accounting.....	29
Jim’s Point S Tire and Auto Service	33
KNND 1400AM	31
Lane Community College Cottage Grove Center	32
Les Schwab Tire Centers	37
McDonald’s Restaurant.....	34
Northwest Community Credit Union	37
Northwest Natural.....	37
Pacific Power	31
Pacific Yurts, Inc.....	37
PayneWest Insurance	37
PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center	32
Rogers & Son.....	25
Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel & Crematorium	52
South Lane School District	37
South Lane Wheels, Inc.....	30
Starfire Lumber Company.....	35
The Flower Basket & Gift Boutique	35
Umpqua Bank.....	37
Weyerhaeuser Company	37
Wildish Sand & Gravel Co.	26

Chamber Calendar		
If you have an event you want published on our website calendar, please, please, please submit it to:		
Go to www.cgchamber.com		
Click on “Event Calendar”		
Click on “submit new event”		
Fill in the blanks and submit		
Once your event is approved, it will appear on the community calendar. For more details on the events listed below, visit the Event Calendar on our website at www.cgchamber.com .		
*Bingo every Friday night at the American Legion Hall		
NOVEMBER		
3,10,17,24	Saturday Farmers Market @ the Armory	
6	Rotary Christmas Party	
8	Greeters Committee	
8	Startup Coffee Meetup	
9	2-Day Mask Making Workshop	
12	Regular City Council Meeting	
15	Business After Hours - November	
18	Fall Music Festival	
19	Promotions Committee	
20	Third Tuesday Poetry Night at Axe & Fiddle, hosted by Kalapuya Books	
21	Chamber Board Lunch	
22	Greeters Committee	
22	Thanksgiving Brunch	
23 - 30	Village Green Christmas Market	
26	Regular City Council Meeting	
30	The Fantasticks Opening	
DECEMBER		
1 - 23	Village Green Christmas Market	
1,8,15,22	Saturday Farmers Market @ the Armory	
1	Christmas in Cottage Grove - Events All Day	
1 & 2	Prospectors Holiday Bazaar	
2	Christmas Bazaar @ the Armory	
7	Lane Community College- Cottage Grove, Open House and Vendor Fair	
10	Regular City Council Meeting	
13	Greeters Committee	
13	Startup Coffee Meetup	
17	Promotions Committee	
18	Third Tuesday Poetry Night at Axe & Fiddle	
19	Chamber Board Lunch	
20	Business After Hours – Cottage Grove Sentinel	
24	Regular City Council Meeting	
25	Christmas Day	
27	Greeters Committee	
31	Gamesquall!	

2018 Visitor Center Stats	9/27 thru 10/31	YTD
Phone calls:	228	1,608
Walk-In Visitors:	519	2,178
Relocate Requests:	3	23
Visitor Requests:	4	47
Referrals to Chamber Members:	136	1,029
2018 Website Stats		
Business Directory Searches Total Listed:	2140	11,542
Member Page Views:	1643	10,404
Event Searches:	2032	17,867
Events Viewed:	2072	16,581
Hot Deal Searches:	62	387
Job Searches:	76	474

Renewing Member in October

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 *PDI, LLC* for your renewed commitment to the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce and your support of contributions through volunteered time and service to the Chamber.

Cottage Grove Christmas Kick-Off!

Plans are under way for this year’s Downtown Christmas Tree Lighting which will be held on **Saturday, December 1st**. Bundle up and join us for some family fun!

Please let us know of discounts you may be offering, special store hours, or activities you will be doing. You can request a registration form by email to beth@cgchamber.com or stop by the office at 700 E. Gibbs to pick one up. We want to be sure to include you in the flyer that goes to the schools before their Thanksgiving break. **Deadline to be included is end of day November 9, 2018.**

Day/Evening Activities

- * Breakfast with Santa at the Fire Station
- * Block Party on 5th & Main
- * Hayrides and caroling
- * In Store Discounts at Participating Merchants
- * Market at the Armory
- * Photos with Santa at City Hall
- * Tree lighting at All America City Square

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:

Ambrose Collectibles	518 E. Main Street
Apothecaria	700 Row River Rd
Books on Main	319 E. Main
Boyce & Sons, Inc	79149 N. River Rd
Buster's Main Street Café	811 E. Main Suite “G”
Cascade Home Center	49 South 6 th Street
CG Habitat for Humanity	334 Washington
D & D Automotive	48 Hwy 99 South
Dirtcheapcopies.com	725 E. Whiteaker
El Tapatio	725 E. Gibbs
Elu Fusion	106. S. 6 th Street
Emerald Fitness Club	240 Gateway Blvd, CG
Lavender Field Embroidery	78481 Cedar Park Rd
Pinocchio's Pizza	1795 E. Main Street
South Lane Wheels	1450 Birch Avenue
Stacy's Covered Bridge	401 E. Main Street
Sweet Springs Family Farm	71393 London Road
Territorial Seed Company	20 Palmer Avenue
The Bookmine	702 Main Street
The Espresso Bar'n	1551 E. Main St
The Flower Basket	119 South 6 th Street
The UPS Store	1498 E. Main Suite 103
Wal-Mart	901 Row River Road

Save the Date. And plan to attend the 2019 Chamber Awards and Installation Banquet - “A Red Carpet Event” the third Saturday in January (1/19/2019). The promotions committee is working to bring you an evening to remember! Awards for Business of the Year and First Citizen are among the recognitions presented.



2018 Chamber Board of Directors, Advisors and Staff

Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce
700 E. Gibbs • Cottage Grove, OR • P. (541) 942-2411
info@cgchamber.com • www.cgchamber.com

2018 Chamber Board of Directors:
Thank you for your hours upon hours of volunteer time, commitment, and service!

Officers Chloe Beckes, President Danny Solesbee, Vice President Ruth Linoz, Secretary Gary Manly, Treasurer Candace Solesbee, Past President Directors Cassandra Washburn, Greeters Chair Don Williams, T.E.A.M Chair Judd Van Gorder Lloyd Williams Ryan Gifford Shauna Neigh, Promotions Chair Cameron Reiten, Legislative Chair Advisors Tim Herrmann Richard Meyers/Mike Fleck Garrett Bridgens	Jack Sprats Restaurant 5 Flying Monkeys South Lane Wheels Cottage Grove Sentinel Shampoo Dolls Salon Oregon Aviation Historical Society Retired, Past Board President Carousel House B&B and Catering South Lane Television Gifford & Gifford Attorneys at Law Buster’s Main Street Café KNND AM 1400 PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center City of Cottage Grove South Lane School District
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Visitor Center Volunteers:
Heidi Abbott, Dotti Bittner, Suzanne Huebner-Sannes, Tara Sue Hughart, Susan Jeppesen, Nancy Kretzschmar, Marie Longfellow, Judd Van Gorder, Sharon Van Gorder, Penny Westling, Sherry Wendt, Nolene Wheeler.

Staff:
Travis Palmer, Executive Director • Beth Martin, Office Manager • Mavis Bradsby, Bookkeeper

Special Thanks to our 2018 Enhanced Members
PLATINUM PLUS • Cottage Grove Sentinel
GOLD • Pacific Power
SILVER
Banner Bank
Blackstone, Inc. – Windermere Real Estate
City of Cottage Grove
Emerald People’s Utility District
Lane Community College Cottage Grove Center
Lane Electric Cooperative
Northwest Natural
PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center
South Lane County Fire & Rescue
South Lane School District
Weyerhaeuser