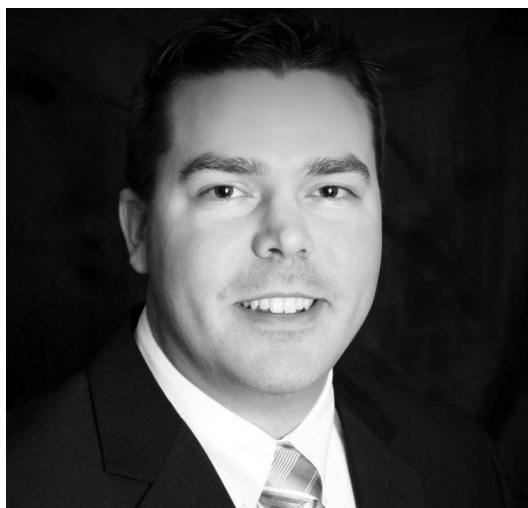




# CHAMBER NEWSLETTER

**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**

Despite recent weather events, the year is off to a great start! We had a fantastic turnout for the February Business After Hours hosted by Banner Bank. It was standing room only in their newly remodeled lobby and there were unlimited opportunities to meet new people and make new business connections. This month's Business After Hours is hosted by the Friends of the CG Carousel at King Estate's Cottage Grove Distribution Center we expect it to be equally well attended.

Our first Educational Forum of the year was a training seminar for Non Profit Board Members and was the largest forum we've had in several years! Clearly, we found a topic that our members (and many non-members) were interested in. Chamber members were able to attend for FREE but even the non-members who paid \$20 to attend said that it was well worth the price of admission. We hope to offer more forums throughout the year so

if you have a topic that you think would be valuable to the business community, please send it to the Chamber office for consideration. Forums will be scheduled as topics and facilitators become available throughout the year.

Quite possibly the biggest news that we are excited to share as we end the first quarter of 2019 is that local businesses may now qualify for Group Health Insurance plans through their association with the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce. This is great news for employers with anywhere from 2 to 50 employees and potentially a huge cost savings for employees and business owners who previously have only been able to purchase individual health insurance plans which are much more expensive. If you'd like to find out if your business qualifies for an Association Health Benefit Plan, contact the Chamber office for more details.

We hope that all of our member businesses are back on track after the big snow storm. We'd like to gather information about what your experience has been in the aftermath and how it has affected your business. What will help your business recover more quickly after the next big event? What resources would have made a difference in being able to serve your customers? The snow storm is sure to be talked about for a long time. It can be a cautionary tale or a learning experience. Our hope is to gather as much information as possible and use your experiences help the entire business community to be more prepared for whatever lies ahead.



*Business after hours at Banner Bank, Cottage Grove.*



*Chamber Forum: Non Profit Board Training*

#### 2019 Chamber Board of Directors, Advisors and Staff:

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

#### Officers

Danny Solesbee, President  
5 Flying Monkeys

Ruth Linoz, Secretary  
South Lane Wheels

Gary Manly, Treasurer  
Cottage Grove Sentinel

Chloe Beckes, Past President  
Jack Sprats Restaurant

#### Directors

Cameron Reiten  
KNND AM 1400

Candace Solesbee  
Shampoo Dolls Salon

Chrissy Chapman  
Covered Bridge Brewing

Judd Van Gorder  
Carousel House B&B and Catering

Kate Brown  
Brunneis: Pacific Northwest Productions

Len Blackstone  
Blackstone, Inc. - Windermere Real Estate

Stan Simonsen  
Cascade Home Center

#### Advisors

Tim Herrmann  
PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center

Richard Meyers  
City of Cottage Grove

Ryan Gifford  
Giffors and Gifford Attorneys at Law

Garrett Bridgens  
South Lane School District

#### Visitor Center Volunteers:

Heidi Abbott, Dotti Bittner, Suzanne Huebner-Sannes, Tara Sue Hughart, Susan Jeppesen, Nancy Kretzschmar, Rebecca Lane, Marie Longfellow, Judd Van Gorder, Sharon Van Gorder, Penny Westling, Sherry Bricher-Wendt.

#### Staff:

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

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## The Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce presents Shades of Ireland!

We are excited to announce a special invitation to join us in November of 2019 for a 10 day all-inclusive tour of Ireland! This year we are partnering with Collette. Collette's tours open the door to a world of amazing destinations. Marvel at must-see sights, sample regional cuisine, stay in centrally located hotels and connect with new and captivating cultures. Their itineraries offer an inspiring and easy way to experience the world, when an expert guide takes care of all the details.

Highlights: Dublin, Irish Evening, Kilkenny, Waterford, Choices on Tour, Blarney Castle, Killarney, Ring of Kerry, Farm Visit, Limerick, Cliffs of Moher, Galway, Castle Stay.

An exclusive benefit for Cottage Grove Chamber members **for only \$3,229 per person** based on double occupancy. This trip is available to non-Chamber members for an additional charge of \$200 per person. The trip departs November 4, 2019 returning November 13, 2019.

#### Your trip includes:

- Roundtrip international airfare
- Attraction
- Air taxes, fees/surcharges
- Hotel transfers
- 13 meals: 8 breakfasts, 5 dinners

An **orientation** will be held on **Tuesday April 2, 2019, 7:00pm** in the Reception Hall at the Community Center, 700 E. Gibbs. Laura Hernandez from Collette will join us and be available to answer any questions you may have about this amazing opportunity. We'd like to know if you're interested in attending the orientation so give us a call at 541-942-2411 or send an email to [beth@cgchamber.com](mailto:beth@cgchamber.com).



collette



*Special Thanks to our 2019 Enhanced Members*

**PLATINUM PLUS • Cottage Grove Sentinel**

**GOLD • Pacific Power**

**SILVER**

**Banner Bank**

**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 School District**

**Weyerhaeuser**