



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

When you've lived somewhere for a long time, it's easy to overlook a lot of the things that are available within just a few miles from home. I consider myself lucky to be able to experience Cottage Grove from an "outsider's perspective" on a daily basis. I meet visitors and new residents quite regularly and hearing about their experiences is a wonderful reminder of how truly great this community is.

Our list of accolades is really quite long. We are the "Covered Bridge Capital of the West" and home to the only remaining covered railroad-bridge west of the Mississippi River. The Row River Trail and Covered Bridges Scenic Bikeway are considered among the best in the state of Oregon and have the additional distinction of being family friendly and accessible to users of all abilities. We have two rivers and two lakes that you can drive to on a lunch break and there are multiple wineries within a short drive from town. Festivals and events fill the community calendar from May through October and there are several

excellent restaurants and shops to choose from that will keep you entertained for a very long time. Let's not forget about our larger businesses either. Pacific Yurts, Territorial Seed Company, Pak Tech and Weyerhaeuser are all well-known around the world and are highly respected leaders in their industries.

I've you've lived in Cottage Grove for more than 10 years, it might be a good time to remind yourself about what it's like to experience Cottage Grove as a newcomer. Pick two or three things that Cottage Grove is known for and go experience them for yourself. Walk or bike the Row River Trail and Covered Bridge Scenic Bikeway. Grab a camera and tour the Covered Bridges. Visit our local wineries and sample some of the best wine in the Pacific Northwest. Get out of the car and walk through the Historic Downtown District and visit every shop that you can. Whether or not you spend any money, it will be fun to go in, see what they sell and talk to the people you meet along the way.

Our local theaters have fantastic productions all summer long and our restaurants have quality food and live music to fit nearly every taste. Visit the Cottage Grove Museum, Bohemia Gold Mining Museum and the Aviation Historical Museum. Many have changed their displays so even if you've been there before, chances are good that there are a lot of new things to see or rediscover.

All of the things to see and do in Cottage Grove help to bring business to the community and stimulate our local economy. Locals recommending things to do here in town instead of sending people up the highway not only provides visitors with a great experience to tell their friends about but it also keeps their dollars right here in Cottage Grove to support local jobs and families. The next time a visitor asks you, "What is there to do here?" I hope the hardest part of answering their question is narrowing down the list of choices.

If you'd like to find out more about the many great things to experience in Cottage Grove, please visit the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce.

YARD OF THE WEEK season is just around the corner with the first yard being selected each Friday May 10th through the last full week of September. So start looking for those spectacular yards in the community that deserve recognition as Yard of the Week! All single-family residential yards within the City limits are eligible to win.

Nominations for this notable recognition can be made by simply turning in the address of the homes worthy of recognition to City Hall or the Chamber office; by phone call the City Manager's office at (541)942-5501 or the Chamber office at (541)942-2411; by email to: citymanager@cottagegrove.org or travis@cgchamber.com or in person at the front desk at City Hall or the Community Center.

A CALL FOR VENDORS AT CONCERTS IN THE PARK - The Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking vendors for the 2019 Market during our Concert in the Park Series. The market takes place in conjunction with Concerts in the Park beginning June 26th and continuing every Wednesday through August 28th, 2019 at Bohemia Park.

Food Vendors pay a fee of \$20.00 each week or \$15/week if paid in full at the beginning of the season.

Non-Food Vendors (art, crafts, info displays, etc.) pay a fee of \$10 each week or \$5.00/week if paid in full at the beginning of the season.

Cottage Grove Chamber Members can participate for FREE!!!

Market Rules and vendor application are available on our website calendar www.cgchamber.com or pick one up at the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce located at 700 E. Gibbs Ave, Cottage Grove.

**The Carnival is Coming!
PURCHASE YOUR CARNIVAL RIDE
TICKETS!**

Davis Shows NW takes great pride in providing safe family oriented rides, games, and quality food concessions. As a traveling amusement company, they are able to offer their family friendly carnival experience at fair grounds, shopping centers, other prime locations, and they're coming to Cottage Grove! You will find them at Bohemia Park May 29 through June 2. Pre-sale tickets are available for \$20 and can be purchased through May 28 at the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce, 700 E. Gibbs.

PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS by sponsoring Concerts in the Park! - 2019 marks the 17th year of our Concerts in the Park series. Hundreds of people attend each week, and thousands attend throughout the course of the season. Concerts in the Park take place every Wednesday evening between 6:30pm and 8pm, June 26th through August 28th. Give Travis a call (51) 942-2411 to find out how you can help us continue to provide

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

We invite you to join us in November for a 10-day all-inclusive tour of Ireland! This year we are partnering with Collette Travel. 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 price for Cottage Grove Chamber members who **sign up before May 6th** is only **\$3,229 per person** based on double occupancy. This trip is also available to non-Chamber members for an additional charge of \$100 per person. Our group departs November 4, 2019 returning November



13, 2019.
Your trip includes:
• Roundtrip international airfare PLUS a shuttle between Cottage Grove and the Portland Airport!
• Several Attractions
• Hotel Accommodations
• 13 meals: 8 breakfasts, 5 dinners
• Memories that will last a lifetime!

For full details or to ask questions about the tour, contact the Chamber of Commerce at (541) 942-2411.

this FREE family-friendly event for another season of great music and fun!

Business after Hours

The Cottage Events Venue is our host for May. Join us for networking at its best **Thursday, May 16** from 5:30 - 7:00pm at 2915 Row River Road. Bring your business card to enter the door prize drawing, make new connections, and have some fun! Cottage Grove and Creswell Chamber Members are encouraged to attend this classic, fun networking event. Many thanks to those who support our efforts by attending this Chamber program.

Next month's Business After Hours: June - City of Cottage Grove

SHARE NEWS ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS

Tell the membership "What's New" with your business. It's good business to let other chamber members and businesses know if you have a new manager/employee(s), new hours, an exciting event, or any news you wish to share. You can drop off or mail your information to the chamber office or email it to beth@cgchamber.com.

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

The chamber's number one goal is to create a strong local economy. All of the programs and benefits supported by a chamber membership investment go toward achieving that goal. Membership in the chamber is also a commitment to the entire community and a pledge of support for the economic growth and vitality of the Cottage Grove area. We thank each of you for your **New and Renewed** commitment to the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce and your support of contributions through volunteered time and service to the Chamber. We look forward to a bright and successful year! Join us in supporting Chamber member businesses and our local economy and **"Shop Chamber Members first!"**

Welcome New Members!

Sandy Mitten
Individual Chamber Supporter

Nancy Cronholm
Individual Chamber Supporter

Thank You Renewing Members!

Cottage Grove Community Acupuncture, Lillibolero, Inc., Cottage Grove Christian School, Bob Stanphill

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. (**Chamber events in bold**)
*Bingo every Friday night at the American Legion Hall
*Farmers Market - Thursdays, May 2 thru October 31, 2019

MAY

- 8 Cottage Grove Toast People (future Toastmasters Group)
- 9 Startup Coffee Meetup
- 9 Promotions/Events/Tourism Committee Meeting**
- 11 Bikes to Blooms Wildflower Event
- 13 Regular City Council Meeting
- 17 Flashback Friday 90's Retro-Prom
- 21 Third Tuesday Poetry Night at Axe & Fiddle, hosted by Kalapuya Books
- 22 Cottage Grove Toast People (future Toastmasters Group)
- 23 Greeters Committee**
- 27 Memorial Day Celebration
- 27 Memorial Day - Chamber office will be closed**
- 28 Jazz Jam at The Cottage
- 29 Training, Education & Membership Committee Meeting**

JUNE

- 7 The Beat Goes On...Dorena School
- 10 Regular City Council Meeting
- 12 Cottage Grove Toast People (future Toastmasters Group)
- 13 Promotions/Events/Tourism Committee**
- 18 Third Tuesday Poetry Night at Axe & Fiddle, hosted by Kalapuya Books
- 20 Business After Hours - City of Cottage Grove**
- 22 Cottage Grove Wings & Wheels
- 24 Regular City Council Meeting
- 25 Jazz Jam at The Cottage
- 26 Cottage Grove Toast People (future Toastmasters Group)
- 26 Training, Education & Membership Committee Meeting**

Visitor Center Stats	3.29 thru 4.28	YTD
Phone calls:	161	624
Walk-In Visitors:	308	1,294
Relocate Requests:	3	6
Visitor Requests:	4	44
Referrals to Chamber Members:	64	283
Website Stats		
Business Directory Searches Total Listed:	385	3,291
Member Page Views:	969	3,183
Event Searches:	1,523	4,731
Events Viewed:	1,267	3,223
Hot Deal Searches:	19	70
Job Searches:	70	206

What do the Website Statistics Mean to Member Business?

Business Directory Searches: This number reflects how the chamber website has been used to search for business in Cottage Grove.

Member Page Views: This number indicates the number of times chamber member information pages have been viewed on the chamber website.

Event Searches: This number reflects how the chamber website has been used to search for events.

Event Page Viewed: This number indicates how many times event pages have been viewed

Hot Deal Searches: Hot Deals are coupons created by chamber members and posted on the website. These numbers reflect how coupons are being searched for.

Job Searches: Chamber members can post job openings on the website. This number reflects how many times the website has been used to search for job posting.

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

Brent Hoover
The Grove Café & Lounge

Cameron Reiten
KNND AM 1400

Candace Solesbee
Shampoo Dolls Salon

Chrissy Chapman
Covered Bridge Brewing

Dale Smith
Coast Fork Feed Company

Judd Van Gorder
Carousel House B&B and Catering

Kate Brown
Brunneis, Pacific Northwest Productions

Len Blackstone
Blackstone, Inc. - Windermere Commercial Real Estate

Shane May
Emerald Fitness Club

Stan Simonsen
Cascade Home Center

Advisors

Garrett Bridgens
South Lane School District

Jared Sidman
Main Street Program

Richard Meyers
City of Cottage Grove

Ryan Gifford
Gifford & Gifford Attorneys at Law

Tim Herrmann
PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center

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

**Cottage Grove Area
Chamber of Commerce**
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