



CHAMBER NEWSLETTER

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

Director's Note

There is never a shortage of things that we're planning at the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce and October is no exception. The most recognizable of October's activities is the "Halloween Howl." This event happens through collaboration between the Chamber, City, Main Street Program, the Sentinel and many others. We all pitch in and encourage businesses and organizations to participate by opening their doors, decorating their businesses or setting up a booth on Main Street from 3 to 5pm on October 31st. This event is pure, old fashioned, family-friendly fun. We expect over 1,500 kids in costumes this year and we are always impressed by the level of support and participation from local businesses. If you'd like to participate, call 541-942-2411 for more details.

As we do on the 3rd Thursday of every month, the Chamber of Commerce invites representatives from area businesses to meet and learn about each other at Business After Hours. Not only are these monthly events great way to learn more about the businesses who host them but they also offer an opportunity to make new contacts and educate others about your own businesses. "Word of mouth" advertising is the most cost efficient and most effective way to market your business. We organize these monthly networking events because

new business relationships are created each and every month. We've also added another monthly networking and educational opportunity for our members to enjoy. Our monthly "Breakfast Club" meetings take place on the 2nd Friday of each month from 8:00am to 9:30am and feature a new speaker each month, ample networking opportunities for your business. Look for the schedule of locations on our website and in the Community Calendar. All Cottage Grove and Creswell Chamber of Commerce members are encouraged to attend.

If you're interested in the inner workings of the Chamber of Commerce, October is also when we start our strategic planning for the next year. We are currently recruiting new board members to replace the ones who will retire at the end of this year and we hope to start the New Year with a full and diverse board that is well balanced with experience, perspective and enthusiasm. We strongly encourage all of our members to provide feedback about what the Chamber can do to strengthen the local economy and help pave the way for businesses to thrive. We welcome all feedback and will continue to work toward making Cottage Grove a great place to do business. Comments or questions for the Chamber can be sent to info@cgchamber.com or visit www.cgchamber.com.

Join us on October 2, 2019 @ 11:00am to help Magnolia Gardens Senior Living celebrate! This is a groundbreaking ceremony to begin construction of 35 new senior living apartments (18 Memory Care and 17 Assisted Living), adding to their current site located at 1425 Daugherty Avenue. The celebration will include food, dignitaries, local community members, and excitement! Tours will be available, the public is invited!

We hope you were able to attend the Grand Reopening of the Warren H. Daugherty Aquatic Center on Tuesday October 1st. The Chamber of Commerce was honored to attend and be a part of this momentous occasion.

October Breakfast Club

WHEN:

Friday October 11, 2019

WHERE: The

Brewstation,
106 S. 6th
Street



PROGRAM: (coffee, tea, water included)

FREE to Chamber Members

\$5 for Non-Chamber members

Please RSVP by calling (541) 942-2411

Breakfast can be purchased for \$10

8:00am - Breakfast is served

8:00 - 8:30am - Networking

8:30 - 9:30am - Program

About our speaker:

Kari Westlund has four decades of experience in the hospitality industry in Alaska and Oregon, the past twenty-three as President and CEO of Travel Lane County. She currently serves on the US Travel Board, as well as regional and statewide tourism association boards. She is also co-chair of the 2021 Legacy Team, which was formed to maximize the transformative opportunity presented by hosting the World Athletics Championships in 2021. This will be her topic so join us and find out how events of these magnitudes can be good for everyone.



Thank You from the Chamber Ambassadors!

The annual Oregon Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors Convention was held this year in Grants Pass, Oregon August 22nd through the 25th. Debbie Chalmers, Valerie Nash, and Linda Trombly represented the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce. This yearly event is attended by Chamber Ambassadors from Towns and Cities all over Oregon; it is a wonderful opportunity for education and networking. Each Chamber that attends the convention is responsible for providing two baskets filled with information and "goodies" that represents the businesses in their towns and cities. The Cottage Grove Chamber Ambassadors would like to take this opportunity to thank the businesses listed below for their generous donations towards our baskets and decorations for our table.

Brad's Cottage Grove Chevrolet,
Carousel House Bed & Breakfast,
Cottage Grove Area Chamber of

Commerce, Cottage Grove Sentinel, Dirt Cheap Copies, Dot's Trophy Shop, Edwards Jones, Fort Rock Construction, Jack Sprats, Lavender Field Embroidery, Middlefield Golf Course, Oregon Aviation Historical Museum, PayneWest Insurance, Saginaw Vineyard, Shampoo Dolls Salon, Sud N' Shine Car Wash, Sujo's, The Bookmine, The Espresso Bar'n, The Flower Basket & Gift Boutique, US Bank and Village Green Resort

Cottage Grove Halloween Howl

will be happening again this year in Historic Downtown on Thursday, October 31st from 3:00 - 5:00pm. If you are a business not located downtown and would like to reserve a space, send an email to beth@cgchamber.com and let us know:

The Name of your business

Size of booth you're setting up

What you're doing (i.e. handing out candy, setting up photo op, etc.)

Contact name, email, & phone number

Any other details regarding your specific needs

We do not provide power, or any equipment, only space.

Thank You for Welcoming Cycle Oregon to Cottage Grove!

The Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce extends its sincere thanks to all those who worked so hard to make Cycle Oregon's recent visit to Cottage Grove such a success. Almost 250 volunteers came together to welcome the over 1,500 cyclists from all over the world. Had this event been set up within the city limits, the population of Cottage Grove would have increased by more than 15% overnight! Our heartfelt thanks go out to all of the people who showed up to help. It was a lot of work but a lot of fun too. Many of the cyclists reported to that the welcome that they received in Cottage Grove was the best out of all the communities they visited all week. The economic "ripple effect" from this event is immeasurable. From the many clubs that earned money for their causes in exchange for bringing volunteers, to the 151 participants who rode the shuttle into town, and to the people who were so impressed by the scenery that they are already planning a return in the future, we want to thank the volunteers who made it possible for Cycle Oregon to return to our community for the 3rd time!

Business after Hours

This month hosted by **PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center** on Thursday October 17, 1515 Village Drive, from 5:30 – 7:00pm. Please join us for another opportunity for business to business connections, enter to win door prizes, enjoy some delicious food, have some fun, and learn more about chamber member businesses.

Join or Renew Your Membership in the Chamber Today!

Each year, we ask local businesses to renew their investment in the Chamber of Commerce through membership dues and help foster a prosperous business environment in Cottage Grove. It's an ongoing mission to show people the value of chamber membership. Often businesses owners want to see a list of benefits or other perks that they will receive in exchange for paying annual membership dues. Many want to know what kind of "return on their investment" they can expect to see after joining our membership. These are difficult questions to answer because every business is unique and each company has different goals. Most any chamber of commerce in the country will likely tell you that they have nearly the same conversation with their members on a regular basis. Here are a few examples of what local businesses make possible through their membership in the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce:

We host political forums each year where people can learn more about important issues and candidates running for office.

We produce a summer concert series in Bohemia Park for people to enjoy with their families and allow local businesses to showcase their products and services.

We monitor legislative issues that could potentially impact the people and businesses in our community and advocate for their rights both locally

and statewide.

We answer phone calls, emails and welcome visitors from all over the world and refer them to local businesses. Each year, the Chamber visitor center serves over 10,000 people. We organize and collaborate to produce community events such as the Halloween Howl and the Cottage Grove Christmas Kickoff. We provide a community calendar, newsletters and social media pages for other local groups to promote their events.

We listen to the needs of local businesses and work with local and state agencies to eliminate obstacles for growth and development.

We create committees and task forces to address community needs. The Airport Welcome Center and the Carousel project started through conversations in our Tourism Committee. We represent the interests of local businesses by being on boards and advisory councils such as the Main Street Program, the Economic & Business Improvement District, the Community Development Corporation and the Vision Keepers.

We promote entrepreneurship through events like the Business Challenge which has now led to the start of several new businesses and many new jobs in Cottage Grove.

This list is merely a fraction of the things made possible by our members and their investment in the Chamber of Commerce. Membership dues allow the work of the Chamber to continue. We work hard every day to help local businesses succeed. If we don't have members, we can't continue to do the work of the Chamber. When you conduct business in this area, please support the businesses that are members of the Chamber of Commerce. If you value any of the things we do in the community, please encourage businesses to become members of the Chamber of Commerce. If you're not already investing in the Chamber, please consider joining our membership today. Our members are the ones who make it all possible.

RENEWING MEMBERS

Basic Family Healthcare, Best Western Cottage Grove Inn, Lindsay Laycock - Keller Williams Realty, Soleful Therapeutic Massage, Sweet Springs Family Farm.

Chamber Calendar OCTOBER

- 1 Ribbon Cutting - Warren Daugherty Aquatic Center**
- 2 Ground Breaking - Magnolia Gardens**
- 8 Chamber Ambassadors**
- 10 Promotions/Events/Tourism Committee**
- 11 October Breakfast Club**
- 11 The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) [Revised] – Opening Night @ Cottage Theatre
- 12 Hospital Auxiliary Fashion Show
- 12 Mayor's Ball
- 14 Regular City Council Meeting
- 15 Poetry Night at The Cottage Events Venue
- 17 Business After Hours – PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center**
- 18-19 Friends of the Library Book Sale
- 18-19 OLPH All Seasons Bazaar
- 22 Jazz Jam at The Cottage
- 24 FREE Dementia Support Group
- 28 Regular City Council Meeting
- 30 Training, Education & Membership Committee Meeting**
- 31 Halloween Howl

Looking Ahead

- Mark your calendars now to attend this year's Cottage Grove Christmas Kickoff on December 7, 2019. Stay tuned for more information!
- Good News! The 2020 Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce Membership Directory will be available before the years end. 2000 copies will be printed and distributed through the Chamber office, businesses, restaurants, motels, relocation packets and more! The directory is a way for us to help our members promote their business and make referrals to "Shop Chamber Members First".

Visitor Center Stats	8.20.19 Thru 9.19.19
Phone calls:	269
Walk-In Visitors:	507
Relocate Requests:	3
Visitor Requests:	5
Referrals to Chamber Members:	207
Website Stats	
Business Directory Searches Total Listed:	1313
Member Page Views:	972
Event Searches:	1746
Events Viewed:	1389
Hot Deal Searches:	35
Job Searches:	59

Cottage Grove Area

Chamber of Commerce

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