



**KERN RIVER VALLEY
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

SPRING 2026

WELCOME

YOUR MEMBERSHIP GUIDE

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WELCOME ABOARD!

Welcome to the Kern River Valley Chamber of Commerce. We are honored to have you join a diverse and committed network of local business owners and individuals who share a common purpose: to build a thriving Kern River Valley.

As a member of the Chamber, you are not only gaining access to resources, advocacy, and support—you are also partnering with us in our mission. Your involvement helps ensure that growth and progress go hand-in-hand with sustainability and community well-being.

We are excited to support your business and work together toward a vibrant future for the entire Kern River Valley.



Karrie Bunting, Esq.
President



MISSION AND VISION



MISSION

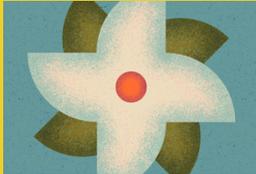
"It is the mission of the Kern River Valley Chamber of Commerce to promote **economic strength** within the Kern River Valley while **retaining our quality of life** and **preserving and enhancing the environment.**"

VISION

We believe **strong businesses create strong communities.** Our vision is a thriving, vibrant business network that works together to build shared prosperity while honoring the unique character and heritage that make our home extraordinary.”



MEMBER BENEFITS



Enhanced Reputation

Being a member of a Chamber of Commerce signals to customers, partners, and peers that you are a trusted and invested part of the business community.

- **63% to 80%** of consumers are more likely to buy from a Chamber

member. —Source: The Schapiro Group, “The Real Value of Joining a Local Chamber” and San Gabriel Valley Chamber Regional Survey



Enhanced Visibility

Chamber community-wide events encourage tourism, boost commerce, and provide members promotional opportunities. Businesses that are **active in their local chamber** get:

- **73%** increase in consumer awareness.
- **68%** boost in local reputation. — Source: American Business Magazine



Professional Networking

Networking connects you with business owners, community leaders, and potential clients—opening doors to partnerships, referrals, and insights that fuel growth and keep your business competitive in the local market.”

- **80%** of chamber members report networking as one of the top benefits. — Source: American Business Magazine

Networking meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of every month @ Noon. Mixers, workshops, ribbon cutting ceremonies, and other gatherings all support networking.

MEMBER BENEFITS (CONT.)



> **BUSINESS
RESOURCE
GUIDE**

> **ADVOCACY
RESOURCES**

> **RESOURCES
FOR
RESIDENTS**

**VISIT
KERNRIVERVALLEY.COM/RESOURCES**

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Networking

Networking works best when you show up and join in! Skip the meetings and events, and you'll miss out on valuable connections. But the more you engage, the more you'll gain. Make the most of your membership— volunteer & get involved!

Advertise and Promote Your Business Through Chamber Events

Chamber events double as advertising opportunities! Boost your visibility by sponsoring or promoting through our programs. Every event is unique, so check with the Chamber for rates and ways to get involved.

Quick Guide: Sharing Flyers with the Chamber

Want the chamber to share your flyer or announcement? Here's how it works:

- Member must be in good standing
- Flyer must be clear, professional, and business/ community-focused
- Include the who, what, when, where, and contact info
- Send as JPG, PNG, or PDF at least 7 days in advance
- Limit: 1 flyers/ads per business per month (unless special approval)
- Chamber will decide when and how it's posted (by email, social media, or calendar)

No political, religious, or inappropriate content.

Ongoing Chamber Events & Programs



Isabella Lake Fishing Derby

KRV Christmas Parade

KRV Greatest Christmas Cookie Contest

Fireworks Extravaganza

Flags Along the Boulevard

Bingo Bonanza!

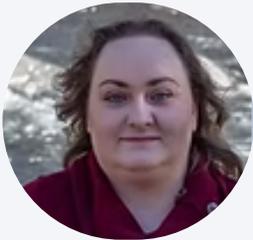
BOARD LEADERSHIP



Karrie Bunting, Esq.
Attorney at Law
President



Kelley McCoy, Owner
Kellicogo.com
Vice President



Caitlyn Payne, Owner
PConnAdvo LLC
Secretary



Fred Clark, Owner
Fred Clark Insurance Agency
Treasurer



Teresa "Kat" Barnum,
Job Developer
*Employer's Training
Resource*



Christina Denys,
Office Manager
Kern Valley Sun



John Lovrich, CEO
*Kern Valley Healthcare
District*



Julie Anne Sorensen, Owner
Greenhorn Brekenridge, LLC



Tonya Torgl, Owner
OnPoint Gym



Jeannie Verdugo, Owner
Southern Sierra Properties

The Board of Directors meets monthly on the 1st Wednesday of the month. Terms are for two years and vacancies on the board may be filled in December at the chamber's annual meeting. For a committee list of other information please contact the chamber.

CHAMBER TIMELINE

1958 - Founded as Isabella Lake Chamber of Commerce

May 5th, 1958, the Chamber's is incorporated as the *Isabella Lake Chamber of Commerce*. Founding officers are Robert Poor of *Lake Isabella*, Frank Berens of *Lake Isabella*, William Sowell of *Kernville*, Richard Harlow of *Wofford Heights*, and Floyd Hall of *Bakersfield*.

1983 - Becomes a 501(c) 6 Organization

February 1983, the Chamber gains recognition as a federally tax exempt organization under IRS Code 501(c)6. 501(c)6 organizations are primarily organized to promote commerce & include chambers of commerce, trade associations, tourism boards, and other similar organizations.

1989 - Isabella Lake Fishing Derby

"Now in its 35th year, the Isabella Lake Fishing Derby remains one of the region's signature events—once even recognized as the largest trout derby in California. While fishing is just one of many outdoor adventures awaiting visitors, it continues to be a powerful driver of tourism throughout the Sierra Nevada.

2000 - The Kern River Valley Chamber of Commerce

December, 2000, the Chamber formally amends its charter to become the ***Kern River Valley Chamber of Commerce*** promoting the economic interests of the communities in the Valley and just beyond including Onyx, Kelso Valley, Weldon, Mountain Mesa, Lake Isabella, Bodfish, Havilah, Caliente, Wofford Heights, and Kernville.

2025 - You joined the Chamber!

Since 1958, the Chamber has been a trusted voice and driving force for the Kern River Valley, working to strengthen businesses and enrich the community we all call home.

By becoming a member, you join over 150 fellow business owners and individuals working to continue to advocate for the success and growth of our region.

GALLERY



ISABELLA LAKE FISHING DERBY



RIBBON CUTTINGS



NETWORKING MEETINGS



COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP DAYS



COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PARADE



FLAG DISPLAYS



STAY IN TOUCH WITH US!



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