

## PLEASANTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

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The positions and views advocated here are solely the responsibility of the Chamber.

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Stay connected with the Chamber



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# Pleasanton Young Professionals thriving

The Pleasanton Young Professionals, a networking group for emerging and established professionals ages 21-40, strive to help other young professionals to learn, empower, and grow from their mastermind lunches, volunteering and fundraising opportunities, and monthly networking mixers. Scan the QR code to learn more about the Pleasanton Young Professionals, follow us on social media, and stay updated with our future events.



The Pleasanton Young Professionals at their April networking mixer at Neighborhood Sports Bar & Kitchen in downtown Pleasanton.

## Lesser-Known Benefits of Chamber Membership

The Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce offers a number of benefits members and non-members alike can use to help their organization connect and grow. Our networking mixers are well attended and energetic, offering an opportunity to mingle with elected officials and other business professionals. Non-members are invited to attend a mixer to network with their local business community and elected officials. Chamber committees like the Pleasanton 2025 Forum (open to members and the general public) and Economic Development & Governmental Relations (EDGR) dive deeper into the important issues facing



**James Cooper**  
 Pleasanton Chamber  
 President/CEO

our community, from housing to water to transportation and more. Ribbon cutting ceremonies and grand opening events publicly celebrate business success, attracting media attention and higher community visibility throughout Pleasanton.

There are other, lesser-known benefits that can positively impact an organization and are accessible to non-members as well. One is our Pleasanton Young Professionals (PYP) networking group, which is made up of working adults between the ages of 21 and 40, and is open to the general public. The group holds a monthly mixer at a local business where they mingle while connect-

ing with each other and honing their networking skills. They also work on professional development through their Mastermind Lunches, which are held every other month. Do you have a young professional looking to grow in their career? You don't need to be a Chamber member to attend a PYP event. Find out more about the group and its upcoming events at [www.pleasanton.org](http://www.pleasanton.org).

Another benefit is the Leadership Pleasanton program. For over 30 years, the Pleasanton Chamber of Commerce has run the program that gives attendees an in-depth look at how the community is connected. From City government to public safety to economic development and more, this nine-month program covers nearly all areas of Pleasanton and is open to all.

Many who complete the program get more involved in our community, especially as volunteers ready to give their time and effort to help Pleasanton shine. The next class starts in September and class space is limited. For more information, please visit [www.pleasanton.org/leadership-pleasanton](http://www.pleasanton.org/leadership-pleasanton) or email [yianna@pleasanton.org](mailto:yianna@pleasanton.org).

The Chamber offers members a wide array of benefits, and you don't have to be a member to connect with us. Join a networking event, celebrate business success, and learn more about the inner workings of your community. We would love to see you. If you have questions about membership or would like to join, please email me at [james@pleasanton.org](mailto:james@pleasanton.org) or come by our office at 777 Peters Avenue in Pleasanton. We are here to help.

## Chamber Members Support Next Generation Workforce

A big thank you to Chamber members who helped Pleasanton Unified (PUSD) high school students gain insights from industry experts this spring! Representatives from Omron, 10x Genomics, BFK Engineers and SideTrack Bar & Grill met with students in Engineering, Culinary Arts, and BioMed Career & Technical Education (CTE) classes to help them with special projects and answer questions about career paths.

At Amador, students in second year engineering classes, Honors Principles of Engineering, designed a prototype of an automated material sorting machine to sort commingled materials. The culmination of the project was to present their solution to their client. Omron employees were the first to sign up

to act as "clients" and give live, real-time feedback to students.

At Foothill, BioMed students got to hear from a Foothill graduate currently working at 10x Genomics. Foothill Culinary Arts students were tasked with writing a business plan for their dream restaurant or catering business, and SideTrack Bar & Grill owner Todd Utikal met with students to talk about his own business plan.

The Pleasanton Chamber's Vision 2025 document specifically mentions PUSD's CTE program as one of the essential ways we prepare students for the 21st century and maintain a strong business environment in Pleasanton. In August 2022, based on the recommendation of the Economic Development & Government Relations (EDGR) committee, the Chamber Board of



**Jill Buck**  
 2023 Chair  
 of the Board



Herb Ritter, representing the Chamber's Economic Development and Government Relations committee (EDGR) and Omron employees working with the engineering students at Amador Valley High School in April.

Directors approved the formation of a volunteer working group to match Pleasanton businesses with relevant PUSD career programs to give students access to industry experts.

In September and October 2023, we will be looking for Chamber

members who can offer field trips to CTE classes to see manufacturing, laboratory, retail and restaurant operations. If your company is interested in getting involved, please send me an email at [chamberjillbuck@gmail.com](mailto:chamberjillbuck@gmail.com).