

# About Town

The El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce Monthly Newsletter

*Serving the El Sobrante Business Community Since 1957*

## President's Message

by Nicole Donn, President



The big event in January was our Installation Dinner where the officers and directors of the El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce were sworn in, and the Citizen and Business of the Year awards were presented.

The Green Team and Teri Edlinger were honored for their efforts and hard work they put towards beautifying El Sobrante.

We will be helping various groups in our community create and host fun cultural events and beautifying our town by working with groups like the Green Team and SPAWNERS, dedicated to cleaning the town and the creeks and by helping sponsor murals and public art with groups like Triangle Works (The Shed).

Speaking of public art, we have two murals in the planning phase. One will be a mural of the watershed and will be located on Appian Way near the creek on the west side of the street. The other mural will be on the building that contains the office of the El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce. For that mural businesses will be invited to get a rendition of their business and get advertising for a fee yet to be determined.

We are establishing a Legacy Business designation for businesses that have continuously operated in El Sobrante for at least 20 years. More details will follow in the next few months.

We invite all community members to join us and help your El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce build your business. There is power in numbers! We look forward to hearing your ideas and helping you implement them.

Folks, come out meet your neighbors, and spend your money locally! El Sobrante is a great place to live, work, shop and have a business, and with your help, we can make it even better!

## Board Meeting Schedule

Board meetings are typically held on the first Monday of every month at 5:30 pm. In person at the Chamber office. The 2025 meetings are scheduled to be held on the dates below:

January 6	February 3	March 3	April 7
May 5	June 2	July 7	August 4
September 8	October 6	November 3	December 1

## Chamber Installs the Officers and Board for 2025

On Saturday, January 25, 2025, County Supervisor John Gioia swore in the Officers and Board at a dinner held at the Elks Lodge Banquet Room in El Sobrante. President Nicole Donn returns for another year along with Vice President Judy Ward and Secretary Beverly Wallace . Newly elected Treasurer Joe Sterlino rounded out the Officers of the Board. New Board Member Lorna Padia-Markus joined incumbents Ashok Attri, Donnie Beeler, Marie Carayanis, Jim Cowen, Ronnie Mills, Amina Mostafa, Max Perez, Harpreet Sandhu, Bob Sharp and Harry Weiner. Congratulations to our 2025 Board of Directors.

## February Events

Saturday Feb 1	10:00am -2:00pm	FESL Book Sale	El Sobrante Library
Saturday Feb 15	9:30am – Noon	SPAWNERS Workday	Wilkie Creek site
Saturday Feb 15	10:00am – Noon	Green Team Workday	El Sobrante Library
Saturday Feb 19	5:30pm- ???	Mixer	TBD
EACH SUNDAY	10:00am -2:00pm	Farmers Market	5116 Sobrante Ave
EACH Weekend	10:00am- 2:00pm	Various Programs	The Shed

## Green Team

### 2024 Organization of the Year

The Green Team 94803 cleans up! Green Team 94803 invites you to our next monthly Third Saturday Cleanup (February 15, 10 am) at El Sobrante Library. We have the gear; you just need to be there! We also need help with maintaining the downtown planters and removing graffiti and stickers. Always fun and free! More at [KeepElSobranteBeautiful.info](https://www.KeepElSobranteBeautiful.info), send an email to help out.



## Cloverfield Organic Farm



Cloverfield  
Organic Farm

The Cloverfield Organic Farm article is on the Cloverfield Organic Farm website at:

<https://www.cloverfieldfarm.us/post/2025-february-cloverfield-organic-farm-happenings>



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Sat & Sun, 10am - 2pm  
Nov 16 - Dec 22

[www.TheShedElSobrante.org](http://www.TheShedElSobrante.org)



**THE SHED**



5166 Sobrante Ave.  
at Valley View Ave, El Sobrante

[triangworks@gmail.com](mailto:triangworks@gmail.com)

**The Shed**

A maker's market and workshop, a project of Triangle Works

**The marketplace at The Shed is Open**

Discover your creativity and potential. Come join us at The Shed, a place to explore a variety of media and unleash your creative spirit.

For more information about The Shed and to sign up for our newsletter, visit our website



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## SPAWNERS

Join us for weeding, removing debris, and planting (weather and supply dependent) at our Wilkie Creek Outdoor Classroom on Saturday, February 15 from 9:30am to noon. Meet us next to 4805 Santa Rita Road in Richmond, CA. Water and snacks will be provided-- please bring a reusable water bottle and wear sturdy shoes. All ages and abilities are welcome. Heavy rain cancels.



**Protect your local creek!**

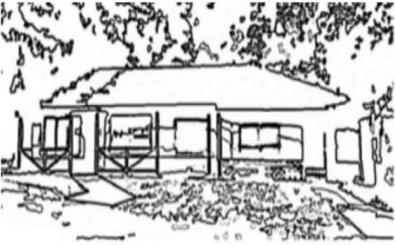
- Volunteer Work Parties
- Nature Walks & Talks
- Educational Programs

**Contact:**  
Ariana Acosta, Program Coordinator  
(707) 559-9742  
ariana@thewatershedproject.org



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**Friends of the El Sobrante Library  
(FESL)**

**BOOK SALE**

**Saturday, February 1, 2025**

**Feature of the Month**  
Romance and Recipes  
Treating your Sweetie

**Time to renew your 2025 membership**  
Members: 10 am - 12 pm  
General: Noon - 2 pm

**Proceeds from book sales fund El Sobrante Library  
programs**



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## Chamber Service Committees

The Chamber works in many ways to improve the community. Beyond being a Chamber member, you may join one of our committees to organize and implement one of the many projects we have. Committees include Beautification, Marketing and Promotions, Scholarship, Special Events, and our Annual STROLL. You may check the box on your membership application or renewal form or contact the Chamber to find out about a committee you might be interested in – [elsobrantechamber793@gmail.com](mailto:elsobrantechamber793@gmail.com).

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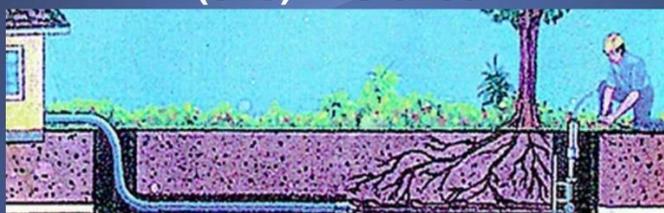
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**Business Hours:  
Monday – Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

## Membership

Join your Chamber and have a voice in shaping the future of your El Sobrante Valley Community. The 2025 Membership application online is on our website at: <https://www.elsobrantechamber.com/mail-applications-for-membership/> or simply complete the application on the next page and return to the chamber office – 3769-B San Pablo Dam Rd. El Sobrante, CA 94803

# El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Date \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ [year first joined]

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Cell \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to appear on published mailing lists? \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no

Would you like to serve on a committee? What is your area of interest?

[Interest areas] \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP DUES and ADVERTISING FEES

**[Membership period February 1 through January 31 of following year, prorated only after August 31]**

Paid annually as follows:	Amount to be paid
Business with 11 or more employees .....	\$200.00 _____
Business with 10 or less employees .....	\$150.00 _____
IN-HOME, sole Proprietor business .....	\$100.00 _____
Non-Profit, local Organization .....	\$100.00 _____
Resident, non-business .....	\$ 40.00 _____

#### Advertising opportunities:

**NEWSLETTER AD:** large ad approx. 4.25" x 5.5" **\$600.00** [only \$50/month] \_\_\_\_\_

Business card ad .. **\$200.00** [less than \$20/month] \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter ads are for the whole year, not prorated. **Art formatted in JPEG style only accepted.**

TOTAL AMOUNT FOR DUES AND NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Pay by check – make payable to EL SOBRANTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

\_\_\_ Pay online – use QR code to link to pay site hosted by Square



*El Sobrante*  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

ADDITIONAL ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES and MEMBER BENEFITS ON NEXT PAGE



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## Do You Have A Business Insurance Professional?

**You know your business.** It relies heavily on your dedication and knowledge. And, your family relies on your business for income.

To protect your family, you need to protect your business.

When a difficult tax issue arises, you consult a tax professional. For a legal issue, you turn to a trusted law professional. It's the same when it comes to insurance.

**Having the proper insurance program is critical.** Why trust those crucial decisions to chance? You need a Business Insurance Professional. That's where Jim Cowen can help. He is one of West County's leading commercial and business agents. Helping small business owners like you isn't his job; it's his commitment.

Before you renew you owe it to yourself to call Jim. You'll be glad you did.

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  - liability
  - auto/trucks
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- o Blue Cross
- o Disability
- o AFLAC
- o Group Life
  
- o Home
- o Auto
- o Umbrellas



### Jim Cowen

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**510-222-7890**

Fax 707-922-2313  
Email: Jim.Cowen@JimCowen.com  
www.JimCowen.com  
Ca Lic 0C88476

**DEADLINE for Submissions for the March Newsletter is Thursday, February 20, 2025.**

## El Sobrante Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

**President** – Nicole Donn – U.S. Financial Mortgage

**Vice President** – Judy Ward – S.P.A.W.N.E.R.S.

**Treasurer** – Joe Sterlino – U.S. Financial Mortgage

**Secretary** – Bev Wallace – Senior Advocate – Contra Costa County

**Director** – Ashok Attri – Owner, Appian Express Mart & Gas

**Director** – Donnie Beeler – Sports Manager , Special Olympics of Northern California

**Director** – Marie Carayanis – Resident, retired local business owner

**Director** – Jim Cowen – Insurance Broker

**Director** – Ronnie Mills – District Coordinator, Office of County Supervisor John Gioia

**Director** – Amina Mostafa – Manager @ Artist Tree

**Director** - Lorna Padia-Marcus – owner, New PJ's Restaurant

**Director** – Max Perez – Owner, Little Big Construction Equipment Rental

**Director** – Harpreet Sandhu – Staff member at Congressman John Garamendi's Office

**Director** – Bob Sharp – Commercial Property Owner

**Director** – Harry Weiner – Director at West County Wastewater District



### EL SOBRANTE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

[www.ElSobranteChamber.com](http://www.ElSobranteChamber.com)

3769 – B San Pablo Dam Road

El Sobrante, CA 94803 Office:

510-275-9254

