Greater Garden Valley Chamber of Commerce
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 13, 2026
6:30 pm

Attendees (Members): *Val Jones (Garden Valley Home & Land), Sara Krantz (GV Library), Ruben & Leslie Lazo (GV Lavender Farm) Scott Price (Crouch Merc), Jennifer Schmitt (Crouch Merc), John Turnbull (Mountain Merch), Samantha Turnbull (Mountain Scoops)*

Attendees (Guests): *Darl Allred, Bec Emery, Alan Ginkel, Steve Raddigan, Debbie Robbins*

Jennifer Schmitt,President, called a meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Pledge of Allegiance recited. Review of previous minutes (June 10, 2026) Samantha Turnbull motioned for approval, Scott Price seconded motion. Minutes approved.

President's Report given by Jennifer Schmitt, President.

- **Fourth of July Recap/Summary**
    - Event was a huge success. Parade had the most participation in years. Fireworks were heavily attended with the singing of the National Anthem and hosted MC, Jordan Shaw, a huge success. Strong attendance throughout the day. Wonderful job from Mud Room cleaning up after the parade. Again, community support for cleanup with minimal.
- **Upcoming Chamber Events**
    - No upcoming events for the chamber as the chamber isn't in a financial position to carry liability insurance. Lack of volunteers makes it difficult to make events happen.
- **Trunk or Treat Update** - Trunk or Treat was never explicitly a chamber event. Over the years a volunteer (usually a business owner) would help coordinate the efforts. In 2025 the chamber was asked to share details about Trunk or Treat by that person. This year no person had indicated an interest so the Chamber when asked had no information to share. The local community has traditionally set up in town and distributed their own candy. Our understanding is that it is a community/city event. A community member is taking on the responsibility this year but has not asked the Chamber to support or share details.
- **Nominating Committee Needed**
    - According to our By-Laws we need a nominating committee to help secure nominees for the four leadership positions (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary). Nominations must take place at the November meeting with official voting-in of members will take place at the December meeting so new executives can begin their terms January 1, 2027.
    - We have had one person interested in taking a leadership role. Val Jones has indicated she would be interested in being the Vice President for the 2027-2029 term.
    - If we are unable to secure individuals to fill the four executive roles then the Chamber will need to be disbanded.

    - ***DESCRIPTION OF ROLE/DUTY:***
        - **President:** The Presidett shall preside at all meetings of the Chamber, and shall vote on issues only in the case of a tie vote.
        - **Vice-President:** The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in case of absence or disability and shall perform other duties as may be assigned by the Board.
        - **Secretary:** The Secretary shall keep minutes of all Board and Chamber meetings, receive and conduct all correspondence on behalf of the Chamber and may perform other duties as assigned by the Board.
        - **Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall receive and safely keep all monies belonging to the Chamber. That person shall pay out monies only upon orders of the Board and shall keep a complete and accurate account of all receipts and disbursement of funds, Financial records shall be open for inspection by any Chamber member at any reasonable time. The Board shall designate a Bank in which chamber monies shall be held. The Treasurer will also ensure all Chamber government paperwork is filed annually.

- **Issues Facing the Chamber**
    - Constant criticism and misinformation being shared online instead of coming to meetings or reaching out to find answers. We have had a substantial amount of "rumors" circulate town without any initiative to reach out for clarification with the chamber.

- Drop in Membership due to individuals retiring or no longer wishing to be tangled up in the division within the community. According to Samantha, many individuals have stated that they don't want to be involved as it places a target on them personally and in terms of their businesses.
- The amount of online "keyboard warrior" activity against the Chamber and a lack of support from current members makes the leadership positions very difficult to be in. All four of us have been attacked and slandered online without an opportunity to defend ourselves.
- Lack of volunteers at events. There is little to no community support and many members are unable or unwilling to provide support on event days.
- Inability to qualify for grants as the chamber is not a 501c(3) organization. Without this designation, the chamber cannot qualify for many grants and large corporation sponsorships.

Vice-President's Report - Scott Price, Vice-President

- **NYE Lanterns** - This event was started by the chamber as a fundraiser toward the GV Schools Scholarship. After only 4 individuals showed up to clean up after the event last year and hearing many concerns from surrounding landowners, the chamber has decided NOT to hold the Lantern Lighting. If another individual wants to host the event, they need to speak with the GV Recreation District, surrounding land owners, obtain liability insurance, and provide clean-up no later than 10am on January 1st as many surrounding properties house animals that can and are affected by the lanterns in their pastures. People are bringing their own lanterns that are not biodegradable and contain metal which can harm livestock.

Treasurer's Report given Mary Thompson, Treasurer

- Balance as of 10/13/26: $1,140.27
- Monthly Expenses: $84.00 (Storage Fee)
- The Chamber currently has 44 active members, 39 non-renewals which is a major financial blow to the.
- No membership renewals for the remainder of the year.

Secretary's Report given by Samantha Turnbull, Secretary

- **SWITA Update**: We could not accept the 2026-2027 SWITA grant as it required a yearlong commitment and at the time we could not guarantee that the Chamber would still be operational for that period of time. We also could not meet the financial requirements for the grant. We can apply in the future and maintain our grandfather position as long as current SWITA members. The next application period would be in February 2027.
- **Social Media Update**: We continue to grow our followers. See attached Quarterly Report which was submitted for the July 1st-September 30th period.
- **Website Updates**: Business Directory will be updated to reflect current members. Designation will be given for those members who actively participate in the Chamber meetings/events. Request by public individuals to provide a copy of these businesses so they can show support to those who support our community and our chamber.

Committee Reports (no current committee)

Unfinished business (none)

The election of At-Large Board Members

- We have one person interested in joining the At-Large Board. At this time, it doesn't seem prudent to bring in a new member as we can't guarantee there will be a chamber.
- Leslie Lazo motioned that we table voting in any At-Large Board members until the new Executive Committee takes over. John Turnbull seconded the motion. Ayes have the vote. Motion passes.

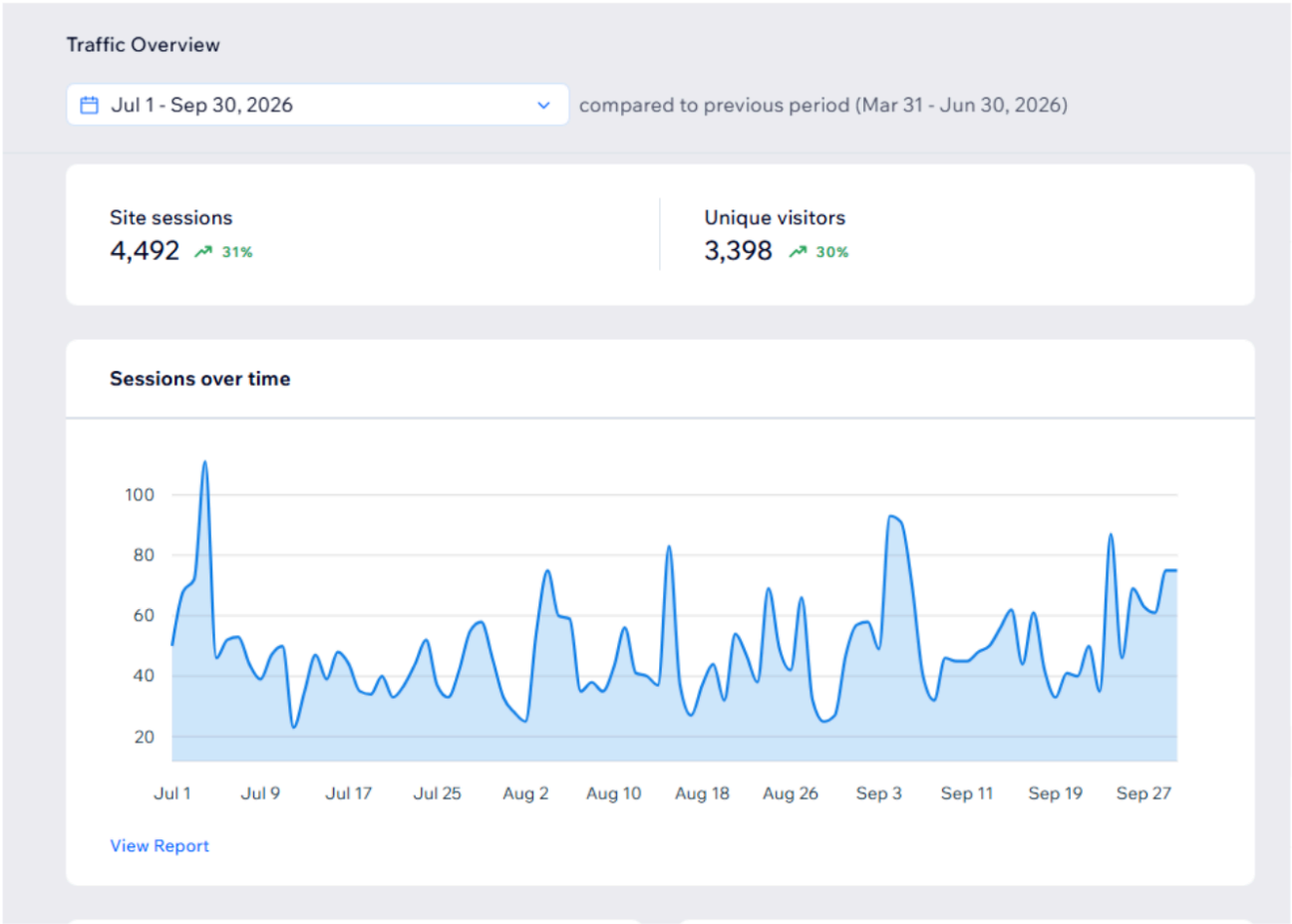
New Business/Announcements:

- The Great Pumpkin Hunt is taking place to raise money for a disc golf course at the Park. Flyers can be found around town with details on the event and how to participate. Samantha Turnbull motioned: For this event chamber membership is not necessary for the business to be promoted by the Chamber as the individual does not have a business. Mary Thompson seconded motion.
- The Merc will be hosting The Lit-Up Parade & Chili Cookoff again this year. Chili Cookoff will take place in between The Merc & Tante Emma's under a tent. No fee. Just show up and plan to have fun. More details can be found at The Merc or by emailing Jen directly. Jennifer Schmitt <crouchmercandcountrystore@gmail.com>

Motion to adjourn made by John Turnbull. Seconded by Scott Price. Meeting adjourned at 7:26pm.

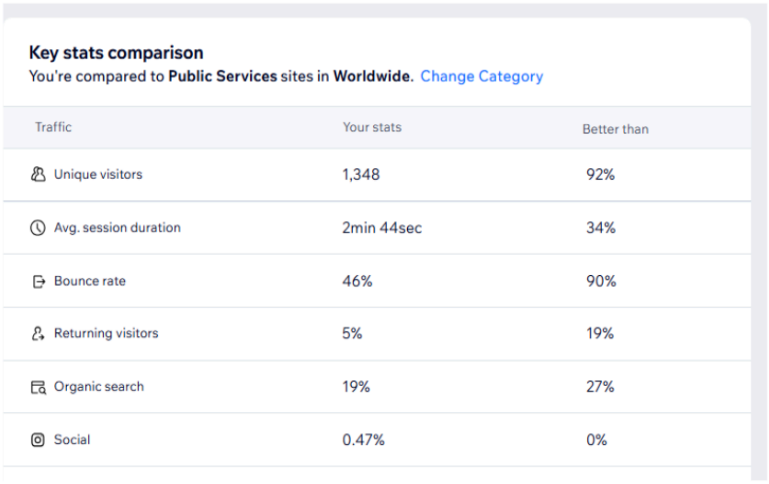
Garden Valley Chamber-Narrative (Jul-Sept 2026)

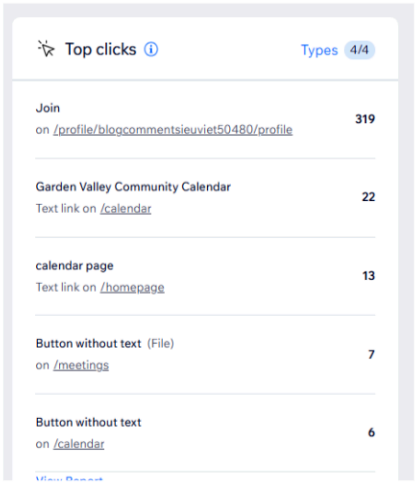
www.gvchamber.org



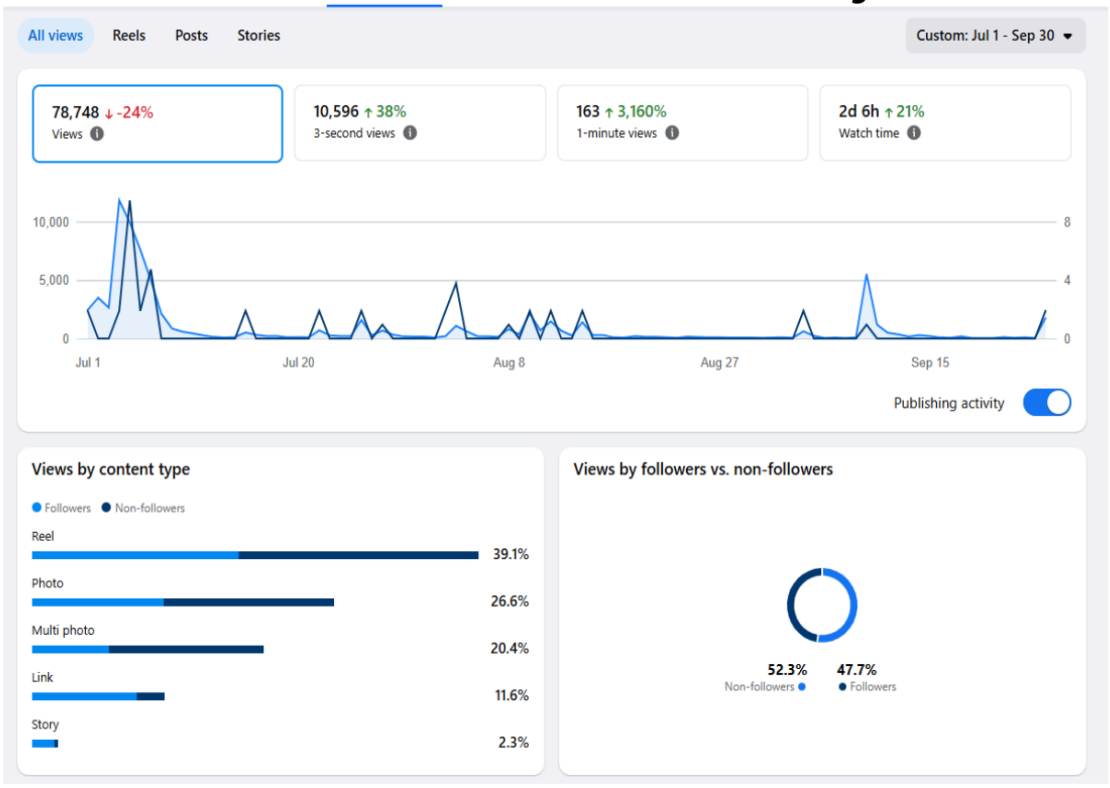








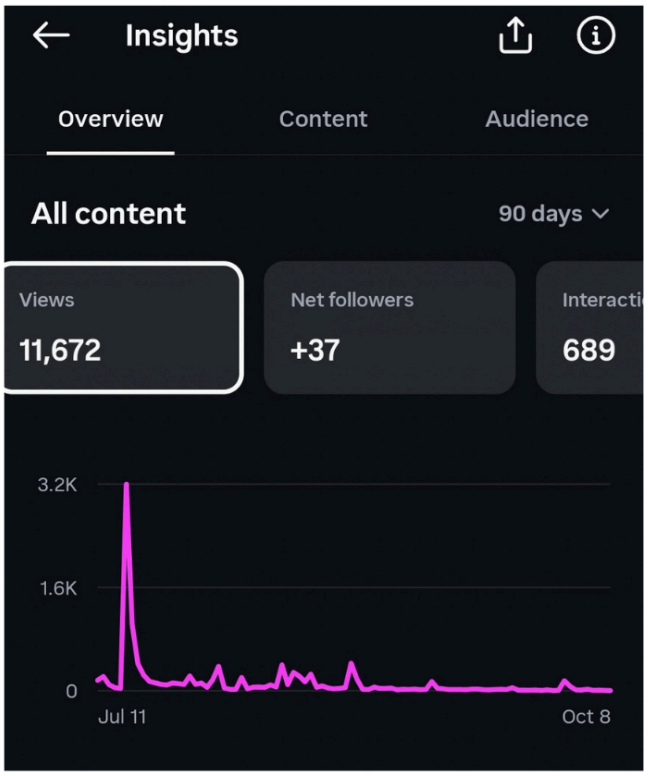
Facebook - Greater Garden Valley Chamber

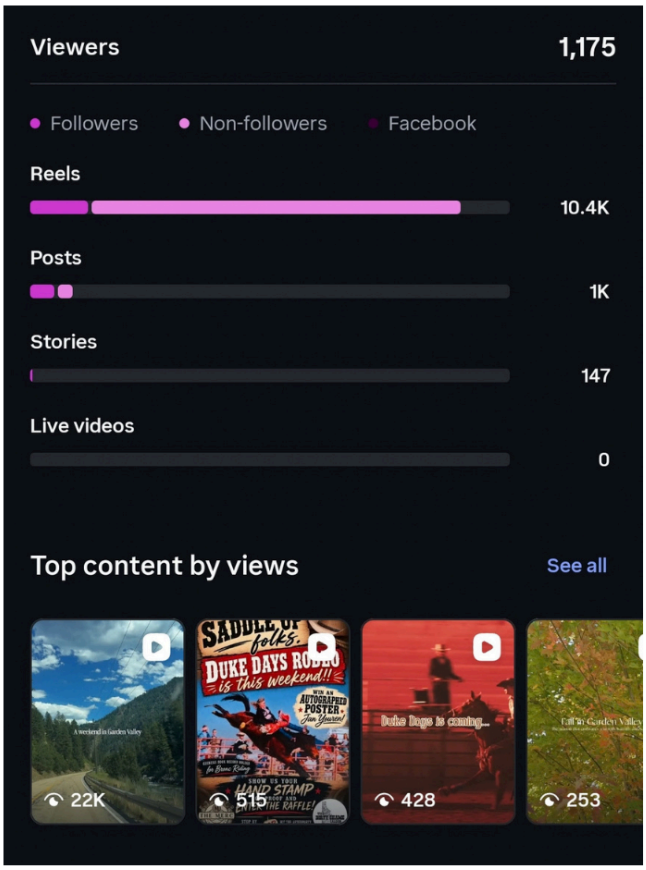




Instagram - @gardenvalleychamberidaho







Chamber Members As of 10/16/26

indicates they have attended a monthly meeting during the current two year term

Bachman Custom Homes **	Locking Horns Restaurant
Bear Valley Rafting	Medicap Pharmacy**
Cascade Refrigeration	Middlefork Trading Post
Church of Jesus Christ Latter-Day-Saints	Miller Enterprises **
Dakota Stallions Idaho Farm Bureau Insurance	Mountain America Credit Union **
ERA West Wind Real Estate	Mountain Merch, LLC **
Fidelity Plumbing	Mountain Rise Bakehouse **
GV Center for the Arts	Mountain Scoops **
Garden Valley Community Radio	Mountain Village Resort
Garden Valley District Library **	PR Boys Construction
Garden Valley Fire Protection **	Payette Forward Thrift Shop
Garden Valley Homes & Land **	Power, Inc.
Garden Valley Lavender Farm **	Project Patch **
Garden Valley Market**	Stoddard Construction
Garden Valley Properties **	Strategic Planning Partners
Garden Valley Saturday Market	Tante Emma’s
Garden Valley Senior Center	Terrace Lakes Resort
Garden Valley Smiles	The Dirty Shame Saloon **
Goff’s Plumbing	The Merc - Crouch **
Idaho Pest Control	The Mud Room **
Individual Members- Kraig & Katja Wees **	Three Bears Inn **
Kinetico Water Systems **	Wish Granters **