



**Chas Bonner**  
**Business Development / Mergers & Acquisitions**

**C**harles B. “Chas” Bonner has deep roots in the farming and food business. He was born and raised in Fresno, CA into a family that was in the dried fruit business for 3 generations. After going through Fresno area schools, he went to college at “The Farm” (Stanford University), graduating in 1965.

During his junior year in college, Chas had the opportunity to move to Germany and build a small food plant, which was the type of work he had done every summer during high school and college. After completing college, Chas decided against joining the family business, first seeking experience in the grocery field working for a food broker in New York City.

After a year in the Big Apple, he returned to Fresno, joining a family business that was founded by his grandfather in 1892. Chas had developed a deeper production background, added food brokerage experience to his resume, then joined the sales team at Bonner Packing Company. After 10 years, Chas was chosen as president following the retirement of his father. After a fabulous 8 year run in this role, the company was sold to MEI Corp., a NYSE company primarily in the soft drink business.

Immediately after the sale, Chas was invited to join with the merger/acquisition advisor hired to sell Bonner Packing Co. Due to contract and earnout provisions, he was prevented from pursuing this opportunity, and therefore stayed on as

president of the company for 5 more years, facilitating a subsequent sale to Dole Fruit Co.

Shortly thereafter, Chas joined Western Companies, Inc, a middle market mergers and acquisitions company, and almost immediately found himself flying solo when the owner acquired one of the companies he represented. As a result, in 1989 he started Pacific Resources Inc., focusing on middle market companies.

Eighteen M&A deals and six venture deals later, Chas and his wife Torene, (sudden “empty-nesters,”) decided to move to Idaho and enjoy the outdoor activities that had been a major part of their lives. Ultimately the Bonners settled in Boise, a city they had always loved because it was the state capitol, a hub of business and cultural activity, a university town, always rated as one of the best places in America to live, and easy to fly in and out of.

After years of painful commuting back and forth to Fresno continuing his M&A business, and after much discussion with Brett MacNeil, president of Scythe & Spade, Chas decided to return to his roots --- land, agriculture, food---the heart and soul of our lives, and he joined the company as VP of Business Development.

Chas is a very inquisitive individual who has proven adept at focusing on targets and moving projects forward. He is a natural organizer who manages time, resources and people efficiently. In his role as VP of Business Development Chas is tasked with investment and M & A activity in Agribusiness.