



NEWSLETTER

President's Message

There's a new crop of freshman legislators at the State Capitol and we have plans to make personal connections with them so that they know our farmers and understand our agriculture industry and why we support or oppose certain legislation and regulations.



Bonnie, Annette and Terry

By the time you read this, Terry Dereniuk, Bonnie Sears and myself will have been at the Capitol during the CWA SWM and Legislative visits on May 6 and 7. Thanks to Terry's advance work setting up our legislative appointments, we will have visited and dialogued with seven legislators and/or their staff, including Assemblypersons Wes Chesbro, Mariko Yamada and Senator Noreen Evans. In

addition, we will have met with four other legislators from urban areas.

Toni Scully continues her active involvement on the Board of the Grape and Tree Fruit League and has been instrumental in securing Brian Leahy, Director, Department of Pesticide Regulations as our keynote speaker for the November 8, 2013 session of AgVenture. At Toni's suggestion, we are also working on a one day session for legislators and other state government officials that will highlight Lake County agriculture. Our mission of education, promotion and advocacy on behalf of agriculture is like farming itself—plant the seeds, cultivate the crop, and produce a product that is desired and appreciated. Our community members, regulators, lawmakers and elected officials are the "fertile ground" where we must direct our efforts.

It's important to put a face to the family farmer; remember, consumers are not just buying your product, they're buying the story behind your product.

- LCCWA President Annette Hopkins

Calendar

June 14-16
Lake County
"Spring Fair"
Lake County
Fairgrounds

June 27
LCCWA
Summer Social
Annual Meeting

July 18
Farm Bureau
Annual Dinner

July 27-28
Wine Adventure
Weekend

SAVE THE DATE!:

CWA Summer Social (and Annual Meeting)

Thursday, June 27 from 5:30-8:30

Wildhurst Winery Courtyard, Kelseyville

Please bring hors d'oeuvre and beverage of choice to share.

Spouses are welcome!



OLIVE FESTIVAL REPORT:

Thanks to Livia Kurtz, Festival organizer and member of the Lake County Chapter of CWA, our AgVenture and scholarship programs were once again the recipients of the proceeds from a silent



Terry Dereniuk, Annette Hopkins and Diane Henderson.

auction at the 2013 Kelseyville Olive Festival held on Sunday, April 21 at Chacewater Winery and Olive Mill. We enjoyed a great turnout, lots of interest in our silent auction items, and warmer weather than last year.

Our chapter realized over \$1,100 from this event. Several of our members responded to the call for donations for the silent auction. Thank you to Wilda Shock, Colleen Rentsch and the Seely Farm Stand, Andrea Adams and the Soper Reese

Theatre, Karlene Ellis, Bonnie Sears, Paula Bryant and Umpqua Bank, Debra Watson and the Jitter Bean Coffee of Lakeport, Dana DiRicco, Rebecca Southwick & Sutter Lakeside Hospital, Susan Feiler and the Lake County Wine Studio, and Livia Kurtz and Rosa d'Oro Vineyards for their generous donations.

Thanks also go to Annette Hopkins, Diane Henderson, Carol Maxwell, Claudia Street, Toni Scully, and Lori McGuire for manning our booth. We were able to introduce several people to CWA throughout the day and picked up a number of applications for membership. *-Terry Dereniuk*



Our Silent Auction Table with volunteers and visitors



SENDING LOTS OF SUNSHINE TO:

-Sharron and Broc Zoller (and daughter Analiese and husband) for the arrival of Breck Milton Lombard!

-Carmen Carpenter, now back home and doing well with caregiver Sally!

-Pamela Kirkpatrick, Chuck March and Linda Holdenried as they continue to bravely battle health challenges!

-Elizabeth Springer as she recovers from a fall!

AGVENTURE 2013 UPDATE:

Planning meetings have begun for the 2013 AgVenture program, our chapter's fourth year! This year's planning team includes Annette Hopkins, Toni Scully, Diane Henderson, Paula Bryant, Claudia Street and myself.

Dates for the 2013 program will be August 16th for pears; September 20th for winegrapes; October 18th for walnuts; and November 8th for olives. Also on November 8th will be a keynote address from Brian Leahy, Director of the Department of Pesticide Regulations, and graduation from the program. (Kudos to Toni for suggesting Brian.)

We are also working on a one day educational session "Come Tour Lake County Family Farms" for legislators and other state government officials, suggested by Toni after the Grape and Tree Fruit League legislative visits earlier this spring. Participants will be invited to schedule a date to visit local farms representing our major crops and talk with Lake County farmers. We will have handed out invitations for the program during our legislative visits at the May 6th and 7th statewide meeting in Sacramento.

-Terry Dereniuk



Ag Venture 2012: Diane Henderson, Annette Hopkins, Senator Noreen Evans, Terry Dereniuk, Toni Scully and Michelle Scully

LAKE COUNTY FARM BUREAU NEWS

Lake County Farm Bureau has several ongoing projects, the most significant of which is the potential listing of the Clear Lake Hitch as endangered or threatened under both the federal Endangered Species Act and the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). The Center for Biological Diversity filed a petition requesting the listing. The California Fish and Game Commission voted 2-1 to commence a one-year status review to determine if a listing is warranted, which immediately gave the Hitch protected status.

LCFB has been directly involved in the discussions regarding the potential listing. Assisted by professional staff from CFBF, we are consulting with representatives from the California Fish and Game Department and partnering with representatives from county groups like the Chamber of Commerce and the

Chi Council to understand the ramifications of a listing.

There is no doubt that the ramifications would be widespread; essentially everyone in Lake County would be affected, especially the farmers, the lake fishermen, and all homeowners who draw water from either the lake or tributary streams. For more information on the issue, contact the Farm Bureau office at 263-0911.

Upcoming events sponsored by LCFB are a Heat Illness Workshop in June and a Forklift Training Workshop in July (dates to be announced). sure to mark your calendars for the Farm Bureau "Love of the Land" event and annual meeting scheduled for July 18 at the Cole Creek Equestrian Center. We are making some changes this year and promise a fun time for all!

- Diane Henderson

A SPECIAL SHOUT OUT TO:

- Jennifer Keithly, Erick Orozco and Lindee Jones, LCCWA scholarship recipients for 2013
 - Janice Stokes, for her years of outstanding dedication as LCCWA's Historian! (We are now actively seeking a new historian. Any volunteers?)
 - Cobb Mt. Elementary, Kelseyville Kids Garden Club and Mt. Vista Middle School as recipients of Teacher Mini-Grants to be used for ag projects!
 - New Members Jeanette Bartley, Carleen Butler, Melissa Fulton, LC Chamber of Commerce, Irene Rivas, Lindee Jones, Karen Hook and Mary Brown. We are now 100 members strong!
 - Donors: Jonas Oil, Stokes Ladders, Westamerica Bank, and Beckstoffer Vineyards.
 - Jenn Keithly, recently admitted to U.C. Davis Veterinary School
 - Rachel White, recently admitted to Azusa Pacific University School of Nursing, San Diego
 - Rick Hamilton and RAH Outdoors for donating a new CWA banner
 - Paula Bryant (Umpqua Bank) for her involvement in Relay For Life and Operation Tango Mike
 - Bonnie Sears for outstanding LCCWA Facebook work
 - State President Karri Hammerstrom for being awarded the Common Threads Award in Fresno given to women who have gone above and beyond for California Agriculture
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IMMIGRATION UPDATE:

We are hopefully optimistic that useful immigration reform is on the way, after years of futile attempts to get Congress to tackle the thorny issue.

Senate bill 744 (Schumer) is a comprehensive proposal designed to encourage experienced farm workers, who comprise most of America's current farm workforce, to earn legal residency by fulfilling a future work requirement in agriculture and meeting other conditions. It would also create a new agricultural visa program--distinct from the unworkable H-2A program—to admit foreign workers to work specifically in agriculture for up to three years at a time.

Meanwhile, in the House two key Republicans (Gowdy and Goodlatte) have announced their intention to put forth two stand alone bills (as opposed to comprehensive reform). One would focus on foreign agricultural workers, and the other would make the E-Verify system mandatory.

While it is anyone's guess what will come out of this process, the harvest is drawing near and already farm worker shortages have been reported throughout the state. Please, whenever possible, help your non-ag friends and family understand how desperately we need to fix our broken immigration system.

- Toni Scully

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Please let us know your thoughts on our newsletter. We are always open to change and improvement. Send your input to dpmcg@pacific.net

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