



NEWSLETTER

President's Message

LCCWA has had a tremendous year making an impact in our community through our commitment to education, promotion and advocacy of agriculture. We gave three \$1,000 scholarships to students pursuing agricultural related studies and six \$100 teacher mini-grants to K-8 teachers with school gardens and other agricultural curriculum. This is made possible through your membership dues and donations, our pear pie and turnover sales at the Pear Festival and through the generosity of community sponsorships (see a complete list on our website.)

We have completed year four of our AgVenture program, designed to educate non-farm community leaders about agriculture in Lake County. With twelve participants each year, we have provided forty-eight class members with information that gives them the knowledge to understand, advocate for and promote agriculture. We hosted Assemblyman Marc Levine-D, Marin (and his aide, Stephanie Tuft, who is also an AgVenture 2013 class member) for a one day visit to Lake County Family Farms in order to provide him with information and connections in his

efforts to advocate for agriculture at the Capitol.

Our newsletter, website (lakecountycwa.org) and Facebook posts keep our members and the community connected to agricultural information. If we don't address topics important to agriculture and create our own dialogue, others will define our issues and not always in ways that are truthful or accurate. At the end of this year I will complete my two year presidency of LCCWA. It has been a great pleasure to work with the women of LCCWA who serve on the Board, chair and serve on committees, volunteer for projects and programs and offer support in so many ways. I would also like to acknowledge our partnership with the Lake County Farm Bureau and Claudia Street, the Executive Director (and also our LCCWA Recording Secretary.) Through our combined efforts we continue to serve the agricultural community of Lake County. Membership renewal letters will arrive in your mailbox sometime in December. Thank you for your continued support of Lake County California Women For Agriculture. Enjoy the upcoming holiday season!

-Annette Hopkins

Calendar

November 2-3
SWM-Monterey

November 21, 5:30
*Fall Social and Installation
of Officers*
Riviera Hills Restaurant.

January 10-12, 2014
**CWA Annual
Convention, Petaluma**

March 8-9, 2014
SWM - Blythe

SENDING LOTS OF SUNSHINE TO:

Carmen Carpenter, Elizabeth Springer, Pamela Kirkpatrick and Chuck March as they continue to face health challenges.

Always in our hearts and minds!



CWA and LAKE COUNTY FARM BUREAU Partner to Deliver LEGISLATOR TOUR!



The Lake County CWA chapter and Lake County Farm Bureau teamed up to host a one-day farm tour for Assemblymember Marc Levine (D – San Rafael) and his aide, Stephanie Tuft on October 1st. Assemblymember Levine is a first term legislator who represents Marin and Sonoma counties and is the Chair of the Select Committee on Agriculture and the Environment. During a meeting with Toni Scully earlier this year, Assemblymember Levine told her that he wanted to come to Lake County to learn more about agriculture. Tour day began at the office of the Lake County Farm Bureau with coffee and a warm welcome by CWA President Annette Hopkins. Planning team members Claudia Street, Paula Bryant, Toni Scully, Diane Henderson, and Terry Dereniuk, joined Annette in welcoming Levine and Tuft to Lake County.

Alan Flora, Deputy Administrative Officer for Lake County, made a brief presentation outlining the important role that agriculture plays in the Lake County economy. Following his remarks, the group boarded the Military Funeral Honors Team van for tours of Henderson Orchards and Scully Packing. At each stop, Levine and Tuft heard about employee and training programs, the impact

of regulations, industry efforts to be at the forefront in resolving problems, and other aspects of being in the agriculture business in California.

Lunch was held at Ely Stage Stop with a wine tasting that showcased 4 of the top varietals produced in Lake County and tasty lunch prepared by Rosie Cooks. Megan Hoberg, Lake County Winery Association, and Debra Sommerfield, Lake County Winegrape Commission, made brief remarks about the wine industry in Lake County. Sharron and Broc Zoller, and Randy Krag also joined us for lunch.

The final tour of the day was to Beckstoffer Vineyards with a presentation by Randy Krag. At the end of the day, Assemblymember Levine had high praise for the tour and said that he felt it was a very valuable use of his time.



The one-day program is a joint effort between Lake County CWA and Lake County Farm Bureau to provide legislators, regulators, and their staffs with a chance to tour and meet farmers and hear about the issues and challenges of farming in California. We want to thank several individuals and organizations who made donations to support the event including Sutter Lakeside Hospital, Lake County Winegrape Commission, Lake County Winery Association, Nova Vineyards, Shed Horn Cellars, Umpqua Bank and Ely Stage Stop.

- Terry Dereniuk

DID YOU KNOW?

Milton and Ellen Heath have been in the wine industry since the mid-sixties, owning 40 acres of Zinfandel vineyards in Kelseyville, Lake County, California. Their Nova Vineyards produces some of Northern California's best Zinfandel grapes. Zinfandel Clone #13 from Nova Vineyards was released from Foundation Plant Services (FPS) in August 2002.

In 1992 Milton and Ellen bought property in Sebastopol, which came with exotic birds and a small nursery for exotic plants. Ellen picked the flowers and sold them to florists.

The need for high quality grapevine materials prompted Ellen, with lots of help, to gradually turn the nursery into a grapevine nursery. In 1995, Milton sold his propane business and joined the nursery. NovaVine, Inc. was established in 1996.

Jay R. Jensen joined the operations in 1997. In that same year, the 26-acre Skylark Nursery east of Santa Rosa near Kenwood was purchased and is currently headquarters to the business.

Jay, Chief Executive Officer at NovaVine, is responsible for both daily operations and directing strategic planning. Jay is currently serving on the Board of Directors for the California Grape Rootstock Improvement Commission and the Grape Advisory Committee for Foundation Plant Services (FPS). Ellen continues to serve on the Lake County CWA board as south county representative.

The following are highlights from the NovaVine, Inc. Company Profile:

-NovaVine secured a broad array of desirable rootstock and scion selections from FPA (Davis) during its first year for propagation and grafting under the guidance of the California Department of Food and Agriculture's "Grapevine Registration and Certification Program."

-NovaVine moved its headquarters to the Kenwood location in December 1997 after renovating the existing greenhouse and office.

-In December 1997 a partnership was formed with VIVAI COOPERATIVI RAUSCEDO (VCR), the world's largest and most respected grapevine nursery based in Italy, north of Venice. This gave VCR a significant equity position in NovaVine and was established to permit transfer of propagation/grafting technology and know-how between California and Europe. It also secured NovaVine exclusive North American propagation rights to VCR's super-premium series of French and Italian grapevine clones and selections.

-In January 1998 NovaVine in cooperation with VCR imported 20 premium European clones belonging to the "VCR" series. This importation was the first in a series that has to date brought more than 35 previously unavailable clones into the U.S. The clones must spend a minimum of two years undergoing disease status evaluation at FPS before being released from quarantine.

-1998 was NovaVine's first year of production and all product was delivered by the end of July. In June of 1998 NovaVine began a green propagation and grafting program focused on the production of rootstock and grafted varietal plants for the company's increase block.

-In July 1998, NovaVine entered into a long-term lease arrangement in Woodland, California for the purpose of growing and harvesting CDFA-certified rootstock and scion cuttings. At the same time, NovaVine signed a vineyard management agreement.

-Rootstock and scion increase block plants were planted in Woodland. Additional acres of rootstock and scion increase are scheduled for planting each spring. Benchgrafting operations start in January for product due for delivery as potted vines in spring and dormant vines to be delivered the next spring.

For more information, log on to NovaVine's website:

<http://www.novavine.com/profile.htm>

2013 PEAR FESTIVAL:



Once again, the LCCWA Pear Festival Pie and Turnover fundraiser was an outstanding success, with \$2,789.94 in profits from sales. Our collaborator, the Finley Grange, netted \$1,405.50.

Especially exciting was this year's visit by award-winning food and travel publication *Saveur Magazine*, who interviewed several of our seasoned workers and members who were preparing the pies and turnovers on the day before the festival. Their article,

with photos, will be featured in a 2015 magazine edition.

Many thanks to Susie Kauffman and Dena Keithly for their tireless efforts toward this project, as well as the many LCCWA members and others who gave their time and skills in preparing and selling the delicious pies and turnovers. Kudos to Scully Packing and Adobe Packing for their donations of Bartlett pears, and to the Kelseyville Presbyterian Church for the use of their kitchen and Friendship Hall.

LCCWA monies from this fundraiser will go toward scholarships for promising young folks interested in a career in an agriculture-related field. - *Lori McGuire*



A SPECIAL SHOUT OUT TO:

-ELY STAGE STOP for donating their facility; TERRY DERENIUK, DIANE HENDERSON and CLAUDIA STREET for their stellar efforts toward this day; and REBECCA SOUTHWICK and SUTTER LAKE HOSPITAL for lending tables and chairs!

-MARILYN HOLDENRIED and staff for another outstanding Pear Festival! And, our DENA KEITHLY and SUSAN KAUFFMAN for once again spearheading our successful festival pear pie and turnover project!

-JENNIFER KEITHLY, recent LCCWA scholarship recipient, for continuing to advocate for agriculture as a freshman at U.C. Davis Veterinary School!

-MARY BROWN, LCCWA past scholarship recipient and sophomore at Baylor University, Texas - and her quarter horse Zippos Petite Prince- for their first American Quarter Horse Youth Association World Championship in Western Riding!

-All contributors - including TONI AND PHIL SCULLY OF SCULLY PACKING for Lake County Bartlett Pears - to the Country Store at the Ag Boosters BBQ Fresno SWM!

BOB BARTLEY PUMP, INC. for a very generous donation!

2013 AGVENTURE PROGRAM IS OFF AND RUNNING!

The fourth AgVenture program got off to a great start on August 16th. This year's class members come from a variety of backgrounds including government, healthcare, media, and non-profit. AgVenture 2013 again covers the principle crops of Lake County agriculture in 4 one-day sessions. The first two were held in August and September. Session 3, which focuses on the walnut industry, is set for October 18th. Class members have been very positive in their feedback on this year's program and have been very excited to actually see harvest in process. Day 1 was held on August 16th. "Pear Day" included presentations and tours that focused on the pear industry. Class members enjoyed a walk through history with Myron Holdenried, tours of Henderson

Orchards and Scully Packing and presentations that took them from the pears on the tree in the orchard through harvest, packing, and sales to the consumer. Bryan Little of California Farm Bureau finished the day with a thought provoking presentation on the state of immigration reform.

The wine and winegrape industry was showcased during day 2 on September 20th. The day started at Umpqua Bank with informative presentations by Scott DeLeon and Claudia Street on water issues. Following a tour and presentations at Beckstoffer Vineyards, class members enjoyed a delicious lunch at Vigilance prepared by Chic le Chef and a fascinating presentation on the activities of the Lake County Winegrape Commission by President Debra Sommerfield. A visit to Gregory Graham winery finished up the day in grand style. - *Terry Dereniuk*

LCCWA AWARDS MINI-GRANTS TO THREE LAKE COUNTY SCHOOLS

Lakeport Elementary, Coyote Valley Elementary and Lower Lake Elementary were the recipients of this year's LCCWA \$100.00 mini-grants to fund agriculture-related educational projects. Pam Klier from Lakeport Elementary stated that her kindergarten class will focus on a project entitled "Where Does Our Food Come From?" in coming months. They will grow vegetables from seeds and taste foods made from all parts of the plants they grow.

Elsie Mackesy, first-grade teacher at Coyote Valley Elementary, reports that they will maintain the school garden, paying particular attention to fall and spring planting, and hoping to eventually develop a worm farm and insulate their garden water pipes.

Lisa Rogers, teacher at Lower Lake Elementary and coordinator of their Environmental Outdoor Club, said that students will be the educators and managers of the compost bins, which will be used in their science classroom.

All three teachers promised that the grants will be used wisely to promote agriculture and an awareness and appreciation for food sources.

-Excerpts from the Lake County Record- Bee's October 16 edition.

FARM BUREAU NEWS:

The California Farm Bureau Federation has named Lake County Farm Bureau the 2013 County of the Year for our membership class. LCFB received Activities of Excellence awards in five areas: Membership, Policy Implementation, Leadership, Ag Education, and Public Relations.

At the California Farm Bureau Annual Meeting in December in Monterey, our Executive Director, Claudia Street, and our President of the Board, Marc Hooper, will be welcomed to the stage for special recognition during the awards banquet.

Winning the membership class puts LCFB in the running for the Golden State Award and the Innovator Award, which will be announced that same evening. We are proud of what our county Farm Bureau members and Board of Directors have achieved. - *Diane Henderson*



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