



NEWSLETTER

President's Message

The 2016 harvest is under way. The start of pear harvest marks the beginning of the long harvest season for Lake County's major commercial crops. In spite of the loss of many pear orchards during hard times, Lake County still provides 20% of all the pears grown in California and 30% of the pears on the fresh market. Pear picking begins with the earlier red varieties before moving to the principal Bartlett crop. As pear picking nears an end, the wine grape harvest commences, white varieties before red varieties. Following grapes are olives and finally walnuts, which finish sometime in November. Of course, Lake County farmers who grow produce for direct sale at farmers' markets or roadside farm stands have been harvesting since spring and will continue through October.

The businesses that handle the products of harvest have seasonal operations as well. Scully Packing Company started packing pears in mid-July with fruit brought in from the earlier Sacramento Valley area. They will continue to run pears until all the late varieties like Bosc and Comice have finished up, usually by early September. Likewise, the wineries will begin the crush with the first grapes picked, but their work continues for months after that. It is the same with the olive mills like our own Chacewater Olive Mill and with the walnut dehydrators, which work well into the winter to dry and market all the nuts.

Other businesses that both support and depend upon the annual agricultural harvests are tractor and forklift rental companies, trucking companies, sanitation companies that provide portable sinks and toilets, Lake County Waste Solutions that provides dumpsters, and local hardware stores that provide everything from water coolers to gloves to equipment accessories. Local fuel companies see a boost in demand at this time of year, too, of course.

It is the labor force, however, that sees the biggest surge during the harvest season. Scully Packing Company hires 450-500 workers to run their two packing houses, and these workers include older teenagers who can earn a great deal in a short time to save for college or help with living expenses. The wineries and walnut dehydrators also hire seasonal crews. Even many of the companies supporting agriculture have to hire additional personnel during harvest time. This influx of labor also means increased business for local stores and restaurants.

The biggest labor demand is for picking crews. For pears we need some 600 pickers to get the crop in before losing fruit to ripeness. (The number needed varies with the size of the crop.) The amount of labor needed to harvest all the crops is much more than can be supplied by our local labor force. We depend upon a migrant seasonal labor force that moves from the earlier Sacramento Valley tree crops like cherries, peaches and apricots, to pears. When the pears are finished in the valley, the pickers come to Lake County and Mendocino County to pick pears. After that, some stay for the grape harvest and others move on to either the later north-west pear and apple crops or to Corning for the big olive harvest. Agriculture depends heavily on these skilled migrant crews, which is precisely why we desperately need a guest worker program!

Looking at the wide ranging effect that harvest time has on our local businesses and communities helps us to understand how very important agriculture is to Lake County's economy. And it is not only a source of income for many, but a source of rural beauty, family roots, and personal pride.

-Diane Henderson

Calendar

Sept. 4-6: Lake County Fair
Sept. 9: AgVenture, Session 2
Sept. 10-11 SWM Leaders, Cal Poly, Pomona
Sept. 11: Ag Boosters BBQ and Country Store Madera
Sept. 17: LC Wine Alliance Auction Fundraiser
Sept. 23: Pear pie baking for the Pear Festival
Sept. 24: Pear pie selling at the Pear Festival
Sept. 24: Kelseyville Pear Festival
Oct. 14: AgVenture Session 3
Nov. 4: AgVenture Session 4
Nov. 12-13: SWM AgBooster BBQ



SENDING SUNSHINE

Our hearts and thoughts are with the following:
 BONNIE SEARS on the loss of her mother; DON EUTENIER, PAMELA KIRKPATRICK, TONI BROWN, and CHUCK MARCH as they continue to brave health challenges!

LAKE COUNY FARM BUREAU NEWS

Thank you to all who attended and contributed to Celebration 2016 on July 7th! Through the Dessert Auction and raffle, we were able to raise over \$5000 for scholarships and other farm-focused programs! This year's event enjoyed great weather and we are deeply thankful to John and Joanne Van Eck of Cole Creek Equestrian Center for the generous donation of their facility.

Unfortunately, Sylvia Pascoe had to leave Farm Bureau for the foreseeable future. We are hoping to rehire her for Irrigated Lands billing in the fall. In the meantime, we have hired a new office assistant to fill her position. Eunice Rivera is a Lake County local with a background in agricultural field work and she is bilingual! We are so happy to have her positive energy in the office.

The Lake County Sub-watershed Group was conditionally approved for a reduced monitoring program by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. This will potentially save Lake County farmers money in the coming years of high monitoring. In order for Lake County to be fully approved, the Regional Board is waiting for results of the 2016 summer water quality testing for malathion in Middle Creek and McGaugh Slough. We expect to have zero exceedances and hope to hear a confirmation of the approval in the fall.

Finally, due to the suite of Medical Marijuana bills passed last October, the Lake County Planning Department and Board of Supervisors are revising Article 72 which was passed as Measure N by the residents of the county in 2014. Lake County Farm Bureau will be involved in advising county staff and supervisors on these land-use issues surrounding the cultivation of marijuana. We encourage all farmers, ranchers and residents to become active in voicing your opinions or concerns to your elected supervisor, as these decisions have the potential to impact Lake County well into the future.

Brenna Sullivan

HEARTY SHOUT OUT!

This month we give a hearty shout out to the following:

- ❖ President DIANE HENDERSON and Lakeport Area Representative JILL JENSEN for putting together a great Spring Social!
- ❖ Also to SUZANNE SHOLZ and TEAM for their help with the Ely Stage Stop spring social venue!
- ❖ TONI SCULLY for arranging for CECILIA AGUIAR-CURRY to attend the social!
- ❖ KAREN HOOK, with help from husband JERRY, for the excellent LCCWA display at Umpqua Bank!
- ❖ The LAKE COUNTY WINE ALLIANCE for their outstanding fundraisers and subsequent generosity to our community!
- ❖ HANNA SCULLY for her excellent representation at the Miss California pageant!
- ❖ All the FARMERS, RANCHERS and EMPLOYEES who have helped put Lake County on the map with the 2015 100 million dollar plus crop value!
- ❖ BRENNA SULLIVAN for addressing the Lake County Planning Commission on LC Farm Bureau's stance on the proposed changes to medical marijuana legislation!
- ❖ ST. IVES for their new Pear Nectar and Soy body lotion!
- ❖ PAULA BRYANT AND UMPQUA BANK for continuing to provide meeting rooms and other assistance with our activities!
- ❖ MICHELLE SCULLY for her years as outstanding Executive Director of Marymount California University's Lakeside Campus!
- ❖ MARILYN HOLDENRIED, LCCWA's founding President, and founder of the Kelseyville Pear Festival. After 23 years, she is handing over the reins. We are all amazed at the growth and progress the Festival has made under her stellar leadership, and want to congratulate her on her years of devotion to this wonderful event!

TEACHER MINI-GRANTS

Please encourage Lake County teachers to apply for the LCCWA Mini-Grants. Contact Karen Jones (707-355-0227 or karen.jones@middletownusd.org) or Courtney VanLeuven (707-631-4408 or courtneyvanleuven@gmail.com) for information. Log on to www.lakecountycwa.org for applications or pick them up at the Lake County Office of Education.



IT'S HARVEST SEASON!

Let's not only enjoy the "bounty of our county" by shopping at local grocery stores, farmers markets and roadside farm stands, but also show appreciation and support for our hard-working ranchers, farmers, shed owners and employees, and all the laborers and transporters who make our county the agricultural success that it is! The 2015 crop value surpassed the one million dollar mark, and we are hoping for another banner year. Best of luck to all involved!



Henderson Orchards

AGVENTURE UPDATE

The first AgVenture session was held on Friday, August 5th and was a great success and focused on the Lake County pear industry. Presenters included Myron Holdenried, owner of Holdenried Ranches, Brenna Sullivan, Farm Bureau Executive Director, Diane Henderson, owner of Henderson Orchards, Dr. Broc Zoller, "The Pear Doctor, Inc.," Toni Scully, owner of Scully Packing Company and Pat Scully, General Manager with Scully Packing Company. Class topics included the importance of agriculture to the economy, crop marketing, integrated pest management, regulatory compliance, and the history and evolution of Lake County agriculture. The class visited Henderson Orchards to witness pear harvest, and the day also included a visit to the Scully Packing Company's shed in Finley.



AgVenture 2016 class

Members of the 2016 class include: Robert Massarelli, Lake County Community Development Director; Katherine "Kat" McDowell Real Estate Broker, Real Estate Alliance and Lease; Deborah Swartz Business Representative, Community Development; Will Evans, Deputy Water Resources Director, County of Lake; Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Property Management, Community Mitigation and Consulting; Roberta Lyons, Conservation Chair, Redbud Audubon Society; Morgen Wells, Public Relations and Philanthropy, Sutter Lakeside Hospital; Genevieve V. Jopanda, Chief of Staff, State Board of Equalization; Brian Martin, Sheriff, County of Lake; Mark Melendez, Agricultural Biologist, County of Lake; Courtney Van Leuven, Adjunct Agricultural Instructor, Lake County Campus of Woodland College; and Victoria Brandon, Lake County Sierra Club.

The next session on September 9th, will focus on winegrapes and the class will visit Laujor Estates Winery, Gregory Graham Winery, and Beckstoffer Vineyards. The day will include a bus tour of the Big Valley District, the Red Hills, and the Kelsey Bench viticultural areas.

Brenna Sullivan

PEAR FESTIVAL COMING SOON!

LCCWA will once again be baking and selling pear pies and turnovers at the Kelseyville Pear Festival! Volunteers are needed (for any time commitment) making/baking/boxing on Friday, September 23 between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Kelseyville Presbyterian Church 5340 3rd St. (please contact Andrea Adams @279-9191 or 707-489-2773); and also for selling at the Festival (2 hr. shifts 8:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.) on Saturday, September 24th (please contact Morgen Wells@330-510-9578) This is our major fundraiser for scholarships! Come join the fun!



Bonnie Sears and Pamela Kirkpatrick

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR FRESNO SWM AND COUNTRY STORE



We invite anyone who wishes to contribute this year to bring items to Scully Packing, Finley, by September 3rd. Needed are arts and crafts items and non-perishable items such as jams, jellies, salsas, dried pears, and cracked walnuts. Please include name, ingredients and contact information. THANK YOU SO MUCH!

LCCWA DISPLAY AT UMPQUA BANK

Our Karen Hook (Kelseyville Area Representative) with help from husband Jerry once again put together an outstanding LCCWA display at Umpqua Bank. Their work is another example of excellence in getting the word out to our community about LCCWA and Lake County Agriculture. To Paula Bryant and Umpqua Bank—we thank you yet again for giving us the opportunity to showcase LCCWA and its goals.



RECENT DONORS

Since our last newsletter, the following donors have made greatly appreciated contributions to our organization and its goals. A HEARTY THANK YOU to:

TOMKINS TAX CONSULTANTS
LAKE COUNTY FARM BUREAU
LUCERNE ROOFING & SUPPLY, INC.
SCULLY PACKING



BELLA VISTA FARMING
AMERICAN AG CREDIT
RAINBOW AG

Thank you to all donors and members! Your support is vital to helping us reach our goals!

THE LCCWA SAGA, CONTINUED . . .

In our May newsletter, we featured successive generations of our membership. In this edition, we would like to continue to recognize those who have helped make our organization a success, take a look at those who help make us strong today, and even take a peek into the future. Member WILDA SHOCK and her mother JANE BARNES, member MONICA ROSENTHAL, and possible future member HANNA SCULLY are subjects worthy of our attention.

JANE BARNES was an early LCCWA member, remaining active until her death in 2001. She invited her daughter WILDA to attend the spring luncheon meeting at the Rainbow Restaurant in 1982 during Wilda's first year back in Lake County. Wilda was elected Chapter President at the end of that year, serving in 1983 and 1984, then serving as District Director for two years, and State Finance Director for one year. "I've enjoyed being newsletter editor, media relations and scholarship committee chair, along with chairing the sales portion of the Pear Festival pear pie booth for 10 years and a member of the initial AgVenture Steering Committee. CWA has kept me in touch with agricultural issues and legislation and, more importantly, the members of the Lake County Chapter who make significant contributions on so many levels to our community." It is because of the dedication of members like Jane Barnes and her daughter Wilda Shock that our organization has flourished. Wilda continues to serve in several leadership capacities in various organizations throughout our county. Thank you, Wilda, for your remarkable service and accomplishments!



MONICA ROSENTHAL, recent recipient of the Lake County Woman of the Year award and District 1 Supervisor finalist, represents the ongoing strength of our membership today. Rosenthal and her husband Dave grow wine grapes and operate a small wine brand, R Vineyards. Every year she strives to farm better, incorporate sustainable practices, overcome new challenges (last year it was fire) and bring in a healthy harvest. "Agriculture gave me roots in Middletown. Having grown up as an Air Force child, this is the longest I have lived anywhere—22 + years. I love it here. I love the open space and I like sitting on the tailgate of a truck looking out at the beauty of Lake County. I like seeing children exposed to the rodeos, 4-H, FFA and the Lake County Fair. I like seeing my son and friends return to the ranch. I like farming. That is why I am a member of the Lake County Women for Agriculture. LCCWA is dedicated to promoting the Lake County ag industry in an intelligent and truthful way. I always brag about the LCCWA AgVenture program, which does a super job educating the community leaders, consumers and government officials about Lake County farming."

Rosenthal is a leading Board of Supervisors' candidate who seeks to better connect education and ag in the local school systems and promote a variety of ag and ag-related job opportunities in Lake County. "I will assist LCCWA in its efforts to advocate for fair and reasonable farming and ag regulation that affects local farming. Often decisions are made at the state or federal level that are well-intended, but don't translate well to a small rural community like Lake County. As Lake County supervisor, I will promote tourism, agritourism, farm-to-table experiences and farmers markets and continue to support LCCWA."

Rosenthal served as Lake County Planning Commissioner from 2007-2009, graduated from the California Farm Bureau Federation Leadership Class of 2010, and served as a Director with the Lake County Farm Bureau and the Lake County Winegrape Commission. We congratulate Monica on her accomplishments, commend her for her efforts to support Lake County Agriculture and wish her the best in the fall election!

And then there are inspirational youth such as HANNA SCULLY—member Pam Scully's daughter, member Toni Scully's granddaughter and member Michelle Scully's niece—that give us hope for the future. A recent Miss Lake County Outstanding Teen who has taken on orphaned dogs as her platform, Hanna commented that someday she would like to operate a pear shed in Lake County. (Wonder what inspired that...) We wish Hanna continued success and can't help but think that one day soon she will join our ranks, making her family another three-generation LCCWA phenomenon!

-Lori McGuire



SPRING SOCIAL

Please enjoy these photos of our wonderful Spring Social held at Ely Stage Stop in May!



LCCWA President Diane Henderson



Britta Rae, Lori McGuire and Wilda Shock



Myron Holdenried and Mike Adams



Guests enjoy dinner



Wyatt Jones and Carson Holdenried



Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Michelle Scully, Toni Scully



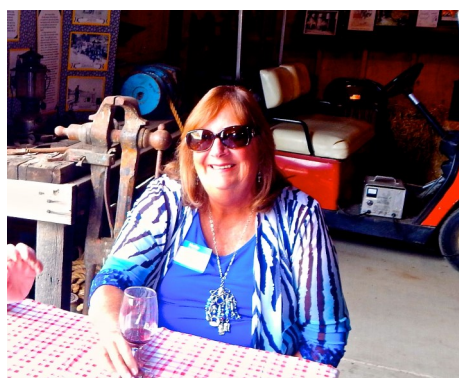
Sharron Zoller, Karen Hook, Gaye Allen, Jerry Hook



Honoring generations of LCCWA members



A bountiful buffet



Kris Eutenier



Skip Rohner and Carolyn Henderson-Rohner



Janice Stokes and Margaret Eutenier



Taste Madera!

CWA September Statewide Meeting September 10-11

Come experience the bounty of Madera county at the September Statewide Meeting! From dairies to wine, Madera grows it all. This fun-filled SWM includes tour stops at Organic Pastures Dairy, a certified raw dairy, lunch with the woman behind the cold-pressed pomegranate juicery Homegrown Cellars and wine tasting at Ficklin Vineyards.

On Saturday evening join us at The Vineyard Restaurant (a local favorite!) for a delicious meal that will feature only California grown cuisine and highlight in-season produce right from Madera county!

Executive Committee will meet at the Madera County Farm Bureau on Saturday at 4:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

The Ag Boosters BBQ Packaging Room at Springhill Suites will be open Saturday and Sunday. Please drop off Silent Auction Baskets, Commodity Showcase items, and Country Store Items at the packaging room.

Hotel Accommodations

Springhill Suites
1219 E Almond Avenue, Madera
Reserve your room under group
"California Women for Ag"
online or over the phone
(559) 664-9800
by **August 26, 2016**
Single/Double: \$109

SWM Location

8:30 a.m.

Madera County Farm
Bureau
1102 South Pine St.
Madera

Registration

Make checks payable to
Tulare-Kings CWA

Return to:

Tulare-Kings CWA - Alyssa Houtby
Post Office Box 3812
Visalia, CA 93278
tularekingscwa@gmail.com

Register to Attend!

Name: _____ CWA Chapter: _____
Address: _____ City/Zip: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____

	Cost	# attending	Cost
Statewide Meeting Registration	\$25 each	_____	_____
Saturday Tours 9:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m. (bus departs from the hotel, lunch included)	\$40 each	_____	_____
Saturday Dinner at The Vineyard 6:30 p.m.	\$40 each	_____	_____
Ag Boosters BBQ Ticket \$50		_____	_____
Late Fee (add \$10 if postmarked after August 26, 2016)			_____

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