



# NEWSLETTER

## President's Message

### *Do you know...?*

We are off to the start of the last month of another year – one that has brought us opportunities as well as challenges. Looking back, we all remember the fires and the horrific impact on our landscape and clean air. Thankfully, the smoke has dissipated and our skies are once again clear.

But all was not horrible this year and for our chapter - it was another year of accomplishments that made a difference. Thank you for your support in helping this happen. Looking forward to 2019, I want to make sure that you are aware of a couple of programs that provide opportunities for the Lake County agricultural community.

The work on the 2018 Farm Bill is hopefully nearing completion in Washington after more rounds of negotiations in the House and Senate Agriculture Committee on the details. At this point, the final legislative text has not been released. If this bill is passed before the end of the year, it will be the first time since 1990 that the farm bill has passed the same year that it was introduced.

Farm Bill legislation affects many aspects of agriculture from conservation to commodities pricing to the food stamp program. Historically, it has also contained provisions for crop insurance, grant funding and other types of financial assistance.

Crop insurance has been a big topic of conversation in the winegrape industry here in Lake County over the past few months. Being someone who is pretty risk adverse and a believer in insuring against risks, we carry crop insurance for our vineyard. That feeling is not universal with others in the industry making a different decision and passing on coverage.

Crop insurance is federally subsidized under the provisions of the Farm Bill with a percentage of the premiums picked up by the Federal Government. After the Mendocino Complex fires, reports of contracts being cancelled for smoke exposure brought crop insurance front and center.

In an effort to provide more information on this coverage, the Lake County Farm Bureau and Lake County Winegrape Commission have partnered with the Mendocino County Farm Bureau, California Association of Winegrape Growers, and Allied Grape Growers to plan a seminar on crop insurance. Save the date for January 8, 2019 from 9:00 am - 11:00 am at the Lodge at Blue Lakes. The seminar will cover an overview of crop insurance, an update from the Risk Management Agency, and information from agents and adjusters.

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is also under the Farm Bill. This program offers funding for local farmers to help them implement improvements that keep their land healthy and productive. The program is competitive, with projects ranked based on state and local ranking criteria.

Applications are currently being accepted for the Fiscal Year - 2019 EQIP program. The local NRCS staff provides expert advice and assistance to help develop a plan that meets NRCS standards and the individual farmer's objectives.

Former President Diane Henderson is a believer in this program. She upgraded the irrigation system in her orchards a few years ago. She applied under EQIP and was approved for funding to pay for a portion of the project. For more information, visit <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/eqip/> or contact the local NRCS office at (707) 262-7091, x 105.

I wish you and your family a holiday season filled with love and peace.

~ Terry Dereniuk

## Calendar

**Dec 11** Lake County Chapter Installation Social, Lake Event Design, Lakeport, CA

**Jan 8** Crop Insurance Seminar, Lodge at Blue Lakes, Upper Lake, CA

**Jan 11 - 13** Annual Meeting and Convention, Solvang, CA

**March 3-4** - Statewide Meeting, Lodi, CA

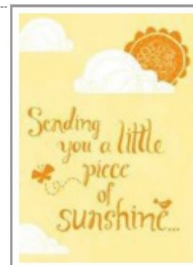
**March 22-25** - American Agri-Women Mid Year Meeting, St. Louis, MO

**May 7-8** - Statewide Meeting and Legislative Visits, Sacramento, CA

## SENDING SUNSHINE

We would like to extend our thoughts and hearts to all who continue to bravely face health issues:

PAMELA KIRKPATRICK, PAT MCGUIRE, KEITH PETTERSON, MELODY TUTTLE, TONETTE BROWN, and CHUCK MARCH.



## SHOUT OUT!

We are pleased to give a hearty SHOUT OUT to the following:

- ❖ KAREN and JERRY HOOK who were honored as Grand Marshalls at this year's Pear Festival Parade!
- ❖ ALL THOSE who contributed to the Country Store held in September in Madera: According to TONI SCULLY — who once again headed up the gathering and shipping — this was the biggest and best effort to date!
- ❖ ANDREA ADAMS, COMMITTEE and HELPERS (please see her article) who worked tirelessly to make this year's Pear Pie and Turnover scholarship fundraiser a resounding success!
- ❖ CAROLYN HENDERSON-ROHNER, founding LCCWA member, (and who celebrated her ninetieth year this spring) for continuing to lend her expert hands to the pear peeling festivities!
- ❖ SCULLY PACKING, under TONI SCULLY'S guidance, for once again providing the wonderful Bartlett Pears for our Pear Pie and Turnover baking!
- ❖ ERICA BOOMER, Upper Lake Agriculture Teacher and Advisor, who advanced to the highest honor as California's Teacher of the Year! This from her Superintendent, Dr. Giovanni: "She exemplifies what we all strive to be as educators - her level of compassion and ethics, drive and education."
- ❖ MICHELLE SCULLY who conceived the idea of Bountiful Boxes (filled with Lake County foodstuffs) - a benefit for the Lake County Hunger Task Force - now in its ninth year!
- ❖ BESS GIANNAKAKIS and BLAISE BAHARA, LCCWA members, who were featured yet again (this time for their LC quilt trail quilt and in Lake County News) for their outstanding DANCING POLY FARM and FOODS venture! Check out their 2019 Cookin' on the Farm class schedule!
- ❖ AGRIHOODS, and all other creative projects, which combine dwellings with edible gardening opportunities!
- ❖ LCCWA for being the third largest chapter in California!
- ❖ UMPQUA BANK for continuing to lend us their conference room for our meetings!



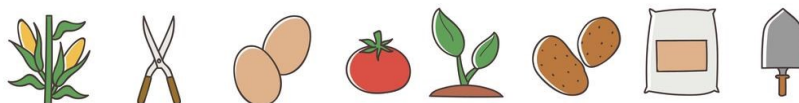
Jerry and Karen Hook

## AND FROM THE ARCHIVES

This from a 2005 LCCWA Newsletter: "Congratulations to Erica Boomer! Erica is a third generation CWA member. She is the daughter of Rachel Quist and the granddaughter of Matilda Robinson. Erica has been hired to start an Ag program at Upper Lake High School. (You may remember responding to her survey for feasibility and desirability of an ag program at Upper Lake High School of which she is an alumnus.) She will be teaching Ag Science, Ag Mechanics, Forestry and Math. She completed her student teaching at Turlock this month. Erica will be spending her summer developing the program and looking into funding and donations. She and her husband, who works at Kenwood Winery, are trying to find a middle ground to settle in. He would eventually like to get a job in Lake County and wants to continue to work in wine production. Our best of wishes to Erica as she embarks on this important career guiding our next generation of family farmers!"

*-Tracey Hawkins*

(And, as they say, the rest is history!)



LCCWA wishes everybody a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



## WINEGRAPE GROWERS FOCUS ON RESEARCH AND COLLABORATION TO MINIMIZE WILDFIRE IMPACT IN FUTURE YEARS

With an increase in the number and duration of large wildfires, the Lake County Winegrape Commission is working with industry partners to explore ways to combat the effect of smoke exposure on winegrapes.

In early September, the Commission initiated the “Wildland Fire Smoke Impact on Winegrapes Research Project” to compile relevant data gathered in the most recent wildfire as a means to find solutions that will help wineries and grape growers minimize the impact from these natural disasters. This project comprises regional sampling, data gathering, weather- and fire-related GIS modeling, and sensory analysis. Project partners include UC Davis, UC Cooperative Extension, ETS Laboratories, Australian Wine Research Institute, Western Weather Group, Lake County Air Quality Management District, and individual winegrape growers and vintners.

“We hope our collaborations are able to propel a more precise understanding of wildfire impacts on winegrapes,” said Debra Sommerfield, President of the Lake County Winegrape Commission. “It’s our intent to support innovative new findings that will not only further the understanding of impacts for winegrape growers in Lake County, but also set a precedent for the importance of future research across Northern California.”

To further understand the effects of smoke from wildland fires on grapes and wines, the Commission also is collaborating with the California Association of Winegrape Growers (CAWG), the Lake County Farm Bureau, and agricultural groups in neighboring Mendocino County in CAWG’s request to Congress to expand the scope of an existing disaster assistance bill. The request identifies the need for \$5.25 million in funding to support intensive research to prevent and limit the effect of smoke on winegrapes.

**About Lake County Winegrape Commission:** Established in 1991, the Lake County Winegrape Commission (LCWC) has been instrumental in developing the Lake County region’s unwavering commitment to farming high-quality winegrapes. A state agency with oversight by the California Department of Food & Agriculture, LCWC represents approximately 180 winegrape growers farming approximately 9,500 acres of vineyards in Lake County and works on behalf of those growers in the areas of marketing, research, and education. More information can be found at <https://www.lakecountywinegrape.org/>.



*~ Debra Sommerfield, Lake County Winegrape Commission President*

### RECENT DONORS

We would like to acknowledge and extend our gratitude to the following who have made generous donations since our last publication, and without whom we could not achieve our goals:

Campodonico Olive Farm	\$150.00	(AgVenture)
Cat’s Paw Vineyards	\$100.00	(AgVenture)
Broc & Sharron Zoller	\$300.00	(AgVenture)
Gabrielle O’Neill	\$50.00	
Hawk & Horse Winery	\$20.00	





## 2018 LCCWA and BIG VALLEY HALL PEAR PIE AND TURNOVER SALE

2018 again saw the Lake County chapter of California Women for Agriculture (LCCWA) and the Big Valley Hall (BVH) partnering for a successful scholarship fundraising event for each organization. The event started several months in advance with each organization obtaining health department permits, arranging for the use of kitchen facilities, coordinating recipes and planning for the activities.

Prior to this event, toppings and supplies are purchased, prepared and stored at the Big Valley Hall and Kelseyville Presbyterian Church. Work starts on Friday before the Kelseyville Pear Festival and ends late into the afternoon on Festival day. The day before, volunteers gather together to prepare and bake the pies and turnovers for the following day. The day begins with the volunteers firing up the ovens, peeling and slicing pears, and preparing the phyllo dough and crusts for the pies and turnovers. On the day of the festival the booth is set up, the pies and turnovers are moved to the Festival, volunteers gather to staff the booth and the sales begin.

Every year the tradition of selling homemade pies from the local chapters of LCCWA and BVH results in selling out well before noon. Many annual buyers make reservations ahead of time and some buy un-baked pies to freeze and save for the holidays.

A testament to the days when communities gathered together for a harvest celebration, this annual tradition reflects the generosity of its community members who come together, donate their time, and, in many cases, supplies and donations for this event.

I would like to give a big SHOUT OUT to the BIG VALLEY HALL and ALL THEIR HELPING HANDS, the use of their kitchen and freezer, and their perfect finished products every time. Thank you and see you next year!



Janice Stokes, Sharron Zoller, Tina Scott, Sarah Dorn and Susie Kauffman; Carlene Ellis and Janice Kathy McGuire with students



Carolyn Henderson-Rohner and Margaret Eutenier

Colleen Rentsh

Blair Brookes, Andrea Adams



## PEAR PIE CONT'D.



Myron and Marilyn Holdenried; Andy and Toni Scully; Toni Scully; LCCWA President Terry Dereniuk; Pear Pie Chair Andrea Adams

To all the LCCWA HELPING HANDS, another big SHOUT OUT! Let me tell you what it takes to get this project done: For all the donated cases of pears, the pie top makers, the box assembly workers and labelers, pear peelers, pear dicers, pear bakers, oven controllers, turnover makers, spicers, sealers, folders, bakers, booth putter uppers and taker downers, pie carriers from the church to the booth, bank depositors and money counters, equipment suppliers (pizza paddle), coffee makers, set up at the church, clean up at the church, early morning, mid-day and into the evening helpers for 2 days, Kelseyville students helping in so many ways on Saturday early morning until the end, Umpqua Bank for storage, Kelseyville Presbyterian Church for the use of their kitchen and Friendship Hall, the pear festival committee that makes it all possible for the community, and, of course, the many, many product buyers — to all I say THANK YOU! —and I look forward to this tradition bringing us together in years to come!

~ Andrea Adams, Pear Chair

## FARM BUREAU NEWS



LCFB Float at Pear Festival

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from the Lake County Farm Bureau office!

We will begin sending out the 2018 Irrigated Lands invoices in December. If your bill needs corrections, please contact the office for an adjustment. As a reminder, the 2018 invoice will reflect your fees and irrigated acreage for the 2018 growing year. If you have added or removed any irrigated acreage for 2019, this will be reflected in next year's bill. Your payments are due back to the office by January 31st.

We hope to see you at the Ag Department Continuing Education class on December 20 at the Lake County Board of Supervisors Chambers. This meeting will offer CE credits and will contain a number of important regulatory updates including annual Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program requirements.

A Crop Insurance Seminar will be offered on January 8 from 9-11 am at the Blue Lakes Lodge. This event is a joint effort by the Lake and Mendocino County Farm Bureaus, Lake County Winegrape Commission, California Association of Winegrape Growers and Allied Grape Growers. Topics covered will be an overview of crop insurance, an update from the Risk Management Agency and information from agents and adjusters. Advance registration required. Reserve your space now. Visit: <http://bit.ly/ins-seminar>

We wish all of Lake County's farmers and ranchers a happy holiday season. Thank you for your continued membership and support!

~ Brenna Sullivan, Executive Director





## AGVENTURE 2018 CLASS GRADUATES

Community leaders attended the final session of the AgVenture 2018 program on November 2, 2018. This session marked the close of the ninth year of the AgVenture program. Created by the Lake County Chapter of the California Women for Agriculture, AgVenture is an agricultural educational program devised for non-farming community leaders who aspire to understand the vital role that agriculture plays in Lake County.

Session Four showcased Lake County olives production and farm labor issues. Class members learned about the Lake County Agriculture Department from Katherine VanDerWall and olive oil production from Paul Manuel and Emilio dela Cruz before touring the Chacewater Olive Mill and olive orchards. Cecilia Chi-Ham, PhD of HM Clause gave a presentation of the role of science and technology in agricultural production and class members heard about labor issues framed in policy and practical perspectives from Bryan Little from the Farm Employers Labor Service and David Weiss of Bella Vista Farming Company. The session culminated in a Farm Labor Panel facilitated by local pear farmer Diane Henderson. The panelists were Octavio Jimenez of Scully Packing Company, and Jacklyn Rodriguez and Juan Sanchez from Bella Vista Farming Company.

2018 class graduates were Vector Control District Manager and Jamie Scott; Director of Lake County Water Resources David Cowan; Viticulturist Brodie McCarthy; Vice-Chair of the Lake County Planning and Commission John Hess; winegrape grower Monica Rosenthal; Calpine Purchasing Supervisor Stacy McGrath; cannabis farmer Bob Skalla; Pest Control Advisor Lindee Jones; Ag Biologist and Weights and Measures Inspector Venkata Vaddella; owner of InkFarm Creative Karen Pavone, and Ag Biologist Janice Luke. Class members are selected yearly through an application process. Selection into the program is based on the applicant's interest in the program, their professional position in the community, and their ability to help maintain a viable agricultural industry in Lake County. Program acceptance is competitive.

Generous sponsors for the 2018 series of seminars include the following people and businesses: Cindy Bain, Biotechnology Innovation Organization, Boatique Winery, Bob Bartley Pump, Inc., Chacewater Winery & Olive Mill, Cat's Paw Vineyard, Garton Tractor, Henderson Orchards, Hillside Honda & RV, International Paper, Lake County Farm Bureau, Lake County Winegrape Commission, Lake County Winery Association, Lakeport Tire and Auto, Laujor Winery, Monica Rosenthal, Savings Bank of Mendocino County, Scully Packing, Tallman Hotel, UCC Rental & RV, Umpqua Bank, Dock Factory Lake Limos and Wilda Shock. Premier Transportation Sponsors included American Ag Credit, Calpine Corporation, and Sutter Lakeside Hospital.

The AgVenture program Steering Committee, all CWA members, are Annette Hopkins, Toni Scully, Diane Henderson, Terry Dereniuk, and Brenna Sullivan.



AgVenture Class members at the Tallman Hotel: Lindee Jones, Janice Luke, Karen Pavone, Stacy McGrath, Jamie Scott, David Cowan, Monica Rosenthal, Venkata Vaddella, Brodie McCarthy and John Hess. Not pictured: Bob Skalla



## FROM FARM TO FORK FOR THE HOLIDAYS

*(Thanks to a suggestion from Lianne Campodonico, we will be featuring recipes from now on. Would love to highlight local products in the recipes, and would love to hear from you!)*

**GINGER PEAR BREAD:** What better way to use our local products for a heavenly holiday treat!

10 - 12 servings. prep time 15 minutes cook time: 1 hour

**INGREDIENTS:**

**Topping:** 1/4 cup (50g) firmly packed light brown sugar  
1/4 cup (30 g) chopped WALNUTS (original calls for pecans)

1/2 tablespoon all-purpose flour

1/2 tablespoon unsalted butter, melted

**Bread:** 1&3/4 cups (210g) all-purpose flour

1/2 teaspoon baking soda

1 teaspoon baking powder

1 & 1/2 teaspoons freshly grated ginger

1/2 teaspoon salt

6 tablespoons (85 g) butter, softened

1 cup (200g) firmly packed brown sugar

1 large egg

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1/2 cup milk

1 cup peeled and finely chopped ripe, firm PEAR

**DIRECTIONS:**

**Topping:** 1. Combine the brown sugar, walnuts and flour in a small bowl.

2. Add the butter and mix well. Set aside.

**Bread:** 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Grease a 9" x 5" loaf pan.

2. Whisk together the flour, baking soda, baking powder, ginger, and salt. Set aside.

3. Using an electric mixer on medium speed, beat the butter and brown sugar until light and fluffy. Add the egg and vanilla, and mix well.

4. Reduce mixer speed to low. Add the flour mixture in three portions, alternating with two portions of milk. Mix just until combined.

5. Stir in the pears.

6. Transfer the batter to the prepared pan, and spread evenly.

7. Sprinkle the topping over the batter, pressing it down gently into the batter.

8. Bake 50 to 60 minutes, or until the bread has browned and a pick inserted into the center comes out clean.

9. Cool the bread in the pan for about 10 minutes. Then remove from pan to a wire rack to cool completely. (Serve with whipping cream or ice cream.)

ENJOY! From "Bake or Break" online



## DISTRICT DIRECTOR REPORT

This year advocacy, membership and communication were the state CWA's focus. All three are short and long-term goals with a continuum of annual action plans. With advocacy, the May's SWM legislative orientation and legislators' visits and the November SWM's program built around advocacy training (supported by a grant from Bayer) hopefully will empower members with more skills and self-confidence. Membership and communication are intertwined. Communications and outreach to the membership regarding the activities at the state level involves improving, expanding and enhancing. With that in mind, after the first of the year each member will be receiving a survey from state CWA inviting input and ideas. The State CWA wants to be responsive to the membership's needs and chapters' expectations. When the survey lands in your 'inbox' please take a moment to complete the questionnaire. This time of year our days are more densely packed with activities, planning and shopping, sometimes moving at 'breakneck speed'! We should pause to reflect on what accomplishment or event this year we are most proud of or grateful for. Take a moment to STOP—Stop to center yourself. Take a breath—no really, a deep cleansing breath. Observe the events around you and see what can be postponed. Proceed slowly with renewed mindfulness to take a moment to STOP! Cheers to all!

~ Sharron Zoller, District Director





## DECEMBER 2018 LCCWA INSTALLATION SOCIAL

“Let the warmth of the friendship take the chill from the air, and the spirit of the season make the winter easier to bear” read the introduction to this year’s Winter Installation Social invitation. The photos below are certainly evidence of this! The beautiful venue (Lake Event Design at 1605 So Main St.) provided the warm and festive backdrop for delicious potluck dishes, fine wine, and cordial conversation! Installed at the December 11th social by Annette Hopkins were the officers for the 2019 LCCWA slate: President Terry Dereniuk; Vice President, Sausha Racine; Recording Secretary, Margaret Eutenier; Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Ehr; Treasurer, Muffie Panella; and Area Representatives Karen Hook, Kelseyville; Jill Jensen, Lakeport; Susan Feiler, Upper Lake; and Karen Jones, (Middletown) South County. We eagerly look forward to another successful year at LCCWA advocating, representing, promoting and educating!



Carol Brandt



Janice Stokes, Muffie Panella and Annette Hopkins



Melissa Fulton



Barbara Ehr



Karen Hook



Lori Holmes and Stacey Mattina







Diane Henderson, Carolyn Henderson-Rohner, Sandy Robertson, Annette Hopkins and Barbara Ehr; Wilda Shock, Mellissa Fulton and Lianne Campodonico



The fabulous banquet table!



Andrea Adams and Lianne Campodonico



2019 LCCWA Officer Team: Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Ehr; Vice President, Sausha Racine; Treasurer, Muffie Panella; President, Terry Dereniuk; Past-President, Diane Henderson; Area Representatives: Kelseyville, Karen Hook; South County, Karen Jones; Upper Lake, Susan Feiler. Not pictured: Recording Secretary Margaret Eutenier and Lakeport Area Representative Jill Jensen.





# Lowering Your Farming Risk with Crop Insurance

*Tuesday, January 8, 2019*

*9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.*

*The Lodge at Blue Lakes, Upper Lake*

The deadline to sign up for crop insurance for the 2019 crop year is January 31, 2019.

Gather with fellow winegrape growers in Lake and Mendocino to listen to knowledgeable experts about how crop insurance can be used to help lower farming risk.

- John Aguirre, President, California Association of Winegrape Growers
- Katie Delbar, Mendocino-Lake County Executive Director, USDA Farm Service Agency
- Jeff Yasui, Director of the Davis Regional Office, USDA Risk Management Agency
- Greg Merrill, CIC, AFIS, Executive Vice President, Pan American Insurance Services
- John Fremoire, Vice President, Regional Claims – Crop, NAU
- John Wienstroer, Vice President, Branch Operations, NAU

Advance registration required. Reserve your space now.

Visit: <http://bit.ly/ins-seminar>

Questions? Contact Megan Hoberg at the Lake County Winegrape Commission: [meganh@lakecountywinegrape.org](mailto:meganh@lakecountywinegrape.org), 707-279-2633 ext. 303

Seminar presented by:



CALIFORNIA  
ASSOCIATION  
OF WINEGRAPE  
GROWERS





<b>President:</b>	Terry Dereniuk	terry.lcwa@gmail.com	707-337-2871
<b>Vice President:</b>	Sausha Racine	sausharacine@yahoo.com	707-245-4787
<b>2nd Vice President:</b>	Muffie Panella	muffiep@pacific.net	279-9371
<b>Recording Secty:</b>	Margaret Eutenier	meutenier@gmail.com	279-0412
<b>Corresponding Secty:</b>	Barbara Ehr	ehrhead@yahoo.com	
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Muffie Panella	muffiep@pacific.net	279-9371
<b>Past-President:</b>	Diane Henderson	syddiane@gmail.com	279-8672
<b>Area Representatives:</b>			
	Kelseyville: Karen Hook	jkhook70@gmail.com	279-4364
	Lakeport Jill Jensen	jill-jensen@leavitt.com	350-0738
	Upper Lake Colleen Rentsch	ncjarentsch@mchsi.com	279-4388(w)
	South County Karen Jones	karenjones@middletownusd.org	987-0602
<b>Nor. District Dir:</b>	Sharron Zoller	szoller@hotmail.com	279-4335
<b>Newsletter Co-Ed.'s:</b>	Lori McGuire	dpmcg@pacific.net	263-5735
	Brenna Sullivan	lcfarmbureau@sbcglobal.net	263-0911
<b>Farm Bureau Liaison</b>	Brenna Sullivan	lcfarmbureau@sbcglobal.net	263-0911
<b>AgVenture Contact:</b>	Brenna Sullivan	lcfarmbureau@sbcglobal.net	263-0911
<b>Pear Festival Co-Chairs:</b>	Andrea Adams	andreaanhs@hotmail.com	279-9191
	Morgen Wells	WellsM2@sutterhealth.org	330-510-9578
<b>Scholarship Chair:</b>	Sausha Racine	sausharacine@yahoo.com	263-7327/245-4787
<b>Publicity Chair:</b>	TBD		



Lake County Chapter, CWA  
 PO BOX 279  
 Finley, CA 95435

