



NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Note to our readers – During this difficult time of uncertainty with the coronavirus outbreak, we want you to know your board is still continuing to conduct business. Monthly meetings will continue to take place, but on a conference call platform. Planning for upcoming socials are still in the works and we will keep you posted as these events develop. Well wishes and prayers to all of you and yours during this unsettling time.

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2020. First, I would like to give a big shout-out to Lori and Brenna for the fabulous work they do on the newsletter. As I pondered what to say in my “President’s Message” I decided to go back and review the December Newsletter. Wow! The professionalism and obvious work that goes into these, from soliciting content to putting it together in a professional looking document is quite the feat. Hats off to both of you!

The recurring theme of my life and response I give to many questions I’m asked seems to be “because Toni Scully roped me into it.” Well that is no different than a meeting I attended on March 4th. Toni received a call from the Lake County Office of Education requesting industry participation from Scully Packing Company. Naturally, being the good delegator that Toni is, she asked me to go. I put on a happy face and grumbled a bit under my breath but went on my merry way to the meeting at Clear Lake High School. It turned out to be a very worthwhile and enjoyable meeting. It was a county-wide meeting between schools and industry to gain ideas and relationships for Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. I was first paired with other industry representatives from Agriculture and Natural Resources along with Agricultural teachers from around the county. (My recollection is all schools except Lakeport were represented in this group.) I was excited by the enthusiasm of these teachers from multiple school districts. They are teaching agriculture and vocational skills in many different formats. From welding to floral/horticulture classes to livestock development, culinary programs and even a newly developed Forklift training course, it was exciting to hear what is happening in these classrooms. Next, groups were rearranged, and different industries were matched with a specific school, mine being Kelseyville.

What clearly resonated from both group discussions is that the teachers need more support from industry members. From the agricultural industry, Garton Tractor and Scully Packing were the only two representations. They tried getting other industry representatives but couldn’t find other industry members willing to come. These teachers are dedicated to their students and the curriculums they teach but are finding it difficult to get people from the industry to support certain needs required to adequately prepare their students for the future. Some examples of needs they provided dealt with job shadows and internships. (They made it clear they did not need to be paid internships.) They are also seeking members from the community to support their mock job interview competitions and other project judging competitions. I should note, the groups sessions were not all about what we could do for them. The beginning topics were actually what can they do for us in preparing students for our industries. It became clear, though, that our industry needs cannot be fully met without our involvement in the curriculum and student learning process.

My request to you is simple. If you are in a position to help in one or more of the following functions, please let me know so I can provide the Agriculture teachers a list of people who are willing to receive solicitation for help. This will be going to multiple schools so I should forewarn you that you may receive several calls throughout the year. The areas of help include:

- ❖ willing to give up a day for a student to shadow you
- ❖ willing to give up a week or two, perhaps a couple hours a day for a student internship. (Again, they said unpaid is OK.)
- ❖ willing to participate in county-wide meetings such as the one I attended, or participate directly with the school in their planning, project judging, mock interviews, etc.

I think as industry members we have invaluable lessons to teach these students if we are willing and able to take the time and encourage their interest in an industry that we all hold dear. I understand we are already supporting them in one way or another, but more hands-on involvement is needed to further the success of these programs. It may seem to some of you that you don’t have anything to offer that would be interesting, but please keep in mind something is better than nothing. In this regard much of your history of how you got here, even if retired, is fascinating to many, even if not to yourself. I’ll be sending an email soon with a similar but abbreviated request for willing participants which you may respond to.

Lastly, an additional point made is that not every student wants to or can raise livestock, which is a major fundraiser for these high school kids that have that ability. There will be a secondary auction (live and silent I believe) that is getting paired with the livestock auction at the 2020 Lake County Fair. Students are building items for this auction and they are hoping for a successful sale and that members of our community will participate in purchasing those items. Examples of items available include an orchard shade trailer, lamps and tables.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting these students.

~ *Sausha*

CALENDAR: Due to cancellations, we will update all events in a later edition.



May the rains fall softly upon your fields...



SHOUT OUT!

We are pleased to give a hearty Shout Out! to the following:

- ❖ MARILYN HOLDENRIED, who recently received two outstanding awards: Star of Lake County for Lifetime Achievement, and the Common Threads North Award. On the rescheduled date of June 24 she and 5 other women honorees will be recognized for their extraordinary contributions to agriculture and their communities!
- ❖ TERRY DERENIUK, who received the Star of Lake County Woman-of-the-Year award! (Details will appear in our next newsletter!)
- ❖ BRENNA SULLIVAN, who received the Star of Lake County Ag Award! (Details will appear in our next newsletter!)
- ❖ ANNETTE HOPKINS, whose idea for AgVenture has completed its tenth year! (see article)
- ❖ OUR 2020 LCCWA OFFICERS: SAUSHA RACINE, President, BLAIR BROOKES AND LINDEE JONES, Co-Vice Presidents; MUFFIE PANELLA, Treasurer; LIANNE CAMPODONICO, Recording Secretary; TONI SCULLY, Corresponding Secretary; and Area Representatives AMIE VANDERWALL, Kelseyville; JILL JENSEN, Lakeport; SUSAN FEILER, Upper Lake; and KAREN JONES, South County. BLAIR AND LINDEE are former stand-out LCCWA scholarship recipients! (Details to appear in our next newsletter!)
- ❖ CAMPODONICO OLIVE FARMS, recent gold medal winner at the Los Angeles International Extra-Virgin Olive Oil (EVOO) Competition! “The Los Angeles International EVOO Competition is one of the top ranking olive oil competitions in the U.S. and 5th Worldwide, bringing together the highest standards of integrity and professionalism in awarding medals to the best oils from around the globe.” !
- ❖ HANNA SCULLY, daughter of Pam and Andy Scully, granddaughter of Toni and Phil Scully, and niece of Michelle and Pat Scully, state finalist in the Future Farmers of America (FFA) Pomology Production for California competition. Hanna, a Kelseyville High School junior and standout member of its FFA organization, (also a former Miss Teen Lake County,) was to interview in Anaheim at the State FFA Convention in April, going up against 2 other candidates. Her Ag project is entitled “Scully Packing”, and features her part in the history and future of this stellar family business!
- ❖ TONI SCULLY, longtime LCCWA member and past president, upon her retirement from Scully Packing after decades of dedication and service to its success! Toni was instrumental in lobbying Washington D.C. for the right of high school students to work in the pear sheds during summer seasons and in keeping the Kelseyville High School starting date to after the pear season! She has been a past Star of Lake County and Common Threads award winner!
- ❖ ALL of the LAKE COUNTY WINE ENTRANTS in this year’s SF Chronicle Wine Competition!
- ❖ ALL LAKE COUNTY SCHOOLS who participated in the February 26th School Garden Conference, held in Middletown and sponsored by the NCO Gardens Project!
- ❖ ALL who work hard to make our quarterly socials successful!
- ❖ UMPQUA BANK for continuing to provide the meeting room for LCCWA monthly meetings!



Terry Dereniuk, Marilyn Holdenried, Brenna Sullivan



Karen Jones, Jill Jensen, Lindee Jones, Muffie Panella, Sausha Racine, Blair Brookes, Lianne Campodonico and Toni Scully

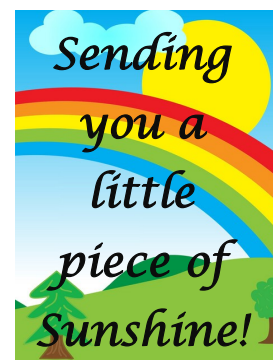


SENDING SUNSHINE

Our thoughts and hearts are with the family of MERRITT FRASER, brother of Carolyn Henderson-Rohner, and uncle of Diane Henderson. Merritt left for greener pastures this February, and will be sorely missed.

Our thoughts and hearts also go out to the family of TOM CURRY, long-time Scotts Valley rancher, on his recent passing to greener pastures. He, too, will be sorely missed.

Continued wishes for healing go to CAROLYN HENDERSON-ROHNER, BUZ DERENIUK, CHUCK CARPENTER, KEITH PETTERSON, PAT MCGUIRE, TONETTE BROWN, and CHUCK MARCH.



2020 SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN TO APPLICANTS



Scholarship applications are being accepted from graduating high school seniors and college or vocational students now through April 1, 2020 for the 2020/2021 academic year. Scholarships may range between \$500 and \$2000 per award. Applicants must be pursuing a degree that is related to agriculture and planning to attend a two- or four-year program as a full-time student.

Lake County graduating high school seniors and college or vocational students who have a grade point average of 3.0 or above are eligible to apply. Application materials must be received by CWA on or before April 1, 2020. The application and criteria are available at www.lakecountycwa.org. For questions concerning the scholarship program, please contact Sausha Racine at 707-245-4787.

Since 2013 the chapter has awarded over \$34,000 in scholarships to local students and in 2019, \$6000 was awarded for the 2019/2020 academic year.

Stay tuned for information on applicants selected after the April 1st deadline. The scholarship committee typically meets in the middle of April to review applications and make selections. This is a very exciting and rewarding experience.

~ Sausha

FARM BUREAU NEWS

California agriculture has been deemed "essential" to the well-being of our country during this uncertain time. Last week, Lake County issued a 'Shelter-in-Place' Order for residents. Food production, as defined in the Order as farming, livestock, producing, delivery and preparation have been included in the list of essential business activities and can operate as usual during this time. As of this time, people have been able to move freely throughout the county in conducting their essential activities. Should deputies begin requiring letters stating those essential duties for farm workers and employees, contact LCFB for a sample.

The Lake County Farm Bureau office will be closed to walk-ins, but will continue to operate either at the address or remotely. Please call or email Brenna instead of visiting the office to abide the county's shelter-in-place order. Email is the preferred contact. Email: lcfarmbureau@sbcglobal.net Phone: (707) 263-0911

LCFB had a number of trainings and events scheduled for the spring. Due to the Order, next week's CPR and First Aid training is canceled (3.27.2020). April's Sexual Harassment Training will be assessed as we get closer to the date.

We hope you are staying safe and well during this crisis. Above all, we thank FARMERS, RANCHERS and all FOOD AND FIBER PRODUCERS for their commitment during these challenging times.

~ Brenna



INTERVIEW WITH INCOMING PRESIDENT SAUSHA RACINE

We are pleased to share this interview with incoming President Sausha Racine, and look forward to another year of strong leadership.

Can you give us a brief bio of your background?

I was born and raised in Lake County. I went to UC Davis to become a veterinarian but then stumbled around a bit, not knowing what career path was right for me. I struggled once I realized a love of cats and dogs did not necessarily equate to a career as a veterinarian. About my junior year I suddenly had the revelation that the summers I was spending at Scully Packing was what I really enjoyed (management in an agricultural environment.) I began taking agricultural and economic courses and started my career with the Scully family upon my graduation. My husband is also a life long resident of Lake County and we have two daughters, Addison who is 9 and Riley who is 4. We are proud to be raising them in Lake County.



Toni Scully with Sausha in the Packing Shed

Were you involved in agriculture as a youth?

I was not involved in or exposed to agriculture until I started working in the packinghouse at 16. I think it would have been hugely beneficial to have been exposed to it at an earlier age, however, which is a hope I have for my own children. Though we do not live on a farm, we are on an acre and do have a small flock of chickens. This spring we will plant a large garden and I hope to involve my children in 4H and FFA as they grow a little older.

When did you become a member of LCCWA and why did you join?

I joined CWA in 2004 after graduating from UC Davis. I returned to Lake County and was employed full-time by Scully Packing Company. Toni Scully invited me to join.

How long have you been an employee of Scully Packing and what are your responsibilities there?

I began working for Scully Packing Company seasonally when I was 16 years old. I worked summers through high school and college. During my younger years I sorted pears, tallied boxes and inspected pears for quality. As I got older, the responsibilities grew. By the end of my college years, I was helping run the Scotts Valley Packinghouse and overseeing our food safety and quality control programs. Upon my graduation from Davis, I was hired full-time. My duties over the years have remained pretty constant which includes management of the Scotts Valley Packinghouse during the packing season, food safety and quality control program management, labor law compliance, safety program administration and miscellaneous administrative support to the Scully family.

What are your goals as LCCWA President during the 2020 year?



Sausha and PJ with their daughters Addison and Riley in Hawaii

I would be dishonest if I were to say I had big goals for the 2020 year for our chapter. My goal is quite simple which is to continue the course our chapter has been on in recent years. Our chapter was teetering on collapse quite a few years ago but life and excitement got restored. AgVenture was created and year by year the chapter's financial growth and stability allowed our scholarship program to grow too. I want to keep these great programs alive, continue with our quarterly socials and AgVenture Lite meeting and of course our pear pie fundraiser. Now that I've said all that, I guess my goal should be to expand our group of "worker bees" to ensure the continued success of these chosen activities.

Are there any challenges you anticipate in taking the helm?

My primary concern in regards to "taking the helm" is balancing work, family and CWA. Being present and spending time with my husband and children during the evenings and weekends is my top priority when I'm not in pear season. This priority requires me to balance CWA and my workload during my weekday schedule. Delegation will ultimately play a role in this balance act once I become better acquainted with my duties as chapter president.



RECIPE: CABBAGE SOUP

Ed. Note: *We thought this recipe would be timely, as it boasts many health benefits! Use Gold Medal Campodonico Olive Oil and locally grown vegetables and you've upped the ante!*

Ingredients:

- ❖ 3 TBS OLIVE OIL
- ❖ 1/2 ONION, CHOPPED
- ❖ 2 CLOVES GARLIC, CHOPPED
- ❖ 2 QUARTS WATER
- ❖ 4 TSP CHICKEN BULLION GRANULES
- ❖ 1 TSP SALT
- ❖ 1/2 TSP BLACK PEPPER
- ❖ 1/2 HEAD CABBAGE, CORED AND COARSELY CHOPPED
- ❖ CUT-UP CARROTS AND SMALL-CUBED YAMS
- ❖ 1 14.5 OZ. CAN ITALIAN -STYLE STEWED TOMATOES, DRAINED AND SLICED
- ❖ PARSLEY AS GARNISH



Directions:

- ❖ IN LARGE STOCKPOT, HEAT OLIVE OIL OVER MEDIUM HEAT. STIR IN ONION AND GARLIC. COOK ABOUT 5 MIN. ADD CARROTS AND YAM.
- ❖ STIR IN WATER, BULLION, AND SALT AND PEPPER. BRING TO BOIL, THEN STIR IN CABBAGE.
- ❖ SIMMER ABOUT 10 MIN. STIR IN TOMATOES. RETURN TO BOIL, THEN SIMMER 15 - 30 MIN, STIRRING OFTEN. ADD PARSLEY.

AGVENTURE UPDATE

The AgVenture Steering Committee is looking forward to its 11th year of AgVenture and are planning to move ahead with the hopes that August will see some relief from the current COVID-19 crisis. The Steering Committee will be meeting remotely throughout the spring and early summer to ensure that that program can continue to move forward in 2020 if it is able to. The Committee extends its gratitude to all those who have supported or attended AgVenture throughout the years. It is through our community partners that this program has been able to grow and educate over 120 elected officials, department heads and influencers!

~ Brenna

STATE CWA NEWS

At the January 2020 Convention in Chico the 2020-2022 state officers were inducted. Rose Tryon was inducted as the new state president and Sharron Zoller as the new state president elect. Annette Hopkins, Toni Scully and Terry Dereniuk joined in the celebration!

In the first week of June, American Agri-Women plan to fly into Washington DC for legislative action.

~ Sharron



AGVENTURE BEGINS A NEW DECADE



AgVenture Steering Committee Members with the 2019 class and Jess Brown, who inspired the first AgVenture class through Annette Hopkin's participation in the similar program in Santa Cruz. Photographed from left to right, back to front: Toni Scully, Nicholas Walker, Jessica Pyska, Patrick Sullivan, Debbie Strickler, Susan Parker, Lily Woll, Larry Galupe, Ut Huynh, Avela Carretero, Jess Brown, Allison Panella, Jamie Scott, Eliot Hurwitz and Annette Hopkins.

Agriculture is Lake County's economic engine."

"Lake County's sustainability practices are evident in all crops grown here."

From the beginning AgVenture has benefited from our excellent speakers who volunteer their time and expertise to inform the class about topics which include history, economy, agricultural research, water use, cultural practices, sustainability, marketing, pest control, pesticide use, regulations, finances, biotechnology, and labor. We also tour Henderson pear orchards, Scully Packing, Beckstoffer Vineyards, our local wineries, Seely's walnut orchard, and Chacewater Winery and Olive Mill.

AgVenture is supported by generous individual and business sponsors, many of whom have supported us financially and with in-kind services over the entire ten years, and also by new sponsors who believe in the program and its benefits. We especially thank the Lake County Winegrape Commission for their initial and ongoing support and sponsorship of our winegrape focus during session two of the four session program.

Each session focuses on a specific Lake County agricultural product. In session one we focus on the pear industry, in session two the winegrape and winery industry, in session three walnuts and in session four our burgeoning olive industry. Sessions take place one day a month over a four-month period from August through November.

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

~Annette



May the rains fall softly upon your fields...



DECEMBER SOCIAL AND INDUCTION OF NEW OFFICERS

Lake Event Design center was once again the venue for our December 12 Social and Installation of 2020 Officers. Plenty of good food, beverages and great company! Enjoy these photos of the event!



Tibor Major, Diane Henderson, Petra Major



Broc and Sharron Zoller



Jon and Annette Hopkins, Terry Dereniuk



Installation of 2020 LCCWA Officers



2020 LCCWA Officers from left to right:
South County Area Representative Karen Jones,
Lakeport Area Representative Jill Jensen, Co-
Vice President Lindee Jones, Treasurer Muffie
Pannella, President Sausha Racine, Co-Vice
President Blair Brookes, Recording Secretary
Lianne Campodonico and Corresponding
Secretary Toni Scully



May the rains fall softly upon your fields...



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Publicity Chair:	TBD		



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