



NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on the past couple of months since my last President's Message, I am dazed by the whirlwind of events that have unfolded. The frequently changing and conflicting information and guidance on COVID-19 has been mind boggling. We have been forced as a society to find balance between physical health, mental health, and financial security.

We come at this from different perspectives. Retirees who are most at risk may have a very different outlook than others who have feared losing the businesses they have built and nurtured. Some individuals may feel the isolation more harshly as they sit at home alone while younger individuals have tried to figure out how to guide their children in distance learning.

The financial effect this has caused is very different from one person or business to the next. But I believe good can come out of struggle and hardship. Though serious negative financial consequences have happened or will happen for some, others will improvise or find new ways for their business to prosper. Our local economy, including agriculture, has been adapting to the new normal. Six Sigma opened their hiking trails to the public. My family went out and had a fantastic hike and bought some wine and meat, something that we wouldn't have done without their adjustment. Many restaurants adapted to take-out policies and some reported busiest days ever during this time.

Though farmers will need to address social distancing at break time, mask use, and limiting the comingling of employees, the biggest hurdle I see them facing is spacing issues in bunk houses and ensuring that employees who bunk together work together.

At the packinghouse we are working extensively to review the guidance by the state in addition to the plans that earlier season packinghouses and agriculture industries instituted. We expect our strategies to include very accurate and rapid temperature monitoring along with symptom checks of each employee, modifying the process to allow for social distancing, added sanitation measures, mask use, enhanced benefits for quarantined or symptomatic employees, limitation of visitors to our facilities, added handwash stations and an open dialogue with our health department as appropriate.

Calendar

First item subject to change:

- September 12-13, 2020 – September SWM & Ag Boosters BBQ
- September 16, 2020 – LCCWA Board Meeting
- September 26, 2020 – Kelseyville Pear Festival – CANCELLED for 2020

I know I'm grateful for things that I took for granted just a few short months ago and count my blessings each day. I'm also hopeful that the general population might be a little more tuned in to the importance and value of a stable food supply. This spring, I found myself planting a massive amount of vegetable seedlings, half of which I don't even like. I think growing things was a coping mechanism and a way to have some control in an uncontrollable situation. Unfortunately, it turns out that I'm not that great of a startup farmer and will have to continue relying on those who know what they are doing to feed my family.

As we ease back into our lives, I pray we keep our health and find patience and understanding with one another. We are all on this path together and support for each other will help us weather the storm.

~Sausha

SHOUT OUT!

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

- ❖ CALPINE on their recent sponsorship of \$500.00! We are only able to accomplish our goals with the generosity of folks like you!
- ❖ Our outstanding SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS for 2020! (see article)
- ❖ CAROLYN HENDERSON-ROHNER on her 93rd birthday in April! Carolyn was a founding member and past president of the Lake County branch of CWA, has remained an active member to this day, was an integral part of a pear ranch operation (Henderson Orchards) for decades, and continues to wow us with her remarkable spirit! Congratulations, Carolyn!
- ❖ LAKE COUNTY FARMER'S MARKETS, as they begin to phase back into business! We applaud you for safely offering products to our citizens during these challenging times!
- ❖ FARM LINK - FARMERS TO FOOD BANKS, and groups like them throughout our country who are finding ways to get fresh produce to places most needed! Their goal was to get one million pounds of produce into the mouths of the hungry—crops that would have had to rot in the fields due to the COVID crisis!
- ❖ JERRY AND KAREN HOOK on finding their new home close to the kids! Their new address is P.O Box 4873, Paso Robles, CA 93447. We're sure they'd love to hear from you!
- ❖ THE SCULLY AND PANELLA families for their excellent interview posted recently by Visit Kelseyville on Facebook, under the title "California Pear Communities, Lake County"! As stated: "We love the communities where our California pears are grown! They're resilient, tight knit and filled with some of the best people around..." (We couldn't agree more!)
- ❖ VISIT KELSEYVILLE for steadfastly posting all things ag, including the history of agriculture in our county!
- ❖ PRESIDENT SAUSHA AND ALL who made our March Social a resounding success!



Carolyn Henderson-Rohner and her husband Skip Rohner pictured on her birthday.

FARM BUREAU NEWS

Lake County Farm Bureau wants to thank our local farmers, ranchers, farm workers, processors, haulers, suppliers and all associated with the ag industry for your essential work during this time. It has never been more important for Americans (especially Californians) to understand and appreciate our domestic food supply and to support the industry responsible!

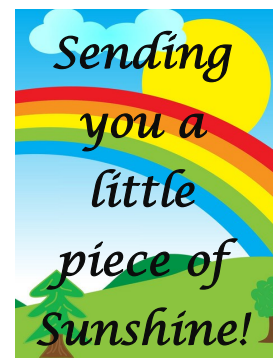
LCFB has regrettably had to cancel the June 25th Annual Meeting and Love of the Land Dinner. Although we will miss seeing you this summer, we have tentatively rescheduled for the fall. The date will be announced later this summer. We will still hold our annual Forklift Safety Training on July 7th and 8th. This training is free for LCFB members and their employees.

LCFB has again hired Rebecca Harper to help during the summer. Rebecca will assist in implementing the roll-out of the Irrigated Lands Data Management Tool and in providing assistance to junior livestock students. We have also been active in a number of working groups and forums this spring to keep Lake County farmers farming during this uncertain time. The office has been opened by appointment; contact Brenna at (707) 263-0911 if you need assistance.

SENDING SUNSHINE

Our hearts and thoughts go out to the following: CHUCK CARPENTER, KEITH PETTERSON, PAT MCGUIRE, BUZ DERENIUK, TONI BROWN, and CHUCK MARCH as they continue to face health challenges.

Our deepest sympathies go out to the Hook and Bennin families in the loss of SHARON BENNIN - Karen Hook's twin sister.



FEATURED RECIPE: SAVORY ROASTED CHERRIES

Ed. note: The anti-inflammatory properties of cherries and extra-virgin olive oil in this recipe are well documented. Using the award-winning Campodonico's Extra Virgin Olive Oil will kick it up a notch.

Ingredients:

4 cups pitted cherries
1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
1/4 teaspoon fine sea salt
1/4 teaspoon black pepper
3 tablespoons fresh parsley, minced

**Instructions:**

- ❖ Preheat the oven to 450 degrees and line a sheet pan with parchment paper.
- ❖ Use a cherry pitter (or use one of these *techniques) to pit the cherries.
- ❖ Toss the cherries in a bowl with the olive oil, salt, and pepper.
- ❖ Spread the cherries on the lined sheet pan and roast for 15 minutes.
- ❖ Remove the cherries from the oven and sprinkle them with the parsley. Toss gently when they're cool enough to handle.
- ❖ Eat the cherries warm as a side or keep them refrigerated (for up to five days) and use them in salads or eat them as a snack. They are also spectacular used slightly warm on vanilla ice cream, or on a soft cheese, or chilled to use on a charcuterie board.

*Using a pastry tip: place tip side up and push cherry down until the pit pops out.

*Using a chopstick: push the chopstick through stem end until the pit comes out the other side.

~ Lianne Campodonico



TERRY DERENIUK: WOMAN OF THE YEAR



We thought it would be of interest to share recent LCCWA President Terry Dereniuk's qualifications for 2020 Star of Lake County Woman-of -the Year. We can be rightfully proud of the contributions our "Stars" have made to our community! Following is an excerpt from Terry's nomination form:

"As a leader Terry was and is remarkable. Her service and dedication reaches multiple areas of our county and community, as you will discover from the the following:

Besides serving as a member and president of LCCWA, she was a student in its first AgVenture class, has led its mini-grant program, served on its scholarship committee, scheduled annual state capitol legislative visits as a representative and advocate for agriculture, always

volunteers for the Pear Festival pear pie and turnover making day—a scholarship fundraiser; has served on the Lake County Farm Bureau Board of Directors 2013—present); has been a Lake County Certified Tourism Ambassador since 2015; is a trained mediator (Lake County Mediations) and served on its board of directors (2010–2012); is a Master Gardener (2011–2013); was executive director of the Lake County Wine Alliance (2014–2016); wrote grants for the Lake County Winegrape Commission, and was its project manager and grant writing co-author several years; has served on the Sutter Lakeside Hospital Community Advisory Committee and Physician Candidate Interview Panel, where she is still a member; is a member of the Kelseyville Sunrise Rotary Club where she served as the chair of its 2019 Denim and Diamonds fundraiser and worked with her "elves" to distribute Christmas boxes; is a member and Sunshine Lady of the Lake County Model A Club; is a member of the Lake County Corvette Club; is a member of the Lake County Chamber of Commerce (2010—present); was the author of American Viticultural Area (AVA) petitions for the Big Valley District and Kelsey Bench (both approved), Upper Lake Valley, Long Valley and amendment to the Red Hills boundary along Bottle Rock Road (each currently pending); and was on the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Technical Review Committee for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Specialty Crop Block Grants (2012, 2013, 2018, 2019, 2020.)

Terry, with her husband Buz, is the co-owner of Cat's Paw Vineyard (2005—present) and is also the owner of Cat's Paw Creative — a consulting business for grant and AVA petition writing and grant management services. (Cat's Paw Vineyard was featured in our December LCCWA newsletter.)

It is a pleasure to work with someone with Terry's sparkling personality, integrity, vast talents and service ethic. She has certainly 'added value to the quality of life in Lake County.' "



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

We thought you would like to know where two of our two of our former LCCWA scholarship recipients are today. Enjoy these updates on outstanding LCCWA members Lindee Jones and Blair Brookes.

Lindee Jones, Crop Consultant, Grow West



Lindee Jones (r)

Hi my name is Lindee Jones, I grew up in Middletown, California. After graduating from High School, I transferred to Shasta College where I lived and worked on the school farm. While at Shasta College I discovered my passion was Crop Science. I received my Associates Degree from Shasta College and transferred to Chico State where I graduated with my Bachelor's Degree in Crop Science with the honors as Cum Laude.

While going to school, I had a few internships along the way. I worked for the Lake County Farm Bureau for two summers and Ag Unlimited which is now Grow West(r). Prior to graduating from Chico State, Grow West(r) offered me a full time position as a pest control adviser. I gladly took the job and became a licensed PCA within the following year. Counting my internships, I have been happily working for the company for six years going onto my seventh season!

I primarily work with wine grape growers, but also have helped some walnut growers in the county as well. I wouldn't be where I am today without the support of many organizations like the Lake County California Women for Agriculture &

the Lake County Farm Bureau who supported my educational dreams and help me along the way through scholarships, internships, and educational opportunities (AgVenture). I'm truly thankful for the opportunities these organizations have made possible for me.

Blair Brookes, Technical Manager, Clark Pest Control



Blair Brookes

When Blair graduated from Cal Poly in June of 2018, she moved to Fresno to start her career as a Crop Protection Territory Manager for Corteva Agriscience. Within a few days, however, she was transferred to the company's urban pest management business to work on a new technology for monitoring rodents and insects. Fast forward a few years later and Blair is now the technical manager at Clark Pest Control.

In her new role she will be implementing new products and technologies throughout Clark's 26 locations in California. Though she never expected to work in the Pest Management industry, she likes the fact that the company's work is still closely connected to agriculture. It is just as important to protect our food supply as it is to produce it, and the same principles of entomology apply, be it on a farm or in an urban setting.

Clark also partners with agriculturalists by offering dairy fly control, burrowing rodent control, and pest management services for audited food accounts. She is working towards becoming a Board Certified Entomologist.

MARCH AND MAY STATEWIDE MEETINGS

The CWA March statewide meeting was held in San Luis Obispo just as concerns and talk of avoiding large gatherings was beginning. In order to accommodate those who wished to cancel and adjust to some new scheduling challenges, the hosting SLO chapter's program team, led by Holly Smith, deftly zigged & zagged and for those attending, the event was fabulous. One of the immediate challenges was how to best provide access to the meeting for those who wished to but could not attend. With a Zoom account and quickly purchased camera, we began our plunge into webinaring! There were about 25 in attendance and about the same number on the Zoom for our March meeting.

One of our goals is to increase involvement options in the statewide meetings for more inclusive participation. With our May Sacramento statewide meeting cancelled, we decided to up our game and employ our newly acquired technological skills and create a virtual offering! The first step was to determine topics and secure our speakers. Our CWA family has so much expertise it was easy to find our first speaker, Sara Reid Hermman, immediate past CWA State President. Her topic was, *"Whiskey is for Drinking, A Primer on California Water"*. The presentation covered the intricate history, weather, legal and regulatory landscape of California water and Agriculture's intertwined complicated relationship. Scott Horsfall, CEO of the California Leafy Green Products Handler Marketing Association, gave the second presentation. He shared the Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement, the food safety regulations and the challenges growers and shippers are working with to produce a sustainable safe flow of California leafy greens.

Both presentations were excellent, engaged the audience, were well received, and thanks to Northern Central District Director, Christina Beckstead---Zoom Queen, were technically perfect! With the success of our first foray into webinars, we are considering another one in mid July. At this time we hope to have our September CWA in Modesto. Stay tuned for more details.

~Sharron Zoller, President-elect, State California Women for Agriculture

AGVENTURE CANCELS 2020 CLASS, THANKS PARTICIPANTS



AgVenture Steering Committee from left to right:
Annette Hopkins, Terry Dereniuk, Diane Henderson,
Brenna Sullivan and Toni Scully.

The AgVenture Steering Committee regrets to announce the cancellation of AgVenture 2020 due to COVID-19.

The support over the years from our speakers, donors, venues, caterers and transportation has been integral to the success of this Ag education program. Since 2010, AgVenture has graduated nearly 120 professionals, elected officials and community leaders. Class members have used the knowledge gained in AgVenture to make informed decisions on ag-related policies. The Steering Committee sincerely thanks all participants in this decade-long program.

Farming and food production are essential to our daily lives. The COVID crisis has illustrated the importance of our domestic food supply. Farmers, ranchers, farm workers, haulers, processors, suppliers and all others associated with the Ag industry are essential workers. Our grocery stores rely on them. Lake County's agricultural community continues its efforts for a successful harvest and needs all the local support it can get during this critical time.

Over the past 10 years, AgVenture has educated non-farming community leaders about the vital role that agriculture plays in Lake County's economy. AgVenture sessions cover topics such as labor, history, marketing, water and land use, regulations, pest management and sustainability.

Community support grows from education and understanding. The AgVenture program has worked hard to this end and plans to continue that effort in years to come. Rest assured that the AgVenture Steering Committee is already working to make 2021 their best year yet.

2020 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS SELECTED

The scholarship committee met via Zoom in May to review scholarship applications and selected three recipients for the 2020-2021 academic year to each receive a \$1,000 scholarship. Due to the current fundraising activity uncertainty we face, our budget for scholarships was reduced this year. Nonetheless, I am pleased to announce the following awards, in alphabetical order:



Abbey Brown is a Middletown High School graduate and plans to attend Cal Poly and major in their Animal Science program. She expressed her passion for Agriculture and feeding the world in sustainable ways. Abbey has spent over 200 hours giving back to her community on top of a rigorous school schedule, participation in sports and working a part-time job.

Robert Chavez is graduating from Kelseyville High School. Robert has spent his summers working on local ranches and vineyards and plans to attend a four-year university with the ultimate goal of a masters in Viticulture and Enology. Robert said in his application, “I love learning, working hard and getting dirty.” Robert is active in many extracurricular activities and is described as a “terrific leader” by his science teacher.



Rebecca Harper is a second-year recipient of our scholarship award and is a student at Oklahoma State University. She is studying Animal Science with a Livestock Production option. Rebecca wishes to return to Lake County once completing her education and own her own production swine facility, in addition to pursuing a career as a feed company representative. She worked in our local Farm Bureau office this past summer and was described as an “invaluable asset.”

Congratulations to these amazing students. It is a very rewarding experience to see the passion and determination that these students have for agriculture and to be able to encourage their endeavors. I would also like to give a very special thanks to Terry Dereniuk, Helena Welsh, and Wilda Shock for their participation in the review process.

~ *Sausha*

IDEAS FOR SOCIALS AND FUNDRAISERS

Because of COVID-19, we will miss the opportunity to come together and enjoy socializing and also to have a speaker as we have with our AgVenture Lite presentations of the last two years. We are currently researching possibilities.

We also know that our scholarship fund will be impacted by the Pear Festival being cancelled which means we won't be able to sell our stupendous pear pies this year. We are kicking around the possibility of a virtual pie sale and hope to have a way forward with that in September.

~ *Annette Hopkins*

LCCWA MARCH SOCIAL

The LCCWA's spring members and spouses' social was held early March at Fore Family Winery. Savoring the delicious assortment of potluck hors d'oeuvres and sipping fabulous Fore Family wines made for great conversation and a delightful evening for all.



Myron Holdenried, Sharron Zoller, Marilyn Holdenried and Broc Zoller; Jill Jensen, Marilyn Holdenried and Debbie Holdenried



Syd Stokes, Diane Henderson, Debbie Holdenried, Muffie Panella



Helena Welsh and Jessica Pyska



Carol Brandt, Sausha Racine and Lianne Campodonico



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