



# NEWSLETTER

## *Editor's Message: A Look Back*

We hope this finds you all safe and well and managing yourselves, your families and your businesses the best you can under these trying circumstances. President Sausha advised that she would be extremely busy during the summer months with her management duties at Scully Packing along with family responsibilities and, regrettably, would not be able to provide a President's Message for September. She gave us permission to fill the space with "things pear."

Since you will be receiving this newsletter around what would have been our Kelseyville Pear Festival time, we thought you might enjoy a walk down memory lane to recognize and celebrate one again the LCCWA members and their husbands/family members who have had the honor of being past Pear Festival Parade Grand Marshals. While it may usually have been the husbands who had the direct connection to pear farming, the wives were either involved in the business or made their own significant contributions to agriculture, our community, and beyond. Since we are a women's organization, we will highlight the women!



*Leroy and Bernice Thomas*

1993 BERNICE THOMAS (and husband Leroy): Bernice and Leroy, my parents and long-time pear farmers, were the first to share the honor of being Grand Marshals. Mother Bernice was a founding member of LCCWA, often traveling to state meetings during its creation. She was a staunch supporter over the years, volunteering for duties at the LCCWA Lake County Fair booth and the LCCWA rummage sale. Bernice was also involved in several local organizations, led a 4-H boys cooking class, and served on the board of the Production Credit Association.

1997 JEAN (Dorn) HOLDENRIED and KATIE (Dorn) PETTERSON: These sisters, both in pear farming families, were also in on the ground floor of LCCWA and avid supporters, serving at the Lake County Fair booth, rummage sales, and pear pie fundraiser endeavors. Acclaimed artist Jean's pear-themed works of art were often featured at the LC Fair and Kelseyville Pear Festival. Katie worked tirelessly on legislative affairs. In 1984 the U.S. Congress passed the California Wilderness Act, which created 23 new wilderness areas, including Katie's project, Snow Mountain. Jean and Katie were daughters of Fred and Nellie Henderson Dorn, who donated the property that is now Clear Lake State Park.

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### Calendar

- OCTOBER 21st, 2020  
LCCWA monthly meeting  
- Virtual
- NOVEMBER 14-15th  
2020 SWM Blythe, CA



*Left: Katie Pettersen  
Right: Jean Holdenried*

**SHOUT OUT!**

It is our pleasure to give the following a hearty SHOUT OUT!

- ❖ TONI SCULLY for her “all things pear” interview with KSRO on 9/12! Well Done!
- ❖ RACHEL ELKINS, University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) pear expert, research maven, and published co-author of over 200 publications, who has recently retired after decades of service to agriculture in Lake and Mendocino Counties! As noted by LCCWA member Wilda Shock, Rachel has made significant contributions to agricultural practices in Lake County and has been a long-time member and supporter of LCCWA, including its AgVenture program!
- ❖ LAKE COUNTY FARMERS’ FINEST on their recent move to the Lake County Fairgrounds— now its permanent home!
- ❖ PEACE AND PLENTY FARM (Simon and Melinda) who will be featured in the October issue of “Martha Stewart Living” magazine!
- ❖ SHANNON RIDGE FAMILY OF WINES (Clay and Angie Shannon) for their recent purchase of Steele Wines from its founder, Jed Steele!
- ❖ SCULLY PACKING (Toni, Phil, Pat and Andy Scully and Sausha Racine) for their “pair of pear boxes” idea to spread word of employment opportunities—and for successfully reopening their packing houses using strict and safe health guidelines! You can log into Facebook (9/4/2020 “Visit Kelseyville”) for the excellent 2018 Karen Pavone photos of Toni and Scully Packing operations!
- ❖ ALL in LCCWA who continue to work with our legislators to educate them concerning our agricultural issues, so that they can make sound legislative decisions that could better serve this vital industry!
- ❖ DR. GARY PACE, Public Health Officer, who is working with LAKE COUNTY FARMERS ( part of an agriculture employer group) to implement worker protection standards for Covid-19 during harvest!
- ❖ MIKE THOMPSON (Congressman) AND MIKE MCGUIRE (senator), who continue to work hard for agriculture in Lake County. The pandemic crisis and now the fire threats as concerns our agricultural industry are foremost on their agendas!
- ❖ CHRISTOPHER CHRISTENSEN, who was recently named by magazine WINE ENTHUSIAST as one of their “40 under 40” Tastemakers for 2020. Chris uses Lake County Sauvignon Blanc for multiple projects, including a sparkling wine!
- ❖ 2020 NORTH COAST WINE CHALLENGE LAKE COUNTY WINNERS: BOATIQUE WINERY (several); CACHE CREEK VINEYARDS; ROCKPILE VINEYARDS; VALIANCE; and ENGINE HOUSE! BOATIQUE WINERY was awarded Best of Lake County for their 2019 Malbec: “Bright berries, violets, excellent spice,” touted the judges!
- ❖ ALL who contributed input, information and/or photos for the Grand Marshal article.

**FARM BUREAU NEWS**

2020 has presented some difficult challenges for Lake County’s farmers and ranchers, from COVID-19 to wildfire. LCFB continues to help our ag community mitigate these challenges as we move through harvest. As a reminder, submissions to the new Irrigated Lands website, [www.subwatershed.com](http://www.subwatershed.com), are due on December 1st. Contact the office, (707) 263-0911 for more information and assistance.

Due to COVID-19, the Lake County Farm Bureau’s annual fundraiser, Celebration 2020, has been canceled. This event raises money for our youth ag education programs including scholarships. We are always humbled by the generosity of the community at our annual raffle and dessert auction. For 2020, we are asking the community once again to consider donating to the scholarship fund to support next year’s students and Lake County youth!

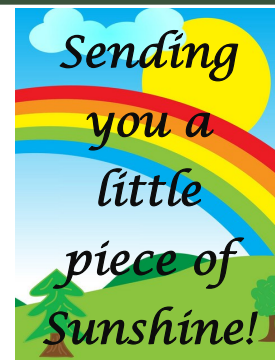
To donate, send a check (with “Scholarship” in the memo line) to:  
**Lake County Farm Bureau, 65 Soda Bay Rd. Lakeport, CA 95453**

## SENDING SUNSHINE

Our hearts and thoughts go out to the following:

The RACINE FAMILY in the recent loss of PAUL RACINE, father of P. J and Tara, and father-in-law to Sausha.

CHUCK CARPENTER, PAT MCGUIRE, KEITH PETTERSEN, TONETTE BROWN and CHUCK MARCH as they continue to bravely face health challenges.



## RECIPE FOR PEAR TORTE FROM THE 2003 PEAR FESTIVAL

This delicious recipe was submitted by Merrie Crawford of Lakeport, and won first place!

PEAR TORTE: You will need a torte pan. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

**Shell:**

1 cup flour

1/4 cup sugar

1 stick butter

Mix together and press into torte pan

**Filling:**

3 eggs

1/2 cup flour

1/2 cup sugar

2 teaspoons ground ginger

1/2 teaspoon salt

4-5 cups peeled, diced pears

1/2 cup flake coconut



Mix filling together, pour into torte pan and bake at 350 degrees for approximately 35 minutes. Serve warm with whipped cream.

Photo and recipe from the September 20th 2003 Kelseyville Pear Festival special insert of the Lake County Record-Bee Clear Lake Observer\*American

## ANOTHER LOOK BACK



This photo, taken for the September 20, 2003 special edition of the Record Bee/Clear Lake Observer\*American shows Janice Stokes, 2003 Kelseyville Pear Festival Dessert Chair, and John Puccetti, its Treasurer, reviewing pear recipes for the contest. Janice Stokes was in on the ground floor of LCCWA as well as the Stokes Ladders enterprise, and remains an active member of LCCWA.





## LAKE COUNTY BARTLETT'S

(Air, "The Irish Washerwoman")

Au revoir to hard work, to toil and dull care;  
Today we bow down to King "Bartlett Pear."  
Our homage we pay, as he sits on his throne  
And his subjects assembled show how he has grown.

Chorus:

Ripe pears are delicious and so is pear jam,  
And pears in the jar are the finest what am;  
Pears baked or pears dried, or made into a cake,  
With a little pear sauce are quite pleasant to take.

Time was once in Lake County, in days long gone by,  
When we knew not the taste of the luscious pear pie;  
When dollars were scarce, in spite of our prayers,  
But now they are plenty—coming mostly in pears.

Chorus:

You must plow, you must plant, you must prune, you  
must spray —  
You can't loaf on the job if you'd make your pears pay;  
The full picking bag makes a pain in your neck,  
But all this you forget when you get the big check.

Oh, the market was "shot", and the prices were low,  
The latest advice bade the shipper "go slow."  
Then the Lake County pears, so tasty and nice,  
Arrived in good shape and then up went the price.

Chorus:

If you're growing pears, you belong with this throng;  
In numbers there's strength, so come right along;  
Through cooperation, that's how we have grown,  
Don't "borrow umbrellas," get one of your own.

From the Booklet "Poems by P. Q. R." (Perry Quincy Robison)

P. Q. Robison (1871-1949) was a native of California. He and his wife Theresa (1865-1946) were well known in Kelseyville, where they made their home with two sons, Frank and Hazen. Unfortunately, no date was given for the writing of this poem.



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## FUN FACTS ABOUT PEARS

These fun facts were taken from the September 20th, 2003 special insert of the Lake County Record-Bee/Clear Lake Observer\*American:

- ❖ Pears are native to Europe; the Chinese sand pear is native to the Orient.
- ❖ There are about 20 species of pear tress, which are a genus of the rose family.
- ❖ Pears were first cultivated during prehistoric times, 4,000 years ago.
- ❖ The Romans originally knew about six cultivated pear varieties; in later history 56 varieties are mentioned. Still later, in medieval times, 232 varieties were listed in Rome. And, in England in 1640, 60 varieties were known; in 1842 more than 700. Today (2003) there are 5,000 varieties!
- ❖ The Greek poet Homer referred to pears as the "gift of the gods."
- ❖ Pears grow best in California, Washington and Oregon, where cool, humid and temperate climates favor pear growing.
- ❖ The California Bartlett pear is the No. 1 pear variety in the United States.
- ❖ Pear trees can produce fruit for up to 100 years.
- ❖ The leading pear producers, in order, are Italy, China, and the United States.
- ❖ It takes between five and seven years for a Bartlett pear tree to begin bearing fruit.
- ❖ A pear contains about 100 calories.
- ❖ Eating pears is said to be good for the skin.
- ❖ Pears are a great source of B-complex vitamins, fiber and vitamin C; they also contain potassium, which helps regulate blood pressure and keeps body fluids in balance.

## CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE: EDITOR'S MESSAGE, A LOOK BACK



*Lucy Stokes and husband Don*

1998 LUCY (Stokes) HOOK (and husband Don): Lucy, another stellar supporter, worked the LC Fair booth, rummage sales, and pear pie fundraisers. She, too, volunteered her time in local organizations. Lucy became the bookkeeper for the Stokes Ladders business created by her brother, Russell, and later managed by her husband Don and son Jerry, who eventually bought the business. Both she and Don were among the pear and walnut ranching families of Lake County.

1999 CAROLYN HENDERSON-ROHNER (and husband Skip): Carolyn, long-time pear grower, served on the board and as president of the former Kelseyville Packing Company. She also served as industry representative for the California Tree Fruit Agreement doing radio and television work promoting pears. A founding member of LCCWA, Carolyn worked tirelessly in many capacities of LCCWA as secretary, newsletter editor, vice-president and president. She worked both the rummage and pear pie fundraisers for years. She could always be counted on to expertly peel those pears that went into the pies. At 93 years of age, she is currently our most venerable LCCWA member! You can log into Facebook for Carolyn's interview in the 9/3/20 "Visit Kelseyville" video featuring past Kelseyville Pear Festivals.



*Carolyn Henderson-Rohner and Skip Rohner*



*Marilyn and Myron Holdenried*

2002 MARILYN HOLDENRIED (and husband Myron): Marilyn and Myron have roots in both the pear and winegrape industries of Lake County. Marilyn was the founder of the Lake County Chapter of California Women for Agriculture, its charter president and the Northern California representative for CWA. In addition she was the founder of the Kelseyville Pear Festival and its chairperson for 23 years! The list of her accomplishments is long: revitalization of the town of Kelseyville, founder of the Lake County Quilt Trail, Star of Lake County for Lifetime Achievement, recipient of the Common Threads North Award, and current president of the Ely Stage Stop and Country Museum, which also houses the Lake County Historical Society. You can always count on Marilyn to be

where she is needed—fundraisers, educational booths, state legislative events, statewide meetings, social events, etc. Marilyn offered her bucolic vineyard barn when LCCWA celebrated its founding members at a social in 2015. She has literally put our Kelseyville community on the map and has been featured in numerous publications throughout the years.

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## A LOOK BACK CONTINUED



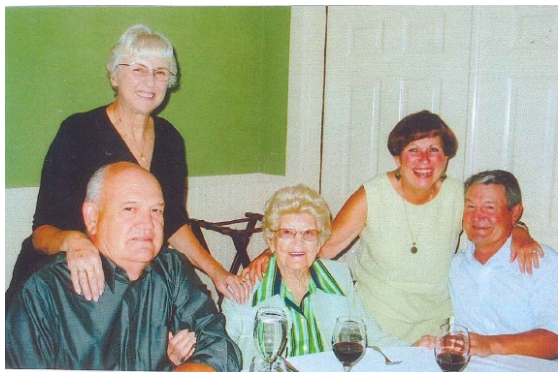
*Margaret and Don Eutenier*

2003 MARGARET EUTENIER (and husband Don): Margaret, devoted helpmate in a thriving pear and winegrape business, became one of LCCWA's most dedicated members, serving as its president, vice-president, treasurer, state district director, newsletter editor, and recently as its recording secretary. Her leadership skills and community spirit are exemplary.

2006 SHARRON ZOLLER (with husband Broc): Sharron, who supports Broc in farming walnuts, grapes and pears, not only served as LCCWA vice-president and president, but was also the Northern California representative for CWA and is currently CWA State President-Elect. In addition, she was a recent recipient of the Stars of Lake County Ag Award. Sharron has been a constant presence at state-wide legislative events and meetings. She has worked with many legislators, helping to educate them on topics and issues related to agriculture. She will assume leadership as the statewide CWA President in 2022.



*Sharron Zoller, with husband Broc*



*Carpenter Family Honorees: Carmen Carpenter with the boys and their wives. From left: Chuck Carpenter, Nancy Carpenter, Carmen Carpenter, Maureen Carpenter, Jim Carpenter*

2007 CARMEN CARPENTER (and family): Carmen lived to the age of 100 and was part of a long-time pear growing family. She was an ardent advocate of all things pear. You couldn't miss her baby blue truck license plate, "Pears4U," which is still in the family. Through the years she worked enthusiastically to support LCCWA fundraisers and events. She, too, was faithful in peeling those Bartlett pears for the famous pies. An accomplished musician, Carmen tooted her saxophone in many a Pear Festival Parade, even into her later years! Don't miss her marching in the parade on Facebook's 9/3/20 "Visit Kelseyville" video of past Kelseyville Pear Festivals.

*(continued on pg. 7)*





## A LOOK BACK CON'T.

*Diane Henderson and Syd Stokes*

2008 DIANE HENDERSON (and husband Syd Stokes): Diane, daughter of Carolyn, recently retired after many decades of farming multi-generational Henderson Orchards. She served for 25 years on the statewide research committee for the California Pear Advisory Board and for 14 years on the California Pear Growers Board. She has also been a long time Lake County Farm Bureau board member and was a Star of Lake County Ag Award recipient. She has shown her commitment and dedication to agriculture and LCCWA as its vice-president, president, AgVenture steering committee member and speaker, and pear pie fundraiser worker. Diane has been featured in various ag-related publications for her exceptional leadership and devotion to agriculture and pears--especially to the education of others as related to ag.

*Marilyn Holdenried and Sharron Zoller*

2016 MARILYN HOLDENRIED AND SHARRON ZOLLER: These two women earned the honor of a second year as Grand Marshals in appreciation of several years of co-chairing the Kelseyville Pear Festival and continuing to contribute to the many activities of the Kelseyville community.

2018 KAREN HOOK (and husband Jerry): Karen was another walnut grower partner along with being the bookkeeper for Stokes Ladders when she and Jerry owned the business. Karen was a dedicated LCCWA board member who served as treasurer and Kelseyville Area Representative. She helped organize social events many years and was praised for her ag displays at the Umpqua Bank in Lakeport. Karen and Jerry have recently relocated to Paso Robles to be near their children and we sorely miss them!

*Karen and Jerry Hook*

Hats off to these remarkable women for achieving this well-deserved honor! We look forward to next September's Grand Marshals when, once again, under the stellar leadership of festival chair Cindy Bain, things (hopefully) will have returned to normal. At that time, we can all socialize and bake and sell those mouth-watering pear pies and turnovers in order to provide scholarships for deserving students who have chosen an ag-related career path.

We wish Sausa and Scully Packing (past president, Star of Lake County and Common Threads North recipient Toni, husband Phil and boys Pat and Andy) the very best as they continue to navigate through this extremely challenging season with all its pandemic restrictions and regulations. We know they are doing everything possible to keep our pear harvest going as safely as possible!

~ *Lori McGuire, co-editor*

## SPONSORS SINCE OUR JUNE NEWSLETTER

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE GENEROSITY OF THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS, WITHOUT WHOM WE COULD NOT ACCOMPLISH OUR GOALS:

**Mighty Grape Harvester**

Bella Vista Farming Company  
Scully Packing Company  
American AgCredit

**Mower and Shaker**

Lincoln-Leavitt Insurance Agency  
Dock Factory and Lake Limos  
Adobe Creek Orchards  
Tomkins Tax Consultants  
Beckstoffer Vineyards– Red Hills

**Shiny Red Tractor**

Bob Bartley Pumps  
Lucerne Roofing  
Barbara Ehr  
Petra Bergstrom  
Bernie Butcher  
DeLeon Engineering  
Roberta Lyons

*thank you*

## CWA STATEWIDE REPORT

Till as early as February, the state CWA executive board was busy planning their year's calendar. As we were rolling to the March CWA meeting in Paso Robles an unforeseen force majeure event brought all those ambitious original plans to naught. About half of the March registrants decided not to attend in person but wanted to be part of the meeting. We have been wanting to improve and expand the technology for members to virtually participate in the SWMeetings.

With a quick pivot to get some gear and tapping into our member's IT expertise, we launched the first of now several Zoom meetings. May was the second fully "zoomed" event. With two excellent speakers, it was a good afternoon. The upcoming September and November meetings will both be virtual.

Best to all,  
**Sharron Zoller**  
*President-elect, State CWA*





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