



# NEWSLETTER

## *President's Message: Cheers to the Next Two Years!*

It is difficult to believe it has been almost two years since taking on the president's position for our chapter. If only we had known two years ago what the future would hold. Many of our activities were forced to change including our in-person meetings and socials, Ag Venture education, the Pear Festival and our pear pie sales fundraiser along with our ordinary planning activities. But thanks to the dedication of our group, we persevered and found new ways to navigate in challenging times. I'm hopeful we have just about come full circle as we emerge from the darkness and once again resume in-person activities. However, our in-person meetings for now have a zoom component and this new way allows members who are ordinarily unable to attend our meetings in person, a new way to participate. In June we held an outdoor social to learn about native, drought resistant plants. It was a very interesting topic for many and may have not been on our minds for a CWA activity had it not been for seeking an outdoor place to gather safely.

We are now preparing for our December Social which will be December 8th at 5:30pm. At the forefront of the decision-making process was a sheltered location with good ventilation. The Ripe Choice Farm fit the criteria and will be a new location for our members to explore as we install our 2022 officers.

I'm proud of the accomplishments our chapter has made in the past two years and the changes our members embraced during a difficult time. I look forward to a bright future for CWA and our Chapter as our very own member Sharron Zoller assumes the Presidency for State CWA and Lianne Campodonico does the same for our special Chapter. We will celebrate these transitions by hosting the Annual CWA State Wide Meeting and Convention here in beautiful Lake County January 7-9th. What a great way to kick off the next two years!

## Calendar

- ❖ **November 18, 2021** – LCCWA Board Meeting (in person with Zoom option)
- ❖ **December 8, 2021** – Social and Officer Installation 5:30-7:30pm at Ripe Choice Farm (2550 Soda Bay Road, Lakeport CA)
- ❖ **January 7-9, 2022** - Annual Conference & Statewide Meeting in Beautiful Lake County



*Sausha*

**SHOUT OUT!**

We would like to applaud the following people for their commitments and excellence in agriculture!

- ❖ Our hard working State CWA Meeting Planning committee, consisting of ANNETTE HOPKINS, TONI SCULLY, SHARRON ZOLLER, AND TERRY DERENIUK. Let's show our support to these hard-working ladies as we welcome CWA members from across the state to our county! Don't hesitate to register, all information is included in this newsletter!
- ❖ LOCAL FARMERS, specifically our very own LIANNE CAMPODONICO for making the Big Valley Small Farms Tour possible this September. On a beautiful fall Sunday, a handful of beautiful specialty farmers opened their doors to welcome the community to experience "Farm to Fork" firsthand. Well done!
- ❖ LAKE COUNTY JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION BUYERS who supported local youth in agriculture in a record-breaking auction this summer. Sky high prices and bidding wars abound, our community supported exhibitors who have dealt with their fair share of challenges over the past few years.
- ❖ The KELSEYVILLE PEAR FESTIVAL COMMITTEE for bringing back the Farm to Fork Dinner. Many of our members were in attendance and could celebrate our county's agricultural heritage in-person for the first time since 2019!
- ❖ This month's contributors to this newsletter- it truly takes a village to produce!

**Take note of the following upcoming events, and be sure to RSVP!**  
**We cannot wait to connect in-person.**



CALIFORNIA WOMEN FOR AGRICULTURE  
LAKE COUNTY CHAPTER

## Winter Social and Officer Installation

December 8, 2021  
5:30- 7:30 PM  
Ripe Choice Farm  
2550 Soda Bay  
Road, Lakeport

\$5/person,  
spouses and guests  
are welcome!  
Please bring a  
bottle of wine and a  
dish to share.

RSVP by 12/1 to lakecountycwa@gmail.com or call (707)245-4787



Visit **PAGE 6** to learn more about the upcoming state CWA meeting. Let's all do our part to ensure a strong showing from our chapter as we host CWA members from around the state.

### FEATURE ARTICLE: Remembering Muffie

Martha Stokes Panella, born Martha Blanche Stokes and called Muffie all her life, passed away in her sleep at her home on July 25, succumbing to metastatic breast cancer at age 63. Muffie was a longtime CWA member, recurring officer, and graciously served our organization amidst her battle with cancer. In this article, we honor who she was and what she embodied to those who knew her best.



#### Background & Early Life

A lifelong resident, Muffie is a beloved member of a Lake County family that extends back multiple generations (on both her mother's side, Monroe and Moore) and father's side, Keithly).

Muffie was born into a farming family. From a young age, even before she started school she would ride with her father in his pickup when he was doing things he could do with a small child. As she got older she realized she would rather be doing "inside" work and began by helping during harvest by tallying bins and checking grade slips. Later on, she helped with book keeping for both the orchards and the ladder shop. She helped run the pear stand by sorting pears, packing boxes, and waiting on customers. She always looked forward to seeing a lot of the same customers come back year after year. She was very organized and purposeful in everything she did. An aptitude for accounting and attention to detail showed up in those early years, and she made it her profession after earning her Bachelor of Arts degree in business administration, with a minor in nutrition.

Muffie took real joy in her work and formed many warm relationships through it. She served her clients steadfastly until she recently became unable to work. Her adding machine skills were legendary, and she would have won the world championship for no-look speed and accuracy. Our organization was incredibly blessed to have her on our team- she was a fantastic Treasurer!

#### Life in Lake County

Muffie spent almost her entire life in Lake County, besides a few years at Chico for college. It was all she knew and all she wanted. She loved the small town feel where she knew many people in the community. She enjoyed her work and always liked to keep herself busy when she wasn't working, whether it was gardening, cooking, or keeping her house in order to host friends and family. She valued family over anything else in life, but for Muffie, family meant anyone she cared for, such as community, kids' friends, coworkers, or pets.



**Muffie was a committed community member. In the photos above she can be found volunteering in the early days of the Pear Festival (left & right) and being sworn in to serve as our Treasurer in December of 2019 (center).**

## Remembering Muffie (continued)

### Muffie's Legacy- Her Family

The center of Muffie's world was — and always remained — her children, Russell, Greg and Caitlin. Muffie was the kind of mom who sewed individually designed sleeping bags for her children, baked them birthday cakes in unique shapes, taught them to raise chickens and gather eggs, and showed them in every way that they were loved. To this day, her home is filled with treasures from throughout her children's lives.

Her son Russell shared his specific sentiment: "The most important thing in her life was always family. And she was the type of person who showed it through actions more than words. We 3 kids were the most important thing in her life and she always put us above anything else, even if it meant sacrificing other things she could be doing."

Her daughter Caitlin shared the following: "Mom taught me more lessons than she ever knew she did. One thing she always made sure of was that she put others first. This was installed hard and strong by her words but more so by her actions."

### Living like Muffie:

Those that knew Muffie best suggested a few ways to honor Muffie's memory as we reflect on her contributions to our organization and community.

To honor her generosity and faith in family, cook a nice meal and enjoy it with your family or share it with a friend.

Her daughter Caitlin also added, "Next time your family gets together, no matter the reason, just stop and take it in...simply appreciate what you have."

### Editor's Note:

Thank you to Diane Henderson for your assistance with this article. Diane not only shared her insights on Muffie's legacy, but also gathered statements from her children.

May we all take time to reflect on Muffie's contributions to our club and community. She will be sorely missed.



**Muffie and family, 2014**



## HOLIDAY RECIPE: PEAR CRUMBLE PIE

This recipe is the perfect addition to your Thanksgiving table, and a fun twist on our traditional CWA Pear Pie. The inclusion of bourbon makes for a tasty dessert to share with friends and family this holiday season.

### Filling Ingredients :

- 7 ripe but firm pears, any variety, peeled and sliced, about 5 cups sliced
- juice of 1 lemon
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 2/3 cup lightly packed brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch or instant tapioca
- 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon allspice
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cardamom
- pinch freshly grated nutmeg
- pinch of fresh cracked black pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 3 tablespoons bourbon
- 2 dashes bitters
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract



To make the filling, in a medium bowl toss together sliced pears, lemon juice, and granulated sugar. Allow to macerate for 20 minutes. Add brown sugar, cornstarch or tapioca, spices, pepper, salt, bourbon, bitters, and vanilla.

### Crumble Top Ingredients :

- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup old-fashioned oats
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- large pinch of salt
- 6 tablespoons cold unsalted butter, cut into small chunks
- 1/2 cup coarsely chopped walnuts

To make the crumble, in a bowl whisk together flour, oats, sugar, and salt. Add the cold butter chunks and, using your fingers, work the butter into the flour mixture. Quickly break the butter down into the mixture until well incorporated. Some butter bits will be the size of peas, and smaller. Add the walnuts and toss to combine.

### Assembling the Pie:

Place a rack in the center of the oven and preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. Set aside.

Remove the pie crust from the refrigerator. Toss a handful (about 1/2 cup) of the topping mixture into the pear mixture, toss. Dump the fruit mixture into the pie crust. Top with crumb mixture. Place on the prepared baking sheet and place in the oven.

Bake for 20 minutes then reduce the heat to 375 and bake for another 30 minutes until golden brown and bubbling. Cool for 3 hours before serving. Serve with vanilla ice cream or whipped cream.

# CALIFORNIA WOMEN FOR AG ANNUAL CONVENTION

## JANUARY 7-9



### AGENDA

#### **Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup>**

**8:30 - 10 am** Registration at Konocti Vista Casino Event Center

**10:30 am** Ag Tour (lunch included)

Tour a small production farm, enjoy lunch at a local agri-tourism spot and finish the afternoon with award-winning wine in the Red Hills AVA.

**5:30-7:30 pm** Welcome Mixer at Konocti Vista Casino Event Center

**8 pm** Executive Board Meeting

#### **Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**

**8:30 am** Annual Meeting at Konocti Vista Casino Event Center

**10:30 am-2:30 pm** Spouse & Guest Tour

**5:30 pm** No-Host Reception at Konocti Vista Casino Event Center

**6:00 pm** Banquet & New Officer Installation

Entertainment by L C Diamonds

#### **Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>**

**9:30 am** January Statewide Meeting at Konocti Vista Casino Event Center



### **SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE**

#### **Thursday, Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>**

Registration: 7-9 pm  
in Hospitality Suite

#### **Friday, Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>**

Registration: am 8:30 - 10am

Ag Tour: 10:30 am

Mixer: 5:30-7:30 pm

Executive Board Meeting: 8 pm

#### **Saturday, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>**

Annual Meeting: 8:30 am

Spouse & Guest Tour: 10:30 am

No-Host Reception: 5:30 pm

Banquet & New Officer

Installation: 6 pm

#### **Sunday, Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>**

Statewide Meeting: 9:30 am

### **Hotel Reservations:**

**Konocti Vista Casino**

**2755 Mission Rancheria**

**Lakeport CA 95453**

**(707)262-1900**

**Reserve by 12/6**

**under "CWA"**

**Rooms or RV Park options**

Call for details

# REGISTER TO ATTEND TODAY!



CALIFORNIA WOMEN for AGRICULTURE

## CWA ANNUAL CONVENTION JANUARY 7-9 • LAKEPORT, CALIFORNIA

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CWA Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



### Due by December 17th

		<u># Attending</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Friday, January 7 <sup>th</sup>			
Ag Tour	\$ 50/each	_____ x	_____
<i>Members &amp; Guests invited; lunch included</i>			
Welcome Mixer	\$ 25/each	_____ x	_____
Saturday, January 8 <sup>th</sup>			
Spouse and Guest tour			
<i>Lunch included</i>			
	\$ 40/each	_____ x	_____
Annual Meeting & Speakers	\$ 60/each	_____ x	_____
<i>Lunch included</i>			
Banquet and Officer Installation	\$ 70/each	_____ x	_____
<i>Entertainment by The L C Diamonds</i>			
Sunday, January 9 <sup>th</sup>			
Statewide Meeting	\$ 40/each	_____ x	_____
<i>Lunch included</i>			
<b>Early Bird Discount</b>	<b>if postmarked by December 3rd</b>	<b>\$ -25.00</b>	_____
Virtual Conference Attendance (No discount)	\$25/each		_____
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>\$</b> _____

Make checks payable to: Lake County CWA

Mail registration and payment to: Lake County CWA/Convention  
 PO Box 279, Finley, CA 95435

Call Terry Dereniuk 707 337-2871 to pay by Credit Card

Note: Registrations will not be accepted after December 22nd

## INTRODUCING THE OFFICER SLATE FOR 2022!

**PRESIDENT**

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