

# SAN JOAQUIN SOUNDING

## *California Women for Agriculture*



### MOVEABLE MEETINGS ARE A BIG HIT!

OUR CHAPTER PRESIDENT LESLIE AVANSINO (R) INTRODUCES GUEST SPEAKER, HER GOOD FRIEND SAROYA LEONARDINI, AT OUR MARCH 17TH MEETING AT GYPSY BISTRO IN LOCKEFORD. SAROYA, BORN AND RAISED IN LINDEN, IS A PRINCIPAL AT NEUMILLER & BEARDSLEE IN STOCKTON. SHE SHARED SOME VALUABLE INFORMATION REGARDING ESTATE PLANNING.

SEE PAGE 2 FOR OUR NEXT MEETING LOCATION. WE'RE HEADING SOUTH AND WEST! HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE FOR OUR LUNCH MEETING.

NUMBER 226  
APRIL 2021

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QR code activity



Upcoming Events

#### APRIL

15 - Scholarship applications are due, see page 3 for contact information  
21 - SJ CWA Meeting, 12:00 at Roberts-Union Farm Center, see pg 2 for more details. \*\*\*RSVP by 4/18\*\*\*

29 - AgVenture Manteca, virtual field trip  
**MAY**

21 - SJ CWA Celebration in the Country Table Setting Viewing 5:00-9:00pm, Roberts-Union Farm Center, Stockton  
22 - SJ CWA Celebration in the Country Table Setting Luncheon 10:30am viewing, 11:30am luncheon, Roberts-Union Farm Center, Stockton

#### JUNE

11-20 - AgFest  
16 - SJ CWA Meeting TBD (Do you have an idea of where to have the next meeting? Please message Leslie.)

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

#### Practice Kindness

At our meeting on March 17th, we did a segment that we are calling our "Elevator Speech Practice". It is an opportunity for our members to hear or practice their AgVocate speech to strangers. The point I am making is that we need to practice our reactions and comments to threads and feeds on social media. This has been an extraordinary year in our lives, both politically and socially. Social media has become a battleground. For all the negatives surrounding it, it is still a valuable tool to communicate with family and friends. It is also a great opportunity for us to participate in educating ourselves as well as the non-ag community.

There are many new vocabulary words attached to untruths and opinions on social media. Fake News, Troll, Cyber Bully, Censorship, Dark Social, Emoji, Influencer, Meme, Newsjacking and Stalking. Boy, those are some scary terms, I had to look some up. This is not meant to scare you from not participating. It is meant to educate you to what is out there and happening. We need to be aware of the potential traps and how to avoid them. This takes forethought and practice. I, too, must question myself. I will type a response in the heat of a discussion, then reread it. I ask myself some of these questions. Is it truthful? Is it mean? Will it make a difference? Is this going to affect my business or family? Am I representing my organization in a positive way? Am I stirring the pot? Do I want people to know my opinion? Is this going to come back to bite me? This is just what I internalize when I am on a site and participating in a discussion. Many times, if my answer is yes to any of those questions, I erase my comment and walk away. Being right is not always a positive thing. Being right depends on your perspective. There are two sides to every story.

(continued on next page)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONT.

We need to practice giving our opinion, advice, knowledge and information in a respectful and kind manner. We need to practice listening to other's opinions to know what the opposing view is saying so that we can combat the misinformation and anger with calm logical responses. It is hard but we must remind ourselves to be the example, take the high road. Speaking for myself, I am put off by rude or aggressive comments, I usually react in an opposite manner. We do not want to be rude or aggressive. We want to be approachable and reliable in our message and presentation, no matter the platform. Do not stop participating. Be the solution. Open opportunities to discuss agriculture in a kind and respectful way. We want to be searched out as a resource for media, educators, legislators and the public. We want to be respected. Do this by practicing this behavior.

Be Respectful. Be Kind. Be the Solution. Stay Healthy, Emotionally and Physically.

Leslie Avansino

## CALLING ALL MEMBERS

### APRIL LUNCH MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

We are heading south and west out of Lockeford (location of our last dinner meeting) to Roberts-Union Farm Center for lunch, catered by Angelina's at 12:00 noon. You may make your reservation online at [sanjoaquincwa.com](http://sanjoaquincwa.com) or email, call or text Leslie at 209.609.4789 or [lesliedrieuer@gmail.com](mailto:lesliedrieuer@gmail.com) with your (\$15, payable to SJ CWA) reservation by April 18.

#### Directions to Roberts-Union Farm Center:

From I-5 in French Camp, take the Mathews Road exit and head west. Follow Mathews Road for about one mile, make a slight left turn onto Howard Road. Follow Howard Road for about 4.5 miles. The Roberts-Union Farm Center will be on your right. The address is: 4925 W Howard Road, Stockton

## WE ARE HAVING A CELEBRATION IN THE COUNTRY!

SJ CWA is excited to announce that plans are in the works for our annual Celebration in the Country Table Setting event. Join us on the evening of May 21 for the Viewing (we need appetizers, can you help?) and on Saturday, May 22 for the viewing and catered luncheon. If you are interested in **setting a table**, please call Rosie at 209.401.8923 or Leslie at 209.609.4789. **Vendors**, contact Rosie or Leslie with your interest. Please see pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter for all the details. Page 4 is the event flyer and page 5 is the vendor flyer that you can share with your favorite vendors that may be interested.

Do you want to preview the location of our Table Setting venue? Come to our business lunch meeting at noon on April 21. Location in article above.

**\*\*Just to be clear, all rules of wearing a mask and social distancing still apply to the April lunch meeting and the May event.\*\***

**AgFest:** This past year has been full of changes in how we plan and then implement those plans. Please contact Angie Vana at 209.608.1411 if you are interested in helping out in some way to make AgFest a great learning experience (and a lot of fun!) for the youth of our county.

**QR Code Commodity** homework is due now! Get your commodity reports to Angie Vana ASAP! Turn it in to [4avana@gmail.com](mailto:4avana@gmail.com)

# CWA BOARD

## Executive Board

### President

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### President Elect

Terry Paoletti 209.481.2791  
[tsquareyp@aol.com](mailto:tsquareyp@aol.com)

### Vice President External

Hello again, you know you can do it!

### Vice President Internal

Suzanne Longstreth 209.838.2892  
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### Secretary

Angie Vana 209.608.1411  
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### Treasurer

Edele Norman 209.986.7641  
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### Area Directors

#### 95212, 95213, 95215

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#### Stockton (all other zip codes)

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[lamlr2@aol.com](mailto:lamlr2@aol.com)

Gloria Mazza 209.463.5477  
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#### Escalon, Tracy, Farmington

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#### Lodi, Galt, Woodbridge, Lone,

#### French Camp, Lockeford

Marilyn Togninali 209.470.8923  
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#### Manteca, Ripon

#### (and all non-SJ county members)

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#### Linden

Candice Ghio 209.601.3714  
[candice@theghios.com](mailto:candice@theghios.com)

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



IT'S HARD TO PIN DOWN WHERE **KAREN CULTRERA** CALLS HOME. SHE HAS A STOCKTON PHONE NUMBER, AN ESCALON ADDRESS AND IS IN THE RIPON SCHOOL DISTRICT! HER REACH IS FELT ALL ACROSS OUR COUNTY AS SHE PURSUES HER PASSION OF AGRICULTURE EDUCATION. KAREN WITH HER FAVORITE BOYS, KENNY, HANK AND ANTONE.

Legislative Day at the Capital, politics is just not my thing. Of course, there are all the State Conventions and Statewide meetings. A memorable convention was in Solvang when Arnold Strecker and all of us girls designed floral arrangements. A scary one was when Suzanne Longstreth and I drove in snow to a Statewide meeting at Bass Lake. It was freezing and the roads were so icy. Other favorite activities included Stockton Ag Expo, Earth Day, Ripon Almond Blossom Parade, Linden Cherry Festival Parade and donor member wine tasting. Outside of all the CWA activities, I am on the San Joaquin County Farm Bureau Board as well as the Foundation Board as Chairman of their Ag Education Committee. I also am active in Beta Sigma Phi and the Altar Society at St. Patrick's Church. In my free time I love babysitting my three grandsons, taking care of our herd of over 50 Boer goats and working in my garden.

### **AgVenture Update:**

The last AgVenture event of this school year is almost here, April 29th! If you are interested in what AgVenture looks like this year, Krista McCoon has provided two AgVenture website links (to the right of this article, under "Websites") to see how third-graders learn about agriculture. Go check it out!

It all began February 2003 when Kris Brocchini invited me to sit at her table at the infamous CWA Table Setting Luncheon. That was the day I was hooked. The next year I set my first table and have done one every year since. CWA became a passion. Our two children were away at college and this was the undertaking I needed to fill the void. Little did I know how involved I would become. I am most passionate about my participation in agriculture education activities. From the thousands of water cycle bracelets I have made with third graders at elementary school Ag Days throughout our county to multiple Rotary sponsored Read In events, the countless breakfasts served at AgVenture Days and of course the important scholarship committee and our annual scholarship BBQ. One of my favorite fundraisers for CWA used to be working in the Asparagus Alley. It was a ton of work but so much fun and camaraderie among the different volunteers. I do admit I have a least favorite event:

## Sounding Staff

### Newsletter Staff

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### Publishing

The San Joaquin Sounding is published monthly by the San Joaquin Chapter of California Women for Agriculture.

Memorial **Scholarships** are awarded to the children and grandchildren of SJ CWA members. This scholarship is funded through generous donations. Contact Karen Cultrera at 209.982.4945 for more information.

\*\*\* SJ CWA email \*\*\*

[SanJoaquinCWA@gmail.com](mailto:SanJoaquinCWA@gmail.com)

#### WEBSITES

[sanjoaquinCWA.com](http://sanjoaquinCWA.com). \*\*\*NEW\*\*\*

[cawomen4ag.com](http://cawomen4ag.com)

[learnaboutag.org](http://learnaboutag.org)

[agleaders.org](http://agleaders.org)

[sjcagventure.com](http://sjcagventure.com) Field Trips

[sjcagventure.com](http://sjcagventure.com) Presentations

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# *Celebration in the Country*

## *California Women for Agriculture San Joaquín Chapter 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Table Setting Luncheon*

*Viewing on May 21, 2021 at 5:00 - 9:00 pm  
Complimentary Wine & Charcuterie  
RSVP appreciated \$10 donation for viewing.*

*Luncheon on May 22, 2021 at 10:30 am viewing 11:30 lunch.  
Tickets \$25 per person*

*New location  
In the Beautiful California Delta  
Roberts-Union Farm Center  
4925 Howard Rd.  
Stockton, CA*

*There will be Amazing Tables, Drawings, Food, and Vendors.*

*We are celebrating companionship, while honoring  
the many members we have lost.*

*For information regarding doing a table, tickets, vendor space, or drawing donations  
please contact:*

*Rosie Togninali at 209-401-8923 or [farmrets@yahoo.com](mailto:farmrets@yahoo.com)  
Leslie Avansino at 209-609-4789 or [lesliedriever@gmail.com](mailto:lesliedriever@gmail.com)  
[SanjoaquinCWA.com](http://SanjoaquinCWA.com) for information or inspiration*

# *Celebration in the Country*

*California Women for Agriculture*

*San Joaquín Chapter*

*24<sup>th</sup> Annual*

*Table Setting Luncheon*

## *Vendor Information*

*May 21, 2021 Set Up by 3:00 pm. for that evenings viewing at 5:00pm.*

*May 22, 2021 Set Up by 9:30 am. Viewing at 10:30 luncheon at 11:30 am.*

*Vendors are given space for an 8ft table and chair which you provide for both days. Vendor fee is \$25 with an additional drawing prize donation. If you would like to have lunch on Saturday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> it will be an additional \$15.00 per person.*

*We appreciate your participation in this very well attended event. We are expecting 30 plus tables of 8 for the luncheon. The evening viewing, we anticipate 150 people.*

*Location in the Beautiful California Delta*

*Roberts-Union Farm Center*

*4925 Howard Rd., Stockton, CA*

*For Reservations and Information*

*Contact Rosie Togninali at 209-401-8923 [farmret5@yahoo.com](mailto:farmret5@yahoo.com)*

*Leslie Avansino at 209-609-4789 [lesliedriever@gmail.com](mailto:lesliedriever@gmail.com)*

*[SanjoaquinCWA.com](http://SanjoaquinCWA.com) for information or inspiration*

Vendor flyer: Do you know someone who would like to participate at our Table Setting event on May 21-22? Please share!



## POSTCARDS FROM STATEWIDE MEETINGS

BY SUSIE CALHOUN AND ANGIE VANA

Took a quick trip to Imperial Valley via the Zoom Express to attend the March Statewide Meeting in Imperial County. Arrived late and missed the beef cooking demo on Friday night. Rose Tryon, President, welcomed all. We were greeted by County Supervisor, Ryan Kelley. He shared that Imperial County was the last to join California in 1907. Imperial County is in the southeast corner of the state bordering Arizona and Mexico. There is an abundance of water from the Colorado River, providing for the nearly 400,000 acres of production agriculture. Agriculture includes orchards, fruits, field crops and cattle. Ryan commented on the high rate of poverty in the county. The meeting was held during the months of mild temperatures (October to April) and not when it is 126°F in the shade.

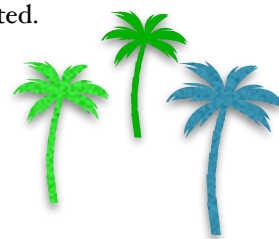
Barbara LaVake, CWA State Legislative Director, filled us in on the recall campaign and prospective candidates, redistricting, and appointees both local and national. Barbara's knowledge and passion for California government and politics is always enlightening. Barbara encouraged CWA members to become the Legislative Director position in the near future. She inspired us with a How a Bill Becomes Law:101. It was a great refresher that led into the newly proposed legislation she suggested we watch.

Patrick O'Dowd, Salton Sea Authority Director, spoke about the varying issues impacting the Salton Sea water basin, including, ecology, recreation and water quality. Patrick expounded on the fact that with increased salinity the effect is decreased fish and bird populations. He also said the water flowing into the basin from Mexico is not subject to the same regulations under WOTUS. This was a huge surprise and he said the water is super polluted.

Quick trip, yet it was great to see familiar faces from around California.

Wish you were here!

Susie Calhoun and Angie Vana



### Activity Time:

Get your cell phone (not a really old one!) or your tablet. Open the camera app. Don't take a picture, just get this QR code to the left to show up on your screen. Can you see it on your phone? Do you see the little pop-up that just popped up on your screen? Click on it and tell me what website you just opened. Email me at [kathierivara@gmail.com](mailto:kathierivara@gmail.com) or text me at 209.298.9032; tell me the website and your name, you are now entered into a drawing. Maybe your name will be drawn at the next SJ CWA meeting out at the Roberts-Union Farm Center. If you were assigned or volunteered to work on a commodity or related industry for the QR code project, let's get those commodity information sheets in to Angie Vana. Drawing prize: probably something edible!

What in the world is this?



Read here, learn how to use it.

### One way YOU can help State CWA:

Please remember that Edele Norman, our liaison to CWA's AgOne BBQ Task Force Director, has asked that we share our spring/summer bounty for the Country Store that is a fundraiser held during the AgOne BBQ. If you are a crafter or food preservationist; please set aside some of your fruits of your labor for the Country Store. If you need any ideas, give Edele a friendly call at 209.986.7641

# Memorial Scholarship Fund Donation

In the Name of: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Acknowledgement Card to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Donor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

How do you wish the card signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tribute/Occasion: \_\_\_\_\_

A tribute gift is a special way to honor or remember a loved one. Upon receipt of your contribution, an acknowledgement card will be sent to the person designated stating that a donation has been received. When you honor the memory of a loved one, you help further the education of SJ CWA members' children and grandchildren. Please send to: SJ CWA  
PO Box 31334  
Stockton CA 95213

## DONOR MEMBERS

*CWA activities are made possible, in part, through the generous donations of our Donor Members.  
Donor Members as of March 29, 2021.*

### Double Diamond Level (\$1,000+)

Brocchini Farms  
Port of Stockton  
^^Roberts-Union Farm Center

Erna Murphy  
Lory Mussi & Victoria Mussi Inv. LP  
Bernadine & George Piccardo  
Tanaka Farms, Inc.  
Waterloo Orchards, Inc.

Vickie Mello & Bob Schulz  
Midland Farms  
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\*\*Elizabeth & Alfred Nicolini

### Diamond Level (\$501-\$999)

American AgCredit  
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Pacific Southwest Irrigation

### Silver Level (\$100-150)

Leslie Avansino  
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Camera Brothers  
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Diana Connolly  
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A & A Dasso Farms, Inc.  
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Escalon Feed & Supply  
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Nellie & David Frison  
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Wilbur Ellis (Manteca Branch)

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Kuil Brothers, Inc.  
Lagorio Companies  
Liebelt Vineyards  
Ray & Marla Livengood  
Lodi Farming, Inc.  
Diane Malcoun  
Martin Farms

\*\* denotes NEW Donor Member

^^ denotes in-kind members



TIME-DATED MATERIAL

NON PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE  
PAID PERMIT NO. 422  
STOCKTON, CA

California Women for Agriculture  
P.O. Box 31334  
Stockton, CA 95213

Current Resident or

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### APRIL

- 15 - Scholarship applications are due, see page 3 for contact information
- 21 - SJ CWA Meeting, at Roberts-Union Farm Center, 4925 W Howard Rd, Stockton, see page 2 for more details. \*\*\*RSVP by 4/18 \*\*\*
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- 22 - SJ CWA Celebration in the Country Table Setting Luncheon 11:30am (viewing begins at 10:30) at Roberts-Union Farm Center, Stockton

### JUNE

- 11-20 - AgFest
- 16 - SJ CWA Dinner Meeting time and place to be determined, stay tuned. If you have an idea on a location, contact Leslie.