I am writing my last “chair message” for Horizons. What an honor. Reflecting over the past six years, we have accomplished so much. At the risk of being repetitive, I will say once again, “I can never give back to the Ag Leadership Program as much as it has given me.” With that in mind, we started the process of resurrecting CALF in 2009. The best decision we made was hiring Bob Gray who immersed himself into this challenge and has carried us to a better place. Bob’s leadership, his business skills, tenacity, hard work and determination saved our organization. Whenever you have a chance, please thank him, he is “a leader who makes a difference.” The alumni of this program will be his legacy, and that legacy is amazing!

This program touches so many and makes a difference in so many lives. It has been an honor to serve as your chair. CALF is blessed to have Jeff Elder as the new chair. Jeff is a dynamic, successful businessman, but more importantly, a really good guy! Our board of directors is diverse, thoughtful and strategic, it is a great group. They work hard to sustain CALF for the future. Thank you to each and every one of you!

Through the incredible generosity of donors, volunteers and industry support, CALF will continue to go the distance by providing leaders to an industry we love. I am proud to be a small part of California agriculture. California agriculture feeds the world, enhances our national security and creates a safe, nutritious food supply. Successful leadership will hopefully keep agriculture viable for generations to come.

In the spirit of collaboration, we look forward to the next chapter in California Ag Leadership. Thank you for your support during my tenure as chair; it is one of the greatest experiences of my life. As I said before, Ag Leadership has given me so much more than I can ever give back. I love our mission statement, “we grow leaders who make a difference.” Amen!

- Loren Booth (27)

Immediate Past Chair

Bob Gray received the Award of Honor at the 90th annual meeting of Western Growers, Nov. 8-11, in San Diego. Gray was honored with the award for his work and accomplishments during his 40-year career in agriculture.
Board of Directors Leadership Change
In October, transitions were made on the California Ag Leadership Foundation’s board of directors. Loren Booth (27) transitioned to immediate past chair. Current vice chair of the board, Jeff Elder (35), assumed the position of chair.

Elder, who has served as vice chair since 2009, is vice president of J.G. Boswell Company. In his position, Elder oversees the sales and marketing of the company’s primary crops, including pima cotton, tomato paste, safflower oil and cottonseed oil. He has been involved with California agriculture for more than 30 years and has been active in, and served on the boards of many agricultural organizations.

“Loren has been relentless in her effort to build CALF into the premier program of its kind with a future guaranteed by a strong balance sheet,” said Elder. “My challenge will be to continue the positive momentum she has created and complete the goals the board has set.”

Booth has served as chair of the board since July of 2009 and will continue to serve on the Ag Leadership board for an additional year as immediate past chair.

“I have to say how honored I am to have served as chair—I enjoyed every minute of it and I’m so thrilled to have been a part of the Ag Leadership board,” said Booth. “I’m looking forward to the new leadership of Jeff Elder. I’m awfully glad he’s ready to step up and I know it will be a good transition.”

For many years, Booth has been extremely supportive of Ag Leadership through her commitment of time, energy and resources.

“Bob Gray likes to talk about the three legged stool of CALF, namely the foundation board, the Alumni Council and the education team. I will borrow this term to discuss the three legs of the amazing CALF turnaround; the chairmanship of Loren Booth, the hiring of Bob Gray as CEO, the willingness of the education team to revamp an already successful program. All three legs deserve equal credit for the current position of CALF,” said Jeff Elder.

“But without Loren Booth’s chairmanship, Bob would not have not been hired—and without Bob’s ability to unite and motivate a team of people, the program would not have changed much. It’s safe to say that without Loren Booth’s leadership, CALF would look much different today and not in a positive way.”

In 2014, Booth issued a $1 million challenge grant to help grow the foundation’s endowment and to support operations. The grant will provide a dollar-for-dollar match up to $1 million for all new gifts donated. To encourage broad participation, the match will be valid until met—by new pledges or increased gifts from current donors. With just $117,000 left, Booth is eager to have her $1 million challenge met.

“I can’t wait to send in the check,” said Booth. “All of our friends and anybody in ag should step up and support the leadership program. There are a lot of worthwhile causes—but this one has never been more important than it is right now.”

Foundation Staff Leadership Change
Bob Gray has announced that he will step down from his position as president and CEO. He began his role on September 1, 2009 and is the seventh president to serve the organization.

“Bob Gray has been so instrumental to the success of Ag Leadership over the last few years,” said Loren Booth. “He has done so much for the program and the success of the alumni will be his legacy—he’s changed so many lives.”

As the search for a new president and CEO begins, Gray has committed to stay with the organization until the transition is complete.

“Bob has pledged to stay with Ag Leadership until we find just the right person,” said Loren Booth. “It’ll be a tough search, but I have faith that with Bob’s support, we’ll be okay—he truly has the best interest of Ag Leadership in his heart.”

The board of directors has appointed a committee, chaired by Jeff Elder, to see through the process of appointing a new leader for the foundation.

“Hiring the right individual to replace Bob Gray is critical to the continued success of CALF,” said Jeff Elder. “Bob has set a very high bar. While the urgency of a turnaround is no longer a major concern, continuous improvement and continued success of the capital campaign will be challenges the new CEO can immediately undertake.”

Board Member Steps Down
Barbara Boswell, who served a two-year term, recently moved to Idaho and has stepped down from the board.

“The main reason that I have stepped down from the board is that I am no longer living in the state of California,” said Boswell. “The leadership board should be comprised of people who are really passionate about Ag Leadership, which I am, but also of people who are close to what is going on in the heartbeat of California.”

Thank you to Barbara for her support of the Ag Leadership Foundation!
The California Agricultural Leadership Foundation and the Ag Leadership Alumni Council presented the 2015 Ag Leadership Awards to four outstanding leaders—Mike Young (35), Roxanna Smith (19), Frank Hilliker (32) and Dr. Charles Boyer. The award ceremony was held on Oct. 15 in conjunction with Class 46’s inauguration.

The Profiles in Leadership (PIL) Award, which recognizes Ag Leadership Program alumni for their leadership actions resulting in the betterment of industry, community, business, government, education and/or the environment, was awarded to Young, Smith and Hilliker. Dr. Boyer received the Honorary Fellow (HF) Award for his consistent commitment and uncommon excellence in the furtherance of education and leadership in California agriculture.
“It gives us great pleasure to shine the spotlight on these four remarkable individuals for our 2015 Ag Leadership Awards,” said Bob Gray, CALF president and CEO. “They have demonstrated effective and strong leadership and have made positive contributions to agriculture and beyond. It is inspiring to see what they have done for the betterment of industry, community and agriculture.”
Young. “I am very honored and humbled to have been nominated.”

“I feel very honored because there are so many people within Ag Leadership who are very deserving of this award, so to be recognized is pretty humbling,” said Smith.

Mike Young is principal of Wegis & Young and a fourth generation agricultural entrepreneur who grew up in Bakersfield working on the family farm every summer. He studied business and finance at the University of the Pacific.

Young currently manages his family’s operations with his father, uncle, brother and cousin. Wegis & Young has several ag-related businesses under its umbrella. The diversified farming operation grows a variety of tree and row crops and manages agricultural property for individual and institutional investors.

Along with the agricultural interests and family business, Young is a partner in Water Associates, the only Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) dealer of Cummins industrial engines in Kern County. In addition, he successfully launched REDtrac—a personalized asset management and GPS tracking solution that aims to increase revenue to each client’s operation. The business delivers both an innovative and progressive management tool for business entities of all types.

Young has been very involved in his community and industry as a servant leader who makes a difference. Some of the organizations to which he dedicates his time include: Kern County Farm Bureau; California Farm Bureau Federation; Kern Citizens for Sustainable Government; San Joaquin Valley Young Presidents Organization; Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce; Youth Leadership Bakersfield; California Cotton Growers Association and the Kern County Fair Board—to which he was appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown in 2011.

In addition, Young volunteers for many non-agricultural organizations in his community. He serves as a leader in his local church; volunteers for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society; Bakersfield California Editorial Board and the Quest Club.

Young’s PIL nominators say, “Mike has tirelessly given his time, treasure and talent to many organizations and nonprofits. Mike is a prime example of what Ag Leadership is all about.”

Since 2005, Young has given much of his time to the Ag Leadership Program’s alumni council and served in various roles from 2006-2014. His leadership of the alumni council played a key role in developing new tools to create committees, encourage volunteerism, organize annual events and recruit new directors. Young currently serves on California Ag Leadership’s board of directors, a position he began in 2014.

“I thank the foundation and the program for challenging me and giving me the tools and confidence to step outside of myself—knowing that I have the ability and the duty to lead wherever I am called,” said Young. “I am very honored and humbled to have been nominated.”

Roxanna Smith is senior vice president and senior relationship manager for the Mid-Valley Commercial Banking Office of Wells Fargo Bank. In her position, she focuses on middle market commercial banking relationships and is responsible for representing Wells Fargo in developing and maintaining relationships with key clients. Smith began her banking career in 1980 as a college intern for a production credit association. She received her degree from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo where she studied agribusiness management.

Smith is described by her peers as a true servant leader who has maintained a high level of community involvement. Her volunteer resume is extensive and includes a wide array of community and agricultural organizations.

Her PIL nominators note that, “Roxanna lives the mission of the California Agricultural Leadership organization and she is a leader that makes a difference through her example.”

She has served for many years on the board of directors for Sierra Vista Child and Family Services. The organization helps more than 22,000 children and families each year by offering quality programs to serve people of all ages who are overwhelmed by mental illness, child abuse and substance abuse. In her role with Sierra Vista, Smith has helped with the annual gala and gives in any way she can.

“When I was growing up, my mother was always involved in community groups and outreach in lower served communities and that gave me the opportunity to see things that made me grateful for where I was,” said Smith. “The same thing happened to me while I was in Ag Leadership—I saw things with a different set of eyes—it made me consider what we, as an ag community, can bring to the table.”

In addition, she served for 16 years on the committee for the Stanislaus County Ag Hall of Fame event which raises money for the National Ag Science Center. Smith was also one of the primary organizers for 20 years for an event to benefit the Muir Trail Girl Scouts.

Smith works to support the California State Fair as a member of the advisory board and has dedicated her leadership over the years to California Women for Agriculture. Currently, she serves as a 4-H youth program advisor for the Stanislaus County 4-H All Star program.

“I feel very honored because there are so many people within Ag Leadership who are very deserving of this award, so to be recognized is pretty humbling,” said Smith.

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Frank Hilliker is president of Hilliker’s Ranch Fresh Eggs, a family business he has been actively involved in for the majority of his life. The business, which was started in 1942 by his grandparents, Frank and Josephine Hilliker, is the oldest egg laying operation in San Diego and one of the longest established in all of California.

When his father, Harold Hilliker (12), suddenly passed away in 2009, Frank Hilliker stepped up in a big way at the ranch. With the support of his family, Hilliker led the business through the unexpected loss of their patriarch, and the changes that came with Proposition 2, while continuing to support the community through his many volunteer activities.

Hilliker serves as a director of the San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) representing Lakeside Water District. Through this expertise, he has reviewed state water infrastructure projects and created opportunities to coordinate with state officials for improvement projects. He works to represent and share the viewpoints of Lakeside while maintaining the goal of a better water system for San Diego and California.

As a volunteer, Hilliker is actively involved in the Lakeside Chamber of Commerce; International 4-H Youth Exchange; Lakeside Union School District Bond Oversight Committee; San Diego County German American Society; East County Boys & Girls Club and a supporter of local FFA chapters.

Hilliker is a passionate agriculturalist and community leader who is known for giving his time and knowledge to improve his community and industry.

His PIL nominators say, “Frank has not only put sweat equity into all of these organizations, but he has also taken on a leadership role by helping to guide these organizations and to improve their fundraisers, gain community support and increase membership.”

Under Hilliker’s direction, a fundraising event for the local Boys and Girls Club raised $140,000. The fundraiser helped to keep membership fees lower than those of other clubs and allowed for field trips, supplies and improvements to four locations.

With the passing of Proposition 2, Hilliker took every opportunity to educate the public about issues affecting his industry. He was interviewed by the Los Angeles Times, Christian Science Monitor, NPR, various radio stations and every television station in San Diego.

“Ag Leadership really helped give me the tools and confidence I needed to handle all the media requests that were coming my way,” said Hilliker. “I’ve been the go-to person for a lot of media in San Diego and southern California when there’s a story about eggs or chickens.”

Hilliker doesn’t shy away from sharing the process of aligning his company with the requirements of Proposition 2 and how it effects his business. He knows that his open, candid manner of sharing makes it easy for the public to understand what producers like himself are facing when new regulations are enacted.

“I’m very humbled—I’m ultra humbled that I was nominated for this award, I feel very blessed,” said Hilliker.

Dr. Charles Boyer has been named this year’s Honorary Fellow in recognition for his outstanding service to the California Ag Leadership Foundation. He is currently the vice president of agriculture, dean and director of the College of Agriculture and the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station, Montana State University (MSU). Before taking on his new position in December 2014, Boyer was dean at Fresno State University’s (FSU) Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, and had been the longest-serving dean amongst the four legacy partner universities. His institutional memory, time spent traveling with the class—including a trip to India and Nepal with Class 42—all contributed to the revival of the California Ag Leadership Foundation.

“I was fortunate to be part of the leadership team and work with the educational team during an important period in the history of the program,” said Dr. Boyer. “During the transition, the program made critical changes in the organization and increased focus on core values and educational objectives. Indeed, I benefited in personal growth as part of my inner journey of leadership development.”

Boyer earned a bachelor’s degree in biology from Eastern Oregon State College and a master’s degree and doctorate in genetics, both from The Pennsylvania State University. In 2006, he was named dean of the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology at California State University, Fresno. Prior to the appointment, he served as associate dean and associate director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Agricultural Sciences, at Oregon State University; professor and head of the Department of Horticulture at Oregon State University; chairman of the Intercollege Graduate Program in Genetics at Pennsylvania State University; professor and associate professor of plant breeding and genetics at Pennsylvania State University and assistant professor of horticulture at Rutgers University.

In 2009, during his time as dean at FSU, the College of Agriculture received an unprecedented gift from the Hanabul, Dee and Lowell Jordan family. At the time, the gift of $29,442,516 was the largest donation ever received by Fresno State and the largest single cash gift to any entity in the entire California State University system. In recognition of the family’s generosity, the college changed its name to the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology.

Boyer is currently vice president of agriculture at Montana State University. As such, he holds the dual positions of dean of the College of Agriculture and director of the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station, in addition to serving in a vice presidential role for the university.

“It is an honor to be recognized as an Honorary Fellow by the California Agricultural Leadership Program,” said Boyer.
The Washington, D.C. Educational Fellowship Program (D.C. Exchange) and the California Educational Fellowship Program (CA Exchange) are opportunities for government representatives to participate in significant, in-depth learning opportunities about issues facing California agriculture. The goal of the programs is to educate decision makers about current issues and complex challenges faced by California’s farmers and ranchers.

The programs included one-on-one talks, small group discussions and site visits that foster open communication and lifelong relationships between leaders in the agriculture industry and each of the fellows. The experiences take fellows away from their offices and put them up close and personal with agriculture and professionals in the industry.

"I had a wonderful experience and came away from the trip with a tremendous appreciation for the hard work and efforts by California farmers, producers and ag advocates," said D.C. Exchange fellow Whitney Schablik, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Photos by Judy Sparacino
California Educational Fellowship Program

The California Educational Fellowship Program (CA Exchange), as redeveloped under the ethics rules in California, is an experiential learning and leadership development opportunity that brings together representatives from California regulatory organizations with California agriculturalists.

June 1-4
Region 8 | Kern County

The fellows began the CA Exchange by train from Sacramento and Oakland to Bakersfield, with an overview of “Crucial Conversations” by Danielle Dupree (43). When the group arrived in Bakersfield, they had a basic understanding of the issues they would learn about and were excited to begin their trip. At the train station, fellows were met by their host families and spent the rest of the day on tours of operations, dinner and overnight stays with their hosts.

On the second day of the program, the CA Exchange fellows started off by learning about the heritage and culture of Kern County from Lori Wear, Kern County Museum’s curator of collections. The day continued with an overview of the California Ag Leadership Foundation (Calf) with Bob Gray, Calf president and CEO, followed by a discussion about the economics of Kern County’s almond industry, lead by CA Exchange chair, Rob Geis (35).

“We tried to immerse them slowly with information about the county and give a good overview of what Kern is all about,” said Geis. “We got off to a really good start and it was very positive.”

The morning continued with an aerial tour of the county to see the Friant-Kern Canal, State Water Project, Kern Water Bank and the Rosedale-Rio Bravo recharge basins.

“Coming to Kern County in the current state of drought, with large amounts of fallowed land, the real impacts could be clearly seen,” said CA Exchange committee member and fellow, Jensen Devaurs (43). “I feel that the fellows got a firsthand look at the challenges the lack of water is having on our industry.” Following the theme of understanding the county, the group continued to Treehouse California Almonds in Earlimart. Treehouse, established in the early 1980s, produces and processes almonds for the candy and ice cream industries both in the United States and internationally.

“This is where the class got their first ‘hands-on’ experience. We really want to let them experience the industry firsthand so they can understand the whole process,” said Geis. “They put on their hair nets and took turns on the picking line to sort almonds.”

The third day of the program included a stop at the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District in Bakersfield to learn about the status of Kern County water; a stop at Icardo Farms to hand-pick melons and carrots, and learn about what it takes to produce the crops; and a tour of Sun Pacific to learn about grape production and discuss agricultural workforce and immigration. The day ended with a tour of Oasis Dairy in Shafter with the operation’s owner, Pete DeYoung. Fellows learned about how DeYoung manages regulatory, environmental and water challenges on his 2,500 cow dairy.

“The fellows were more shocked than anything,” said Geis. “It was very eye-opening to see the reality of what growers are dealing with down there. They began to understand the reality of what it means to fallow ground when you have people—employees and families—who depend on you for their own livelihoods.”

The final day of CA Exchange included a tour of a citrus and grape rootstock nursery and a visit to the local Farm Bureau to learn about value added agriculture in the county. To conclude the day, Dr. Michael Thomas, director of education, Calf, lead a “Crucial Conversations” discussion with the group and a session on leadership development. Jensen Devaurs (43) and Danielle Dupree (43) wrapped up CA Exchange with a program synthesis and conversation about lessons learned during the four-day experience.

“There were some great leadership lessons learned through the classroom sessions,” said Devaurs. “The fellows seemed to really have appreciated ‘Crucial Conversations’ and they all said they would be using what they learned in their daily work and even home lives.”
Washington D.C. Educational Fellowship Program

Aug. 1-9
Regions 1 & 2 | Northern California

This year, 19 D.C. Exchange fellows came together in Humboldt County to begin their nine-day agricultural tour of Northern California with excitement and anticipation. They ended in Sonoma County with an unexpected respect and understanding for agriculture and the farmers, ranchers and industry representatives they built relationships with during the program.

“The D.C. Exchange is an incredible program and invaluable learning opportunity. I am very grateful for the humbling and eye-opening experience, the knowledge gained and the connections made with farmers, host families and the fellows,” said D.C. Exchange fellow Whitney Schablik, U.S. Department of Commerce.

On the first full day of the program, the fellows jumped right into getting to know Humboldt county. The day began with a foggy, early morning boat tour to learn about the area’s oyster industry. The program continued with an overview of the County by Andy Westfall, rancher, local historian and author of “Humboldt Heartland” and an organic dairy tour with Dennis Leonardi (13) at his family’s operation, Evening Star Holsteins in Ferndale. The fellows also learned from industry professionals about grazing beef cattle, timberlands, flower bulb production and the negative impacts of marijuana production.

“I have already heard from a fellow who shared that he is getting the information out there and looking forward to further communication surrounding the marijuana issues,” said Heidi Harris (43). “This alone makes me so happy!”

During the first few days of D.C. Exchange, lead by various Ag Leadership alumni, fellows visited Trinity, Shasta, Tehama, Sutter and Glenn counties. Some of the tour stops included Trinity River Lumber Mill; Shasta Dam; Lomo Receiving Station; Pacific Coast Producers processing plant and an orchard where fellows picked peaches by hand.

“At this point, the fellows have started relationships and personalities are starting to come out,” said Geis. “The class got along amazingly and they were willing to learn and experience everything we laid out for them.”

Over the course of the next days of the program, the experience continued through Sutter, Colusa, Sonoma and Napa counties. The group stopped at a rice farm and the Sun Valley Rice mill; the Culinary Institute of America; Tres Sabores Winery; Sonoma County Farm Bureau; Neve Brothers; Gourmet Mushrooms; Dutton Ranch; Imwalle Gardens; Benzinger Family Winery and Imagery Estate Winery.

“I was really encouraged by how the people we met are continually innovating and seeking new or niche markets in the U.S. and abroad in order to increase their competitiveness,” said Schablik. “I came away with a tremendous appreciation for the hard work put forth by California farmers, producers and agriculture advocates and a new perspective on the complexity and the implications of the challenges they face on a daily basis.”
“I am grateful to have had the chance to share my mountains with the D.C. Exchange group,” said Heidi Harris (43). “I am very blessed with good people who helped me out, gave tours, cooked food and donated. I hope the memories of our area do not fade too quickly and we are remembered when they all go back to work.”
Erin is the assistant vineyard manager for Pacific Vineyard Co. She works with a team that manages daily farming operations for 1,650+ acres of wine grapes and assists in development of new properties. She is involved with pest control operations, irrigation and fertility. Erin manages the sugar sampling team during harvest and some of the ag regulation requirements. She was raised on a farm in Crows Landing.

Zach is a tomato crop supervisor at Olam Spices and Vegetable Ingredients. He serves as a liaison between Olam and growers — from variety selection through harvest — ensuring crop quality metrics and yield expectations are met and exceeded across 30 growers and 10,000 acres. Zach also manages Olam’s compost business, which processes 20,000 tons of ag byproducts annually.

Drew is a field service representative at SunWest Foods Inc., a locally-owned company that ships California rice around the globe. SunWest purchases, markets and processes rice from more than 300 farmers with 15 percent of the California rice production. His role includes purchasing and shipping various types of California rice and providing up-to-date global rice market information to California rice producers.

Dominic is the farm manager of Bypass Farms, a family-owned diversified farming operation in West Sacramento. The 6,500-acre property produces a wide variety of organically and conventionally grown row, feed and tree crops. He manages the day-to-day operations and personnel, crop planning and implementation, coordinates construction and capital projects, and reports to the owners.
Domenick is a grower at Anthony Vineyards, where he helps manage a 3,720-acre farming operation cultivating table grapes, citrus and bell peppers. He oversees ranches in the Arvin/Mettler area of southern San Joaquin Valley. Domenick is a fourth generation farmer, as well as a licensed qualified applicator, pest control adviser and certified crop adviser.

Josh is a livestock and range farm advisor for the University of California Cooperative Extension, serving Tehama, Glenn and Colusa counties. He specializes in livestock, range, pasture and natural resources. Projects include range/pasture weed control, range forage production improvement, rice straw forage quality and oak regeneration. Josh is a certified range manager and professional animal scientist.

Shannon is the owner of CalAgJobs.com, a listing and promotion service for career opportunities in California agriculture. She is also a consultant working with organizations to promote career pathways in California agriculture. Shannon team teaches an agricultural careers course at Butte College. Her family’s farm produces beef cattle, sunflowers and forage crops.

Melissa is a senior director of sourcing for Wal-Mart Global Food Sourcing, which sources key fruits and vegetables from California for over 4,000 stores and coordinates global imports and local programs. She manages a team of senior sourcing managers that is responsible for strategic sourcing plans, cross functional team alignment, program coordination, quality standards and cost negotiations.
Beau is a production agronomist and pest control adviser for the J.G. Boswell Company, located near Corcoran. It is a large diversified farming company that produces long staple (Pima) cotton, processing tomatoes, safflower and pistachios. He is responsible for farming operations that include pest control, fertility, planting, crop trials, harvesting and tillage operations.

Jorge is the operations manager for Tenalu, a fourth generation family farm founded in 1917 that produces oranges, lemons, olives, avocados and specialty citrus. He is in charge of all farm operations and handles day-to-day activities, including finances and compliance with local and state regulations, checking the progress of crops, planning for harvest, and looking for solutions to farming challenges.

Heather is the area manager for Sunview Dried Fruit and Nut Co. She manages the day-to-day operations of Sunview’s vineyards and dehydration in the Fresno area. She is the first in her family to work in the agricultural industry since her great-grandparents ran their small Midwest farms. Heather’s family breeds show pigs and participates in livestock shows statewide.

Marc is general manager of Metzer Farms, his family’s duck and goose hatchery that controls all aspects of nutrition, selection, incubation and hatching. Metzer Farms has been shipping day-old poultry across the United States to farmers, feed stores and hobbyists every week since 1972. As manager, Marc plans to continue the growth of the business with the introduction of chicks into the product mix next year.

Johnna is the director of food safety and technology at the Produce Marketing Association, the leading trade organization for the global produce and floral industry. Her responsibilities include monitoring, evaluating and collaborating on produce-specific food safety guidance and standards. Her specialty is working with small growers on food safety outreach and training. Johnna grew up on a Morgan Hill ranch.

Gayle is the public affairs representative and spokesperson for Westlands Water District, the largest agricultural irrigation district in the United States. It consists of more than 600,000 acres and serves more than 700 family farms in the Central Valley. She is responsible for government affairs and community outreach, and conducts and coordinates tours of facilities and presentations for various groups.

Randy is a vice president at Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group, a firm that offers a wide range of engineering and consulting services. He manages the Clovis operation and works primarily with irrigation and water districts in the Central Valley. During his career, Randy has focused on groundwater recharge and banking projects, and the rehabilitation and modernization of irrigation delivery systems.

Sarah is an agronomic development specialist at Bayer CropScience’s Global Biologics headquarters in West Sacramento. Bayer CropScience looks to integrate different agronomic solutions to fit growers’ needs with its portfolio of conventional and biological crop protection products, seeds and traits, as well as services. Sarah focuses on field testing of selected microbial crop protection candidates.

Photos by Vannesa Wright
Denise is the fourth generation co-owner of Fowler Nurseries, Inc. Founded in 1912 by her great-grandfather, the nursery produces more than 1 million fruit and nut trees annually for commercial orchardists. Her responsibilities include human resources and production department administration. She has also managed the container tree division. Denise and her husband also produce eggs, grass-fed beef and pumpkins.

Tony is the operations manager of Joseph and Sons Inc., his family’s multigenerational farming operation that produces more than 15 varieties of cut flowers. He is the sole family representative involved in day-to-day operations—training, safety, human resources, social media, renewing county restricted materials permits, coordinating fumigation applications, and maintenance of trucks and farm equipment.

Sal is the assistant farm manager for Burford Ranch, a diversified family operation that farms 12,000+ acres and grows 13 crops. He coordinates day-to-day operations and serves as the in-house pest control adviser and safety coordinator. Sal is also a general partner of Coyula Farms, a first generation family-owned partnership that farms alfalfa, corn, pistachios and almonds on 1,000 acres.

Shaun is the food safety/safety coordinator for The Specialty Crop Company, a diversified grower/shipper and farm management company that focuses on figs, persimmons, pomegranates, kiwis, almonds, pistachios, mandarins and navel oranges. It is the world’s largest grower of fresh and dried figs. From 1999 to 2009, Shaun grew cantaloupes, honeydews, cotton and wheat in the Central Valley.

Adam is the owner of Secondo Management Company L.L.C. and the fourth generation to run his family’s 100-year-old farming operation in Monterey County. The farm produces a variety of lettuce, broccoli, cauliflower, celery and onions. As the sole general partner of Secondo Farms L.P., Adam oversees day-to-day operations, contract negotiations, human resources, budgeting and permitting.

Blake is the orchard manager for Vann Brothers, his family’s diversified farming operation that grows almonds, walnuts, tomatoes and rotational row crops. He manages 10,000 acres of almonds and 1,000 acres of walnuts—from planting to harvesting. Blake is involved in land acquisition, capital expenditure decisions, family board meetings, marketing of the crop, and development of a new huller/sheller.

Christian is a grower representative for Pearl Crop, Inc., a family-owned walnut and almond company that offers in-shell and shelled walnuts and almonds to upwards of 40 countries. He oversees relationships with farms across Northern California that produce more than 20 million pounds of walnuts and almonds annually for Pearl Crop. He creates, maintains and fosters relations from growers to the end consumer.

Ashley is a coordinator for the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program, which regulates discharges from irrigated agricultural lands for approximately 40,000 growers statewide. She represents the State Water Board in agricultural-related issues and serves as a technical expert on agricultural practices, including irrigation and nutrient management.
CLASS 45 PARTNERS WITH POVERELLO HOUSE to Fight Hunger in Rural Communities

Together with Fresno’s Poverello House, Class 45 is working to fund a food truck project which will provide hot meals and fresh produce to rural communities. The nonprofit organization works to provide social services, meals, health care and temporary housing to assist those in need. Currently, the Poverello House serves more than 500,000 meals each year.

“Our biggest concern is that not enough rural areas are getting nutritious meals cooked, prepped and served,” said Cruz Avila, executive director, Poverello House. “This is how the concept of the truck came about. We want to reach the ag community and we know we can help them on a bigger level by providing hot nutritious meals.”

Drawing on their extensive experience in foodservice and resource management, the Poverello House will operate the food truck with the goal of providing meals to rural communities in the San Joaquin Valley.

“The truck will be on a schedule and it will partner with cities in Fresno County to provide meals,” said Justin Morehead, (45). “There will likely be lunches and weekend events when lots of children are out of school and are in more need.”

In addition to fresh meals, Fresno’s Poverello House chef will demonstrate how to prepare the food that’s being donated in each community.

“A lot of rural communities don’t get a huge amount of support—the food truck project will help fill that gap,” said Morehead. “It’s going to be a lot more than just providing people with food. There will be cooking lessons using fresh, seasonal fruits and vegetables.”

The class has set a fundraising goal of $85,000 to purchase a customized truck which will be furnished with all the kitchen equipment necessary to prepare, cook and serve hot, nutritious meals.

“We’ve had a lot of positive feedback for our fundraising goal,” said Morehead. “The project itself has compelled folks to help out. We know that with the help of the local community, we can create a concerted effort and meet our goal.”

In its plan, Class 45 outlines that the project will serve multiple purposes: provide meals to rural communities in need and provide job training for individuals in the Poverello House’s Aftercare Program.

“The food truck will give us the opportunity to offer a business and training model for people coming into the program to get work experience,” said Avila. “It’s a win-win for our residents and the families that they are serving.”

Once the program is fully implemented, the Poverello House will use the food truck to serve meals and distribute bags of food (free of charge) in some of Fresno County’s rural communities: Mendota, San Joaquin, Huron, Del Rey, Parlier, Orange Cove, Riverdale and Sanger.

“The number of meals we serve will depend on the needs of each community,” said Avila. “At the Poverello House, we serve 1,600 meals each day and we want to serve at least 75 percent of that—if not 100 percent—from the truck in rural areas. We want to feed as many people as we can.”

In order to enable the Poverello House to sustain the program, the food truck will also be used commercially—with the goal of becoming self-sustaining after six months.

“We’re fundraising for the upfront cost to get it going and the Poverello House will take on the annual maintenance costs and everything that goes into keeping the truck going,” said Morehead. “We’re going to utilize the Poverello House’s expertise as much as we can in order to make the project a success.”

More Information

To receive more information about this project, contact Justin Morehead at jmorehead@hwalmonds.com or 559-567-9089.

If you would like to become a sponsor of the Class 45 Food Truck Project, contact the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation at 831-585-1030.
“It has been 10 years since the program has been to this region of the world. Americans obviously have a stormy relationship with Vietnam, but attitudes are changing. April 2015 marked 40 years since the fall of Saigon and the reunification of Vietnam. It is an interesting time to visit this part of the world. Cambodia and Thailand provide very different histories, cultures and economic systems to add diversity and a variety of leadership lessons.”
—Dr. Michael Thomas, CALF director of education

**Class 45 International Seminar Preview:**
**Vietnam - Cambodia - Thailand**

**Monday, Nov. 9**
After visiting a few other battle sites and an orphanage, the group returns to Hanoi and then continues on to Bangkok.

**Tuesday, Nov. 10**
The final days of the trip will be spent in Bangkok, the capital and most populous city in Thailand. Two main meetings take up most of the day with the second U.S. Embassy briefing in the morning and USAID and CDC in the afternoon.

**Wednesday, Nov. 11**
City tour of Bangkok and visits to major temples and shrines.

**Thursday, Nov. 12**
On the way to to Kanchanaburi, the class will visit a dairy cooperative. Kanchanaburi is the location of the Bridge on the River Kwai and several World War II memorials.

**Friday, Nov. 13**
Final synthesis of the entire seminar and return to Bangkok for the return flights to California.

**Saturday, Nov. 14**
Travel Home

**Sunday, Nov. 8**
The group travels from Hanoi to Dien Bien Phu, a place not visited by most tourists. Dien Bien Phu provides an opportunity for a significant leadership lesson by studying the decisive battle that ended the first Indochina War. Arrogant French leaders fell into the cognitive trap of underestimating a poorly equipped enemy while a determined Vietnamese army surprise attacked the French after cutting off all supply lines. There are many leadership lessons at this historic site.

**Friday, Nov. 6**
The day begins with a briefing at the U.S. Embassy, where the class will hear from economic, political and agricultural attachés and sector leaders. After a brief city tour of Hanoi, the class will visit Hoa Lo Prison (used during the Vietnam war to house, torture and interrogate captured servicemen, mostly American pilots, including Senator John McCain), Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and more.

**Thursday, Nov. 5**
Visit to Tuol Sleng Museum and other local sites in Phnom Penh to get an overview of the Pol Pot regime, the evacuation of the Phnom Penh and the Killing Fields. The Killing Fields are a number of sites in Cambodia where more than one million people were killed and buried by the Khmer Rouge regime during its rule of the country from 1975 to 1979. The site visits will be followed by a long bus ride to Siemreab in central Cambodia.

**Wednesday, Nov. 4**
The day will be spent studying the Khmer Empire by a visit to Angkor Thom, Angkor Wat and other remaining temples of the ancient center of a large and complex civilization. The Angkor complex is the last and most enduring remnant of the ancient capital city, which was established in the late 12th century by King Jayavarman VII. The Angkor Wat temple complex is the largest religious monument in the world. It was originally founded as a Hindu temple for the Khmer Empire and gradually transformed into a Buddhist temple toward the end of the 12th century.

**Tuesday, Nov. 3**
Visit to Tuol Sleng Museum and other local sites in Phnom Penh to get an overview of the Pol Pot regime, the evacuation of the Phnom Penh and the Killing Fields. The Killing Fields are a number of sites in Cambodia where more than one million people were killed and buried by the Khmer Rouge regime during its rule of the country from 1975 to 1979. The site visits will be followed by a long bus ride to Siemreab in central Cambodia.

**Monday, Nov. 2**
The class helped to provide portable ceramic water filtration to 300 families in a village near Phnom Penh. On this day, the class will arrive in the village to view their use and implementation and to talk to families about the importance of the filters. The project was made possible with the help of the Salinas, Loyalton and Firebaugh Rotary clubs and from the Class 45 fund.

**Sunday, Nov. 1**
The group arrives in Phnom Penh, the largest city in Cambodia and will spend the day getting settled in and preparing for the rest of the seminar.

**Friday, Oct. 30 - Saturday, Oct. 31**
Class 45 fellows begin their international seminar with a midnight flight to Taipei before reaching their destination of Phnom Penh.

**Saturday, Nov. 7**
City tour of Bangkok and visits to major temples and shrines.

**Thursday, Nov. 12**
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**Saturday, Nov. 14**
Travel Home

>A full recap of Class 45’s international seminar will be included in the spring 2016 issue of Horizons.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Melissa Duflock (40)
Matt Fisher (41)
Deanna van Klaveren (32)

Foundation Board Liaison:
Mike Young (35)

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**ALUMNI EVENTS**

**THANK YOU**

**June 1-4 CA Exchange**
Jensen Deavours (43)  
Darlene Din (35)  
Danielle Dupree (43)  
Matt Fisher (41)  
Rob Geis, Chair (35)  
Adam Icardo (35)  
Beatris Espericueta Sanders  
Judy Sparacino  
Greg Wegis (39)  
Mike Young (35)

**July 8 Class 46 Screening, San Luis Obispo**
Anthony Bozzano (43)  
Todd Collins (34)  
Brenda Farias (42)  
Bob Flores  
Layci Gragnani (44)  
Bill Kellogg, Chair  
Stasi Seay (30)

**July 9 Class 46 Screening Committee, San Luis Obispo**
Carson Britz (43)  
Danielle Burk (43)  
Jackie Crabb (36)  
Danielle Dupree (43)  
Bob Flores  
Bill Hendricks, Chair  
Justin Perino (44)

**July 13 Class 46 Screening, Chico**
Karm Bains (40)  
Dave Daley, Chair  
Sarah DeForest (39)  
Heidi Harris (43)  
Mathew Jones (40)  
Anthony Laney (43)  
Danny Robinson (27)

**July 15 Class 46 Screening, Davis**
Helene Dillard, Chair  
Tricia Geringer (43)  
Mica Heilmann (40)  
Josh Huntsinger (39)  
Carissa Rivers (44)  
Kevin Steward (36)  
MaryAnn Warmerdam (17)

**July 16 Class 46 Screening Committee, Davis**
Manpreet Bains (43)  
Bob Cherenson (29)  
Helene Dillard, Chair  
Ashley Gill (42)  
Joel Kimmelshue (37)  
Paul Squires (37)

**July 22 Class 46 Screening Committee, Fresno**
Rachelle Antinetti (42)  
John Chandler (44)  
Garrett Patricio (38)  
Ryan Person (42)  
Doug Phillips (40)  
Sandra Witte, Chair

**July 23 Class 46 Screening Committee, Fresno**
Denise Junqueiro (42)  
Jon Reelhorn (38)  
Simon Sihota (36)  
Tim Vaux (31)  
Chris White (43)  
Sandra Witte, Chair

**August 2-9 DC Exchange**
Karm Bains (40)  
Manpreet Bains (43)  
Andrea Card (38)  
Holly Dawley (38)  
Darlene Din (35)  
Melissa Duflock (40)  
Matt Fisher (41)  
Kelly Geis (35 Family)  
Rob Geis, Chair (35)  
Heidi Harris (43)  
Christine Ivory (41)  
Julie Johnson (30)  
Anthony (43) and Melissa Laney  
Paul (10) and Jill Martin  
Dina (26) and Mark Moore  
Lee and Eileen Mora  
Bob (13) and Audrey Muelrath  
Melinda Nevis  
Sam Nevis (32)  
Mindy Nicoletti  
Bre Owens (41)  
Kelley (37) and Tom Parsons  
Leon Etchepare (43) and Andrew Pentecost  
James (39) and Casey Rickert  
Jon Schultz  
Judy and Taylor Serres  
John Weiler (22)  
Ralph Wilkerson  
Luke (44) and Margaret Wilson  
Shelli Wingo

**DC Exchange Host Families**
Josh Huntsinger (39)  
Mathew Jones (40)  
Shannon Leigh (43)  
Ryan Person (42)  
Jon Reelhorn (38)  
Stasi Seay (30)  
Sandra Witte

**September 11-12 Northern California Fundraising Dinner and Clay Shoot**
Manpreet Bains (43)  
Andrea Card (38)  
Holly Dawley (38)  
Megan Foster (44)  
Steve Garland (44)  
Mica Heilmann (40)  
Josh Huntsinger (39)  
Emily Lazzerini  
Kandi Manhart (40)  
Tom Merwin, Chair (44)  
Elisa Noble (42)  
Matt Nuebert (44)  
Meredith Ritchie (28)  
Brandon Souza (44)  
John Weiler (22)

**September 14 Region 9 Golf Tournament**
Yissel Barajas (40)  
Scott Beylik (40)  
Art Bliss (8)  
Jim Finch (28)  
Susan Josue (43)  
Scott Klittich (43)  
Leslie Leavens (34)  
Ed McFadden (25)  
Helen McGrath (43)  
Mike Nuñez (29)  
Tom Pecht (18)  
Richard Pidduck (21)

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Scott Klittich (43)  
Leslie Leavens (34)  
Ed McFadden (25)  
Helen McGrath (43)  
Mike Nuñez (29)  
Tom Pecht (18)  
Richard Pidduck (21)

**August 12 Class 46 Final Selection Committee**
Manpreet Bains (43)  
Loren Booth (27)  
Anthony Bozzano (43)  
Danielle Burk (43)  
Mary Holz-Clause  
Dave Daley  
Helene Dillard  
Danielle Dupree (43)
Briefly describe the coaching process.

Beginning with Class 43, the Agricultural Leadership Program has included a nine-month executive coaching program. Coaching guides fellows through several psychometric instruments and a 360 degree questionnaire, looking for common themes to paint a complete picture of strengths and areas for growth. To apply the lessons learned from feedback, fellows develop three coaching goals and the vital behaviors required to reach them. Fellows practice their vital behaviors for four weeks and then check in with the coach. After making any needed adjustments, another four weeks of practice are undertaken before a final check-in. After eight weeks of implementation, behavioral research shows that new habits can be successfully adopted. Based on testimonials from recent graduates, integration of new behaviors does create positive impact and greater effectiveness at work and home.

What is the nature of the goals identified by fellows who have followed this regimen?

They are behavioral goals, focused on behaviors or behavioral patterns, rather than career or life goals, which involve achievement or acquisition of skills or experiences. For example, “To get promoted to general manager in the next six months” is not a behavioral goal, although the successful mastering of behavioral goals might result in promotion. “Ensuring my children graduate from college” is a life goal, not a behavioral outcome.

What do behavioral goals look like when identified by fellows?

They can be grouped into categories to demonstrate. One of the most common goal categories relates to enhancing interpersonal relations. This might involve improving communication skills such as active listening, expressing appreciation, being more open and authentic to people. A second significant category relates to time management and organization. Fellows might focus on remedying a tendency to procrastinate, adopting a more scheduled and documented approach to daily tasks, or instituting weekly team meetings. Another frequent target of coaching goals involves addressing conflict more effectively. This might suggest being more patient, less assertive and affirming others’ views. For others, addressing conflict might mean fighting the tendency to avoid by addressing conflict in a timely fashion and holding others accountable for their actions. Other goal categories involve life balance (including health and wellness); collaboration and team building; enhanced self-confidence; decisiveness and empowering others.

On what are the goals based?

Goals generally emerge out of specific feedback received. Feedback may take the form of propensities described by the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI), such as the tendency to be critical and ask tough questions or a work style that is spontaneous and pressure-prompted. The Thomas-Kilmann Conflict Mode Inventory (TKI) might reveal a tendency to accommodate others too often in conflict or to be overly competitive. The CPI 260 measures 18 leadership characteristics; it might, for example, point out a person’s low facility for interpersonal skills. Finally, there is the 360 degree feedback instrument, which provides qualitative and quantitative information from 12-15 individuals chosen by the fellow. Scores on qualities such as demonstrating self-awareness, responding to constructive criticism and empowering others are data points—numerical and written comments—that are convincing arguments for addressing change.

What comes next?

The next step is developing vital behaviors to achieve the goals. This is the most challenging aspect of the process. A fellow may realize that she needs to develop better active listening skills or that he would like to have a more organized approach to his to-do list—but exactly how does one achieve these results? First, the fellow researches the behaviors that will lead to improvement. There may be readings or presentations from program seminars that can assist; the coach may suggest specific resources targeting an individual goal. Vital behaviors must be measurable, specific and timely. It is important that, for any vital behavior, it can be clearly determined that it was accomplished, that the action and situation are specific and there is a time dimension (every day, once a week). If vital behaviors are not crafted in this way, they will likely be vague, indefinite and easy to ignore.

For example, if a fellow who wants to develop active listening skills pledges to “do a better job listening when a difficult conversation comes up during the next few weeks,” the results of this strategy are likely very poor. It is human nature to revert to former behaviors when a moment confronts us unexpectedly. However, if she commits to “identify every day a conversation with one of my direct reports where I will specifically focus on active listening, record progress on my calendar and at the end of the week, reflect back on how well I performed this new behavior,” the results are apt to reveal a newly developed habit that will become more natural over time.

How does the coaching work?

Accountability is an important component of changing our behaviors. That’s where the coach asks about progress, encourages reflection on success and failure—and we can learn a great deal about why we didn’t pursue a vital behavior in a given moment or why we “got off the rails”—and motivates the fellow for the next few weeks of practice.

Can you tell when the process is working?

It is evident that vital behaviors are working when a fellow reports that her co-workers mention her improved listening during meetings or when another fellow reports experiencing much less stress because of his planning process. Even more significant is the feeling of mastery when fellows realize that their relationships and productivity are improving, at work and at home, as a result of the goals and vital behaviors they are pursuing. Putting feedback to work has enhanced their leadership capacity and self-confidence.
CLASSES 1-9
Al Guilin (1) has written a new novel, “Conflict Lemons,” which deals with the current immigration debate. His previous novels are “The Lemon Thorn” and “Sweet Lemons.” The books are available on Amazon.

Larry Ford (2) and his wife, Jackee, were honored as the 2015 Agriculturalists of the Year by the Humboldt County Farm Bureau (HCFB) at its 102nd annual meeting on Oct. 4. They were recognized for their 30-year involvement with HCFB and dedication to agriculture.

Bob Dempel (4) and his wife, Shirley, were honored by the Sonoma County Harvest Fair with the 2015 award for Lifetime Contribution to Sonoma County Agriculture. A ceremony and dinner was held on Sept. 27. Owners of Dempel Farming in Santa Rosa, they have been actively involved for decades in the agricultural industry, agricultural education, agriculture policy and their community.

CLASSES 10-19
Steve Olson (13) received the 2015 4-H Alumni Award from the 4-H Foundation of Sonoma County on Aug. 29. The award honors a past 4-H member who is outstanding in the community. Olson is a retired agricultural educator and administrator at Santa Rosa Junior College.

Chuck Nichols (17) received the 2015 Award of Distinction-Outstanding Alumni from the UC Davis College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. The award is the highest recognition presented by the college to individuals whose contributions and achievements enrich the image and reputation of the college and enhance its ability to provide public service. Recipients were honored at the 27th annual College Celebration on Oct. 2.

CLASSES 20-29
Glenn Proctor (29) was reconfirmed as a 2015-16 commissioner for the Sonoma County Winegrowers.

Jovita Pajarillo (28) joined the board of Ag Innovations based in Sebastopol. The nonprofit cultivates the ideas and actions needed for healthy farms, communities and ecosystems. Since 2010, she has been a member of its California Roundtable on Water and Food Supply to rewrite the paradigm of water management in California by developing innovative solutions which have been widely cited by water leaders statewide.

CLASSES 30-39
Rose Marie Burroughs (30) and Benina Montes (36) were featured in an online video for CLIF Bar, “Farmers Speak: Giving Voice to Organic Almonds – A Spotlight on Burroughs Family Farm and the business of organic almonds.” The video can be seen at http://www.clifbar.com/clif/vfarmers-speak-giving-voice-to-organic-almonds

Jose Baer (33) was awarded the accredited farm manager designation and accredited agricultural consultant designation from the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers. These demonstrate that he has met stringent education and experience requirements, has passed rigorous oral and written examinations, and maintains the highest standards of integrity, professionalism, competence, and ethics.

MULTIPLE CLASSES
Joe Pezzini (28) was named president and CEO of Ocean Mist Farms, a grower/shipper in Castroville. He has been with the company since 1983, most recently serving as chief operating officer. Joe succeeds Ed Boutonnet (3), who joined Ocean Mist in 1970 and became president and CEO since 1989. Boutonnet will continue as chairman of the board.

Two alumni were named finalists for the 2015 California Leopold Conservation Award, which honors private landowner achievement in voluntary stewardship and management of natural resources. Jim Rickert (39) and his wife, Mary, own Prather Ranch in Shasta County. Matt Altman (44) and his dad, Ken, own and manage Altman Specialty Plants in Riverside and San Diego counties. The award will be presented in December.

IN MEMORIAM
William Bradford Chamberlin (2)
July 4, 1940 – July 28, 2015
William (“Willy”) passed away at his ranch home, surrounded by his family. Willy grew up on Rancho Los Potreros, riding the range, herding cattle and bucking hay. After graduating from Claremont McKenna College, he served in the military for two years and then returned to Los Olivos to help manage the ranch. Willy served on the Los Olivos and Midland school boards, was president of the Santa Barbara County Cattlemen’s Association and a longtime member of the Agricultural Advisory Committee. He served 50 years on the board for Bixby Land Co. and was in his 10th year as chair. He was elected to Santa Barbara County’s Board of Supervisors and served for 18 months. Willy spent his life supporting agricultural land preservation and helping others. He is survived by his wife, Ann, from whom he is separated; Jerrie Gove, his companion of 11 years; his former wife, Gail Wagenseil Gelles; his daughter, Ann, and her husband; his son, Russell, and his fiancée; and two grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Beth. He helped establish The Beth Chamberlin Endowment for Cultural Understanding at UC Santa Barbara. Donations can be made in his honor to the Beth Chamberlin Endowment, CMC Tortuga Endowment or Santa Ynez Historical Society.

Bernard Teunissen (3)
October 12, 1934 – June 25, 2015
Bernard died peacefully at home of natural causes, in the company of family. Born in Sanborn, Iowa, he joined the army after high school and served in Germany. Bernard was a life long dairy farmer, a great source of joy and passion for him. He farmed with his family in Sanborn, then moved to Artesia, Calif. during the dustbowl, and eventually settled in Corona, Calif. After decades of success in dairying and family leadership, he retired in Nampa, Idaho. He remained vigorously interested in the dairy business in Idaho, and enjoyed watching his sons thrive on their own dairies there. His hobbies included travel, RV trips with friends and family, gardening and writing. A highlight of his life was being a founding member of (then) Calvary Christian Reformed Church in Chino. He served in many dairy industry boards, including Federal Land Bank and Milk Producers Council. Bernard married Jane Boersma in 1957 and they were married for 58 years. He is survived by Jane; their children, Renae and Arthur De Jager, Bernie J and Anna Teunissen, and Frank and Leslie Teunissen; 11 grandchildren and 16 great-grand children. Memorial contributions may be made to Lifeline Pregnancy Care Center, 1323 12th Ave So., Nampa, ID 83651.

Ronald Akio Enomoto (3)
Ron was born in Denver, Colorado and grew up in Atherton and graduated from Menlo Atherton High School and the University of California Davis with a degree in economics. Ron passed away while traveling in Lhasa, Tibet. He married Nancy Yano at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple on March 1, 1969. Their three children are his proudest legacy. For 40 years the Enomoto Roses business flourished in Half Moon Bay. Ron and Nancy were creative in being the first floral business to sell roses delivered overnight anywhere in the US. By direct mail and sold to wholesale flower companies and at farmer’s markets. Ron was on the advisory board for the Ferry Plaza Farmer’s Market in San Francisco, Roses, Inc., San Francisco Flower Market, California State Floral Association, and the California Floral Council. Ron was the executive director of the Arboretum at UC Santa Cruz. As a hobby, Ron created beautiful fused glass art pieces which are shown in a variety of galleries today.
THANK YOU

DONOR SUPPORT  July 1 - September 30, 2015

Pledge Payments Received
Taylor Farms California, Inc.: $25,000
Growers Express, LLC: $10,000
Paul and Yvonne Murai: $3,000
Linda Ballentine: $300
Brent Grizzle: $250
Stephanie Tillman: $150

$300,000
The James G. Boswell Foundation

$6,225
Charles Buchinger Memorial Endowment Fund

$5,000
Bank of the West
Monsanto Company

$2,500
Larry Fortune

$1,100 - $1,800
Robert Cherenson
Penny-Newman Grain Co.
Pierre Tada

$500 - $550
American AgCredit, FLCA
Agriland Farming Co., Inc.
Bakersfield Well and Pump Co.
Beardsley and Son, Inc.
John Chandler
Hammonds Ranch, Inc.
Bill and Kristy Lewis
Mitchell Insurance Services
Nilsen Company
Gerry and Elaine Rominger
Superior Truck Lines, Inc.
T.G. Schmeiser Co.
West Hills Farm Services

$350 - $460
Duda Farm Fresh Foods
Mary-Ann Warmerdam

$250
Indegrow Enterprises
John and Carol Gorter
Jim Nielsen

$180 - $200
Mike Bennett
Lance Brown

Ronald Caird
Stephan Chrisman
John Crossland
Bill Daniell
Russel Efird
Pete Fallini
Gary Foster
Steve Garland
Flory Industries
Randy Linnquist
Petrea Marchand
Heather Mulholland
Michael Phelan
Eric Thor

In Memory of Tom McGrath and in Honor of New Grandson, Tomas Francisco McGrath-Chausse
Bob and Shirley Dempel: $100

In-Kind
Darlene Din: $20,550
Loren Booth: $2,655
TMD Creative: $2,250
Manseena Orchards Partnership: $1,237.61
Dan Sozzi: $1,000
TMD Creative: $750
Far Horizon Crop Insurance: $500
Meredith Rehrman Ritchie: $420
Todd Snider: $300
Kevin Steward: $150
THANK YOU

FOUNDERS’ LEADERSHIP CIRCLE
$1,000,000 and above
James G. Boswell Foundation
Otis Booth Foundation

LEGACY LEADERSHIP CIRCLE
$500,000 and above
Boswell Family Foundation

PIONEER LEADERSHIP CIRCLE
$250,000 and above
Justina Borba
California Cotton Alliance
Susan Dulin (in memory of J.G. Boswell II)

CHAIRMAN’S LEADERSHIP CIRCLE
$100,000 and above
John and Betsy Grether
John and Sheila Lake
Mulholland Citrus
Reiter Affiliated Companies
Taylor Farms California
Wells Fargo
Western Growers Association

ALUMNI LEADERSHIP CIRCLE
$50,000 and above
Bank of America Merrill Lynch
The Borba Families / Mark and Sharon Borba
Darlene Din
Driscoll Strawberry Associates, Inc.
Growers Express
J.F. Maddox Foundation (in memory of J.G. Boswell II)
Mission Produce, Inc.
TMD Creative
Vessey and Company

PRESIDENT’S LEADERSHIP CIRCLE
$25,000 and above
Azzule Systems
Dean & Katherine Brown Charitable Trust
Bowles Farming Company / Philip E. and Jamie N. Bowles
Capital Insurance Group
C.H. Robinson Worldwide
D’Arrigo Bros. Co. of California
Denise Godfrey Family / Olive Hill Greenhouses
Farm Credit: American AgCredit, CoBank, Farm Credit West
Foster Farms
Harden Foundation
Lagomarsino Group
Monsanto Company
George and Kathleen Myers
The Norton Foundation
Rabobank, N.A.
Syngenta Corporation
Wegis and Young / Mike Young, Rick Wegis, Greg Wegis
Westside Produce

THE 1970 LEADERSHIP CIRCLE
$10,000 and above
AGR Partners
Bank of the West
Booth Ranches
Martin and Debbie Britz
Ed and Rosa Boutonnet
Rose Marie Burroughs
Charles Buchinger Memorial Endowment Fund
Edwin and Kaye Camp
Class 39
Class 43
John and Nan Colbert
Gary Cusumano
Margaret Duflock
Melissa Duflock
E. & J. Gallo Winery
Jeff and Mori Elder
Greenleaf Farms
Jim and Betsy Hansen
Hayashi & Wayland
Hidden Villa Ranch
International Paper Company
The Johannesessen Trust
Kevin Grizzle Farms, LLC
The Klassen Corporation
Limoneira Foundation Fund
Charles and Sheila Mathews
Benina Montes
Paul and Yvonne Murai
Mark and Joann Nickerson
Peggy Sears Perry
Vernon and Carol Peterson / Abundant Harvest Organics
Richard Pidduck
Prime Time
R. Gorrill Ranch Enterprises
Rolling Ridge Ranch
Jan Smith
Rod and Carol Stark
Rick Vorpe and Evelyn Matteucci
Sally Hughes Church Foundation
Saticoy Lemon Association
Union Bank of California Foundation
Mary-Ann Warmerdam
Wonderful Orchards
Tim York

FELLOWS LEADERSHIP CIRCLE
$5,000 and above
Karm Bains
Church Brothers, LLC
Elkhorn Packing Co, LLC
Matt & Julie Fisher
Blue Diamond Growers
Doug and Jan Circle
Class 41
Craton Capital
John Eisenhut
Errotabere Ranches
Finch Farms
Gail Gray
George and Janice Higashi
Jeana and Larry Hultquist
The James R. Moffett Family Foundation
Kimberly Claus Jorritsma
Kershaw Companies
King & Gardiner Farms, LLC
Bradford and Randall Lange / LangeTwins Winery & Vineyards
Leslie Leavens
Link and Sally Leavens
John and Edyth Ledbetter
McClary Family Foundation
Mann Packing Company
David and Melissa Martella
Tom and Brianne McGrath
Paul Parreira
Craig Pedersen
Person & Son Cattle Co.
Peter Peterson
Peter & Jim Peterson
Prudential Ag Investments
Rain for Rent
Meredith Rehrman Ritchie
Supima Cotton
Pierra Tada
TM Bunn Trust
Victor Packing: “Madera Brand Raisins”
John Weiler / Oji Brothers Farm Inc.
Woolf Farming & Processing
Ken Zimmerman

FUNDRAISING AND SPECIAL EVENTS
World Ag Expo Ag Leadership Alumni Breakfast
>> Major sponsors ($15,000 and above):
Zenith Insurance Company/Zenith Ag and State Compensation Insurance Fund
Dean Brown Golf Tournament
>> Special thanks to Hampton Farming Company
Region 9 Golf Tournament
>> Major sponsors: Calavo Growers and Paramount Citrus
Colusa Farm Show Breakfast
Common Threads, Fresno
Life-Long Leadership Learning Seminar/ Dr. Daniel Goleman

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS
July 1, 2011- September 30, 2015