CLASS 46 INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

Lessons Learned in Jordan, Israel and Greece

We grow leaders who make a difference.
CHAIR MESSAGE

BY JEFF ELDER, CALF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As another year begins for California agriculture, we look to the immediate future knowing we will face both opportunities as well as challenges. This past year has certainly been one that has had both. The California Agricultural Leadership Foundation, coming off approximately seven years of particularly impressive growth and success, faced the challenge of replacing an exceptional chief executive who had made his undeniable mark on the program. Nevertheless, the foundation’s board of directors viewed the inevitable transition as an opportunity to continue the very positive direction of the Ag Leadership Program.

That period of transition is essentially over and my greatest appreciation is the willingness of new enthusiastic and talented people, graduates and non-graduates alike, who have stepped in and continued to move this organization forward. It is a testament to the impact and reputation this organization has earned over the last 47 years.

Our new foundation president, Barry Bedwell (13), has settled in solidly in his role. He has called on his Ag Leadership training to jump into the position vacated by Bob Gray as he moved into retirement. By all measures, the transition was seamless and the foundation is moving full steam ahead. Well done, Barry.

The importance of the program’s alumni to the mission and vision of the foundation is indisputable. I am pleased to report that the Alumni Council is implementing the strategic plan laid out last year. As I write this, we anticipate that the vacant regional director position will be filled shortly. Regional sub-committees will begin being populated, so I ask all of you alumni to find a way to participate in some capacity. With 1,300 graduates of the program, we can move beyond the classroom and create more positive changes for our industry.

Last year also witnessed the retirement of a number of board members as their fruitful terms came to an end. I honestly cannot begin to express my appreciation to those distinguished and dedicated individuals: Pierre Tada (22), John Colbert (22), Mary-Ann Warmerdam (17), Joe Macllvaine, Rod Stark (29) and Barbara Boswell, for their unselfish service to the foundation. Their commitment was an outstanding example of true servant leadership. I would also be remiss not to acknowledge our extreme sadness over the passing of board member David Martella (22) who was loved and respected by so many. He will be missed.

New board members, Michael Hollister, Gene Peterson, Rick Burnes (41) and Helene Dillard, have now been fully integrated into our board and are committed to reaching the goals we are setting for ourselves. I also thank continuing board members, Loren Booth (27), Jim Maxwell, Ejnar Knudsen, Edwin Camp (15), Bob Cherenson (29), Karm Bains (40) and Mike Young (35), for their continuing dedication and outstanding service in regard to program excellence, fundraising and alumni engagement. The foundation board and the Alumni Council are working hand-in-hand to insure our continued success for the betterment of our industry.

Best wishes for the new year and thanks to all of you who have done so much for Ag Leadership! Please give a thought to how you can join with our already talented group of industry leaders to make a difference in this organization, this industry and your communities.
JOHN AND EDA MULLER ENDOWMENT FUND

An endowment fund is being established to honor John (8) and Eda Muller for their outstanding contributions to the California Ag Leadership Foundation, to the ag industry and to their community.


In addition to his Ag Leadership involvement, John has also been incredibly active in his community. He served on the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board for 21 years and served as chairman for 12 years. He also served on the Local Government Agency Committee’s US EPA Advisory Committee; the Association of California Water Agencies; Coastside Country Water District; Agricultural Technical Advisory Committee; USDA Farm Service Agency; Agricultural Education Foundation; National Promo-Flor Council; Secretary of Agriculture Special Committee to Streamline Management of the USDA; Society of American Florists Governmental Affairs Committee; California Farm Bureau Federation; San Mateo County Farm Bureau; San Francisco City and County Southeast Community Facility; Coastside Chamber of Commerce; Cal Poly State University Parents’ Association and Dartmouth College Parents’ Association.

For more information about the John and Eda Muller Endowment Fund, contact CALF at 831-585-1030.

DEVIN NUNES SERVING ON TRUMP’S TRANSITION TEAM

In early November, Congressman Devin Nunes (29) joined Donald Trump’s transition team. “I was honored to have been named to the executive committee of President Donald Trump’s transition team,” said Nunes.

As a member of the executive committee, Nunes will advise Trump on the appointments of his Cabinet members and on appointments to other top positions in the new administration.

“I look forward to helping to assemble an energetic and forward-looking team that will capably lead our country toward more economic growth, greater opportunity and a safer homeland for all Americans,” said Nunes.

Nunes has served in the U.S. House of Representatives since 2003. He currently represents California’s 22nd congressional district, which is located in the San Joaquin Valley and includes portions of Tulare and Fresno counties.

Nunes is currently chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and a member of the Ways and Means Committee, having previously served as chairman of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade. He is the author of the book “Restoring the Republic”, which was published in September 2010.

BOOTH RANCHES RECEIVES 2016 BAKER PETERSON FRANKLIN AG BUSINESS AWARD

Booth Ranches exemplifies a leading ag organization whose achievements and impact have significantly contributed to the ag industry and the Central Valley. The Baker Peterson Franklin (BPF) Ag Business Award honors a for-profit service or product-related agribusiness or farming entity headquartered in the Central San Joaquin Valley. The award recipient is selected by a committee representing the local agribusiness industry and the BPF Ag Department. Booth Ranches has a distinguished record of positive leadership, entrepreneurship and service to the agriculture industry and our community, making them the 2016 Baker Peterson Franklin Ag Business Award recipient.

Founded in 1957 by Otis Booth Jr., Booth Ranches began with a 40 acre citrus grove near the central Sierra Nevada foothills. Otis retired from the publishing industry in 1972 to begin his second career as a cattle rancher and citrus farmer. Under daughter, Loren Booth (27), Booth Ranches has quietly grown to nearly 9,000 acres stretching from Orange Cove to Maricopa in Kern County. Loren had the vision for growth and vertical integration, and Booth Ranches has become the fifth largest citrus producer by volume in the United States. Loren also runs a commercial cattle herd, as well as raising and showing Quarter horses.

Booth Ranches is known as an outstanding employer that promotes a family business environment, and Loren Booth is a leader respected by her peers and a philanthropist with a passion for education and children. Booth Ranches provides scholarships to 60 employees’ children enrolled full-time in college. Twice a year, they host Los Angeles inner city children to Camp Booth for a first-time outdoor experience.

They provide financial support to Orange Cove and Woodlake school districts, Reedley College and Fresno State. A $5 million gift was made by the Otis Booth Foundation to the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation to honor the impact the program has had on Loren personally and professionally.
BY BARRY BEDWELL, CALF PRESIDENT

By the time this winter edition of Horizons arrives in your mailbox, I will have completed approximately six months on the job. The time has passed very quickly as I have attempted to digest the many moving parts related to running the operation of the foundation. In addition, learning about the program curriculum, as well as having the opportunity to interact with our excellent education team and many of our alumni, has meant that my enthusiasm for my job and this opportunity, continues at an extremely high level.

At the same time, the challenges related to accomplishing our mission and vision have come into clearer focus. There is the need, first and foremost, to cover about $2 million in costs to operate and administrate this outstanding leadership development program on an annual basis. Added to that requirement is the goal to continue to grow the endowment funds from their current level between $15 and $16 million to $25 million by 2022. With that accomplishment, the concept is for endowment earnings to cover about half of operating expenses while fundraising from alumni and friends would cover the balance.

For most of the past seven years, through the generosity of donors and the skillful management of board and staff, operating costs have not only been met, but contributions have exceeded such costs. At the same time, endowment balances grew dramatically. The value of the Ag Leadership learning experience was unmistakably recognized.

Now, as was indicated in our recent communication connected to our annual fundraising appeal, we are at an important junction. We truly have been blessed in the past with many outstanding and generous contributors. The two most notable are certainly the Boswell and Booth Foundations, which have demonstrated such exceptional leadership for many, many years. And while those institutions, and all the individuals connected with them wholeheartedly support the goals and aspirations of Ag Leadership, we all recognize that it is time to broaden and expand our base of funding. Not only in fairness to those who have carried such a heavy load in the past but, also as tangible evidence of the recognition of value by all of those who have been touched by the program.

In that regard, the board of directors will soon be entering into a new phase of strategic planning related to securing that bright and enduring financial future for the California Ag Leadership Program. Such planning will be done in conjunction with Ag Leadership alumni, and their leadership, to insure we all work as efficiently as possible to meet the stated goals. Such goals will include the alumni raising half of the annual operating costs with friends and business in industry, as well as current endowment earnings, covering the balance.

Without the assistance and active participation of many of the almost 1,300 Ag Leadership alumni, these needs and goals will only be numbers. I am, however, confident that given the direction, value and need for the California Ag Leadership Program, with the many challenges facing California agriculture, we will see that involvement and will indeed have a productive and long lasting future. Thank you very much for your support.
LEADERSHIP FOCUS:
L4 SEMINAR

BY DR. MICHAEL THOMAS, CALF DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

At the Oct. 21 L4 Seminar at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, popular author and well known speaker, Mark Goulston, MD, shared a powerful message with Ag Leadership alumni, Cal Poly faculty and students and invited guests. In his presentation, Goulston emphasized the power of influence that comes from listening so the person feels heard or "feels felt." He called this listening from the inside out. This phrase, “from the inside out” resonated with alumni and anyone who has heard former CALF CEO Bob Gray and current CALF President Barry Bedwell describe Ag Leadership as a program that approaches leadership development from the inside out when explaining and championing the underlying theme of the program.

Using powerful examples from his professional experience, Dr. Goulston illustrated the potential to lead, make a difference and initiate positive change by challenging us to help him fulfill his life mission to change the world “one conversation at a time.” He presented a rubric to assess one’s leadership potential with a simple linear chart that went from harmful conversations on one extreme, to healing conversations on the other and asked each individual to assess the healing effect our conversations have on others and describe where they would like to be on that scale. Dr. Goulston asked each of us to identify a person who picked us up when we were down or touched us in a positive way with a healing conversation. He then asked us to honor that person, first by giving them a power thank you and then by “paying it forward”—to influence others in the same way.

With inspiring videos and stories, he shared examples of leadership promoting positive change in individuals’ lives through effective listening. In effective listening, one can start to understand the mirror neurons and the mirror neuron gap concept. This new concept is backed by research with active brain scan images, which can now prove that we can truly feel compassion and feel others emotions so that the person “feels felt.” Once we get to that level of empathy, we can begin to have immeasurable lasting effects on those with whom we interact.

More can be learned on this topic by visiting www.heartfeltleadership.com
L4 Seminar Offers

LIFE-LONG LISTENING SKILLS

BY MACKENZIE BRESSLER,
Agricultural Communication Student,
Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

On Oct. 21, 2016, the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation (CALF) hosted Mark Goulston, MD, at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo for the Life-Long Leadership Learning (L4) seminar. Goulston addressed CALF alumni, industry members, and Cal Poly faculty and students about how to make listening a more compelling skill with experiences and memoirs from his book, “Just Listen: How to Get Through to Anyone.”

Goulston presented his case, and he was not removed from the school. Eight years later, Goulston reached out to the dean, who told him he had taken a chance on him because someone had done it for him 35 years earlier.

“It was that experience that taught me how to listen from the inside out,” Goulston said. “The key is learning how to pair with people.”

In order to give the audience a chance to experience listening “into” someone, Goulston asked the audience to break into groups of four to share a story of a person who stood up for them, stood up to them, pushed them to do things, stopped them from doing something foolish or who listened to them.

He also discussed the methods of tear-jerker movies and why individuals become emotional.

“The reason we cry during tear-jerker movies is because when the protagonist finds a solution, we find hope,” said Goulston.

Goulston then presented, “How to Be 100% Present,” a list of techniques to help individuals learn to listen and be present. He urged individuals to practice those methods in an effort to become healers.

Goulston ended his presentation by answering questions from the audience before visiting with alumni, industry leaders and other guests in attendance.

Dr. Goulston’s book, “Just Listen: How to Get Through to Anyone,” ranked number one in six Amazon categories, has been translated into 14 different languages, reached number one in Europe and the Far East, and became the basis of a PBS special. The Consumers’ Research Council named Goulston three times as one of America’s top psychiatrists and for more than 20 years, Goulston was the clinical assistant professor of medicine at UCLA’s neuropsychiatric institute.

Thank you to Reiter Affiliated Companies and Driscoll’s for sponsoring this L4 Seminar.
“IF YOU LISTEN FOR IT, EVERYBODY IS TRYING TO HAVE SOMEONE LISTEN FROM THE INSIDE OUT,”
- DR. MARK GOULSTON
Lessons Learned in Jordan, Israel and Greece

Class 46 International Seminar

Class 46 fellows returned from their international seminar in early November with feelings of gratitude and appreciation for the opportunity to participate in a once in a lifetime international leadership experience to Jordan, Israel and Greece. The lessons they learned during the seminar will add to their continued process of life-long learning and personal transformations.

The journey began with a trip to the Jordan River. The class walked in the steps of Jesus and John the Baptist to see the location of Jesus’ baptism. They also walked to the River Jordan on the border of Jordan and Israel and stopped at the Dead Sea, the lowest land point on Earth.
We witnessed not only people completing a very personal spiritual journey with their baptism, but saw this happening alongside the armed border guards from both nations. There was a significant difference in the sides of the location with the Jordanian site being simple and rather humble in nature. Many of our fellows took this opportunity to further their connection to this spiritual site by removing their shoes and placing their feet in the water of the holy site.

-International Seminar Blog (Shannon Douglass, Melissa Heinrich, Adam Secondo and Jorge Inestroza)

While in Jordan, the class visited a Baptist church which operates a free school for Syrian refugees in a rural part of Jordan. The 130 children they educate are bused in from remote locations and are provided with breakfast, lunch and a snack. Even though the school is funded by a Christian organization, they do not teach religion to the mostly Muslim group of students.

As our trip to Jordan wraps up, we find ourselves humbled by the generosity and incredible hospitality of the Jordanian people. We have encountered so many wonderful people, some of whom went so far as to open up their homes for overnight stays, who welcomed us as we learned about their history and culture. Our group agreed that we have never felt so safe and welcomed in a country by our dynamic team of guide, driver and tourist police, who were our true life examples of servant leadership. We are so thankful for our Jordanian experience.

-International Seminar Blog (Shannon Douglass, Melissa Heinrich, Adam Secondo and Jorge Inestroza)

After the class crossed the border into Israel, they traveled into the West Bank and visited the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem. The school is Christian-based with a Muslim and Christian student population. The class participated in small group discussions with eleventh grade students and heard about their struggles. The students openly shared their passion about living in an area under occupation.

While in Israel, the class stopped at the Alrowwad Cultural and Theater Society situated on the Aida Refugee Camp in Bethlehem, Palestine where 6,000 refugees reside. The needs are vast in the camp where two-thirds of the population are under the age of 24.

Dr. Abdelfattah Abusrour shared his passion for the future of the youth. His motto for the children is ‘don’t die for Palestine, live for Palestine.’

-International Seminar Blog (Gayle Holman, Blake Vann, Sal Parra and Shaun Ramirez)

In Jerusalem, the class learned about the historical significance of the city to many faiths. The class visited the Wailing Wall where they witnessed people of the Jewish faith presenting their prayers to the wall. The fellows of Class 46 also visited the Muslim side of the Old City, where they viewed the exterior of the Dome of the Rock and learned about the significance of the site to Muslims. After leaving the Muslim area, they continued to the Via Dolorosa, where they walked in the steps of Christ along the stations of the cross.

The day provided some fascinating lessons in the different impacts of leadership styles. We saw the benefits of persistent leaders and servant leaders while also witnessing the damage that can be inflicted by strong but ill intentioned leadership.

-International Seminar Blog (Shannon Douglass, Dominic Bruno, Randy Hopkins)

The class met with two representatives from the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem regarding Israeli/Palestinian relations. Topics included the aid packages given to both regions from the U.S., refugees, farming, economic status and the future.

On their last day in Jerusalem, the fellows enjoyed an educational walking tour. Their first stop was at the site where Jesus taught his disciples the Lord’s prayer. They also walked to the highest point on the Mount of Olives; the Chapel of Ascension; the site of David’s tomb and to the site of Jesus’ last supper. The class also visited the site where it is said that Christ was crucified, laid to rest and then arose for his apostles.

We finished the afternoon and gathered to reflect on our time spent in Jerusalem. The heartfelt synthesis allowed us to reflect on our journey in Jerusalem as well as our journey over the last 14 months as we have grown together in this leadership program. We are grateful for having the opportunity to be in this program and to all the alumni, fellows and donors who
have made this possible.”
-International Seminar Blog (Christian Vellanoweth, Johnna Hepner and Shawn Ramirez)

On their way to Athens, the fellows stopped at the Sorek Desalination Plant south of Tel Aviv, on the Mediterranean. This facility is the largest sea water reverse osmosis plant in the world and provides 28% of the potable water for Israel’s municipalities. In 2014, Israel had its most historic drought in recorded history. Because the Sorek plant came online in 2013, the impacts of the drought were not felt by most of Israel’s population.

“—The foresight of the country in planning, bidding out, building and commissioning this facility within three-and-a-half years is tremendous and something we, as Californians could certainly learn from, given our own drought issues.”
-International Seminar Blog (Adam Secondo, Sal Parra and Zach Bagley)

On their first day in Athens, Class 46 fellows found themselves focused on the rich history of the beautiful, ancient city. They visited the Roman Arch; the Temple of Zeus; Acropolis Hill; the Parthenon and the Erechtheion—a temple built for goddess Athena and Poseidon.

At the U.S. Embassy, the group learned about migration and refugee issues and the Greek economy.

“—As the people of Greece try to find a path to tomorrow, we are privileged and thankful to embrace this experience that the California Ag Leadership Foundation has provided so that we may further appreciate our seeds of democracy and become better leaders in our community, state and country.”
-International Seminar Blog (Gayle Holman, Drew Becker, Jorge Inestroza and Heather Jackson)

For more lessons about the Greek financial crisis, the fellows met with macroeconomist, Yannis Palaiologos, whose editorials have been published in the Wall Street Journal and Politico. His insight and expertise into the events leading up to the current Greek financial crisis gave the group a local perspective of the situation. Fellows also met with a panel of professors and students at the Agricultural University of Athens to discuss a variety of agricultural topics, political influences and water resources.

“As the Greeks have hope in getting out of their crises, we’ve learned that by consistency, perseverance, ingenuity and commitment, that the staple for change lies within their efforts to make Greece prosper for the future.”
-International Seminar Blog (Christian Vellanoweth, Erin Amaral, Marc Metzer and Ashley Zellmer)

One of the final experiences of the seminar was a visit to Alliance Relief, a Christian-based center for families who have migrated to Greece as refugees. The organization provides food, clothing, shoes and living facilities to families in need. While there, fellows met with staff and volunteers to hear their firsthand accounts of the difficulties a displaced person without country, home or family faces.

“Alliance Relief is an amazing demonstration of human compassion that touches people from many parts of the world, including the Middle East and Northern Africa. The facility is a demonstration in servant leadership, being built through collaboration, love and faith. Seeing their perseverance reminded us of the strength of the human spirit.”
-International Seminar Blog (Josh Davy, Denise Moore, Sarah Hovinga and Johnna Hepner)

As the seminar came to an end, Class 46 gathered for a final synthesis of their amazing journey.

“—While our international seminar has concluded, there is a great amount of emotional processing that will continue to take place amongst all fellows. The relationships that we have built between classmates and international connections will be life-long and unforgettable. We are incredibly fortunate to have had this profound experience. Each Class 46 fellow is overwhelmed with immense feelings of gratitude and appreciation for the experiences that we have had. We must remind ourselves of the lessons that were learned and continue towards a process of life-long learning.”
-International Seminar Blog (Dominic Bruno, Dominick Buck and Beau Howard)
“WE COULD NOT HAVE GONE THROUGH OUR PERSONAL TRANSFORMATIONS WITHOUT THE LOVE AND SUPPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION. THANK YOU, WE ARE FOREVER IN YOUR DEBT, BUT CANNOT WAIT TO PAY IT FORWARD.”

-INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR BLOG (DOMINIC BRUNO, DOMINICK BUCK AND BEAU HOWARD)
ALUMNI EVENTS AND ALUMNI COUNCIL UPDATE

ALUMNI COUNCIL UPDATE
BY MATT FISHER (41), DEANNA VAN KLAVEREN (32) AND MIKE YOUNG (35)

2016 was a year of transition for the Alumni Council. We installed a committed group of regional directors in June and they have been working diligently to set the stage for instituting the strategic initiatives set forth in August.

During the transition, Melissa Duflock (40), Chase Hurley (35), Dan Sutton (40) (along with many alumni in Region 7) and Danielle Dupree (43), stepped up to make sure that we continued to provide great DC and California Exchange programs for 2016. Darlene Din (35) continues to donate much of her time and talents to help with managing these two programs as well as making alumni connections for fundraising and volunteer support. There is also Noelle Creamers (35) and Mica Heilmann (40) who continued their support as alumni liaisons on the education team. We are grateful for their support and service.

Along with these individual volunteers, there are teams of alumni who continue to plan recruitment events, the Sacramento Legislative Reception, welcome dinners for new fellows, fundraising events and who also sit on selection committees, speak at program seminars and create meet and greet opportunities throughout the state. Thank you to all the alumni who continue to give their time and talents to the California Ag Leadership Foundation.

And then there are the quiet supporters—alumni who share the good word about the California Agricultural Leadership Program and encourage great candidates to apply, tell the story of what they and other agriculturalists have gained through the program. Thank you to those alumni who continue to sign up, step up and give their time to leadership opportunities in their communities, schools and agricultural areas of expertise. We are glad that our alumni continue to share their gifts.

As we move into 2017, the regional directors will start building teams of volunteers to help support activities to fulfill the strategic initiatives. The Alumni Council will be reviewing and planning Life-Long Leadership Learning (L4) opportunities for our alumni and we will begin the process of gaining information and data to better service our alumni and support our agricultural roots.

The Ag Leadership Program supports the foundation’s mission, “we grow leaders who make a difference.” Our alumni support our vision, “California agricultural leaders united as a catalyst for a vibrant industry.” Looking forward to more opportunities in 2017 for our alumni to be a catalyst!

RECENT EVENTS
THANK YOU

Dean Brown
Golf Tournament, November 4

Carson Britz (43)
Danielle Burk (43)
Tiffany Carrari

Carlos Castaneda (36)
Cara Crye (39)
Chris Darway (25)
Brenda Estrada (42)
Lon Fletcher
Dale Hampton (11)
Tom Ikeda (26)

Karen King
Mike King
Jeff Koligian (18)
Jim McGarry (43)
Michelle McGarry
Nicholas Miller (36)
Haley Newberry

James Ontiveros (31)
Brenda Ouwerkerk (28)
Jim Stollberg (35)
Sammi Stollberg
Dan Sutton (40)
Mike Testa
Kim Treur
Classes 1-9

Nat DiBuduo (6) was listed as one of 2016’s top 50 leaders in the December issue of Wine Business Monthly.

John Muller (8) was honored for his 20 years of continual service on the San Francisco Bay Area Water Quality Control Board. He was appointed to the board by four different governors. John is also ending his 12 years of service on the Half Moon Bay City Council, after two terms as mayor and more than 10 years as a city council member. John remains on the San Francisco Produce Market Board.

Classes 10-19

Daniel Marcum (16) was appointed to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Mary-Ann Warmerdam (17) was promoted to senior legislative advocate by the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC). Mary-Ann will be part of a newly formed leadership team which will direct the RCRC Governmental Affairs staff in advocating on behalf of RCRC’s 35 rural California member counties.

Mark Chandler (18) was named membership director of the Wine Market Council, a nonprofit association dedicated to advancing the U.S. wine market through primary research benefiting its members.

Classes 20-29

Steve McIntyre (21) was the subject of an Oct. 27 Napa Valley Register article, “Four decades, great wines: McIntyre leads sustainability efforts in Monterey.”

Vernon Crowder (22) retired from his position as senior vice president and agricultural economist at Rabobank in January to pursue his life-long goal of a career in public and/or community service.

Chris Kapheim (26) retired from Alta Irrigation on Dec. 25, 2016 after 33 years as general manager.

Booth Ranches/Loren Booth (27) received Baker Peterson Franklin’s Ag Business Award for their impact and contributions to the agriculture industry and the Central Valley.

TMD Creative/Nick Pasculli (27) was selected as a winner of several MARCOM marketing and communications awards, including some for the company’s work with the Organic Produce Summit and Taylor Farms.

Devin Nunes (29) joined President Donald Trump’s transition team in early November.

In his role, Nunes advised the president on appointments of his cabinet members and on appointments to other top positions in the new administration.

Classes 30-39

Bill Van Skike (32) was elected as a director of the Shaffer Chamber of Commerce board.

Joel Kimmelshue (37) was quoted in a Dec. 14 Ag Alert article—“Almond-business leaders seek new partnerships”—about almond growers working to develop partnerships with environmental groups.

Cara Crye (39) has been chosen as president/CEO elect for Farm Supply Company. The selection of Crye, a 20-year veteran of the cooperative, was a unanimous decision by the Farm Supply Board. Crye will begin her new position on June 30, 2017.

Classes 40-47

Dan Sutton (40) accepted the Food Safety Training Award on behalf of California Leafy Green Marketing Association from STOP Foodborne Illness.

Vernon Peterson (41) was the featured subject of a Dec. 9 CA Grown Blog post—“Meet a farmer: Vernon Peterson of Abundant Harvest Organics”—about his farm-share delivery service.

Jane Roberti (45) was presented the 4-H Ruby Clover Pin Award by the Plumas-Sierra County 4-H for her thirty years of service as a 4-H leader at the local 4-H Achievement Night. Jane currently serves as the 4-H county resource leader for record books and as Sierra Valley 4-H leader in beef and dairy goat projects. In the past, she served as an arts and crafts and sheep project leader.

Multiple Classes

Rich Smith (7) and Steve McIntyre (21) were highlighted in a Nov. 24 San Francisco Chronicle article, “Three families that shaped Monterey wine.”

Lone Star Ranch, owned by Mark and Dina Moore (26) was named the 2016 California Leopold Conservation Award recipient. The other finalists were Jeff Thomson (3) of Thomson International and Ken and Matt Altman (44) of Altman Specialty Plants. The award honors private landowner achievement in the voluntary stewardship of natural resources.

In Memoriam

Cliff Sadoian (11)
May 24, 1949 - Dec. 29, 2016
Clifford Bruce Sadoian passed away at his home in Dinuba, CA, after an arduous and courageous battle with cancer. Cliff graduated from Dinuba High School in 1967 and later earned a bachelor’s degree in agribusiness in 1971 at Fresno State. While at Fresno State, he was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, where he served as president and made many lifelong friends. Cliff’s career in the agriculture industry started in 1971 at Sadoian Brothers, Inc., the family business founded by his father, George, and uncles Zay and Vasken. Over the next four decades, Cliff managed the growing, packing and shipping of figs, table grapes, plums, peaches and nectarines. Cliff was very active in the community and was a well-known figure in the agriculture industry. He was involved in the California Agriculture Leadership Program in 1981-82 and served as chairman of the California Fresh Fruit Association (CFFA) in 1995-96. In 2008, he was honored with CFFAs prestigious Mentors’ Award. Cliff was on CFFAs Board for over 18 years, serving on numerous committees and in many different leadership roles. He was also a key figure at the CFFA Annual Golf Tournament. He co-chaired the annual tournament for 38 years with Nick Buratovich, a fellow member and close friend.

Leo Marihart (1)
Leo Aloysius Marihart was a seventh generation Californian, he grew up in the Salinas Valley and attended Bellarmine College Preparatory in San Jose. Leo received his Bachelor of Science degree from UC Davis and served in the Army during the Korean War. Leo started his career in agriculture as a lobbyist for the California Farm Bureau. After 10 years managing ranches for The Newhall Land and Farming Company, he pioneered a new business model in agriculture with his own company, ATI Machinery, and co-managed the family ranch in Salinas. He enjoyed all aspects of the farming business and made many life-long friends as a member of the inaugural class of the California Agricultural Leadership Program. The eldest son of Leo and Juanita Somavia Marihart and a loving husband, father and grandfather.

Dean Buchinger (3)
Dean Buchinger passed away on Jan 8, 2017. He was a proud member of Class 3 of the California Agricultural Leadership Program. Along with his wife, Judy, Dean was an important part of Class 3’s long tradition as a close knit family. Dean was the general manager of the Irvine Company and a leader in southern California agriculture. His kindness, wisdom and humor will be remembered by all who counted him as a friend.

Partner Universities

Helene Dillard (UC Davis dean) was reappointed to California State Board of Food and Agriculture.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Donor(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,200</td>
<td>Fred and Caroline Berry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>A-Bart Enterprises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bill and Chris Adams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kevin Andrew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anonymous</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jeff and April Bitter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>blaze Wilkinson, LP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Boutonnet Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anthony Bozzoano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carson Britz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Brookhart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Blake and Lisa Carbon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ben and Denise Carter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chino Valley Ranchers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jim and Ellen Clare</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>William Coit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bill Colace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rick Coynys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jim Creculz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Doug DeCroft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John and Antonietta Draxler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Danielle Dupree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elkhorn Packing Co., LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sandra Fauck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Roberta Fireved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fowler Packing Company, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John and Sharon Garner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John and John Gibeisen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John and Elizabeth Grether (Bob Gray Endowment)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ray Griffin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robinson Fresh / C.H. Robinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grimmway Enterprises, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kevin and Diane Herman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Larry and Jean Hultquist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mark Jacobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sarhan Joli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kimberly Clauss Jorritsman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kay Dix, Inc. / Daniel Wilson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Keithly-Williams Seeds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Charles Komsot Lester Farms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Catarino Martinez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mark and Megan McKeen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ren and Jamie McManis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John and Justin Micheli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Justin and Emilee Morehead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ralph Myers Oji Bros. Farm, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ty and Sheri Parkinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peterson Ranch, Bill and Jean Fullmore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Producers Dairy Foods, Inc. / Scott Shihadey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Paeche</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sherm and Maureen Railback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Richard and Kathleen Zacky Family Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gary and Karen Robinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gerald and Elaine Rominger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Leland Ruiz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Smith Family Wines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jan Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Todd and Cheryl Snider</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>George Soares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sorenens Farms / Mark and Kimberly Sorenens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Class 46 Giving)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rosemary Talley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ray and Katherine Van Beek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Garet and Noyven Weng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rick Vierpe and Evelyn Matteucci</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Weiler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Westlands Water District / Class 46 Giving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mike and Jennifer Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Zunyars, Inc. / (Class 46 Giving)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>William Bennett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robyn Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Burton &amp; Tinkovitch, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Karen de Grutt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS

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

**LEGACY LEADERSHIP CIRCLE**
$500,000 and above
Bowles Farming Company
C.H. Robinson Worldwide
Capital Insurance Group
Rosario Marie Burroughs and

**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
Darlene Din
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
Driscoll Strawberry Associates, Inc.
E & J. Gallo Winery
Growers Express
J.F. Maddox Foundation (in memory of J.G. Boswell II)
Lagomarsino Group
Mission Produce, Inc.
George and Kathleen Myers
The Norton Foundation
TMD Creative
Wegis and Young / Mike Young, Rick Wegis, Greg Wegis
Vessey and Company
Zenith Insurance

**PRESIDENT’S LEADERSHIP CIRCLE**
$25,000 and above
AGR Partners
Azzurle Systems
Bowles Farming Company / Philip E. and Jamie N. Bowles
Dean & Katherine Brown
Charitable Trust
Rose Marie Burroughs and
Benina Montes
Capitol Insurance Group
C.H. Robinson Worldwide
Class 43
John and Nan Colbert
D’Arrigo Bros. Co. of California
Denise Godfrey Family / Olive Hill Greenhouses
Fresno Farm Credit: American AgCredit, CoBank, Farm Credit West
Foster Farms
Jim and Betsy Hansen
Harden Foundation
Helena Chemical Company
Monsanto Company
Prime Time
Rabobank, N.A.
Syngenta Corporation
Westside Produce

**THE 1970 LEADERSHIP CIRCLE**
$10,000 and above
Ann B Reimers Charitable Education Foundation
Karn Bains
Bank of the West
Booth Ranches
Philip and Jamie Bowles
Martin and Debbie Britz
Ed and Rosa Boutonnet
Charles Buchinger
Memorial Endowment Fund
Edwin and Kaye Camp
Robert and Lisa Cherenson
Doug and Jan Circle
Class 39
Gary Cusumano
Margaret Duflock
Melissa Duflock
Jeff and Mori Elder
Finch Farms
Gail Gray
Bob and Pat Gray
Greenleaf Farms
Hayashi & Wayland
Kevin Herman
Hidden Villa Ranch
International Paper Company
The Johannessen Trust
Kershaw Companies
Kevin Grizzle Farms, LLC
The Klassen Corporation
The Ledbetter Family
Limoneira Foundation
Fund
Charles and Sheila Mathews
Maxwell Foundation
Paul and Yvonne Murai
Mark and Joann Nickerson
Paul Pareira
Peggy Sears Perry
Vernon and Carol Peterson / Abundant Harvest Organics
Richard Pidduck
R. Gorrill Ranch Enterprises
Rolling Ridge Ranch
Jan Smith
Rod and Carol Stark
PM Bunn Trust
Rick Vorpe and Evelyn Matteucci
Sally Hughes Church Foundation
Saticoy Lemon Association
Pierra Tada
Union Bank of California Foundation
Deanna and Roger van Klaveren
Bill and Stephanie Van Skike
Mary-Ann Warmerdam
Wonderful Orchards
Woolf Farming & Processing
Tim York
Fellows Leadership Circle
$5,000 and above
Bill & Carol Chandler
Church Brothers, LLC
Anthony Costa & Sons / Costa Family Farms
Elkhorn Packing Co, LLC
Matt and Julie Fisher
Blue Diamond Growers
Class 41
Craton Capital
Rick Cosyns
Crop Production Services
Dairyland Farms / "B" VanBek
Cal and Linda Dooley
Danielle Dupree
John Eisenhut
Erotabere Ranches
F.M. Upton & Sons
Fresno Equipment Company
Fresno Madera Farm Credit
Robertia Firoved
John Wirler / Oji Brothers Farms
Val-Mar Farming, LLC / Catarino Martin
Trinity Fruit Sales
Craig and Sara Underwood
Vitor Packing - Madera Brand Raisins
John Weiler / Oji Brothers Farms
The Zenith Agribusiness Solutions
SureHarvest
Raymond and Deborah Tonella
Miami Valley Agri-Solutions
Raymond and Susan Josee
Saticoy Lemon Association
Travis Ag Construction
Umpqua Bank
Vance Thrill & Biller LLP
Ventura County Agricultural Association
Ventura County Real Estate Development
Ventura Pacific
Wells Fargo
West Pak Avocados
William L. Morris Chevrolet
Wonderful Citrus Packing
Zenith Insurance

**FUNDRAISING AND SPECIAL EVENTS (MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS)**
World Ag Expo Ag Leadership Alumni Breakfast
Allianz
BMI
Liberty Mutual
Nationwide
QBE
Republic Indemnity
Rural Community Insurance Services
State Fund Compensation
The Zenith Agribusiness Solutions
The Zenith Worker’s Compensation Specialists
Travelers
Western Growers
Dean Brown Golf Tournament
Region 9 Golf Tournament
AAA Propane
Agricultural Growers Services
Arthur Bliss Ranch
Beylik Family Farms
Brokaw Nursery, LLC
Calavo Growers
Camulos Ranch
Coastal Farm Labor Services
Jason Cole
Community West Bank
Deardoorf Family Farms
Donlon Family Trust
Farm Bureau of Ventura County
Farm Credit West
Ferguson Case Orr
Patterson LLP
Fitch Farms
Fruit Growers Laboratory
Fruit Growers Supply
Gimlin & Udy Insurance Agency
Giuranna
Granite Peak
Grether Farming Company
HarvestPort
Thomas & Karen Hecht
HUB International
Index Fresh
Leslie Leavens
Link Leavens
Leavens Ranches
Ralph Mauiel
Ed McFadden
Brienne P. McGrath
McGrath Family
Mission Produce
Otto & Sons Nursery
Quality Ag
Reiter Affiliated Companies
Raymond Lopez
Rincon Fresh, Susan Josee
Saticoy Lemon Association
Travis Ag Construction
Umpqua Bank
Vance Thrill & Biller LLP
Ventura County Agricultural Association
Ventura County Real Estate Development
Ventura Pacific
Wells Fargo
West Pak Avocados
William L. Morris Chevrolet
Wonderful Citrus Packing
Zenith Insurance

Colusa Farm Show Breakfast
ADM Rice
Carriere Family Farms
Colusa-Glenn Farm Credit
Empire Nut Company, LLC
Farm Credit West
Foothill Warehouse
Golden State Farm Credit
Omega Walnut, Inc.
Rabobank
Superior Tire Service
The Sun Valley Rice Co., LLC
Valley Truck & Tractor Co.
Common Threads, Fresno
Borba Farms
Farm Credit: American AgCredit, Farm Credit West, CoBank, Fresno Madera Farm Credit, Golden State Farm Credit, Fresco Equipment Company
Gar Tootelian
Land O’ Lakes
Regency Investment Advisors
Valley Small Business Development Corporation
All across California, there are communities grounded in agriculture that share our values. That's where you'll find us.

Visit a local Food & Agribusiness Center

Fresno/Madera Food & Agribusiness Center, Fresno, CA
North State Food & Agribusiness Center, Chowchilla, CA
Northern California Food & Agribusiness Center, Yuba City, CA
North Central Coast Food & Agribusiness Center, Santa Maria, CA
Mid Valley Food & Agribusiness Center, Bakersfield, CA
Tulare/Kings Food & Agribusiness Center, Visalia, CA
Inland/Imperial Food & Agribusiness Center, Brawley, CA

Connect with us

Meet us: RabobankAmerica.com/WeAreRabobank

HORIZONS MAGAZINE
is published by the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation for alumni, donors, supporters, and friends.
Phone: 831-585-1030
www.agleaders.org

NON PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Salinas, CA
Permit No.61

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED