

AGGIE ANNEX

OCTOBER 2013

CENTRAL REGION NEWS

BY JESSALEE GOEHRING

Greetings CATA from the Central Region! Another busy and eventful summer has come and gone and we are ready to embark on the 2013-2014 school year! We hope that you have had a fabulous summer filled with county fairs, officer retreats, and the CATA Conference. The Central Region is looking forward to another successful school year. We are very excited to see you all at the Fall Regional Roadshow and Meeting.

Yolo Section

Ponderosa HS would like to welcome Randy Lund and Andi Adams, *Winters HS* welcomes Kayla Roberts, and *Pioneer HS* welcomes Daniel Barrett and Mark Alves to their agriculture program.

Sacramento Section

Galt HS welcomes two new teachers to their program, Katie Titus and Derek Silva, and Missy Ruble joins *Liberty Ranch HS*. *Pleasant Groves HS* welcomes Jenna Swenson, *Florin HS* welcomes Yong Ra, and *Cordova HS* has added a new position that Jennifer Rositer has accepted. Congratulations and good luck!

Delta-Cal Section

Bear Creek HS welcomes Suzanne Perrin to their growing program. *Lodi HS* is excited to welcome Colleen Bartlett to their agriculture department. Congratulations

to Celeste Morino and family on the birth of their baby girl. She was born two days after the county fair ended!

Todd Ingalls is back to agriculture teaching and joins the *Sier-ra HS* agriculture department and Rex Mendonza joined *Escalon HS*. He also tied the knot over the summer. Congratulations!

Stanislaus Section

Waterford HS is excited to announce that Megan Punt welcomed her new bundle of joy this summer and Brittney Hopper will fill in for her while she is on maternity leave. Staff changes in the section include Darren Thrasher at *Grace Davis HS*, Kristi Hill and Robert Mayben join *Sonora HS*, and Sarah Marques has joined the *Hughson HS* program.

Tri Rivers Section

Pitman HS is excited for the new additions of Nicole Silveira and Amanda Bevier to their agriculture program. *Turlock HS* welcomes Nick Traini, Randee Prada, and Heather Nolan to their agriculture program.

Merced/Mariposa Section

Atwater HS would like to congratulate Beth Williams and John Williams of *Madera HS* on the birth of their son in April, Natalie Kirschner-Borba on getting

married this summer, and would like to welcome Shelby West to their agriculture program. Valerie Von Allman of *Buhach Colony HS* also welcomed her baby this summer.

Central Valley HS is happy to welcome Christie Liebig to their program, and Mardell Runnels joins the *Ceres HS* program. Nicole Patterson joins *Don Pedro HS* and Celia Casso joins the new program in Merced at *El Capitan HS*. *Livingston HS* would like to welcome Rick Chapman and Stefanie Kuhr to their agriculture program. Michelle Wise has joined *Mariposa HS* and *Oakdale HS* welcomes Troy Gravatt. New teachers Cody Jacobsen will join the *Golden Valley HS* in Merced and Daniel Fishman joins *Le Grand HS*.

Gustine HS would like to congratulate both Cameron Wyman on the birth of his twins (boy and girl) and Kelly Sanches on the birth of his daughter. Both were born over the summer. Great planning!

In closing, we would like to recognize our Central Region Stars that were recognized at the Summer CATA Conference. Congratulations to *Galt HS* and the agriculture teachers. Their agriculture program was the Outstanding 2-3 person Secondary Program and also awarded the Outstanding Secondary Agricultural Education Program. What an honor!

CENTRAL REGION NEWS (CON'T)

Congratulations to Jason Bretz of *Los Banos HS*, Monique Reid of *Hilmar HS*, and JessaLee Goehring of *Lodi HS* for being named 2013 Teachers of Excellence and to Hall of Fame inductees *Bill Loveridge* and *Glen Casey*. Thank

you for leaving an impact on the agriculture teachers and the CATA. You have inspired many of us to reach new heights in agricultural education.

The Central Region would also like to recognize the retiring

teachers. Their contribution to agricultural education has impacted many lives and we are forever thankful for *William Stevens, Wayne Forsythe, Richard Jacobsen, Roger Christianson, Robert Joseph, Dan Galan, Al Irwin, Joel Briggs, and Dave Benson*. Happy Retirement!

2013 Retirees

Joel Briggs, William Stevens, and Wayne Forsythe. (Not pictured: Richard Jacobsen, Dave Benson, Roger Christianson, Robert Joseph, Daniel Galan, and Allen Irwin.)



NORTH COAST REGION NEWS

BY ERICA BOOMER

From Crescent City to Half Moon Bay, the North Coast Region is a great place to play, live, and teach! There are many exciting changes happening in our neck of the woods, from new programs and teachers to new members of the Ag Ed family.

We are happy to welcome Fort Bragg FFA back into our region along with Megan Schmitt who will run the program. It has been over 15 years since Fort Bragg had an ag program, so we are excited to have them back! There are many other additions and new faces in our Region and we enjoyed the opportunity to visit at our Chapter Officer Lead-

ership Conference in September.

The Humboldt-Del Norte Section is pleased to announce that Theresa and Jeff Noga had a baby girl on Monday July 29 and Stacy and Kevin Kastler had a little boy on August 19.

Sonoma FFA was busy preparing for their Ag Boosters Fundraiser held at the Larson Winery on September 14. They are excited about their new and continuing partnerships with local businesses in the community. Students will help the Sonoma Raceway start and maintain their Cafe Garden. The Ledson Hotel and Cafe has generously committed proceeds from their cafe in Au-

gust to benefit the FFA chapter, and the Fairmont Mission Inn and Spa continues to purchase student raised hogs and produce from the school farm garden, as well as donating \$10,000 to the farm garden over the last two semesters. Sonoma FFA is very appreciative of their local business partnerships!

One of the great things about our region is the fact that we are small and we know each other well; we are just one big, happy Ag Ed family! So from our family to yours, we hope that this year brings new inspirations to your classes, your students, and your colleagues.

SOUTH COAST REGION

BY MYNDI KRAFFT

The South Coast Region is excited to welcome new family and announce relocations in the region!

New Teachers

Christine Woodman	Nipomo High School	Addition
Genevieve Phillips-Bishop	Santa Ynez High School	Addition
Michelle Côté	Greenfield High School	Addition
Julie Laughton	Salinas High School	Replacement
Lauren Carminati	Alvarez High School	Replacement
Adeline Amador	Sobrato High School	Replacement
Georgia Edmundson	Soledad High School	Replacement
Cherie Cohen	Sobrato High School	Replacement

Teachers Relocating Within The Region

Shannon Aguilar	Santa Maria High School	Addition
Gabe Ponce	Pioneer Valley High School	Addition
Bobbi Roderick	Fillmore High School	Addition
Chloe Smith	Gilroy High School	Replacement
Patrick Smith	King City High School	Replacement
Cecilia Birmingham	Gonzales High School	Replacement
Amie Mertz	Arroyo Grande High School	Replacement
Myndi Krafft	San Benito (Hollister) High School	Replacement
Jeremy Monn	Paso Robles High School	Replacement
Robin Word	Soledad High School	Replacement
Laura Taylor	Soquel High School	Part-time Replacement

It is important to take the opportunity to reflect upon our accomplishments as a region and the successes of individuals. The South Coast is very proud of certain individuals that were celebrated at this year's conference.

The CATA Outstanding Young Teacher was awarded to Erin Thompson of Templeton High School. Erin feels extremely grateful to have received the award in an association with so many strong educators. Rosemary Cummings was able to accept the award on Erin's behalf as she was out of the country with students at the time. Erin was honored that Rosemary would do that for her since she had been her agriculture teacher and a former recipient of the award as well.

Teacher of Excellence, Jodi Evans of San Luis Obispo High School, could not have been more deserving of such an award and the South Coast Region is beyond proud of her accomplishment.

Dr. Glen Casey received the prestigious recognition of being accepted into the Hall of Fame, an achievement that is validated through decades of leadership and dedication to our profession. Glen shared the following with everyone during the Hall of Fame Induction presentation:

"I was and still am honored and humbled to be included, along with Bill Loveridge, among the greats who have preceded us as 2013 inductees into the CATA Hall of Fame. As I said in my remarks Wednesday morning - I didn't get here on my own! Early in my career I was fortunate to be mentored by the likes of Dick Mosbarger, Jim Dyer and Karl Bakken - all Hall of Famers. While at Cal Poly I was coached and tutored by Larry Rathbun and Joe Sabol, again both are Hall of Fame inductees. I was also surrounded by super star professionals like Bill Kellogg, Bob Flores, Scott Vernon, and others. Much credit for any of my contributions to agricultural education must also

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go to my wife, Nancy, and our family who were incredibly supportive as we took advantage of professional and educational opportunities that came our way.

My advice to: one, our new professionals - find a future Hall of Famer as your mentor; two, those of you that have proven your mettle - mentor at least one new professional (formally and/or informally); and three. those of you in-between - build your mentoring skill set in order to be of value to those that will follow and look up to you.

Again, my deepest appreciation to the South Coast Region for nominating me for this honor, the CATA Hall of Fame committee for selecting me, and to those who have affected my life as a vocational agriculture teacher and teacher educator!"

The South Coast Region will attend their COLC and Region Meeting October 12-13, at San Benito High School in Hollister. We're looking forward to a superb event, as always. Thank you to all who travel with their students so they may attend the leadership conference put on by their regional FFA leaders. In addition, thank you to Kelly Bianchi and Myndi Krafft, Hollister FFA advisors, for hosting this event.

This past year has been more than an accomplishment for the South Coast, it has been a journey well traveled with some of the most talented in our profession as agricultural educators. Cheers to you all, and cheers to another year filled with the accomplishments of our professionals and our amazing students.

