

AGGIE ANNEX

OCTOBER 2014

CENTRAL REGION NEWS

BY REBECCA FREEMAN

Greetings CATA from the Central Region! Another summer has come and gone and we are well into the 2014-2015 school year. We hope that you have had a fabulous summer filled with county fairs, officer retreats, and of course, the CATA Summer Conference. The Central Region is looking forward to our upcoming regional meeting at the beautiful Ironstone Winery in Murphys!! Hope to see you all there!

Yolo Section

Esparto HS would like to welcome Bill Murphy to their ag staff.

Sacramento Section

Rio Linda HS would like to welcome Sarah Warren to their ag staff.

Delta-Cal Section

Manteca-Sierra HS had a fantastic summer officer retreat at a beautiful, luxurious, cabin in Pioneer.... Sierra FFA is excited for the upcoming year! They are happy to announce the district has received a \$150,000 grant to start a Farm to Fork program. They will be growing vegetables, crops and herbs and working with culinary students and Ag students! They look forward to their Drive Thru BBQ's (each BBQ features over 500 dinners) and look forward to working with the other chapters in the section! *Tracy - Merrill West HS* would like to wel-

come Samantha Palazuelos to their ag staff. Welcome Samantha!! *Lathrop HS* would like to welcome Gypsy Stark to their ag program.

Tri-Rivers Section

Newman FFA is proud to announce the hiring of Mr. Matt Marshall to join their staff. He student taught at Atwater-Buhach Colony and is a graduate of Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. This year he will be building their Ag Mechanics pathway and have a full load of Intro to Ag Mechanics. When you get a chance please help us welcome Matt not only to the section but to the region. They are thoroughly pleased for him to join their staff.

Pitman Ag Department will be enjoying some new laptop computers this fall. They also welcome their fall student teacher, Amy Crockett, from Cal Poly SLO. Their District Farm plans are going well and this fall they will have a wine social event at the Turlock Golf & Country Club for all interested community supporters to see the plans and help build the network of service providers and expertise for the project. Pitman and Turlock Ag departments are working together on these plans and gathering support. *Turlock High* has a new hire Megan Punt. Welcome to the department Megan! *Ceres - Central Valley HS* would

like to welcome Clarissa Rowley to their ag staff. *Turlock Christian HS* had a very successful county fair, with 20 members exhibiting animals. They would like to thank all the parents and community supporters who helped make this year's fair a wonderful success. *Hughson HS* would like to welcome Kattie Schmidig to their ag staff. Welcome Kattie!!

Merced-Mariposa Section

Golden Valley (Merced, CA) is excited to have Ms. Annie Andersen as a full time student teacher this semester from Fresno State University. She is a graduate of Denair High School and working towards completing her student teaching this fall semester. Congratulations to Mr. Cody Jacobsen. In July, he married the love of his life Ms. Jamie Schmidt. They are extending a huge congratulation to their newest department addition - Mr. and Mrs. Cody Jacobsen! *Livingston High School* added two new teachers this year. They are happy to announce that Kaylyn Schiber and Kevin McGuire joined their staff making them a department of four! *Merced College* is proud to have Chad Russell amongst their ranks at Merced College. He is scheduled to take his Certified Welding Inspector testing next month. They will then be able to take care of all of their AWS (Continued on page 2)

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welding certifications in house. Their Industrial Electronics instructor Aaron Hamilton attended CATA Summer Conference for the first time this year. He was so impressed he is now a dues paying member! In Aaron's own words, "You people have your act together." As a profession we continue to impress by just doing what we do. AggieFest is right around the corner...Saturday November 8th to be exact. Come on out and enjoy the 140 different beers/ales/wine/root beers and over 20 varieties of cheeses and sausages. A good time guaranteed to be had by all. *El Capitan HS* would

like to welcome their new hire, Arthur Faria.

Stanislaus-Tuolumne Section

At *Gregori High School* they have a new teacher. They hired Hayley Lawson, an intern from Chico State. They also have a student teacher with them, Kim Ghisla from Fresno State. *Oakdale HS* would like to welcome their two new hires: Rebecca Mendonza and Isaac Robles. Welcome to the ag staff!!

Many of our Central Region teachers were recognized this year at the CATA Summer Conference. Some of the highlights are: *Teacher*

of Excellence: Matt Baffunno, Eric Dyer, Amy Erman, and Matt Patton; *Outstanding Single Person Secondary Program* – Riverbank High School; *Outstanding Large Secondary Program & State Winner* – Atwater High School; and *Outstanding Post Secondary Agricultural Education Program* – Modesto Junior College. Congratulations to all of our amazing programs and teachers!

Finally, I would like to wish all FFA members and Advisors the best of luck competing in various CDEs at the National FFA Convention.

SUPERIOR REGION NEWS

BY ANDREE' EARLEY

The Superior Region is busting at the seams with new programs and new advisors. The current officers are Luke Browning, President - Nevada Union High School, Tim Reid, Vice President - Bear River High School, Mike Somerville, Secretary – Lassen High School (Susanville), Elizabeth Ammon, Treasurer – Lassen High School (Susanville) and Andree' Earley, Reporter – Las Plumas High School.

Together with Ms. Jeanette Lowe, our regional supervisor, and Janice Lohse of Hamilton City, the regional officers put together a welcome to the Superior Region aka the "Superior Shuffle". They met at the home of Janice Lohse on Wednes-

day, July 29th for an evening of fun and information. Each teacher received a binder which included information that Ms. Lowe and the officers felt would be helpful during their early years as a teacher in the Superior Region.

Those in attendance included the new teachers taking the reins at *Los Molinos* Ms. KT Tenneson and Ms. Melissa Stegall, Mr. Trevor Airola at *Princeton*, Ms. Chloe Smith at *Nevada Union*, Mrs. Morgan Brock is starting a new program at *Mercy West High School*, Mr. Joe Rosa returning to our profession at *Placer High School*, Ms. Kate Bigelow at *Fall River*, Ms. Amber Hoffeld at *Alturas*, Mrs. Ashli Dar-

rach at *East Nicholas/River Valley*, Mr. Wheeler at *Sutter*, and Ms. Garrison at *South Lindhurst*. The evening was enjoyed by all and we wish the new teachers in our region good luck in the coming year, you will do great!

The officers will also be hosting the "Power of 3 Summit" in Lake Almanor November 21 thru the 23. Superior Region teachers who have not been in the past, we would love to have you. Applications were emailed out but if you didn't receive one, please contact Luke Browning at lbrowning@njuhsd.com for your copy, we would love to have you.

CATA Summer Conference June 21 - 25, 2015