

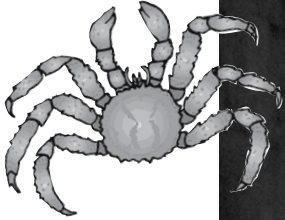


Central Valley Farmland Trust

Legacy

Spring 2012

Fantastic Food, Friends and Tunes



Jon and Christine Brandstad, owner of Brandstad Farms in San Joaquin County

THANK YOU to everyone who attended Crabs for Conservation on Feb. 4! We welcomed several new sponsors and were grateful that many former sponsors joined us again this year. The sponsors were:

- American AgCredit
- Bokisch Ranches, LLC
- Jon and Christine Brandstad
- Calone & Beattie Law Group, LLP
- E. & J. Gallo Winery
- Farm Management, Inc.
- Farmers & Merchants Bank
- LangeTwins Family Winery and Vineyards
- Lewis Engineering
- Oneto Ranch
- Rivermaid Trading Company

continued on page 3



Courtney Harrell from Calone & Beattie Law Group





Bill Martin

Executive Director Message

The Make an Almond Tree Sexy Challenge

I am calling on those of you with creative minds to take the “Make an Almond Tree Sexy Challenge.” No, I am not suggesting anything provocative or distasteful. The purpose of this challenge is to help re-frame the reason the Central Valley Farmland Trust exists.

Our mission remains unchanged and our resolve in the pursuit of farmland conservation in the Central Valley has never been stronger. We have a committed group of core volunteers and enjoy a very supportive constituency base. So why re-frame anything about who we are or what we do?

There is a large non-valley and non-agricultural population base in California that has very little understanding of the importance of farming in the San Joaquin Valley or why there is a need for a nonprofit entity like the CVFT. I want to reach out to this population base and need something creative to get their attention. Ergo, the “Make an Almond Tree Sexy Challenge.” Here’s how the challenge will work:

1. Create a slogan emphasizing and promoting San Joaquin Valley agriculture in a romantic and bucolic light. Yes, now you know why we need creativity on this!
2. Send your slogan(s) to Susan Hooper, associate director at CVFT before April 30, 2012.
3. We will ask our PR & Education Committee to choose the best one and recommend it to the board for resolution of adoption.
4. The person whose slogan is chosen will be given two free tickets to an upcoming CVFT friend and fundraiser or social event of their choosing, and they will be featured in our next issue of Legacy.

You would think that just being featured in our Legacy newsletter would be enough motivation. But just in case it is not, we are offering the added treat of the free entre to a future CVFT event of your choosing. So climb to the mountaintop, sit by the ocean, indulge in your favorite adult beverage by an open fire, or sing into a crab hole. Do whatever gets your creative juices flowing and send us your slogan!

CENTRAL VALLEY FARMLAND TRUST

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Elk Grove, CA 95624

(916) 687-3178 phone
(916) 685-1041 fax

Bill Martin,
Executive Director

Susan Hooper,
Associate Director



The accreditation seal recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national standards for excellence, uphold the public trust and ensure that conservation efforts are permanent.



Future Dates For Your Calendar

Saturday, April 28, 2012

A Taste of the Country

Merced Ag Museum, Merced

Saturday, October 20, 2012

An Evening at the Carnegie

Carnegie Arts Center, Turlock



CRAB FEED continued from page 1

Special thanks to our dedicated volunteers, Christine Brandstad and Jeani Ferrari, who worked many hours to gather donations for the raffle and decorate the building. Thanks also to Maxwell Norton and Jesse Rodrigues, who entertained guests with their beautiful music in the bar prior to dinner. The support of these volunteers helped make the evening a tremendous success.



Kallie Hitchcock, Kortney Crawford, and Mariah Johnson.



Bokisch Ranches table



E. & J. Gallo Winery table



American AgCredit table



Lewis Engineering table



Bank of the West table

Amy Holmes from Bank of the West who won the Ansel Adams print



Mike Tanner & Family table



President's Message



Ken Oneto, President

Making farmland preservation sexy

As we work to preserve the most valuable farmland in the world, our challenge is connecting with the 98% of our population who live away from the farm. How do we make saving farmland sexy (cool instead?)?

Saving a bird or a tree is definite and tangible. Ag land seems to go on forever.

Many happy trips have been spent traveling through the valley, passing small towns and large farms. The problem now is that these small towns are becoming large cities devouring land. It seems they only take the good flat valley floor ground. How do we make an acre of farmland as sexy (cool) as a bald eagle, Swainson's hawk or spotted owl? If we could answer this question, maybe our mission would be easier to accomplish.

One of our greatest challenges is funding. As communities grow they pay mitigation fees for wetlands and species. Some local authorities have started collecting for farmland mitigation. San Joaquin County is far more advanced than the other three counties we serve. We need to get the 98% of valley

residents involved with us. We have the capacity to do the work; we need help getting capital to do the work. If all of the cities and counties had farm land mitigation programs, we could be more aggressive at saving the world's food basket.

There has always been a question about easements and their permanent status. This scares many people away. By selling an easement today, the owner is able to expand or diversify his operation, to make it stronger. The best way to slow development down is to bring ag values up. How do we accomplish this? Good question. I have some ideas, so let's talk. In the meantime, if given the chance to interact with your elected officials, please help push for farmland mitigation in your area. For the time being, communicating and advocating are the best tools we have.



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Don Bo
Markus Bokisch
Tim Byrd
Jeni Ferrari
Denny Jackman
Brad Lange
Linda Macedo
Maxwell Norton
Ken Oneto
Mike Tanner



Farmlands Legacy Society

KEN AND FLORENCE ONETO

You can join the Farmlands Legacy Society by leaving a planned gift to the Central Valley Farmlands Trust in your will or family trust. For information on this program call Susan at (916) 687-3178



Naming the Central Valley Farmland Trust As Your IRA Beneficiary

Margaret Heiser Fulton
Attorney At Law

In the last newsletter, the Central Valley Farmland Trust (CVFT) announced the creation of a planned giving program called Central Valley Farmlands Forever. Your gift to that program will ensure that farmland preserved today remains protected in perpetuity.

One easy way to make this gift is to designate CVFT as a beneficiary of your IRA. Whether you designate CVFT as the beneficiary of your entire IRA or a fraction of your account, the designated amount will be transferred to CVFT upon your death. As you probably know, nearly all individual retirement accounts (IRAs), with the exception of Roth IRAs, are funded with pre-tax dollars. While tax deferral makes retirement accounts an excellent vehicle for retirement savings, when these assets are distributed to you, or your individual beneficiaries after your death, the distributions will generally be treated as ordinary income to the recipient and are subject to income tax.

Charities Receive 100% of IRA Proceeds

If you name a charity, such as CVFT, as the beneficiary of your IRA, income tax will never be paid on those funds because charities are exempt from paying income tax. Therefore, the charity will receive 100% of the IRA proceeds while the non-charitable beneficiary, such as your child, will only receive the

net amount of proceeds after income tax has been paid. For example, if a \$100,000 IRA is transferred to a charity, the charity will receive the full \$100,000. However, if the \$100,000 IRA is transferred to your child who is in the 35% tax bracket, and your child immediately cashes out the IRA, the child will pay \$35,000 in income tax and will receive only \$65,000



of the IRA proceeds. While a rollover of the IRA to a spouse, or the “stretch-out” of the IRA by your child will delay the IRA distribution, and therefore delay the payment of income tax, ultimately, income tax will be paid by the non-charitable beneficiary. Clearly, IRA assets are excellent assets to use for a charitable bequest at your death.

If an individual has an estate subject to federal estate tax, the IRA could be subjected to both estate tax and income tax. However, if a charity is the designated beneficiary of the IRA, the estate will receive a charitable deduction for the IRA amount received by the charity and estate taxes may be substantially



proceeds may be more suitable assets for your children or other heirs to receive since, under most circumstances, the beneficiaries will not have to pay income tax on these assets.

As always, we encourage you to review your individual situation with your estate planning attorney or financial planning professional before naming a charity as a beneficiary of your IRA.

At this time, the income tax advantage we have discussed only applies if you name a charity to receive the IRA proceeds at your death. In 2011, IRA owners over the age of 70-1/2 were able, under applicable law, to directly distribute up to \$100,000 per year from an IRA directly to a

reduced. Planning for estate tax reduction is very complex, so if you are concerned about estate tax, you should discuss the impact of this charitable deduction with your attorney.

Designating a Charitable Beneficiary is Simple

Designation of a charitable beneficiary on your IRA is easy. You can contact the financial institution holding your IRA and request them to send you a form to change the designated beneficiary on your IRA to a charity. If you are married, you may want to leave your spouse as the primary beneficiary of the IRA but designate a charity, such as the Central Valley Farmland Trust, as the secondary beneficiary with the knowledge that CVFT will receive 100% of those dollars if your spouse passes on before you. Other assets, such as farmland, non-IRA investments, or Roth IRA



charity without paying income tax on this distribution. Unfortunately, this provision in the federal law lapsed on Dec. 31, 2011. Now, if you take funds out of your IRA, even to make a charitable contribution, you will have to pay income tax on the amount you withdraw. We were hopeful that a new law would be passed to make the IRA charitable rollover available in 2012, but so far, this has not occurred.

Naming a charity as an IRA beneficiary does appeal to many donors since the charity receives dollars that would otherwise be paid in California and federal income tax if the IRA is given to other beneficiaries. Please contact us if you would like additional information on this subject or on our planned giving program.

Donor Recognition

Gifts received through February 29, 2012

Conservator (Gifts \$5,000 and above)

Joe Alvernaz
American AgCredit
Bear Creek Ranch Partnership
Garrett and Renee Becker
Bokisch Vineyards/Markus and Elizabeth Bokisch
Jon and Christine Brandstad
Brazil and Van Ryn Dairy, LLC
Community Foundation of Merced County
E & J Gallo Winery
John and Jeani Ferrari
Kyle Herbold
Vance Kennedy, Ph.D.
Lange Twins Partnership/Brad Lange
Maxwell Norton/Diane Norton Insurance Agency
Richland Planned Communities, Inc.
William and Marilyn Ulm
Western Farm Service
Wilbur-Ellis Company

Steward (Gifts between \$1,500 and \$4,999)

Tim and Suzanne Byrd
Calone & Beattie Law Group, LLP
Robert Chad
Richard and Sharon Clauss
Garton Tractor, Inc.
Jeanne Gobalet
Hilmar Cheese Company
Mike Kooyman
Stanton Lange
John Ledbetter
Martin and Stacey Machado
Charles and Sally Magneson
Scott and Pamela Magneson
Peter and Kathleen Menghetti
Merced County Farm Bureau
Mid Valley Agricultural Services, Inc./Larry Beck
Vicki Morales
Max Norton Enterprises
Ken and Florence Oneto
Thomas Schafffenberger & Victoria Simonds
Wolfsen Land and Cattle Company
Duncan and Barbara Smith
Michael and Cathy Tanner

Supporter (Gifts between \$500 and \$1,499)

Bank of America
Bank of the West
Gene and Patricia Beach
Monica and Ed Bianchi
Britton-Konynenburg Partners
Robert Chad and Patti Kishi
Thomas Coultas, Ph.D.
James Crecelius/Montpelier Farming Corporation
Crop Production Services/Fred Strauss
Del Monte Foods
Victor DiGiovanni
Ron and Georgetta Dolinsek
Farmers & Merchants Bank
Robin Flournoy
Bill Geyer
Dario and Josephine Giampaoli/Double G Farms
Raymond and Maria Giampaoli
Jeanne Gobalet and Garth Norton
Timothy and Susan Hooper
Denny and Patricia Jackman
Thomas and Barbara Job
James and Dianne Jorgensen
Janice Jorgensen
Kevin Knowles
Peter and Rochelle Koch
John and Eleanor Lema
Lewis Engineering
Lucas Holdings, L.P.
Dan Macedo
Richard and Susan Mahacek
Les and Elizabeth McCabe, Jr.

Osha Meserve
Galen & Melba Miyamoto
Montpelier Farming Corporation
Jerry O'Banion
Jean Okuye
Pacific Agrilands, Inc.
Pacific Coast Producers
Rabobank
Rivermaid Trading Company
Frank Ruhstaller
Sacramento County Farm Bureau
Saint Martin Vineyards
Lillian Scheidt
Scoto Brothers Farming, Inc./Joe & Auggie Scoto
Mark and Marsha Seivert
Randolph Siefkin
Tri-State Livestock Credit Corporation
Michael and Denise Van Horn
Carel Van Loben Sels
Winton-Ireland, Strom & Green Insurance Agency
Amy Wolfe
Yosemite Farm Credit
Dave and Kathy Zollinger

Guardian (Gifts between \$100 and \$499)

V. Thomas Produce, Inc.
Agro Insurance Agency of California, Inc.
Brad Alderson
Allied Grape Growers
Joe and Helen Amarant
Lee and Ann Anderson
Arbor Vineyards, Inc.
Frank and Marie Assali
John Aud
Louie and Karen Bandoni
Eric Benjamin
Bill Berryhill
Paul Bianchi
Michael Bliss Ranch/Michael Bliss
Don Bo
Eric and Lorraine Bocks
John and Robyn Brigham
John Carlisle
Tony Carr
Cederlind Farms/Dennis Cederlind
Cederlind Farms/Jeff Cederlind
Vito Chiesa
Alicia Cochrane
John Colbert
Crivelli Ranch
Jim & Carlene Cunningham
Robert Curtis
Fred and Cathy Denier
Mark and Deolinda Dent
Audrey Demmond
Richard and Michelle Dodson
David Doll
Fred Donald Vineyards
Sandra Durham
Violet Ehlers
John Eisenhut
Gabriel Elfante
Arthur Engineering
Fagundes Farms
Favier Farms
Dan and Donna Forster
Foster Farms
Ron Freitas
Ed Frey
Joseph Gallo Farms
Thomas Gallo
Janie and Nick Gatzman
Bob and Jeanne Giampaoli
Gary and Julie Giampaoli
Tara Gonzales
Greenleaf Farms, Inc./John Colbert
Jackson Gualco/The Gualco Group, Inc.
Brian Heller/Appraisal Associates of Merced
Lonnie and Lola Hendricks
Hilltop Ranch, Inc.

Brent Holtz
Dennis Kaufman
Kevin Kelley
Deidre Kelsey
Theresa Keithn
Robert King
Bill and Shirley Kirby
E.E. Kludt & Sons
Kverneland Group California, Inc.
Ron Larson/Trinchero Family Estates
Robert LaVine
Craig Ledbetter
Lodi-Lockeford Tractor Company, Inc.
Dexter Long
Lyons Investments
Virginia Madueno
Mape's Ranch
Edward Maring
Garrad Marsh
Bill Martin
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Mid Cal Tractor
Joanne Mills
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Edward Nishio
Suleica Ortiz
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Nick Panagakos
Doug and LuAnn Parson
Ha Paskett
Robert Pedersen
John and Kelly Pedrozo
Marilynne Pereira
Ann Petersen
Petersen Electric
James and Judy Peterson
Richard Piper
Prudhel Estates, Inc./Frances Prudhel
Daniel Putnam
Esther Ratzlaff/Ratzlaff Orchards
David Raube
Chuck and Rebecca Robinson
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Tom Schmidt
Jake Schneider
Gayle Seoane
Paul Simmons
Scott and Denise Skidmore
Alvin Sokolow
Soluri Meserve, A Law Corporation
Sandra Staats
Stanislaus Community Foundation
Stanislaus County Farm Bureau
R.C. Starn and Sons II
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Evelyn Tolbert
Triple M Custom Farming
Robert Tyler
Valley Vineyard and Orchard Supply, Inc.
Leonard Van Elderen
Russell and Elizabeth van Loben Sels
Carlos Vieira
Vista Livestock Company
John Voris
Paul and Teresa Ward
Paul Wenger
Diana Westmoreland Pedrozo
Vern and Mary Wickstrom
Cliff Wilcox/Cliffs Design Drafting
John Williams
Noah and Lorna Williams
Terry Withrow
Roger Wood
Art and Byerly Woodward
Donald and Charlene Wortley
Brian Sung Yoo

Friend (Gifts up to \$99)

A & A Aulakh Farms
Armstrong Vineyards
Lawrence and Susan Avelar
Gloria Barrett
Matt Beekman
Thomas Bianchi
James Brannan
Bruce Brazil
Jim Brenner
Richard Brown
Arlette Burkey
Mike Campbell
Bruce Carman
Dean and Kathy Cavanaugh
Leonard Cicerello
Michael Clark
David and Jahna Colby
Linda Corvan
Dan and Susan Coston
Cressey Holsteins Rubber Belting/Joseph Vierra
Kathleen Crookham
Audie Dahlgren
Dillon Delvo
John Eilers
Tom and Roberta Flanagan
Rick and Mary Furey
Jerry and Teresa Furtado
Doug and Sharon Galloway
Pat Gallichio
Carole Garton
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Amy Holmes
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Mario Moratorio
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Art Natcher/N&S Tractor
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David and Lorraine Passadori
Suzanne Pecci
Kus Porter
Marianne McCarroll & David Powell
Richard Radulovich
Ranchers Tractor Company
Ana Ringsted
Lawrence Salinas
Tom Schmidt and Pat Dahlstrom
Brian Sinclair
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Heidi Stein
The Burchell Nursery, Inc.
Mitchell and Sharron Thornton
Anthony Toso Livestock
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Jerry Uyemoto
Peter and Joan Varella
June Vaughn
Eric Vink
Ken Vogel
Bill and Carol Weir
Stanley Williams
Elizabeth Young
Janet Young
Nishka Yudnich



Join Us for “A Taste of the Country”

Our dedicated volunteers in Merced County are planning a fabulous party at the Merced County Agricultural Museum that you don't want to miss! This celebration of the country – and the bounty it provides – is slated for Saturday, April 28, 2012. The social hour will begin at 6 p.m. and dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

An abundance of door prizes will be awarded to those lucky individuals whose numbers are drawn. There will also be a large silent auction

with a wide variety of gifts for guests to outbid each other on. And back by popular demand is the live dessert auction! If you would like to contribute a delicious dessert to the auction, please call Susan at (916) 687-3178.

Tickets are \$35 per person and can be purchased at the Merced County Farm Bureau, Cooperative Extension and the Merced County Ag Museum. Call Susan if you would like to purchase tickets using your credit card.

See you April 28!

Founding Members

Markus and Elizabeth Bokisch
Timothy and Suzanne Byrd
Richard and Sharon Clauss
John and Jeani Ferrari
E & J Gallo Winery
Hilmar Cheese Company, Inc.
Vance Kennedy, Ph.D.
Brad Lange/Lange Twins Partnership
Martin and Stacey Machado
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