



Lodi District Grape Growers Association *Update*

Harvest 2018

LDGGA Holds Red Cross Blood Drive in Honor of Kris Gutierrez

On August 30th, the Lodi grape growing community came together in support of one of our own. This July, LDGGA Director and Past President Kris Gutierrez of KG Vineyard Management was diagnosed with Leukemia. Kris is facing this battle with a positive attitude, strength, and support from his family, friends, and the Lodi winegrape community.

Kris' illness brings to light the need for blood donation and Lodi responded. In a short time frame, a Red Cross blood drive was organized and exceeded all expectations.

The LDGGA Blood Drive was a resounding success with 52 pints of blood

collected, which equates to potentially 156 lives saved. Of the 51 donors, 46 were first time donors! Red Cross staff was in awe of the support and "such a nice group of folks that came out to the life saving event." Thank you to all that participated.



Kris Gutierrez (center) with John Mettler and Tony Rose

Another Harvest Season Underway for Lodi Area Winegrape Growers

Grape growers in the Lodi area, and throughout the state, are busy harvesting the 2018 vintage. After consecutive early harvests, this year's crop is ripening at a "normal" pace. Lodi growers are reporting average to above average yields for most varieties.

Matt Machado of R-N-R Vineyard reports that, "Harvest is going well and sugars are continuing to progress. The crop is coming off larger than expected but quality is good. Timing is considerably behind of last year."

Grower John Shinn agrees, "While it seems like we are behind, it's actually more of a normal year. We picked Chardonnay after Labor Day, which we haven't done in the last 4 or 5 years."

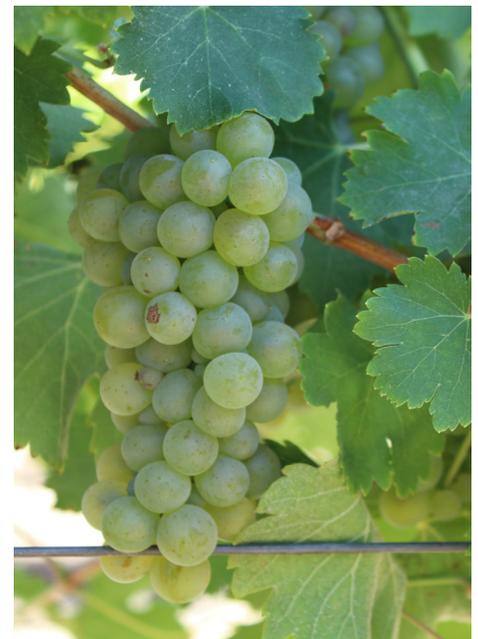
Favorable weather throughout the growing season has had a positive impact on quality. For Brad Goehring, "Harvest is progressing along at the smoothest pace between varieties in recent memory most likely due to the moderate daytime temperatures we have been experiencing. Those moderate temperatures have also been keeping berry size larger than normal leading to just above average yields. At

the risk of sounding like wine writers who claim every year is an exceptional vintage, flavors and maturity are actually ahead of and outpacing brix accumulation."

Laurie VanDyk of Cadena Ag Solutions began machine harvesting and hand picking and packing wine grapes around August 15th. "I had heard from several growers that this year's wine grape crop would come fast and the harvest would be compressed compared to previous seasons. Well, Mother Nature didn't get the memo because the cooler climate kept sugar levels low and harvest has been going slower than expected," added VanDyk.

VanDyk describes the labor situation as, "Still in a shortage, but we have had a steady crew." She has noticed more growers looking for tractor drivers and sorters for their machine harvest crews. Van Dyk has also had small crews working in Petite Sirah and Zinfandel to remove any rot and red berry to maintain a quality crop.

For Shinn, "Our Pinot Grigio was a little above average and Chardonnay and Syrah have been on the heavy side. Zinfandel, Cabernet, and Carignan all look to be average to a little heavy. We are praying



that the weather holds and we are able to get the Zin off before any measurable rain comes"

Shinn noted that it has been a trying year for selling any overage or uncontracted grapes. "It's a buyers market, to put it nicely."



The President's Message

Jason Eells,
LDGGA President

It's harvest time again and we are all running ragged. It seems these days we are all busier than ever, juggling the demands of farming with the responsibilities of life. In this whirlwind we at times can lose perspective of what really matters in life. I would think we would all agree that spending time with those we love is

high on the priority list, but it's also one of the things that can easily get tossed aside when we are too busy. The recent Leukemia diagnosis of our friend and colleague Kris Gutierrez should be a reminder to all of us how precious life is. When did busy become so glorified?

I want to extend my sincere appreciation for all of those who came out to support our LDGGA blood drive in honor of Kris. It was such a great feeling to see the community come to

support such a great cause. I know in the meantime we will all be hoping and praying for his full recovery.

In closing, may we all have a safe and healthy harvest and try and take time along the way for the good stuff in life.

Best,
Jason

Notes from the Executive Director

Amy Blagg, LDGGA Executive Director

They say time flies when you're having fun, but it seems impossible that it has been ten years since I joined LDGGA as Executive Director. Thank you to all who make working for- and with- each of you so enjoyable.

Harvest is here and steadily moving along for the growers of our District. Typically, activities slow down for the harvest season, but things have remained active this year with important issues at hand such as the State Water Board's plan for unimpaired

flows, a continued dialogue over federal ag guest worker legislation, and local discussions regarding the San Joaquin County Winery Ordinance and the PG&E Transmission project.

Thank you to all that were able to participate in our LDGGA Blood Drive in honor of Kris. I was overwhelmed by the outpouring of support and was grateful to be able to help organize the blood drive. As a past LDGGA President, current Director, and all around great guy, Kris means a lot to LDGGA and all who have the pleasure of knowing him. We are considering holding another blood drive in the future to help serve the needs of our community.

I hope to see you at this year's Ag Hall of Fame dinner on October 18th (information on page 3). Three of this year's inductees- Farm Advisor Paul Verdegaal, Richard "Rip" Ripken of Ripken Vineyards & Winery, and Steve Borra of Borra Vineyards- are important members of our wine growing community and are very deserving of this honor.

Each year the LDGGA Board

of Directors nominates individuals for the Ag Hall of Fame and provides letters of support for deserving candidates nominated by others. I always enjoy compiling all of the accomplishments of these growers and leaders as part of the application process. Congratulations to all of those selected.

LDGGA's Annual Harvest Social is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, November 8th and will once again be held in the Cortopassi-Avansino Building at the San Joaquin Historical Museum at Micke Grove. Please join us as we toast to the end of another year of harvest. There are still spots available for wineries wishing to pour wine or Associate Members who would like to sponsor the Social.

I wish you all a safe final few weeks of harvest.



State Water Rally

News Briefs

Ag Hall of Fame 2018 Inductees Announced

The San Joaquin County Agricultural Hall of Fame, now in its 34th year, has announced its 2018 inductees.

This year's Hall of Fame Inductees are: **Stephen J. Borra, Richard "Rip" Ripken, Laura Wheeler Tower, Paul Verdegaal, and Donald Rough** (posthumous).

The Agricultural Hall of Fame honors those individuals who have contributed to agriculture and to their community in significant ways.

The honorees will be recognized at the 34th Annual Agricultural Hall of Fame Banquet on Thursday, October 18, 2018 at the Robert J. Cabral Ag Center, 2101 E. Earhart Ave, Stockton, CA. Tickets are \$45 each, pre paid reservations only. For tickets please call the Stockton Chamber of Commerce at 209-547-2770 or visit the Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce's Ag Hall of Fame webpage, <http://stocktonchamber.org/ag-hall-of-fame>.

Winegrapes Top San Joaquin County Crop Report for 2017

Winegrapes remained the number one commodity in San Joaquin County in 2017, with a value of \$395.5 million, which is down from \$425.8 in 2016.

According to the 2017 Crop Report, which was published on August 7, there were 98,100 bearing acres of wine grapes (98,000 in 2016) with 666,000 tons produced (716,000 in 2016) at \$594 per ton (same as 2016).

San Joaquin County agricultural production had a gross value of \$2,527,989,000 in 2017 which was an 8% increase over the 2016 value of 2,337,922,000. Figures in the crop report are gross values, not net returns to the grower.

China Increases Tariff on U.S. Wine- *Wine Institute*

Effective Sept. 24, China will add another 10% tariff on U.S. wine imports to their country. The additional 10% tariff

is on top of a previous 15% tariff increase implemented in April 2018. When compounded, the new total tax and tariff rate will equal 79%. This action is in response to the U.S. government increasing tariffs on certain consumer goods from China.

"China continues to be an important market for California wines, but tariffs put our products at a price disadvantage," said Robert P. "Bobby" Koch, President and CEO of Wine Institute. "We will continue our full slate of promotional activities there to engage Chinese consumers who are increasingly attracted to California wines. We are confident that the popularity of California wines will continue to grow."

China is one of the fastest growing wine markets in the world and will soon be second only to the U.S. in the total value of wine sales. U.S. wine exports to China and Hong Kong have grown 450% in the past decade and were up 10% to \$197 million in 2017 and 34% to \$118 million in the seven months through July 2018.

U.S. wine exports to all markets abroad, more than 90% from California, reached \$1.53 billion in winery revenues and 380 million liters (42.2 million cases) in 2017.

Steve Borra Jr.
GENERAL MANAGER

LODI PUMP & IRRIGATION

1301 East Armstrong Rd., Lodi, CA 95242
OFFICE: 209.368.5082 | CELL: 209.993.9018
FAX: 209.369.5116 | EMAIL: sjralodirrigation.com

www.lodipumpandirrigation.com

Les Schwab - Lodi
615 E. Lodi Ave., Lodi CA
(209) 334-3961

Call for all Wine Industry Trucking Services
800-285-8581
www.tigerlines.com

MICHAEL | DAVID | WINERY
4580 West Highway 12 | Lodi, CA 95242
888.707.WINE | www.MichaelDavidWinery.com

John Arellano
Field Representative

1555 Baldwin Road • Hughson, CA. 95326
Ph: (209) 531-0351 • Fax: (209) 531-0352
1-800-GRAFTED
Cell: (559)804-6949
Email: johna@duarteenursery.com
web: www.duarteenursery.com

YOUR VIT EXPERTS

Wilbur-Ellis Company | 916-776-2113
ag.wilburellis.com

WILBUR-ELLIS Logo and Ideas to Grow With are registered trademarks of Wilbur-Ellis Company. F-1215-878

TODD GARIBALDI
INSURANCE AGENCY INC.
FULL-SERVICE INSURANCE BROKERS

641 South Horn Lane, Suite A • Lodi, California 95242
209.334.3030 Toll Free 855-334-3030 Fax 209.334.3535
www.garibaldirins.com
CDIF 0E11804

Pan American
An Ascension Company

MICHAEL LORENTE
228 E. Industrial Blvd. Suite 200
2500 W. March Ln. Ste. 420
Stockton, CA 95218
(209) 763-7276
(209) 474-0667
mlorente@ascensionins.com

© Ascension Ins. 2018
ascensionins.com

Workers' Comp Program
For Lodi's Winegrape Growers

- Exclusive Workers' Compensation Program
- Tailor-Made Winery Package Programs
- Complimentary Employee Training
- Endorsed by the CA Association of Winegrape Growers (CAWG)

(209) 334-5976
FAX (209) 334-6683
(800) 376-6638
craig@cfmwworldwide.com

Craig W. Edwards
President

www.AcampoMachineWorks.com
930 S. Sacramento Street Lodi, CA 95240

Trucking Industry Must Deliver on Maximizing its Efficiencies

By Yvonne Sams, G3 Enterprises

Just as farmers are tasked with seemingly endless regulations and reporting requirements to produce their crops, so are the haulers and transporters of our nation's agricultural bounty. How we, as an industry, overcome these challenges is key to our ability to succeed.

Let's take a look at winegrape hauling. More than 90% of California's 599,000 acres of its famed winegrapes are grown in the Central Valley. To move the more than 4 million tons of precious grapes from the vineyard to the wineries in just 16 weeks requires tremendous logistics.

With a shortage of truck drivers and a multitude of new regulations, trucking companies must be more efficient. We, everyone from the grower, vineyard management and processors, must focus and synchronize our planning, processing and communications to become more efficient. At my company, G3, we are constantly evaluating our approach and systems to find ways to improve. It is clear to us that the key to future success is maximizing our efficiencies as a supply chain. We are fortunate to have long-term industry partners who trust us to come up with solutions. Two examples to note are utilization of our

Shuttle Drop Program and the installation of GPS on all our 1,800-plus grape trailers.

To reduce start and stop time, G3 worked with wineries and growers to develop and implement our Shuttle Drop Program. This effort has been successful in minimizing wait times as drivers deliver full load of grapes to the winery, immediately pick up an empty trailer, and return to the vineyard to get another load. Critical to the success of our Shuttle Drop Program is the utilization of GPS tracking. The future is now and GPS provides real time visibility – no lost trailers, drivers arriving on time and no need to ask where is my last load?

In addition, the implementation of more regulations on trucking continues to march on and stakes are high. Failure to comply with the new regulations will impact not only trucking companies but the entire agricultural community and eventually reaching consumers. One example is longer rest time requirements which are a real threat when looking at the needs of a perishable product that must be transported within specific time frames. Looking ahead, we must plan for the implementa-



tion of additional regulations and legislation. This includes changes to CARB, hours of service, piece meal pay and Electronic Logs. Electronic Logging Devices (ELD) have already sent truck rates soaring and more problems could occur when ELDs are required for all intrastate truck movements.

The simplicity of hauling winegrapes from the vineyard at harvest to the winery has been radically changed due to state and federal laws and regulations. More grapes are being produced with fewer truck drivers available to haul which negatively impacts all involved. There is an old adage that seems more true today than ever before – why is it called “farming”? Because “gambling” was already taken. The same could be said about trucking.



Armando Gutierrez
Sales Account Manager

C: 916-225-7640
armando.gutierrez@agroliquid.com
P.O. Box #581701, Elk Grove, CA 95758

agroliquid.com



BANK OF THE WEST
COMMERCIAL BANKING
BNP PARIBAS GROUP

Tracy Holmes
Managing Director
Northern California Region

Agribusiness Banking Division
4701 Sisk Road, Suite 201, Modesto, CA 95356
Tel: (209) 416-3440 Direct: (209) 416-3429 Cell: (209) 581-4359
E-mail: tracy.holmes@bankofthewest.com



Robert G. Aviña
President

toll free | 844.CROPINS (276.7467)
cell | 209.613.2613
email | robert@vintagecrop.com

www.vintagecrop.com

ca brokers license: 0H05084
3001 Coffee Road, Modesto, CA 95355



BANK OF STOCKTON
WITHSTANDING THE TEST OF TIME

Kent Fyffe
VP
Business Banking
Center Manager

120 W. Walnut St.
209-340-2303

MEMBER FDIC bankofstockton.com



Wright Insurance Agency

P.O. Box 40
2100 W. Kettleman Ln.
Lodi, CA 95241
Telephone: (209) 334-0870
Fax: (209) 334-1939
License # 0528618
Website: www.wrightins.com

Eric Wright E-mail: ewright@wrightins.com



**WE HAVE 1,600 TRAILERS WITH REAL-TIME TRACKING,
BUT WE TRUST IN MIKE FOR YOUR PRECIOUS CARGO.**

800-321-8747
G3ENTERPRISES.COM



know before you buy...

- what is my true acreage?
- where are my property lines?
- will flood insurance be required?

BAUMBACH & PIAZZA, INC.
CIVIL ENGINEERS - LAND SURVEYORS
(209) 368-6618



EVOLUTION
EQUIPMENT SERVICES

BRAD SPORLEDER
(209) 810-5796

* Complete Harvester Pre-Season * Welding & Fabrication Shop
* Harvester Replacement Parts * Equipment Repair

24-HOUR (Seasonal) Shop & Mobile Service



WATERMARK LABELS™
A DIVISION OF LUSTRE-CAL CORPORATION

the LOCAL solution for high quality wine label printing,
offering superior value and short lead-times.

www.watermarklabels.com | 209.370.1616
715 S. Guild Ave. Lodi, CA 95240

PG&E Begins Outreach on Northern San Joaquin Transmission Project

The California Independent System Operator (CAISO) determined in its 2012-2013 Transmission Plan that increased electric reliability and capacity are needed in Northern San Joaquin County to meet current and future energy needs. At that time, the project (Northern San Joaquin Power Connect) included building two new 230 kV electric transmission lines to connect PG&E's Lockeford and Eight Mile Substations with Lodi Electric Utility's Industrial Substation. In 2017, CAISO reassessed the scope of the project and it was put on hold. In March 2018, a revised scope was approved.

The revised project, now named the Northern San Joaquin 230 kV Transmission Project no longer includes the transmission line to the Eight Mile Substation. It now includes connecting the Lockeford Substation (located on Kettleman Lane between Highway 88 and Jack Tone) with the existing Brighton-Bellota 230 kV line. The project scope still includes building a new 230 kV double circuit electric transmission line from the Lockeford Substation to a new switching station on Thurman Street in Lodi.

The project team is in the early stages of field analysis and outreach. The



PG&E's Project Study Area Map for the Northern San Joaquin Transmission Project

analysis and feedback gathered from outreach will help PG&E prepare the project application which is submitted to the California Public Utilities Commission who has final say on the project routes.

LDGGA will continue to be engaged with PG&E and other stakeholders. LDGGA members will be notified of all opportunities to provide feedback regarding this project and its potential routes.

wilson
ORCHARD AND VINEYARD SUPPLY

Jake Ridens

420 N. Sacramento St
Lodi, CA 95240
www.wilsonirr.com

Cell: 209-210-0305
Email: jridens@wilsonirr.com

John Moso

t 661.792.6468
c 209.602.8855
f 661.792.6891

1998 Road 152
Delano, California 93215

johnmoso@casacristal.com
casacristal.com

CASA CRISTAL
NURSERY

AMERICAN AGCREDIT
MONEY FOR AGRICULTURE

A part of the Farm Credit System. Equal Opportunity Lender.

**Call 800.800.4865 today
or visit AgLoan.com**

F&M BANK

Mickie Nuss
Senior Vice President
Lodi Market Manager

o: 209-367-2444
c: 209-263-2194
f: 209-334-6817
mnuss@fmbonline.com

121 West Pine Street
Lodi, CA 95240

TheZenith
Agribusiness Solutions

**Zenith Insurance Company is California's
Agricultural Insurance Specialist. We offer:**

- Workers' Compensation
- Auto Insurance
- Liability & Umbrella Insurance
- Property Insurance

Learn more at TheZenith.com

©2018 Zenith Insurance Company. All rights reserved. ©Zenith, TheZenith, and TheZenith.com are registered US service marks.

MANNA RANCH INC.

AG SERVICE

Vineyard & Orchard Management
Lease or Rent Land
Vineyard & Orchard Spraying
Chemical/Fertilizer Sales
Grape Harvesting & Hauling
Grape Brokerage / Crop Insurance Sales
Labor Contracting

Office (209) 333.1599 Fax (209) 333.0918
775 E. Acampo Road | Acampo, Ca. 95220 www.mannaranch.com

BVT **Kubota**

3516 NEWTON ROAD STOCKTON, CA 95205
(800) 266-9631 (209) 466-9631 (209) 466-0419 Fax
www.bigvalleytractor.com

JAMES LAGORIO DEMPSEY
SALES
james.ld@bobcatcentral.com Cell (209) 986-6424

SUNRIDGE
NURSERIES
"Where the vintage begins"

Julian Clymer
Vineyard Representative

Sunridge® Nurseries Inc. 441 Vineland Road Bakersfield, CA 93307
661-363-8463 Fax 661-366-4251 Cell 707-974-2642
julian@sunridge.net www.sunridgenurseries.com

PETERSEN & COMPANY
AGRICULTURAL REAL ESTATE

JOE PETERSEN

PETERSEN & COMPANY (209) 368-8010 office
498 E. KETTLEMAN LANE (209) 210-8010 cell
LODI, CA 95240 (209) 339-8445 fax
JOE@AGLAND.ORG lic. # 01489372

Lodi Mourns Loss of Leader, Innovator: *Claude Brown (1948-2018)*

Claude Edward Brown was born December 27, 1948 in Petaluma, California, to Joseph Isles Brown and Frances Yost Brown. He grew up in Rio Vista and was a 1967 honors graduate of Rio Vista Joint Union High School. After high school, Claude served as a volunteer fireman in the Rio Vista and greater River Delta area.

He continued his studies at San Joaquin Delta College and the UC Davis, before enlisting in the US Navy, where he served first as an Electrician's Mate before undergoing special training.

After his service in the Navy, Claude worked for King Electrical Company and for McPherson/Norberg as a Registered Consulting Electrical Engineer, then received a degree in Rubber & Plastics from the University of Ohio. In 1969, he married Marilyn Howen and they moved to Lodi in 1972. Claude was employed by Holz Rubber, first as an engineer, then as VP of Manufacturing.

In 1979, Claude, together with Paul and Charles Burkner, formed Ag Industrial Manufacturing Inc. Starting out with custom mechanical grape harvesting and just a handful of employees, they quickly grew to employ 40 to 50 people depending on the season. Early on, har-

vest season saw Claude often sleeping in his truck in the vineyards, ready at a moment's notice to repair or service a harvesting machine. In 1990, AIM introduced the GH9000 mechanical grape harvester. The machine sold well throughout California and the West Coast, and AIM was taken into the machine design, manufacturing and repair business. Claude holds several patents for his inventions which have applications in the agricultural industry and beyond.

Claude was a life-long community volunteer, donating his time and organizational skills for the Western Center for Agricultural Equipment at UC Davis, the Alice Hunter Building at Micke Grove Zoo, the Ag Equipment Center Complex at the San Joaquin County Historical Museum at Micke Grove, and Micke Grove Zoo East End Renovation. Claude served as president of the Micke Grove Zoological Society, Vice-President of the San Joaquin County Historical Society, president of Lodi Adopt-A-Child, and president of the Board of Directors of Mokelumne Fire Department. Claude loved to cook for crowds and was extremely talented at organizing his friends to help provide meals for charitable events. In 2002, Claude was named

the Agribusiness Person of the Year by the Lodi District Chamber of Commerce and has been inducted into the Lodi Community Hall of Fame as well as the San Joaquin County Ag Hall of Fame. Most recently, Claude was honored at the Notably San Joaquin Dinner and Wine Auction by the San Joaquin County Historical Society. Claude was a member of the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) where he held positions on several boards at the national level. Claude was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting and fishing. From antelope in Alturas to salmon in Alaska and deer in Montana, Claude loved it all. He loved helping his friends and enjoyed time with his family, especially his only grandchild.

Claude was preceded in death by his parents and wife Marilyn, and is survived by his daughter Mia Brown, son-in-law Bob Ford, beloved grandson Clayton and a vast family of friends.

Memorial donations may be sent to ASABE Foundation KEYS FUND, 2950 Niles Road, St. Joseph, MI 49085; SJ County Historical Society, P.O. Box 30, Lodi CA 95241-0030; or Lodi Adopt-A-Child, P.O. 2479, Lodi, CA 95241.

Wonderful nurseries™

NICHOLAS PODSAKOFF
Sales Representative
CCA#333045

CELL: 209.456.0697
NICHOLAS.PODSAKOFF@WONDERFUL.COM

27920 MCCOMBS AVE.
WASCO, CALIFORNIA 93280
OFFICE: 661.758.4777
FAX: 530.746.2236
WONDERFULNURSERIES.COM

HELL SAFETY SOLUTIONS

Martha Moore-Kazarian
Agricultural Manager
Cell: (559) 334-7744
martha@hellsafetysolutions.com
info@hellsafetysolutions.com

California Office
1817 S. Woodland St.
Visalia, CA 93277

Washington Office
P.O. Box 2485
Battle Ground, WA 98604

ALL AMERICAN LABEL & PACKAGING



ALLAMERICANLABEL.NET

Proudly serving Northern California's tax and accounting needs since 1949

B O W M A N
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Herbert H. Bowman
Gary R. Daniel
Daniel E. Phelps
Daryl R. Petrick
Tobbie J. Wells
Rich D. Cline
Tara E. Eastwood
Jeanne M. Russick

10100 Trinity Parkway, Suite 310, Stockton, CA 95219
Tel: 209.473.1040, www.cpbowman.com

DSW AG INC.

Donald S. Wortley

PO Box 311
Lodi, California 95241
209-369-2914

GARTON TRACTOR INC.

Since 1954

We Help Agribusinesses Grow Faster.

John D. Lozano
Local Area Manager | Director of Agricultural Lending
209.334.7405 | CommunityBizBank.com

COMMUNITY BUSINESS BANK
DISCOVER THE DIFFERENCE™



KLUDT OIL
SINCE 1962
LODI, CA



AIM

BUS. (209) 369-1994
STKN. (209) 951-1865
FAX (209) 333-0736
TOLL FREE (800) 700-2461

AG INDUSTRIAL MANUFACTURING INC.
P. O. BOX 53 • 110 SOUTH BECKMAN ROAD • LODI, CA 95241



Chapter Spotlight: Tokay FFA

The Tokay FFA Chapter has had a very busy spring and summer! We finished up the school year by holding our Annual FFA Awards Banquet where we were able to highlight the success of our members. This was also a time of goodbyes to our seniors as well as an exciting time for our new FFA Officer Team. The new FFA Officers were installed that evening. The 2018-2019 FFA Officers are: President Cameron Heinitz, Vice President Brittany Mogler, Secretary Michael Watson, Treasurer Brad Handel, Reporter Amanda Freeman, Sentinel Chris Plaza, and Historian Aaron Haro.

Over the summer, many of our members participated in the San Joaquin County Ag Fest. Students exhibited market lambs, swine, goats, rabbits, and turkeys. Aaron Haro exhibited the Reserve Supreme Market Turkey.

The new school year has brought many new faces to the Tokay High Ag Department in terms of members as well as staff. Joining Mrs. Freeman this year are Mr. Vierra and Miss Peterson. We also

have many new and excited members who are ready to grow their premier leadership, personal growth, and career success! The first event of the school year was our annual Back to School BBQ for all FFA members and their families. The event was the largest in Tokay FFA history! Attendees enjoyed dinner, dessert, games, and meeting new people. We have many events in our near future including the Greenhand Leadership Conference, the National FFA Convention, Lodi Grape Festival, Opening & Closing Ceremonies Contest, and a Drive Through BBQ Fundraiser just to name a few.

This year at the National FFA Convention, our very own Breanna Holbert will be leading the other National Officers in the 91st Convention. Breanna will be retiring as the National FFA President and continuing her education at Chico State to become an Agriculture Teacher.

Another major endeavor for our FFA chapter is the construction of our long-awaited livestock facility. We are now putting the finishing touches on the two new livestock barns. These barns will make it possible for our members to raise various species of livestock right here on campus. This facility will drastically increase involvement in the Tokay FFA.

We would like to take this oppor-



Students Cameron Heinitz and Austin Halliburton harvest grapes for the Grape Festival. Located on the school campus, Tokay's one-acre school vineyard features over 50 varieties of grapes.

tunity to thank all of the supporters of the Tokay FFA Chapter. We could not excel as we do without the help from our alumni, community, administration, and parents.

Kris Gutierrez 209-403-8016 Ben Kolber 209-747-2277

KGV
VINEYARD MANAGEMENT, LLC
Lodi, CA - 209-367-3996

Custom Farming Services: Mechanical Grape & Olive Harvesting, Licensed Agricultural Spraying, & LODI RULES Consulting

MIKE BERGIN
President & CEO

t 707.224.0111 x 201
mike@berginglass.com
www.berginglass.com

2511 Napa Valley Corporate Dr.
Suite 111, Napa, CA 94558

Cal Ag Safety

Agricultural Safety Services
Cal Osha and DPR Programs
On Site Bilingual Training

Phone: (209) 351-0321 P.O. Box 728
Fax: (209) 838-8672 Oakdale, CA 95361
Email: acurtoni@calagsafety.com www.calagsafety.com

Bringing Compliance to California Agriculture

DELICATO FAMILY VINEYARDS
FAMILY FARMED SINCE 1924 - NAPA VALLEY, MONTEREY, LODI

capax
Giddings, Corby, Hynes

Jack Roudebush
Resident Vice President
Capax-Giddings, Corby, Hynes, Inc.
PO Box 3231 Modesto, CA 95353
Direct (209) 550-3710 Mobile (209) 483-0650
jroudebush@capax.com
capax.com CA License #0144783

Erin Lenser
Financial Advisor

501 W Lodi Ave Suite E
Lodi, CA 95240
209-339-0843

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

FETZER
VINEYARDS

Ben Byczynski
Grower Relations Director

12981 Old River Road
P.O. Box 611
Hopland, California 95449-0611
707-744-7665
707-744-7496 Fax
707-670-6608 Cell
ben.byczynski@fetzer.com
www.fetzer.com

ORW
OAK RIDGE WINERY

San Joaquin Sulphur
Serving Agriculture Since 1942

ROBERT BRODERICK
PCA / CROP CONSULTANT

720 N. Sacramento St.
Lodi, CA 95240
robert@sjsulphur.com

Office (209) 368-6676
Mobile (209) 327-3955
Fax (209) 367-4929

Jackpot! Appellate Court Rules In Favor of Employers, Clarifies AB 1513's Safe Harbor Period

By Gregory Blueford, The Saqui Law Group

On August 14th, a California appellate court ruled that an employer who fully complied with AB 1513's safe harbor provision has an affirmative defense against any employee claims for failure to properly compensate piece-rate employees for rest and recovery ("R+R") and/or other nonproductive time ("Other NPT") for any time periods prior to and including December 31, 2015, and not just between July 1, 2012 and December 31, 2015.

As many employers recall, AB 1513 (Labor Code 226.2(b)), enacted in 2015, gave employers a brief window to make back payments to piece rate employees for improperly compensated R+R and Other NPT by either paying the actual sums owed or 4% of the employee's gross earnings in pay periods where any piece rate was worked with offsets allowed for nonproductive time ("NPT") already paid – even if this was less than the actual sums owed. Employers were only required to calculate the amounts owed between July 1, 2012 and December 31, 2015, and make payments to affected employees by December 15, 2016, to take advantage of the "safe harbor." This safe harbor, if properly complied with, gave employers an affirmative defense to any future R+R and Other NPT claims. However, it was unclear as to whether that safe harbor applied to all R+R and Other NPT claims before December 31, 2015, as stated in the statute, or whether it only applied to claims that occurred between July 1, 2012 and December

31, 2015, and would allow R+R and Other NPT claims filed on June 30, 2012 and earlier to continue.

Here, on May 14, 2015, Jose Roberto Lainez ("Lainez") filed a class action lawsuit against his former employer, Jackpot Harvesting Company, Inc. ("Jackpot"), alleging, among other things, unpaid R+R and Other NPT from May 14, 2011, to the present. On January 1, 2016, approximately six months after Lainez filed his class action complaint, AB 1513 went into effect. In March 2016, Jackpot filed a first amended answer to the class action complaint alleging compliance with AB 1513 as an affirmative defense. Jackpot then moved for summary adjudication on the R+R and Other NPT claims, contending that it had complied with all of the safe harbor requirements by making back payments to Lainez and 1,137 other current and former employees. Lainez argued that the AB 1513 safe harbor provision did not offer a complete defense to Jackpot because the statute did not immunize the company against unpaid minimum wage claims accruing prior to July 1, 2012.

The superior court denied the motion, concluding that the language of the statute was unclear and that, while section 226.2(b) provided a safe harbor to employers against claims by piece-rate workers for unpaid R+R and Other NPT accruing between July 1, 2012 and December 31, 2015, it did not provide a defense for such claims accruing prior to July 1, 2012.

The appellate court reversed, stating that the unambiguous language of AB 1513 provides the employer a safe harbor for all employee claims for unpaid R+R and Other NPT accruing on or prior to December 31, 2015, where the employer has complied with all the requirements of the safe harbor as outlined above. The appellate court directed the trial court to enter an order granting Jackpot's motion for summary adjudication and to dismiss the R+R and Other NPT claims against Jackpot.

COUNSEL TO MANAGE-MENT: This is welcome news for the thousands of California employers who paid out millions of dollars in back payments for R+R and Other NPT under AB 1513's safe harbor provision. This is the second win for employers regarding AB 1513 – almost a year to the day, a federal court ruled that AB 1513's safe harbor provision was constitutional.

If you have any other questions regarding AB 1513 or the payment of non-productive time, contact The Saqui Law Group.



AGAJANIAN VINEYARDS & WINE COMPANY
Winegrape Merchant and Negotiant
Central Valley and Central Coast
(559) 448-0558
North Coast and Northern Interior
(707) 252-4800
WWW.AGAJANIAN.COM



BG AGRI
SALES AND SERVICE
www.bgagrisales.com

Linden P.O. Box 888 16299 E. Highway 26 Linden, CA 95236 (209) 931-7650	Brentwood 5931 Balfour Road Brentwood, CA 94513 Phone: (925) 513-7702	Oakdale P.O. Box 2077 5225 Oakdale-Waterford Hwy. Oakdale, CA 95361 Phone: (209) 851-3232
--	---	--



JSC
Agricultural Supply
Your Premier
Manufacturer of
Vineyard & Orchard
Trellising Materials
We Deliver!
855.707.5467 | JimsSupply.com



PRECISSI Ag SERVICES
PAUL A. PRECISSI
PCA | CROP CONSULTANT
PCA# 127367
CCA# 370352
Paul.Precissi@gmail.com
209.479.3339
P.O. Box 730
Lodi, CA 95241



**Committed to helping
your business grow and thrive**
Mid Valley/San Joaquin Middle Market Banking Office
Cliff Cooper, Regional Vice President
209-476-4756 • clifford.a.cooper@wellsfargo.com



PACIFIC AG & VINEYARD INC.
Vineyard Development Specialist
MACK WORLAND
EEO
PAV403@AOL.COM
PO Box 760, WOODBRIDGE CA 95258
21282 N. RAY RD. LODI, CA 95242
FAX: 209-365-9122
OFFICE: 209-365-7222



**Constellation
Brands
WOODBRIDGE**
by ROBERT MONDavi
RAVENS
W O O D
North Valley Grower Relations
(209) 365-8700

California's 21st Century Water Wars

By Michael Müller, California Association of Winegrape Growers

This is probably one of the most volatile periods for California water since William Mulholland built the infrastructure to provide a reliable supply of water to Los Angeles.

Case in point: While the California Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) is currently considering regulations that would send historic amounts of river water out to sea, the Trump Administration is moving in the opposite direction.

On August 17, U.S. Secretary of Interior Ryan Zinke announced a plan that would increase water for Central Valley agriculture by reinterpreting relevant federal policies and laws and by targeting "unacceptable conditions" advocated by the State of California.

The Trump Administration is clearly targeting the Water Board's pending regulations that arguably value the interests of declining fish populations over the interests of agriculture. Central Valley growers have voiced grave concerns about the Water Board's plan to increase water flows to the Pacific to shore up endangered salmon.

At a State Capitol rally preceding the Water Board's two days of public hearing on August 21-22, nearly 1,500 growers and dozens of elected officials expressed outrage at the Water Board's proposal. "If they vote to take our water, this does not end there," said State Senator Anthony Cannella (R-Modesto). "We will be in court for 100 years."

Environmentalists are also threatening legal action over Zinke's proposal. Zinke cited the need to "streamline" the process under which federal law is considered and invoked in Central Valley water decisions. He argues that this has prevented long-term changes in federal water decision-making.

All of this is occurring while local groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) are drafting plans to implement the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). GSAs are required under SGMA to avoid significant and unreasonable adverse impacts to surface water.

Dorene D'Adamo, member of the Water Board from Turlock recently publicly stated that SGMA, "Recognizes the interconnectivity between surface and groundwater." Consequently, in adopting the plans, the GSAs must wrestle with conflicting federal and state surface water goals and proposals that directly affect the availability of groundwater. Of course, down the road, all of this is likely headed to court and a very uncertain resolution.

State Water Grab Rally

Farmers, g employees, community leaders, and concerned citizens rallied at the State Capitol on August 20th in opposition to the State Water Board's "Unimpaired Flow Amendments" to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan. The amendments would have a devastating impact on ag and communities that rely on that water.



San Joaquin County Supervisor Tom Patti speaks during the rally.



Farmers rally against the "Water Grab." Pictured are grape growers Tom Murphy, Chester Murphy, Tyler Blagg & Joe Valente

JENNIFER L. SPALETTA
SPALETTA LAW PC

Phone: 209-224-5568
Fax: 209-224-5589
Mobile: 209-481-9795
jennifer@spalettalaw.com
P.O. Box 2660 · Lodi, CA 95241

Shelby Tomek
Sales

WESTERN SQUARE
INDUSTRIES
Winery & Vineyard Equipment
westernsquare.com

c: 209.670.4114
o: 209.944.0921
f: 209.944.0934

1621 N. Broadway Ave.
Stockton, CA 95205
shelby@westernsquare.com

BK BELKORPAG JOHN DEERE

California's Premier John Deere Dealer

Offering Equipment, Integrated Solutions, Service and Parts
Committed to Quality Customer Support

1120 W. Charter Way, Stockton 209-944-5714
2413 Crows Landing Road, Modesto 209-538-3831

www.belkorpag.com

GEARMORE INC.

Your source for
VINEYARD EQUIPMENT

Myron Strong • Cell: (209) 679-6688
www.gearmore.com • Ph: 800/833-3023

DANIEL PURVIANCE
209-887-3554
FAX 209-887-3574
purviance@comcast.net

PURVIANCE DRILLERS, INC.

WELL DRILLING, PUMPS & IRRIGATION SYSTEMS
CONT. LIC. #377923
17707 E. HWY 26 • P.O. BOX 64
LINDEN, CA 95236

Baglietto SEEDS

Specializing in Cover Crop Seed

Nitrogen Fixation | Erosion Control | Weed Suppression | Compaction Correction

www.BagliettoSeeds.com | Seeds@BagliettoSeeds.com | 1-800-306-4333

Lodi District Grape Growers Association Blood Drive Continued from page 1



LDGGA President Jason Eells donates blood during the LDGGA Blood Drive held on August 30, 2018.



KG Vineyard Management Team showing their support for Kris. Monica Fuentes, Emily Ripken, Ben Kolber, and Lori Smith.



Amy Blagg(holding Tommy Hamilton), Bob Bishofberger, Dave Dias, Jeff Dosio, Diego Olagaray, Tony Rose, Kris Gutierrez, Ryan Streeter, Sarah Enescu, Rebecca Towell, and Markus Bokisch.



Jesse Pataria, Joel Burns, James Watt, Jenna Steinwert, and Daniel Meza participated in the Blood Drive.



Donors Kory Ley, Rachael Fleming, and Natalie Collins.



Tyler Blagg gives a double red cell donation during the drive.

LDGGA Events

LDGGA Social to be Held November 8

Join the Lodi District Grape Growers Association for wine tasting and hors d'oeuvres in celebration of the end of the harvest season at the Annual Harvest Social on Thursday, November 8, 2018 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the San Joaquin County Historical Society & Museum Cortopassi - Avansino Building located at 11793 North Micke Grove Road, Lodi.

Admission is free for all LDGGA Grower and Associate members. RSVP to (209) 339-8246 or info@ldgga.org. Sponsorship and wine pouring opportunities are available.

Train the Trainer Class Scheduled

On Thursday, January 24th, 2019 LDGGA and the San Joaquin Farm Bureau will offer a Pesticide Safety Train the Trainer course. The class will be held from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the San Joaquin Farm Bureau office. Training will be provided by Daniel Castillo of Pan American.

The cost is \$125 per attendee for SJFB/LDGGA members or \$225 each for non-members. For more information contact LDGGA at (209) 339-8246.

Save the Date: LDGGA Annual Dinner

Mark your calendars! The Lodi District Grape Growers Association's 66th Annual Dinner and Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at Hutchins Street Square in Lodi.

Other Events

Wine Institute Winery Compliance Meeting

Wine Institute, Compli, and FedEx are hosting a 2018 Compliance Workshop in Lodi on October 16, 2018 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Michael David Winery.

The workshop will provide an in-depth 2018 regulatory review, discuss what you can expect in 2019, and offer guidance regarding what you can do to protect your business in the coming year.

Highlighted topics include the newest DTC state—Oklahoma, California's Prop 65, TTB excise tax reform, the Wayfair Supreme Court Ruling and how it could impact your business, end of the year reporting, the all new Wine Institute Direct Shipping Portal, and much more.

To register for the workshop visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-compliance-workshop-ldi-tickets-50240418444>. Tickets are \$10 for Wine Institute members, \$50 for non-members.

Continuing Education Meetings Offered

The San Joaquin County Agricultural Commissioner's Office has set their fall CE meeting schedule. Meetings will be held on November 15 at 9:00 am, November 20 at 2:00 pm, November 29 at 7:00 pm, December 4 at 9:00 am, December 11 at 2:00 pm, and December 13 at 9:00 am.

Those with Private Applicator cards need to complete 6 hours of continuing education over three years. DPR encourages all Qualified Applicators licenses of Certificate holders with "A-L" last names to submit renewal applications early.



Lodi District Grape Growers Association

Board of Directors

President

Jason Eells

Vice President

Matt Manna

Secretary

Scott Pierovich

Treasurer

John Shinn

Directors

Matt Focacci

Vic Mettler

Scott Pierovich

Jennifer Spaletta

Mike Stokes

Directors at Large

Joel Burns

Tracy Holmes

Executive Director

Amy Blagg

Lodi District Grape Growers Association

Post Office Box 2004

Lodi, California 95241

(209) 339-8246

info@ldgga.org

www.ldgga.org

GROW WITH US!
Essential plant nutrients for optimal yields



Kirk Anderson
cell (209)380-2942
k.anderson@techflo.com
www.techflo.com

Tech-Flo® Tech-Spray® Tech-Gro™

KROLOFF

Kroloff, Belcher, Smart, Perry & Christopherson
A Professional Law Corporation

7540 Shoreline Drive
Stockton, CA 95219
Tel: (209) 478-2000
Fax: (209) 478-0354

Website: kroloff.com
Email: info@kroloff.com

novavine
INNOVATE. PROPAGATE. THRIVE.

GENE GLAESER
sales manager

6735 sonoma hwy
santa rosa, ca 95409
gglaeser@pacbell.net

MOBILE: 916.747.2131
TEL: 707.539.5678
FAX: 707.539.2819

WE ARE LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD GROWERS

Learn how you can profit...
from membership and
our industry expertise



jeffo@alliedgrapegrowers.org
joe@alliedgrapegrowers.org
Lodi/Northern Interior: 209-402-2501
or: contactus@alliedgrapegrowers.org

ALLIED GRAPE GROWERS A WINE GRAPE GROWER ASSOCIATION SERVING CALIFORNIA
WWW.ALLIEDGRAPEGROWERS.ORG QUALITY • INTEGRITY • STABILITY



Lodi District Grape Growers Association
P.O. Box 2004
Lodi, California 95241-2004

(209) 339-8246 • www.ldgga.org