

Farm Bureau elects directors

Four incumbents and one newcomer have been elected to the Farm Bureau of Ventura County's Board of Directors. The results of the balloting were announced May 20 during the organization's annual business meeting, held at Ventura's Pierpont Inn.

Incumbents Scott Deardorff, Andy Hooper, Ed McFadden and Fred Van Wingerden were re-elected to three-year terms. Joining them on the 13-member board will be Phil McGrath.

The meeting was attended by about 100 members and guests. In addition to reports by Farm Bureau President Leslie Leavens-Crowe and Chief Executive Officer John Krist, the audience enjoyed a though-provoking presentation by Ellen Hanak, director of research for the Public Policy Institute of California, titled "California Water: Moving Beyond Myth."

Scott Deardorff was first elected to the Board of Directors in 1997. He is the organization's immediate past president, having previously served as first vice president, second vice president, treasurer and secretary. He is a member of the management team for Deardorff Family Farms, which grows and packs tomatoes, celery and other vegetables.

Andy Hooper has been a member of the Farm Bureau Board of Directors since 2007 and currently serves as second vice president. For the past eight years, he has been managing strawberry production for Terry Farms, Inc.

Ed McFadden was first elected to the Board of Directors in 1999 and is the organization's treasurer. He grows citrus and avocados for Rancho Simpatica, a company he manages, and McFadden Ranch, a family-owned farm.

Fred Van Wingerden is the president and chief executive officer of Pyramid Flowers, which grows greenhouse and field flowers for the wholesale trade as well as selling bouquets in the mass market. He began his current tenure on the Farm Bureau Board of Directors in 2002, his previous term on the board having ended in 1996, and currently serves as the organization's secretary.

Phil McGrath is a fourth-generation family farmer in Oxnard, growing mainly row crops and some lemons. His McGrath Family Farms delivers its products directly to restaurants, operates a Community Supported Agriculture program and a roadside market, and sells its fruit, vegetable and ornamental crops at seven farmers markets each week throughout the region.

Ellen Hanak's keynote address focused on a recent PPIC report identifying what she and her fellow researchers believe are eight common water myths, involving water supply, ecosystems, and the legal and political aspects of governing California's water system.

"These are not the only California water myths, but they are ones we find to be particularly distracting and disruptive to public policy discussions," she and her co-authors wrote. "Often, myths serve the rhetorical purposes of particular stakeholders. And they persist because our public policy debates are not sufficiently grounded in solid technical and scientific information about how we use and manage water. In combating these myths, we hope to set the stage for a more rational and informed approach to water policy and management in the state."

According to the PPIC report, those myths – and their corresponding realities – are as follows:

1. *Myth:* California is running out of water. *Reality:* California has run out of abundant water and will need to adapt to increasing water scarcity.
2. *Myth:* [Insert villain here] is responsible for California's water problems. *Reality:* There is no true villain in California water policy, but opportunities exist for all sectors to better use and manage water.
3. *Myth:* We can build our way out of California's water problems. *Reality:* New infrastructure can contribute to California's water supply solutions, but it is not a cure-all.
4. *Myth:* We can conserve our way out of California's water problems. *Reality:* Water conservation is important, but its effectiveness is often overstated.
5. *Myth:* Healthy aquatic ecosystems conflict with a healthy economy. *Reality:* Healthy ecosystems provide significant value to the California economy, and many opportunities exist for mutually beneficial water management.
6. *Myth:* More water will lead to healthy fish populations. *Reality:* Fish need more than water to thrive.
7. *Myth:* California's water rights laws impede reform and

(continued on back page)

Ellen Hanak's keynote address focused on ... eight common water myths, involving water supply, ecosystems, and ... governing California's water system.

What's Inside?

- Take care to protect your hands and feet
- CA Farm Bureau launches photo contest
- CFBF endorses water bond, other propositions
- Wetlands-conservation program applications due July 2
- Member Benefits

Take care to protect your hands and feet

By Mike Klimenko

Next to the eyes, the two most vulnerable areas on the human body are the hands and the feet. To help avoid injuries, personal protective equipment has been developed for these areas. But like most pieces of safety equipment, they are only truly effective when used the right way.

The most common hand injuries fall into three categories: traumatic injuries, contact injuries, and repetitive-motion injuries ...

It's important that workers be trained on how to use and care for the equipment so it will provide maximum protection.

Hands and feet – let's consider each in turn.

Your hands are probably the most important part of your body when

it comes to doing your work. They're involved in almost every thing you do. Yet many of the things you do with your hands are done without any deliberate thought.

The most common hand injuries fall into these three categories: traumatic injuries (such as those caused by being caught, crushed or pinched), contact injuries (such as burns from such things as flames, solvents or acids), and repetitive-motion injuries resulting from rapid hand movements for long periods of time.

Safety precautions should include using shields, guards, gloves, or safety locks; handling knives or tools with care; keeping hands, jewelry and clothing away from moving parts; and if possible, rotating tasks to give your hands a rest. When dealing with such things as cleaning solutions and agricultural chemicals, be sure to read the product labels, use the right glove or barrier cream, and wash hands frequently.

You can protect yourself from hand injuries by remembering these rules: Recognize hazards, think through each job before you begin, follow safety rules, and avoid shortcuts. If an accident happens, seek prompt treatment.

People rarely give much thought to their feet until there is a problem. Therefore, to avoid possible injury, it's important to think about safeguarding the foot before undertaking any job.

Workers may be exposed to various hazardous conditions on the job, including

slippery surfaces, climbing hazards, handling or working around heavy equipment and machinery, and working around electricity. These different working conditions may require different safety footwear to protect the foot, and the worker, from injury.

When choosing safety footwear, you must select the legally approved shoe or boot required for the job activity, equipment, and situation. Some situations may require metal-toed boots to protect the top part of the foot. These steel-toed shoes provide extra protection over the top of the foot and can make a difference in preventing an

injury in an accident.

Employers should instruct their workers in the correct safety equipment necessary for the work they will be required to perform or situation they may encounter on the job. They should also understand the importance of wearing the protective equipment. Safety awareness and healthy workers comes from a total safety program that includes ongoing education and training in personal protective equipment on the job.

— Mike Klimenko is Farm Bureau Group Manager for State Compensation Insurance Fund. He may be contacted at mnklimenko@scif.com.

California Farm Bureau launches amateur photo contest

Amateur photographers: Keep your camera close and don't miss an opportunity to capture photos that best highlight California agriculture. You could point, shoot and win a cash prize in the 2010 California Farm Bureau Photo Contest.

The contest is open June 1 through Sept. 30 to amateur photographers who are Farm Bureau members. The Grand Prize winner will receive a cash prize of \$500, while prizes will also be awarded to first- and second-place winners in each of five categories. First-place winners will receive \$250, and second-place winners will receive \$100.

The five categories are: Kids & Critters; From Farm to Fork; All in a Day's Work on the Farm; Natural Beauty; and Budding Artists.

Aspiring shutterbugs 13 years and younger who are children of Farm Bureau members are encouraged to enter their photos in the "Budding Artists" category. Sponsored by the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom, prizes for this category include a total of \$350 in cash and copies of the book, "Imagine this... Stories Inspired by Agriculture."

Photos may be in color or black and white. They must be printed on photographic paper, measure at least 5 by 7 inches, but no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, and be unmounted and unframed. Photos must have been taken in 2009 or 2010. Judges will consider each photo's composition, lighting, creativity and agricultural message.

The contest is open only to amateur photographers – those who receive no income from photography. All photos become the property of the California Farm Bureau and may be published in *Ag Alert* or *California Country* and other promotional items. Winning photos will also appear on CFBF websites (www.cfbf.com and www.californiacountry.org) and displayed at the 2010 CFBF Annual Meeting Dec. 4-8 in Monterey.

All entries must be postmarked by Sept. 30. Entry forms and official contest rules are available on the Web at www.cfbf.com and www.californiacountry.org and from county Farm Bureaus.

For more information or additional forms, contact the CFBF Communications/News Division at (916) 561-5550 or at news@cfbf.com.



CFBF endorses water bond, other propositions

Calling it the best chance to restore California's overtaxed water system, the California Farm Bureau Federation has endorsed the water bond measure to be placed before voters in November. The Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010 would allow California to invest in new water storage and other steps to improve water quality and reliability.

"Family farmers and ranchers in parts of California already face severe and chronic water shortages. Others find supplies becoming less reliable all the time. Without water, farmers and ranchers can't grow the food and farm products that Californians depend on every day," California Farm Bureau President Paul Wenger said. "The bond represents our best chance to attack the water problems so many of us face today and that more of us will face in the future if we don't act now."

Wenger said farmers and ranchers are particularly encouraged by the bond's investment of \$3 billion in new water storage, calling new storage the cornerstone of realistic solutions to the state's water troubles.

"New storage will add flexibility to the water system that's needed to sustain California's environment and economy," he said. "Much of the water stored in new reservoirs will be used to benefit the environment, and that will take pressure off of existing supplies for cities and farms. It's been decades since California has made a significant investment in water storage. There's a real commitment to new storage in this water bond, and that's long overdue."

The CFBF board has also taken the fol-

lowing positions on propositions that will be on the June 8 Primary Election ballot:

Proposition 13 – Property Tax Assessments for Seismic Retrofitting (Support)

Allows for construction to seismically retrofit buildings without triggering a reassessment of property tax value.

Proposition 14 – Open Primary Elections (Support)

Provides voters with the opportunity to vote for any candidate, regardless of party, by creating a single-ballot system for primary elections; the top two vote getters will then advance to the general election.

Proposition 15 – Public Funding of Elections (Oppose)

Lifts the state's current ban on using public funding for political campaigns for elected office, starting with campaigns for the office of secretary of state.

Proposition 16 – Two Thirds Vote for Local Electricity Providers (Oppose)

Imposes a new two-thirds voter approval requirement before local governments or local power entities could provide electricity service to new customers or establish a community-choice electricity program using public funds or bonds.

Proposition 17 – Auto Insurance Coverage (No Position)

Allows insurance companies to offer discounts to drivers who continuously maintained their auto insurance coverage, even if they change their insurance company.

Wetlands-conservation program applications due July 2

More funding is now available for California's farmers and ranchers to voluntarily restore and enhance wetlands. The USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in California is receiving an additional \$10 million for the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) this year.

"Since California has lost over 90 percent of its historic wetland habitat, this increase in funding offers even more opportunities for wetlands conservation," said Ed Burton, NRCS state conservationist in California. "Wetlands improve water quality, prevent flooding and soil erosion, recharge groundwater and provide critical wildlife habitat."

The \$10 million is in addition to the \$12.5 million already received this year. WRP, reauthorized in the 2008 Farm Bill, is a voluntary program that provides agricultural producers and other private landowners compensation for land placed in conservation easements, and cost-share funding for restoring and enhancing wetlands.

Applications for the next ranking cycle are due at local USDA Service Centers by July 2. However, NRCS offices are accepting WRP applications throughout the year. *(cont'd on back page)*

Member Benefits

TICKETS & DISCOUNTS

Farm Bureau members qualify for discounts on admission to many of Southern California's most popular theme parks and other attractions. To take advantage of any of these special offers, drop by the Farm Bureau office at 5156 McGrath St. in Ventura. You can also place an order and pay by phone, and have the tickets mailed to you. For more information, contact Cissy Perez-Haas at (805) 289-0155. Have your membership number handy. We accept Visa and MasterCard.

Aquarium of the Pacific — Adult (Age 12+): \$18.95 (save \$5); Child (age 3-11): \$10.95 (save \$1). Valid through 12/31/10.

California Adventure and Disneyland one-day Park Hopper — Adult (age 10+): \$86 (save \$11); Child (age 3-9): \$78 (save \$9). Valid 4/25/10 thru 1/3/11.

Knott's Berry Farm — Adult (48" tall): \$29.95 (save \$22.04); Junior (age 3+, under 48" tall): \$21.95 (save \$2.04). Valid through 12/31/10.

Knott's Soak City (Buena Vista, Chula Vista, & Palm Springs) — Regular Ticket (age 12+ yrs): \$21.95 (Save-\$9.05). Junior Ticket (age 3-11) or Senior Ticket (62+) - \$19.95 (Save \$.04). Valid any 1 day of the 2010 season.

Legoland — General use ticket: \$51.95 (save \$15 adult, \$5 child). Triple Park General: \$62.95 (save \$24 adult, \$14 child) Valid through 12/31/10. Includes two visits to Legoland, including new Water Park opening Memorial Day weekend, and two visits to Sea Life Aquarium.

Magic Mountain — General use ticket: Adult (48" tall): \$25.95, (save \$29.04); Child (under 48" tall): \$16 (save \$11.50). Valid through 12/31/10.

Raging Waters — General Use Ticket: \$23 (Save \$13.99) (For all persons greater than 48" tall). Valid any 1 day of the 2010 season.

Regal Cinemas — Unrestricted tickets \$8.25 (regularly \$9.50 Sun.-Thurs. \$10 Fri.-Sat). Good at Edwards, Regal, Signature and United Artists Theaters. No expiration.

San Diego Sea World : "Two Days of Fun" — Adult (age 10+): \$57.95 (save \$11.05); Child (age 3-9): \$52 (save \$7). Valid through 12/31/10.

San Diego Wild Animal Park — Adult (age 12+): \$31.95 (save \$5.05). Child (age 3-11): \$23.95 (save \$3.05). Valid through 12/15/10.

San Diego Zoo — Adult (age 12+): \$31.95 (save \$5.05). Child (age 3-11): \$23.95 (save \$3.05). Valid through 12/15/10.

See's Candy gift certificate — One-pound box \$13.45 (Save \$2.65)

Six Flags Hurricane Harbor — General Use Ticket: (48" tall +) — \$19.95 (Save \$5.04). Child (under 48" tall) — \$14 (Save \$5.99). Valid any 1 day of the 2010 season.

Universal Studios: Buy a day, get 2010 free — General Use Ticket (Age 3+) - \$69. Must be activated by 6/30/2010 (Blackout dates listed on ticket). Proceed to Annual Pass Center to convert this ticket into a personalized pass. ID and finger scan required for park entry.

Universal Studios: 3 Days are Less than 1 — General Ticket (Age 3+) - \$59. Must process at the Annual Pass Center prior to entry. No blackout dates on first visit. Blackout dates subject to change. ID & finger scan required for park entry. Valid thru 12/31/2010.

Board of Directors

Leslie Leavens-Crowe, President*
 Josh Pinkerton, First VP*
 Andy Hooper, Second VP*
 Fred Van Wingerden, Secretary*
 Ed McFadden, Treasurer*
 David Borchard Phil McGrath
 Scott Deardorff Steve Onstot
 Gus Gunderson Chris Sayer
 Scott Kittich David Schwabauer
 Will Terry**
 Chief Executive Officer
 John Krist

* Member, Executive Committee
 **Advisory member, YF&R chairman

MISSION STATEMENT

We represent the collective interests of the agricultural industry, for the benefit of our members, in political and policy interactions with our urban and rural neighbors. We seek to be aggressive in promoting the interests of our members and are committed to the long-term success of agriculture in Ventura County.

FARM BUREAU OF VENTURA COUNTY

5156 McGrath St., Suite 102
 P.O. Box 3160
 Ventura, CA 93006
 Telephone 805-289-0155
 Fax 805-658-0295
 www.farmbureauvc.com

Wetlands applications (cont'd from p. 3)

WRP includes permanent easements that pay 100 percent of the easement value and restoration costs, and 30-year easements that pay up to 75 percent of the easement value and restoration costs. WRP also offers 10-year restoration agreements to restore wetlands without placing an easement on enrolled acres; NRCS pays up to 75 percent of the restoration costs. With all enrollment options, landowners maintain title to the land and control access.

To date, over 250 private landowners in California have enrolled more than 100,000 acres of land into WRP, accounting for one acre in every four of California's functioning wetlands and hosting over 180 species of birds. Nationwide, about 2.2 million acres are enrolled in WRP, with this latest round of funding expected to add another 75,000 acres.

For more information, contact the NRCS office in Somis at (805) 386-4489 or visit www.ca.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/wrp.html.

FBVC Elects Directors

(cont'd from front page)

sustainable management. *Reality*: The legal tools for reform are already present in California's water rights laws; we just need to start using them.

8. *Myth*: We can find a consensus that will keep all parties happy. *Reality*: Tough tradeoffs mean that consensus is not achievable on all water issues; higher levels of government will need to assert leadership.

The complete report is available online at www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=890.

• PLATINUM MEMBERS

Beardsley & Son
 Al & Elaine Cavaletto
 Deardorff Family Farms
 Dullam Nursery
 Farm Credit West
 Fruit Growers Lab Inc.
 Gimlin & Udy Insurance Agency
 Leavens Ranches
 Limco Del Mar Ltd.
 Limoneira Company
 Rio Farms
 Saticoy Lemon Association
 Terry Farms Inc.
 Henry Vega Coastal Harvesting

• DIAMOND MEMBERS

Ag Rx
 Randall Axell
 Bob Jones Ranch Inc.
 John Borchard Jr.
 John W. Borchard Ranches Inc.
 Boskovich Farm Inc.
 Chase Bros. Dairy

Crisalida Berry Farms LLC
 Crop Production Services
 DeMartini Enterprises LLC
 Jack M. Dickenson
 Farmers Irrigation Company
 Index Fresh
 Kimball Ranches El Hogar
 Larry Walker Associates
 Dorcas McFarlane TT
 Mission Produce
 Nunes Vegetables
 William Orcutt
 Oxnard Lemon Co.
 Oxnard Pest Control Assn.
 Pecht Ranch
 Don Petty Jr.
 Jonathan Pinkerton
 Robert Pinkerton
 Rancho Limcado
 Travis Ag. Construction
 Fred Van Wingerden

• GOLD SEAL MEMBERS

Ag Land Services
 Associates Insectary
 Barkley Ins. Agent Brokers
 Berywood Tree Farm
 Brokaw Nursery Inc.
 William Burgett
 Calavo Growers
 Camulos Ranch
 CAPCA-Ventura County Chapter
 Lee Cole
 Crane Estate, Inc.
 Scott Dunbar Ranch and Land Broker
 Humberto Candelario
 Dufau Ranch Co.
 Estate of William Worthington
 Faria Family Ptnr. LTD/Rincon
 Friends Ranches Inc.
 Green Meadow Nursery
 R. Logan Hardison
 Ron Hertel
 Hirashima Berry Farm
 J. D. McGrath Farms

Tom K. Lindsay
 Luna Fertilizer Inc.
 Joseph Maulhardt
 Messori Ranch
 Moon Mountain Farms LLC
 Yoshifumi Nakano
 Naumann Land Development
 Newhall Land Farm Company
 W. J. Pinkerton Estate
 Quality Ag Inc.
 F. Richardson
 Rio Grande Farms
 San Cristobal Farms
 San Miguel Produce Inc.
 Santa Rosa Berry Farms LLC
 Seacoast Farms LLC
 Sine Qua Non
 Frank Staben
 Sunnyland Nursery
 Tierra Rejada Ranch LLC
 Trade & Service of CA
 Lorenzo Vega
 Yu Ying Tsai
 Yamamoto Farms

FARM BUREAU OF VENTURA COUNTY

PERIODICALS
 POSTAGE
 PAID
 Oxnard, CA

FARM BUREAU NEWSLETTER published monthly by the Farm Bureau of Ventura County. Subscription is included in membership fee. Subscription to non-members is \$10 per year. (USPS 896-880)

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Farm Bureau Newsletter
 5156 McGrath St.
 Ventura, CA 93003