



# CALIFORNIA GRAPE & TREE FRUIT LEAGUE



# ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014



# CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



It has been an honor to serve as the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the past two years. During this time, I have been able to observe, firsthand, the driving force behind the League, which is being responsive to its grower, shipper and marketer members and passionately advocating to protect our industry's needs. This past year alone, the League has worked on a variety of topics that are outlined in this Annual Report. I would personally like to highlight three notable achievements from the 2013/14 fiscal year:

► **Immigration Reform:** Entering the year with labor security and immigration reform as the top priority, the League was a direct part of the effort to shape an agricultural worker package that was ultimately included as part of the U.S. Senate's comprehensive immigration proposal. Despite the political resistance towards adopting a similar immigration reform package in the U.S. House of Representatives, the League moved forward to confront House leadership to encourage the development of like progress in order to negotiate a workable solution, passable in each respective legislative chamber.

► **Australian Access For Stone Fruit:** After many, many years of hard work, persistence and patience, the California stone fruit industry was granted access into both Eastern and Western Australia for peaches and nectarines. Both markets were a first for California's stone fruit producers and have been a priority project, spearheaded by the industry for more than a decade. For years, the industry has worked very closely with the League, as well as U.S. and Australian government agencies, so that the California stone fruit industry would be able to ship their product to a country that was previously unavailable.

► **Senate Bill 25:** Confronting the specter of a union motivated change to the Agricultural Labor Relations Act to allow for perpetual mandatory mediation, the League spearheaded an effort to cast doubt about the intention of labor union advocates with SB 25, positioning the legislative proposal as an attempt to force farm employees into successive contracts and strip away the right of the employer to negotiate working conditions without protections upholding employer rights and the will of the represented, the farm employees. The League led lobbying efforts within State Capitol and worked closely with the state's labor agency to define the proposal as a power grab to circumvent the bargaining process and the spirit of the Agricultural Labor Relations Act, which is to protect and promote the desires of the farm employee community and their consent over whether or not to be represented by a union. As a result of the League's effort, the bill underwent last minute changes, further casting doubt on its merit and likelihood of passage.

These are just three examples of how the League serves its membership and provides value to permanent fresh fruit crops in California. The examples above, though, could not have been done with the excellent work done by our Board of Directors, committees and staff. It is pertinent for our entire membership to recognize that the political arena is not an optional area of involvement for our organization. It is a vital area that must continue to be developed. It is critically important that the League continues to strengthen its bond with our elected representatives. Through the numerous events I have attended over the past two years as chairman, it is evident, I assure you, that the League does an outstanding job in serving as a voice for our collective operations on a wide variety of issues. I can personally attest to the League's demonstrated leadership to maintain a strong voice on labor issues, specifically labor laws, regulations and costs.

Each of you should be proud of our organization and, as members, shape it. On behalf of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee, thank you for your continued support of the California Grape & Tree Fruit League. We continue to be extremely grateful for the opportunity to be of service to our state's fresh table grape, blueberry and tree fruit growers and shippers and look forward to addressing the challenges in the years ahead.

## RYAN ZANINOVICH

Chairman, 2012-2014

California Grape & Tree Fruit League



Pictured (Left): Outgoing chairman Ryan Zaninovich with incoming Board Chairman David Jackson (Family Tree Farms). (Right) Zaninovich with Board Member Louis Pandol (Pandol Bros., Inc.) at the June 2013 Board meeting in Sacramento.



# LEAGUE LEADERSHIP

## CHAIRMAN

**\*Ryan Zaninovich**

*V.B. Zaninovich & Sons, Inc.*

## FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN

**\*David Jackson**

*Family Tree Farms*

## SECOND VICE CHAIRMAN

**\*Harold McClarty**

*HMC Farms*

## SECRETARY/TREASURER

**\*Louis Pandol**

*Pandol Bros., Inc.*

**Anthony Balakian**

*California Growers*

**Robert O. Bianco**

*Anthony Vineyards, Inc.*

**Steve Biswell**

*Mt. Campbell Development*

**Nicholas Bozick**

*R. Bagdasarian, Inc.*

**Bo Brett**

*Mountain View Fruit Sales, Inc.*

**Jack Campbell**

*Delano Farms*

**Kirk Cerniglia**

*Royal Madera Vineyards*

**\*Carol Chandler**

*Chandler Farms, LP*

**David Clyde**

*Grapeman Farms dba Stevco*

**Stanley Cosart**

*W.F. Cosart Packing Co.*

**Verne Crookshanks**

*Venida Packing, Inc.*

**Tim Dayka**

*Dayka & Hackett, LLC*

**Jerry DiBuduo**

*SunValley Farms*

**Moe DiBuduo**

*DiBuduo Fruit Co.*

**Edge Dostal**

*Fruit Patch Sales, LLC*

**Nick Dulcich**

*Jakov P. Dulcich & Sons*

**Richard Elliot**

*David J. Elliot & Son*

**Ken Enns**

*Ken Enns*

**Ron Frauenheim**

*Ron Frauenheim Farms*

**\*Randy Giumarra**

*Giumarra Vineyards Corporation*

**\*Steve Hash**

*Steve Hash Farms*

**Doug Hemly**

*Greene and Hemly, Inc.*

**Kevin Herman**

*The Specialty Crop Company*

**Mike Jackson**

*Kingsburg Orchards*

**Casey Jones**

*Sun Valley Packing*

**Herbert Kaprielian**

*CRJ Farming Co. LP*

**Todd Kinonian**

*Sundale Vineyards*

**David Marguleas**

*Sun World International, LLC*

**George Nikolich**

*Gerawan Farming, Inc.*

**Justin Parnagian**

*Fowler Packing Company, Inc.*

**Pat Ricchiuti**

*P-R Farms, Inc.*

**Cliff Rolland**

*Abe-El Produce*

**Tom Schultz**

*Chase National Kiwi Farms*

**Toni Scully**

*Scully Packing Co.*

**Jim Simonian**

*Simonian Fruit Company*

**Brent Smittcamp**

*Wawona Packing Co., LLC*

**Kent Stephens**

*Marko Zaninovich, Inc.*

**Matt Surber**

*M. Caratan, Inc.*

**Russ Tavlan**

*Moonlight Companies*

**\*Dean Thonesen**

*Sunwest Fruit Company, Inc.*

**John Tos**

*Tos Farms, Inc.*

**Cliff Woolley**

*Munger Bros., LLC*

**John D. Zaninovich**

*Merritt Farms*

**\*Jon P. Zaninovich**

*Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.*

**Marko S. Zaninovich**

*Marko Zaninovich, Inc.*

**EX-OFFICIO**

**Micky George**

**Cliff Sadoian**

*Cliff Sadoian & Associates*

*\*Executive Committee*

## CGTFL Staff

**Barry Bedwell, President**

**Marcy Martin, Director, Trade**

**Christopher Valadez, Director, Environmental & Regulatory Affairs**

**Megan Jacobsen, Director, Membership**

**Sara Frauenheim, Associate Director**

**Vicky Jones, Bookkeeper**

**Erin Ragnetti, Office Coordinator**

**Allyson Calderon, Administrative Assistant**

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Taken as a whole, the 2013 growing season will be remembered by a clear majority of our members in a favorable light. Production levels and returns were very positive and, in some cases, broke records. However, underlying this success, there remained major concerns about the impact of potential water and labor shortages regarding the ability of the fresh grape, blueberry and tree fruit communities to remain truly sustainable for the long term.

In keeping with past practices, a survey of membership was conducted near the end of the calendar year to determine priorities in how to best allocate staff time and resources. Consistent with recent years, immigration reform again topped the list, but currently the focus of members has clearly moved to the impact of the extreme drought in California. Estimates from agricultural experts have predicted that up to 800,000 acres of farm land would be fallowed in 2014, due to the lack of water. Thousands of farm employees could lose their jobs and the overall negative financial impacts would be in the billions.

Even permanent crops would feel the impact of the lack of water, and in some areas, a zero allocation of water from state and federal projects means that crops, such as citrus, could have thousands of acres removed. Luckily, for fresh grapes and tree fruit, the impact of the

lack of surface water looks to only affect a small amount of acres and no major disruptions in 2014 supply are anticipated. However, the increased focus on groundwater pumping means that aquifers are being depleted at alarming rates, which, in turn, will surely lead to potential legislation dealing with groundwater management. This is an area that the association must and will surely take an active role in representing on behalf of membership.

One of the clear disappointments this past year was failure, once again, to move comprehensive immigration reform through Congress. While the Senate passed a version earlier in the year, the House of Representatives was unable to follow suit and growers once again face an uncertain future with a tightening labor supply, increased I9 audits and potential mandatory e-verify. The association will continue to push, by all means necessary, for a solution to this issue, which has gone on for much too long without resolution.

On a more positive note, I am pleased to report that, after many years of thoughtful discussion and review, the Board of Directors has formally approved a name change for the organization. During the second half of 2014, the California Grape and Tree Fruit League will become the California Fresh Fruit Association (CFFA), recognizing the growth within the association of the approximate fifteen permanent fresh fruit crops we represent. As we do now, we will continue to articulate that we advocate on behalf of the permanent fresh fruit crops in the state, with the exception of citrus and avocados. We plan to roll out the name over an extended period to honor our continuing legacy and so that interested parties connect the new name to the 78 years the organization was identified as the California Grape and Tree Fruit League.

A sincere thank you to the Board of Directors, Executive Committee and all of our members who participated in the many policy committees for their efforts this past year. In addition, thank you to all of the staff for their dedication and commitment to represent the fresh grape, blueberry and tree fruit communities. We look forward to a bright future.

## Barry Bedwell

President

California Grape & Tree Fruit League

Left: Bedwell, pictured with Board Members Nick Bozick (R. Bagdasarian, Inc.) and Jon P. Zaninovich (Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.) during the Board Meeting Reception in January. Middle: Bedwell, along with League member Marcia Shaffer (Zenith Insurance Company) and Board Member Louis Pandol (Pandol Bros., Inc.) at the 2014 Annual Meeting. Right: Bedwell attended the United Fresh Produce Association's Washington Public Policy Conference in October.





# CGTFL FINANCIAL SUMMARY

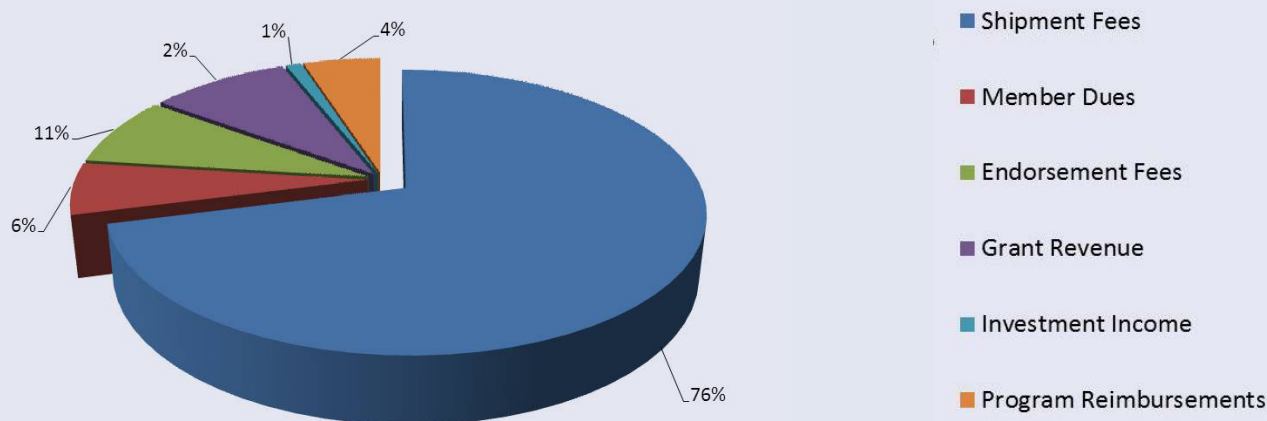
For the fiscal year just ended, the League achieved several milestones in the financial arena. First and foremost, assessments, the biggest single component in the revenue stream, exceeded budget. Once again, a record table grape crop, along with a greater stability of packages from other commodities, aided the total, along with the addition of new shipper members.

Assets surpassed the \$2MM mark for the first time ever. Reserves are at an all-time high, but at levels consistent with board policy. Equity continues to move into uncharted territory. Even with total revenue and expense making records, the result was another highly profitable year for the League.

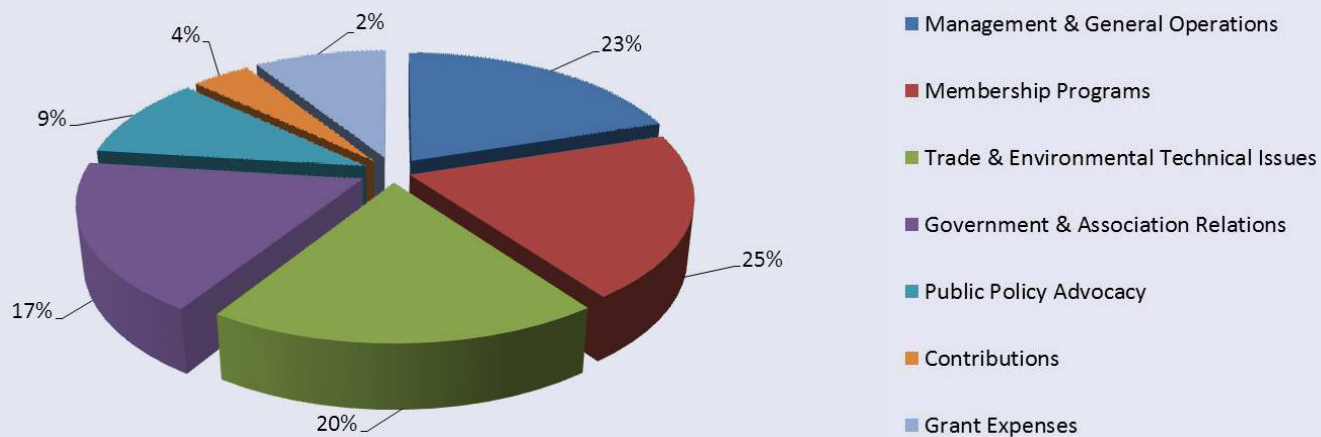
Your Board of Directors and Executive Committee maintain tight fiscal control on expenditures, while seeking new sources of revenue, which are vital to fulfill our mission statement. The Board, along with management, is committed to maintaining financial stability, while adhering to sound monetary policies.

The following represents the League's revenue and expenditures during the last fiscal year.

**2013/14 FY CGTFL Revenue**



**2013/14 FY CGTFL Expenses**





# CGTFL TOP TEN ISSUES

The California Grape & Tree Fruit League's Board of Directors identifies its top ten issues, in order of priority, on an annual basis. The following is this year's list, along with brief explanations of the issues identified for 2014.

## 1. Immigration Reform/Enforcement/E-Verify/I-9 Audits

Frustrations continue as earnest attempts to secure passage of a comprehensive immigration package have been met with resistance in the House and slowed by electoral politics. In order to ensure the continued production of a domestic food supply, comprehensive reform that contains an agricultural labor component remains vital. In working as part of diverse national coalitions, including the Agricultural Coalition for Immigration Reform (ACIR) and the more recently formed Agricultural Workforce Coalition (AWC), which further extends the national reach of the coalition effort, the League continues to urge Congressional representatives to support measures designed to ensure an adequate and legal work force for agriculture, while highlighting the fact that the pressure on employers and the employee base continue to mount, due to the volume of I-9 audits and no-match letters.



## 2. California Labor Laws/Regulations/ALRA/OSHA

Year-in and year-out, the California Legislature considers measures that significantly tip the application of labor laws to favor a unionized agricultural workforce. In June 2011, the Legislature considered, and ultimately Governor Brown vetoed, SB 104 "card check" legislation. Yet the Governor moved forward with a proposal of his own, SB 126, which made significant changes impacting the discretionary authority of the Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB) in regard to union certification and findings of misconduct on the part of the employer. In 2013, emboldened by a supermajority in the Legislature, union activists moved aggressively with SB 25 to circumvent the bargaining process, in order to compel a contract through mandatory mediation. The bill did not pass the Legislature in 2013, however, it is expected to be revived in early 2014.

## 3. Water Supply Issues

The League's membership is highly diverse, spanning from Lake and Mendocino counties in the north, down through the San Joaquin Valley and south into the Coachella Valley. The need for long-term water certainty remains of utmost importance to maintaining a viable agricultural sector and was exacerbated, due to drought conditions that continued from 2012 through 2013. With rainfall, in most areas, well below normal and with a reduced snowpack, there is a high likelihood that surface water deliveries, through the Federal and State water contracts, will be minimal, leading to the potential for overreliance on groundwater supplies. As the Brown Administration unveils and moves forward with its plans, significant concern remains over the prospect of securing agreement on long-term water certainty in a state divided over questions of water conveyance, capturing supply and ecosystem protection.

## 4. Health Care Mandates/Affordable Care Act

Compounding the continual rise in health care costs, employer mandates resulting from the passage of the Federal health care proposal have begun to affect employers in a manner creating the potential for significant increases in operational costs. In addition, confusion continues with both employers and employees, as unintended consequences are encountered, particularly for undocumented employees.

## 5. Labor Costs/Minimum Wage Increase Impacts

Operating costs, including those of California's family-farming operations, will continue to increase due to regulatory burdens and government-mandated increases, such as those resulting from the passage of AB 10 to raise the California minimum wage twice, once to \$9.00 per hour in July 2014, and again to \$10.00 per hour in January 2016. The challenge of remaining economically viable in the quest to continue producing the highest quality fruit has become even more difficult. Even though seasonal wages generally average \$9 to \$12 per hour, every mandated minimum wage increase causes each category of wages to grow incrementally higher.



## 6. Invasive Pest Issues

The League continues to work with key regulatory officials and trading partners in effort to combat the devastating affect of invasive pests, such as the European Grapevine Moth, Melon Fruit Fly, Spotted Wing Drosophila and Light Brown Apple Moth, at a time when State and Federal resources continue to shrink. The situation involving the Asian Citrus Psyllid and Huanglongbing disease for the citrus community serves as a stark example of the potential impact of invasive species.

## 7. Water Quality Regulations (Nitrogen, Salts, etc.)

California has placed much of the burden of improving the water quality for disadvantaged communities in rural areas onto agriculture. With the adoption of new regulations aimed at water quality, farming operations will see added impacts in the form of compliance costs. Combined with a high level of interest in the Legislature to create new funding streams for clean drinking solutions, the League is positioned to continue its work across legislative and regulatory audiences to shape rules and legislative proposals in a way which recognizes that there is responsibility on the part of the state, not just agriculture, to ensure compliance with water quality goals.

## 8. Workers' Compensation Costs

Increases in workers' compensation costs remain an important concern, as carriers have sought rate adjustments to cover the rising costs associated with health care. In addition, as in the past, more legislative proposals, which seek to increase benefits in a manner to undo previous needed reforms, are expected. The League will work to see that any changes are warranted and will not, once again, create an uncompetitive economic climate for the state.

## 9. Food Safety Modernization

The passage, and subsequent promulgation, of regulations to implement the Food Safety Modernization Act has led to positioning by the League, together with fellow agricultural organizations and Congressional allies, to advocate the importance of food safety practices throughout the entire supply chain and to see that rules are commensurate with the relative risk of contamination. The implementation effort has the potential to unfairly affect growing and handling practices. The League continues to work to ensure appropriate applicability to the growing, harvesting, packing and holding activities of its membership.

## 10. Air Quality Regulations/Fees/Costs

The implementation of the truck and bus on-road diesel emissions regulation requires California farmers to replace operational vehicles in order to meet increasing air quality goals. Combined with anticipated regulations, such as the off-road mobile agricultural equipment regulation, farmers will again be faced with added costs associated with improving air quality. The League continues to impress the fact that the agricultural sector has demonstrated a significant commitment to utilize and upgrade to newer equipment, as part of an effort to reduce impactful emissions. Since the emissions footprint extends well beyond agriculture, the League continues to work with regulatory bodies to minimize the impact of the rules on the agricultural sector alone, while advocating for greater incentive funding to support the turnover of older equipment.



**Educating Decision Makers**



**Advocates For Our Membership**



**Leaders Within Our Industry**

*"To fulfill the needs of its membership while serving as the primary public policy organization advocating on behalf of fresh fruit growers and shippers in California."*



# CGTFL MEMBERSHIP

## 2013/14 New CGTFL Members

*The Membership Committee kept a steady pace to recruit new League members and communicate to current members about the many benefits associated with membership. The newest membership additions include:*

### Shipper Members

Brandt Farms, Inc.  
Kirschenman Enterprises Inc.  
Morada Produce Company, LP

### Grower Members

Blue Toad Farms, LLC  
Huerta Family Farms, Inc.  
Ken Enns  
SpoSweet Farms

### Marketer Members

Prime Harvest, Inc.

### Associate Members

Bank of the Sierra  
Cabot Packing  
Community Medical Foundation  
DFA of California  
Dowling Aaron Incorporated  
DRG Technologies, Inc.  
NutriSavings  
HMC Cold Storage  
PackageOne, Inc.  
Pickett Solar - Division of Don  
Pickett & Associates, Inc.  
Tosca LTD.  
Zenith Agribusiness Solutions

When you support the League, you are part of a unified voice that advocates relentlessly for the fresh grape, tree fruit and blueberry communities, so that our operations may stay viable, profitable and sustainable in California. We continually strive to be the best resource for our members regarding a wide range of labor, environmental, transportation, marketing, technical and regulatory issues. Above all else, we are committed to helping you succeed.

It is because of your financial contributions and the organization's grassroots approach that we are able to accomplish the things that we do each and every year. This report summarizes areas the League has worked on this past fiscal year. As always, in addition to the Annual Report released every year, the League continues to publish its bi-weekly On Target Newsletter to keep you up-to-date regarding important industry news.

This past year, the Board of Directors and staff continued to explore membership opportunities and means of communication to current and prospective members about the value of membership with the

California Grape & Tree Fruit League. Last fiscal year, under the direction of the Membership Committee, the League's membership continue to be a strong suit for the organization. For the 2013/14 fiscal year, a total of 20 new member applications were approved. We believe that this is evidence that the League demonstrates the value of being part of an organization where the members' resources are used in the most efficient manner to maximize benefits. Outreach efforts to non-members contributed greatly to our strength. The year focused on exploring broader commodity representation with the fresh fruit industry in California. Additionally, the League continues its efforts to recruit new grower members through the Trial Grower Membership Program. The response continues to be slow in obtaining the names of prospective Trial Grower Members, however, most operations are choosing to maintain their membership after the first year trial expires.

In September and October 2013, the League launched a brand new website, as well as Facebook and Twitter social media platforms. A special thank you to League member Robert Lambert and his team at AndNowUKnow (Vantage Point Media) for developing and designing the new website, which can be viewed at [www.CGTFL.com](http://www.CGTFL.com). For social media, both platforms were launched as part of an ongoing effort to improve communication with our members, potential members, industry supporters and legislative/regulatory partners in Sacramento and Washington D.C. We encourage you to "like" and "share" the CGTFL Facebook page and follow us on Twitter.

The League's primary mission is to serve its membership on a day-to-day basis and provide tremendous value to each and every one of our members that are involved with our commodities - fresh grapes, figs, kiwis, pomegranates, cherries, blueberries, peaches, pears, apricots, nectarines, interspecific varieties, plums, apples and persimmons. The challenges are countless for growers, shippers and marketers as they strive to remain viable in an ever-changing market. Looking ahead this next year, there are tremendous opportunities for our organization, especially with the rolling out of our new name ~ California Fresh Fruit Association. We look forward to representing you.







# PROGRAMS & SERVICES

The League aims to provide valuable resources to our members. Through the leadership of the Insurance & Financial Benefits Committee, CGTFL hosts numerous endorsement programs, in addition to being charged with creating additional insurance programs that may prove beneficial for members. It is of the utmost importance that these programs are appraised with regard to the value that is returned to League members. Group programs and pricing are opportunities where members can realize tangible financial savings based on their membership.

## Workers' Compensation

Zenith Insurance Company is the League's official endorsed carrier of workers' compensation insurance. Zenith draws on more than 60 years of expertise, working with a broad spectrum of businesses to meet workers' compensation needs. Each business faces unique challenges and risks, and a one-size-fits-all solution rarely works. Zenith has built a reputation as an industry leader by providing superior service and assisting customers with self-sufficiency, all with a focus on improving the business' bottom line. Zenith is committed to improving workplace safety and health, emphasizing the long-term health of employees, obtaining quality medical care for the injured, managing claim processes, fighting fraud and abuse, and returning injured employees to work.

As collaborative partners, the League and Zenith are working together on specific program initiatives to provide relevant resources that will assist League members with workplace safety. As our endorsed carrier, Zenith has committed to providing educational seminars, safety updates and training materials. Through this program, our members may access Zenith's resources to help improve their workplace safety practices and reduce their insurance costs over time.

## Transportation

CGTFL is proud of the partnership it facilitates between C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc. (CHR) and the California Grape & Tree Fruit League. The 2013 growing season served as the fifth successful season for a continually prospering partnership between the two organizations. Through the partnership with CHR, a rebate is provided to the League for each load moved by a shipper member who uses the transportation company, which further strengthens the organization's advocacy efforts. For the shipper, benefit is realized in competitive pricing and access to the resourceful CHR representatives, who are tuned in to the needs of the fresh grape, berry and tree fruit communities. Options are key to CHR's grower-shipper program, which is designed specifically to address the concerns of the table grape, berry and tree fruit industries' transportation needs. The company taps into a pool of 45,000 carriers of all types

(i.e. rail, truck and air) and can service deliveries of any size or consistency. Moreover, CHR can help your company successfully integrate a deliverable program that blends a consultative approach, real-world plan and proven methodology, while also fitting into your timeline and budget. In the end, this dynamic partnership gives you a tremendous advantage, with the ability to provide your customers, not only a high-quality product, but high-quality service in the arena of logistics.

## Crop Insurance

Rain and Hail Insurance Service, L.L.C. has served as an endorsed carrier for the League for more than 15 years. The League encourages its members to select the company for their crop insurance needs. The value of the partnership is based on top-quality service and the company's solid dedication to California's specialty crops. There are many crop insurance providers to choose from, although all insurance rates and procedures are the same. The company continues to be the leading crop insurance provider in the state, with approximately 30 percent of its business in California. Rain and Hail Insurance Service, L.L.C. works with numerous agencies throughout California to provide this coverage.

## Group Property Insurance

Through the Group Property Insurance Program, League members continued to receive considerable cost savings and enhanced coverage when compared to existing insurance policies, in some cases offsetting the cost of annual League membership dues. The program is marketed by Buckman-Mitchell, Inc. and the underwriter of the program, Farmland Insurance/Nationwide Agribusiness, an A+15 rated agribusiness insurance specialist. Group participants are eligible to receive dividends based on overall group performance results.

## Retirement

League members continue to be eligible to participate in a full-service retirement program with Alerus Retirement Solutions. This specialized program offers great value to members, as they can receive additional services without the added charges.



# CGTFL'S AG NETWORK

## Advocating Through Education

*During the 2013/14 FY, the League helped to educate our elected leaders through tours, and conducted numerous educational workshops and seminars on a wide range of topics to help you succeed.*

► **Union Avoidance Workshop:** On March 2013, the Labor Committee held a workshop featuring Associate Member, Labor Attorney Ron Barsamian (Barsamian & Moody, Attorneys at Law) which focused on employer-to-employee communication and the right to discuss the benefits of a union-free workplace with those employees.

► **Workplace Injury & Reporting Responsibilities Workshop:** In June 2013, the League partnered with Zenith Insurance Company to produce a workshop, featuring Cal/OSHA Consultation, covering employer responsibilities of reporting workplace injuries, illnesses and fatalities. This well-attended workshop offered critical material, covering distinctions between reporting and recording incidents, a review of industry-specific violations/citations, and an examination of actual cases that had been previously appealed to the Cal/OSHA Standards Board. Though the partnership with Zenith, League members were provided with group-specific information on workplace incidents and corresponding workers' compensation claims and trends, as analyzed from League member data.

► **Aerial Life Workshop:** In cooperation with multiple other organizations, the League produced a workshop series focusing on aerial lift work equipment and fall protection training, as part of ongoing efforts to foster the safest possible working environment for employees in the agricultural industry.

► **Heat Illness Prevention:** In 2013, the League joined with Cal/OSHA and several other agricultural associations to re-launch a joint Heat Illness Prevention Program to educate workers and employers throughout the state on the dangers associated with heat exposure at outdoor worksites. The campaign took a multi-faceted approach to combating heat illness. Enforcement, outreach and training are some of the measures being taken to educate workers and employers on the dangers, including the importance of proper hydration and acclimatization. The training program encouraged greater employer vigilance of farmworkers during heat spells and featured training materials tailored to agricultural operations, farm labor contractors and employees.

► **Ag Labor Relations Board Field Tour:** In November 2013, Sun World International, LLC hosted a production agriculture educational tour for Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB) Members Genevieve Shiroma (Chair) and Cathryn Rivera-Hernandez. Sun World International, LLC representatives, Chief Executive Officer Dave Dever and Executive Vice President David Marguleas, together with CGTFL's Christopher Valadez, met with the ALRB members to discuss the diversity of their operation and to provide the board members with a learning experience about their desert operation. On the tour, the ALRB members learned about the diversity of Coachella Valley agriculture and toured strawberry and yellow and red pepper production areas, as well as Sun World's citrus packing operation. They also learned about crop diversity and the economic value of Coachella Valley agriculture and were able to witness field harvesting, learn about production methods and discuss water supply availability.

## 2014 Annual Meeting - Ojai, CA



Pictured above: Past chairmen Jon P. Zaninovich (Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.), Steve Hash (Steve Hash Farms) and Louis Pandol (Pandol Bros., Inc). Hash, who served as chairman from 2011 to 2012, was inducted as a Past Chairman during the 2014 Annual Meeting.



Pictured above: League members attend the Industry Workshop held during the 2014 Annual Meeting. The workshop focused on two topics - water and immigration. Speakers were Congressman Jim Costa, Mario Santoyo with the Friant Water Authority and California Latino Water Coalition and Craig Regelbrugge with AmericanHort.



Pictured left: Board member Randy Giumarra and John Giumarra, Jr. (both with Giumarra Vineyards Corporation) and Congressman Jim Costa visit during the Chairman's Welcome Reception.



Above: Participants on the Jeep Tour. Those who went on the excursion enjoyed wine and olive oil tasting, while enjoying the scenic views Ojai Valley has to offer.



Above: John Giumarra III (Giumarra Vineyards Corporation), John V. Zaninovich (V.B. Zaninovich & Sons, Inc.), Dominic Zaninovich (V.B. Zaninovich & Sons, Inc.) and Ryan Zaninovich (V.B. Zaninovich & Sons, Inc.) smile for the camera while enjoying the festivities at this year's Annual Meeting.



## Collaborating With Others

*During the 2013/14 FY, the League continued to collaborate with agricultural associations in positive advocacy efforts for the industry:*

► **2013 Wage & Benefit Survey:** The League again served as a partnering organization with the Farm Employers Labor Service (FELS) in conducting the 2013 Wage and Benefit Survey, aimed at collecting data which was used to obtain an overall view of wage & benefit norms for the agricultural industry. Results were made available to members only, obtainable by logging onto the League's website.

► **Addressing The So Called Dirty Dozen List:** Through our partnership with the Alliance of Food and Farming, we responded to commentary by the activist organization Environmental Working Group, which attempted to cast doubt by manipulating pesticide data to mislead consumers on the safety of fruit and vegetables. Information was disseminated to the public on the decision-making process and steps taken to ensure the continued safe production of commodities.

► **Supporting Higher Education:** California State University, Fresno's new President, Joseph Castro announced the formation of the Presidential Commission on the Future of Agriculture. The Commission was co-chaired by League member George Soares of Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP and Fresno State Interim Provost Andrew Hoff. Members will include agribusiness and industry leaders from throughout the Valley, including CGTFL President Barry Bedwell, as well as CGTFL members Carol Chandler (Chandler Farms, LP), Dennis Parnagian (Fowler Packing Company, Inc.) and Pat Ricchiuti (P-R Farms, Inc.). The Commission on Agriculture was charged with reviewing Fresno State's academic, applied research and public service programs that are focused on agriculture and/or serve the needs of the agricultural industry, identifying areas of opportunity where Fresno State's agricultural programs and facilities can be among the best in the nation, and recommending strategies to strengthen partnerships between Fresno State, government agencies, private foundations, individual philanthropists and the agricultural industry, in support of the campus' agricultural programs.

► **Affordable Care Act (ACA):** The League has worked to stay up-to-date with and communicate changes to membership regarding the ACA mandate. In October 2013, the League held a meeting for shippers with the goal to provide members, who will be impacted by the "play or pay" law, the opportunity to discuss amongst each other and strategize about what they need to do as employers in consideration of both internal and external industry factors. Additionally, League staff has participated in farmworker coverage stakeholder meetings in effort to collaborate and communicate ideas regarding the ACA and how agriculture will manage its employer mandate implementation.

► **United Fresh Produce Association:** The League continues to partner and support the United Fresh Produce Association. In 2013, the Association held its California Fresh Impact Tour, with a special Chairman's Town Hall Luncheon in Delano. More than 50 industry members attended the event, including the League's Director of Membership, Megan Jacobsen. The event was hosted by United Fresh Chairman and League member David Krause, President of Paramount Citrus, along with the League and California Citrus Mutual. Industry members participated in a lively discussion of current issues facing the industry, including immigration, food safety and activities to increase produce consumption. Additionally, in 2014, the League co-hosted a United Fresh Town Hall meeting, featuring United Fresh President & CEO Tom Stenzel and Political Affairs Manager, Angela Tiwari, for a discussion of industry issues and opportunities, including the Food Safety Modernization Act, 2014 Congressional agenda and the Farm Bill. The League works very closely with United on these issues and tremendously values our relationship with them.

## CGTFL Golf Tournament



The Co-Chairmen of the CGTFL Golf Tournament (from left) Nick Buratovich (Wildwood Packing and Cooling) & Cliff Sadoian (Cliff Sadoian and Associates) take a break from their organizational schedules to pose with the coveted winners' perpetual trophy.



League Members (from left) Jon P. Zaninovich (Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.) & John Atwood (PPS Packaging Co., Inc.) enjoy the post-tournament festivities.



California Grape and Tree Fruit League's President, Barry Bedwell, congratulates Round-Up raffle winner Jonathan Williams (IBS Supplies, Inc.), which was donated by Alan Bishop of Monsanto Agricultural Group.



CGTFL Members warm up for the golf tournament.



# LABOR

## Immigration Reform

League President Barry Bedwell, together with Chairman Ryan Zaninovich and Director of Environmental & Regulatory Affairs Chris Valadez, traveled to Washington, D.C. (September 30-October 3) to participate in the United Fresh Produce Association's Washington Public Policy Conference. Their goal was to voice a unified message from the produce industry to House members in support of industry-negotiated language contained in the U.S. Senate's comprehensive immigration reform package, S. 744, which included provisions covering new programs for undocumented farm workers currently employed in agriculture in the U.S. and a new guest worker program to address future labor supply needs. Politics stood in the way of significant progress in the U.S. House of Representatives with any legislative language regarding a pathway to citizenship, plus challenges facing Republican leadership in finding a majority of their caucus to vote to support either a comprehensive or suite of immigration reform measures, in order to set up a potential conference committee opportunity with the U.S. Senate to resolve differences between a House measure and S. 744.

A top priority for member operations, the League continued to work with Congressional members to advocate for the passage of immigration reform and, as part of the Agricultural Coalition for Immigration Reform and with the Agricultural Workforce Coalition, to move forward on messaging to continue building the case for movement by the House of Representatives. Congressmen David Valadao (R-Hanford) and Jeff Denham (R-Modesto) have served as two prime examples of intracaucus hope, in their resilient effort to convey to House Republican leadership the



importance of bringing immigration reform to the full House for action. Both have made immigration reform advocacy a top priority and have attempted to rally fellow members to recognize the economic, as well as societal, impact of producing legislation that addresses critical labor needs. Made public in a document distributed by party leadership to House Republicans during an annual retreat in January 2014, a document surfaced citing economic considerations and a current broken system amongst reasons behind support for certain immigration reform measures. The endorsement, made in a document entitled, "Standards for Immigration Reform," advocates for a step-by-step, or piecemeal, approach to immigration reform, but was clear in stating that there would be no support for a "special path to citizenship for individuals who broke immigration laws." The League continues to utilize the appearance of Republican caucus interest to advance the message of support for the forward movement of one or multiple pieces of legislation to set up the opportunity for a resolution of differences before the end of 2014.

## Decertification Effort

The League closely followed the efforts of farm employees of Gerawan Farming, Inc., protesting the Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB) and voicing their desire to hold an election vote over whether a union should represent them. In September 2013, a petition for decertification was filed by farm workers, calling for a vote to determine if the union should represent worker interests. A majority of signatures from the approximate 2,600 agricultural workers were required and delivered to the ALRB. In response, the ALRB claimed that almost 1,000 signatures were invalid, which then prompted an additional signature gathering effort that was subsequently rejected. Farmworkers charged ahead, traveling to Sacramento to protest outside of the ALRB office and to meet with Administration officials. Moreover, the farmworkers remained resilient and submitted, in October 2013, a new petition containing farm employee signatures to the ALRB,

requesting a decertification election. The League vigilantly observed the efforts of the farmworkers and responses from the ALRB, and took to the media in an op-ed, published in the Fresno Bee, about how some associations with the ALRB are using the Agricultural Labor Relations Act to benefit unions and how they've adopted a purely paternalistic attitude, under the rationale of protecting farmworkers. After an ALRB decision to reverse a determination made by their regional director, which would have blocked the subsequent attempt to hold a decertification election, the farmworkers were finally able to exercise their right to an election vote held on November 5, 2013. Pending the conclusion of allegations of unfair labor practice claims, the ballots remain sealed and uncounted. The League has taken the lead in calling for the votes to be counted and the will of the farmworker electorate to be recognized.



## Non-Productive Time Pay Requirement

In *Bluford v. Safeway Stores, Inc.*, a California court of appeals overturned a trial court's denial of class certification in a wage and hour case. A former employee brought suit on behalf of himself and other truck drivers, alleging that Safeway failed to provide them with rest periods, meal periods and properly itemized wage statements. A court of appeals found that "[A] piece-rate compensation formula that does not compensate, separately, for rest periods does not comply with California minimum wage law." The appeals court disagreed with the trial court's decision on the wage statement claim, finding that workers had difficulty determining if they had been paid for all of their hours worked by the unclear paystubs. The court's decision in *Bluford* came on the heels of another recent decision, *Gonzalez v. Downtown L.A. Motors, LP*, in which an appellate court held that auto mechanics should have been compensated, separately, for time spent waiting to perform repairs and for performing non-repair tasks, as directed by the employer. *Gonzalez* and *Bluford* were both appealed to the California Supreme Court, however both petitions for review were denied, thus the appellate decisions stand as law in California. Respecting the appellate court decision, the League worked to provide a policy document that serves as a guide for agricultural employers and farm labor contractors, with particular emphasis on recording or tracking "non-productive" times, such as breaks and rest periods, as well as communicating payment for "non-productive" time on check stubs.

In the wake of this case, analysis was performed by various legal counselors to affirm that, under *Bluford*, so long as non-productive time was compensated separately at either the legal minimum wage or the contractual hourly rate, an employer would be found to be in compliance under the law. However, the state's Labor Commissioner has interpreted it differently, concluding that an employee working on a piece-rate basis must be compensated at the employee's average piece-rate for mandated rest periods in the applicable pay period, with other forms of non-productive time compensable at no less than the minimum wage.

The League, together with a handful of agricultural trade associations, communicated concerns to the state's Labor & Workforce Development Agency and to the Labor Commissioner, along with a request that they reconsider their position in recognition of the court's instruction in *Bluford*.



## Notice to Take Access

During the 2013 season, a union attempted to initiate a strategy to take access on 100 farming operations, in conjunction with a rallying effort in support of immigration reform. The League responded with a memorandum communicating the importance of conveying that agriculture has had, and continues to have, a role in shaping a comprehensive immigration reform proposal. The take access effort, held in October 2013, was unsettling for many agricultural operations and served to create a message of confusion, by taking the immigration reform issue and promoting a one-sided advocacy role as a means of building support. Through counter-messaging, the League opposed the union's attempt to brand themselves as a pathway through which an adjustment of status can be achieved. The union had asked employers to canvass employees to collect signatures and provide letters promoting the union's role in advocating for an adjustment in residency status. These efforts were rejected by the League and, in many cases, the union was turned away by farming operations for failure to properly file a notice to take access with the Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB) and serve a take access notice to an employer.

## Senate Bill 25: Perpetual Mediation

A primary legislative area of concern for the League during its 2013/14 fiscal year was Senate Bill 25, a bill sponsored by Senator Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento), triggering mandatory mediation beyond the initial contract between an agricultural employer and a certified bargaining representative, which could have given rise to the potential for employers to find themselves in binding mediation for subsequent contracts. The League undertook an aggressive messaging campaign focused on the Legislature, California's Labor & Workforce Development Agency Secretary, and the Governor, which centered on the inequities created under SB 25. League member Dan Gerawan of Gerawan Farming, Inc., as well as League President Barry Bedwell, testified during committee hearings and walked the halls of the Legislature, meeting with numerous Legislators and staff, to discuss how SB 25 disincentivizes bargaining and how the rights of farmworkers would be violated.

In August 2013, the California State Assembly voted 41-24 to pass SB 25, where it was amended. The bill then returned to the Senate (house of origin) for concurrence on amendments. SB 25 did not come up for a vote in the Senate and was not brought back for consideration during the remainder of the 2013 legislative cycle. However, the League continues to expect that Senate will consider SB 25 in 2014 and, as a result, is continuing to provide messaging to the Administration about how the bill, amongst other things, would result in the disenfranchisement of farm employees and strip "bargaining" from the process.



# GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

## 2014 Government Relations Trip

Continuing to build upon the success of previous Government Relations trips to Sacramento, on March 4-5, 2014, trip participants traveled to the Capitol to meet with Governor Jerry Brown, members of the Legislature and key regulatory officials to discuss priority issues, including outstanding questions surrounding water supply certainty. In an intimate group meeting at the Governor's Office, trip participants interacted with Brown on current and potential state responses to the drought, including a discussion on available surface water supplies. Participants were also joined by Agricultural Labor Relations Board Members Genevieve Shiroma and Cathryn Rivera-Hernandez, Cal/EPA Secretary Matt Rodriguez, Cal/EPA Undersecretary Gordon Burns, State Water Resources Control Board Chair Felicia Marcus, current Assembly Majority Leader (and incoming Speaker) Toni Atkins (D-San Diego), both Senate and Assembly Ag Committee Chairs, Senator Cathleen Galgiani (D-Modesto) and Assembly Member Susan Eggman (D-Stockton), respectively, as well as Assembly Member Rudy Salas (D-Bakersfield) and California Latino Legislative Caucus Chairman Senator Ricardo Lara (D-Bell Gardens). The Government Relations trip reception and dinner turned out to be a widely popular event, with dozens of members from both sides of the aisle, as well as officials from the Brown Administration, stopping by to strengthen relationships with trip participants.



*Pictured: (Top Photo) Governor Jerry Brown meets with CGTFL members at the Capitol. (Bottom Photo) Assembly Ag Committee Chair Susan Eggman is pictured with CGTFL GR participants on the floor of the Assembly.*



*Pictured: (Top Left) Senator Ricardo Lara speaks with the group. (Top Middle) Assembly Member Susan Eggman and Secretary David Lenair discuss items with League President Barry Bedwell. (Top Right) Senator Cathleen Galgiani and CGTFL Board Member John Tos (Tos Farms, Inc.) mingle at the GR Trip Reception. (Bottom Left) Governor Brown and CGTFL Board Member Steve Hash (Steve Hash Farms) discuss the drought. (Bottom Middle) Cal/EPA Undersecretary Gordon Burns and Cal/EPA Secretary Matt Rodriguez meet with CGTFL members.*



## Cash to Accrual Accounting

In January 2014, the League's Board of Directors reviewed proposals that would require farm operations to use accrual accounting for tax purposes, if annual gross receipts (averaged over a three-year period) are greater than \$10 million. In an attempt to address tax concerns, the League adopted a proactive approach and was one of only a few agricultural trade organizations in California to join an advocacy campaign to stop progress on the accounting method change. The campaign, "Farmers for Tax Fairness," was formed to oppose the shift to the accrual method of accounting by arguing that the accounting shift, as determined by a gross receipts test, is inappropriate for many agricultural operations, due to comparative disparities in margins and production costs. In February 2014, the campaign scored a major victory when the U.S. House of Representatives Ways & Means Committee released its latest Tax Reform discussion draft, exempting all agriculture business from rules that would mandate the use of accrual accounting. Despite the positive development, concerns remain that the proposal will resurface in order to pay for other legislation that increases federal spending or decreases federal tax revenue.



*Pictured: Senator Andy Vidak and CGTFL Board Member Ken Enns pose in the hallways of the California State Capitol for a picture during the Annual Fruit Delivery.*

## 2013 Fruit Delivery

League Board Member Ken Enns and League staff members Chris Valadez and Megan Jacobsen traveled to Sacramento on August 14 for the Annual Fruit Delivery, which provides legislators, regulators and legislative staff with a reminder of the value

of our fresh grape and deciduous tree fruit communities. For 2013, state leaders were presented with a redesigned League lunch pail, delicately packed with delicious fruit. More than 100 League fruit deliveries were made, covering the Capitol and various regulatory agencies, including the California Department of Food & Agriculture, Agriculture Labor Relations Board and the California Environmental Protection Agency. The success of the 2013 Fruit Delivery would not have been possible without generous contributions from League company members Pandol Bros, Inc., V.B. Zaninovich & Sons, Inc., Jasmine Vineyards, Inc., Gerawan Farming, Inc., HMC Farms and Scully Packing Co.

# CROP PROTECTION

## Proposition 65

In 2013, the California League of Food Processors (CLFP) notified the League, and other industry groups, in a complaint filed by environmental group, Environmental Law Foundation (ELF), which named 16 defendants who are processors and receivers of agricultural products. The ELF asserts that products containing pears, peaches, sweet potatoes, carrots and grapes should include Proposition 65 warnings for lead.

League staff has participated in discussions with members of the CLFP and, more recently, with California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) to communicate concerns on the potential impacts from litigation occurring between parties whose decisions or mitigations may affect the state's agricultural producers. Specifically, our comments to CalEPA pointed to U.S. EPA and the World Health Organization (WHO) opinion to normally view raw agricultural products with non-harmful background levels of lead and to recommend to the agency to consider developing an interpretative guideline.

## Chlorpyrifos Re-Registration Review

A number of years ago, EPA began the re-registration review for Chlorpyrifos. Since this time, litigation has played a role in accelerating the review process, as a result of court challenges, which forced EPA to accelerate the human health risk assessment. Many stakeholders, including the League, submitted comments in response to earlier concerns regarding inhalation risk identified within the human health assessment. The League submitted comments through the Minor Crop Farmer Alliance, expressing concerns that modeling results predict pesticide residue levels that are grossly in excess of actual, reliable results from water sampling and that we believe it to be appropriate to initiate a discussion to gain a better understanding of this position. The net impact is that the Agency's modeling results will lead to substantial over-estimation of the risks associated with these products and will ultimately cause incredible harm and economic loss to agricultural stakeholders.



# MARKETING

## Australia Market Opens to Peaches & Nectarines

July 2013 was a momentous month for California peach and nectarine shippers, with access finally arriving within Australia's marketplace, following the approval of Australian protocol. The market is a first for California's stone fruit producers and has been a priority project, spearheaded by the industry for more than a decade. The first of California's peach and nectarine production arrived at the Sydney airport on Saturday, July 27 from Kingsburg-based grower and shipper, HMC Farms. The approval to export came at the peak of the stone fruit industry's season.



Both peaches and nectarines were available in two of Australia's largest retailers – Coles and Woolworths – through mid-October. Prior to the opening of this market, League staff worked to develop a promotional strategy, supported by Market Access Program (MAP) funds awarded to the industry earlier in the season. The trade launch was supported by John and Mark Baker of the firm Produce Marketing Australia, who represented California's presence within both the Australian and New Zealand markets. Additionally, the League maintained regular contact with the U.S. Embassy staff in Australia. U.S. Ambassador, Dr. Bleich, (pictured above) participated in the launch event at the Sydney wholesale market to promote California producers and new access for Australian consumers to peaches and nectarines from the U.S.

## Canada Releases Proposed Framework for Federal Food Inspection

Canada notified the World Trade Organization (WTO) of its proposed framework for federal food inspection. Canada is proposing to draw federal food inspection regulations into one overarching system. Their proposal identifies elements of a broad framework for new federal food inspection regulations that will replace 13 separate food inspection regulations with a single one. There are three initiatives under the action plan:

- Framework for food inspection – details of specific regulations; licensing, food safety, systems equivalence, traceability, record keeping and recalls, as well as regulations for international and inter-provincial trade
- Compliance promotion – Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) seeks to ensure that industry complies with the new regulations
- Outcome-based regulatory modernization – CFIA will establish performance measures, under which regulatory bodies can oversee and confirm industry compliance with the new regulations.

The League's focus is on the first initiative, as it likely could have the greatest impact for U.S. exporters, in the form of federal food inspections. Overall, this is a comprehensive overhaul of Canada's food safety/inspection policies and it appears that they are trying to have all regulations in one place, similar to the U.S.'s recent Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). The League, California Table Grape Commission and other representative bodies have provided comments directly to CFIA and USDA FAS, stressing general support for food safety modernization within Canada, but

also seeking assurances that the proposed regulations will accept food safety equivalency between Canada and the U.S., once a system is established. The League continues to monitor the development and work with both USDA and U.S. Trade Representatives (USTR) to seek assurance that the proposed does not hinder existing or future trade.

## China's Notice For Non-Compliant Imports

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) recently provided industry with a proposed Notice for Non-compliant Imports from China, titled "Rules on the Implementation and Administration of the Imported Food Warning List." A major concern for U.S. commodity producers is understanding that thousands of chemical tolerances (MRLs) are not currently available in China. It is especially important to watch this process so that pesticide residues do not become part of the non-compliant policy for imports or to work to ensure they respond to the issue of imports by allowing U.S. products to rely on the parallel regulations, either established within the U.S. or Codex. The League provided USDA FAS with a number of questions in order to identify those areas where we may need to recommend appropriate alternatives and to have a clearer understanding of the policy they are attempting to develop. Currently, USDA FAS is working with industry to draft comments to the proposed, including that China should first make official notice to the World Trade Organization (WTO). Until this occurs, we will request that China not move to implement any new regulations that may impact trade.



## Farm Bill

The development, and ultimate passage, of farm bill policy was nothing short of challenging. After multiple rounds of progress, setbacks, fiscal cliffs, extensions, and policy bifurcations, the final 2014 version was signed into law in February, building on the foundation set in the 2008 Farm Bill, strengthening specialty crop priorities, such as Specialty Crop Block Grants, the Specialty Crop Research Initiative, nutrition program, pest and disease mitigation programs, and trade. In spite of ever-tightening federal budgets, the Farm Bill reauthorization demonstrated the importance of investing in programs that enhance fruit and vegetable production and consumption in the U.S.

## Phytosanitary Irradiation Workshop

In recognizing the hurdles that exist, APHIS applied for funding under the Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops (TASC) program to develop irradiation treatments for high-impact invasive species and to evaluate commodity tolerance to treatments. The project's goals were to develop treatments as alternatives to other expensive mitigation methods and to provide industry groups with the critical knowledge about the effects of irradiation on the quality of the specialty crops produced within the U.S. On May 22-23, League staff attended the USDA APHIS Phytosanitary Irradiation for Fresh Produce Workshop at Chapman University and provided the committee with an update regarding continuing commodity research and quality evaluations, the development of certification standards and the potential of establishing programs within the U.S. and overseas.

## European Grapevine Moth (EGVM)

The treatment program for EGVM in Napa for 2013 was very successful from the standpoint of, again, lowering the population levels and reducing damage to fruit. Treatment regimens for the season included all vineyards within 500 meters of detections in the prior 3 seasons (2010, 2011 and 2012). There were a total of 40 EGVM detections in 2013, compared to more than 100,000 in the 2010 season. Most of the 2013 detections can be associated with vineyards that were not treated in the previous season, as they were residential, abandoned or not previously within a treatment area. Concerns remain for the 2014 season in grower complacency and budget concerns. The League continues to communicate to USDA that this program is a leading priority and requires the necessary funding levels to complete eradication efforts within California.

## Lightbrown Apple Moth (LBAM)

The League continues to participate with the LBAM working group, identifying priorities to address the distribution and establishment of LBAM within many regions of the state. The LBAM program has evolved over the last several years, including a shift in goal from eradication to control. A part of the LBAM action plan is to identify and adopt commodity exemptions from LBAM areas. Currently, there are approximately

47 commodities on the exemption list (including stone fruits). Under review are additional commodities, such as table grapes. A primary concern are the export requirements that will affect those commodities exempted within the federal order, but are not yet recognized or accepted by trade partners. USDA has requested that Canada recognize the commodity exemption list, however, Mexico has not yet been engaged in the discussion as the "host exempt list" will have additional commodities added.

## NAPPO: RSPM 41 Oversight Program Guidelines

In 2012, each of the North American Plant Protection Organization (NAPPO) Executive Committee members agreed to develop a standard on the transfer of oversight programs. Key issues that will be addressed within the standard may include: describing levels of oversight and specific duties of the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) in the exporting country, cooperators and industry; defining expectations, including a description of successes and failures of the program; defining audit procedures (i.e. internal & at port of entry); prescribing corrective actions as needed; developing standard procedures for handling major failures detected in the systems, such as survival of live quarantine insects; describing suspension, reinstatement and ecourse for program failures; and producing guidance on developing a procedure that outlines how the NPPO can measure and demonstrate successful oversight of the program. The League submitted comments on behalf of the Mexico Stone Fruit Export Program.



## Exporter Survey Conducted Regarding Detainment & Rejection

The League was asked to assist in polling the industry to identify potential interest in the development of an insurance program covering horticultural products rejected at foreign ports for illegitimate reasons. A primary objective of this project is to secure USDA or Export Import Bank backing for an insurance product that will cover costs associated with rejections that are not the fault of the shipper. A survey was circulated to all League shipper members and they were asked to complete and return it to the League. All information provided within the survey was treated as business confidential and not identified with the source company.



# ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

## Water Supply

In June 2013, the League's Environmental Resources Committee reviewed the Brown Administration's proposal to construct water conveyance tunnels, intake pumps and facilities to transport water from locations along the Sacramento River, under the delta, to the State Water Project. While recognizing that water security is a top priority for the continued sustainability of production agriculture for member farming operations throughout the state, the Committee assessed the potential impacts resulting from pending implementation of the plan, as well as the political reality of being called upon by Governor Brown to take a position to support the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). The Committee agreed that a plan that aims to restore the Delta and protect water resources, along with improving the reliability of those water resources for State Water Project contractors, must also include water reliability protections for in-Delta water users. The League has called upon Administration stakeholders, including California Natural Resources Secretary John Laird, and legislative leaders to bring affected landowners to the table to discuss flow and quality concerns, the broader impacts to State Water Project contractors and project costs and timelines.

## Groundwater Management

In January 2014, a work plan was developed to align current groundwater protection efforts and the ongoing actions of other entities with groundwater management responsibilities. The League, through its engagement with irrigation district managers and in meetings with various regulatory agency leaders, including Cal/EPA Secretary, Matt Rodriguez; California Department of Food and Agriculture Secretary, Karen Ross; and California Natural Resources Agency Secretary John Laird, called upon the administration to focus resources on the most important groundwater problems and to facilitate greater efficiency in local and regional groundwater management. In an attempt to recognize the call for input, the Brown Administration provided the opportunity for a more diverse range of input, culminating in a work product from the California Water Foundation on sustainable groundwater recommendations.

## Drought

With near record-low California precipitation in 2014, compounded by historically low rain and snow fall in 2012-2013, Governor Brown used executive privilege to streamline approvals for voluntary water transfers to assist California's



agricultural industry. Record-low water delivery allocation announcements by State Water Project and Central Valley Project water managers painted a bleak picture for agricultural water use dependent upon these systems for surface water supplies. The League surveyed grower members to learn about anticipated impacts resulting from minimal to zero water allocations for those operations dependent upon surface water deliveries. In many cases, the League found that impacted member operations planned to turn to available groundwater supplies in an attempt to meet crop needs. In other cases, some farming operations were anticipating the ability of their irrigation district or districts to access and deliver limited banked water supplies. Despite the engineered short-term solutions employed by many of its members, the League continues to recognize the need to identify available water supplies for those farms with limited water alternatives, encouraging the exercise of transfers, where available, and allocation revisions to ensure the availability of water to sustain production agriculture.

## Federal Efforts

The League signed on to support legislation from members of the California Congressional Delegation to boost available water supplies. From the U.S. House of Representatives, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Emergency Water Delivery Act proposed modifications, such as capping water deliveries for environmental purposes, repealing and replacing the San Joaquin River Restoration plan, streamlining water transfers and authorizing construction of new surface water storage. This was followed by the introduction of the California Emergency Drought Relief Act of 2014 by Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer (both D-California) and Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley (both D-Oregon). The League's intention behind supporting both drought relief proposals was to encourage a conference committee to attempt to resolve differences contained in the Senate bill and the House package offered by San Joaquin Valley Representatives.



## Presidential Visit

In February 2014, President Obama and Governor Brown visited the San Joaquin Valley to address drought response-related questions. Their visit was due to the efforts of Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) and was put together to address the availability of emergency drought relief, to meet Ag leaders and to see one of the state's impacted agricultural production areas. During his visit, the President participated in a roundtable with a handful of agricultural leaders, including CGTFL President Barry Bedwell, Governor Brown, Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer, Congressman Costa and U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack.

On questions surrounding the 2014 water bond, the Governor provided that he is essentially analyzing the suite of proposals circulating in the Legislature, asking himself which can get through both chambers, what should be contained in the bond to ensure longer-term solutions, and which have the best chance of passage on a statewide ballot. The League communicated that, given the level of stress on the state's current system for capturing, storing, and delivering water, the water bond investment is critical to ensuring that California's agricultural economy can thrive. Also, any groundwater management proposals must be in conjunction with a water bond.



## Water Quality

On September 19, 2013, during its Board hearing in Fresno, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board adopted the long-term Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program for the Tulare Lake Basin. CGTFL Environmental Resources Committee Chair, Paul Giboney (M. Caratan, Inc.), sat on a grower representative panel and provided an overview of one operation's management practices, cautioning the Board against a one-size-fits all viewpoint when analyzing information regarding the relationship between management practices and the potential for nitrate contributions to groundwater through the discharge of irrigation water. Tasked with convening an expert panel to assess existing agricultural nitrate control programs and develop related recommendations to ensure programs are working, the State Water Resources Control Board tasked an advisory committee to review outstanding program questions related to tracking, reporting, and evaluating the effectiveness of nitrogen management practices. The League participated as part of the advisory committee to the nitrate expert panel.

## Air Quality

The League, together with a small group of agricultural organizations, worked with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to adjust their plans for adopting a farm equipment rule in 2014. The League worked with CARB staff to support the development of an economic analysis of the anticipated impacts of a farm equipment rule in the agricultural sector, while continuing to press for an increase in the availability of incentive programs to voluntarily spur farm equipment turnover, in advance of a regulatory requirement. While developments have been promising, the League has continued to engage key regulatory agencies regarding the importance of available incentive funding, citing the successes achieved through the administration of the tractor replacement program, overseen by the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District.

## Food Safety

The League adopted an active role in communicating with the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) on potential impacts to member farming operations, resulting from proposed rules implementing the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). In 2013, the League represented member concerns at the FDA public workshop on the Produce Safety and Preventive Control Rules, two of the most impactful of the suite of proposed rules covering fresh produce operations and facilities that manufacture, process, pack or hold human food. Moreover, the League served on multiple panels to address concerns with proposed food safety implementation regulations, including the Collaborative Food Safety Forum. The forum was comprised of industry, consumer, academic, and federal and state government stakeholders, providing testimony on potential impacts before the California State Senate Committee on Agriculture.



# STANDARDS & PACKAGING

## Codex Committee Fresh Fruit & Vegetables: Table Grape Maturity Standards

The meeting of the Codex Committee on Fresh Fruit and Vegetables (CCFFV) met in May of 2006. During the meeting, the U.S. delegation was able to prevent additional member country proposals that would have reduced the minimum maturity standards for fresh table grape production, achieving a minimum bunch weight more closely referencing the U.S. standards. Subsequently, the U.S. delegation (USDA Agricultural Marketing Services) was unable to achieve consensus regarding the revision of the Codex standards to implement higher minimum maturity standards for table grape production.

While the original U.S. proposed standard included varietal exceptions, it was not supported by all member countries. The minimum maturity standard adopted by the CCFFV would provide higher minimum maturity standards for countries that adopted the Codex, where no prior domestic standard existed.

An electronic working group was established in an effort to evaluate the International Organization of Vine and Wine (OIV) proposal in accordance with the criteria laid out by the 17th session of CCFFV. The League provided USDA AMS with input and assisted in the development of a response to prevent removing minimum maturity standards, as they should be patterned to require that standards protect consumers, as well as the global market for table grapes.

Member countries submitted responses to the CCFFV, supporting that there is not a consensus within the international community to revise or amend the current Codex standard for table grapes (Codex Standard 255-2007). The lack of consensus showed that there was no evidence that current standards pose impediments to international table grape trade. The development of the current standard was difficult and time-consuming for the relevant plenary session and, therefore, should remain the same.

## Table Grape Packaging Research

During the 2012 season, the Standards and Packaging Committee focused their review on research inputs which have contributed to the general requirements adopted within various commodities we represent and identifying those areas that may need re-evaluation reflective of the changes within the commodity and the attributes of packaging standards.

As a result of grower feedback, the committee has

reconfirmed the potential need to identify, within the table grape industry, the support for additional research that is reflective of current industry production and cultural practices. More than 20 years have elapsed from the last extensive research project, evaluating containers for the table grape industry. That research was conducted following another 20-year lapse, dating back to the mid 1970's. The committee asserts, in both cases, that extreme changes have occurred within the industry during these periods, not limited to cultivar selection, box designs, box materials/coatings and economic impacts from retail requests.

In an effort to respond to membership requests regarding standardized containers for packaging table grapes and potential impacts to quality or conditions through delivery to the consumer, the Standards and Packaging Committee polled table grape producers, seeking feedback from shipper members, to determine if there was substantial interest within the industry that another comprehensive evaluation be performed to update the packaging study published in 1995. The Committee voted with a majority in support of presenting the Board with a request to move this motion forward and present it to the California Table Grape Commission.

## Consumer Packaging Retail Requests: Table Grape Bags

Industry has communicated to the Standards and Packaging Committee its concerns regarding the requests from retailers for specific poly-bag types when supplying grapes. Because there are a variety of uniquely different bag types within the marketplace for table grapes, it is becoming very expensive to maintain inventories to meet each retailer's request. There are some within the industry who have inquired as to the possibility of regulating/standardizing bags used in table grape packaging. In order to determine the possibility to standardize bags for table grapes, both consumer/non-consumer, the League had inquired with CDFA's Standardization Division and specific poly-type bags cannot be regulated under the state's code.

## Packaging & Labeling Summary

Membership frequently contacts the League office with questions regarding packaging and labeling requirements, subject to either state or federal regulation. To assist members in complying with state or federal regulations, staff has developed and updated a packaging and labeling guide of all relevant requirements for the commodities covered by League membership.



# FRUITPAC

FruitPAC is the League's Political Action Committee, which raises funds through three annual activities – the Harvest Event in the fall, the Annual Meeting Raffle in the spring and the positive check-off program, which allows League members to authorize up to eight percent of their membership dues for political expenditures. Last fiscal year, FruitPAC successfully raised more than \$14,000 at the 2013 Harvest Event, more than \$16,000 from the 2013 Annual Meeting Raffle and more than \$15,000 from the positive check-off program. All of the funds raised from these sources are used to make contributions to political candidates and incumbents at the state and federal levels, and are approved by the FruitPAC Board of Directors. In total, \$34,200 was made in candidate contributions. The level of engagement in 2013 was symbolic of measured contributions to both state and federal candidates, while executing an effort to grow FruitPAC's resources.

## CHAIRMAN

Stan Tufts, Tufts Ranch LLC

## VICE CHAIRMAN

John D. Zaninovich, Merritt Farms

## SECRETARY

David Jackson, Family Tree Farms

## 2013 Federal Contributions

Total: \$10,700

Republican: 76%

Democrat: 24%

## 2013 State Contributions

Total: \$23,500

Republican: 15%

Democrat: 85%\*

*\*Of the total, a \$10,000 contribution was made to support Governor Jerry Brown's gubernatorial re-election effort.*

## At-Large Board Members

Robert Ikemiya, Ito Packing Company, Inc.

Herbert Kaprielian, CRJ Farming Co. LP

David Marguleas, Sun World International, LLC

Louis Pandol, Pandol Bros., Inc.

Cliff Sadoian, Cliff Sadoian & Associates

## FRUITPAC HARVEST EVENT

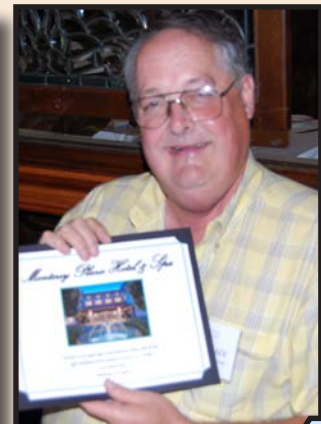


Nearly 100 guests were in attendance at the 34th Annual Harvest Event Reverse Raffle Drawing held at the Vintage Press Restaurant in Visalia in October 2013. Pictured to the left is George Soares (Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP) and Dale Arthur (Styrotek, Inc.) who captured the final two of the three spots and shared the final grand prize of \$5,000 (not pictured is the third finalist Jon P. Zaninovich of Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.) Dennis Parnagian (Fowler Packing Company, Inc.) was the lucky winner of the \$1,000 consolation prize. In total, there were a dozen terrific prizes awarded and the Harvest Event was a huge success, due to the generosity and participation of League members who purchased tickets. The staff at the Vintage Press Restaurant, under the direction of David and Greg Vartanian, provided, yet again, great service throughout the reception and dinner.

Below, Left: League President, Barry Bedwell, mingles with Bill Chandler & his wife CGTFL Board Member Carol Chandler (Chandler Farms, LP) during the reception at Harvest Event.

Below, Middle: Long time League members Mary & Galen Van Aalsburg (PPS Packaging Co., Inc.) meet one of CGTFL's newer members Stuart Baker (NutriSavings).

Below, Right: League member Anthony Zaninovich pictured with the gift certificate he won for a one-night stay at the Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa.







## CGTFL Honors Agricultural Lobbyist George Soares With Pretigious Mentor's Award

During its 2014 Annual Meeting, held in beautiful Ojai, CA, the League honored George Soares of Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP (KSC) with the prestigious Mentor's Award, which is bestowed to an individual who has demonstrated exceptional dedication to the fresh grape, berry and tree fruit communities, through their leadership in the industry. Soares and his firm have served as CGTFL's lobbyist for the last 12 years and have been responsible for drafting and influencing many legislative and regulatory proposals affecting the agricultural industry. Louie Brown, a partner with KSC, who also works with groups like CGTFL for the firm, introduced and presented the award to Soares. The Mentor's Award was first awarded in 1966 to Mr. Martin Zaninovich of Jasmine Vineyards, Inc. An awardee is selected by the League's Mentors' Committee and a recipient is selected based on the following criteria: a trusted counselor or guide; a wise, loyal advisor; a tutor, coach, teacher; and a person who, through effort, discovery, innovation, dedication, and/or perseverance, has influenced the industry in a positive way.



Pictured Above is the League's Director of Environmental & Regulatory Affairs Chris Valadez and CGTFL Board Member Matt Surber (M. Caratan, Inc.). Surber won this year's FruitPAC Raffle Grand Prize, which is a Grand Getaway, a vacation package that is sponsored by Maxco Supply Inc. This great package allows Surber to tailor his own resort vacation. FruitPAC Raffle Tickets are sold on an annual basis and serve as a key fundraiser for the League's Political Action Committee.



## CGTFL Recognizes Longtime Associate Member As Supplier Of The Year

During the League's three-day Annual Meeting in March 2014, Dave Biswell of Ethylene Control, Inc. was named Supplier of the Year. The award was created in 1991 to recognize individuals who are described as being respected by customers, as well as competitors, committed to the industry and have integrity in personal business. While being introduced as Supplier of the Year, Biswell was recognized for his impeccable integrity, leadership, exemplary business ethics and continued support of the California Grape & Tree Fruit League. This was presented by his peers on the Suppliers Committee. Biswell has been a member of the League for more than 20 years and, during that time, he has continued to serve on a number of committees, including the League's Suppliers Committee and annual golf tournament committee. He also served two, two-year terms as Chairman of the Tri-County Produce Golf Tournament. Biswell co-sponsored the league's golf tournament for several years in the late 90's. In 1996-97 he was Chairman of the Suppliers Committee, the same year his brother, Steve Biswell, was Chairman of the League.



Pictured above are participants who signed up to play in the 11th Annual Mila Caratan Memorial Golf Tournament. This annual memorial tournament honors a very special person to our organization - Mila Caratan. He was a key member and leader in our organization for more than four decades.



Pictured to the Left: Cathy Hemly and her husband, CGTFL Board Member and past chairman Doug Hemly (Greene & Hemly, Inc.), enjoy a moment together while at the Past Chairman's Dinner, held during the 2014 Annual Meeting.





## President Obama, Governor Brown Visit Drought Affected Area Within Valley

*President Obama's Visit: On February 12, 2014, the White House announced that President Barack Obama would make a stop in Fresno on February 14th. President Obama's reason for the visit was to see one of the state's impacted agricultural areas. The tour served as the president's first-ever visit to the Fresno area since being elected. During his visit, he participated in a roundtable discussing with 15 individuals, including California Grape and Tree Fruit League's President, Barry Bedwell.*



## Board of Directors

*The CGTFL Board of Directors meet on a quarterly basis to discuss issues and League business. Pictured: (Left) Board member Ron Frauenheim (Frauenheim Farms) shakes hands with Governor Brown during the Board's reception and dinner, held in June, prior to the Board of Directors meeting. (Middle) Board Members John D. Zaninovich (Merritt Farms), Kevin Herman (The Specialty Crop Company), and Chairman Ryan Zaninovich (V.B. Zaninovich & Sons, Inc.) mingle at the Board of Directors' Reception in January 2014. (Right) League Members Gabrielle Kirkland (Zenith Insurance Company), George Soares (Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP) and Marcia Shafer (Zenith Insurance Company) take a moment to catch up during a Board of Directors' Reception in January 2014.*



## Five-Year Strategic Plan Meeting

*Members of the League's Board of Directors and chairmen of Standing Committees were invited to participate in the League's Five-Year Strategic Plan meeting, conducted in 2013. The review of the strategic plan allowed the opportunity for the committee to discuss the plan currently in place, address how it can be improved and make appropriate adjustments, given the changes in the table grape, tree fruit and blueberry communities. The most significant change, as a result of the meeting and later approved by the League's Board of Directors, is the transition from the California Grape & Tree Fruit League to the California Fresh Fruit Association. The name change will take full effect in late 2014.*



# LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

## Environmental Resources

### AB 8 (Support)

*Assembly Member Henry T. Perea (D-Fresno)*

This bill extends the sunset of the Carl Moyer air quality incentives program. It was signed into law by Governor Brown.

### AB 69 (Watch)

*Assembly Member Henry T. Perea (D-Fresno)*

The bill would establish the Nitrate at Risk Area Fund to make financing available for the purpose of developing and implementing water solutions for disadvantaged communities. This bill failed to pass.

### AB 145 (Watch)

*Assembly Member Henry T. Perea (D-Fresno)*

This bill would transfer, to the State Water Resources Control Board, the various duties and responsibilities imposed on the department by the state act. The bill would require these provisions to be implemented during the 2014–15 fiscal year. This bill failed to pass.

### AB 227 (Support)

*Assembly Member Mike Gatto (D-Burbank)*

This bill allows a business subjected to an alleged Proposition 65 labeling notice violation, to reduce exposure to plaintiff lawsuits by providing additional time for notice correction, if warranted, in specific situations. This bill was signed into law by Governor Brown.

### AB 909 (Support)

*Assembly Member Adam Gray (D-Merced)*

This bill establishes a statewide metal theft task force program. This bill did not advance out of the Legislature.

### SB 614 (Oppose)

*Senator Lois Wolk (D-Napa)*

This bill deletes landowner qualification for irrigation district board members. This bill failed to pass.

### HR 836 (Support)

*Representative Gary Miller (R-CA)*

This bill amends Clean Water Act to adjust the conflict of interest test for determining whether they exist in matters pertaining to the appointment of individuals to agencies and boards which possess authority to implement CWA mandates, such as water boards. Resides in the House Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.

### HR 1319 (Support)

*Representative Jerry McNerney (D-CA)*

This bill would permit insurance coverage for losses to an

insured commodity destroyed or otherwise unable to be marketed or utilized for its intended purpose as a result of a federally-imposed quarantine. Resides in the House Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management.

### HR 1496 (Support)

*Representative Tom Graves (R-GA)*

This bill requires the Environmental Protection Agency to rescind a proposed order to withdraw the food uses for the fumigant sulfurlyl fluoride. Resides in the House Subcommittee on Energy and Power.

## Marketing

### AB 199 (Support)

*Assembly Member Chris Holden (D-Pasadena)*

This bill requires California State run institutions to prioritize agricultural products when making purchasing decisions. It did not advance out of the Legislature.

## Labor

### AB 10 (Oppose)

*Assembly Member Luis Alejo (D-Salinas)*

This bill would raise California's minimum wage in two one-dollar increments, from \$8 per hour to \$9 per hour, effective July 1, 2014 and from \$9 per hour to \$10 per hour, effective January 1, 2016. This bill was signed into law by Governor Brown.

### AB 60 (Support)

*Assembly Member Luis Alejo (D-Salinas)*

This bill permits an individual to use a federal taxpayer identification number, in lieu of a Social Security Number, to apply for a California driver's license. This bill was signed into law by Governor Brown.

### AB 175 (Oppose)

*Assembly Member V. Manuel Perez (D-Coachella)*

This bill would establish an employer funded statewide health care trust fund to pay for health care to employees ineligible for coverage under federal and state insurance programs. This bill failed to pass.

### AB 263 (Oppose)

*Assembly Member Roger Hernandez (D-West Covina)*

This bill would require the permanent revocation of all business licenses in instances where there was a second violation of unfair immigration-related practices, which include requesting more immigration documents than required under federal law, using E-Verify in a manner not required by federal law, or threatening to contact immigration authorities. This bill was signed into law by Governor Brown.



### **AB 729 (Oppose)**

*Assembly Member Roger Hernandez (D-West Covina)*

This bill extends confidential privileges shared by physicians and patients to union agents and represented employees, thereby providing information-shielding protections in the course of a civil or criminal proceeding. It did not advance out of the Legislature.

### **AB 880 (Oppose)**

*Assembly Member Jimmy Gomez (D-Los Angeles)*

This bill would impose a penalty on employers with 500 or more employees to fund Medi-Cal health coverage for those unable to access coverage through the state's health care exchange. This bill failed to pass.

### **SB 25 (Oppose)**

*Senator Darrell Steinberg (D-Sacramento)*

This bill would trigger mandatory mediation between an agricultural employer and a certified bargaining representative for subsequent contracts, creating a disincentive for bargaining on the part of labor representation.

### **SB 168 (Neutral)**

*Senator Bill Monning (D-Santa Cruz)*

This bill would make a successor to any farm labor contractor who owed wages (or was subject to penalties) to a former

employee liable for back wages and penalties. However, a farm labor contractor operating with a valid license would have an affirmative defense to liability if the workforce was not directly obtained from the predecessor contractor. This bill was signed into law by Governor Brown.

### **SB 390 (Support)**

*Senator Rod Wright (D-Inglewood)*

This bill would codify, in the state Labor Code, that it would be unlawful to willfully fail to remit agreed upon or legally required withholdings from an employee's wages. This bill was signed into law by Governor Brown.

### **SB 435 (Neutral)**

*Senator Alex Padilla (D-Los Angeles)*

This bill extends the prohibition from requiring an employee to work during any mandated meal, rest or recovery periods. This bill was signed into law by Governor Brown.

### **S. 744 (Support)**

*Senator Charles Schumer (D-New York)*

This bill would afford undocumented farm workers the opportunity to earn a permanent adjustment of status, contingent upon continued work in agriculture and would create a dual-track visa program for future guest workers. Resides in the House Judiciary and House Homeland Security Committees

## CGTFL PARTNERSHIPS

The League employs a collaborative approach to maximize its effectiveness by working together with other agricultural organizations and associations on issues that affect our members. Below are the group efforts in which the League participated in this year:

### **Agribusiness President's Council**

Description: To coordinate public policy issues among California agricultural associations and commissions.

2013 Contribution: Included in the League's regular government relations expenses

### **Agricultural Coalition for Immigration Reform**

Description: To serve as a leading advocate, seeking legislative reform addressing the short- and long-term labor needs of the nation's agricultural interests.

2013 Contribution: \$10,000

### **Air Coalition Team**

Description: Agricultural organizations that work together on issues related to air-quality litigation.

2013 Contribution: \$2,000

### **Minor Crop Farmer Alliance**

Description: An alliance of agricultural organizations dedicated to addressing pesticide registrations.

2013 Contribution: \$5,000

### **Crop Protection Coalition**

Description: Coalition of national, regional and local agricultural organizations seeking to obtain critical-use exemptions for methyl bromide, as well as funding for alternative research.

2013 Contribution: \$10,000

### **Alliance for Food & Farming**

Description: Works in the areas of public relations, messaging and outreach related to food safety and pesticide-use related issues.

2013 Contribution: \$10,000

### **Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance**

Description: A broad alliance with the purpose of influencing the scope and efficiency of national agricultural policy.

2013 Contribution: \$5,000

### **Other Collaborative Efforts**

*California Farm Water Coalition; California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom; California Women for Agriculture; The Maddy Institute; National Council of Ag Employers; and Pacific Legal Foundation.*



# PAST CGTFL CHAIRMEN

<b>1936/43</b> <i>A. Setrakian</i>	<b>1959/60</b> <i>Leonard LeBlanc</i>	<b>1976/77</b> <i>Dean Morrison</i>	<b>1993/94</b> <i>Kent Stephens</i>	<b>2003/04</b> <i>David Elliot III</i>
<b>1943/45</b> <i>L. R. Hamilton</i>	<b>1960/61</b> <i>M. A. Nielson</i>	<b>1977/78</b> <i>Milan Caratan</i>	<b>1994/95</b> <i>Wayne Brandt</i>	<b>2004/05</b> <i>Tony Fazio</i>
<b>1945/46</b> <i>J. M. Prentice</i>	<b>1961/62</b> <i>Franklin Gindick</i>	<b>1978/79</b> <i>Tony Tranel</i>	<b>1995/96</b> <i>Cliff Sadoian</i>	<b>2005/07</b> <i>Louis Pandol</i>
<b>1946/47</b> <i>Robert Taylor</i>	<b>1962/63</b> <i>Edward M. Zeller</i>	<b>1979/80</b> <i>Lucille Tidwell</i>	<b>1996/97</b> <i>Steve Biswell</i>	<b>2007/08</b> <i>Jerry DiBuduo</i>
<b>1947/48</b> <i>E. L. Barr, Sr.</i>	<b>1963/64</b> <i>Jack Pandol, Sr.</i>	<b>1980/81</b> <i>John Guimarra, Jr.</i>	<b>1997/98</b> <i>Rick Widhalm</i>	<b>2008/09</b> <i>John D. Zaninovich</i>
<b>1948/49</b> <i>Harold Butcher</i>	<b>1964/65</b> <i>Grove E. Dye</i>	<b>1981/82</b> <i>James Ruby</i>	<b>1998/99</b> <i>Ken Enns</i>	<b>2009/10</b> <i>Marko S. Zaninovich</i>
<b>1949/50</b> <i>John J. Kovacevich</i>	<b>1965/66</b> <i>George Sadoian</i>	<b>1982/83</b> <i>Howard Mason</i>	<b>1999/00</b> <i>Nicholas Bozick</i>	<b>2010/11</b> <i>David O. Marguleas</i>
<b>1950/51</b> <i>David J. Elliot, Sr.</i>	<b>1966/67</b> <i>Marion P. Newton</i>	<b>1983/85</b> <i>Jack G. Zaninovich</i>	<b>2000/01</b> <i>Fred Berry</i>	<b>2011/12</b> <i>Steve Hash</i>
<b>1951/52</b> <i>William A. Hamilton</i>	<b>1967/68</b> <i>Nick Buratovich, Sr.</i>	<b>1985/86</b> <i>Darrel Fulmer</i>	<b>2001/02</b> <i>Jim Simonian</i>	<b>2012/14</b> <i>Ryan Zaninovich</i>
<b>1952/53</b> <i>William A. Lambert</i>	<b>1968/69</b> <i>E. L. Barr, Jr.</i>	<b>1986/87</b> <i>Verne Crookshanks</i>	<b>2002/03</b> <i>Jon P. Zaninovich</i>	
<b>1953/54</b> <i>Virgil E. Rasmussen</i>	<b>1969/70</b> <i>R. K. Sanderson</i>	<b>1987/88</b> <i>Micky George</i>		
<b>1954/55</b> <i>W. C. "Jerry" Day</i>	<b>1970/71</b> <i>Robert A. Grant</i>	<b>1988/89</b> <i>Louis S. Caric</i>		
<b>1955/56</b> <i>Martin Zaninovich</i>	<b>1971/72</b> <i>Howard A. Hall</i>	<b>1989/90</b> <i>Sarkis Sarabian</i>		
<b>1956/57</b> <i>Alfred Tisch</i>	<b>1972/74</b> <i>David J. Elliot, Jr.</i>	<b>1990/91</b> <i>Craig Rasmussen</i>		
<b>1957/58</b> <i>Julio Perelli-Minetti</i>	<b>1974/75</b> <i>Allan Corrin</i>	<b>1991/92</b> <i>Doug Hemly</i>		
<b>1958/59</b> <i>J. A. DiGiorgio</i>	<b>1975/76</b> <i>Franklin Debuskey</i>	<b>1992/93</b> <i>Dennis Parnagian</i>		

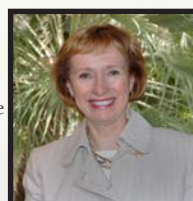


# COMMITTEE CHAIRS

The League would like to say a special thank you to our 2013/14 Standing Committee Chairs for their leadership!



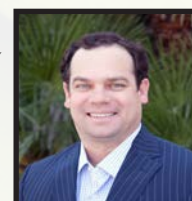
**David Jackson**  
Family Tree Farms  
Executive Committee



**Carol Chandler**  
Chandler Farms, LP  
Government  
Relations



**Harold McClarty**  
HMC Farms  
Marketing &  
Membership



**Ryan Zaninovich**  
V.B. Zaninovich &  
Sons, Inc.  
Board & Labor



**Louis Pandol**  
Pandol Bros., Inc.  
Standards &  
Packaging



**Ken Enns**  
Ken Enns  
Insurance &  
Financial Benefits



**John Rast**  
Rast Produce  
Company, Inc.  
Traffic



**Paul Giboney**  
M. Caratan, Inc.  
Environmental  
Resources



# COMMITTEE SERVICE

## Environmental Resources Committee

Paul Giboney (M. Caratan, Inc.) Committee Chair; George Nikolich (Gerawan Farming, Inc.); Brett Britz (Sunwest Fruit Company, Inc.); Dave Bryan (Etchegaray Farms, LLC); Jim Bryan (Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.); John Carter (M. Caratan, Inc.); Nasser Dean (Bayer CropScience); Moe DiBuduo (DiBuduo Fruit Co.); Nat DiBuduo (Allied Grape Growers); David Fenn (Sun World International, LLC); Micky George (Micky George); Steve Hash (Steve Hash Farms); Virginia Hemly Chhabra (Greene and Hemly, Inc.); Cindy Ibrahim (La Vina Ranch); Richard Machado (Agrian, Inc.); Andrew J. Pandol (Pandol Bros., Inc.); Cliff Rolland (Abe-El Produce); Andy Zaninovich (Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.); John D. Zaninovich (Merritt Farms); Judy Zaninovich (CCV Table Grape Pest & Disease Control District); Selleck Zaninovich (V.B. Zaninovich & Sons, Inc.)

## Government Relations Committee

Carol Chandler (Chandler Farms, LP) Committee Chair; Randy Giumarra (Giumarra Vineyards Corporation); Mike Allan (Isagro USA); Peter Baldwin (Alliant Insurance Services); Justin Bedwell (Bari Produce LLC); David Clyde (Grapeman Farms dba Stevco); Moe DiBuduo (DiBuduo Fruit Co.); Richard Elliot (David J. Elliot & Son); Kevin Herman (The Specialty Crop Company); David Jackson (Family Tree Farms); Herbert Kaprielian (CRJ Farming Co. LP); Dennis Kelly (Syngenta Crop Protection); Drake Larson (Drake Larson Ranches); David Marguleas (Sun World International, LLC); Melissa Poole (Paramount Farming Company); Pat Ricchiuti (P-R Farms, Inc.); Blair Richardson (Rivermaid Trading Co./WesPak Sales, Inc.); Cliff Rolland (Abe-El Produce); Tom Schultz (Chase National Kiwi Farms); Toni Scully (Scully Packing Co.); John Tos (Tos Farms, Inc.); Stan Tufts (Tufts Ranch LLC); Janet Wright (Wright & Johnson)

## Insurance & Financial Benefits Committee

Ken Enns (Ken Enns) Committee Chair; Louis Pandol (Pandol Bros., Inc.); Ed Bolger (Wells Fargo Insurance Services); Craig Gonzales (Rain and Hail Insurance Service, L.L.C.); Nelda Lewis (Pan American Insurance Agency); Marcia Shafer (Shafer Family Farm); Brent Swanson (Buckman-Mitchell, Inc.)

## Labor Committee

Ryan Zaninovich (V.B. Zaninovich & Sons, Inc.) Committee Chair; Dan Gallegos (Marko Zaninovich, Inc.); David Aquino (Giumarra Vineyards Corporation); Ron Barsamian (Barsamian & Moody, Attorneys at Law); Nicholas Bozick (R. Bagdasarian, Inc.); Brett Britz (Sunwest Fruit Company, Inc.); Carol Chandler (Chandler Farms, LP); David Clyde (Grapeman Farms dba Stevco); Greg Feaver (Rivermaid Trading Co./WesPak, Inc.); Joe Garcia (Jaguar Labor Contracting); Bob Greiner (HMC Farms); Kevin Herman (The Specialty Crop Company); Cindy Ibrahim (La Vina Ranch); Nelda Lewis (Pan American Insurance Agency); Rick Milton (Rick Milton); Pat Ricchiuti (P-R

Farms, Inc.); Cliff Rolland (Abe-El Produce); Karen Vived (Sun World International, LLC); David Ysusi (DiBuduo & DeFendis Insurance Brokers, LLC); Andy Zaninovich (Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.); John D. Zaninovich (Merritt Farms)

## Marketing Committee

Harold McClarty (HMC Farms) Committee Chair; George Nikolich (Gerawan Farming, Inc.); Justin Bedwell (Bari Produce LLC); Scott Boyajian (Marko Zaninovich, Inc.); Brett Britz (Sunwest Fruit Company, Inc.); Dave Bryan (Etchegaray Farms, LLC); Shawn Caldwell (M. Caratan, Inc.); Eric Champion (Maxco Supply Inc.); John Forry (DJ Forry Co., Inc.); Darrel Fulmer (Sun Fresh International LLC); Randy Giumarra (Giumarra Vineyards Corporation); Steve Hash (Steve Hash Farms); David Jackson (Family Tree Farms); Chance Kirk (V.B. Zaninovich & Sons, Inc.); Kathleen Nave (California Table Grape Commission); John Rast (Rast Produce Company, Inc.); Patricia Rynn (Rynn & Janowsky, LLP); David Silva (Dayka & Hackett, LLC); David Stone (Valhalla Sales & Marketing Co.); Jon P. Zaninovich (Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.)

## Membership Committee

Harold McClarty (HMC Farms) Committee Chair; David Jackson (Family Tree Farms); Nicholas Bozick (R. Bagdasarian, Inc.); Verne Crookshanks (Venida Packing, Inc.); Ron Frauenheim (Ron Frauenheim Farms); Steve Hash (Steve Hash Farms); Gabrielle Kirkland (Zenith Insurance Company); David Mann (Sunridge Nurseries Inc.); Louis Pandol (Pandol Bros., Inc.); Cliff Sadoian (Cliff Sadoian & Associates); Jim Simonian (Simonian Fruit Company); Dean Thonesen (Sunwest Fruit Company, Inc.); Jon P. Zaninovich (Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.); Marko S. Zaninovich (Marko Zaninovich, Inc.); Ryan Zaninovich (V.B. Zaninovich & Sons, Inc.)

## Standards & Packaging Committee

Louis Pandol (Pandol Bros., Inc.) Committee Chair; Jim Bryan (Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.); Nicholas Bozick (R. Bagdasarian, Inc.); Dave Bryan (Etchegaray Farms, LLC); David Clyde (Grapeman Farms dba Stevco); Stan Cosart (W.F. Cosart Packing Co.); Jerry DiBuduo (SunValley Farms); John Forry (DJ Forry Co., Inc.); Ron Frauenheim (Ron Frauenheim Farms); Mark Merritt (Fruit Patch Sales, LLC); Kathleen Nave (California Table Grape Commission); George Nikolich (Gerawan Farming, Inc.); David Silva (Dayka & Hackett, LLC); Sam Stewart (IFCO Systems); Walt Tindell (Calpine Containers, Inc.); Galen Van Aalsburg (PPS Packaging Co., Inc.)

## Traffic Committee

John Rast (Rast Produce Company, Inc.) Committee Chair; Jim Bryan (Jasmine Vineyards, Inc.); David Bennett (Pandol Bros., Inc.); Aaron Hollander (Kingsburg Orchards); Drew Johns (Marko Zaninovich, Inc.); Chance Kirk (V.B. Zaninovich & Sons, Inc.); Shannon Leigh (C.H. Robinson Worldwide, Inc.)





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