

CHAPTER CHALKBOARD

An Electronic Member News Update from the California Chapter, ASFMRA
September 8, 2020

You are receiving this email news update as a Member or Friend of the California Chapter of ASFMRA. Be sure to watch your Inbox and the [chapter web site](#) for reminders and more information...

A Message from your President...

Just like camping, you always want to leave it better than you found it, but that's not going to happen here as the Chapter is recovery mode. Although the Chapter is not going to be profitable this year, we've managed to minimize losses much better than we originally thought thanks to our Trends® sales, webinars & generous sponsors. The Chapter will never "bounce back" from this pandemic event, at least in the sense of the way it used to be. So, we must "bounce forward" and create more virtual courses and offerings to supplement the classroom setting in order to continue providing meaningful education and value to our members. If any good has come out of this pandemic, it is the realization that we can still function in a shutdown mode; we just need to build on it.

Moving into next year as Immediate Past President I will also be serving as Chairman of the Long-Range Planning Committee. I'm incorporating the "Sales Exchange" & "Roundtable" platforms as goal completions and welcome any new ideas you may have. We're also tinkering with the idea of having podcasts, such as a "Monthly Market Summary" that would be presented by members, i.e. covering sale activity in set regions. This could also include commentaries on industry trends, water, etc. We can be as creative as need be, touching on "real time" topics. The intent is to be informative and create additional value of membership.

Well my term as Chapter President is nearing its end, as all good things do. I wish I could say it was a pleasure, but that would bring my integrity into question. It has been a challenge and somewhat nerve racking at times, but we've gotten through it the best we can and so far, we've done pretty well. I would like to thank the board, committee members and Suzie for getting us through this year and you the members and Friends of the Chapter for your understanding and cooperation. I wish you the best in all your endeavors.

Martin Seañez, ARA - CA Chapter President

2020-2021 Election Results

Announcing the newly elected Board of Directors for the California Chapter who will take office effective October 1, 2020:

President – **Jim Pisani, ARA**

President Elect – **Mike Merkley, ARA**

Vice President – **Todd Combs, ARA**

Board Member At Large – **Curtis Buono, ARA**

Board Member At Large – **Justin Koenigshof**

Secretary/Treasurer – **Peter Holmes, AAC**

Immediate Past President – **Martin Seanez, ARA**

Also elected were at large members of the Nominating Committee for 2020-2021, **Dan Whisenhunt, AAC** and **Dorothy Bell, ARA**

Congratulations to all and thank you for your dedication and service to the California Chapter, ASFMRA!!!

California to Offer CE Hours in September and October

If you are looking to satisfy CE hours while honing your professional skills, the California Chapter has two offerings that will be happening in the coming weeks. The Toolbox Topics Virtual Workshop focusing on [Special Considerations in the Analysis of Highest and Best Use](#) will be held September 24th from 2 to 4 pm followed by a social hour for networking. The workshop is approved for 2 hours of CE. On October 15th, [Best Practices for Rural Property Appraisals](#) will be offered in a virtual format with 8 hours of approved CE. This course has

been updated from its original offering and is a must for appraisal professional looking to sharpen their skills. Register today to take advantage of these excellent opportunities!

Virtual Fall Meeting Coming for 2020

Final plans are being made for a virtual Fall Meeting for the California Chapter. The date is shaping up to be in late October and final details will be forthcoming. The meeting will include a half day seminar with speakers on various topics plus the annual member meeting, installation of officers and presentation of awards. Keep in mind that no travel is required! We hope that you will plan to attend from the comfort of your own home or office.

Social Media – Looking for Friday Farm Facts

Do you have a Farm Fact that might be of interest to our social media followers? Let's get creative and think outside of the box! After all, we are the Western Ag Professionals of the ASFMRA with an incredibly diverse ag portfolio... If you have something you think might be of interest to the many who follow our social media sites, please submit to lindseybozzo@gmail.com or info@calasfmra.com. Photos and videos are welcome. If you have 'just the facts', not to worry. Lindsey can put a photo together to go with the post. Your business can positively benefit from this!

Year Books of Agriculture Looking for New Home

California Chapter Member, Rod Carter, has been collecting Year Books of Agriculture throughout his career. Originally called Report of the Secretary (report of the Secretary of Agriculture to congress and the President), the first was published in 1862 with the formation of USDA and the last in 1992 (a total of 124 volumes as a few war-years are combined and none was published in 1929). Rod is downsizing his office and business operation at the end of the year and will no longer have the space required to display his treasured set of historical books. He would like to make them available to a member of ASFMRA who would keep them and value them as he has. If you are interested in talking with Rod about his collection, please email rodcarter@abpinconline.com or call him at (530) 521-8698. Thank you, Rod! (See photo attached).

AB2257 Signed Into Law

The Chapter's Government Relations Committee Chair, John Maus, ARA, shared the good news that Governor Gavin Newsom signed [AB2257](#) into law on September 4th. The bill modifies a previous law that attempted to determine just who is a contractor and who is an employee. The new, modified version of the law takes effect immediately and provides flexibility to such diverse employers as freelance writers, musicians, film support crews and visual artists, who can continue working as independent contractors. Translators, **appraisers**, and registered foresters were added to the 'professional services' exemption which currently covers graphic designers, travel agents and marketers, among others. John represents the California Chapter on the Appraisal Institute Government Relations Subcommittee who worked tirelessly with lobbyist Mike Belote in fighting to have appraisers included in the carve out of the bill. Good news!

IMPORTANT DATES...Due to COVID-19, Events are Subject to Change

September 24	Highest and Best Use Virtual Workshop
October 1	Beginning of 2020-2021 Fiscal Year
October 14	Board of Directors Meeting (Via Zoom)
October 15	Best Practices for Rural Property Appraisals Virtual Seminar
October TBD	2020 Virtual Fall Meeting / Installation and Awards
Nov 9-13	ASFMRA Virtual Annual Conference

Please don't hesitate to contact the Chapter office for more information on any of the items included in the monthly Chapter Chalkboard. And remember to stay connected through our social media channels. *Don't forget to tag the Chapter's social media sites in your work related posts!*



Be well and stay safe -

Suzie Roget

Executive Vice President

California Chapter, ASFMRA

Tel: 209.368.3672 Cell: 209.601.0830

www.calasfmra.com

