

One to One

California State University, Fresno

SUMMER 2005

A Newsletter for Supporters of the Ag One Foundation and College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology

Fundraising Events held in Modesto, Bakersfield and San Luis Obispo

Alumni and friends of California State University, Fresno's College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology have held several events throughout the state to support the Ag One Foundation's mission of providing scholarships and support for the College.

Events have been held in Modesto, Bakersfield, San Luis Obispo and will be held in the Fresno-Madera area in October.

Stanislaus area

In March, the Stanislaus County Alumni and Friends Dinner was attended by more than 200 supporters of Ag One and the College. The event was held at the popular Durrer Family Barn, located in Modesto.



Anna Ciccarelli and Edwin Genasci pose next to a tribute to the late Mike Ciccarelli, a Fresno State alumnus and Stanislaus area agri-businessman. Proceeds from the Stanislaus event will be added to an endowment in Ciccarelli's honor.

More than \$9,200 was raised from the event, and will be used to support an endowment in memory of Fresno State alumnus and Stanislaus area agribusinessman Mike Ciccarelli.

Working to make the event such a success were co-chairs Nick Blom and Joey Gonsalves, and committee members Sam Bettencourt, Adam Crowell, Louie Durrer, Edwin Genasci,

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Community Salute sets new record for funds raised

Popular grower-shipper Virgil Rasmussen honored

The 2005 Ag One Community Salute will be hard to beat! An out-pouring of support from sponsors and guests gathering to honor long-time fresh fruit industry leader Virgil E. Rasmussen set a new record for the Ag One's Community Salute.

Nearly 500 people attended the April 8 event – so many that the location of the event had to be moved from Pardini's to the Fresno Convention Center New Exhibit Hall.

A record-amount of sponsors lined up to help recognize Rasmussen, a Sanger-area tree fruit and



Rep. Jim Costa presents Community Salute Honoree Virgil Rasmussen with a federal resolution in his honor.

grape grower-packer-shipper. The event is estimated to net about \$74,000 for the Ag One – Virgil E. Rasmussen

Scholarship Endowment fund to benefit students pursuing a degree in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology.

"It was a great event," said Mark Dutra, Ag One president.

The event chronicled the more than 50 years of Rasmussen's involvement in the fresh fruit industry. Testimonials were presented by Earl Smittcamp, Rodger Jensen, Bruce Obbink, David Albertson and Craig Rasmussen.

Rasmussen is a long-time friend of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. In fact, he was

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Upcoming Ag One 2005 events

Sept. 11
Ag Boosters Barbecue and Fantasy Vacation drawing, Coombs Riverbend Ranch, Madera.

Oct. 27
Fresno-Madera Alumni and Friends Wine Tasting, Fresno State Winery.

Support Ag One Events!

For more information, contact the Ag One Foundation at (559) 278-4266.

from the president

Wow! The 2004/05 academic year just finished with a bang, as the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology held its Convocation on May 20 and Commencement Ceremonies were concluded on May 21.

This year is also over half

*Mark Dutra
Ag One Foundation
President*

way complete for the current Ag One members, and all of our successful springtime activities are now



behind us. In the last *One-to-One*, you read about the many upcoming events and the opportunities for members and non-members to
Continued on page 3

from the dean

Greetings from the College of Agricultural Sciences & Technology! Another academic year has come and gone. We were all having so much fun and/or working so hard that the year flew by in record time. I want to focus on something very, very special that just happened this spring at commencement time.

Every year Fresno State recognizes the top undergraduate and graduate student in each college – they are presented the Dean's Medalists. The President selects from these individuals the President's Medalists, the highest honor a student can receive. This year, Neil Gibson was selected by President Welty as the top undergraduate student. Neil graduated with a degree in Ag Business.

*Daniel Bartell
Dean, College of
Agricultural Sciences
and Technology*

Additionally, Laurel May, a graduate student in Plant Science was selected as the outstanding graduate student. Then to top it off, the university-wide award for an undergraduate student given by the Division of Student Affairs was awarded to Molly Fagundes, an Ag Education major. Bottom line, students from our college swept all three of the university's top honors. Wow!

As an aside, Neil was accepted at John Hopkins University. Laurel has joined the USDA and Molly was selected to participate in the Ford Motor Company



Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute program (for people of Hispanic and Portuguese heritage).

A lot of credit goes to the faculty and staff that helped mentor and guide these students (as well as all of our graduates) during their Fresno State experience.

After such a historic day at commencement, its time to look back and reflect on all that was accomplished this year, by our faculty, staff and students. It was a great year. Before we know it, we will soon shift gears and look ahead to the arrival of the class of 2009.

from the director

It's that time of the year when graduates are beginning a new chapter in their lives. Whether it's the college graduate who is embarking on a first job and pursuing a career or the high school graduate who has made the decision to pursue a higher education, you play an important role in these student's lives. Many of these dreams are possible because of the private support and volunteer time provided by you and others like you.

*Alcidia Freitas Gomes
Executive Director /
College Development
Director*

Ag One is very fortunate to have gained your confidence and support of thousands of students over the years. In fact, it has been with your help that some 2,400 students have been awarded \$1.5 million in scholarships and grants. Additionally, the \$1



million endowment dream of the Ag One founders in 1979 is now more than a \$4.5 million reality (and growing).

You have made all of this possible! If you would like to be more involved with Ag One's efforts, we will be happy to find ways to accomplish your dreams of support to future generations of students.

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Ag Boosters Barbecue tickets available for Sept. 11 event

Tickets will be ready this month for the 28th annual Ag Boosters Barbecue, which will be held on Sunday, Sept. 11 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Coombs Riverbend Ranch in Madera.

The annual industry event has been instrumental in raising funds for the Ag One Foundation at Fresno State and California Women for Agriculture (CWA). Over the past years, more than \$450,000 has been raised for Ag One and CWA from the annual fall event.

The event also features a live and silent auction, CWA's Country Store, cheese from Valley dairy processors and award-winning Fresno State sausage sampling, homemade desserts, a raffle and door prizes. In addition, the winner

Fantasy Vacation offers five diverse travel choices

An Alaska cruise, seven days on Kauai, tour of Italy, Spain or Ireland. Wherever your travel desire takes you, that wish may be fulfilled if you win this year's Ag One Fantasy Vacation package.

The lucky ticket holder for the Ag One Fantasy Vacation Raffle will have a choice of travel packages from among the following:

- **Alaska Cruise** – a seven-day cruise sailing from Seattle and stopping at Juneau, Skagway, Tracy Arm

Glaciers, Ketchikan and Victoria.

- **Spain** – an 11-day regional trip taking in Madrid, Barcelona, Seville and the beautiful Costa del Sol.

- **Hawaii** – A seven-day stay in Kauai at the Hyatt Regency, enjoying the lagoon, spa, golf and beautiful sunsets.

- **Italy** – a nine-day trip to Rome, Venice, and Florence, visiting the Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel and a gondola ride through Venice, and more!

- **Focus on Ireland** – Enjoy eight days taking in the beauty of

the Green Isle, including Dublin, Galway, Tralee, Limerick and Waterford.

The lucky winner of the Fantasy Vacation will have one year to book the trip, or her or she can receive a cash prize equal to half of the value of the trip, plus the \$1,000 that goes to the winner.

Sales will be limited to 2,000 tickets at \$25 each, or 5 for \$100. For tickets, contact any Ag One Board member or call (559) 278-4266.

will be drawn for the Ag One "Fantasy Vacation" raffle, featuring a choice of five special destinations including Alaska,

Spain, Hawaii, Italy and Ireland.

Barbecue tickets cost \$50 per person with a table of 10

available for \$450. Tickets can be purchased from the Ag One Foundation office at (559) 278-4266.

Turf Day '05 hits another hole-in-one for scholarships

More than 105 golfers teed-off at the 34th Annual Turf Day Golf Classic held May 6 at the Madera Golf and Country Club.

Turf Day Committee Chairmen Randy Miles and Chuck Ware reported that 61 sponsors helped make the tournament a success and raised over \$7,400.

The Turf Day Golf Classic began in 1970 as a means of drawing plant science department alumni back to the university for fun and fellowship. Since 1994, the event has been open to alumni and friends from the entire College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology.



Receiving first place honors were, from left, Kent Stark, Bob Homen, Rod DeLuca, and Bart Lamanuzzi.



The Hatchet Award went to, from left, Larry Odell, Norman Jensen and Stephen Spangler. Not pictured is Rick Barnett.

From the President

Continued from page 2

become involved with Ag One throughout the spring. Because of your involvement, all of our spring activities were successful and allowed many of us to become re-acquainted with old friends and alumni, and to make new acquaintances.

Common Threads and the Community Salute are two of my favorite Ag One events. The Common Threads program honored five terrific women for their long service to agriculture and their communities.

This spring also brought us the Community Salute

honoring Virgil Rasmussen, president of Ballantine Produce Co. This year's event held April 8 was a huge success, celebrating his lifetime commitment and contribution to the tree fruit and grape industries, the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology and our community. Through the success of the sponsors and attendees, this year's salute raised \$74,000 for the scholarship endowment.

The regional events held in Modesto and Bakersfield provided local residents an opportunity to meet with faculty, Ag One members,

supporters and future Fresno State students, while raising monies to fund scholarships. The 2005 Turf Day golf tournament was a resounding success again this year with many golfers participating and enjoying the great day on the course.

Ag One board members annually host a reception for the students and their families prior to the College's Convocation. Many Ag One scholarship recipients and their parents expressed their gratitude for the Ag One Foundation's scholarships and helping them through college.

This year's graduates were honored in many ways, but three Ag One scholarship recipients were recognized by President Welty. Dean Dan Bartell proudly acknowledges these deserving students in his column. I would like to congratulate Neil Gibson, Laurel L. May and Molly Fagundes – and all of the graduates on a job well done.

Be prepared to become involved this fall with the Ag Boosters Barbecue on Sept. 11 and the Fresno-Madera Wine Tasting in October. Hope to see you there.

Rasmussen honored at Community Salute

Continued from page 1

instrumental in establishing the Ag One endowment fund, which stands at \$4.5 million today and has benefited some 2,400 students with over \$1.5 million in scholarships and grants over the past 26 years.

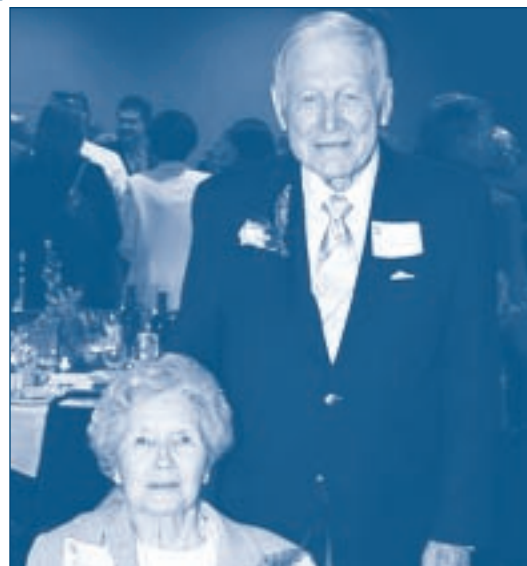
Serving as honorary chairs for the event was: David S. Albertson, of Ballantine Produce Company; Mark Dutra, Ag One Foundation 2005 president; Rodger B. Jensen, 1999 Community Salute honoree; Larry D. Layne, retired vice chairman, Sanwa Bank California; Bruce J. Obbink, retired president,



John L. Waugh, at left, and son John Waugh Jr., right, visit with Virgil Rasmussen.

California Table Grape Commission; and Earl S. Smittcamp, of Wawona Orchards.

Ballantine Produce Co., of Reedley, served as the naming sponsor for the event.



Honoree Virgil Rasmussen and his wife, Cathie.



Earl Smittcamp was one of the honorary co-chairs of the event, honoring long-time fruit industry icon Virgil Rasmussen.



Long-time Ag One supporters Bruce Obbink and Bill Allison share a moment at the Community Salute.



Florence and Albert "Pete" Petersen attended the gala.



Ag One President Mark Dutra welcomed the record crowd.

— Thank you to the following sponsors who helped make the Ag One 2005 Community Salute such a huge success —

Naming Sponsor

Ballantine Produce Company

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Plus many direct contributors



Interim Associate Dean Dr. Bill Fasse, left, presents Brad Kroecker with an Ag One scholarship, accompanied by, at right, Brian Blackwell, chair of the Kern County Alumni and Friends Dinner, on April 28 in Bakersfield.

Fundraising Events

Continued from page 1

Dave Graham, Jim Kamstra, Mel Lemos and Kristy Wagner.
Kern County area

The 26th annual Ag One Kern County Alumni and Friends Dinner in Bakersfield in late-April provided the opportunity for more than 40 prospective Fresno State students to meet students and faculty, as well as learn about the supportive program of Ag One.

About 120 alumni and friends of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology gathered in Bakersfield on April 28 to network with local high school and junior college agricultural teachers and students. Fresno State's Ag Ambassadors and faculty, as well as some Ag One Directors visited with the potential students and provided helpful information about the college.

Proceeds from the event will help support the Ag One Carl and Barbara Fanucchi Endowment Fund – named after two active alumni. More than \$2,000 was added to the endowment, which was established in 1999.

Serving on the committee are Carl and Barbara Fanucchi, Joe Antongiovanni, Mike Antongiovanni, Brian Blackwell, Bill Duncan, John Etcheverry, Angelo Mazzei,

Kirk Mouser, Jean Phillimore and Craig Smith.

San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Region

San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara area alumni and friends were invited to a wine tasting social on Monday, June 20, at the Monday Club, in San Luis Obispo.

This annual event is held in conjunction with the California Agricultural Teachers Association conference, and featured Fresno State wines and sausage.

Fresno-Madera Region

The annual Fresno-Madera Alumni and Friends Wine Tasting will be held on Thursday, Oct. 27, and will once again feature award-winning Fresno State wines served at the College's Winery and World Cooperage Barrel Room.

The date is later than in previous years to allow the winery to complete the grape crush season. The committee is busy planning the details, mark your calendar to save this date!

Efforts are underway to plan Ag One support activities in the Napa/ Sonoma and Merced/Mariposa areas. For information about any of these upcoming events, contact the Ag One office at (559)-278-4266.



Food and Nutrition Department Chair Sandy Witte, at left, and some of the Department's interns who were recognized at the Convocation are, from left Eileen Olmstead, Stacy Mele and Stephanie Brookshier. Joining them is Food and Nutrition Professor Mollie Smith, center.

Ag One congratulates graduates

On May 20, members of the Ag One Foundation Board of Directors bid a farewell and offered congratulations to the 2005 graduates from the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology.

The annual Graduate Reception held prior to the College's convocation was well attended by graduates, their families, and faculty.



Ag One Directors Harry Karle, at left, and Chuck Ware participated in the Graduate Reception.



Every moment was a Kodak moment at this year's Ag One Graduate Reception on May 20. Proud family members gathered with graduates and faculty to record this momentous occasion.



Assisting in the festivities were, from left, Ag One Directors Fermin Campos and Dan Errotabere, and Professor John Hagen.



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Renew your Ag One membership today

Our members are important to us! Don't forget to renew your membership in the Ag One Foundation, or ask a friend to join.

Your support and membership contributions have helped to provide more than \$1,500,000 in scholarships and grants, helping some 2,400 students. Your membership and financial support throughout the year at Ag One events and through gift-giving, has helped Ag One establish endowments and raise funds to support scholarships and grants. Your support is critical to Ag One's continued success.



"Your yearly membership is the vital component that provides the necessary financial resources to maintain the academic excellence for which our college is highly respected," said Alcidia Freitas Gomes, Ag One's executive director.

Enclosed is my Ag One membership in support of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology at Fresno State.

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- Dean's Club \$1,500 Bronze Club \$250
- Gold Club \$1,000 Sustaining Member \$100
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Please inquire if your company has a matching gift program, this could double your gift to Ag One!

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