

# North Coast Journal

CALIFORNIA LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION



# WE SURVIVED!

Our North Coast Chapter definitely faced serious challenges in navigating some unchartered waters in the beginning of 2020. But, big thanks to State CLCA for keeping us constantly abreast of everything that our contractors needed to know on how best to survive those early "Shelter in Place" days.

Also thanks to our NCC Board of Directors for holding regular Zoom conference meetings where our chapter members could share their concerns and their strategies regarding all the fallout from COVID.

And finally, HUGE thanks to our Supplier Partners and our Advertisers who kept this chapter afloat during those uncertain times! We are very grateful!



# **2020 Advertisers**

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#### Dinner Partners

Sonoma County Water Agency Bertotti Landscaping Buder Landscape Restoration

#### PLEASE SUPPORT THESE COMPANIES IN 2021







The North Coast Chapter has a couple of irons in the fire already for 2021:

The first one (which we have already publicized) is a backyard renovation at the Women's Recovery Services in Santa Rosa. Chris Stewart from Bertotti Landscaping has taken the lead on this project, drawn up the plans and calculated the materials needed to complete the job. He estimates that it will probably take 2 weekends. Weather permitting, the first weekend will be January 30th & 31st and the second will be February 6th.

If you think you might be interested in helping with this project, contact Connie: (707) 217-2139.



recovery program for pregnant and parenting women

The second one is a collaboration with FIRESafe Marin to create a series of online training modules on fire-safe landscaping practices that we can make available to our chapter landscapers and all their employees.

Andrew Johnson and I have had several Zoom meetings with Rich Shortall from FIRESafe Marin, Steve Swain from University of California Division of Agriculture along with the Marin Fire Battalion Chief and a Marin Master Gardener.

We will be having another Zoom call in the next week or so, to flesh out this program further and decide what the content will look like and how we will be presenting it. Stay tuned....Connie Salinas



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# North Coast CLCA Executive Director & Journal Editor

#### Connie Salinas

P.O. Box 1621 Sebastopol, CA 95473 Phone 707-217-2139 heyconniesalinas@hotmail.com



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# Tree Planting Drones are Capable of Planting 100,000 Trees a Day

by Connie Salinas



The drones will fire pods containing pre-germinated seeds at the ground

My grandmother lived to be almost 100 years old and in the span of her lifetime from 1899 to 1994 she saw science and technology go from horse and buggies to landing a man on the moon. And since then, scientific evolution has been on an even more accelerated path! Growing exponentially every year!

Some of that evolution has **revolutionized** our lives in so many wonderful ways! BUT, some of it has also caused tremendously negative scenarios for the whole world. We are now having to figure out how to rectify and reverse those as quickly as possible.

An ever growing, higher level of CO2 worldwide is unmistakably one of the **biggest** problems that we face as a result of this 'pedal to the metal' scientific evolution. **That is why I belong to Citizen's**Climate Lobby and why I support carbon fee and dividend legislation. But we obviously also need to have science and technology putting all their creative juices into innovative solutions as well.

Enter BioCarbon Engineering of Australia. They have focused their research and development on carbon sequestration through reforestation. They have created a technology that can plant trees on an enormous scale anywhere in the world.

Our planet loses an acre and a half of forest every half of a second, which is 15 billion trees a year. That is an alarming statistic! But, BioCarbon has invented a revolutionary Tree Planting Drone. Each drone is capable of planting 100,000 trees a day. They are currently building an army of 10,000 drones that will be able to plant a billion trees a year.. The drones fire totally biodegradable tree-seedling bullets into the ground. They are driven by Artificial Intelligence which guides them to be planted precisely in the right location and at the right depth.

Such an amazingly encouraging and timely innovation! I wonder what my grandmother would have thought about all of this?

It gives me hope that within our collective intelligence, the solutions are there!

 $\frac{https://www.fastcompany.com/90329982/these-tree-planting-drones-are-firing-seed-missiles-to-restore-the-worlds-forests}{$ 



Since good news is sometimes in short supply these days with everything that is going on in the world. I have decided to do a monthly article on positive advances, new discoveries, and hopeful scenarios for our planet.

Connie Salinas – Journal Editor

# SAVETHE

Rehydrating the Russian River Watershed:
Moving Towards Regenerative Landscapes

FEBRUARY 2, 2021 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM FEBRUARY 3, 2021 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

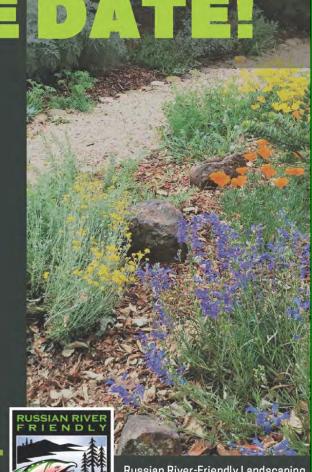
ONLINE EVENT

COST: FREE

Registration is required at <a href="mailto:bit.ly/RRFL2021">bit.ly/RRFL2021</a>

Learn more at www.rrwatershed.org/project/rrflg

Join industry professionals at the 6th Biennial Russian River-Friendly Landscaping Event. This event will bring internationally known experts together to share perspectives for rehydrating our Russian River watershed landscapes.



Russian River-Friendly Landscaping is a whole-systems approach to professional landscaping with the goal of supporting the environmental integrity of the Russian River Watershed.



#### **KEYNOTE: DIDI PERSHOUSE**

Author of <u>Understanding Soil Health and Watershed Function</u> and **The Ecology of Care**. Founder of the <u>Land and Leadership Initiative</u>, and co-founder of <u>RehydrateCalifornia.org</u>. Former board chair of the Soil Carbon Coalition. Committed to building healthy communities above and below ground.



#### WALTER JEHNE

Internationally known soil microbiologist, climate scientist, and systems thinker. Founder of Regenerate Earth and Healthy Soils Australia.

Co-founder of RehydrateCalifornia.org.



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#### by Henry Buder

Dave and Caroline were two young students at Cal Ploy, studying the plant world. Dave was in his fourth year of landscape architectural school, and Caroline was a year younger studying environmental horticulture. After they graduated, they wanted to get married, and start a landscape business together, as landscape contractors. And so that is what they did.

While at Cal Poly, they had heard about CLCA, the California Landscape Contractors Association, and what a professional group it was, and that it was dedicated to helping its members be successful.

After a couple years of doing sweat equity, by themselves, they joined CLCA. They were sent decals for their trucks, and they proudly put them on their trucks. They thought, we should put our name on the truck too, so they got signs for their trucks. By this time, they had hired two young men, and they were cranking out the jobs, one after another. As Dave soon learned, he had to spend more and more time in the office doing designs. Caroline ran the jobs.

Jose and Felix were very nice, hard working young men, willing to learn how to do things right from Dave and Caroline. They were learning the trade nicely. As time went by, Caroline would have the men pick up supplies when they needed them, and would send them to the irrigation store or landscape supply store as needed, which freed her up a little.

With the signs on the truck, and the Felco pruner on their hip, it was easy to tell that they were landscape workers.

One day, while at the irrigation store, another contractor who was at the store asked them if they would like to make more money. Of course, they were willing to listen, so the contractor laid it on thick, promised the moon and stars, and got them to agree to come to work for him with a five dollar per hour raise. Caroline burst into tears when she heard the news, and Dave could only hug her and console her, and tell her it would be alright. Dave did not think he could afford to match the other offer, so they lost their helpers.

This is where the word Ethics comes in. The definition of ethics is 'moral principles that govern a person's behavior'. Do you think what the contractor did was ethical? Does he have the right to build his business by stealing other people's trained employees?

I say Hell no, he does not ethically have the right to hurt other people for his own good. There is no law against it, but I think it stinks. And the offending contractor should be ashamed of himself.

Unfortunately, there isn't much we can do about it, except to call on each and every one of us, to act morally and in good faith at all times. We are ladies and gentlemen in the Green Industry, and we want to be proud of ourselves. It is hard enough to make a good living in this business without a cad stealing our people.

Build your business the old-fashioned way, one step at a time.

And the Friends you will make along the way will help you and love you.

Henry Buder's Landscape Restoration



4330 Bodega Avenue, Petaluma, CA 94952 Phone: (707) 778-0136 Fax: (707) 778-0633





### PLANT SPOTLIGHT

Nemesia "Bluebird"

(Nemesia) Bluebird Nemesia has a multitude of blue-purple petite blooms contrasted with a bright yellow eye. Bluebird Nemesia has an upright growth habit of 10-12" high and it's clove-scented fragrance is an added bonus!

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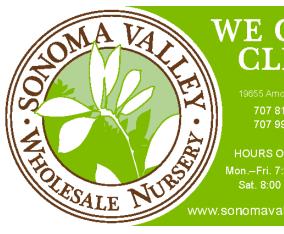
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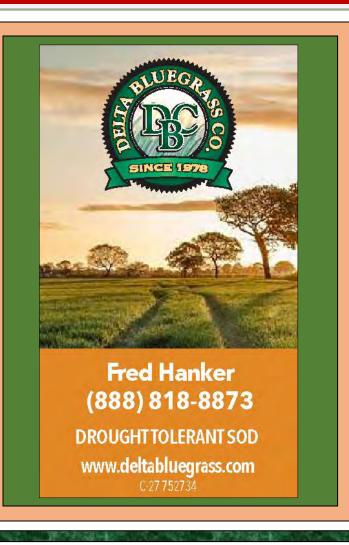


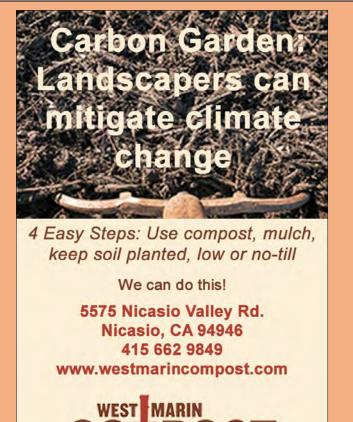


# GOLDENSTATE

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POST

## Ideas for 2021



In November <u>our chapter board had a Strategic</u>

<u>Planning session via Zoom</u> and it was decided that since we can't be sure when it will be safe to resume our monthly educational meetings, we can't really schedule anything yet. <u>But we are</u> working on a list of possible topics of interest.

Some of those were: Erosion Control, Compost, Business Topics (estimating, recruiting & HR) and small businesses transitioning to the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation.

We would love to have our members give us some suggestions for 2021 Meeting Topics!

Call or email Connie with your ideas: (707) 217-2139 or heyconniesalinas@hotmail.com





#### **Tyler Doherty**

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Register

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Keep your company name in the minds of our chapter landscapers every month!

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effective programs. Read more here.

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#### **General Notes:**

- If you would like to swap items from within the categories, please contact the chapter (for example, if you do not play golf & prefer to swap golf attendance for awards sponsorship).
- Trades in kind can be discussed and welcomed. For example, if you would like to sponsor the golf lunch and would prefer to BBQ yourself in lieu of money.
- · Preference will be given to those who have sponsored specific items in the last year. After that it is first come, first choice.
- A "Top Award" is either the Excelsior, Sweepstakes or Judges Award.

#### Partner Levels

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- •1 Top Award Sponsor (or 2 Basic Awards if top awards are taken)
- •Golf Foursome and Golf Sponsorship
- •1 Ticket to each Dinner Meeting
- •2 Tickets to the Holiday Party
- •2 Tickets to the Awards Program
- Recognition on Chapter Banner
- Recognition in Chapter Newsletter
- Recognition on Chapter Website

#### ☐ Platinum Partner \$1200

- Golf Tournament Sponsor
- •1 Round of Golf
- •1 Award Category Sponsorship (Basic)
- •1 Ticket to each Dinner Meeting
- •2 Tickets to the Holiday Party
- •2 Tickets to the Awards Program
- Recognition on Chapter Banner
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#### Gold Partner \$900

- ·Select one:
- \_Golf Tournament Sponsor and 1 Round of Golf, OR
- \_\_1 Award Category Sponsorship (Basic).
- •1 Ticket to each Dinner Meeting
- •2 Tickets to the Holiday Party
- •2 Tickets to the Awards Program
- Recognition on Chapter Banner
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#### ☐ Silver Partner \$600

- •1 Ticket to each Dinner Meeting
- •2 Tickets to the Holiday Party
- •2 Tickets to the Awards Program
- •Recognition on Chapter Banner
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#### Contractor Partner \$500

- •1 Ticket to each Dinner Meeting
- •2 Tickets to the Holiday Party
- •2 Tickets to the Awards Program
- Recognition on Chapter Banner
- Recognition in Chapter Newsletter
- •Recognition on Chapter Website

#### ala Carte Menu

Training for Landscape Industry Certification

- Breakfast \$100 (3 available) \$
- Lunch \$350 (3 available)
- Materials \$250 (3 available) \$

#### **Holiday Party**

- ☐ Donation for DJ \$500
- Donation for Wine \$400
- ☐ Donation –Appetizers \$500 \$

#### Golf

- ☐ Hole/Tee Sponsor \$150
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  - Longest, Hole in One \$150 \$
- Lunch \$800

#### **Awards**

- ☐ Table Decorations \$500
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- ☐ Application Sponsor \$500 \$
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#### General

All Dinner Meetings \$250 \$\_\_\_\_\_

## **Partner Level Total**

Ala Carte Total

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