

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Grower-Shipper Association Foundation Announces Ag Knowledge Program Class IV

Salinas, CA (April 14, 2010) – The Grower-Shipper Association Foundation is proud to announce the fellows accepted to the 2010 Ag Knowledge Program (Class IV). These 22 community members will participate in an eight-month executive leadership program focused on the heritage, diversity, stewardship, and complexity of Monterey County agriculture and the interdependencies that exist between agriculture, local government, and the community.

Courses focus on issues affecting and influenced by the local agricultural industry, including food safety and security, labor and immigration, technology, marketing, conservation, urban/agriculture interfacing, air, water and much more. The fellows will spend one Friday a month over the course of the program attending forums and visiting farms, processing facilities and meeting leaders and innovators in the industry. One of the program's most popular facets includes a "day on the farm" with a local grower.

The Ag Knowledge program has created a twitter account so that fellows can microblog about their experiences. Follow them at <http://twitter.com/AgKnowledge>.

AgKnowledge Class IV is made up of the following community members: **Brad Barbeau**, Agribusiness Coordinator, CSUMB School of Business; **Nicholas R. Becker**, Associate Water Resources Engineer, P.E. Monterey County Water Resources Agency; **Melissa Casillas**, Career Technical Education Grant Coordinator, Salinas Union High School District; **Meg Clovis**, Cultural Affairs Manager, Monterey County Parks; **Candice DePauw**, California Poppy Company; **Karen DeWitt**, Executive Director, Ag Against Hunger; **Joann Greathead**, Director of Membership, Grower-Shipper Association of Central California; **Debbie Hale**, Executive Director, Transportation Agency for Monterey County; **Lupe Hernandez**, Insurance Brokers Risk Manager, Winn & Company; **Karli Jungwirth**, Attorney, Anastassiou & Associates; **Jim Keller**, Conservation Easement Program Manager, The Big Sur Land Trust; **Cesar Lara**, Monterey Bay Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO; **Molly Lewis**, Division of Advanced Technology,

Hartnell College; **Claudia Link**, Aide to Supervisor Louis Calcagno, County of Monterey; **Casey McSwiggin**, County of Monterey, Ag Commissioner's Office; **Rick Nguyen**, Thelen Chang & Nguyen, LLP, CPA; **Mike Nolan**, CPA, Hayashi & Wayland Accounting & Consulting, LLP; **Mike Novo**, County of Monterey, Planning Dept.; **Paul Reyna**, Retail Sales Representative, Driscoll's; **Leland Saccone**, Patane Gumberg, LLP; **Chris Sentieri**, Monterey County Business Council; **Liz Spence**, Sustainable Harvest Project Coordinator, The Nature Conservancy California.

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