



## SONOMA COUNTY NORTH NEWSLETTER, Summer 2014



### Building Community

One of the goals of Slow Food around the world is to build community by sharing food. Sonoma County North words this goal as “We will create events that take place at table to increase the sense of community among members of the Sonoma County North convivium, members of fellow Sonoma County convivia, and members of the community.”



### Events at Table

This year, members and their friends have come together at the Ark of Taste dinner in April, a pizza supper at Foggy River Farm following the Annual Meeting, and a picnic in Dry Creek Valley featuring Bear Republic beer and potluck dishes made from ingredients within 100 miles of Healdsburg. As a result of these delicious encounters, over 20 people have joined Slow Food for the first time.



### “Around the Table” Dinner Series

To further this goal, we are initiating a series of “*Around the Table*” dinners. You will be invited to attend a potluck dinner party of 6-8 people in the homes of several members who will host on a specified date. We will randomly assign everyone who signs up to one of these hosted parties. The purpose is simply to get to know new people in an intimate and relaxed setting, and bond over conversation and “good, clean, and fair” food. The Cloverdale Contingent of Sonoma County North—about 21 members from that community—have already held several dinners and as a result they frequently attend other Slow Food events (for example, nearly half of those who came to the Annual Meeting live in the Cloverdale area!).

**Our first dinners will be held on November 11 at 7 pm in three homes--in Cloverdale, Healdsburg, and the Dry Creek Valley. Watch for an October invitation.**

## Chapter Updates

### Terra Madre Delegates

Our chapter nominated Chef Louis Maldonado (Spoonbar and Pizzardo in Healdsburg) and Yael Bernier (family farmer in the Dry Creek and Alexander Valleys) to represent the US at the global gathering Terra Madre in Italy this fall—and **they were selected as 2 of only 20 delegates from California**. Louis and Yael will report their Terra Madre experiences back home at a local event we call “*Tastes & Tales of Terra Madre*.” Information about this early spring event will be sent in advance of it.

### New Board Member

**Carol Diaz** was nominated to join the Sonoma County North Core Team (Board) and attended her first meeting this month. Carol lives in Cloverdale with her husband, Manny, where “we have a small vineyard, a few fruit trees, and a decent vegetable garden. We enjoy spending time with family and friends, and traveling when we’re not home enjoying Sonoma County and the local food environment we are so lucky to have.” Carol brings to the Board her experience as a member of the SCN Events committee and Facebook administrator, and will work with Board member Sam Bilbro on chapter Communications.

### Maltiox, Summer 2014 Newsletter from AMIDI

The newsletter from AMIDI, Guatemala, includes articles about coffee cultivation adult education; the impact of AMIDI's women on national issues; and the role of music in Mayan culture. Go to [AMIDI Guatemala](#).

### Beginning Farmer Scholarship

In the spring, SCN awarded a partial scholarship (\$500) to a student in Santa Rosa Junior College’s Beginning Farmer and Rancher program. **Lynn Esposti** operates—with her partner Thor Bodtker--Stone Village Farms. Stone Village coordinates with several local produce CSA’s to provide products such as ducks, turkeys, chickens, pigs, and sheep. The farm raises and harvests the animals that are ordered by each CSA.

Last year, **Kelli Osman** received a scholarship from SCN, and her Oz Family (rabbit) Farm has been flourishing as a result of what she learned in the SRJC program.

### Other Donations

In June and July SCN also donated to [The Farmers Guild](#) and the [National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition](#).

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## Upcoming Events

### The National Heirloom Expo, September 9-11, 11 am-8 pm

Last year’s Expo drew more than 18,000 people, and showcased more than 100 speakers and 300 natural food vendors. This year’s Expo is on September 9-11, from 11 am to 8 pm at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds in Santa Rosa. A one-day adult ticket is \$10, and \$25 gets you all 3 days. For full information, go to [The National Heirloom Expo](#).



**Slow Food Sonoma County North and Russian River are sharing a display table** featuring their programs and projects. Stop by and see us!

### **Slow Night at the Movies, September 12, 7 pm**

Slow Night at the Movies will be showing *The Slow Food Story*, the history of Carlo Petrini and the growth of Slow Food. Donation is \$5; popcorn will be served and wine available for \$3/glass. Our barn theater is in Healdsburg; directions will be given upon registration at [slowfoodsonomacountynorth@gmail.com](mailto:slowfoodsonomacountynorth@gmail.com).



## **Why Join Slow Food—or Renew Your Membership?**

**When you join Slow Food you become part of a global community which is “going Slow:”**

celebrating and championing regional foods and food traditions, supporting farmers, creating school and community gardens, and joining members from disparate ends of the food system in debate and common cause.

You also become a member of our smaller, local community of northern Sonoma County and can participate in monthly events and our projects: the Ark of Taste, especially reviving the Bodega Red potato; scholarships for Beginning Farmers; gardens in elementary schools and after-school programs; an exchange program with AMIDI in Guatemala; and Slow Harvest which gleans surplus fruits and vegetables and donates them to food pantries.

In California, you are automatically part of Slow Food California, which is especially active in statewide and local food policies that reflect the Slow philosophy.

## **Welcome to those who have joined Sonoma County North since January, 2014!**

**Patricia Aresty**

**Bobette Barnes**

**\*Stephanie Callimanis**

**Dawn Dolan**

**\* Lynn Esposti**

**\*John Harasty**

**Haleah Hoshino**

**Rhonda Lee**

**David and Winky Merrill**

**\*Richard and Sandy Norgrove**

**Steve and Susan Nurse**

**Sarah Preston**

**Sam and Shelley Witten**

**And welcome back to Bill Merkes and Jan Mettler!**

\*Every year we give up to 4 gift memberships to people who actively represent Slow Food values and goals.



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