

2012 Teacher Appreciation Wine Dinner

February 2, 2012 at Silverado Vineyards

See page 2

Ag Day

March 16, 2012

at Napa Expo Fairgrounds

See page 3



AITC Annual Fall Newsletter 2011-2012 School Year

11th Anniversary of Napa's Agriculture in the Classroom

We are proud to announce that Napa County Farm Bureau's Agriculture in the Classroom is moving into our 11th year! Our mission has stayed the same since our inception:

To Teach Children About Agriculture.

- Napa teachers have the opportunity to attend the California AITC conference in San Francisco on October 19 with expenses covered by Napa's AITC.
- AITC supplies Napa County teachers with a FREE Teacher Resource Guide and lesson plans to teach interesting, informative curricula that meet Content Standards for California Public Schools.
- AITC supports Napa County teachers with school garden workshops, classroom contests, scholarships to attend exciting statewide conferences, a monthly e-newsletter with recipes and lesson ideas, FREE field trips to Ag Day at the Napa Expo Fairgrounds, and our fabulous Teacher Appreciation Wine Dinner.
- AITC brings agriculture education to the classroom with our new Ag Trunk program, in partnership with the Napa Valley Museum.

Please join us in our mission this school year. Together, we can preserve the future of agriculture through dynamic, hands-on learning!

AITC Resources

- ⇒ Check out AITC's websites:
www.cfaitc.org
www.napafarmbureau.org
- ⇒ Come check out AITC's **Lending Library**, with great books related to agriculture
- ⇒ Attend the **CFAITC Conference** in San Francisco
- ⇒ **School Garden** resources
- ⇒ **AG TRUNK Program** gives an in-class demonstration of agriculture
- ⇒ **Scholarships** for Teachers and Students
- ⇒ **E-Newsletter** with tips and resources for teachers



Available to Borrow:

Which Fibers Do You Wear?

You may know that your favorite jeans are True Religion, or Wranglers, or Sevens. You may know which tie or scarf your mother gave you for Christmas. But do you know where these clothing items came from? Do you know the fibers that make them? Most of your clothing has an origin in **Agriculture**. Farmers grew the cotton to be made into tee shirts and jeans, the flax to make linen, and the jute to make burlap sacks. Ranchers raised the sheep for wool, silk worms for silk, and rabbits for angora. To learn more about the fibers that we wear, teachers, parents, and those who are curious may borrow the Napa AITC fibers display board as well as sample fibers, a basket of clothing items, and the book *Unraveling Fibers* by Patricia A. Keeler and Francis X. McCall, Jr. E-mail or contact Michelle Risso at aitc@napafarmbureau.org or 707 224-5404 .

Farm Tour and Wine Tasting: Teachers sign up for our new fall afternoon tour. On **October 1st** teachers are invited to tour Long Meadow Ranch gardens and Frog's Leap Winery. Learn about bringing the garden to your class and about sustainable farming. **11:00-2:30 Lunch and wine provided.** Contact aitc@napafarmbureau.org or 707 224-5404 for reservations.

2011-2012 Calendar of Events & Information

AITC Steering Committee

Would you like to have a voice in the future of agriculture education efforts in Napa County? Join us for these tri-yearly strategy sessions at the Napa County Farm Bureau boardroom. Meetings are at 4 p.m. September 27th, 2010; January 24, 2011; May 22, 2011

E- Newsletter- Monthly During Academic Year

Sign up to receive our electronic newsletter! AITC will send you pertinent info on events, workshops, gardening tips, a teacher's corner, funding opportunities and resources.

October 1, 2011- Garden Tour and Wine Tasting Long Meadow Ranch and Frog's Leap Winery. Lunch and wine included (*see page 1*)

November 1, 2011- Imagine This...

Creative writing contest entries due November 1, 2010

December 31, 2011 - Crop Report Art Contest

Art contest entries due to Napa County Agriculture Commissioner's office by 4:30 p.m. (*see page 1*)

February 2, 2012- Teacher Appreciation Wine Dinner Annual reception and dinner to honor Napa County teachers at Silverado Vineyards (*see article at left*)

March 16, 2012- "Ag Day" FREE ag education field trip for Napa County students and families at Napa Expo Fairgrounds (*see page 3*)

April 1, 2012- Aldo Delfino Scholarship

Annual scholarship for high school seniors planning to study agriculture at a college level. Applications due to Napa County Farm Bureau offices by 5 p.m. on April 1, 2012 (*see page 3*)

May 11, 2012- Meadow Muffin Ag Education Golf Classic

This incredible fun fundraiser is always sold out! Agriculture professionals from across California come together to raise money for ag education at Eagle Vines Golf Club, Napa.

Raffle prize at the Teacher Appreciation Wine Dinner Silverado Vineyard

Honoring Teachers!



Please join AITC and your fellow teachers for a lovely evening of wine,

dinner, resources, and fun at our annual **Teacher Appreciation Wine Dinner**. This year's event will be held on February 2, 2012, at the renowned winery, Silverado Vineyards in Napa.

The Teacher Appreciation Event is complimentary and welcomes all teachers in Napa County. The event provides a wonderful opportunity for teachers to gather in one of the Valley's most beautiful wineries to enjoy an elegant wine dinner. The evening's program includes special guest speakers, agriculture education teaching resources and lesson ideas, and many fabulous door prizes.

Invitations will be sent to schools via school mail after winter break. We hope that you will join us for this event which has become a winter highlight for many of the accomplished teachers in Napa County.

Call AITC at (707) 224-5403 x104 or email aipc@napafarmbureau.org for more information or to reserve your spot

Please Join Us

Teacher Appreciation Wine Dinner

Silverado Vineyards, Napa

February 2, 2012 5:30p.m.- 7:30p.m.

2012 Day at the Farm

Celebrate National Agriculture Week!



Agriculture in the Classroom and the Napa County Ag Commissioner are hosting Napa's ninth annual "Ag Day" event to celebrate National Agriculture Week. This is an exciting, **FREE**, fun field trip for students and families in Napa County. It is geared for grades 1st-4th. We will have exhibits from all over the state of California. We want to show children what makes our state the number one agricultural economy in the USA!

Don't miss out on the mobile dairy unit (see where milk comes from and how!), sheep shearing demonstrations, Clo the cow, modern and antique tractors, Sharpie the glassy winged sharpshooter, livestock guardian dogs, herding demonstrations and much more!

This very popular event is **FREE** and there are limited **bus transportation scholarships** available. Reserve your buses early! Call 224.5403 x104 or email aitc@napafarmbureau.org for more information.

Aldo Delfino Scholarship Program

AITC and the Napa County Farm Bureau are proud to annually award Aldo Delfino scholarships to graduating high school seniors planning to study agriculture at a college level. The scholarship honors the late Aldo Delfino, former Napa County Agricultural Commissioner. This year alone Napa AITC gave out \$4,500.

Scholarship applications are sent to Napa County high schools in January. Completed applications are reviewed by AITC and eligible applicants are contacted and interviewed by a committee of teachers and agriculture professionals. AITC and NCFB are proud to support Napa County's students as they progress toward their successful and gratifying careers in agriculture.

Interested high school seniors should contact their counselors, agriculture teachers or Michelle Risso, 707.224.5403 ext. 104, or aitc@napafarmbureau.org

Completed applications will be due at the Napa County Farm Bureau offices by Friday April 2, 2012.

Pictured at left are 2011 Aldo recipients with Michelle Risso (Jenna Laughlin and Melia Manter). Not pictured are Shelby Zumwalt, Zachary Alfaro, Emily Lider, David Whalin, and Rachel White.



See, Taste, Touch, & Smell California Agriculture

Napa's Agriculture in the Classroom, along with the Napa Valley Museum, have developed an Agriculture Trunk. Teachers in the Napa Valley may sign up through the NV Museum or AITC to have the trunk and a trained docent visit their classrooms and share the exciting lessons and hands on agricultural treasures from the trunk. The Agricultural trunk uses state approved curriculum standards developed for kindergarten through eight grade students and each visit is tailored to the appropriate grade level. It teaches students about the top 10 agricultural commodities of California in a fun and interactive classroom presentation. Students will learn about crops grown in California, water resources in California, and sustainable agricultural practices throughout California. Featured artifacts include toys, pictures, diagrams, miniature tractors, edible food samples to taste.



Check out www.napavalleymuseum.org or call AITC at (707) 224-5404 for more information.

Bruschetta Recipe

Garden to Classroom lesson submitted by Debbie King, third grade teacher at West Park School and long time AITC committee member. This recipe comes from *The Young Chef's Italian Cookbook* by Crabtree publishers. This is a great recipe to showcase fresh garden tomatoes and basil (If you do not have tomatoes in your school garden ask your students if anyone has tomatoes in their home gardens)

Ingredients

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 loaf bakery bread | 4 Tbls extra virgin olive oil |
| 2 cloves garlic | salt and black pepper to taste |
| 12 fresh basil leaves | 4 large ripe tomatoes |
1. Slice bread and toast until golden brown
 2. Rub toast with garlic cloves
 3. Cut tomatoes in cubes and basil into small pieces (plastic knives work well in the classroom)
 4. Arrange tomatoes and basil on top of toast
 5. Drizzle the bruschetta with olive oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper to taste



Crop Report Art Contest

This is a local art contest co-sponsored by AITC and the Napa Ag Commissioner for **6th-12th grade students**. First place art will be printed on the cover of the 2011 Crop Report and will be awarded \$250. Second and Third place art will be displayed on the inside cover and receive \$150 and \$100. *Submit entries to the Napa Ag Commissioner's office by 12/31/11*

**SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTER! EMAIL US AT
aitc@napafarmbureau.org**

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