



2017

THE ALMOND CONFERENCE

THE ALMOND LEADERSHIP PROGRAM: WHERE IT'S TAKEN ME

Room 314 | December 7 2017



AGENDA

- **Jenny Nicolau**, Almond Board of California, moderator
- **Daniel Bays**, Bays Ranch
- **Ryan Cosyns**, Cosyns Farms
- **Micah Zeff**, Montpelier Nut Company
- **Stan Chance**, Yosemite Farm Credit
- **Sim Batth**, Prudential Agricultural Investments



A close-up photograph of several green almonds on a branch, surrounded by vibrant green leaves. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the orchard. The lighting is natural, highlighting the texture of the almond shells and the freshness of the leaves.

The Almond Leadership Program:

Where It's Taken Me

Almond Leadership Program

- Vision and Mission
- History
- A Look at 2017
- Testimonials
- Discussion



Vision and Mission

MISSION



To engage members of the almond community in creating a culture of lifelong leadership development, networking, education, and service.

VISION



Cultivate and inspire passionate leaders for years to come.

Nine Years of Greatness

- More than 115 graduates of the program
- Shift from “What’s in it for me?” to “How can I serve my industry” mentality
- Mission and vision finalized
- Logo created
- Industry knowledge transfer
- Mentors paired with participants
- Raising funds for FFA scholarships
- Community service



Highlights of 2017

Global, Technical and Regulatory Affairs

“My favorite part about yesterday’s seminar was learning about the TRAC committee’s responsibilities and their dedication to taking a proactive approach to regulatory affairs, which helps set the ABC apart from other nut commodities. Additionally, it was quite a treat having the opportunity to tour the Stanford Mansion, sip cocktails with ABC board members, and eat dinner at such a monumental historic property.”

– Christina Brichetto, Terra Nova Trading Inc.



Growing Concerns

“I loved spending the day in the fields; the birthplace of our industry! It was interesting to get to see the variety trial plantings and I will definitely be going back to look around more closely at the different varieties planted. It was very generous of Wes Asai to welcome all of us into his home. I loved his honesty about balancing the regulations, his water struggles, and his willingness to discuss the struggles he faces; not something many farmers like to do. You can tell that Wes is someone who loves what he does and has found a way to do it on his own terms and been successful in doing so. I also enjoyed hearing Bob and Gabrielle talk about their work and the research they have done. I'm impressed with the efforts they have gone to in order to provide information to the growers to better improve their practices and in turn, profits.”

– Michelle Penney, Del Rio Nut Co.



Burchell Nursery; Team Building (Oakdale; Knights Ferry)

“The whole almond budding-grafting process and witnessing the detail and finesse that goes into it was amazing”. And off course the second half of it team building, nature hike and the hunt for ice-cream sundae was like icing on the cake. A day definitely spent well!”

– Bikramjit Singh, Bapu Almond Co. Inc.



Honey Extraction Tour; Meet and Greet with CA State FFA Officers

“Our trip to Ryan Cosyns beekeeping operation was fantastic. This was an area that most of us knew little about, but learned a great deal. It was interesting to see the nuts and bolts of honey extraction. Ryan was willing to answer any and every question which provided great insights into the bee and honey business. It was great meeting the CA FFA officers. They were so professional, polite and eager to learn. It is great for them to see all that CA ag, including the almond industry, has to offer.”

– Robert Holtermann, Holtermann Farms



Nutrition Research (ABC Office)

“The depth of knowledge held by the staff at the ABC never ceases to amaze me. The fact that someone took pictures of raw vs roasted almonds in a scanning electron microscope is the coolest thing I have seen this year.”

– Luke Heuer, Heuer Farms



Madera Children's Hospital (Madera)

“The Madera Children's Hospital event was truly humbling. I am grateful we had the opportunity to briefly entertain the kids, with fun almond art and activities, while they are going through challenging times. Surprisingly, the kids remind me of the way I see the ag community. Proud, hardworking, honest, resilient and always happy to be with family. It was a wonderful experience.”

– Ashley Hollis, Almond Alliance of California

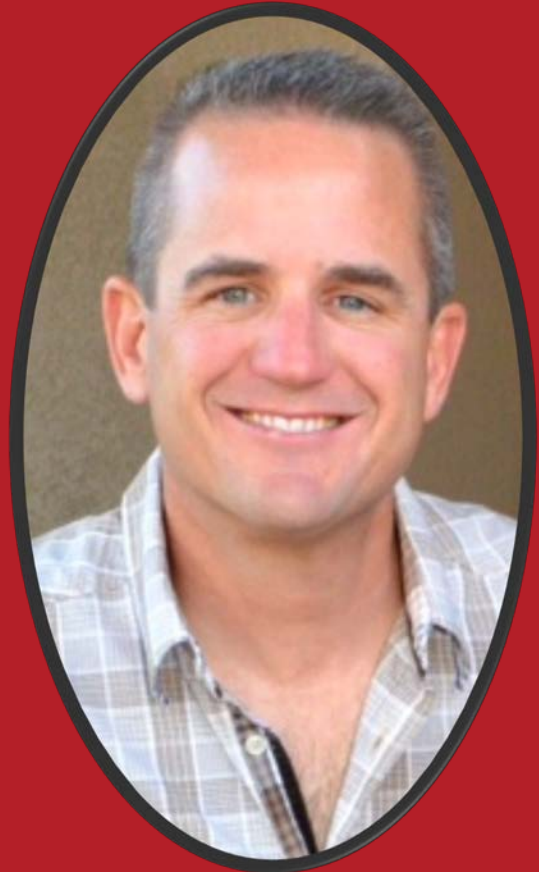


Daniel Bays

Bays Ranch



Ryan Cosyns
Cosyns Farms Bee Company



Micah Zeff
Montpelier Nut Co.



Stan Chance
Yosemite Farm Credit



Sim Batth

Prudential Agricultural Investments



Your Turn!



A close-up photograph of an almond tree branch. The branch is covered with vibrant green, serrated leaves. A single, fuzzy, light-brown almond bud is prominently featured in the center-left of the frame, hanging from the branch. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green, suggesting a healthy orchard.

Almond Leadership Program

**Applications
due 12/8/17**

Almonds.com/AlmondLeadershipProgram

Thank you!



What's Next

Thursday, December 7 at 3:30 p.m.

- FSMA and Electronic Record Keeping: Moving Beyond Paper Logs and Excel – Room 314
- What to Consider Before and After Harvest – Room 308-309
- Proposition 65: When Is a Warning Required? – Room 306-307



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