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## CLCA Legislative Conference

By Megan Rios, Director of Legislation

This year's CLCA Legislative Action Conference in Sacramento was very successful. Six members of CLCA's Legislative Committee were able to participate--Pete Dufau, Mickey Strauss, Richard Cohen, Dave Norred, CLCA President Aaron Huxley, and Megan Rios--along with our CLCA Executive Director Sandra Giarde, and CLCA's legislative advocate Maria Garcia of Greenberg Traurig.

On the first day the group focused on CLCA's support of the Contractors State License Board (CSLB) and it's work against the rampant underground economy, or unlicensed operators. Recently the board has been focusing on unlicensed operators who have been taking advantage of unknowing property owners after the fires and mudslides in Northern and Southern California. CLCA is supporting a budget request or allocation from the state to the CSLB for \$1 million to conduct a targeted public outreach campaign in those impacted areas to promote using licensed landscape professionals and educate the public regarding possible scams and fraud.

CLCA also supports these bills that will help CSLB fight against unlicensed, illegal operators:

- AB 2046 (Daly) Allows easier access of data between state agencies to investigate workers' compensation fraud.

(continued on page 6)

Wednesday, April 18

## Panel Discussion

Join us on Wednesday, April 18, for a panel discussion with 3 prominent Bay Area landscape contracting professionals. They will give their take on industry trends, innovations, how they got to where they are, what changes they have seen in the industry since they started, and much more. This is an opportunity to learn from some of our top industry leaders. Come, listen, ask questions, and learn how to be a smarter landscape contractor!

When	Wednesday, April 18th, 2018 5:30 p.m. networking • 6:30 p.m. dinner and presentation
Where	Michaels at Shoreline 2960 North Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View
Cost	\$40.00 per person. No host bar.
Speaker	Landscape Panel Discussion
Menu	New York Strip with Peppercorn Sauce Salmon with Lemon Beurre Blanc Sauces Chicken Cordon Blu Grilled Vegetable Brochette with Wild Rice
RSVP	For information and to RSVP, email Erhard Wegman at <a href="mailto:erhard@theswissfarmer.com">erhard@theswissfarmer.com</a> .

If you RSVP for an event and are unable to attend, you must cancel your reservation at least 48 hours prior to the event to receive a refund. If you do not cancel your reservation 48 hours prior to the event, you will be invoiced for the reservation and/or your fees will NOT be refunded.

Saturday, May 12

## Garden Tour

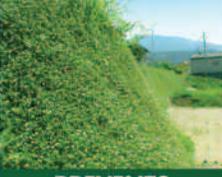
Join us on Saturday, May 12, as we visit award-winning, sustainable, water-wise residential gardens and commercial landscape installations. Learn first-hand from the contractors who installed and/or maintain them about the challenges of each job. Enjoy the camaraderie of fellow members.

Watch your email for more information!



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# Collaboration is Key to CLCA's Success

By Fanny Obadia, Green Thumbs Up



What an exciting month it's been! And I have 13 new friends!

I recently attended the Chapter Presidents Council meeting in Sacramento. At this meeting all of the presidents of the various CLCA chapters meet to discuss current issues affecting our industry. We share information about events organized by the various chapter boards and whether or not they've been successful. We set priorities for the year, and we network with each other, sharing our passion for helping others succeed in the industry. During this meeting, the 13 attending presidents unanimously agreed that our priority this year will be increasing our membership, and exposing as many wannabe contractors as possible to the CLCA.

We also discussed how to best give back to the community by planning projects to help non-profits with their most pressing needs. I believe that we can have the most impact by teaming up with them on projects they've already planned. I'd like to hear what some of your favorite non-profits are here in the San Francisco Bay Area. Imagine what it would look like with over 50 contractors, each wearing a T-shirt showing both the CLCA and charity logos. Think of what impact our collaboration could have on the community!

Our luncheon at Michael's this month was very well attended. Immigration was the topic, and we had Ottis Landerholm, Esq., an expert on immigration law, as our guest speaker. Luncheon guests were captivated as he shared his in-depth knowledge and passion with us. Who knew that there were over 20 types of visas? Or how many innocent people are being held in detention centers, separated from their

families? It was great to see many new faces, and of course, longtime friends at this luncheon event. I sincerely thank all of you very much for attending and bringing your friends. Special thanks to our sponsors who make these events possible.

I encourage anyone who wants to become involved with immigration reform to visit [www.clca.org](http://www.clca.org) and read up on the latest legislative efforts at the state level. Fight for your good employees; they need you! On the [clca.org](http://clca.org) website you will also find forms to sign and send to your state representatives. Every little bit that you do can make a difference.

We have some action-packed months coming up. The garden tour, landscape awards, and the golf tournament are but a few to look forward to. We are also planning some great educational events, so stay tuned. I sincerely hope to see you again at some of these events.

I'd love to get your feedback and hear your comments or questions about what our chapter is doing. If you have any thoughts on what you'd like to see in the future, please let me know. This chapter is about you, our members, so please let me know how we can better serve your needs. Email at [GreenThumbsUpinc@Gmail.com](mailto:GreenThumbsUpinc@Gmail.com)

Happy April!  
Happy Passover!  
Happy Easter!

Fanny Obadia  
2018 President, CLCA San Francisco Bay Area Chapter

## Calendar of Events

### April

- 10 Chapter President's Council Meeting, Sacramento, CA
- 18 SFBA Chapter General Membership Meeting. Educational event. See page 1.
- 26 Chapter Board Meeting. 5 p.m. Peninsula Building Materials, 2490 Charleston Rd., Mountain View.
- 27 5:00 p.m. Awards Entry Deadline.

### May

- 4 5:00 p.m. Awards Late Entry Deadline.
- 10 SFBA Chapter General Meeting. Educational Event. Details TBA.
- 12 SFBA Chapter Garden Tour. Details TBA.
- 15-17 SFBA Chapter Awards Judging.
- 24 Auxiliary Meeting.
- 24 Chapter Board Meeting. 5 p.m. Peninsula Building Materials, 2490 Charleston Rd., Mountain View.

### June

- 15 SFBA Chapter Awards Banquet. University Club, Palo Alto.
- 28 Chapter Board Meeting. 5 p.m. Peninsula Building Materials, 2490 Charleston Rd., Mountain View.

### July

- 12 SFBA Chapter Educational Meeting. Earthquakes: What Should We Do. Details to be announced.

### August

- 9 SFBA Chapter Event. Details to be announced.
- 23 Chapter Board Meeting. 5 p.m. Peninsula Building Materials, 2490 Charleston Rd., Mountain View.

### September

- 27 Chapter Board Meeting. 5 p.m. Peninsula Building Materials, 2490 Charleston Rd., Mountain View.

### October

- 25 Chapter Board Meeting. 5 p.m. Peninsula Building Materials, 2490 Charleston Rd., Mountain View.

# Chapter Project Planned (c. 1972)

“Chuck Rich of Valley Crest Landscape, inc. presented to your Board of Directors the perfect solution to our waning budget and the chance to spread “good will” for our Association.

“When the ‘We Care Day Treatment Center for Multi-Handicapped Children’ of Concord requested landscaping with a proposed budget of \$2,500, Chuck checked out the area and, realizing that the landscaping would prove inadequate for this amount, offered them \$5,000 worth of landscaping for the \$2,500 by making this a CLCA project. The Board approved this and are now asking all the members and associate members to “Rally ‘Round the Chapter Boys” and donate time, materials and equipment to make this a really big success and worthwhile project (plus add \$2,500 to our budget).

“Plans for this landscaping will be furnished by Tom Baak, Landscape Architect with Charles Delk & Associates; Chairman will be Chuck Rich; Committee will include Roger Fiske, Ken Gerlack, Leo Ott, Joe Korematsu, Paul Albright, and any other volunteers(s). We are also asking our always helpful Grass Widows to back up this endeavor by furnishing lunches, coffee and moral support.”



Above: Chuck Rich, chairman of the chapter project, receiving a certificate of appreciation from Chapter President Leo Ott.

# Images of Yesteryear



At left: The CLCA San Francisco Bay Area chapter installed landscaping at the We Care Day Treatment Center fo Multi-Handicapped Children of Concord as a chapter project in 1972.



Above: Joe Korematsu and Hans Biland.



Above: John Lyngso and Paul Albright.



Above left: Leo Ott.



Above right: Second from left Charlotte Rich, Betty Jenner, Barbara Milliff, Charlene Ott, Diana Albright.

At right: Stel Papadopoulos and helpers (Evergreen Landscape Contractors) donated approximately 30 foot Monterey Pine.



## Landscape Technician Certificate Available at Foothill College

A new 18-unit certificate is now available for students who want to obtain a college credential through a combination of classwork and on-the-job training. The Landscape Technician Certificate requires work experience by enrolling in a series of 2-unit courses (Hort 80A Fall quarter, 80B Winter quarter, 80C Spring quarter, and 80D Summer quarter), and then completing an additional 10 units of in-class courses during the school year. The 10 units can be any course offered by the program, and can be selected to enhance skills in construction, fine gardening, pruning, drawing/drafting, CADD, irrigation, pest management and an array of other topics.

This certificate was created to help employees improve their skills while working without having to commit to a full time academic schedule. The program also offers those students who are in a job and want to explore a new skill area the opportunity to learn and work. The horticulture program also offers a 65-unit Certificate and an Associate of Science Degree. Classes are available and students can begin by enrolling in Foothill College. For information email david sauter at sauterdavid@fhda.edu

## Auxiliary Makes Donation to Candy Fiske Honorarium

At a recent Auxiliary Board Meeting, the board voted to donate \$1000 to the Candy Fiske Honorarium LEAF Scholarship Fund matching a recent donation made by the SFBA Chapter Auxiliary. The Auxiliary would like to invite those who know Candy to make their own donation to this fund. To make a donation, send a check payable to "LEAF" to: CLCA, 1491 River Park Drive, #100, Sacramento, CA 95815.

In addition, the proceeds from the upcoming LEAF Raffle at the Achievement Awards have also been earmarked for this Honorarium.

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# An Invitation from the Auxiliary to Representatives of CLCA Members

On behalf of the members of the Auxiliary of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, I would like to extend a cordial invitation to become a member of the Auxiliary. Like any auxiliary, we function as an assistance and support group to CLCA and are very committed to the future of the landscape industry. At the local level, we lend a helping hand when needed and/or requested throughout the year, often in the form of organizing functions, providing refreshments and meals during specific activities or just being there when the association needs us. The Auxiliary, in its continued dedication to the future of CLCA and the landscape industry, spearheads fundraising efforts for the local community colleges offering horticulture degrees.



*Each year the Auxiliary hosts the chapter picnic, a perennial favorite for chapter members.*

At the state level, the Auxiliary established the Landscape Educational Advancement Foundation (LEAF) in order to provide scholarships to college level students, and educational grants.

The joys of fellowship and accomplishment of jobs well done have led to lasting friendships among CLCA families. Several times a year, we meet "just for fun" with spouses and friends at outings and a potluck dinner. Meetings are called from time to time to work out details of specific chapter activities.

We can accomplish great things with your participation on whatever level of interest you may have and wish to share. Please won't you join us? If you have any questions or wish to speak with someone about the Auxiliary, please feel free to call me any time. My phone number is listed below. I'm looking forward to talking with you soon.

Mary Cohen

SFBA Chapter Auxiliary President

(408) 981-2955 • maryecohen@gmail.com

### Application to Join CLCA SFBA Chapter Auxiliary

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/ Associate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliated Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a check for \$25 made payable to CLCA Auxiliary (SFBA Chapter in memo) and mail to:

Rick Camin, Auxiliary Treasurer  
855 Sierra Vista Avenue  
Mountain View, CA 94043

**Welcome to the Auxiliary. We're glad you joined!**

(continued from page 1: Legislative Conference)

- AB2705 (Holden) Provides CSLB with additional authority to extend prosecution of unlicensed operators from one year to two years to match the same timeline for licensed contractors and level the playing field.
- SB 1042 (Monning) Provides CSLB with the authority to host informal citations appeals conference to resolve administrative issues and thus conserve financial resources.
- SB 1217 (Galgiani) Expands the Tax Recovery and Criminal Enforcement Task Force within the California Department of Justice to combat unlicensed operators thru multi-agency collaboration.

CLCA received positive feedback for these common-sense additions to the law and support for a state agency by the public industry.

The group from CLCA also focused on voicing a need for the Legislature to alleviate business cost and litigation pressures. The last several years have seen the minimum wage increased, the gas tax increased, family leave expanded, and the implementation of mandatory sick leave, which has increased costs as well as administrative work for CLCA members and all businesses in our state. CLCA members urged their representatives to limit the number of bills that involve increasing taxes as well as those that expand the window of opportunity for employees to file complaints against employers citing concerns that these types of legislation increase burdens, limit companies from growing, and stall economic growth.

CLCA opposes the following bills, which

are bad for business:

- AB 2587 (Levine) Eliminates employer's ability to require that an employee take up to two weeks of earned but unused vacation as a part of employee's Paid Family Leave.
- AB 2067 (Bonita) Undermines an employer's ability to provide a safe, drug free workplace by creating a new protection classification for employees who use marijuana for medical purposes.
- AB 2946 (Kalra) Extends from six months to three years for any past or present employee to file a complaint with the Labor Commissioner.

CLCA supports the following bills, which are good for business:

- AB 2131 (Melendez) Reduces the minimum franchise tax by 50% for every business corporation.
- AB 2353 (Frazier) Shortens the timeframe for action against a person or business for a construction defect from ten years to five years after substantial completion of the project.
- AB 2410 (Grayson) Reduces the annual tax for small limited liability companies from \$800 to \$400 for first two years of operation beginning 2020.
- AB 2510 (Muratsuchi) Reduces the annual tax for microbusinesses (businesses with annual income of \$150,000 or less) from \$800 to \$100 retroactively effective January 1, 2018.

If you are interested in becoming involved with the Legislative Committee, please contact Megan Rios 661-835-9259 or [meganr@riosdesign.com](mailto:meganr@riosdesign.com).

## Foothill College Hort Club

# Annual Plant Sale on the Horizon

Submitted by KC Coverdell

As yet another quarter comes to an end, the students of Foothill get a week break before gearing up for their new spring classes. The Foothill Environmental Horticulture and Landscape Design program is not only an incredible opportunity for these students but for anyone interested in the Landscape/Horticulture Industry. The Program welcomes all. We strongly suggest taking a look at the classes offered - this is a great way to brush up on plant identification and to learn some different design theory.

The Foothill Environmental Horticulture and Landscape Design program is hosting its annual plant sale on April 21. The students and faculty will be selling a diverse collection of plants, including trees, as well as hard goods. Proceeds will benefit the program directly for future improvements and supplies. The Hort Club will also be holding a BBQ Fundraiser at the same time to keep everyone fed. Please come out to the campus and support both the Foothill Horticulture Program and Horticulture Club. For more information on this and other events, visit the Foothill Hort Club website at [foothillhort.com](http://foothillhort.com) or our Facebook page (CLCA Foothill Horticulture Club Group and CLCA Foothill Horticulture Club: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/104250426888343/> and <https://www.facebook.com/CLCA-Foothill-Horticulture-Club-166950696687347/>).



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# Partners for Success

By Jeff Henninger

It's spring and time to get out and show off the landscapes your company has been installing and maintaining. That's right, it's time to enter your best work in the Landscape Awards. We're all curious to see the best of the best in this year's entries. May is also time for the Garden Tour -- the event which allows us all to see behind the scenes of some of these most excellent landscape creations.

Both of these great events are made possible through the generous support of our sponsors. Please support the companies who support our chapter. If you would like to join this elite group, please feel free to contact me, Jeff Henninger, at (925) 698-8295 or email [jhenninger@deltabluegrass.com](mailto:jhenninger@deltabluegrass.com).

Partners information can also be found at [www.clcasfba.org/whoware/#Partners](http://www.clcasfba.org/whoware/#Partners).

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## Garden Tour

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- Oliver Frank Landscapia

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And, if you need legal advice, call CLCA's Attorney on Retainer, Bill Porter at (916) 381-7868. When calling, please identify yourself as a CLCA member and mention: CLCA HELPS

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## CLCA Mission Statement

The California Landscape Contractors Association serves the interests of its members, promotes professionalism, and advances public awareness of the landscape industry.

The CLCA SFBA Chapter newsletter is published monthly. Copy and advertising deadlines are the 10th of the month preceding publication. Please send all copy, black & white photos, line art and ad materials to: Jerrie Beard & Associates, PO Box 7, Pollock Pines CA 95726. Emailed submissions are welcome at [jsb@beardassociates.com](mailto:jsb@beardassociates.com). For information on advertising and rates, contact Jerrie Beard at (530) 621-1701.

Articles submitted are subject to approval and modification. Chapter or Editor are not liable for misprints or errors, and do not necessarily agree with opinions expressed in byline articles. Articles may be used by other CLCA chapter newsletters, giving proper credit to their source.

# ~KURAPIA~

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