September 2025 SV CWA Newsletter

Note from the President

September in the Salinas Valley feels like a quiet breath between seasons—a moment of reflection before the rhythm of harvest operations shifts southward to Arizona. This annual migration of agricultural flow is more than just logistics; it's a reminder of the interconnectedness of our growing regions and the resilience of the people who make it all happen. As growers, we pause to take stock of the year so far, appreciating the bounty of the Valley and the strength of the community that supports it—including the incredible women of California Women for Agriculture.

For CWA, September was a time of reconnection and celebration. Members from across the state came together in Fresno for our Statewide Meeting and the beloved Ag Boosters BBQ on September 6 & 7. For 47 years, this event has raised over \$1 million to support the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology at Fresno State and CWA's mission to empower women in agriculture. The energy and success of this month's gathering set a vibrant tone as we look ahead to CWA's 50th Anniversary Golden Weekend Celebration, November 7–9 in La Quinta, CA.

This milestone event will honor five decades of advocacy, leadership, and passion—qualities that have helped shape the agricultural landscape of California. From policy influence to educational outreach, CWA has been a driving force behind the scenes, especially during times of transition like the one we're experiencing now. I'm thrilled to be attending the celebration as my first CWA Statewide Meeting. I look forward to connecting with chapter members, learning through our tours, and celebrating the legacy of strong women who continue to lead the way in farming and agricultural advocacy.



California Women for Agriculture gathers for a group photo during the Ag Booster BBQ in Fresno September 7, 2025. Photo Credits Cheryl Lambert.

Membership Spotlight

We would like to welcome all our new and returning members to the Salinas Valley Chapter of the California Women for Agriculture! The Membership Spotlight is a chance to highlight one of our amazing members each month, building connections within our chapter.

Email <u>SaliansValleyCWA@gmail.com</u> if you're interested in being highlighted for our Membership Spotlight next month!

2025 Meetings & Events

See upcoming events on our "What's Happening" page for Board Meetings and Membership Events, and always keep an eye on your inbox!

<u>Pumpkin Painting with Monterey County 4-H</u> – October 11, 2025. We're thrilled to partner with Monterey County 4-H for this festive fall event! Youth members from 4-H will join us to paint pumpkins, and our CWA members are invited to volunteer and assist with the activities. Please email <u>SalinasValleyCWA@gmail.com</u> if you'd like to volunteer for this event.

Our next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, November 18, 2025 from 5:30-6:30 pm. In person attendance will be 19045 Portola Dr, Salinas, CA, 93908. Virtual attendance can be done so through Google Meeting linked here.

Committees

Interested in joining a committee? Email <u>SalinasValleyCWA@gmail.com</u>.

Scholarship

In our continuing commitment to promote awareness and education, the Salinas Valley Chapter of California Women for Agriculture (CWA) offers two scholarship programs for women in Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties.



This year, we awarded over \$18,000 in scholarships to 25 young women!

Photo Contest

Our 2025 Photo Contest is closed and we give a huge thank you to all those that participated by submitting their beautiful photos! See submissions on our website.

Start thinking about your submissions for next year! Maximum of 2 entries per person, photos should reflect agriculture, and photo format should be vertical with at least 300 dpi.

Bus Trip

Save the Date for our <u>Annual Bus Trip</u> on November 1, 2025! The bus trip serves as a fundraiser for scholarships as well as a recreational activity for our members. If you are interested in helping please contact <u>bustrip@salinascwa.org</u>.

<u>Individual tickets</u> and <u>sponsorship opportunities</u> are available NOW! <u>Visit our website</u> for more information.

