

Green Sheets- Summer Edition

Message from the President

Hello San Joaquin IFT! I like my new title, “Immediate Past President” as that means we have some great new leadership taking over the reins of the SJIFT. We will introduce our new Executive Board below. I hope you all had a great summer. I love this time of year...a time of great production and a time of reflection of how truly blessed we are to live in the great San Joaquin Valley. This year, we reaped the benefit of plentiful rainfall this past winter with bountiful harvest of almonds, grapes/raisins, tree fruit of every kind, cotton, etc, etc.

Our SJIFT Section is also growing. When we formed in 2015, we had 131 members. We now have a membership list of 204! We didn't have any big membership drives, but every one of our SJIFT Board Members actively recruits companies, students and food professionals to participate in the IFT, and those efforts are paying dividends in membership growth. This year, we were honored as one of the top 3 IFT sections in the USA for membership growth, and we received a \$500 grant from IFT for our efforts!

Our SJIFT executive leadership has a great lineup of food professionals to help guide us through the next governing year (which starts on September 1). Here are our new officers for 2017-18:

President: Brittney Cemo (National Raisin Company)

President Elect: Jordan Bolin (National Raisin Company)

Immediate Past President: Scott Nichols (The HORN Company)

Secretary: Nicole Miranda (Munger Farms)

Treasurer: Kady Francone (National Raisin Company)

Member at Large: Pam Sweeten (Shepard Brothers)

Member at Large: Kimberly Kurisu (Lyons Magnus)

Member at Large: Kelly Williamson (CSU Fresno)

CSUF Student Board Member: Trent Little (CSU Fresno)

The fall is also a favorite time for me as that is when our Scholarship Golf Tournament takes place. This year, we are celebrating our 20th anniversary! We will hold it on Monday November 6, 2017 at the Copper River Country Club and sign-ups are coming in at an active pace. I expect we will sell out, so sign up at our website, WWW.SJIFTGOLF.COM.

We are working to put together a schedule of educational events, meetings and social events to benefit our membership for the upcoming year and we will send

Summer is here in the San Joaquin Valley, which means that many of us in the Food Industry are up to our ears with harvest. This is the busiest time of year for many of us; at the same time, it is what we thrive on. Happy Harvest Everyone!

Also, the highlight of Summer is the Annual IFT Conference. This year, our section was recognized as a Section of Excellence for the Third year in a row. Thank you to the hard work that all members of the Board and the community put in each year to make this one of the best sections in the Country

Upcoming Events- Golf Tournament- Get ready for the best Scholarship Golf Classic yet! Our 20th Anniversary Classic is going to be one for the books. The tournament will be held on Monday, November 6th at Copper River Country Club, featuring one of the most challenging courses in the valley.

After a day of great golf and fun, a tri- tip dinner will be served in indoor banquet facilities, followed by a Fresno State Ice Cream bar, which, if you don't play golf, is reason enough to purchase a dinner only package.



Fall Plant Tour- Each Fall, we tour a local plant, farm or processing facility. We are still planning this year's event. If you would like to show off your facility to the local industry professionals, we would love to hear from you! Please contact the board at events@sjift.org if you want your plant featured on our fall plant tour! -Nicole Miranda

Working with CVIFT for Events- We had the wonderful opportunity to join in on a networking event at Hilmar Cheese Company. Events like these are a great way to expand our club and to widen our circles, and we are extremely fortunate to have other sections in the area that open their doors to our members. Thank you to CVIFT for welcoming our members to your events!

out announcements as we nail down our venues and speakers. We are looking forward to a great year!

Best regards
Scott Nichols



Meet the Board

Welcome to Kady Francone, from National Raisin Company. She is joining the Board to fill the Treasurer Position for a 3 year term, beginning 9/1/2017- 8/30/2020. Since she will be with us for such a long term, let's get to know Kady.

Kady Beth Francone was born and raised in the Eastern Sierra in the small town of Lone Pine, California. She moved over to Fresno in 2010 for college, where were attended both Reedley College and California State University Fresno. While at State, She majored in Food Science with an emphasis in Culinology. Kady graduated in the Spring of 2016, after which she interned at National Raisin Company in their R&D Lab and then was hired on full time in the R&D Department.

How did you end up working in the Food Industry? What is your background?

“Coming from an Italian family, food has always been a big part of my life. My parents would give different reasons as to why I went into the food industry. My mom would say it's because I have a passion for food. My dad would say it's because I'm stubborn and always did the opposite of what he told me, that being to not play with my food when I was younger. Both would be right, I have a passion for food and I enjoy playing with it. While at Fresno State, I worked at the Food Processing Plant and then was lucky enough to become part of the National Raisin Company team. “

What do you do outside of work?

“Outside of work I enjoy playing with my two dogs, going hiking, fishing, and hunting. When I get the chance, I really love to go home and hang out with my family. I enjoy riding my horses and competing in black powder shoots with my dad. I also love crafting with my mom and of course cooking/grilling food. I see life as an adventure and I want to be sure that I live it. “

What is your favorite food?

“It would come down to a perfectly cooked/seasoned medium rare steak, my mom's mac n cheese, chicken Alfredo pasta, and seafood. This is a hard one because I love food and I can't just choose one! “

Student Recognition Night

At our Student Recognition Night in April, we honored 5 CSUF Students with \$1000 scholarships:

Kelli Williamson Emily Campbell Valerie Rabaino

Trent Little Kimberly Williams

Please congratulate these future leaders of our local food industry!

Recent Events: New Professionals Night

Thank you to everyone who made it out our spring new professional's event at Vino Grille and Spirits. We had around 15 people in attendance. We enjoyed delicious appetizers and cocktails while networking with our peers in the food industry. It was a great night getting to learn about the variety of industries in the Valley and each of our specialties. If anyone has comments or recommendations for future events and/or venues please reach out to us on our web page at <http://sjift.org/> or leave a comment on our Facebook page. -Jordin Bolin



Questions? Comments? Concerns? If you have anything that you would like us to address, please contact the Board at Sanjoaquinift@gmail.com