

PRESS RELEASE

Proclaiming the Newly Formed Sierra County Growers Assn.

A new trade organization is born out of a conscientious & compliant community of cannabis patients and cultivators.

March 28, 2016: Sierra County Growers Association (SCGA) formed in February 2016 when a group of proactive cannabis patients and cultivators began weekly meetings to discuss current and future medical marijuana regulation in Sierra County and the state of California. With attendance of 20-40 participants at each meeting the group is focused on educating each other and the greater community on effective and sensible regulation, getting active in the political process and how to comply with current policy. There is no consuming of cannabis at the meetings. The public is invited to the meetings and the group will gladly address your questions and concerns. The schedule of meetings is available at www.sierracannabis.org.

At the March 12 meeting in Calpine the group heard a presentation from Roy Sherrell, Environmental Scientist at the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board in regards to applying for the appropriate permit from the agency for cannabis cultivation, the requirements to comply with best management practices to ensure environmental protection and how the agency will enforce its permitting program, taking the burden off local law enforcement.

On March 20th the Association organized a fundraiser in Alleghany that attracted hundreds of supporters and raised over \$4,000 for their efforts. The director of the California Growers Assn., Hezekiah Allen spoke about current and future medical marijuana policy at the state level and ways to be proactive locally. The crowd was entertained by local blues-rock band Hard Hattie and the Bad Men, served a delicious home-cooked meal, and tried their luck in a raffle contest with numerous appealing prizes.

The Association also focuses on community support and at each meeting collects donations for non-profit organizations throughout Sierra County. The group has distributed funds to the following organizations: Pike City Fire Dept, Alleghany town park, Loyalton Family Resource Center, Sierra Frontier Medical Resources, Downieville school's Headlands program & Sierra Schools Foundation. SCGA plans to make a generous contribution to agricultural and gardening programs at the Loyalton and Downieville schools this spring as well as sponsor a fundraiser for those efforts at the Sierra Valley Lodge in April.

SCGA is confident that through community outreach they can begin to eradicate the decades-old stereotypes its members are subjected to. The group hopes to dispel the misinformation that has kept

cannabis out of the consumer market only since 1937, less than 100 years and bring light to the scientifically proven medical, environmental and economical benefits.

SCGA stands up for all property right infringements and holds high-value for the protection of personal property rights and personal freedoms.

SCGA consists of mostly long-time residents from all corners of Sierra County, including a former school teacher, former soccer coach, small business owners, volunteer fire-fighters, farmers, herbalists, craftspeople and more. The group aims to inform the public that prohibition will encourage black-market activity by organized crime whereas sensible regulation will empower the already established local community.

More information can be found at www.sierracannabis.org.