



National Farm & Ranch Business Management Education Association, Inc.
 ... Teachers delivering knowledge that works to North America's Farm and Ranch Families

NUTS & BOLTS REAL-TIME UPDATE

President's Message

By Wayne Pike, 2009-10 NFRBMEA President

Most of us are deep in the middle of our harvest season. We busily meet with our students and gather their numbers and process these numbers into some usable products like cash flow projections and analysis reports. Every year is different and yet every year is somewhat the same.

Your NFRBMEA Board has been busy, too. This Real-Time Update has links and articles telling a few of the things that have been in the works since the September Board meeting in St. Paul and our most recent meeting via webinar just a few weeks ago.

A major overhaul of our organization bylaws has been proposed and approved by the Board. You can study these proposed changes at www.nfrbmea.org/pdf/FinalDraftBylaws_WithChanges_012310.pdf. There are a couple reasons for these proposed changes. One is to clean up some typos and to clarify the intent of a couple sentences. The main reason is to reflect changes to the Board of Directors as suggested by the past-presidents at our meeting in St. Louis last summer.

The Board currently has 11 directors including the past president, president, president elect, treasurer, secretary, historian, webmaster, Nuts & Bolts editor, upcoming conference planning chair, the two-year out upcoming conference chair and the NFRBMEA representative to the National Council for Ag Ed. The Past Presidents' committee suggested a reduction of that number to seven with those being the past president, president, president elect, treasurer, secretary, upcoming conference planning chair and the NFRBMEA representative to the National Council. The position of webmaster has been replaced with that of communications director who becomes a non-voting member of the Board. The tasks of the historian and Nuts & Bolts editor would be distributed among other Board members. This configuration of Board members more closely reflects the current and anticipated future operations of the NFRBMEA. These are proposed changes that the membership will vote on at our annual conference in Fargo in June.



The Board also revisited job descriptions to match the proposed changes in the Board of Directors. These job descriptions also appear on our web site at www.nfrbmea.org/pdf/JobDescripts_FinalDraft_012310.pdf. The Board approved these changes during our meeting in January, but they obviously do not take effect unless the membership approves the proposed changes to the bylaws.

[President's Message, continued...](#) In an effort to assist our treasurer and to be prudent in our dealings with the membership and Board members, our Board also approved a policy addressing the reimbursement of travel and other expenses for NFRBMEA Board members. This is simply due diligence. I have served on the Board since 1993 and, to my knowledge, there has never been a problem regarding the proper reimbursement for a Board member. However, having a policy in place is the right thing to do and now it is done. You may review that policy on our website at

[Article Continues...](#)

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National Farm Business Management Conference: June 13 - 17, 2010

By Wayne Pike, on Behalf of the 2010 Conference Planners

You are invited to attend the National Farm Business Management Conference which will take place on Sunday, June 13 through Thursday, June 17, 2010. The conference headquarters is the Holiday Inn in Fargo, North Dakota. This conference is the fifth annual conference co-organized by the National Association of Farm Business Analysis Specialists (NAFBAS) and the National Farm and Ranch Business Management Education Association, Incorporated (NFRBMEA). It is the second triennial conference partnering with the North Central Extension Economists.

The theme of this year's conference is "*Agile, Mobile, Versatile... Farm Analysis and Education for the Future*". Conference topics focus on the changing economic and global environment and how ag professionals must adapt to these changes. Topics include income tax management, climate change, biofuels, crop research and risk management. Presenters include nationally known and local experts. This conference also features the presentation of numerous professional papers by the North Central Extension Economists. To see the tentative agenda, please go to www.nfrbmea.org/2010_conference/agenda.htm for the latest updates.

IABME Programming Update

By Tom Weygandt, IABME Program Director

I want to remind you of Institute activities through the National Farm Management Conference in June 2010.

Institute membership entitles participation in any or all of our events. Our curriculum is focused for those in their early careers but it may well be valuable for the "more seasoned" FBM instructor. Members may pick and choose the events they wish to attend but they are welcome at all. It's not too late to join. If you'd like to increase your background knowledge contact the director today!

Our Beginning Marketing webinar is going well under the direction of Ron Van Nurden and will continue through April. We've had one session of Farm Accounting Issues led by Dr. Paul Gorman with another scheduled for this week. I will present the other webinars currently scheduled. More topics may be added as needs are identified.

Upcoming events:

Webinars

Feb 12, 2010, 7:30am Central Farm Accounting Issues and Examples

Feb 16 & Mar 2, 2010, 7:30 am Central An Overview of Contract Law

March 16 & 30, 2010, 7:30am Central Secured Transactions

April and May, 2010, dates & times TBA Farm Financial Statements Series

Check our website for more updates: www.nfrbmea.org/IABME/this_year.htm

June 14-17, 2010 National Farm Management Conference

IABME will be sponsoring a major speaker. The Institute Workshop will be integrated into the conference as a separate breakout session designed especially for IABME members rather than requiring an additional day of attendance. Participant travel stipends will be available.

2011: Nashville, Here We Come!

By Al Graner, NFRBMEA President Elect



Photo: Nicholas Bumgardner

The 2011 conference committee is up and going with the planning of the national conference slated for Nashville, Tennessee in June of 2011. The group consisting of Bob Rhea, Executive Director - NAFBAS, Al Graner, President-Elect -NFRBMEA, Evan Conrad - NAFBAS, Jerry Pierce, NAFBAS, Rush Midkiff, NAFBAS, and Suzy Martin -NAFBAS, made the trip to Nashville at the end of October 2009 to take a look at what the city and area had to offer our group as we plan for hosting the conference there in 2011.

Nashville is definitely what they project themselves as "Music City." From the Grand Old Opry to the Honky-tonk area of small eating, beverage, and music halls concentrated in a couple block area of old Nashville, along with the many attractions associated with this area of Tennessee everyone should find the experience truly unique for your families and yourself. The committee was definitely shown the wide variety of hotels with in the city and their unique offering and the hospitality was great. So as you get through the drab days of winter and begin to set your sights on Fargo for June of 2010 make sure you pencil in Nashville for 2011. You never know, maybe Elvis may make an appearance.

National Council for Agriculture Education Adult Position

The adult position on the National Council for Agricultural Education (NCAE) is an appointment by the National Farm and Ranch Business Management Education Association (NFRBMEA) Board of Directors. Jay Olson, FBM Instructor at Lake Region State College in Devils Lake, North Dakota is currently serving this position on the council. Jay's 3-year term will be completed December 31, 2010.

The NCAE is a 19 member board that represents each of the stakeholder Team Ag Ed organizations. This is a continuing opportunity for NFRBMEA and its appointee to have an impact on the future of Agricultural Education in the United States as a member of the NCAE Board of Directors. Further NCAE information may be secured at their website at: www.agedhq.org/councilindex.cfm

National Council Adult Position responsibilities: The individual in this position is the spokesperson for adult education in agriculture. The National Council normally meets face-to-face in March in Washington D.C. and in October at a site chosen by the Council President, usually near his or her home office. These meetings typically start on a Thursday and end on Saturday. In addition, conference calls for the National Council are scheduled periodically. Participation in other agricultural educational meetings and conferences may also be requested. The representative to the Council will be appointed to the NFRBMEA Board of Directors and will attend to the responsibilities of that position during their 3-year term. Please contact [Jay Olson](#) or any NFRBMEA board member for further information regarding the duties and responsibilities of this position. The new council member's term begins January 1, 2011.

The person selected for the adult position to the National Council will have to be an Active member of NFRBMEA and an ACTE member. Individuals applying should submit the following information in their letter of application:

- *Why you are applying for the adult position on the council*
- *Why you feel that you would be a good selection for the position*
- *Your major concerns in regard to agricultural education and adult education in particular*
- *How your philosophy in adult education is reflected in your adult education program*
- *Do you have support from your administration to serve in this position?*

Applicants should submit a resume that includes:

- *Information regarding your educational background and educational accomplishments*
- *Details regarding your involvement in educational organizations and other organizations on the local, regional, state, and national level*

All applicants should also provide 3 letters of recommendation. Please submit applications to:

Wayne Pike, NFRBMEA President
6540 65th St NE
Rochester, MN 56906-1911

Deadline for application is September 1, 2010. All applications will be reviewed during the NFRBMEA Fall Board Meeting in September. The NFRBMEA Board will contact the selected individual shortly thereafter.

www.nfrbmea.org/board_dirs.htm#TravelPolicy. Thanks to Treasurer Doug Wertish for his leadership on that project.

Our president elect Al Graner, volunteered to be our lead for the 2011 conference that will be held in Nashville. In October, he traveled there with our NAFBAS partners to help make preliminary decisions on the hotel and other early arrangements. Thank you for that effort, Al.

Speaking of conferences, Rick Morgan and the other conference planners are hard at work on this year's conference in Fargo. Keep an eye on our website for more information. There is a tentative agenda already up, so do your planning. I think you will like what you see and will want to be there.



Photo: Dan Hoffman

In the mean time, keep up the good work. Stay warm and remember that May is just around the corner.

WebNotes: 2010 Conference Website Now Available!



The 2010 Conference website is now available for viewing at www.nfrbmea.org/2010_conference/. Currently, you will find the tentative agenda and hotel map, and the Speaker page will be added within the next week. New content will be added as it becomes available, so please check back often for updated information.

"The Survey Says ..." Results of the Resource Library Survey

By Deb Pike, NFRBMEA Resource Committee

We distributed a short survey regarding the Resource Library to the membership during the second part of the Annual Business Meeting in St. Louis last June. Thank you to those who took time to fill it out and return it.

According to the survey results, 76% of the responders are aware of the existence of the Resource Library and 68% have used it. I added Hit Counters to each page of the Library last May, and have been checking them periodically to see which sections are seeing activity. The most popular areas seem to be Farm Financial Management, Exchange of Ideas, Marketing, and Livestock Production.

Survey participants were asked where they go to find teaching materials. The overwhelming top two sources listed were Peers/Colleagues and the Internet, followed by university websites, and the ubiquitous "various places". The Resource Library ranked fifth.

Some reasons given by participants who have not already submitted items to the Resource Library included needing reminders to submit, not having confidence in the value of what they may have to contribute, or needing encouragement or an invitation to contribute. Since the committee does not know who these individuals are, please consider yourselves personally invited to contribute to the Resource Library. Perhaps the word "submit" may be intimidating to some, but it's not meant to be. The submission form used by the Resource Committee is only intended to help me categorize and describe it correctly when I add it to the Library. If you need help filling out the form and sending it to me, send me an email or give me a call. I'll be more than happy to help you.

The Links page has had numerous visitors, but there have been no submissions for that area at all. This would be an easy page to add items to. We frequently bookmark or add useful Websites to our own Favorites lists and, yes, we can Google or use Bing to find information, but ... you may have already bookmarked a site that another colleague may also find helpful but hasn't found yet.

Of the 25 surveys returned, 48% thought that the Resource Library is worth the time and effort, 12% disagreed, 12% were neutral, 16% didn't know, and 12% gave no response. So, please don't be shy— consider contributing material to the Resource Library today. The submission form can be found at www.nfrbmea.org/reslib/reslib_library.htm. We are also looking for individuals interested in serving on the Resource Committee. Contact a Board Member for more information.

RESOURCE LIBRARY

2009-10 Board of Directors

<i>Wayne C. Pike, President</i> wcpike@myclearwave.net	<i>Paul Gorman, Past President</i> paul.gorman@southcentral.edu
<i>President Elect, Al Graner</i> allen.graner@sendit.nodak.edu	<i>Doug Wertish, Treasurer</i> doug.wertish@southcentral.edu
<i>Jay D. Olsen, Secretary</i> jay.olsen@snow.edu	<i>Membership Secretary: Virgil Dagman</i> virgil.dagman@sendit.nodak.edu
<i>Nat. Council Rep: Jay M. Olson</i> jm.olson@lrsc.edu	<i>2010 Conference Planners:</i> <i>Rick Morgan</i> rick.morgan@northlandcollege.edu <i>Jay M. Olson</i> jm.olson@lrsc.edu
<i>Historian and NUTS & BOLTS Editor: Dan Hoffman</i> dhoffman106@charter.net	<i>Web Manager and NUTS & BOLTS Co-editor: Deb Pike</i> dapike@myclearwave.net
<i>Institute for Agricultural Business Management Education (IABME) Director: Tom Weygandt</i> tweyg@embarqmail.com	

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NFRBMEA INC.

6540 65th Street NE
Rochester, MN 55906-1911

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