



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 Al Graner, 2010-11 NFRBMEA President

Where has the summer gone? Seems like we were just in Fargo for the National Farm Business Management Conference. I hope all of you have had a good and enjoyable summer.



I want to thank Rick Morgan and the 2010 conference planning committee for a job well done in their preparations and conducting the conference. I also want to thank our NAFBAS partners in their shared planning responsibilities and to all of the members and our industry sponsors for their support. I also want to thank our membership for the opportunity you have given to me to serve as your president. Too often we all think we don't have the time or the knowledge to do the job needed to lead our association, but actually with our group this association never runs out of individuals who are not afraid to step up to the plate and deliver. If you notice something you feel needs to be address, feel free to contact me or our Board with your thoughts and suggestions.

We welcome our new Board: Wayne Pike is now our immediate Past President; Jay D. Olsen, Ephraim, Utah, moved from being our Secretary to our President Elect. Jim McCuistion, Sugar City, Colorado, was elected our Secretary, Myron Oftedahl, Glencoe, Minnesota, is our new Treasurer, and Rick Morgan, Moorhead, Minnesota will continue serving as our 2011 Conference Planner. The Board will be making an appointment to replace Jay M. Olson who has served us in the capacity of our NFRBMEA Representative on the National Council for the past three years. Again, "Job well done!" goes to Jay M. for his leadership role in this capacity. Deb Pike is graciously continuing in her association with our group and is our Communications Director. With any organization, the need for the one person to keep things running well happens to be Deb and we appreciate her efforts on our behalf. As you recall from the Fargo Conference, we adopted changes to our bylaws which has streamlined our Board and hopefully will allow our organization to continue to meet the needs of our membership.

I also want to thank Paul Gorman, 2009-10 Past President; Doug Wertish, Treasurer; Virgil Dagman, Membership Secretary; and Dan Hoffman, Historian/Nuts & Bolts Editor for their service to our organization. Doug will continue working with the conference planning committee as their treasurer.

Planning for the 2011 Conference in Nashville, Tennessee has been underway for a several months. Rush Midkiff, NAFBAS President, has been working with his planning committee setting up next year's conference. The dates are June 12 - 16, 2011. Check the website for more developments.

The NFRBMEA Fall Board meeting took place on September 27 and 28 at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul. Minutes of this meeting are available to view on our website at www.nfrbmea.org/minutes.htm. We also met with the NAFBAS Board as we continue our collaborative efforts. We would appreciate any idea you think will be appropriate for our organization to work on.

Keep up the good work, and have a great fall.

October 25, 2010



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Center for Farm Financial Management

NAAE "Teach Ag" Campaign Seeking FBM Blogger

By Al Graner, 2010-11 NFRBMEA President

We have been contacted by the National Association of Agricultural Educators regarding their "Teach Ag" campaign. The NAAE will be unveiling the national Teach Ag campaign throughout the year highlighting agricultural educators across the United States via a first-person blog.

They are looking for an FBM instructor who would like to participate in this endeavor, who would enjoy sharing their passion for teaching agriculture at the adult level through a blog. This instructor, preferably outside of Minnesota, should have teaching experience of 15 years or less and be an NAAE member.

As part of the Ag Ed family, this is a golden opportunity for our members to get the word out and hopefully generate interest in teaching FBM. Judging by the number of new instructors that were in attendance at our National Conference, it is definitely encouraging. But as we all know, fueling the need of finding new teachers is an issue faced by all of us. If you have interest, let the Board know so we can forward your name to NAAE and be an active participant in this.

Praises to Delta

By Tom Weygandt, IABME Director

DEB'S NOTE: Tom related this tale in an email to the Board following his trip home from the conference in Fargo, and he agreed to let me share it with you:

"I want to let you know that I arrived home from Fargo, ND. I left Thursday afternoon with a trip of 4 hours 31 minutes in store for me.

Delta, knowing how enjoyable air travel is, saw fit to extend my trip to 29 hours! At one point today, about 10 hours in, I calculated that if I rode my bicycle at 22.5 miles per hour I would be ahead of the airplane.

Admittedly, Friday's 7 hour delay was not Delta's fault, as Minneapolis shut down their airport to let tornadoes go past. We were able to deplane after spending only 1 ½ hours on the Fargo airstrip, due to the new 3 hour Passenger Rights Rule. We finally got to Minneapolis after a rough ride late in the evening. Delta put me up a four star hotel for a few hours - arriving at 11 pm (after the restaurant closed) and out of bed and back to the airport at 4:30 am (before the breakfast cook arrived).

My 7 am flight was delayed to 8:30, and then to 9:15, 9:45, and 10:00 due to technical problems. By 10:15, we excitedly boarded for our 2 hour flight to Cleveland. After only ½ an hour, we were deplaned so the mechanics could work on an oil leak in one of the engines. Around 11:30, we noted the engine on our plane open and partially disassembled while the mechanics departed for lunch. Delta, noting the mood of the crowd of passengers, quickly moved a new plane into a neighboring gate for us. The pilots boarded, everyone gathered their luggage to board, and the gate attendant was ready to take our boarding passes when word came from the flight crew that this plane had failed the pre-flight inspection.

Delta, moving with lightning speed, then had us all move to a new gate only ½ mile away, where we commandeered a plane originally destined for Grand Forks. The Grand Forks bunch were told, "Go find another plane. Cleveland is far more important than you!"



Regardless of how quickly we had taken this plane, we were not boarding, as our pilots had vanished. Several passengers nominated the gate attendant to fly us to Cleveland as she was wearing a uniform and seemed fairly nice. After waiting for about 2 hours, while observing our perfectly good plane beckoning to us, I personally witnessed the following exchange: Pilot approaching gate attendant: "Oh, here you are! We wondered what happened to the passengers. We've (the air crew) been waiting in the other plane all this time." Speculation was they were in a strip poker game, but I believe it must have been a euchre tournament as everyone was fully clothed when they finally arrived.

Things quickly picked up at that point and we were airborne around 2:30, only 9 ½ hours after our scheduled departure. Delta, trying to make amends, made the \$3.00 snacks complimentary on the flight as well as the booze. I didn't see too many takers.

My only remaining fear after using 4 planes was that my checked bag would be lost. Arriving in Cleveland, I proceeded to the baggage claim and not finding my bag on the conveyor, entered the Delta baggage office. I told the attendant that I had a green bag with an Ohio State sticker on it. She said, "I remember that bag! It got here last night. I've been holding it for you." I SWEAR THIS IS TRUE!"

National Council for Agricultural Education Fall Report

By Jay M. Olson, NFRBMEA Rep to the National Council, 2009-11

The fall board meeting of the National Council for Agricultural Education was held in Reno, Nevada on October 6-8, 2010. There have been a number of activities of The Council that can directly assist the long term success of NFRBMEA. One of those activities has been the completion of a Post Secondary and Adult instructor directory for the United States. This directory was commissioned by the NCAE and compiled by AgrowKnowledge and should broaden the awareness of the programs and instructors of Farm Management Education.

As many of you may know Dr. Larry Case, National FFA Advisor and Ex-Officio member of The Council, is retiring at the end of the year. Dr. Case has been a strong supporter of Farm Management Education for decades. This position is funded through the Department of Education and is in jeopardy of being reorganized or lost entirely due to budget cuts. The Council has taken a leadership role in an attempt to maintain this position and its impact on the future of Agricultural Education.



As chairman of the Nominating Committee, a slate of Council officers for the 2011 year was also selected at this meeting. They are:

Ray Nash - President - Mississippi
Karen Hutchison - President Elect - Delaware
Susie Whittington - Executive Committee - Ohio
Terry Hughes - Executive Committee - New York
Mel Dewsnup - Executive Committee - Idaho

A possible reorganization of membership on The Council was also discussed. This possible reorganization could impact both the cost and management of future Council projects and activities. What ever direction the make up of The Council may take in the future, I am confident that Farm Management Education will continue to have a voice and impact on that direction.

This September I also had the honor of sitting on a Global Engagement Strategy meeting held in Indianapolis. This meeting incorporated stakeholders from business and education to develop a strategy to engage and prepare students in issues relating to the expanding the view of today's agricultural education.

It has been a pleasure for me to represent Farm Management Education on The Council for the past three years and look forward to working with NFRBMEA in its future activities.

New NFRBMEA Representative on the National Council for Agricultural Education Selected

Ira Beckman of South Central College in Mankato, Minnesota was selected as the new Adult Level Instructor Representative on the National Council for Agricultural Education at the fall NFRBMEA board meeting in held recently in St. Paul, Minnesota. Ira's term of office will run from January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2013. Ira is replacing Jay Olson on The Council who has served as an Executive Committee member and Vice President of The Council over the past three years.

Ira has been a consistent long time supporter of Farm Management Education and is a Past President of NFRBMEA. Ira received the NFRBMEA Distinguished Service Award in 2004. He has served on his local school board for 14 years, 13 years as chairman.

Please welcome Ira as our representative on The Council.



All minutes that were recorded during the 2010 Farm Business Management Conference and the 2010 Fall Board Meeting are available at www.nfrbmea.org/minutes.htm.

A PDF copy of the 2009-10 Annual Report is also now available online at [www.nfrbmea.org/pdf/annual_reports/O910AnnualReport Complete.pdf](http://www.nfrbmea.org/pdf/annual_reports/O910AnnualReport%20Complete.pdf).

Membership Notes

By Deb Pike, NFRBMEA Communications Director

If you were unable to attend the National Farm Business Management Conference in Fargo, you may have also missed an opportunity to renew your NFRBMEA membership. Members in the previous two years received a letter from President elect Jay D. Olsen within the last month inviting them to renew their membership for this year, and many have responded with their renewals.



To those former members who have not yet renewed, and others who would like to join us for the first time, what are you waiting for? NFRBMEA, Inc. actively represents farm and ranch business management educators on national committees and works to promote farm and ranch management education. We provide in-service education to our members by communicating and cooperating with others. Active membership is open to instructors, teacher-educators, supervisors and planning staff. Affiliate membership is open to supporters of farm and ranch business management education.

For additional information about NFRBMEA, please contact any of our Board Members, listed on the last page of this newsletter or on our Website at www.nfrbmea.org/board_dirs.htm. Complete the membership form included with this issue or on the Web at www.nfrbmea.org/application.htm and mail with your check to:

Myron Oftedahl, NFRBMEA Treasurer
704 East 10th Street
Glencoe, MN 55336

We look forward to having you join us!

2010 National Farm Management Conference - Fargo “Agile, Mobile, Versatile - Farm Analysis and Education for the Future”

By Wayne Pike, NFRBMEA Past President

In a recent edition of Smithsonian magazine, Rick Potts, a Smithsonian anthropologist and director of Human Origins Program at the National History Museum referred to “survival of the fittest.” He said that assumes that we face only one challenge at a time and if we overcome that one challenge we will survive. Obviously, in our professions, and for the people we serve, we face more than one serious challenge at a time.

Taking this idea one step further, it is our agility, mobility and versatility that will help us all to survive in the face of all these many challenges we face. Our 2010 conference was put together with these factors in mind.

We focused on agility which can be described as our aptitude to create and use a variety of tools. For example, we had tours to see how others are using tools. We invited vendors to share their tools with us.

We focused on mobility, not only our physical mobility we exercise as we search for ways to extend our influence with our students and clients, but also as we note that we have registrants here from at least 26 different states. We have gathered many minds from many places. These minds represent the mobility of thought that promotes our ability to survive and thrive - not just in one environment, but in many environments. The mobility of thought in our conference is evidenced in events like the Experience Exchange, dozens of paper presentations, and our regionally and nationally known guest speakers.

Dr. Potts also stated, “By virtue of our evolutionary history, we have amazing social abilities - the ability to help one another, the ability to innovate technologically and the ability to change our minds and build new understandings of the world.” He calls this the “survival of the versatile.” We focused on making our conference versatile with efforts to include aspects of production and technology along with the more academic and intellectual facets. Our sessions at NDSU on fibers, plastics, crop production plus sessions on wind energy indicated the effort to expand our versatility.

We enjoyed and profited from the 2010 National Farm Business Management Conference - Agile, Mobile and Versatile - Farm Analysis and Education for the Future - Food, Fiber, Fuel and Feed. Thanks again to Conference Chair Rick Morgan and all the committee members who worked so hard to make the conference so successful.



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Questions or comments? E-mail us at comments@nfrbmea.org

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2010-11 Board of Directors

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National Council Rep: Jay M. Olson jm.olson@lrsc.edu	2011 Conference Planner: Rick Morgan rick.morgan@northlandcollege.edu
Institute for Agricultural Business Management Education (IABME) Director: Tom Weygandt tweyg@embarqmail.com	

The logo for NFRBMEA INC. features the letters 'NFRBMEA' in a large, bold, sans-serif font. The 'N' and 'F' are red, while the 'R', 'B', 'M', 'E', and 'A' are blue. The letters 'I', 'N', 'C.' are smaller and positioned to the right of 'A'. The entire logo has a slight shadow effect.

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Visit us at www.nfrbmea.org