

# The Update

Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association

SPRING 2016

## Dr. Don Swoboda Receives Allen G. Blezek Friend of LEAD Award



*Dr. Don Swoboda receiving award from LEAD Alumni President Kerry Glandt.*

The 2016 recipient of the Allen G. Blezek Friend of LEAD Award is Dr. Don Swoboda.

This very prestigious award is presented annually, by the Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association, to an individual and/or organization who has a distinguished history of providing outstanding support to the Nebraska LEAD Program.

Dr. Swoboda is a Nebraskan, born and raised on a dry-land farm in Stanton County Nebraska where he attended a one-room rural elementary school in that area and then graduated valedictorian from Stanton High School. He attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he received all three of his degrees in Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Education and Adult and Continuing Education.

His professional career spanned some 43 years with 20 at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln serving in various administrative posts including many years as both Assistant Director and Associate Dean and Associate Director of Nebraska Extension. Dr. Swoboda then went on to serve as Vice Provost for Extension at the University of Missouri in Columbia, the Dean of Extended University at the University of Arizona in Tucson, the Dean of Continuing Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and then as Founding Dean of the Division of Extended Learning and Outreach at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green.

Dr. Swoboda, along with the IANR Vice Chancellor, the Deans of the College, Extension, and Experiment Station at that time, heard a common concern as they traveled the state and “that concern dealt with a way to continue the strong agricultural leadership across all areas of the agricultural industry and to address the critical need for training the next generation of leaders - - the future spokespersons, decision makers, and problem solvers for the industry of Nebraska Agriculture at the local, state, and national levels.” Soon a group of five agricultural leaders were appointed, including Dr. Swoboda, to meet on campus to discuss the issue and brainstorm possibilities.

After several meetings of this group of five, one of the stronger national leadership programs identified was the California program that had started with a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation. It was decided to try something similar in Nebraska as IANR had good contacts with the Kellogg Foundation and the Agriculture Builders of Nebraska agreed to serve as a partner with IANR on the initial grant proposal to Kellogg.

Throughout the process Dr. Swoboda represented IANR on the informal steering committee and the initial Board of Director's for The Nebraska LEAD Program. The group of five eventually evolved into the Nebraska Agricultural Leadership Council. Dr. Swoboda was heavily involved with the initial administration of the LEAD Program and served as the go-between for IANR and startup issues that had to be quickly resolved. Within a year of the approval of the Kellogg grant – LEAD I started. Thirty four years later, the program continues to be recognized as one of the finest in the country because of those early founders like Dr. Swoboda.

Dr. Swoboda has been married to his wife Ginny for 50 years and they have two daughters and three grandchildren. He retired in October of 2010 and he and his wife live in Chandler, Arizona in the Valley of the Sun.

Congratulations go out to Dr. Swoboda and appreciation for his on-going support for the LEAD program!!!



## **Willow Holoubek Selected as 2016 Outstanding LEAD Alum**



*Willow Holoubek, LEAD XXVI*

Annually the Nebraska LEAD Alumni present the award for Outstanding LEAD Alum. The 2016 recipient is Willow Holoubek of David City, member of LEAD class XXVI. Through her hard work to ensure a future for agriculture in the state, Willow Holoubek is deserving of this award. Holoubek has been the organizational director for A-FAN, the Alliance for the Future of Agriculture in Nebraska, since 2010. Holoubek is responsible for administering the day-to-day management of the organization, in addition to working with A-FAN's various committees and Nebraska agriculture promotion and education projects. Holoubek also serves as a resource for Nebraska farmers and ranchers looking to expand their livestock operations. A-FAN is a non-profit organization charged with developing educational opportunities and creating awareness about the importance of Nebraska agriculture, in addition to helping Nebraska farmers and ranchers in the responsible development and expansion of Nebraska's livestock farms.

Holoubek also has worked as a private consultant and project coordinator in the area of bioenergy development, as the executive director of the Butler County Development Board, as program technician for USDA's Farm Service Agency, and as a clerk in the Butler County Treasurer's Office. Holoubek has deep roots in agriculture, spending the last 20 plus years working with her husband, Mark, and four children on the family's grain and livestock farm near David City where they raise purebred Angus cattle, corn, soybeans and dairy-quality alfalfa. Willow Krause Holoubek earned an animal science degree from the University of Nebraska and is originally from the Alliance area.

Congratulations to our 2016 recipient of the Outstanding LEAD Alumni Award . . . Willow Holoubek !!



# Outgoing President's Message



Marv Reichert, LEAD XXX

Wow, it seems like just yesterday I was worrying about conducting my first Alumni meeting and now the year has gone by in a blink. While my term has passed, I still intend to stay active and committed to the Alumni Association and would like to encourage all who read this to do so as well.

In 2015 your association has hosted 36 individuals on a successful International Travel Study Seminar to China, co-sponsored the first Nebraska Leadership Summit, and conducted an interesting Ag Adventure tour to west central Nebraska. In an evolving process the Association has changed the compensation and job description for the Executive staff and added 3 new coordinator positions to better serve the Board and the Association membership. Financially, the down-turn in the stock market has eroded some of the value of our investments but we are still in very good condition. While we do rely on volunteerism, it's your dues and donations that fund the needs of your Association. If not a member I would ask you consider joining and to all Association members, please give as you can.

It has been said that with most things in life, you get out what you put in. That has been the outcome from my time in LEAD and the opportunity to participate and learn from my involvement with LEAD XXX. Additionally, my involvement on the Association board has given me the confidence and connections to be a productive member of the organization. Actually I can honestly say that I beat the old saying by getting more back than I put in. So, let me encourage you to join and or get involved with the Alumni Association.

As this is the last part of my message and likely the thing you will remember most, I would like to THANK the Board for their confidence by allowing me to serve as your immediate past president. I would also like to THANK the Executive committee – Doug Saathoff, Anita Keys and Kerry Glandt for their support. THANKS also to Executive Treasurer Tim Graff for your professional and outstanding service. Finally, I would like to personally express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to Nancy Eberle for her guidance and commitment to me during my term as president, and to the Association for the last 20 some years. As I've looked back over several past President messages the one common thread that stands out the most is her commitment to the Association and willingness to serve. Her involvement exemplifies the LEAD principals and no amount of "thanks" would do her justice.

THANK you Nancy

It has been an honor and privilege to serve your Alumni Association this past year.

As always, remember to HAVE FUN AS YOU GO ALONG - JOIN the ASSOCIATION and GET INVOLVED.

# Nancy's Notes



*Nancy Eberle, Executive Secretary*

As I am writing this message, it's almost Easter, a time for spring, new renewal, new focus and supposedly warmer weather I actually was lulled into believing we were having spring after all the beautiful weather in March, but as usual, spring is elusive and we simply had to have at least one or two more snowstorms/freezing rain events!! That really IS Nebraska.

We have experienced new renewal in our association with the election of our Executive Board in February, the graduation of LEAD Class XXXIV on March 11, a new Friend of LEAD recipient and our 2016 Outstanding Alum. It really is hard to believe that we have over 1,000 individuals who have graduated from the LEAD program – hard to believe, but true.

Your board is busy planning this summer's Ag Adventure Tour – should be lots of fun, informative and a great chance to catch up with our Omaha friends. I hope that several of you will attend as well. Having LEAD Alums on the bus as we travel is invaluable in our mission to help our urban neighbors understand and appreciate agriculture (the industry) and “agri – culture” (our way of life). Sign up and join us!

As you can see in this newsletter, Pat Heyen, our new travel study coordinator has planned an amazing study travel to Alaska. A few years back we sent out a survey to get opinions from you as to destinations. Alaska was the one that came to the top as part of many of our “bucket lists” (Yes, we really do look at those surveys). I think this tour will fill up fast, so be sure and register early – you wouldn't want to miss this one.

I also want to thank Warren Coulter, LEAD XXXII, and his committee members for a great conference this year. The speakers were phenomenal, venue was great, hospitality function was loud (which is a good thing – people were having fun networking with each other) and the tours were just right! Thanks LEAD XXXII for a job well done!

Best wishes for a great spring – until next time . . . . . LEAD on . . . . .



## CLASS NOTES

Congratulations to Ken Boswell (LEAD Class XI) who was elected by the Nebraska Soybean Association to be one of two Nebraska representatives on the American Soybean Association Board.

In November of 2015 Art Duvall (LEAD XVI) became the National Claims Manager for AmTrust Ag. AmTrust Ag is a crop insurance provider based out of Leawood, KS. AmTrust writes Multi-Peril, Crop Hail, and Named Peril products in 35 states.





## President's Message



*Kerry Glandt, LEAD XIV*

Oh how nice it is to see the grass beginning to green up, robins scurrying about in search of worms and insects. As I sit in my office, I see the squirrels looking for the last of their stash of nuts in the park across the road. Many of our livestock producers are deep into calving season by now and other than one snow storm, have been blessed with above average temperatures across the state. And, yes, I presume our farmers are busy in their shops putting the final adjustments in tuning their planters to be ready for spring planting just around the corner.

Hi, I'm Kerry Glandt, your newly elected Nebraska LEAD Alumni President. I am a graduate of LEAD XIV and now call Grand Island, NE home. My wife Judy and I recently purchased a new home on 2.5 acres that sits just across from Stolley Park and have been busy cleaning up an estate after the house sat empty for over a year. Our work is cut out for us as we clear overgrown weeds and bring it back to the glory it once was. I work with Hansen Agri Placement where I'm a Recruiter in the division of Farm, Ranch, Feedlot, and Swine. I do enjoy my position as I've always been a farm kid at heart and enjoy talking to both employers

and candidates around the country as I assist not only those who want to better themselves, but also the employer who is looking for a new candidate to assist them with their day-to-day work load. It is very rewarding to hear from a new employee: "You placed my dad at this place 20 years ago, he is still here, and I would like to use you to find me a great employer that I can grow with through the years!"

I want to issue you all a challenge this year. Take a moment and read through our Mission Statement. We (Alums) all have been given a toolbox during the two years that we went through the Nebraska LEAD program. How many of you have opened and used your tools since graduation? Yes, you could say that every seminar we attended added another tool for our use. We added public speaking, confidence building, team building and, most of all, knowledge of the Agriculture and Economics of our State of Nebraska, how our State plays a key role as a part of the United States, and also how Nebraska is a large contributor in exports to the GNP and holds its own in the world in many areas. We also had the unique privilege of our International Study Seminar to look closely at an area of this world to be more informed of what is happening on the international level. Your LEAD Director, NALC, and many others invested in you during your two year period. Just as many of you are in professions that require Continue Education to keep a license or two, how many of you are keeping your tools in the tool box up to date, sharp, and ready to use? I know many of you are doing a fabulous job of getting involved, whether it be the national level, state level or the local level. And there are a few who have closed their tool box, hid it in the closet, and haven't opened it since. Remember our Mission is: "To prepare and motivate men and women in agriculture for more effective leadership." Have you done your part? Are you feeling rusty or out of touch? The Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association is providing opportunity through seminars at our LEAD Alumni Conference each winter to become informed once again. Our next conference will be hosted by LEAD Class XXXIII and I'm already looking forward to hear more on what they have planned over the next few Board Meetings. On July 11, LEAD Class XXXIV will have a golf outing in Cairo, NE this summer. They are already starting to come together as they prepare to host their Alumni Conference in 2018! We also have the Ag Study Tour during which we travel to different areas of the state each year taking along or neighbors in Omaha and Lincoln to expose them to agriculture and issues that we face in the rural areas of the State. This year we are going to the center of our state taking in communities of Scotia, Ord, Burwell, Loup City, Dannen-

brog, and Central City to just name a few of the areas we will touch upon in our two days, July 27th & 28th. I also want to invite you to join us at the Nebraska State Fair this year. This is a social gathering we have held for the last several years one evening of the Fair. This usually has been on the Tuesday evening, (August 30th, tentative) and we will be upstairs of Five Points Judging Arena. Last, you will notice that we have announced our next National Study Seminar, exclusive for LEAD Alumni as we will be traveling to Alaska in 2017! Be sure to register early as I know this one will sell out soon. Pat Heyen (LEAD XIV), our LEAD Alumni Travel Coordinator, has done a fabulous job in putting together either an 8 day or 12 day travel study that will take us to four parts of Alaska! Be sure to check out more details in this newsletter and plan on joining Judy and I on this one chance in a life time!

As you will read in the newsletter, this year's Outstanding LEAD Alum recipient was Willow Holoubek of LEAD XXVI. We presented the award during our Alumni Banquet in early February. Willow is well deserving of this award!

I also had the privilege of handing out the "Allen G. Blezek Friend of LEAD" award at the LEAD Class XXXIV Graduation Banquet to Dr. Don Swoboda. Check out the information about Don in this newsletter. It truly was a honor to be able to present the award to such a deserving recipient.

In closing, I just want to say I'm looking forward to meeting as many of you as I can over this next year, but also look forward to working with the rest of the Alumni Board. We are looking for class representatives for the Board from LEAD classes - 3, 6, 7, & 8. My door is open, please stop by, drop me an email, or even give me a call if you have any questions, would like to get more involved, or just want to chat. God bless good health, prosperity, and all remain safe during this next year of production.

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## Meet Susan Nelson, LEAD XXVI



*Susan Nelson, LEAD XXVI*

I was in LEAD XXVI (26). I applied to LEAD because I knew a few people who had been in the program, my husband John was in LEAD XXIII (23). They all talked about how great of a program it is and I wanted to be a part of it myself.

I farm with my husband, John, my two children, Courtney and Andrew, and my in-laws, Darren and Stacy. We live and farm by Monroe and we also farm by Oberlin, KS. We raise corn, soybeans, alfalfa, sorghum, and wheat. I often run the equipment and I do the book work for the operation.

I have been married to John for 24 years. We have two children. Courtney is a junior in high school. She is involved in volleyball, one act, speech, quiz bowl, spring play, track, FFA, FBLA, band, and National Honor Society. Andrew is a freshman in high school, and participates in one act, speech, spring play, track, and FFA. They are both very active in their school activities. We enjoy camping and traveling.

I am a member of our church council, president of Twin River School Foundation, and a member of the LEAD Alumni board.

The entire LEAD experience was great. It was very interesting to learn new things about the state and see some areas that I had not seen before. The friendships and connections that I have gained through this experience have been extremely valuable.

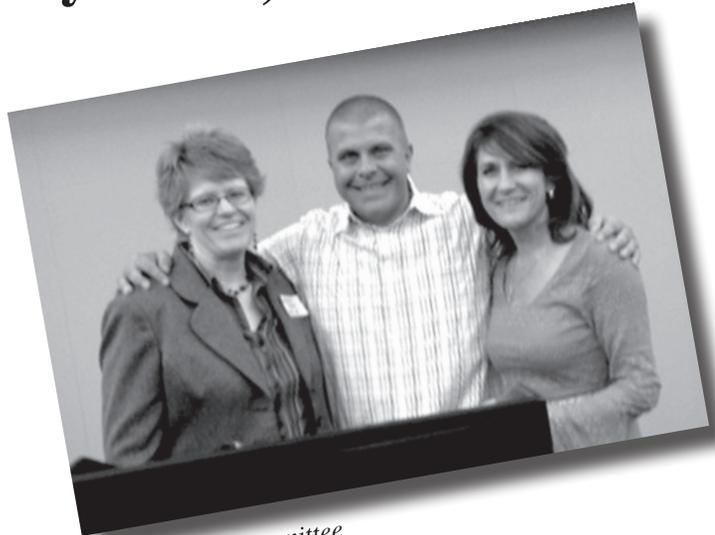
# 2016 LEAD Alumni Conference

## “A Call to Leadership”

### February 4 & 5, 2016



*Warren Coulter, Conference Chairman.*



*LEAD XXXII Committee*



*Connie Reimers Hild – Rural Futures Institute at the University of NE. Associate Director.*



*Mark Overman – Scottsbluff County Sheriff and Grant Coordinator and chair of Western Nebraska Intelligence and Narcotics Group (marijuana).*



*Thomas Kent – Vice President and COO for Nebraska Public Power District.*

The annual conference was full of great information, for instance:

#### DID YOU KNOW?

- That the Rural Futures Institute has 50 Partner Organizations and is working with 50 Communities.
- That the Rural Futures Institute awarded \$1.9 million in grant dollars for 32 projects in areas of Health Care, Economic Development, Leadership and Civic Engagement, Community planning and the Justice System.
- That since Marijuana was legalized in Colorado they have ranked # 1 in the nation for usage among youth ages 12-17.
- That since Marijuana was legalized in Colorado marijuana related admissions to the hospitals have increased by 29% in just one year.
- That the Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development is the place to go for Community Development Block Grants, Business Innovation Funding, Site and Building Development, Convention Center Funding.
- That the Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development’s primary objective is to bring dollars in from outside the state and that they focus on “primary jobs” for community and economic growth.
- That representatives of Common Ground will come to your community to conduct public awareness and education programs in support of agriculture.
- That members of Common Ground Nebraska are spreading the news about the food we grow and how it is produced – and we have several LEAD Alums active in the organization.
- That until about September 2014, nearly every news piece displayed a photo or video of a military drone, for any story about civilian drones, but since that date, pictures include hobby or model aircraft.
- That a committee has been formed in the American Society of Agriculture and Biological Engineers (ASABE) to look at ramifications of unmanned aerial systems (Drones).
- That Nebraska Innovation Campus (NIC) is a 2.2 million square foot campus which was built to accommodate up to 5,000 people.
- That NIC has 21 partners at the current time, including Nebraska Innovation Studio, a maker’s space where creators can share ideas, tools and knowledge as they develop their businesses.
- That Nebraska Public Power Company is a partner for you in community development as well as meeting your energy needs.
- That the first active hydroelectric plant in Nebraska was built in 1888 in Kearney Nebraska and is still running today.



*Attendance – general conference.*



*Leslie Boswell, Hilary Maricle and Deb Gangwish – Representatives from Common Ground Nebraska.*



*Phil Ramsel, Annual Conference Coordinator*



*Congratulations on your election to the 2016 Executive Board – Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association. Pictured are, from left: Marv Reichert, (LEAD XXX) Vice President, Kerry Glandt, (LEAD XIV) President, Anita Keys, (LEAD XVII) Secretary, and Stan Mitchell, (LEAD IX) Treasurer*

Congrats to LEAD XXXII for putting together a great conference this year. Looking to the future, LEAD XXX and XXXIV have outlines to help put their class leadership together to plan for the conferences. LEAD XXXIV is busy planning their second annual golf outing. They're hoping to turn this into an annual event which can be passed to other classes to lead and fund raise for the conference. The golf outing is a great opportunity to reunite with your class, have fun, and connect with other LEAD members.



***Congratulations to Class LEAD XXXIV for completing the LEAD program!***

**2016 GOLF OUTING  
FOR LEAD ALUMNI  
AND GUESTS  
HOSTED BY LEAD 34**



**SATURDAY, JUNE 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2016  
CAIRO NEBRASKA  
CENTURA HILLS GOLF CLUB**

*[HTTP://WWW.CENTURAHILLS.COM/](http://www.centurahills.com/)*

- FUNDRAISER FOR THE NEBRASKA LEAD ALUMNI
- 2-PERSON SCRAMBLE, 9-HOLES (MINIMUM 1 LEAD FELLOW/ALUM PER TEAM)
- SIGN IN: 11:00 AM, SHOTGUN START 12:30 PM
- \$120/ TEAM, LIMIT OF 50 TEAMS
- PRIZES TO TOP TEAMS
- MULLIGANS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
- FOOD AND DRINK AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE COURSE

**PLEASE RSVP TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE.**

**TO ENTER SEND EMAIL TO: LEADSUMMERGOLF@GMAIL.COM  
OR CONTACT JACOB ROBISON (LEAD34) @ 308-380-3333**

**\*\*MAY REGISTER DAY OF EVENT IF SPACE IS AVAILABLE\*\***



## Nebraska LEAD Alumni 2017 National Study Travel Tour ALASKA

(Juneau, Anchorage, Seward & Denali National Park)

Plans are coming together for our 2017 National Travel Seminar. The LEAD Alumni is proud to present a custom-made tour to Alaska. This special designed, 7-12 day tour will showcase some of the best experiences ever. This is a DRAFT Itinerary as the agricultural tours and final schedule may change or alter, and days may flip flop with availability and pricing. Pricing is estimated at this time as we are unable to lock in or finalize anything in as of yet. Here is a peek at the fun filled draft itinerary. I hope you will join us on this travel experience of a lifetime.

**DRAFT Itinerary: August 16-22<sup>th</sup>, 2017 (7 days)**

### **STANDARD TOUR**

**Wednesday, Aug 16<sup>th</sup>**

Depart Omaha, NE

Arrive Juneau, AK

Tour of Macaulay Salmon Hatchery - The hatchery incubates some 150 million chum, pink Coho, and king salmon annually and is designed to allow visitors to watch the process of harvesting and fertilizing salmon eggs.

Overnight in Juneau

**Thursday, Aug 17<sup>th</sup>**

Brief walk to the Mt. Robert's Tramway to meet your driver for your Best of Juneau Tour - Come face to face with a glacier, marvel at a huge humpback whale leaping out of the water and top this excitement off with a scrumptious meal featuring wild Alaskan salmon.

Enjoy a narrated transfer to the spectacular ice wall of the Mendenhall Glacier and its adjacent Visitors Center. Roam the grounds and watch bears feast on salmon. From there, transfer to Auke Bay where you will board a boat custom designed for Juneau whale watching. Juneau has a healthy humpback whale population and whale sightings are guaranteed. Following your cruise you're off to the Gold Creek Salmon Bake, in a beautiful setting nestled in the rainforest. After your meal, stroll to the beautiful Salmon Creek waterfall. Shuttles will depart from the Gold Creek Salmon Bake every 20 minutes so you can return to the Mt. Robert's Tramway at your leisure.



Private transfer to Juneau airport.

Fly from Juneau to Anchorage – 1 night lodging

**Friday, Aug 18<sup>th</sup>**

Journey from Anchorage to Wasilla

Ag Tours Possible places to visit:

Musk Ox Farm – Non-profit Musk Ox Farm is dedicated to the domestication of the musk ox, an Ice Age mammal. The once endangered animal produces an annual harvest of the finest wool in the world.

Havemeister Dairy Farm – The Dairy Farm has been farming in Palmer, Alaska since 1935. This family own and operate on of the few remaining dairies in Southcentral Alaska.

Visit the Matanuska Experiment Farm – The Matanuska Experiment Farm is a part of the Agriculture and Forest Experiment Station, providing research in sustainable agriculture, land reclamation and other environmental issues. You will have time to explore the 260 acres of cultivated land and 800 acres of forest land on this self-guided tour.

Overnight in Wasilla

**Saturday, Aug 19<sup>th</sup>**

Ag Tours Possible places to visit:

Visit Stockwell Farm – Stockwell Farm is owned and operated by Vern Stockwell and Becky Gardner, named the 2013 Alaska State Fair Family of the Year. Their farm produces a variety of potatoes, sweet potatoes, sweet onions, colored cauliflower, cabbage, tomatoes and strawberries annually.

Visit the VanderWeele's Farm – Ben VanderWeele runs the 160 acre VanderWeele Farms with the help of his 3 children and 25-30 seasonal employees. The variety of crops is diverse, with most of his farm yielding potatoes, lettuce, cabbage, zucchini, radishes and onion. You will tour the farm and have a chance to talk to the family about farming in Alaska.

Reindeer Farm Tour – Your Reindeer Farm tour will begin with a 10-15 minute informative lesson about Alaska's reindeer.

Overnight lodging Anchorage

**Sunday, August 20<sup>th</sup>**

Rail & Cruise Anchorage to Seward



Leave Anchorage by Train to Seward taking the Coastal Classic Train. The Coastal Classic services 114 miles of track between Anchorage and the town of Seward, on the Kenai Peninsula- a four-hour trip that's the most beautiful along the entire Alaska Railroad. You'll see the beautiful Turnagain Arm as the train departs Anchorage, then a panorama of mountains, glaciers, lakes, and streams.

Includes - Kenai Fjords National Park Tour, Alaska's most popular Glacier Cruise. It's a fully narrated cruise that brings you into the park, to tidewater and alpine glaciers, incredible marine sea life, and teeming bird rookeries. 6 hour, 100 mile round-trip cruise.

**Possible overnight in Seward.**

**Monday, Aug 21<sup>st</sup>**

Coastal Classic Train back to Anchorage AK  
overnight lodging Anchorage

**Tuesday, Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>** Transfer to Anchorage Airport for flight home.

**Standard Land Tour starting price at \$2,300 per person, double occupancy**

**Airfare estimated at \$700 - \$900 per person**

**\*\*Estimated pricing as Alaska's short summer season of 3 months prevents us from locking in ANY 2017 prices as of yet.**

**DRAFT Itinerary: August 22-26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 (5 days)**

**EXTENDED TOUR (add to the tour above for those going to Denali):**

**Monday, Aug 21<sup>st</sup>** Overnight in Talkeetna (as opposed to Anchorage)

**Tuesday, Aug 22<sup>nd</sup>** Journey from Talkeetna to the Denali Park Entrance.  
Say farewell to your private driver as you meet the lodge shuttle for a scenic bus ride into Denali National Park  
Arrive at Kantishna Roadhouse in time for orientation and dinner.  
Overnight for 2 nights at Kantishna Roadhouse (Deep in Denali Park)  
Most people who visit Denali National Park never make it to Kantishna, an area 95 miles inside the park that has a colorful gold mining past. But the Roadhouse gives you the chance to eat, sleep and explore in this area at your leisure, and perhaps even feel that you have this pristine wilderness to yourself. Owned and operated by a Native Alaskan company, the Roadhouse offers a cozy, log-cabin feel, yet everything is thoroughly modern.  
Includes: Roadhouse, ALL meals, and ALL activities and lodging. Activities include: Guided hikes, fly fishing, mountain biking, panning for gold, dog sled presentations, shuttles to the lake. Wildlife and mountains of Denali



**Wednesday, Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>** 2nd day at Kantishna Roadhouse, Denali National Park

**Thursday, Aug 24<sup>th</sup>** After breakfast, early morning lodge shuttle back to the Denali Park Entrance.  
Meet your private driver for your journey to Wasilla.  
Rest of day at leisure  
overnight lodging

**Friday, Aug 25<sup>th</sup>** \*\*Alaska State Fair, Palmer Alaska – The State Fair is the largest community event in the state. (In previous years, the Alaska State Fair has opened on the last Thursday in August. The Alaska State Fair should be opening on August 24, 2017, but we will not know for sure until the end of 2016.



You will have the day on your own to visit the Alaska State Fair. This evening your driver will meet you for your journey to Anchorage.  
Overnight on Anchorage

Saturday, Aug 26th Private transfer will be provided to the Anchorage airport in time for your departing flight

**Extended Tour starting price at \$3,550 per person, double occupancy**

**Airfare estimated at \$700 - \$900 per person**

**\*\*Estimated pricing as Alaska's short summer season of 3 months prevents us from locking in ANY 2017 prices as of yet.**

We want to give everyone an 18 month window to plan for this exciting trip, but in doing so, it creates the "firm" pricing issue. We are doing our very best to estimate the prices based on the 2016 rates, along with the estimated increases given to us by our Alaska contact. This is why our initial deposits will be refundable, less the administrative charge, until October 15th, 2016, when we will have the airfare pricing, and hopefully a better idea of the final Tour prices. We have been told numerous times that traveling to Alaska is a whole different ballgame, mostly because of the short season and the fact that August is the last fling for all of the tour operators.

**Passports are necessary** for this National Study Seminar, per Deb Covert, as tours may take us into Canada. There is plenty of time to apply and receive a passport between now and August 2017.

**Travel Insurance is highly recommended** for this trip. Contact Deb Covert for information. Deb Covert Travel, [deb@debcoverttravel.com](mailto:deb@debcoverttravel.com) (402) 393-8477.

We are taking reservations now for this National Study Tour.

Priority to LEAD Alumni (single registry) and Alumni/Spouse/Guest (double registry).

At this time, we are asking for the first deposit of \$500.00 per person to be received by Deb Covert of Deb Covert Travel, 7806 Hickory Circle, Omaha NE 68124, by May 15, 2016 to reserve your place.

• *All rates are subject to change. **Register now! Space is limited for this tour.***

#### **Cancellations:**

- Cancellations made after Registration and until October 15th, 2016 will be subject to a \$100 per person Administrative fee.
- Second deposit will be required by October 15, 2016. At this time Airline tickets will be purchased. Deposit amount will be determined once airfare pricing is obtained. At this time we hope to have firm pricing available.
- Airline tickets, once issued, are non-refundable. PLEASE NOTE: your cancelled airline tickets can be used for future travel (less the imposed airline change fee) if made within a year from original issue date.
- Additional deposits, cancellation refunds and/or final payment dates will be determined once booking of rooms and tours begins. Those of you who have registered will be kept apprised of all itinerary changes and deposit requirements.
- Comprehensive Travel Insurance is available. Contact Deb Covert for more information.



Pat Heyen, National Travel Study  
Coordinator.

***Please contact Pat Heyen for more information at [pheyen@friedmanlaw.com](mailto:pheyen@friedmanlaw.com) or call her at (402) 314-3430. I am very excited to be your ALUM travel coordinator, and hope you will join me on this, my inaugural voyage!***



# The Update

Non Profit  
U.S. Postage  
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Bradshaw, NE  
Permit No. 6

Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association  
Nancy Eberle  
520 Road 20  
Bradshaw, NE 68319  
neberle@mainstaycomm.net

Address Service Requested



*LEAD Class IV was honored at the LEAD Awards Banquet and Graduation Event on March 11 in Lincoln. What a great turnout!!!!*

Check out our website at <http://www.neleadalumni.com>

**LEAD Alumni Agriculture Facebook Page:**

<https://www.facebook.com/LEADalumni/?fref=ts>

**LEAD Alumni Facebook Group:**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Leadalumni/>

*Please remember to submit important  
Nebraska LEAD Alumni news to:*

Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association  
Nancy Eberle  
520 Road 20  
Bradshaw, NE 68319  
neberle@mainstaycomm.net

## NETWORK!

Keep the spirit of the  
Nebraska LEAD  
Program ALIVE!

## Update

Update is the official newsletter of the Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association. The purpose of the publication is to keep you, a vital part of the LEAD network, linked with fellow alumni!