

The Update

Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association

WINTER 2017

Q & A with Floyd Slagle – LEAD VIII



Floyd Slagle, LEAD VIII

I was in LEAD Class VIII. Dr. Blezak was very instrumental in encouraging me to apply and telling me about the program. With his encouragement I applied for the LEAD program because I wanted to develop better leadership skills. I hoped to take those skills back to my community to share the knowledge I received from the program. I operate a farm/ranch near Sargent. I have a cow/calf operation and raise corn, soybeans and alfalfa.

I have been married to my wife Pam for 41 years. Pam is a CPA in Ord, NE. We have two children, Jake who is married to Colleen and Jinger who is married to Chandler Larsen. Jake and his family live near Marquette and their five children (Jayden, Jordyn, Jaxson, Jakobe and Jazmyn) go to school in Aurora. Jinger and Chandler live in Sargent and both are involved in the farming and ranching operation with me.

I am currently a lifetime member of the LEAD Alumni Association, a Nebraska Cattleman Association member and a member of R-Calf. I recently volunteered to represent my Class, LEAD VIII, on the Alumni Board of Directors.

My entire LEAD experience is something I cherish more than I can say but some moments that stand out more than others were the people I had the opportunity to meet. Two that stand out the most are the Secretary of Agriculture Clayton Yeatter and the Highest Ranking Military Leader in South Korea, who met with us to discuss how much they appreciated and needed the US military in South Korea. Since I was in the program I have encouraged several people to apply for the program. I tell them it is a life changing experience that not only develops your leadership skills but also changes you as a person. The education you receive from the programs you go through not only help you but will help your whole community if you go back and share your knowledge.

The Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association will hold its annual meeting during the 2018 Annual Conference

When: January 26, 2018 - 1:30 pm

Where: The Holthus Center - York, Nebraska

Please get this on your calendar and join us in York!



SORRY - SOLD OUT



Nebraska LEAD Alumni announces the 2018 International Travel Study Seminar to **PERU is sold out!**

Peru Update

We are very excited that our International Seminar to Peru, February 15 – 24th, 2018, is sold out. We could possibly have cancellations, so if you are still interested in traveling to Peru, please let us know and we will put you on the wait list. Being on the wait list does pay off, as we had to fill 2 vacancies on the Alaska travel study seminar just 2 weeks prior to departure.

The seminar to Peru includes many visits to farms and agricultural institutions in both Lima and the Sacred Valley.

We are looking forward to a visit with Trent Blare, PhD, graduate of the University of NE Lincoln Ag Department, (former 4-H member from Winner SD). He is currently working for the World Agroforestry Centre in Lima Peru. His name was suggested by a LEAD Alumni member as a possible contact in Peru.

Just a reminder, your thoughts and suggestions for our travel study seminars are always welcome.

We have 15 LEAD Groups represented traveling to Peru: 1, 3, 6, 8, 13 (3), 14 (2), 15, 17, 19 (2), 20, 21, 22 (2), 23 (2), 26, and 27 (2).

Alaska Travel Study Seminar - August 2017 – Thank you!

A huge thank you to all who participated in the Alaska Travel Study Seminar. What a fantastic seminar this was, to be able to travel this vast and beautiful state. I will never forget the scenery and wildlife we were fortunate enough to see and encounter. Traveling with the LEAD Alumni guarantees traveling with some of the best people you could ever hope to meet. I was honored to travel with this great group of people.



Alaska Travelers: Nathan & JoLene Bartels, Nicole Bohuslavsky, Herb & Judy Dixon, Kerry & Judy Glandt, Eugene Goering & Sheila Huebert, Larry & Pat Heyen, Dave & Rita Hogsett, Dennis & Nancy Kahl, Jim & Linda Luebbe, Jim & Lisa Lunz, Jolene Messinger, Fred & Kay Meyer, Paul & Linda Meyer, Gerri Monahan, Dennis & Patty Nun, Leland & Cathy Poppe, Jerry & Karen Safranef, Leslie & Karen Schimmer, Pat & Jean Schlickbernd, Lois Thom, and Dan & Connie Wichman.

Alumni News - The Alumni Board voted in March 2017 to begin traveling annually, alternating nationally and internationally.

Therefore, the Board of Directors will be selecting the 2019 National Travel Study destination during our board meeting in January. This will give travelers 12+ months to plan for this seminar.

Where will our Travel Study Seminar take us in 2019? Would you like to go with us?

Future travel announcements - The announcement of Travel Study Seminars doesn't always coincide with the quarterly newsletters, although information is placed in the very next newsletter. If you want to know when National and International destinations are announced, watch the NE LEAD Alumni Facebook Page and the Alumni Website. Announcements and registration information are posted to both these sites as soon as the destination and dates are selected. Each destination will have a limited number of travelers that we can take with us, so if you are considering traveling with the Alumni, please check out the Website, and Facebook page, as well as future newsletters.

LEAD Alumni Website - <http://www.neleadalumni.com/>

Facebook page - NE LEAD Alumni Association - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Leadalumni/>



Where in the world will NE LEAD Alumni Travel to?

LEAD Alumni Annual Meeting and Conference

January 26-27, 2018
Holthus Center, York, NE



Pat Heyen, National and International Travel Study Coordinator

I am honored to have been asked to be one of the speakers on Saturday at the Annual Alumni Conference. I will be talking about our completed seminar to Alaska, and our upcoming seminar to Peru. I will be sharing photos of Alaska and additional information about upcoming National & International Travel Study Seminars.

I hope to see many of you Alumni at the Annual Conference. Please register soon!

Pat Heyen, LEAD Alumni National-International
Travel Study Coordinator
pheyen@friedmanlaw.com or (402) 314-3430



President's Message



Kerry Glandt, LEAD XIV

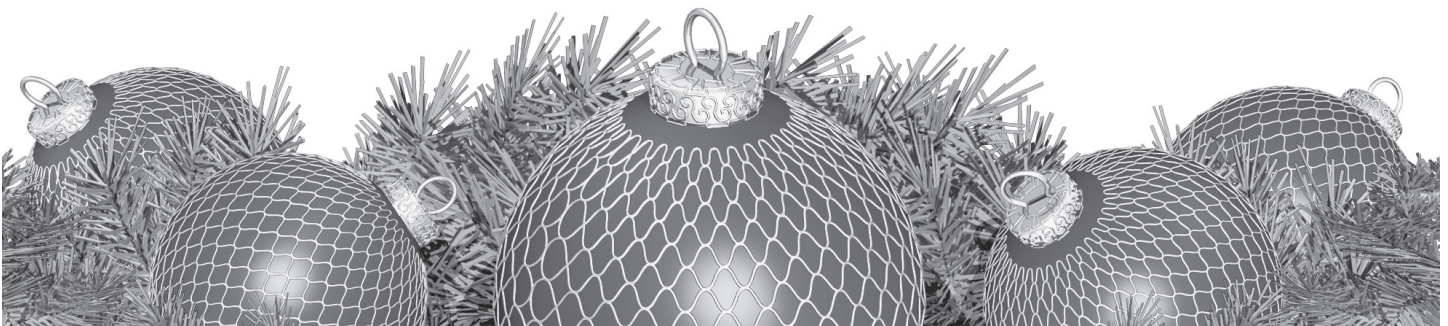
I hope as we head into this holiday season, all your Christmas decor is hung, and upcoming days you have a chance to spend time with family and friends, but also reflect on those that left us behind. We also need to take the time to remember the true meaning of Christmas and make time as we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. As the New Year approaches, it is also a time to reflect on the following year, what challenges we may have had, and what we want to do differently for 2018. I know some of you are not into New Year resolutions, but I would still encourage all to look over the past, enjoy the present, and plan for the future. I encourage you to challenge yourself!

This is also a time I look over my last 6 years of serving on the LEAD Alumni Board and I am very grateful for the opportunity to serve. I know for the first 15 years, even though I was a paid up life member, I didn't get very involved with the alumni once our class completed hosting the LEAD Alumni Conference. However, over the last 6 years, I have truly enjoyed my time working with fellow alumni on events such as the LEAD Ag Study Tour, LEAD Alumni International and National Tours.

Nebraska Leadership Summit, revitalizing the LEAD Alumni Conference, and serving the last two years on the NALC board as your LEAD alumni representative. I just wish now that I would have gotten more involved earlier in my LEAD Alumni status.

I would like to see many of you at this years annual conference being organized by LEAD Class XXXIV who have been working diligently over the past year to bring a great line up of speakers and events over the two days. If you haven't already signed up, I highly recommend joining us this year as it is truly a chance to broaden your networking and add some continuing education with our LEAD family as well as the opportunity to meet some new friends while reacquainting with old friends. We now have well over 1000 graduated alumni in our fraternal organization of former LEAD Fellows that stepped up to the challenge! We also will take time to recognize the LEAD Class which graduated 30 years ago from the program and joined the Alumni Association. This year we will be recognizing LEAD Class V. Please come join us in York, NE on the 26th & 27th of January!

Merry Christmas and may the Lord bless you all, each and everyone of you.
Have a Happy New Year in 2018!



Director's Comments



Terry Hejny, Nebraska LEAD Program Director.

First of all, allow me to thank Nancy for providing me some “space” in this issue of The LEAD Review. I also want to thank you, the members of the Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association for your continued support of the program. Giving freely of your time, talents and finances have provided the necessary resources that has enabled the Nebraska LEAD Program to become the very finest adult agricultural leadership development program in the land! For this, I am grateful. Thank you!

I am most appreciative of our District Selection Committee Chairs for their important work in helping us select the members of Nebraska LEAD Group XXXVIII. They all did a great job of assembling their “interview teams” and I want to thank: Floyd Slagle – LEAD VIII (North Central), Jolene Messinger – LEAD XXXIII (Western), Ty Oswald (South Central), Bruce Wichman – LEAD XII (Northeast) and Aaron Raymond – LEAD XXX (Southeast). I also want to thank those members of LEAD 35 who served as our “greeters” this year: Gerry Sheets, Tracy Zink, Kimberly Eberly, Raymond Morse, and Jordan Nun.

As I write this (Monday, November 20), LEAD XXXVI recently completed the Global Perspectives seminar at Wayne State College. Their next seminar, Comparative Cultural, Educational, Political and Religious Systems will take place on December 3-5 at Nebraska Wesleyan University. LEAD XXXVI will depart from Omaha on January 6 for Chile, Argentina, and Uruguay, and will return on January 20. Our itinerary has come together rather nicely. However, as you well know . . . when it comes to international travel, anything can and will happen!

LEAD XXXVII has completed the first three seminars of their first year and I will see them next at the end of January as they gather in Lincoln for the Our Political Processes seminar. The very next week they will embark on the National Study/Travel Seminar that will take place from February 7-16. They are coming together as a team and I see many lifelong friendships developing. This is one of the many benefits of our program.

You should have received our annual NALC membership appeal by now . . . or will soon be receiving it. This letter from our office includes a “coupon” to tear off send back to us with your contribution that enables you to become a member of the Nebraska Agricultural Leadership Council. It only costs \$100 (you can contribute more) to belong to the NALC and I remind you that it is the Nebraska Agricultural Leadership Council that is the governing board of the Nebraska LEAD Program. Your membership in the NALC provides direct financial support to the Nebraska LEAD Program on an annual basis. It is my hope that all LEAD Alum’s will become members of the Nebraska Agricultural Leadership Council. Remember, the greatest investment you will ever make will be in the lives of others. Someone made this investment in you! Now it’s time to invest in someone who will benefit from participation in LEAD in the future.

Wishing you and yours a Merry Christmas and all the best in the New Year!
LEAD on!



2018 LEAD ALUMNI CONFERENCE

FINDING OPPORTUNITY IN CHANGE

HOLTHUS CONFERENCE CENTER, YORK NEBR.

JANUARY 26TH AND 27TH, 2018

Presenting:

Emily Skillet, AFAN

Cory Wolters, UNL

Misty and Kenny Stauffer, LEAD Class 34

Pay Heyen, LEAD Alumni Assoc. Travel update

Jesse Harding, KRVN, Panel Discussion

Dr. Michael Chips, President Northeast Community College

Keith Berns, Green Cover Seed

Amber Pankonin, Stirlist.com

Dr. Eric Snodgrass, University of Illinois Urbana Champagne

For Tickets or to donate visit: <https://2018neleadalumniconf.eventbrite.com>

Contact: Jacob Robison, LEAD 34 @ jacobrobison10@gmail.com

Conference Hosted by LEAD Class 34

LEAD Class XXXIV is proud to host the 2018 LEAD Alumni Conference, to be held at the Holthus Convention Center in York, Nebraska, January 26th and 27th, 2018. The conference theme of "Finding Opportunity in Change" is highlighted by speakers in economics, education, livestock, health sciences, business and panel discussions. Dr. Eric Snodgrass, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign will be the keynote speaker on Saturday evening. More information will be posted on the LEAD Alumni website so check in regularly and plan to attend the conference in January.



FINDING OPPORTUNITY IN CHANGE
 HOLTHUS CONFERENCE CENTER, YORK NEBR.
 JANUARY 26TH AND 27TH, 2018

Come join the LEAD Alumni for our annual winter conference. This year's conference will focus on finding opportunity in a changing world, markets and society. This is your chance to become more informed on many issues and hear many stories as well as networking with your fellow LEAD alumni.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Friday January 26 th	
3:30 p.m.	Registration Open
6:00 p.m.	Social hour
7:00 p.m.	Dinner and Evening Entertainment, Outstanding LEAD Alumni Presentation
Saturday January 27 th	
7:00 a.m.	Registration Open
7:30 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet
8:15 a.m.	Welcoming and Opening Comments, Mayor of York, LEAD Alumni Greeting
8:45 a.m.	Emily Skittet, AFAN
9:50 a.m.	Corey Walters, UNL
10:45 a.m.	LEAD Program Update, Terry Hejny (20)
11:00 a.m.	LEAD Alumni Travel Experience, Pat Heyen (14)
11:50 a.m.	Lunch, LEAD 35 International Travel Seminar
1:00 p.m.	Dr. Michael Chips, President Northeast Community College
1:55 p.m.	Keith Berns, Green Cover Seed
2:50 p.m.	Panel Discussion - Jesse Harding Moderator, KRVN
4:00 p.m.	Amber Pankonin, Stirlist.com
4:50 p.m.	The Stauffer's Misty (34) and Kenny (25)
5:20 p.m.	Social hour
6:00 p.m.	Conference Banquet, Recognition of LEAD Class 5
Keynote Speaker: Eric Snodgrass, Director of Undergraduate Studies, Dept. of Atmospheric Sciences, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	

Registration Form

Conference Tickets: \$75 each Evening Meal Tickets: \$25 each

Please complete the registration form and mail to: Adam Bruning, PO Box 2407, Kearney, NE 68848-2407

Make Check out to: LEAD 34

LEAD Alumni Name _____ Class Number _____

Spouse or Guest: _____

Address: _____, City _____, State _____, ZIP _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Online Tickets or to donate visit: <https://2018neleadalumniconf.eventbrite.com>

Conference Hosted by LEAD Class 34

What is the LEAD Director's Excellence Fund?



Craig Buescher
 Development Director for University of
 Nebraska Foundation
 craig.buescher@nufoundation.org
 402-469-8390 cell
 402-458-1139 office

The LEAD Director's Excellence Fund was set up in 2011. The fund intent is to deliver an endowment which will provide money each year for the LEAD director to continuously provide programming for LEAD to keep it on the cutting edge. This fund started with a handful of individuals who pledged to donate \$1,000 per year for five years to reach the endowed level. After the fund became endowed, the interest generated from the fund account was made available to the LEAD director to help supply the programming not picked up by industry and private donations. Through the generosity of numerous LEAD alumni and friends, this fund has grown significantly. The interest from the endowment now provides over \$4,500 each year to enhance the education of the LEAD Program. Thanks to each of you who have helped make this possible.

I encourage each of you to consider donating to the LEAD Director's Excellence Program as a way for you to support an organization proven to help provide leaders for Nebraska agriculture for the past 37 years. Feel free to fill out the pledge card in this newsletter and send it with your donation to:

University of Nebraska Foundation
 1010 Lincoln Mall Suite 300
 Lincoln, NE 68508

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Yes, I would like to support the **LEAD Director's Excellence Fund** with a gift of \$ _____

One-time gift of \$ _____

My check is enclosed. Payable to the *University of Nebraska Foundation*.

Please charge my: Visa MasterCard Discover American Express

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature *(for credit card payments or to establish a pledge)* _____

I/We pledge \$ _____ payable over _____ years, beginning _____ *(month/year)*.

Please send pledge reminders: annually semi-annually quarterly

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

- My matching gift form is enclosed.
Visit nufoundation.org/match to find out if your employer (or your spouse's) will match your gift.
- I already have included the foundation in my estate plans.
- I would like additional information on:
 Giving through my estate.
 The foundation's giving society.

1LIANR12 • LEADEXC FUND: 12345



The University of Nebraska Foundation is an independent, nonprofit organization that has connected donors to the mission of the university for the past 75 years. The foundation's \$1.2 billion fundraising initiative, the Campaign for Nebraska: Unlimited Possibilities, concludes in 2014. For more information, visit nufoundation.org.

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Nancy's Notes



Nancy Eberle, Executive Secretary

Happy Holidays everyone!!! If your household is like ours, everyone is scurrying around trying to plan get togethers, shopping for gifts, decorating and baking. Why we always push ourselves so hard this time of the year has always been a mystery to me, but I'm as guilty as everyone else. What I really love, is the Christmas Eve program at church where we can just relax and hear again the amazing story of the birth of our Savior. That's really what it's all about!

As you can see from the items in this newsletter, the annual conference planning is taking place. LEAD Class 34 is doing a fantastic job putting a stellar program together for all of us to gain more insight and knowledge regarding our agriculture world (which is always changing whether we want it to or not). Thanks LEAD 34!!! As well as the continuing education offered at the conference, we will have the chance to network with each other and have some fun!!! This year's conference is in my backyard - Holthus Center

in York. I hope you will register and join us there.

As you can see from Kerry's notes, he will be completing his second term on the board of directors as of year end 2017. His leadership and willingness to "get involved" with everything we do as an association has been a gift to all of us. Kerry, we don't say it often enough, but we do appreciate all you've done for the alumni!

Shortly after the first of the year I will be putting together our committee to begin planning the 2018 Ag Adventure Tour. If you would like to be a part of the planning committee, please give me a call or send an email. We've done a bit of pre-planning, but always need new ideas and participants on the tour. We are planning on July 14 and 15, 2018.

Other ways to get involved are:

Attend the annual meeting and conference

Enjoy one of the travel study seminars

Attend the Leadership Summit (there will be another offered in 2018)

Send information to me for the newsletter - I'm always needing info to put into the Class Notes

Say "yes" if you are contacted to serve on the Board of Directors - or a committee - you'll be glad you did!!!

Send in nominations for the Outstanding Alumni Award - the form is included in this newsletter.

Until next time LEAD on



Class Notes

Matt Habrock (LEAD XXXIV) has been named the interim Director of Agriculture for the State of Nebraska. Congrats Matt!

The Update

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

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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!