

The Update

Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association

SPRING 2019

2019 Outstanding LEAD Alumni Award Recipient Fred Bruning: Building Nebraska through Exemplary LEADership



2019 LEAD Outstanding Alumni, Fred Bruning, LEAD IV.

It is with great pleasure that we recognize Fred Bruning as the recipient of our 2019 Outstanding LEAD Alumni Award. The award was presented at the 2019 Nebraska LEAD Alumni Conference in Grand Island, Nebraska; Saturday, January 26th.

Fred graduated from the University of Nebraska with a degree in Agricultural Economics and then returned home to the family farm where he managed the farm and a cattle operation, including registered Angus and Herford cattle. As a LEAD IV fellow, he continued to hone and develop his life and leadership skills. Then, in 1991, he decided to share his time and talents in managing Bruning State Bank, taking over the management duties from his father.

Fred currently serves as Chairman of the Board and the CEO of Bruning State Bank, based in Bruning, Nebraska. Under his leadership, he has expanded operations to several other regions in the state while maintaining a focus on agricultural lending and substantially increasing the bank's holdings. Fred has served on numerous Nebraska Bankers Association committees, and was a driving force in creating a vision for the NBA internship program. The educational program is now in its 12th year of awarding 50-60 scholarships to students majoring in Ag Finance and who have expressed interest in an Ag Banking career. This internship program has developed into a proven and tested pipeline for supplying the next generation of Ag Bankers to Nebraska's rural and urban communities.

Fred was instrumental in starting the "Farmers College" which invited farmers throughout the region to spend a day learning from nationally recognized speakers. This enabled them to capture ideas in making their own operations more efficient and profitable. Not only was he instrumental in building the framework for this opportunity, but in spearheading efforts to involve other lending institutions and businesses to provide a free education to all farmers and ranchers in attendance. He didn't stop there. Fred was a driving force in creating the Ag Banking and Finance degree at the University of Nebraska. Another example of Fred's personal investment in agriculture includes the creation of the Heifer-Link program at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis, Nebraska. The unique program provides education along with hands-on training for developing a breeding heifer. At graduation, a breeding heifer is gifted to qualifying students to start their own herd. The program continues today as a result of Fred's continued efforts.

Rural development is very important to Fred and his family. From this passion, he helped launch the Bruning Community Foundation. This foundation has fostered a new medical clinic, fitness center, fire hall, and several main street businesses in Bruning; population 279. Fred and his wife Penni are members of the Nebraska Foundation Board of Trustees, and were instrumental in hosting the University of Nebraska Medical Center Cattlemen's Ball of Nebraska, held in Thayer County in 2018.

Above all, Fred continues to be a true advocate of the Nebraska LEAD program. He exemplifies and delivers the vision of the Nebraska LEAD Program, "to prepare and motivate men and women in agriculture for more effective leadership". He has utilized his experience to positively influence his community, state, and each person he encounters. We thank Fred for his service and leadership in building a better Nebraska, awarding him as the 2019 Outstanding LEAD Alum.

2019 Friend of LEAD Winner is Dr. James T. Horner



Pictured here are Dr. Horner, his wife Connie and LEAD Alumni President Dennis Nun.

Presentation speech by Dennis Nun: it is my pleasure to present the “Allen G. Blezek Friend of LEAD Award.” 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.

Once again, it may be fitting to give you a little background on this award. For several years, the Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association had talked about a way to recognize our long time Nebraska LEAD Program director and friend, Dr. Allen Blezek for his many, many, years of outstanding and distinguished service to our program. It was concluded that one of the highest tributes that we could pay to him would be to present an annual award in his honor to someone who has provided distinguished service and superior support to the program for a period of time spanning nearly 25 years.

Beginning in the spring of 1999 the Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association determined that it would be most fitting to present the award to none other than Dr. Blezek. This year, 2019, it is my pleasure to have the opportunity to present this 21st award of recognition to an individual who has played a very critical role in the founding, direction and success of the Nebraska LEAD Program and who has provided tremendous leadership for agriculture and the University of Nebraska over the years. This year’s award goes to Dr. James T. Horner from Naples, Florida.

Dr. Horner came to the University of Nebraska in 1959. During his time as a faculty member in the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communication, formerly the Department of Agricultural Education, where he served in positions of responsibility in teaching, research, and extension. Dr. Horner was a teacher educator and worked extensively with student teachers and teachers across Nebraska. Dr. Horner served as department head of the old “ag-ed department” for many years. He was active in the formation of the Nebraska Vocational Agriculture Foundation and held many organizational offices within the university as well as professional organizations at the local, state, and national levels related to his work.

In the early 1980’s, Dr. Horner took on the responsibility of organizing the Nebraska LEAD Program and served as the “Founding Director.” Dr. Horner’s organizational skills and leadership served him well and, under his direction, the program got off of the ground and has become one of the top programs of its kind in the country today.

After some 35 years on the faculty, Jim took early retirement in 1994. Then taking advantage of a strong economy, bought a motorhome and the rest is history with two trips to Alaska, traveling most of the United States, visiting most countries in Europe, and spending the winters in Florida. In 2000 Dr. Horner and his wife Connie sold their home in Lincoln and moved permanently to Naples, Florida. Dr. Horner served his country for many years and is a retired member of our armed forces. He keeps busy by serving on many boards and committees in his community as he is sought after to serve because of his unbiased and intelligent caring of all people.

Dr. Horner and his wife, Connie are very proud to have a “fully funded endowed fellowship” for the Nebraska LEAD Program through the University of Nebraska Foundation.

With great respect, I am proud to present the 2019 Friend of LEAD Award to Dr. James T. Horner.

Dr. Horner, as a small token of our appreciation for all that you have done for the Nebraska LEAD Program, it is my pleasure to honor you as the “2019 Allen G. Blezek Friend of LEAD Award” recipient.

Please join me in honoring Dr. James T. Horner.

Nebraska LEAD Alumni Strategic Plan Adopted January 2019



Gerald L. Clausen

NOVEMBER 15, 2018 eight members of the Strategic Planning Committee met in Seward to update and advance a plan for the next 10-15 years. The following is a snapshot of that plan that is already in action stages.

SUCCESSION PLAN FOR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Nancy Eberle has indicated she wishes to retire after multiple decades of very valuable service in this capacity. An action plan report will be received by July 1, 2019.

FUNDING/SPENDING COMMITTEE No organization can survive without long term funding plans, along with oversight on expenditures. We could have used “fancier” words to describe this committee, but chose to use familiar words. What do we intend to accomplish and how will we fund such. An action plan report will be received by July 1, 2019.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE-APPOINT A PERMANENT COMMITTEE AND PROVIDE DIRECTION This is the real “head scratching” arena where we need to decide what methods to gain and maintain contact with our members. We desire to “up our game” in this area. An action plan report will be received by July 1, 2019.

PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKING Establish a committee to develop a strategy to engage our members, with a common message, partnering with statewide news and media outlets to promote LEAD Alumni.

Eric Dam will be leading an effort to strengthen our connection with the membership over our vast geographical area. Regional gatherings are on the planning board.

Recruiting new LEAD Fellows is essential for the continued strength of the program that each of us know as very valuable.

Keeping the name LEAD in front of Nebraskans is a high priority. Please join us in this effort.



Pictured from left are President Dennis Nun (LEAD IV), Vice President Matt Dolch (LEAD XXXIII), Secretary Nicole Bohuslavsky (LEAD XXXIV), and Treasurer Cindy Zimmerman-Jaynes (LEAD XXIV).

AgriCULTURE: A Reverse Ag Adventure Tour

July 12-13, 2019

Greater Omaha Area



We will begin our tour at the **Greater Omaha Chamber** where we'll get to know one another and hear from Chamber representatives who are leading economic efforts in the metro area.

Vision: The Chamber will be the catalyst organization that ensures Greater Omaha is a vibrant place to do business, work and live.

Mission: To champion a thriving business community and a prosperous region through visionary leadership and collaboration.

Lisa Scheve from the Greater Omaha Chamber, will be our tour guide as we drive to Blair, NE. She will tell us about the significance of Cargill and Novozymes selecting Blair for their research and development site. Enjoy a driving tour of the Cargill campus and an inside look at the innovation happening at Novozymes.

Cargill operates in 70 countries helping farmers grow more by connecting them to broader markets.

Novozymes is the world leader in biological solutions to improve industrial performance while preserving resources.

Become familiar with the concept of purpose built communities during a walking tour of The Highlander neighborhood led by Seventy Five North. We will learn how a community within a community can offer housing to families of all income levels, prepare children for college, and promote healthy, enriched lives.

Seventy Five North facilitates the revitalization of a healthy, sustainable, mixed-income community to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty.

Delicious food is a tradition on the Ag Tour and The Kitchen Council's, MJER Catering will keep the tradition alive.

MJER is dedicated to supporting local agriculture and sources food from local farms and meat suppliers.

The **Kitchen Council** is a project of the *Greater Omaha Chamber, Iowa West Foundation, Council Bluffs Chamber, Conagra Brands, and the Iowa Economic Development Authority.*

Hear MJER's story and future goals as well as how the Kitchen Council is lowering barriers to entry for food entrepreneurs.



I80 is a major Nebraska connector and unfortunately sometimes it is a connector for illegal activity such as drug and human trafficking. We will tour the **Women's Center for Advancement** and learn about programs to assist victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking.



Since 1920 **Greater Omaha** has been in the high-end beef and steak business. It ships products to every U.S. state and more than 50 countries. We'll learn how the business remains innovative when it comes to people, products, and trends.

What better way to end an adventure-filled trip than with a cold drink full of local flare? **Brickway Brewery & Distillery** is the first combination brewery/distillery since before Prohibition. Enjoy the art and science that goes into each beverage.





President's Message

Associating with Ag Leaders from Nebraska and Beyond



Dennis Nun, LEAD IV.

In 2017 Patty and I took part in our first LEAD Alumni Study/Travel Seminar to Alaska and had long anticipated this year's California adventure. As soon as it was announced a year ago, we immediately signed up. In fact, we made plans to travel to California a week ahead of the group of 30 for two very specific reasons.

- First, we realized when the dates for the California Study/Travel Seminar were announced that it began the weekend following the 52nd annual World Ag Expo in Tulare, California, just south of Fresno in the central valley. I had heard of the WAE but had never had the opportunity to attend the show.
- Second, we wanted to connect with alumni and leaders of the California Ag Leaders organization (<https://www.agleaders.org>), one of the many sister organizations to the Nebraska LEAD Program started by the Kellogg Foundation since 1965.

The World Ag Expo is the world's largest agricultural exposition in the world and attracts over 1450 exhibitors and 100,000 attendees in three days each February. Think of a show like our Husker Harvest Days (without the field demonstrations) that's 2 ½ times larger. WAE caters to farmers and agribusinesses from around the globe and the 400 different agricultural commodity producers in California. With so much to see, and such diverse agriculture represented, we only scratched the surface and it left me wanting to return next year for the full three-days of the event.

The California Ag Leaders program is one of the oldest programs in the U.S. and is in the process of selecting their 50th class. The first class of 30 farmers and allied industry representatives was inaugurated in November 1970. Classes 1-3 participated in a three-year program before it was changed to a two-year program. Class 7 was the first-time women were accepted into the program. A new 17-month schedule was introduced with Class 43. The Agricultural Education Foundation was renamed the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation in 2004. While they don't have a formal alumni association like Nebraska, they now boast of 1,300 alumni who are very involved in supporting their program in their 11 regions across their state.

Prior to our trip we had contacted the California Ag Leaders Foundation and their President, Barry Bedwell who became our host who treated us at honored guests. They invited us to their WAE California Ag Leaders reception in Tulare on the evening of the second day of the show. In addition, we were welcomed and recognized at their Ag Leaders Breakfast the next day where 1,000 supporters of their program came together to generate \$125,000 in financial support for their foundation, roughly six percent of their annual budget.

We met the LEAD Alumni group in San Francisco and what followed were five very educational and enjoyable days north of San Francisco in the Russian, Sonoma and Napa valleys along with an added two days in San Francisco with intelligent, fun, and experienced travelers who represent some of Nebraska's finest people—our fellow Nebraska LEAD Alumni.

If you haven't taken advantage of one of these annual trips that rotate between national and international study/travel seminars then there's an easier and less expensive and shorter two-day option, right here in Nebraska. Join us on the annual Ag Adventure Tour July 12-13! This is a low-cost, 2-day experience that is underwritten by some very generous sponsors and gives us a great opportunity to spend time with our urban neighbors from the Leadership Omaha program. Take a look at this year's schedule and make a reservation today! These programs give you the opportunity to learn about our state, the agriculture of other areas of our country and planet and reconnect with what Governor Pete Ricketts has called "one of the most influential agricultural networks in Nebraska".

We just completed our registration forms for the next LEAD Alumni Study/Travel Seminar to Ireland and Northern Ireland August 10-21, 2020. There are still seats available. Join us!

We welcome these new representatives to the LEAD Alumni Board representing their respective fellows:

- D. Russell Lechtenberg, Butte NE representing LEAD VII
- Jeff Scow, Shelby NE representing LEAD XI
- Doreen Wanitschke, Grand Island NE representing LEAD XII
- Dan McKeone, Odessa NE representing LEAD XIII
- Cal Dahlgren, Bertrand NE representing LEAD XXI
- Ryan Betka, Lincoln NE representing LEAD XXIX
- Deb Neidig, Madison NE representing LEAD XXX
- Tyson Schimmer, Grand Island NE representing LEAD XXXII

Lead on!

Twelve U.S. states generate over \$10 billion annually in agricultural cash receipts:

Rank	Commodity	Cash Receipts	Percent
1	California	\$44,738,132,000	11.30%
2	Iowa	\$31,985,370,000	8.10%
3	Nebraska	\$24,465,882,000	6.20%
4	Texas	\$22,726,067,000	5.80%
5	Minnesota	\$20,580,696,000	5.20%
6	Illinois	\$19,649,939,000	5.00%
7	Kansas	\$16,223,254,000	4.10%
8	Wisconsin	\$12,110,055,000	3.10%
9	Indiana	\$12,052,964,000	3.10%
10	North Carolina	\$11,706,602,000	3.00%
11	Ohio	\$10,066,756,000	2.50%
12	South Dakota	\$10,013,470,000	2.50%

2019 California National Travel Study Seminar

February 17-24th, 2019



LEAD Alumni at Rutherford Hills Winery.

polo Winery, McEvoy Olive Ranch and Olive Mill, Tara Firma Farms, Toluma Farms and Tomales Farmstead Creamery, ZaZu Kitchen, Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco and Alcatraz.

I will have a complete travelogue, including many photos, of our entire California seminar in the June newsletter. The March newsletter was already packed full of great “happenings”, and rather than shorten California too much, we are saving our travels for June so you can enjoy the “complete” version.

List of California Travel Study Seminar Alumni,
Spouses and Guests:

Fred & Kay Meyer, St. Paul NE
Ken & Leslie Boswell, Shickley NE
Jon & Marcia Montgomery, Cozad NE
Dave & Rita Hogsett, Lamar NE
Dennis & Patty Nun, Lincoln NE
Russ & Susan Lechtenberg, Butte NE
Herb & Judy Dixon, Pleasanton NE
John & Joyce Willoughby, Wood River NE
Pat & Jean Schlickbernd, West Point NE
Ron & Esther Rickert, Wood River NE
Don & Shannon Hannappel, Clarks NE
Mark & Melanie Klute, Hampton NE
Sandra Lowery, Burwell NE
Annette Mastny, Bellwood NE
Natalie Echtenkamp, Sergeant Bluff IA
Pat Heyen, Lincoln NE, Alumni Travel Study Coordinator

Hello Alumni,

We had a wonderful Travel Study Seminar to California in February. The weather was dry, sunny and mid 50's, maybe due to the fact that we all packed umbrellas for 7 days. We were fortunate to visit and tour many places, such as: Muir Woods, Mill Valley, Long Meadow Ranch Rutherford Estate, Yountville, Rutherford Hills Winery, Patz & Hall Winery, Steve Hill of Parmalee Hill Vineyards, Sonoma, Francis Ford Cop-



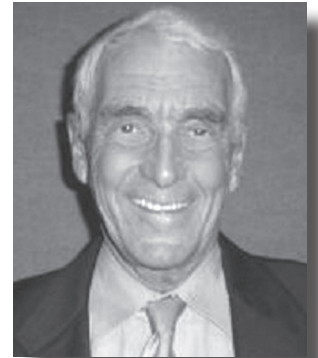
Pat Heyen, National and International Travel Study Coordinator

The Third Leadership Summit is another Success!

Submitted by Nancy Eberle

The third Leadership Summit took place in Lincoln on March 5, 2019. Great keynote speakers, great networking opportunities and finally a “nice day” contributed to the success of the Summit. Partners who organized the event were: The Nebraska Bankers Association, The Nebraska Hospital Association, The Nebraska Farm Bureau, The State Chamber Leadership Nebraska program and the Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association. All of these entities have alumni from their various leadership programs. This is a great opportunity for all of us to share interests, goals and network with each other.

Jay Lehr, Ph.D. is science director of The Heartland Institute. Jay Lehr, Ph.D., Economist and Futurist from the Heartland Institute kicked off our seminar with his talk “A Comeback for Rural America”. We know that Rural America has problems such as low pricing for grain, aging populations, loss of jobs, limited medical access and even obesity and depression. His talk focused on “The Light at the End of the Tunnel” as he talked about the Farm Bill which has tripled funding for Farm and Ranch Programs and the five hundred U.S. rural communities who are exceeding the national average in education measurements, job opportunities, housing availability, and digital and broadband access in entrepreneurship. Preparing for a “comeback” is what leaders such as those attending the summit can contribute significantly. Another topic he addressed was climate change/global warming. His research on this subject led him to create his “10 Facts About Climate Change.”



Jay Lehr, Ph.D.
Economist and Futurist

1. Many in the news media promote global warming alarmism through selective reporting.
2. Global temperatures have not risen since 1998
3. The climate is always changing
4. Antarctic ice is increasing far more than Arctic ice is melting
5. 900,000 years of ice core records show continuous 1,500-year warming cycles
6. It was 7 degrees F. warmer in the 13th century when Greenland was actually green
7. Carbon dioxide is to plants what oxygen is to man; it is not a pollutant
8. Historically CO2 concentrations have risen after, not before, warming periods
9. Computer models used to forecast future warming cannot calculate the known past
10. Funding to prove man caused global warming has reached \$5 billion annually



Jim Smith, Executive
Director for Blueprint NE

Jim Smith, Executive Director for the Blueprint Nebraska project was on hand to bring us up to date on where they are in the development process of Blueprint. Blueprint Nebraska is neither a governmental agency nor an academic institution. Blueprint is made up of a diverse group of business and industry leaders who have come together with the common goal of making sure the Nebraska of the future is even better than the already wonderful Nebraska of today. The group has spent the last several months visiting communities and with groups all over the state gathering information about the economic health of Nebraska, what’s being done, what needs to be done for the future. Their comprehensive plan should be available to roll out this spring. The mission of Blueprint is to provide a strategic plan that offers a clear path towards sustained economic prosperity for all. For more information about this project, visit their website: <https://blueprint-nebraska.org/>

Our final speaker for the day was Andrew McCrea, farmer, rancher, award-winning radio and TV broadcaster of “The American Countryside” and nationally recognized speaker. He has won five Oscars for rural and agricultural broadcasting. His message “Total Town Makeover: Rethinking Community, Business and Home in Small Town America”

was a great end to our day. Andrew recognized that many parts of our country in rural America and small towns are struggling to attract young people and hold on to businesses. When you take a closer look you can identify some towns and individuals that are thriving. Andrew’s message was how to bring life and a bright future to the communities and counties we call home. Using several examples such as Shickley Nebraska, Andrew walked us through the journey taken to extraordinary places and provided us with ideas we can all use to perform a Total Town Makeover. His book “Total Town Makeover” is a great read for those of you who would like to know more. You can also visit his website: <http://americancountryside.com/> for more information on some of these extraordinary communities and the projects they have completed.



Andrew McCrea

“I want to share how awesome I thought the Leadership Summit was. I had never been to the other Summits. I thought the speakers were excellent, food was good and I met some great people. And I even got a book from Andrew McCrea at the end. I am glad I went and I would definitely go again and recommend it to others. It was a very nice way to spend a day!”

- Nicole Bohuslavsky, LEAD XXXIV

Dave Murman, LEAD IX, Elected to NE State Legislature



Senator Dave Murman, District 38.

“I would like to thank the Nebraska LEAD program for the inspiration and motivation to ever attempt this new endeavor. I am thankful for the help and support of LEAD members in District 38 and from all over the state.” – Senator Dave Murman

Congratulations to Dave Murman, newly elected senator from Glenvil NE. Born in Hastings NE, Dave attended Sandy Creek High School and later the University of NE - Lincoln earning a B.S. in Animal Science. Dave and his wife Kathy live and farm near Glenvil and have three children: Kelsi Hewitt, Whitney and Chase. Dave has served as President of the Nebraska State Dairy Association, national delegate to the Mid-American Dairymen, and served on the National Resolution Committee for the Dairy Farmers of America. He is a LEAD 9 graduate and also serves on the Nebraska Farm Bureau State Legislative Policy committee. Dave has served on the Sandy Creek Junior/Senior High School Board of Education and on the Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board. He served as an EMT for the Glenvil Fire and Rescue squad and

is a member of Hastings Evangelical Free Church.

Dave will serve on the following committees: Committee on Committees, Education, Education Commission of the States and the Health and Human Services Committee.

Some awards he has received are: second place 1983 Jaycees Outstanding Young Farmer - Nebraska, third place 1983 Farm Futures Best Managed Farms and Admiral of the Great Navy of the State of Nebraska. We are thrilled to have another LEAD fellow representing agriculture in our state legislature. Congratulations again Dave!



Class notes:

Congratulations to Jim Ramm (LEAD X) from Atkinson who will represent District Four including Boyd, Holt, Wheeler, Knox, Antelope, and Boone counties in his newly elected position on the NE Beef Council!!

Good news from Tony Kaufman (LEAD XXII) who was recently elected for a second term as Mayor of the City of Gering!!

Kudos to Steve Tippery (LEAD XXVIII)! At the AETC (Agricultural Engineers) Conference in Louisville, KY, Steve received a 2019 AE50 Award for developing one of 50 of the best products chosen by a panel of international engineering experts. The judges select innovative products that will best advance engineering for the food and agriculture industries.

Congratulations also go out to Nate Blum (LEAD XXXVI) who has recently been appointed as Executive Director of the Nebraska Grain Sorghum Board - best wishes in your new position Nate!

2020 International Travel Study Seminar Announced

BIG NEWS: At the annual alumni meeting in January, the Alumni Board selected our next international travel study seminar destination. **IT IS - IRELAND & NORTHERN IRELAND**

Travel dates – August 10-21, 2020, 12 days (10 nights)



We will be visiting such wonderful places as Giant's Causeway, Cliffs of Moher, Blarney Castle and Ring of Kerry. August is a fabulous time to visit Ireland, with its mild weather and blooming flowers. We will be visiting towns such as: Dublin, Belfast, Londonderry, Killarney, Macroom and Cahir. We will have lunch on a beef cattle farm that runs a registered Belgian Blue herd and a Herford herd. We will visit a dairy farm with 550 head of Tailormaid Holstein, an orchard with famous Armagh Bramley apples, an Abalone (shellfish) farm, we will observe a shepherding demonstration and visit the Cahir Cattle Market. This is just a small list of the wonderful things we will see in Ireland.

The full itinerary, cost and registration forms are attached. Maximum number of travelers is 46.

You will need a passport to travel to Ireland, and it must be valid until 03/01/2021. You may register for the Ireland seminar prior to getting or renewing your passport. You must be a paid member of the LEAD Alumni, either annual or lifetime.



Pat Heyen, National and International Travel Study Coordinator

We are partnering with Tiffiny Trump of Trump Tours, Bentonville, AR for this incredible tour. (No affiliation with President Trump or Trump Companies). Tiffiny lead the Alumni on our Peru Travel Study Seminar in 2018.

If you have the desire to travel with the greatest group of people since your LEAD experience, get your registration form to me ASAP, as this study seminar will be a popular one.

If you have any questions or want to get ahold of me, please give me a call at:
Cell – (402) 314-3430
Work – (402) 476-1093
Email – pheyen@friedmanlaw.com

I am very excited to be a part of this Travel Study Seminar, LEADING you to IRELAND.

Below are listing the standing committees for the Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association. If you would like to serve on any of these committees, please contact Nancy Eberle.

Investment Committee – Matt Dolch (Chair), Nancy Eberle, Tim Graff, Mark Holoubek, Larry Hudkins and Gerald Clausen

This committee meets once or twice a year or as needed to review our investment portfolio. They make recommendations for changes in the portfolio.

Nominations Committee – Troy McCain (Chair), John Williams, Tyson Schimmer

This committee contacts board members to provide a slate of candidates for election to the LEAD Alumni Executive Board. This listing will be provided prior to the January board of directors meeting.

Strategic Planning – Gerald Clausen (Chair), Stan Mitchell, Nancy Eberle, Tim Graff, Eric Dam, Craig Buescher, Cindy Zimmerman-Jayne.

This committee just completed work on the strategic plan indicated in this newsletter. They will continue to help the process move forward.

Friend of LEAD Committee – Troy McCain (Chair), Kim Peterson and Jon Montgomery

This committee helps coordinate the Friend of LEAD process including soliciting nominations from the LEAD office and notifying the award winners.

Outstanding LEAD Alumni Committee – Matt Dolch (Chair), Larry Hudkins, Craig Buescher, Susan Nelson

This committee solicits nominations and chooses the recipient for the award. This award is presented at the Annual LEAD Alumni conference.

Audit Committee – Leland Poppe (Chair), Cindy Zimmerman-Jayne, Pay Heyen

An internal audit is conducted every year or every other year – this committee will help with any new format needed for reporting to the Board and the Annual Meeting attendees to better reflect actual activity in accounts held.

Endowment Fund Advisory Committee – Executive board members –

Dennis Nun, President, Matt Dolch, Vice President, Nicole Bohuslavsky, Secretary, Cindy Zimmerman-Jayne, Treasurer, Nancy Eberle, Executive Secretary and Tim Graff, Executive Treasurer.

The executive board members will act as liaison with the NU Foundation when needed. They will help make decisions as to the disposition of the funds when needed.

Constitution and By-Laws – Nancy Eberle (Chair), Tim Graff, Diane Keller and Troy McCain

The goal of this committee is to review the legal documents of the Association and make recommendations to the board if needed. If changes are proposed, this committee will bring them forward for ratification at the annual meeting of the members.

Ag Adventure Tour Committee – Nancy Eberle (Chair), Kerry Glandt, Deb VanMatre, Reid Hagstrom and Dave Nelson

This committee will plan and coordinate the annual ag adventure tour. They will meet either in person or by conference call 4-6 times each year and if possible will attend the tour.

National/International Travel Study – Pay Heyen (Chair), Dave Nelson, Kenneth Boswell, Kerry Glandt, Larry Hudkins, Nate Blum, Nicole Bohuslavsky, Tom Schwarz, Troy McCain

This committee will help plan the destinations for the various tours and report to the board of directions for ratification.

The following new committees have been formed out of our recently developed strategic plan for the LEAD Alumni Association:

Funding and Spending Committee - *Craig Buescher (Chair), Tim Graff, Dennis Nun, Larry Hudkins, Nancy Eberle, Cindy Zimmerman-Jaynes*

This is a long-range planning committee to look at spending needed vs. income received, come up with a plan for our future spending needs and how to accomplish this effort. As a priority of this committee will be looking into ways of supporting our Executive Secretary, Nancy Eberly with additional volunteer or paid staff to carry out the extensive and growing duties of that role.

Social Media/Communication - *Nate Blum (Chair), Nancy Eberle, Dennis Nun, Matt Dolch, Dan McKeon*

Task: To find ways to improve our methods of communication, retain and enhance the newsletter, retain and enhance our use of the LEAD Alumni Facebook page and website. Investigate the possibility of developing an App or perhaps other media outlets to share our "story".

Partnerships - *Nancy Eberle (Chair), Craig Buescher, Eric Dam, Gerald Clausen, Leslie Boswell*

This committee will make personal contacts with partners outside of the association. Joint events can be created, fine ways to "tell the Nebraska Agriculture Story" and to advertise the LEAD program, have alums that are present at LEAD Fellow Seminars talk about the offerings of the Alumni Association and the need to join. A uniform "message" will be developed for those doing the outreach to help facilitate the conversation with the proposed partners.

Regional Meetings - *Eric Dam (Chair), Nancy Eberle, Dennis Nun, Dennis Kahl*

Regional Meetings offered in the "Districts" that are in place for recruiting LEAD fellows. These could be social events, tours, mini conferences etc. Local alums could organize the event and invite LEAD fellows in their "District" to attend. These meetings could also be used as recruitment meetings for future LEAD fellows.

HELP Wanted!

The LEAD Alumni Association is seeking individuals, from among our LEAD Alumni membership, to fill the following positions:

Annual Conference Coordinator--- Includes a \$500/Year Stipend to advise and coach the new LEAD graduating class responsible for the coming year's annual conference to insure they are supported by the association and produce an outstanding event.

Social Media Coordinator--- Includes a \$500/Year Stipend to oversee and enhance the impact of all LEAD Alumni Social Media efforts and generating a successful campaign to support the events and activities of the organization.

Exec. Secretary Assistant—If you are a LEAD Alumni Member or spouse and would be willing to assist our Executive Secretary in carrying out the multitude of responsibilities that are needed to keep the officers, board and membership informed through our newsletter, events, calendar, website and Facebook page, please reach out to Nancy Eberly and request a list of projects and opportunities to assist. Call: (402) 366-8001 or email Nancy at neberle@mainstaycomm.net for more information.

The Update

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

Address Service Requested

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



Nebraska LEAD Alumni Assn

Please come!!
August 27, 2019, 5-7:30 pm



Nebraska State Fair
NE LEAD Alumni Reception

If you are planning to come to the Nebraska State Fair this summer, consider coming on August 27. We are planning a get together in the VIP room - above the Five Points Show arena from 5:00 to 7:30 pm. Please join us! Snacks and Cash Bar will be provided.

Hosts: NE LEAD Alumni Board of Directors
Terry Hejny, Director, Nebraska LEAD Program

If you do plan to be at the Fair, please let Nancy know via e-mail at neberle@mainstaycomm.net -- we want to make sure we have enough "snacks"



Congratulations to graduating LEAD Class XXXVII - Can't wait to welcome you to our Alumni Association!



Pictured are members of LEAD Class VII who were honored at the LEAD Graduation and Honors Banquet in Lincoln on March 15, 2019.

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

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!

AgriCULTURE: A Reverse Ag Adventure Tour

The Leadership Omaha Alumni Association and the LEAD Alumni Association are pleased to host the (which number?) annual Ag Adventure Tour, July 12-13. This year's tour is a *Reverse Tour*, focused in the Greater Omaha area. Join us as we explore the impact of agriculture on urban culture. You'll build rural to urban bridges, learn about exciting initiatives and enjoy great food.

When: 8:00 a.m. July 12– 5:00 p.m. July 13

- July 12 8:00 a.m.
Greater Omaha Chamber
808 Conagra Drive Suite 400
Omaha, NE 68102
- July 13 ~5:00 p.m. Conclude at the Embassy Suites Omaha Old Market

Details:

Friday, July 12: Economic development in the metro area with Dee Baird, SVP at the Greater Omaha Chamber and Ag Council Co-Chairs: Carrie Duffy, Black Dirt Land Sales & Management, David Bracht, Kutak Rock LLP
The Blair Biocampus, Cargill and Novozymes
Purpose Built Community at The Highlander
Farm-to-table dinner at the Greater Omaha Chamber catered by Kitchen Council fellow, MJER Catering

Saturday, July 13 – Statewide Challenges – Human Trafficking and Drug Trafficking along I-80
The Women's Center for Advancement
Lunch in the Blackstone District
Local and International Business – Greater Omaha Packing, Inc.
Happy Hour at Brickway with Zac Triemert, Master Brewer & Distiller

Cost: \$125 – includes transportation, meals and a shared suite at The Embassy Suites Old Market

Complete the registration form below and return with check by June 30 to:

Liz Kerrigan.
808 Conagra Drive, Suite 400
Omaha, NE 68102
(checks made payable to LO – Ag Tour)

For more information contact Liz Kerrigan LKerrigan@OmahaChamber.org (402) 978-7913 or Nancy Eberle NEberle@mainstaycomm.net (402) 366-8001.

Name _____

Company _____ **Title** _____

Business Address _____ **City** _____ **State** ____ **Zip** _____

E-mail _____

Phone (Cell preferred) _____

I need a room at the Embassy Suites

NO REFUNDS AFTER JULY 5 Please note dietary, physical, or other restrictions _____

Registration – Ireland Nebraska Leadership Alumni August 10-21, 2020

To reserve your place on this tour please complete the Registration Form and send in your deposit.

Passenger 1	Passenger 2
Name (as it appears in passport - passport must be valid until 3/1/2021 – must not have passport to register)	Name (as it appears in passport - passport must be valid until 3/1/2021 – must not have passport to register)
First: _____ Middle: _____	First: _____ Middle: _____
Last: _____ Male () Female ()	Last: _____ Male () Female ()
Preferred name: _____	Preferred name: _____
Passport Number: _____ Exp Date: _____	Passport Number: _____ Exp Date: _____
Known Traveler / TSA # _____	Known Traveler / TSA # _____
LEAD Class #: _____ Alumni: (Circle One) YES NO	LEAD Class #: _____ Alumni: (Circle One) YES NO
Birth date: _____ Roommate's Name: _____	Birth date: _____ Roommate's Name: _____
Room preference: Twin (2 beds) King (1 bed)	Room preference: Twin (2 beds) King (1 bed)
Street Address: _____	Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Tel Home: _____ Tel Cell: _____	Tel Home: _____ Tel Cell: _____
Email: _____	Email: _____
Dietary/Medical Restrictions: _____	Dietary/Medical Restrictions: _____
What do you farm: _____	What do you farm: _____
Emergency Contact: Name _____ Relationship _____	Emergency Contact: Name _____ Relationship _____
Tel. Home _____ Tel. Cell _____	Tel. Home _____ Tel. Cell _____
I have read the Master Terms & Conditions.	I have read the Master Terms & Conditions.
Client Signature: _____ Date: _____	Client Signature: _____ Date: _____
10 nt Ireland Tour (pp double occupancy): \$3,176	10 nt Ireland Tour (pp double occupancy): \$3,176
Air (estimated. Price avail 10/1/2019): ca. \$1,300	Air (estimated. Price avail 10/1/2019): ca. \$1,300
Single Supplement: 10 nt \$1,050	Single Supplement: 10 nt \$1,050
Travel Insurance: See below:	Travel Insurance: See below:
Total:	Total:

Please send payment and registration to: Pat Heyen, 1649 Hartley Street, Lincoln, NE 68521

Please make checks payable to: Trump Tours

OR by Credit Card:

Type _____ Number _____ Expiration _____ Security Code _____

Name on Card _____ Billing Address _____

Date	Payment Due	Cancellation Penalty
Upon registration – (per person)	\$250 + Insurance (Optional)	Trip Insurance non-refundable
From registration until Feb 9, 2020		\$250 non-refundable
Feb 10, 2020 until May 9, 2020	\$750	\$1,000 non-refundable
From May 10 2020	Final Payment	No Refunds

Travel Insurance: We believe that your upcoming trip is a significant investment that you should protect. We recommend TravelGuard comprehensive travel protection plan. Please call for a copy of the policy. In the event that you decline to purchase travel protection insurance, you are assuming any financial loss associated with your travel arrangements. For coverage cost please see back side.

Please indicate your decision:

YES _____ I elect to purchase Travel Protection. (Please include payment with deposit.) NO _____ I decline to purchase Travel Protection.

2019 LEAD Alumni Conference

Growing Ag: LEAD

The 2019 LEAD Alumni Conference was held on January 26th at the Raising Nebraska building on the State Fairgrounds in Grand Island. The atmosphere inspired a day full of learning and connecting. The space was designed to highlight all of Nebraska's agricultural products and innovations. The 80 attendees gathered near the stage behind the grain bins to hear from a variety of entrepreneurs and innovators.

The day started with an update about the LEAD program. Dr. Terry Hejny gave his report and challenged us to continue growing our abilities by staying curious. Then, LEAD 36 (represented by Nora Turner and Ben Bloomendahl) took us on their International Study Travel Seminar to Argentina, Chile, Uruguay. They experienced both new and familiar aspects of agriculture from vegetables and wines in Chile to grain and beef in Argentina and Uruguay. All this while observing cultural and governmental influences on the industries they explored.



Next, a discussion on rural mental health trends with Dr. Christine Chasek, with the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Her discussion focused on her observations of emerging trends in rural mental health. She explored how the stresses unique to agriculture can impact individuals, families and communities. She offered help resources to combat these stressors as well as substance abuse.



After a taco lunch, we engaged with a panel about Nebraska Entrepreneurship. The panel, moderated by Tracy Zink of LEAD 35, featured Matthew and Joseph Brugger student entrepreneurs of the UNL Engler Program, Michala Soundy from the Grand Island Chamber of Commerce, and Tim Higgins of Farm Credit Services of America. The discussion was incredibly engaging and inspiring – even after a big lunch!

Mid-afternoon, Rod Peterson shared how AgrAbility is helping injured farmers and ranchers find new accommodations to continue doing what they love.

The evening highlighted Nebraska's brewers and vintners. Jacob Robinson of LEAD 34 spoke the growing interest in raising hops. Then, attendees had the opportunity to connect and sample a selection of Nebraska's local crafts from Thunderhead Brewing Company, Prairie Pride Brewing Co, First Street Brewing, Miletta Vista Winery, and Mac's Creek Winery. This allowed time for LEAD Alumni to network and reconnect while exploring the Raising Nebraska exhibits.



The dinner was a prime rib buffet under the ambiance of the Nebraska-made pivot. We enjoyed hearing from John Miller of LEAD 4 and his entrepreneurship while building Oxbow Animal Health.

Thank you from LEAD Class 35 to all who joined us and sponsored the event.