

The Update

"LEAD by Example"

Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association

FALL 2023



Tami Clausen, LEAD Executive Secretary.

Introducing Tami Clausen — Our New Executive Secretary

I am so excited to begin this new adventure alongside all of the LEAD Alumni Fellows. Many of you are familiar faces, however, I am excited to get to know the rest of the alumni.

A little about my connection with LEAD and Agriculture. My father-in-law, Gerald Clausen, was a member of LEAD Class I and my husband was a member of LEAD Class XI. You could say that our family has kind of grown up with LEAD and have been excited to watch the program grow.

My connection to agriculture started at birth. I grew up with two brothers, on our family's crop/livestock farm located near Staplehurst, Nebraska. The farm was homesteaded by my grandmother's family and we have had the honor of being a Pioneer Farm Family. The farm is now owned and operated by my cousin. The love of livestock took me to UNSTA (University of Nebraska School of Technical Agriculture) in Curtis to earn a degree as a Veterinary Technician. That is where I met my husband, Marty. He grew up raising crops and livestock in the Lindy, Nebraska area. For the last 23 years Marty has owned and operated Chem Tech Pest Solutions. He offers services to Agricultural, Commercial, and Residential customers. Our son Nick joined the business 5 years ago and has been a great asset to our family run business. While raising our family I continued my education and received my Bachelors of Science Degree in Business. I was the Business Manager for Logan View Public Schools for over 26 years. At the end of 2019 I left there to join Marty and Nick on a more fulltime basis. I also do consultation work for School Districts, which keeps me connected to the business aspect of education. Both occupations are very rewarding.

The Lord has blessed Marty and me with three wonderful sons and they brought to our family three exceptional daughters (in-law). We have 9, very active, grandchildren ranging in ages 2-14. These 9 are one of grandma's biggest JOYS in life. We have lived in Hooper, Nebraska for 30+ years.

I was asked recently, "what I do in my spare time?" Well.....there is always babysitting, baseball, softball, football, soccer, basketball, tumbling, 4-H fairs, swimming in grandma's pool and sleepovers as part of my calendar. Oh, did I forget – Hooper City Council, church committees, TeamMates, and various volunteer experiences? Needless to say, being involved is a theme in my life. This brings me back to the LEAD Alumni Executive Secretary position.

I am so honored to be able to help promote the LEAD Program and the Alumni in this position. Nancy Eberle and Leslie Boswell have both laid wonderful groundwork and I am excited to be able to contribute to the organization. I encourage every LEAD Fellow, of every LEAD Class to be involved. Feel free to reach out to me if there is every anything that I can do to help this program grow. I challenge LEAD Fellows to ask themselves daily "What have I done today to better agriculture, but more importantly the world around me?" I think these two go hand in hand!

President's Message



Stan Mitchell, LEAD 9, President.

Fall is here and with it brings football, harvest and beautiful trees changing colors. I'm also reminded that school activities have Grandpa and Grandma running to different destinations to cheer and support grandkids. Great times.

We also have great times coming for our Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association. February 17, 2024 will be our Annual Conference to be held in Columbus, Nebraska. More information will be coming on this event. Also March 22 through March 28, 2024 the next national seminar will be to Savannah and Charleston please consider joining in on the great times.

I would like to introduce to The LEAD Alumni Association Tami Clausen who will serve as our Executive Secretary. Tami brings a long background of working with boards after serving as a school business manager. Please welcome Tami to our Association.

I had the pleasure of attending the kick off dinner for LEAD 42. They are a great group and we look forward to supporting them over the next couple years and are excited for what they will bring to our Lead Association.

We have a great Board ready to tackle any challenge that comes our way. I would like to thank our Board for the work that they do. It has been a pleasure working with them.

Thank you to all our members for supporting The LEAD Alumni Association.



Outstanding Alum for 2023

Do you know a LEAD Alumni who has been active in service to agriculture and deserving of recognition? Each year, The LEAD Alumni present the Outstanding Alumni award to a LEAD graduate and Alumni member at our Annual Conference. If there is someone you would like to nominate, please use the form in this newsletter and send to David Grimes. Please send nominations by December 1. My contacts follow:

David Grimes
1124 38 Rd
Minden, NE 68959
dbgrimes@gtmc.net

Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association OUTSTANDING LEAD ALUMNI AWARD

Each of you are aware of someone deserving of this award. We hope you will take a few minutes to write a paragraph or two about the reason the nominee is a great candidate to consider. Previous award winners are listed below.

Award Purpose:

To provide public recognition of a Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association member who has achieved notable success in using the skills learned through the Nebraska LEAD Program and through other means to become a leader in their chosen field of agriculture.

Award Nomination Criteria:

1. Nominee MUST BE a current paid member of the Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association.
2. Nominee has demonstrated leadership qualities deserving of the Outstanding LEAD Alumni Award.
Deadline for nomination documents: **December 1, 2023**

Nomination documents must be mailed or e-mailed to:

Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association
c/o Tami Clausen, Executive Secretary
201 S. Pine St, Hooper NE 68031
tclausen3@gmail.com

Or

E-mailed to:

David Grimes
1124 38 Rd
Minden, NE 68959
dbgrimes@gtmc.net

3. Nominations (not including past winners) from the previous two years will be included in the current year's selection process.
4. Notification of selection committee results to the nominator will be made two weeks after nomination deadline.

Award Recipient Information:

1. The Outstanding LEAD Alumni Award will be presented during the Annual LEAD Alumni Conference
2. The Outstanding LEAD Alumni Award recipient will receive public recognition and a plaque sponsored by the Nebraska LEAD Alumni Association.

Award Winners:

1991 – Don Hutchens
1992 – Larry Hudkins
1993 – Dennis Baack
1994 – Larry Sitzman
1995 – Gary Bergman
1996 – Ceclia Grevson
1997 – Mike Bauerle
1998 – Kate Sullivan
1999 – Mary Pat-Finn Hoag
2018 – J.D. Alexander
2021 – Ken Herz

2000 – Tom Baker
2001 – Gerald Schmidt
2002 – Craig Buescher
2003 – Doug Boisen
2004 – John Miller
2005 – Fred Meyer
2006 – Nancy Eberle
2007 – Robert Rikli
2008 – Mark Jagels
2019 – Fred Bruning
2022 – Ken Anderson

2009 – Jerry Stahr
2010 – Steve Kruger
2011 – Todd Schroeder
2012 – Deb Fischer
2013 – Dan Duncan
2014 – Lisa Lunz
2015 – Dennis Kahl
2016 – Willow Holoubek
2017 – Tom Schwarz
2020 – Gerald Clausen

International Travel Study –



Pat Heyen, National and International Travel Study Coordinator

Hello Alumni,

We are busy on the farm, as I am sure many of you are, harvesting soybeans and corn. The dry year is definitely having an effect on the yields and making harvest very dusty. Take care out there, and stay safe.

The 2024 National Travel Study Seminar is scheduled for March 22-28, 2024. We will be visiting Savannah, Georgia and Charleston, South Carolina.

We have a wonderful itinerary with ag visits to:

UGA Aquarium and Georgia Shellfish Research Lab & Marine Extension
Marine Science Center on Tybee Island
Lowcountry Oysters, including a boat ride to see the “nursery”
Boone Plantation with Farm to Table meal
Charleston Tee Plantation
Charleston Distilling Company

Sightseeing visits to:

Tybee Island for Dolphin Cruise
Tybee Lighthouse
Savannah Trolley Tour
Savannah River Cruise
Firefly Distillery
Fort Sumter
Charleston Carriage Ride

We would love for you to join us. The full itinerary and registration are on the website: <http://www.neleadalumni.com> and on the Facebook, Nebraska LEAD Alumni page.

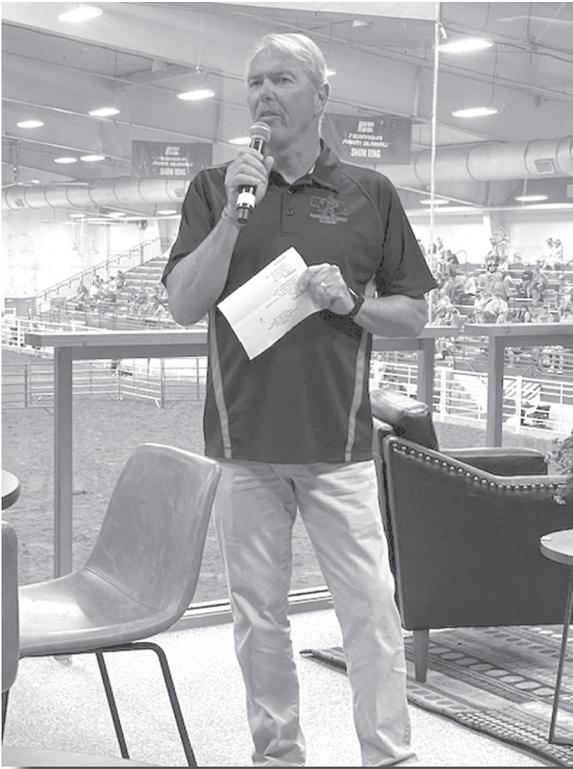
If you have any questions or would like me to forward you the itinerary and registration, please reach out to me. pheyen@friedmanlaw.com or Cell – (402) 314-3430

We will be announcing the 2025 Summer International Travel Study Seminar in the next few months. It will be another great destination and itinerary. Stay tuned.

Pat Heyen, National & International Travel Coordinator.



State Fair Reception in Grand Island



President, Stan Mitchell, giving us the latest update on our association.



Networking and social time is always a great time.



Dennis and Patty Nun, Dori Wanitschke, Tim Graff and Cathy Poppe - good snacks, good conversation.

The Jordan D. Nun LEAD Memorial Fund



Jordan D. Nun, LEAD 35.

As a LEAD 4 Fellow I've been a beneficiary and an advocate for the LEAD Program for almost 40 years.

We were excited when our son, Jordan D. Nun applied and was selected for LEAD 35. He was very appreciative of the LEAD experience and became an ambassador and Life Member of the Alumni of The Nebraska LEAD Program.

Three years ago, in March of 2020, just as Covid-19 arrived, Jordan died leaving a huge hole in our family. As we considered how to honor Jordan, Patty and I along with Jordan's wife Sarah concluded that a LEAD Memorial Excellence Fund that would continue to support the programming of the LEAD Program into the future would be the perfect way.

In order to begin generating funds for LEAD programming we are working toward fully funding this endowment with a goal of at least \$30,000. So far, we've been blessed with \$18,000 in funding contributions from LEAD Alumni, friends and family members. We are working toward completing this endowment with the added \$12,000 to reach that goal by November 1 of this year.

To accomplish that we have a matching gift that will double all contributions made between April 1 and November 1, 2023. If you would like to contribute a tax-deductible contribution, gifts may be made online at: <https://nufoundation.org/fund/01156050/> or mailed to:

**The Jordan D. Nun Fund
University of NE Foundation
1010 Lincoln Mall, Suite 300
Lincoln NE68508**

Thank you for considering sustaining the LEAD Program and honoring the memory of Jordan with a donation.

Dennis L. Nun



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



Austin Benes, LEAD Class 40.

SAVE THE DATE FOR 2024 LEAD ALUMNI ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The members the conference planning committee are very excited to have recently announced the 2024 LEAD Alumni Conference will be held in Columbus, NE on Saturday February 17, 2024. As the committee continues to finalize plans please keep an eye out for program and agenda details. If you have any questions or would like to suggest speakers, tours, or topics please feel free to reach out to Austin Benes at benes.austin@gmail.com or contact your LEAD Alumni Board of Directors representative.

Mission Statement

Our Mission is to encourage our members to continue as agricultural leaders by using their skills, insight, knowledge and network to LEAD by their example.

Connect with us through our website at <http://www.neleadalumni.com> our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Leadalumni> or on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a164lDsg07Q>

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 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!