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# THE SANGAMO *Farmer*

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2017



*Advocating the Voice of Agriculture through Education  
and Grassroots Legislation*

Phone: (217) 753-5200 • [www.sangamonfb.org](http://www.sangamonfb.org) • [farmbureau@sangamonfb.org](mailto:farmbureau@sangamonfb.org)  
Springfield, IL • Volume MMXVII Number 1

# Upcoming Committee Meetings & Events

## January

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> - 2 <sup>nd</sup> .....  | <i>Happy New Year</i> , Office Closed                       |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup> ..... | American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> .....                    | Young Leaders Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.                  |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> .....                   | Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.                                    |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> .....                   | Women's Committee Meeting, 6:30 p.m.                        |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> .....                   | FFA Acquaintance Day, 8:30 a.m.                             |

## February

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 6 <sup>th</sup> .....  | Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m. |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> ..... | Young Leaders Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.        |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> ..... | Women's Committee Meeting, 10:00 a.m.             |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> ..... | Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.                          |

All events take place at the Sangamon County Farm Bureau unless otherwise noted.



**AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP**  
*Logan, Menard, Sangamon County*

The ladies have been busy in the classrooms this fall. The Agricultural Education Partnership has reached around 16,900 people so far, this year!




| DIRECTOR ATTENDANCE - 2016         |                                  | J   | J   | A | S | O | N | D | J | F | M |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| <b>District 1</b>                  | Wayne Benanti                    | X   | X   | X | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
|                                    | Michael Kinner                   | n/a | n/a | X | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
|                                    | Jason Kornick                    | X   | -   | X | - | - | - |   |   |   |   |
| <b>District 2</b>                  | Otto Rentschler                  | -   | X   | X | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
|                                    | Randy Krone                      | X   | X   | - | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
|                                    | Tyler Sloan                      | X   | -   | - | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
| <b>District 3</b>                  | Dale Edwards                     | X   | X   | - | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
|                                    | Jason Pickrell (Ass't Sec/Treas) | X   | X   | X | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
|                                    | Phil Sidles (Secretary)          | X   | X   | X | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
| <b>District 4</b>                  | Bryon Muench                     | X   | X   | - | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
|                                    | David Ray (Treasurer)            | X   | X   | X | - | - | - |   |   |   |   |
|                                    | Paul Rice                        | X   | X   | - | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
| <b>District 5</b>                  | Cathryn Ayers                    | X   | X   | X | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
|                                    | Larry Beaty (President)          | X   | X   | X | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
|                                    | Matt Heissingner                 | X   | X   | X | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
|                                    | Marty Fairchild                  | X   | X   | X | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
| <b>District 6</b>                  | Colleen Carney-Harms             | X   | X   | X | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
|                                    | Ben Ladage (Vice-President)      | X   | X   | X | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
|                                    | Tim Seifert                      | -   | -   | X | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |
| <b>GAC Chair</b> , Allen Entwistle | -                                | X   | X   | - | - | - |   |   |   |   |   |
| <b>MPR Chair</b> , Diana Beaty     | X                                | X   | X   | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |   |
| <b>YL Chair</b> , Katie King       | -                                | -   | X   | - | - | X |   |   |   |   |   |

| THE SANGAMO FARMER  |   |
|---|---|
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| <b>SANGAMON COUNTY FARM BUREAU</b><br>Office: 2631 Beechler Court<br>Springfield, Illinois 62703<br>President: Larry Beaty<br>Vice-President: Ben Ladage<br>Secretary: Phil Sidles<br>Treasurer: David Ray<br>Asst. Secretary/Treasurer: Jason Pickrell<br>Periodical Class Postage Paid at Springfield, Illinois | <b>DIRECTORY FARM BUREAU STAFF</b><br>Manager: James Birge, FBCM<br>Assistant Manager: Ashley Kauffman<br>Finance/Membership: Arika Mason<br>Farm Bureau Tel. 217-753-5200<br>E-mail farmbureau@sangamonfb.org<br>Individual membership fee of the Sangamon County Farm Bureau includes payment of \$2 per year for a subscription to the Sangamo Farmer. |



# Judy Constant's Rainbow Torte

## (Crepe)

2 Eggs

2 Tbsp. Flour

2 Tbsp. Milk

Pinch of Salt

(Need at least 7 crepes)

## (Torte)

3/4 cup Mayonnaise

3 - 8oz pkgs Creamed Cheese (softened)

1 tsp. your favorite herb seasoning

Spread each side of each crepe with a thin layer of the creamed cheese mixture. Between each crepe use 1/4 inch filling of a solid layer of whatever you desire:

1 layer of Ham (sliced thin from Deli)

1 layer of Cooked Frozen Spinach (well drained and cold)

1 layer of cheese (Sliced American)

1 layer of Sliced Tomatoes

1 layer of thin sliced Pastromi Turkey

1 layer sliced Hard Boiled Egg

This builds up a 6-layer cake, on which is best to use a flat cake plate or dinner plate with 10" diameter. As each layer is added, press firmly before icing top side of each crepe. Ice the whole torte with balance of cream cheese mixture and while still soft shred mild cheddar cheese or parmesan cheese and sprinkle over sides and top of torte. Serves 12.

## 2017 Crop Insurance Seminar

Co-Sponsored by  
COUNTRY Financial and the Sangamon County Farm  
Bureau Marketing Committee

Please join us to learn more about Federal Crop Insurance. Enjoy an update on Safety Net- Doug Yoder, Crop Agency Manager, COUNTRY Financial, Policy Holder Crop Web Account- Brenda Dozer- Crop Training Coordinator, COUNTRY Financial and a 2017 Marketing Outlook- Brian Burke, Principal, John Stewart & Associates.

**Monday, February 15, 2017**

**8:30 a.m.- Registration & Refreshments**

**9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.- Presentations**

at the Sangamon County Farm Bureau

2631 Beechler Ct.

Springfield, IL 62703

**Lunch will be provided at noon. Door Prize Giveaways! Please RSVP by February 13th to (217)753-5200**

## REICHERT NOMINATED TO ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Mark Reichert

Sangamon county native Mark Reichert was elected to serve District 10 on the Illinois Farm Bureau® (IFB) Board of Directors at the organization's annual meeting in Chicago, Dec. 3-6. There was one other new director elected to represent District 12, as well as all incumbent directors in Districts 2, 4, 6, 8, 14, 16, and 18, were up for election during the delegate business session Monday, Dec. 5.

Mark Reichert of Sangamon County was elected to a two-year term to represent District 10, which encompasses Cass, Logan, Mason, Menard, Morgan, Sangamon and Scott counties. Reichert, who also works as a real estate agent for The Real Estate Group, raises corn, soybeans and seed beans southwest of Auburn with his father and brother-in-law.

Reichert has previously served on the Sangamon County Farm Bureau Board of Directors as the marketing chairman, policy and development chairman, assistant to the secretary and treasurer, Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation Golf chair, vice president, and president. Reichert also participated in the IFB Market Study Program to Panama and Colombia.

Reichert also is a member of the Illinois Corn Growers Association and Illinois Soybean Association, and has served on the Virden Community School District Board of Directors. He serves on the agriculture advisory board to Illinois State Representative Sara Wojcicki-Jimenez and is a member of several community organizations, including the Virden Masonic Lodge, Springfield Ansar Shriners, and the Girard Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons.

Reichert is a member of the Virden Church of the Brethren. He and his wife, Callie, have five children and one granddaughter.

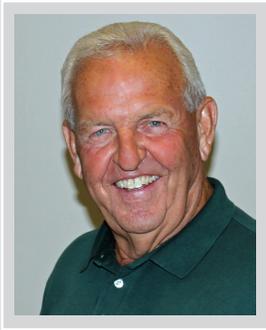
## Sangamo Memories



SCFB office located on Ninth and Jefferson St.

If you have time honored photos related to Sangamon County Farm Bureau we would love to see them. We can easily scan them to preserve the photo and to share with the rest of our members!

# President's Report



Larry Beaty

We just returned from our Annual IAA Convention in Chicago at the Palmer House. We had great weather outside of some snow on Sunday afternoon, but temperatures were pretty good for Chicago. This was my last IFB Annual Meeting as President of Sangamon County Farm Bureau. I have to say I have mixed feelings about ending my tenure on the SCFB Board. It has been a great experience. I had no idea all the ways Farm Bureau helped the farming community in their farming operations. Without a doubt Farm Bureau is the elite farm organization in these United States. Anyone who is engaged in farming and is not a Farm Bureau member has no idea the opportunity they are missing. As diverse as Agriculture is Farm Bureau has something to offer for everyone who is involved in this great industry we call Agriculture.

We adopted a new membership policy at our Annual Meeting. It will allow non-farm folks who are involved in agriculture business to become a PM member (Professional Member). You will be hearing more about this in the coming weeks. I think it will be a great asset to Farm Bureau as our membership has lost members over the past decade. It will allow some very good ag related people to become voting members.

We had forty four members from Sangamon County Farm Bureau attend IFB Meeting; a really great attendance and I thank each of you who took time out of your busy schedule to attend.

We had a big group of Young Leaders attend; it is always good to see our young leaders take time to attend, for they are the future of our organization. Sangamon County Farm Bureau is in really good hands because we have a really strong Young Leader Committee. Thanks Katie King, Chairperson of Young Leaders and all the Young Leaders for all you do!

Our own Mark Reichert was elected as our new District 10 IAA Director. Congratulations to Mark and Callie (Mrs. 10) Reichert. I am sure, as in everything Mark tackles; he will make an excellent District 10 Director.

As my last year on the Board winds down I would like to encourage each SCFB member to take an active part in SCFB whether it be on a committee, involvement in an event that is happening or perhaps becoming a board member. We are open to new ideas; we welcome folks who want to be involved in the activities.

The Holiday Season is upon us and I have got to tell you Christmas always has been my favorite time of year and still is. For me Christmas is the hope of new and better things to come.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Great New Year!

God Bless each of you and our great country.

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# IAA ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

**T**rade, property rights and water quality dominated policy debate at Illinois Farm Bureau's Annual Meeting.

Delegates considered fewer county submittals than usual, but Mark Gebhards, IFB's executive director of governmental affairs and commodities, said the number of submittals isn't important.

"We are 100 years old as an organization," he said. "As an organization matures, I think it's only natural that you don't have as many things you need to add to your policy book. You tend to take that book and say, 'OK, what's still relevant, what do we need to change,' which is really why we've put so much emphasis on the Policy Review Committee."

Mark Gebhards, IFB executive director of governmental affairs and commodities, briefed the media after Illinois Farm Bureaus Annual Meeting.

In all, 346 delegates, representing 76,497 members, were eligible to vote during the session. Highlights of delegate policy changes, include:

- Strengthened farm bill language. Originally proposed by Cass-Morgan, the policy language emphasizes IFB's opposition to separating the nutrition title and commodity title of the farm bill. IFB staff plans to submit the language to American Farm Bureau Federation for consideration.

- Re-emphasized its support of trade, approving a major policy rewrite. Originally submitted by a Strength With Advisory Team, the rewrite doesn't change the organization's stance on trade, but makes it more concise and better organized.

IFB will continue to put a "very strong emphasis on trade," Gebhards said.

"Trade is going to be a very, very critical area as we work with the new administration in Washington, D.C., under President-elect Trump," he said.

- Increased input on phosphorous reduction strategies for the Illinois Nutrient Research and Education Council (NREC). Under new policy, IFB advocates for farmer representatives of southern Illinois "priority phosphorous watersheds" on NREC.

Related: Survey finds Illinois farmers made 'significant progress' adopting nutrient strategies from 2011-2015. Read more here.

- Supported planting of pollinator habitat on land currently enrolled in USDA programs. (Currently, the Farm Service Agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service offer pollinator habitat practices through conservation programs and initiatives.)

- Supported the elimination of duplicative levee inspections with resulting cost savings to be used for levee improvements. "We are still subject to duplicative periodic and annual inspections," said Pike County Farm Bureau delegate Jim Koeller, adding the biggest impact



SCFB delegates attended the Delegate Session on Monday at the Annual Meeting to discuss new policy changes.

comes to levees on the Illinois and Mississippi rivers.

- Supported a portion of water fees collected from any user of a drinking water supply lake going to landowners and/or farm tenants who adopt conservation practices within the lake watershed.

- Supported legislation to waive the residency requirement for a highway commissioner in a road district with fewer than 500 people -- only if no qualified candidate willing to serve resides in the district. All other office requirements remain. Montgomery County Farm Bureau delegate Kenneth Folkerts explained the current requirements include one year of township residency and being registered to vote in the township.



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Foundation**

*Saturday March 25<sup>th</sup>*

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**Questions?**

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or email [amason@sangamonfb.org](mailto:amason@sangamonfb.org)

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Katie King

I think winter is officially upon us, those who attended the IAA Annual meeting December 3-6th were able to see the first snow from 20 floors up; it was a very pretty view. The Young Leaders were represented by 10 members at the annual meeting this year in Chicago. During the events held over the weekend, Mike Borgic represented Sangamon County and District 10 in the Discussion Meet contest. He did a great job discussing some of the tough issues faced by farmers such as Conservation of our Natural Resources and Technology/GPS information farmers are able to obtain. He discussed and worked with other contestants to try and find solutions to our current problems facing production agriculture. Great work Mike you always represent Sangamon County well! Also, during the annual meeting, the state Young Leaders awards were given out. The group was recognized with a Silver Star for district 10 this year. I would like to thank the Young Leader Committee for all of their hard work in achieving this award. It takes a lot of hard work and dedication throughout the year. We have high hopes of bumping up to a gold star next year.

January will be very busy for the Young Leaders as well. We will be hosting our annual acquaintance day in January for county FFA chapters. We will be staying local this year visiting The Stables on Horsefarm Road in Divernon. Some of the final details are still in the works, but we are excited to share our organization with our counties youth. If your local chapter is interested in participating, please contact the SCFB office.

Ethan Krone will begin the ALOT program as well this January! We are very excited to have yet another member take part in such an awesome event. We are looking forward to the growth and ideas he will gain by participating. The last weekend in January is the IFB State Young Leader Conference in Peoria. The conference runs from Jan. 27-28, many Young Leaders already plan to attend. If you would like to help or are interested in joining the Young Leader Committee, please contact the SCFB office for more details.

I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas!!

Best Wishes,

Katie King, Young Leader Chair



Diana Beaty

Mark your calendars for our 2nd Foundation trivia Night to be held on March 25th at Ben Ladage's Auction House in Auburn. Doors will open at 5:00 and trivia starts at 6:00. Proceeds will go to the Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation in order to provide scholarships to local students and funding for agricultural education programs. For more info call the office at 753-5200 and visit with Ashley or Arika. I hope to see you there for a fun filled evening!

We just returned from IAA Annual Meeting where this year I got to serve as a Delegate. After 39 years of involvement with Sangamon County Farm Bureau I finally made it to the floor as a delegate and what an honor for me to be involved in the decisions of our resolutions for the coming year. Those who know me know that I don't take my Farm Bureau duties lightly as Farm Bureau is now and has been a very important part of my life! Thank you Mr. President for choosing me as a delegate this year it was my privilege to represent our great county! I am thrilled to see a new classification come out of this meeting for membership. The 'PM' membership, I feel will be very beneficial in helping to add to our membership here in the county. I know we have some Young Leaders now who are 'A' members due to their Ag status and this will give them the opportunity to become a 'PM' member and to further their involvement with our County Board. For those who are not familiar with the system, you must be an active voting member of the organization to become a Board Member and finding those volunteers gets harder and harder every year!

Trivia Night at IAA Annual Meeting this year for the IAA Ag in the Classroom was held on Sunday evening with the theme this year 'As seen on T.V.', we had two teams present with one being the Young Leaders and they did a 'Grey's Anatomy' theme and the other team did a 'Hee-Haw' theme. It was a great, fun evening with several counties involved and raising around \$21000 for IAA Ag in the Classroom. Thanks once again to all of you who took part and to Ashley and Arika for all their work and helping the teams get organized and costume outfitted!

We also hosted a Legislative reception on Sunday evening in our suite. This year C.D. Davidsmayer and Senator Bill Brady stopped by to visit along with several of the Governmental Affairs Staff from Bloomington. A great evening to visit with all of these guests and to be able to thank them for all they do for Sangamon County Farm Bureau and our members. Another HUGE THANK YOU TO ARIKA AND ASHLEY for helping to organize this event and make it a success!

In closing, I would like to thank you for your involvement in Sangamon County Farm Bureau and wish you a Merry Christmas and many blessings for 2017. I look forward to tackling the new adventures that lie ahead for Sangamon County Farm Bureau in the year to come.

YOUNG LEADERS

MEMBER & PR

# DECEMBER 3 - 6, CHICAGO



**Top Left-** SCFB President Larry Beaty accepts a recognition plaque from IFB Vice President David Erickson.  
**Top Right-** Our IAA Foundation Trivia Night costumes never disappoint! Thanks to our Hee Haw team (Larry & Diana Beaty, Dale & Janet Edwards, Otto & Leigh Ann Rentschler, Ashley Kauffman, and Paul Rice) for participating in this event and raising money for the IAITC!



**Middle Left-** Cathryn Ayers, and Cassie Bennett enjoy Trivia Night.  
**Middle-** Congratulations to Mike Borgic, who represented SCFB and District 10 in the Young Leader Discussion Meet.  
**Middle Right-** Director of Agriculture Raymond Poe, visits with Young Leader Chair Katie King, and Women's Committee Chair Cassie Bennett.  
**Bottom Left-** Guests enjoy the Legislative Reception.  
**Bottom Right-** The Young Leader's dressed up as the cast of Grey's Anatomy.



Cassie Bennett, Cathryn Ayers, Wes Seifert, Mike Borgic, Cole Baker, Katie King, Gretchen & Cody Cromwell

# The Bureau According to Jim .....



Jim Birge

So once again here we are for the long, cold winter. I can honestly say it makes me appreciate the other three seasons of the year. At least they're not cold and dark!

As we enter our wintertime mode at the Farm Bureau, our members are all too familiar that wintertime

means meeting season, not just for us, but for many other agribusinesses also. At least we're all smart enough to provide a good hot meal for most events.

Our Governmental Affairs Committee will be holding meetings with our county, state, and federal elected officials to share our positions and continue to build our ever-important relationships with the people that represent our interests in government. While this is going on, our Marketing Committee will be holding a crop insurance and market outlook meeting in conjunction with COUNTRY Financial and our local representatives. Read more about it in this issue of the Sangamo Farmer. Also, look

for opportunities for your involvement from the Policy Development Committee, Member & Public Relations Committee, Women's Committee and Young Leaders Committee. A lot will be going on from all parts of Farm Bureau.

Several articles in this issue provide some insight into the happenings at the Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting, such as the election to the Illinois Farm Bureau Board of our own Past President, Mark Reichert. Congratulations to him as he begins a new journey representing your interests! Until next time, be safe and be warm.

*Note: Updated information regarding the October/November 2016 column. Nitrate levels in regulated public water systems have a maximum contaminant level of 10 parts per million. Nitrate levels spiked close to the 10ppm limit in 2012 rather than 2016 as was earlier reported. 2016 saw nitrate levels at approximately 5ppm. Also for clarification, if nitrate levels exceed the maximum allowable limit, bottled drinking water would only be required to be distributed to certain segments of the public such as very young children.*

## WATER TESTING PROGRAM

This program is designed to engage farmers in the nutrient and water quality issues facing agriculture by providing information on possible nutrient losses from their production operations.

Contact the office at 217-753-5200 for more information and to schedule a time to test your samples after collection.

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Allen Entwistle

With harvest, fall field work, and the holidays all behind us, it's time for the GAC to begin our visits to our elected officials. This is important work to accomplish to keep our issues in front of them and continue to build the relationships we already have for future collaboration on matters.

With a new administration about to be sworn in, DC will be a new and different place to navigate. We have a lot of new relationships to build and much to be done to find our common ground on issues important to your farms. It's a process Farm Bureau has performed many, many times and without fail we'll undoubtedly have both successes and some unforeseen challenges. That's just how things go. We are, however, hopeful that many of the key leaders will be supportive of removing overly burdensome regulations that costs farmers enormous amounts of time and money with no benefit to the environment, public safety, or the citizens of this country.

We'll update you on our progress and what we learned from these visits in the next and future issues of the Sangamo Farmer.

Stay warm and stay ready to take action when we have action requests this winter.

Best wishes,  
Allen Entwistle, GAC Chair

## GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS



Cassie Bennett

I hope this letter finds everyone to have had a great Christmas and a happy new year. The Women's Committee had their fall luncheon in November with a great turn out for the paint party. I attended my first IAA Annual Meeting in Chicago in December and have a few new ideas to try out this coming year!

The committee donated a crockpot full of the essentials that any farm woman needs to take meals to the field during harvest to the IAA Foundation Silent Auction.

In January, we will be moving our meeting to the evening to try and give those a chance to attend who cannot during the usual day time meetings. So, guys be sure and tell the women in your life! January 19th, 6:30 @ SCFB! Hope to see you there!

## WOMEN'S



Matt Heissingner

Hello everyone! SCFB hosted a Cattle Clinic on 12-8-2016. The attendance was good and there was a great line up of speakers. Dr. Meghan Ward from Countryside Veterinary Services spoke about the upcoming Vet Feed Directive regulations that are being put into place in the new year.

Travis Meteer with the University of Illinois Extension spoke about calving and nutrition. Reid Blossom from the Illinois Beef Association gave an industry update. We also had representatives from Zoetis, Mix30 by Agridyne, and Umbarger Show Feeds available for the guests to speak with afterwards. We followed that by a great lunch!

The marketing committee will focus on plans to hold other events pertaining to issues our members would like to learn more about. Also, in our planning stages is a summer bus trip. We are planning a marketing committee meeting this month. When we have details we will get that out to you.

## MARKETING



Paul Rice

The Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting this past month, is the finale of our year's efforts to develop policy and put it into action. As we begin this new year, we will again be seeking your input to consider the issues that impact your farm and your way of life. Your participation in the events we'll be offering is the

heart of what makes policy work for you. Please watch for upcoming opportunities to give us your input, or if you have an idea along the way, just call us to discuss it so we may research it for you.

While at the IFB Annual Meeting, the delegate body did make some policy changes as it pertains to the bylaws of the organization and how we position ourselves as we look to the future. A new membership class is being created to allow greater participation from the many people working hard to make agriculture successful day in and day out, but aren't our traditional farmers. More on this new opportunity as the details are put in place to offer it.

Keep your mittens close as we "plow" our way through winter.

Warmest Regards,  
Paul Rice, Policy Development Chair

## POLICY DEVELOPMENT