



THE SANGAMON *Farmer*

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2021



Advocating the Voice of Agriculture through
Education and Grassroots Legislation

Phone: (217) 753-5200 • www.sangamonfb.org • farmbureau@sangamonfb.org

Springfield, IL • Volume MMXXI Number 5

Upcoming Meetings & Events

SEPTEMBER

6th.....Labor Day, Office Closed
 13th.....Governmental Engagement & Policy Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
 13th.....Young Leader Committee Meeting (Tentative), 6:30 p.m.
 16th.....Women's Committee (Tentative), 12:00 p.m.
 20th.....Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

OCTOBER

4th..... Governmental Engagement & Policy Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
 11th.....Young Leader Committee Meeting (Tentative), 6:30 p.m.
 21st.....Women's Committee Meeting, 12:00 p.m.
 18th.....Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

* All events occur at the Sangamon County Farm Bureau unless otherwise noted



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

We are so excited to get back in the classroom this fall! We are looking for volunteers for the Fall AgVenture Barn Tour. Call the office at 217-753-5200 to sign up!

DIRECTOR ATTENDANCE - 2020-21		D	J/F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S
District 1	Brent Johnson	X	X	X	-	X	X	X		
	Michael Kinner	-	X	X	-	X	X	X		
	JD Sudeth	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-		
	Jason Pickrell	-	X	-	-	-	-	-		
District 2	Otto Rentschler	X	X	X	-	-	-	X		
	Kevin Foran (Secretary)	X	X	X	-	X	X	X		
	Janet Edwards	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	X		
	Ethan Krone (Ass't Sec/Treas)	X	X	X	-	X	X	X		
District 3	Katie King	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	X		
	Mike Borgic (Treasurer)	X	X	X	-	X	X	X		
	Adam Bailey (VP)	X	X	X	-	-	-	-		
	Cathryn Ayers Seifert	X	X	X	-	-	X	X		
District 4	Kyle Beutke	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-		
	Diana Beaty (President)	X	X	X	-	X	X	X		
	Matt Heissing	X	X	X	-	X	X	X		
	Marty Fairchild	X	X	-	-	X	X	X		
At-Large	Charles Mayfield	X	X	X	-	X	X	X		
	Gary Reavis	X	X	-	-	X	X	X		
	George Sergot	-	X	X	-	-	-	X		
					-					
Committee Chairs:										
	YL Chair , Stephen Prather	-	-	X	-	X	X	X		
	Women's Chair , Cassandra Bennett	X	X	X	-	X	X	X		

CORRECTION: July 6, 2021

The July/August issue of the Sangamo Farmer misstated the parents of a scholarship recipient. David Moldenhauer, son of Glen & Donna Moldenhauer, of Auburn, IL was a Foundation Scholarship Recipient.

THE SANGAMO FARMER	
Published bi-monthly by the Sangamon County Farm Bureau James Birge, Editor Periodical # 481320 SANGAMON COUNTY FARM BUREAU Office: 2631 Beechler Court Springfield, Illinois 62703 President: Diana Beaty Vice-President: Adam Bailey Secretary: Kevin Foran Treasurer: Mike Borgic Asst. Secretary/Treasurer: Ethan Krone Periodical Class Postage Paid at Springfield, Illinois	Postmaster: Send Address Changes To: The Sangamo Farmer 2631 Beechler Court Springfield, Illinois 62703 DIRECTORY FARM BUREAU STAFF Manager: James Birge, FBCM Outreach & Communication: Lauren Whitcomb Finance/Membership: Arika Leka Farm Bureau Tel. 217-753-5200 E-mail farmbureau@sangamonfb.org Individual membership fee of the Sangamon County Farm Bureau includes payment of \$2 per year for a subscription to the Sangamo Farmer.



Diana Beaty

Fall is upon us; where did the summer go? When we are young, time doesn't go fast enough. The older we get, the faster it goes. I wish we could slow it down a bit!

Your County Farm Bureau has had a busy summer with all the activities that have taken place. I won't dwell on them all because I'm sure our Committee Chairs will be doing some follow-up in their columns. I will say that we cannot do these activities without the help of the great, dedicated volunteers we have here in the County. A huge 'THANKS' to all those who have been involved this summer. I appreciate the time you have taken from your schedules and families to help out with the summer activities. Many of our activities this summer would not have been possible without 'SPONSORS.' We are so appreciative of these sponsors who have helped to make our Foundation Golf Outing possible and our 2nd Youth Livestock Expo, both events that took place in July.

Our July Board Meeting welcomed four new Board Members, Janet Edwards, J.D. Sudeth, Kyle Beutke, and Katie King. Thanks for your willingness to serve on the Farm Bureau Board, and I look forward to working with you. We also had two members who had fulfilled their terms, Ben Ladage and Phil Sidles, who tenured off the Board. To Ben & Phil: thank you for your many years of service to Sangamon County Farm Bureau, and we plan to keep you involved in our many committee activities! Anna Stone and Dale Edwards also stepped down from the Board. We will miss these two dedicated Board Members, and we appreciate all their dedication over the years.

The election of officers took place at the July meeting. All officers were re-elected with the exception of a new Treasurer, Mike Borgic. We welcome him to the team and offer many thanks to Michael Kinner for the outstanding job he performed over the past few years.

So, a few changes have taken place on our County Board, and we begin a new year of planning and working for our membership on issues that affect you and your farm. We welcome any ideas or thoughts you may have that you feel Sangamon County Farm Bureau should be pursuing. Please get in touch with the office with your concerns or me.

We thank you for your membership and your support of Sangamon County Farm Bureau and look forward to the year ahead.

I wish you all a safe and bountiful harvest. Remember to take time and rest!

PURCHASING A NEW VEHICLE?

MEMBERS SAVE \$500*
ON ELIGIBLE NEW RANGER, F-150, OR SUPER DUTY®

*Please check www.ilfb.org for more details



BUILT *Ford* PROUD

PURCHASING NEW EQUIPMENT?



MEMBERS GET BIG SAVINGS
*Please check www.ilfb.org for more details



MEMBERS SAVE BIG*
*Please check www.ilfb.org for more details



MEMBERS SAVE UP TO \$5,000*
*Please check www.ilfb.org for more details

GrainCoat
Helping farmers weather the storm of commodity marketing

Make Marketing Decisions on the Go with GrainCoat®

It's Time to Streamline Your Process:

\$20 DISCOUNT
FOR ILLINOIS FARM BUREAU MEMBERS

GRAINGER
FOR THE ONES WHO GET IT DONE

LEVERAGE YOUR FARM BUREAU® MEMBERSHIP & SAVE



Stephen Prather
to this fall.

Harvest time has finally arrived. The end results are about to come in, which means the end of our year is also wrapping up. The heat has continued to be a detriment to us as we had to push our Grain bin rescue training for Sangamon County EMS personal

YOUNG LEADERS

We had a great Ag-stravaganza event with many families coming through Sunday afternoon to learn about animals and equipment. The heat didn't keep anyone away, thanks to water provided by Country Company. Monday brought at least 300 daycare kids to learn about all aspects of agriculture and what we do to provide food to them. The kids were able to take home some print outs on agriculture and some great talking points for dinner. We appreciate all the volunteers that it takes to put on this successful event.

We have many events happening once harvest gets wrapped up. We will once again be hosting our Ag after hrs events this year. The 1st one will be on grain marketing contracts. Watch for more info on this event in the future. We will also be hosting our grain bin safety training for area EMS personnel. We are working on many fun events for the future. If you or someone you know is interested in joining, please come to our next event; which can be found on our Facebook page.

WOMEN'S



Cassie Bennett

Hello SCFB members! Summer sure did fly by. I cannot believe that we are gearing up for harvest and fall is just around the corner. Back in July we held our annual AgStravaganza at the Sherman Villiage Park. It was a hot one but a great time was had by all! Moving onto fall. Fall time is so much fun for

our committee. We will be distributing our Healthy Harvest goodies in September so be on the lookout for those. Moving into November, our Annual Fall Luncheon will be taking place on November 10th at the office. We will have soup and sandwiches for lunch and an activity. Look for more details on that in the next issue of the Sangamo Farmer and on social media.. Until next time, have a safe harvest and be safe!

By: Adam Bailey

It seems that many issues are hanging around, but none of them have yet to be resolved. So, for example, we continue to deal with commercial solar and wind projects, but what we don't know is if the state will take control of siting such projects or if that authority will be left to local governments to administer. As part of that debate, there's much left unaddressed regarding the phase-out of coal and nuclear power plants in Illinois. How will such a plan affect the cost of electricity for all Illinoisans? Rest assured, it won't decrease. And then there's the subject of eminent domain powers that could be granted to private utility companies. That could have vastly negative repercussions for landowners.

On the local front, a subset of our GEP Committee has been working hard to create a local policy book. Just as Illinois Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau Federation have a policy book, we too have seen the need to have a Sangamon County version. Many topics included in the state and federal policy books do not address the specifics of local issues. These local policies will be approved by our Board of Directors and distributed to our members, elected officials, county government staff, etc. This amount of clarity in our policy will be helpful to let everyone know where we stand on some issues. It will also provide and encourage more significant input from our members regarding local policies that they feel need to be included, removed, or amended from our policy.

It seems as though every time we begin to plant or harvest, something pops up that needs our members to respond and be heard through our action requests. This fall may very well be the same. So, while you're in your combine, grain cart, or semi, please take the one or two minutes needed to respond to an action request if one is texted or emailed to you. It is a minimal effort that has enormous consequences. So, this fall, be ready, be safe, and be productive.

The Bureau According to Jim



Jim Birge

Welcome to September! Once again, It seems as though time has flown this summer with all our events and activities. Our committees, volunteers, and staff were anxious to do the things we could not do last year. And, boy, did we do them! I just hope we don't have to go backward with COVID cases on the rise. Please keep your fingers crossed that we can all keep moving forward.

One event that came directly out of the COVID crisis last year was our first Youth Livestock Expo. It was such a huge success that we decided to hold it again this year and perhaps annually after that. We raised \$15,000 in sponsorships this year, which was \$2,000 more than the previous year. Lauren Burris, our Outreach and Communications Specialist, and our outstanding volunteers such as Kevin Foran did a FABULOUS job of putting it on. The show attracted more exhibitors and more livestock than last year, and thanks to everyone who contributed, we were able to award some reasonably large checks to many outstanding kids. It was, personally, gratifying to sign each one of them.

Not all activities are as warm and fun as working with kids, but Farm Bureau represents members and the matters that affect their farms and families. Proposals for commercial solar and wind projects are popping up around the county, and with them brings questions and strong opinions from our members. We're continually working to find solutions that impact many facets of our members' lives. These issues create a tug of war between private property rights, farmland preservation, state versus local control of siting, and many more. It's a difficult task to address, but Farm Bureau has been and will continue to be a part of the conversation to address members' interests.

As we move closer and closer to harvest, please be safe, whether traveling on the roadways or in the fields. Dangers are everywhere, and they don't just happen to other people. So be safe and look out for the safety of those around you as you go about your harvesting activities. You may not be required to wear a mask in your combine, grain cart, or semi, but that doesn't mean you should be lax on safety of all kinds. Happy Harvest!!

Save the Date!
 Sangamon County Farm Bureau Women's Committee invites you to the
Fall Luncheon
 November 10th @ 10:00 am at the SCFB Office.
 Look for more information in next issue of the Sangamo Farmer



Janet Edwards

I'm sitting here at the 2021 Illinois State Fair in the Open Swine Barn thinking about and writing this article and boy was it good to have a State Fair this year.. I know our spring was forever coming but once the warm weather hit we were all hustling to get our crops in and then we turned around and summer is almost gone.

MEMBER & PR

Since the last issue of the Sangamo Farmer, Farm Bureau members have been busy trying to educate our community on agriculture. We held AgStravaganza back in July in Sherman and it was a hot one! But it was so good to have the event. I would like to take this time to thank all of the Farm Bureau Members (committee members, board members, and Young Leaders) for their help with manning the stations at the event along with members from Tri-City FFA. It is exciting to see the young people step up and volunteer to help educate other young people on agriculture.

By the time you are reading this, the Farm Progress Show will be happening or over and school will have started. Please remember to be aware of machinery on the roads along with the school buses. Take time for breaks and when time allows, get involved with the Sangamon County Farm Bureau and volunteer for one of the committees or activities that are planned.

Welcome Charles Burrus to the Farmer Hall of Fame!

Charles E. Burrus was born on February 10, 1933, the 2nd of 6 children to Dorothy and Charles O. Burrus of Buffalo Hart. He attended Prairie School Elementary and Williamsville High School, graduating in 1951.

He attended the University of Illinois for one year and then served in the United States Army from 1953 thru 1955. Upon discharge from the army, he went back to the University of Illinois to finish his degree, graduating in 1958 with a degree in Animal Science and Farm Management.

While at college, Charles was a Farmhouse Fraternity, Alpha-Zeta, and the Hoof & Horn Club member.

After graduating, he returned to Buffalo Hart and began farming. He raised corn, soybeans, wheat, alfalfa, and oats. He also raised cattle and started his hog herd on outside pastures. He and became one of the early innovators of confinement production in the hog industry.

Charles married Patricia Lofboom in 1959 and had three daughters, Michelle (Schafer), Cindy (Partlow), and Jill, and will be celebrating his 62nd wedding anniversary this year.

Charlie still is involved in the hog business and owns Sangamon Prairie Pork Farm with his son-in-law. They farrow and finish 22,000 hogs a year.

He is a member of the Sangamon County Pork Producers, Illinois Pork Council, Ducks Unlimited, Livestock Growers Coop, and Buffalo Hart Presbyterian Church.

Charles was a pilot and member of the Slip & Skid club. He loved flying the plane that he owned for over 30 years. He was a lifelong learner, loved to read and travel, taking many trips throughout the U.S., Canada, and internationally.

When you saw Charlie, if he wasn't hard at work, he was good for at least a half-hour of visiting, which is one thing he will always be remembered for.



Thank you to the following Board of Directors for their dedication to the Sangamon County Farm Bureau Board!



Anna Stone, of Springfield, pictured with her mom served 3 years on the Board.



Dale Edwards, of Buffalo, pictured with SCFB Manager Jim Birge, served 8 years on the Board.



Ben Ladage, of Auburn, pictured with SCFB Manager Jim Birge, served 9 years on the Board.

Not Pictured: Phil Sidles, of Buffalo, served 9 years on the Board.

SANGAMON COUNTY YOUTH EXPO

The 2nd Annual Sangamon County Youth Expo was held on July 17th at the Sangamon County Fairgrounds. We had 49 exhibitors and BEAUTIFUL weather! Thank you to our sponsors, volunteers and exhibitors for making this such a great event.

Show Results

Champion Heifer · Colbie Stremsterfer

Reserve Heifer · Lily Wilson

Champion Steer · Alex Bruno

Reserve Steer · Colbie Stremsterfer

Champion Gilt · Alex Bruno

Reserve Gilt · Klayton Komnick

Champion Market Hog · Noah Stremsterfer

Reserve Market Hog · Blake Buckles

Champion Ewe · Olivia Krispinsky

Reserve Ewe · Isla Steckel

Champion Ram · Isla Steckel

Reserve Ram · Ben Kinner

Champion Market Lamb · Olivia Krispinsky

Reserve Market Lamb · Wyatt Buckles

Champion Doe · Kallen Beutke

Reserve Doe · Kallen Beutke

Champion Market Goat · Kallen Beutke

Reserve Market Goat · Cannon Greer

Champion Pullet · Adam Kloppe

Champion Cockerel · Adam Kloppe

Best of Show Rabbit · Taylor Matthew



There's 302,000 benefits to your Farm Bureau Membership! Are you taking advantage of them all?

Create your account today from your Internet Browser then download the app on your smart phone or device!

Contact the office at 217-753-5200 to receive a copy of your membership card.

ONE STOP SAVINGS

Download the IFB Member Benefits App to start saving today.

iPhone

#1: Go to the App Store



Search for: "Illinois Farm Bureau Member Benefits"

The App looks like this:

Select: Install



#2: Once the app is installed, select "Open"



#3: You will be asked to:

A) **Sign In** (you will be asked to sign in if you have an abenity login)
Type in your username and your membership number which can be found on your card.

B) **Register** (new users - you will need to fill out the fields to register your new username and password. You will need your membership number which can be found on your card.)



#4: Once you are in, you will see the "Getting Started" page. Select the "Start Saving" option.



#5: The home page shows you savings offers. To view all 14 categories, select the three black bars in the upper left corner.



#6: On the next screen select "Categories".



Login in on ilfb.abenity.com to start saving today.

Internet Browser

#1: Go to your internet browser and type in: ilfb.abenity.com

#2: The home page looks like this:



#3: You will be asked to:

A) **Sign In** (Type in your username and your membership number which can be found on your card.)

B) **Register** (new users - you will need to fill out the fields to register your new username and password. You will need your membership number which can be found on your card.)

#4: Once you are in, select "Browse Our Discounts".



#5: This page shows you savings offers. You can search by brand or by the 14 categories if you are looking for something specific.

Download the IFB Member Benefits App to start saving today.

Android

#1: Go to the Google Play Store



Search for: "Abenity"

The App looks like this:

Select: Install



#2: Once the app is installed, select "Open"

#3: You will be asked to:

A) **Sign In** (you will be asked to sign in if you have an abenity login)
Type in your user name and your membership number which can be found on your card.

B) **Register** (new users - you will need to go to the web site to register. See **Internet Browser** to the right. You will need your membership number which can be found on your card.)



#4: Once you are in, you will see the "Getting Started" page. Select the "Start Saving" option.

#5: The home page shows you savings offers. To view all 14 categories, select the three black bars in the upper left corner.

#6: On the next screen select "Categories".



Ag Stravaganza



This years event was a great success with 8 stations covering various sectors in the Agriculture industry. We had around 200 people come through on Sunday afternoon to learn about Agriculture and a little over 300 daycare kids on Monday! Thank you to our volunteers and speakers for making this event possible. Be sure to mark your calendars for next years event, July 24th!



FARM GATE

By Joanie Stiers



Hey, look at that hay

While some people ho-hum about the drive between here and the Rockies, I noted the hay bales during our summer road trip. The large round bundles of dried fresh grasses or clover dotted the landscape, photo-worthy in most instances. They sat proudly in fields, waterways and field edges as an iconic symbol of rural America. And they're a major feedstuff for livestock, notably cows that consume more than 30 pounds a day when pasture grass cannot provide.

Iowa farmers baled waterway grasses meandering through corn and soybean fields. Nebraska farmers tended expansive hay fields. Colorado farmers baled against an impressive mountain backdrop.

In all those road miles, we saw equipment parked in barnyards and at field edges but rarely in action. Bales seem to show up like mole hills across the land, often without notice of the process that has evolved dramatically in the last century. This summer, my dad found an antique hay knife in an old barn. It reminded us that farming ancestors used to manually harvest loose hay, stack it in a barn mow and later cut from the compacted pile for feeding livestock.

Today, mechanical balers handle the bundling and tractors the stacking, unless we opt to harvest a rack of small square bales. Most modern-day round bales don weather-protective net wrap straight out of the baler, a welcome improvement from my childhood when we fitted each bale with a plastic sleeve for outdoor storage.

Mother Nature's reign over the process spans the generations, remaining in control of when we harvest hay and how much we yield across several cuttings. The sun for haymaking seems to shine more on the weekends. However, most farmers will tell you that mowed hay, a crop that must dry or cure before baling, seems to increase the odds for a pop-up rain shower.

The kids don't share those worries and just enjoy the bundled forage, particularly leaping across the large round bales lined at the field edge. They also climb bales in the mow, a good place to talk about the differences between the hay and straw stored there.

During Dad's barn cleanup, he also found a vintage pop bottle near the hay knife. I like to imagine that the laborer enjoyed a cola break from his vantage point at the mow window, overlooking a harvested hay field and a job well done.

Ruger Charger 22

with Red Dot Scope & 1,000 rounds of ammo

\$10/ticket

Only 250 tickets sold!

Drawing 12/2/21
Need not be
present to win



Call the office at
217-753-5200 to
purchase tickets

Proceeds benefit the Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation in order to provide scholarships to local students and funding for agricultural education programs.

Sangamon County Farm Bureau
2631 Beechler Court
Springfield, IL 62703



MyersRice
Auction & Realty

Real Estate Brokerage • Auctions • Farm Management

Paul Rice

Auctioneer/Broker

A Certified Estate Specialist Auctioneer

www.myersrice.com



115 Chatham Rd. • Springfield, IL 62704

Office: (217) 787-3200 • Toll Free: (888) 600-FARM

*Save 15% on advertising in the Sangamo Farmer
when you advertise for a full year!*

Contact the Sangamon County Farm Bureau Office at 217-753-5200 for more details or email
lburris@sangamonfb.org



**YES, WE HAVE A REWARDS PROGRAM.
IT'S CALLED "HARVEST."**

At FS, we're member owned. That means we spend our time developing seed—not marketing gimmicks. It's why FS InVISION and FS HiSOY continue to outperform the competition. Make no mistake: other seed companies will keep trying to buy your loyalty. But here at FS, we prefer to earn it.



www.prairielandfs.com



Take your health
BACK with
Chatham Chiropractic!

Sangamon County Farm Bureau
members receive a complimentary
first visit **and** 15 minute massage.

Chatham Chiropractic Clinic

Dr. Bryan Taylor

351 Williams Lane, Chatham, IL 62629

Phone: (217) 483-1551

Email: chatham.chiropractic@gmail.com

Website: chathamchiropracticclinic.com

