



NUTS & BOLTS REAL-TIME UPDATE

Fall 2011 President's Message

November 15, 2011

Howdy from the West. I hope all of you have had a great summer. Summer in Utah was not normal. For most of you a few tenths of an inch of rain is normal, but for us in the desert it makes for challenging farming.

I am honored to be serving as NFRBMEA president. Thanks to the 2011 conference planners from NAFBAS and our NFRBMEA conference planning committee for a well done and worthwhile conference in Nashville.

The Board conducted our fall meeting on Sept 26 and 27 at the site for our 2012 conference, Bloomington, Minnesota. In addition to the NFRBMEA Board meeting, a joint board meeting between NFRBMEA and NAFBAS took place. Many pressing issues were focused on which you can read about on our website under "minutes."

Jim Kelm and Wayne Pike covered the 2012 conference planning and explained several options for the conference that they wanted Board feedback on. They have things well in control and the planning is coming together. I hope you are planning ahead and looking forward to the opportunity to network with colleagues and learn about Midwest agribusiness this coming June. Check the [Conference website](#) for conference updates as planning progresses.

The 2011-2012 Board added Al Graner as Past President, Doug Wertish as President Elect and Ira Beckman as NFRBMEA representative on the National Council for Agricultural Education.

Important Survey

At our fall Board meeting, we approved a survey to be sent to each member to fill out and return electronically. As our association represents Farm Business Management educators and professionals who work directly with agriculture producers, the Board felt that we need to take an active role in promoting FBM and to highlight the benefits of our programs to farmers and ranchers as they manage their businesses.

Find the survey at www.nfrbmea.org/survey/2011-NFRBMEA-Survey.docx.

As you review the survey, you will notice that is not just a five-minute fill-in-the-blank or mark-the-most-correct-response type of survey. We know it will take some time to compile the numbers for each question. I think most of you have the numbers already calculated but if you are like me, they have not been brought together in a logical or concise order. We are requesting that you do your best to respond to each question and email them to me, at jay.olsen@snow.edu, my work email. I have a student helper that will compile the data with appropriate statistical metrics.

Once the data is compiled it will be available through future RTUs for your use to promote your individual programs. Additionally, we feel that the data will be an asset as our fundraising committee approaches donors and sponsors for our conference and association work. Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation on the survey. I hope your fall harvest season is successful, and abundant.

Jay D. Olsen
NFRBMEA President



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Opportunity is Knocking... Answer the Door!

By Doug Wertish, NFRBMEA President Elect

If you were unable to attend the National Farm Business Management Conference this past June in Nashville, you missed a great opportunity get recharged and educated on some of the issues that we deal with in dealing with our farmer students. You also missed the opportunity to network with your fellow Farm Business Management Instructors across the country and you also missed the opportunity to renew your membership with the NFRBMEA.

That's a lot of missed opportunity! I would like to encourage those of you that have not renewed yet or those who are new to FBM education to join us. NFRBMEA , Inc actively represents farm and ranch business management educators on national committees and works to promote farm and ranch management education. We have a dedicated membership seat on The Council which is the national council representing agricultural education in Washington.

Membership in the organization will also provide you with networking opportunities with colleagues across the US and Canada. This is valuable as each state has run into various issues such as financial or curriculum that some of our members have already encountered and the sharing of ideas can help immensely saving time in reinventing the wheel.

The best benefit is the opportunity to attend the annual farm management conference in June of each year. In my opinion (which is the one that counts for this article) the conference is the best professional development activity that I attend each year. There are national speakers providing insight on policy, management principles and leadership. It is a place to get those nagging questions that bother all of us answered. We can ask others in our profession just how they deal with the nagging (questions that is).

Active membership is open to instructors, teacher-educators, supervisors and planning staff. Affiliate membership is open to supporters of farm and ranch business management education. For additional information about NFRBMEA, please contact any of our board members, listed on this newsletter or on our website at www.nfrbmea.org.

So what are you waiting for? Fill out the membership form on our website at www.nfrbmea.org/application.htm and send it with your check to:

Myron Oftedahl, NFRBMEA Treasurer
704 East 10th Street
Glencoe, MN 55336

We look forward to having you join us!



Happy Thanksgiving!

2011-12 Board of Directors

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Questions or comments? E-mail us at comments@nfrbmea.org

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