

**National Farm and Ranch Business
Management Education Association, Inc.**

NFRBMEA, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)3 corporation



“... Teachers delivering knowledge that works to North America’s
Farm and Ranch Families”

Annual Report for 2003

www.nfrbmea.org



Mission Statement

To increase the effectiveness of farm and ranch management education by promoting sound educational practices, increasing economic understanding, disseminating practical program information and demonstrating exemplary procedures for educational program management.

History of NFRBMEA, Inc.

In 1973, instructors using the farm/ranch analysis developed in Minnesota, were invited to Faribault, Minnesota, for three days to participate in an exchange of ideas and to make improvements to that analysis. The instructors enjoyed and learned from each other's experiences so much it was decided to meet again next year. Instructors wanted to show what was going on in their state, leading to continued yearly conferences in other states conducting adult farm/ranch business management education programs.

2002-03 NFRBMEA Board of Directors

President	Jim Kelm
President-Elect	Tom Weygandt
Secretary	Jay Olson
Membership Secretary/NUTS & BOLTS Co-Editor	Wayne C. Pike
Treasurer	Rich Baumann
Past President	Ira L. Beckman
Historian	Laurie Morris
NUTS & BOLTS Co-Editor/Webmaster	Debra A. Pike
Conference Chair	Al Graner

Delivery Systems

Newsletter: The *NUTS & BOLTS* newsletter is published three times each year. Each issue is full of useful information chosen from the best current ideas in farm and ranch management education submitted by members and others. This newsletter is now being sent to members electronically as well as being put on the website.

Web Site: The NFRBMEA has an excellent website containing history, pictures from conferences, job openings, newsletters, conference information, meeting minutes, officer information, and frequently asked questions, are all available at www.nfrbmea.org

Annual Conference: Each year during the second week of June, the NFRBMEA conducts an annual conference for its members and other people interested in agriculture or agricultural education. The annual conference involves its members in workshops, tours, and the opportunity to hear national and regionally known speakers. The information presented at the conference is designed to be taken home and put to use.

Membership

Regular membership is open to instructors, teachers, and professionals at all levels. This includes teacher educators, supervisors, and planning staff. Associate membership is open to those retired from similar educational activity and other interested people.

NFRBMEA MEMBER BENEFITS

- Provides networking opportunities with colleagues
- Member newsletter *NUTS & BOLTS* published three times each year
- Establishing guidelines and standards for quality farm and ranch business management educational programs
- Liaison with professional groups including:
 - National Association of Agricultural Educators
 - National Young Farmers Educational Association
 - National Council for Agricultural Education
- Annual Conference opportunities include:
 - Information about the latest new trends and programs in farm and ranch business management education in the U.S. and Canada
 - Information on technology useful in instruction
 - Tours of farm and non-farm businesses
 - Formal instruction in management principles, leadership, etc.



*National Farm and Ranch Business Management
Education Association, Inc.*

17th Annual Association Business Meeting

Owatonna, Minnesota

June 10 and 13, 2002

The 17th Annual Business meeting of the National Farm & Ranch Business Management Education Association, Inc. (NFRBMEA) was held on Monday June 10, 2002 at the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, Owatonna, MN. President Ira Beckman called the first session to order at 8:26 am.

Beckman announced an agenda change to include the introduction of the Annual Report by Lynn Schluckebier. He then introduced the NFRBMEA Board of Directors.

Tom Weygandt gave the Secretary's report. Minutes from all Board meetings during the year as well as last year's Annual Meeting were available for the membership. Lynn Schluckebier moved that the minutes be approved. Norm Bohmbach seconded. Motion passed.

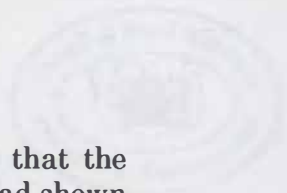
Weygandt led the Roll Call of States. He reported that 10 states with 93 registered instructors were present. A representative from each state gave a very brief statement. More complete reports are available in the conference proceedings.

Conference Chair, Larry Oraskovich, held an Early Bird Registration drawing. Winning prizes were: Donald Hagen for registering by April 1st and John Gintner for registering by May 1st.

Chuck Stranberg gave welcoming remarks representing the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE). He reported that the NFRBMEA Board had asked him to investigate the possibility of NFRBMEA associating with Team Ag-Ed.

John Hobert, President of the Minnesota Association of Agricultural Educators, welcomed the members to Minnesota. He asked that Loel Gorden be recognized as he is retiring. Hobert also reported that the mentoring program in Minnesota is going well.

Beckman presented the Distinguished Service Award – Friend to Red Wing Business Systems. He then presented Distinguished Service Awards: Member to Maylon Peters and to Dwain Vangsness (as Dwain was absent this was presented to him several days later by Wayne Pike).



Don Roberts gave the Treasurer's report, subject to audit. He reported that the association had a net worth of \$14,431.21 and that the income statement had shown a loss of \$753.67 for the 2001-02 fiscal year. His report also included budgets for the 2002-03 and 2003-04 years. Lynn Schluckebier moved and Larry Oraskovich seconded that the report be accepted. Motion Passed.

Lynn Schluckebier gave the Nominating Committee report. Nominated for were: President Elect, Tom Weygandt; Secretary, Jay Olson and Charles Duell; Treasurer, Paul Gorman and Richard Baumann.

Lynn Schluckebier also reported for the Past Presidents' Committee that the committee had contacted Dr. Edgar Persons to create an Institute for New Teachers in support of the Board's goal to promote teacher retention. The committee will conduct fund raising for grants to pay for the Institute and perhaps for an Executive Director in the future.

Historian Laurie Morris gave a PowerPoint presentation on the first thirty years of the association.

President Ira Beckman reported that the Board had prioritized and identified goals for the future. Already underway are three Teacher Recruitment / Retention Taskforces under the leadership of various Board members. The Past Presidents' Committee will lead in fund raising. Beckman called for help and committee volunteers to work on the following new committees: Industry Connections & Alliances, Curriculum, and Membership Development. He challenged all members to give some time to these committees for the good of the association.

President Elect Jim Kelm called for committee reports. Gary Thome reported that the National Ag Ed Council was refocusing onto a think tank and leadership role.

At this time the meeting had a break to hear an address by U.S. Senator Mark Dayton.

Following Senator Dayton's remarks John Hobert, Entertainment Committee and "NFRBMEA Athletic Director", awarded prizes to the winners of the golf game held the previous evening.

Beckman recessed the meeting at 11:45 am.

President Ira Beckman called the meeting back to order on Thursday, June 13, 2002 at 10:55 am.

Lynn Schluckebier again presented the officer nominations and asked for additional nominations from the floor. Hearing none he declared nominations closed and proceeded to conduct a vote for the new officers.

Membership Secretary Wayne Pike reported that membership is up 37 this year to give NFRBMEA 240 members (223 regular members, 2 honorary, and 15 associate).

Deb Pike reported that the last issue of *Nuts & Bolts* was sent to 211 members electronically and only 30 were sent by regular postal service. She said that feedback has been very positive and that she will continue the electronic transmission of the newsletter. Deb Pike also reported that the website has had 5,108 hits since its inception. She has created a job-posting page and intends to use .pdf file format more in the future.

Vic Richardson reported with verification by John Hobert that he had audited the NFRBMEA's books for the 2001 Conference and for the 2001-02 fiscal year. He found that GAAP principals had been used and everything to be in order.

Al Graner and several North Dakota teachers invited all to attend the 2003 Conference in Minot, ND June 8-12, 2003. Conference theme is "Reaching Beyond Our Borders".

Edmund Ruff presented Wisconsin's bid to host the 2004 Conference either at Wisconsin Dells or LaCrosse. John Sponaugle moved that Wisconsin's bid be accepted. Denny Jackson seconded. Motion passed.

Ira Beckman gave the retiring President's remarks. He congratulated the members who had volunteered to serve on committees. He said that new member development, industry connections, and sharing of curriculum will be the true way to help this organization to flourish. Following his remarks Lynn Schluckebier installed the new officers. Elected were: Tom Weygandt, President Elect; Jay Olson, Secretary; and Richard Bauman, Treasurer.

Larry Oraskovich recognized outgoing officers for outstanding service: Ira Beckman, President; Jim Kelm, President Elect; Don Roberts, Treasurer; and Tom Weygandt, Secretary.

Ira Beckman recognized and gave special thanks to the 2002 Conference hosts: the FBM staff of South Central Technical College. He offered special thanks to Larry Oraskovich, chairman; Doug Wertish, fund raising; and to Carolyn Masson for keeping everything running smoothly.

New President Jim Kelm presented the following assignments and challenges to the membership for the 2002-03 year:

- 1) Visit the website. This can be a valuable tool. The Board will try to create value there for the members. He would like to see 5000 hits in the next year.
- 2) Continue networking. Email an instructor you don't normally work with on a regular basis.
- 3) Go home and talk to instructors that haven't been to a Conference and get them to Minot.
- 4) Come to Minot yourself.
- 5) Pick one of the three committees and work on it. Show your interest.

The time has come to implement the strategic planning!

Jim Kelm declared the meeting adjourned at 11:47am.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Weygandt, Secretary

Income Statement

Fiscal 2003 4/1/2002 – 3/31/03

NFRBMEA BUDGET Worksheet

Extended Budget

	Budget Year 02-03	Actual 02-03	Budget Year 03-04
INFLOWS			
Advertising	\$ 400.00	\$ 1,187.50	\$ 500.00
Conference Profit	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 8,723.57	\$ 5,000.00
Dues	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,720.00	\$ 4,500.00
Interest Earned	\$ 250.00	\$ 205.21	\$ 250.00
Seed Money In	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Contributions and Donation	<u>\$ 2,500.00</u>	<u>\$ 378.52</u>	<u>\$ 2,500.00</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 14,650.00	\$ 15,214.80	\$ 13,750.00
OUTFLOWS			
Awards and Recognition	\$ 400.00	\$ 219.77	\$ 400.00
Board Meeting Ex			
Spring Conf Call	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 977.86	\$ 600.00
Conference Board Mtg	\$ 200.00	\$ 333.07	\$ 700.00
Fall Board Mtg	<u>\$ 3,500.00</u>	<u>\$ 3,218.54</u>	<u>\$ 3,500.00</u>
Total Board Meeting Ex	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 4,529.47	\$ 4,800.00
Exchange of Ideas	\$ 500.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 500.00
First Timer's Scholarship	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,000.00
Legal & Prof	\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 400.00
Postage	\$ 35.00	\$ 11.15	\$ 50.00
Publications/Nuts & Bolts	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,051.25	\$ 1,300.00
Recruitment/Retention Project	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 569.78	\$ 3,000.00
Seed Money Out	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00
Supplies, Copies	\$ 200.00	\$ 44.19	\$ 200.00
Web Page Expense	<u>\$ 2,500.00</u>	<u>\$ 2,278.47</u>	<u>\$ 2,500.00</u>
		Conf Exp	
		\$ 194.92	
Total Expenditures	\$ 14,885.00	\$ 10,399.00	\$ 15,150.00
Inflows - Outflows	\$ (235.00)	\$ 4,815.80	\$ (1,400.00)

NFRBMEA Balance Sheet

As of 3/31/2003

ASSETS

Cash and Bank Accounts

Checking #472411	\$ 785.94
MM Savings #485378	\$ 16,461.07

TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts \$ 17,247.01

Other Assets

ND Conference 03	\$ 1,000.00
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TOTAL Other Assets \$ 1,000.00

TOTAL ASSETS \$ 18,247.01

LIABILITIES

\$ -

OVERALL TOTAL \$ 18,247.01

Vic Richardson
Accountant & Tax Preparer

Independent Auditors' Report

NFRBMEA Board

I have audited the balance sheet of the National Farm and Ranch Business Management Education Association, Inc., as of March 31 2003 and the related statements of revenues, expenditures and other changes and cash flows for the years then ended. It is my responsibility to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

I conducted the audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain a reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that the audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the NFRBMEA, Inc. as of March 31, 2003 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Next Generation Agriculture
&
Value Added Marketing

2002 NFRBMEA Conference Agenda

Saturday June 8, 2002 Arrival – Board Members and Hosts

Sunday June 9, 2002

10:30 AM – 4:00 PM *Board Meeting & Sunday Brunch in Hotel Board Room*

2:00 PM – 6:00 PM *Registration –Hotel Foyer*

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM *Past Presidents Meeting*
Lynn Schluckebier, Immediate Past President NFRBMEA

6:00 PM *Picnic & Mixer – Alexander Park -Faribault*

Monday June 10, 2002

7:30 AM – 10:00 AM *Registration*

7:30 AM – 10:00 AM *Booths (Through 4:00 PM Tuesday)*

7:00 AM – 8:15 AM *Buffet Breakfast*

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM *Welcome & Introductions*
Introductions & Welcome: Ira Beckman, President, NFRBMEA
Minnesota Host Instructor

- 8:45 AM – 9:30 AM ***30 Years of the Organization***
 Speaker - Dr. Ed Persons, Professor U of M, Retired
 Slide Show: Laurie Morris, NFRBMEA Historian
- 9:30 AM – 9:45 AM ***Break***
- 9:45 AM – 11:30AM ***Business Meeting***
 Ira Beckman, President, NFRBMEA
- Roll Call of States***
 Tom Weygandt, Secretary, NFRBMEA
- 11:30 AM – 12:30PM ***Lunch***
- 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM ***Agriculture & Value Added Products***
 Luncheon Speaker; Gene Hugoson, MN Commissioner of
 Agriculture
- 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM ***Global Agriculture in the 21st Century***
 Mike Swanson, Agricultural Economist
 Wells Fargo Financial Services
- 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM ***Ag Leasing.... A Management Tool***
 Ken Reiners, Sr. Director of Leasing
 AgStar Credit Services
- 3:00 PM- 3:15 PM ***Break***
- 3:15 PM – 4:15 PM ***Crop Insurance.... A Management Tool***
 Dr. Laurence Crane
 National Crop Insurance Services
- 4:15 PM - 5:00 PM ***Business Planning Software***
 Dale Nordquist
 U of MN FinPack Staff
- 5:00 PM ***Supper & Evening on Your Own***

Tuesday June 11, 2002

- 7:00 AM – 8:00 AM *Breakfast Buffet*
- 7:00 AM – 8:00 AM *1st Timers' Breakfast Meeting*
 Jim Keim: NFRBMEA President-Elect
- 8:00 AM – 8:30 AM *Welcome Remarks*
 Keith Stover, President SCTC
- 8:30 AM – 9:10 AM *2002 Farm Bill & Ag Issues*
 U.S. Senator Mark Dayton, MN, Senate Ag Committee (Invited)
- 9:10 AM – 9:30 AM *Break*
- 9:30 AM – 11:30AM *Next Generation Agriculture*
 Dr. Neil Hart
 Professor, Dept of AgEconomics, ISU
- 11:30 AM – 12:00 PM *Visit with Vendors and Presenters*
- 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM *Lunch*
- 1:00 PM – 2:15 PM *Fun & the Work Environment*
 Dr. Stuart Robertshaw, aka Dr. Humor
 President & CEO - National Association of Humor Impaired
- 2:15 PM – 2:30 PM *Break*
- 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM *Next Generation Agriculture (continued)*
 Dr. Neil Hart
- 5:00 PM *Adjourn for the Day... Family Time & Supper*
 Evening on your own

Wednesday June 12, 2002

- 7:00 AM – 8:00 AM *Breakfast Buffet*
- 8:00 AM - 8:30 AM *Ag Today*
Lynn Ketelsen, The Linder Farm Network
- 8:30 AM – 9:00 AM *The Ethanol Story*
Randy Doya¹, CEO AI-Corn Clean Fuel
- 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM *Food Grade Commodities*
Laveme Klecker, SunRich Inc, Hope, MN
- 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM *Value Added Tours*
- Sheep Cheese Farm & Processing Operation
Nerstrand
 - On-Farm Pork Processing & Hmong Garden
Plots, *Lonsdale*
 - On Farm Dairy Milk Processing Operation
New Prague
- Lunch to be served on tours*
- 5:00 PM *Minnesota Nice (Tour Groups Unite)*
Farmamerica-Waseca
- 6:30 PM *Supper at Farmamerica*
Entertainment: *Magic Barbershop Group*
- 7:30 - 8:00 PM *Buses Return to Holiday Inn*

Thursday June 13, 2002

- 7:00 AM – 8:30 AM *Story-Telling Breakfast - Buffet*
"Revival of the Tales" Pat Harrington, Master Storyteller
- 8:30 AM – 9:15 AM *The Strategic Plan of Farm Management*
(Where have we been - Where are we going?)
Gene Kuntz FBM Instructor, Faribault, MN
- 9:15 AM - 9:30 AM *Break*
- 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM *Exchange of Ideas*
Jim Kelm, President-elect, NFRBMEA

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Final Business Meeting

Ira Beckman, President, NFRBMEA

12:00 PM

Adjourn & Head for Home or Visit Scenic Minnesota

Jim Kelm, President-Elect, NFRBMEA

12:00 PM

Post Conference Board Meeting

Jim Kelm, President, NFRBMEA

NFRBMEA Actual Conference 2002 Financials

7/31/2002

	Value	Sub Totals
INCOME		
Seed Money	\$ 1,000.00	
Sub Totals		\$ 1,000.00
Booths	\$ 1,050.00	
Dues	\$ 2,020.00	
Interest Earned	\$ 81.71	
Misc. Income	\$ 10.00	
Sub Totals		\$ 3,141.71
Sponsors	\$ 25,378.50	
Sponsor-Account Receivable (Wells Fargo)	\$ 2,500.00	
Sub Totals		\$ 27,878.50
Registration		
Late Fee	\$ 420.00	
Member Registration	\$ 18,360.00	
Spouse Registration	\$ 2,905.00	
Children's Registration	\$ 870.00	
Total Registration		\$ 22,555.00
	INCOME	\$ 54,575.21

Expenses

	Value	Sub Totals	
AV Equipment	\$ 245.00		
Bank charge	\$ 71.00		
Booth Rental Expense			
Dues Repaid	\$ 2,020.00		
Conference Room Rental	\$ 1,000.00		
First Timer Scholarships			
Officer Gift/Presenter Plaques	\$ 330.46		
Hotel Expense - Rooms Speakers			
Insurance	\$ 716.00		
Name Tags & Lanyard	\$ 886.70		
Farm America Tickets			
Printing	\$ 1,842.34		
Postage	\$ 687.03		
Notebooks	\$ 691.69		
Park Rentals	\$ 85.00		
Early Reg. Drawing	\$ 300.00		
Conference Certificates	\$ 85.20		
Supplies/Paper Etc.	\$ 268.13		
Refunds	\$ 475.00		
Other Misc Expense	\$ 422.82		
Refund Seed Money	\$ 1,000.00		
Total		\$ 10,908.37	
Meals & Breaks			
Breaks M & Th	\$ 1,688.00		
Breaks T	\$ 2,488.50		
Total		\$ 4,177.60	
Breakfast-M	\$ 1,574.62		
Breakfast-T	\$ 1,528.31		
Breakfast-W	\$ 1,953.13		
Breakfast-TH	\$ 1,758.98		
Total		\$ 6,813.04	
Lunch-Pre Conl. Board mtg	\$ 233.10		
Lunch-M	\$ 1,918.85		
Lunch-T	\$ 5,159.85		
Lunch-W	\$ 980.00		
Total		\$ 8,291.80	
Mixer Picnic	\$ 1,250.28		
Tour Beverages	\$ 212.02		
Farm America Supper	\$ 2,972.00		
Post Board meeting Lunch	\$ 165.79		
Total		\$ 4,600.07	
Meal Totals		\$ 23,882.41	
Speakers			
Presenter Honorium	\$ 7,051.92		
Total	\$ 805.00	\$ 7,956.92	
Family Program			
Candle/Lotion Making Jill Anderson	\$ 450.00		
Family Program Fees	\$ 156.00		
Total		\$ 606.00	
Transportation			
Fairbault Trip, MH Zoo/Mall-Am & Tour Day	\$ 2,477.75		
Total		\$ 2,477.76	
EXPENSES		\$ 46,831.46	
CONFERENCE PROFIT		\$ 8,743.76	

Standing Committees 2002-2003

Board Committees

- Recruitment of Instructors
 - Awareness – Promoting the teaching of Farm and Ranch Business Management as an occupation
 - Familiarization – Work with secondary agricultural education instructors, folks in other agricultural occupations, students majoring in agricultural education, and other interested individuals, to familiarize them with the job of being a Farm and Ranch Business Management Educator.

- Instructor Standards
 - Additional committee members: Dr. Edgar Persons, Gene Kuntz
 - Programmatic
 - Program standards for FBM
 - Working with your base employer
 - Working with adult FBM students
 - Recruiting new students
 - NFRBMEA
 - Technical
 - Accounting issues
 - Farm Financial Standards Council
 - Tax issues
 - Types of business Entities
 - Business plans
 - Legal issues
 - Employment
 - Farm Services Agency

- National Institute – Pre-Service and In-Service Professional Development

Almost a year ago, the NFRBMEA Board of Directors asked Dr. Edgar Persons to look into an expanded role for NFRBMEA in pre-service and in-service professional development. Dr. Persons came up with an idea that goes well beyond our current emphasis on our annual conference. His idea has become known as the “National Institute”.

The main idea behind a “National Institute” is NFRBMEA’s desire to become known as the premiere source for pre-service and in-service professional development opportunities in farm and ranch business management education. The National Institute is considered a potentially powerful tool to improve teacher recruitment and retention.

The concept behind the National Institute involves working with a major university or universities. The university(ies) would offer college credit for educational activities at our annual conferences as well as in other places and other times. The National Institute, through the NFRBMEA, would generate funds to develop college courses and administer them. Funding would be adequate to allow qualifying teachers to take these courses at minimal cost to themselves. Dr. Richard Joerger, University of Minnesota, has taken an interest in helping the NFRBMEA with the planning phase of a National Institute.

The National Institute concept is, by far, the largest and most far-reaching project that NFRBMEA has ever considered. It will require an investment of time and money to make it happen. It will also require the support of the NFRBMEA membership. The NFRBMEA Board of Directors is looking forward to discussing this exciting project with you at our annual conference in Minot.

Board Appointed Committees

- **Teaching Resources/ Curriculum**
 - Committee members: Ron VanNurden, Brad Augustin, Ron Dvergsten, Charles Duell, Jon Farquharson
 - Create a curriculum clearing house
 - Publish curriculum
 - Place ideas on the website
 - Run the Exchange of Ideas Contest at Conference

- **Membership Development**
 - Committee members: Dan Hoffinan, Tim Holtquist, Jay Stretcher, Dan Perkins
 - Membership development in non-participating states
 - Study membership potential – what else can we do for our members?
 - Member articles in popular publications
 - Leadership training/seminars
 - Mentoring
 - Internships
 - Work with National Institute Committee

- Industry Relations Committee
 - Committee members: John Castor, Steve Metzger, Gene Kuntz
 - Make NFRBMEA the organization others think of first when farm management information or education is required
 - Develop a stable system of financing for NFRBMEA
 - Combine resources with others for conferences and other educational purposes
 - Identify businesses with which we currently work, or have in the past
 - Identify government agencies with which we currently work, or have in the past
 - Identify professional organizations with which we should foster a working relationship
 - Obtain input from the Past-Presidents of the NFRBMEA
 - Identify personnel to help with the work of this committee

Other Information

- NFRBMEA member Gary Thome is the Adult Representative on the National Council for Agricultural Education, and keeps us updated on their activities at our business and board meetings.
- The 2003 NFRBMEA conference will be held in Minot, North Dakota from June 8 – 12, 2003. Al Graner, Tom Hanson, Dale Enerson, and Rueben Mayer will be the main hosts. The conference will take place at the Minot International Inn. The theme of this year's conference is "Reaching Beyond our Borders" and discovering "Lewis and Clark Country". Instructors will have the opportunity to expand their knowledge on our agriculture industry and learn how our producers can compete better in the world along with celebrating the beginning of the bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark Expedition into the new land of our country.
- The 2004 NFRBMEA conference will be held in the Wisconsin Dells area. Edmund Ruff and his colleagues from Wisconsin will be the hosts.