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**SOUTH DAKOTA CHAPTER**  
**AMERICAN SOCIETY FARM MANAGERS & RURAL APPRAISERS**

3/07



*Enhancing Our Members' Ability to Succeed  
in Their Rural & Agriculturally Related Professions!*

**DATES TO REMEMBER!**

**2007**

April 4 - Ag-Bio Scholarship Banquet in Brookings – **Moved to Fall**

April 18-20 – Ag Lender's Conference in Pierre

May 8-11 - Assessor's Conference in Aberdeen

May 10 - West River Breakfast Meeting (9 A.M.)

Russell Wyatt's Home – Hot Springs

May 18 - Chapter Board Meeting & SDSU Breakfast – Brookings

July 11-13 - MN Summer Appraisal Course & Tour - Duluth

Fall - Joint Education Offering w/ Wyoming Chapter

**2008**

January 23-25 – Winter Education & Joint Meeting W/PAASD – Mitchell

Feb. 16-23 - ASFMRA Meeting w/ ASAC & NAICC in Seattle, WA

**July 18-25, 2009** – International Farm Management Conference in  
Bloomington, Illinois co-hosted by national ASFMRA and Illinois ASFMRA

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

March Madness is almost behind us. That has nothing to do with basketball. It is more short time frames on appraisals, realtors wanting to close, and loan officers getting the deals done. At least I feel it has been a busy time period, and it is carrying into April. Showers and planting time should slow the appraisal part, however I expect it will pick up for the farm managers.

Land prices in this area are still strong to frighteningly high. Pasture tracts sold for \$1,150 to \$1,550. Those pastures will need 7 to 10 acres to take care of the cow and calf through the summer.

I was out south and west of Kadoka, which has had 7 years of dry summers. They have had a few rains and some snow that makes things look more positive moving into this grazing season. Rain is falling as I write this in Yankton. Should help the crops get a good start but it does look like a lot more corn will be planted in this area.

Work must have kept all of us busy, at least I have not heard of any one falling off a roof or any exciting event similar to that from our chapter.

Continued

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED**

We are working at getting the raffle set up for the SDSU scholarship funding. You should all be hearing more about that in the near future. We are going to look at finishing the fund drive at the fall meeting that we are jointly planning with Wyoming. Those dates are not set, that I know of, but keep in mind we will have an education offering this fall.

I have put together some committees, should any one like to be a part of a different committee or have a special interest, let me know. **(Committee list is a separate e-mail attachment to the newsletter.)**

## **WEST RIVER BREAKFAST MEETING HAS GOOD ATTENDANCE**

Eleven members and guests shared breakfast on March 8, 2007 at Marlin's Roadhouse Grill.

Those present were Perry Beguin, Wade Buck, Ron Ensz, Kent Rasmussen, Dave Baker, Jerry Hulm, Jeff Oliver, Jay Widdoss, John Widdoss, Veronica Widdoss, and Russell Wyatt.

There was some interesting discussion about the new Farm Bill, the Appraiser Limited Liability Bill, the proposed closing of four West River Farm Service Agency offices and the continuing work on the possible consolidation of the three appraisal organizations (Appraisal Institute, American Society of Appraisers and ASFMRA). John Widdoss will be attending a march 9<sup>th</sup> meeting on that possible consolidation, and hopefully, will give us an update at our next breakfast meeting.



Russell Wyatt and his wife have graciously extended an invitation to host the next West River Breakfast meeting at their new home in Hot Springs, SD on May 10, 2007. Please mark your calendars for that date and make plans to attend the meeting. Perry Beguin stated that some will probably be car pooling from Rapid City. Perry can be contacted about participating in the car pooling. More details and information about the May meeting will be distributed as the date gets closer.

## **THANK YOU**

I want to thank chapter members for your phone calls, visits, thoughts and prayers. Thank you also for the beautiful plant that helped to brighten the hospital room. It remains a reminder of my chapter friends' concern for my health. Thank you for all the offers to help in the various areas necessary to maintain the momentum of a small appraisal shop. I will never be able to repay the kindness. Your concerns and actions mean more than you will know.

Jim Dunlap

## **ASFMRA ATLANTA ANNUAL MEETING SPECIAL AUCTION ACTIVITY by Paul Sickler**

I was fortunate enough to be able to attend the February ASFMRA national meeting in Atlanta, GA. It was a busy week with Committee Meetings, Ag Tour, and two days of very interesting Seminars.

However, the most amazing part of the meeting for me was witnessed on the very last evening. For those of you that have attended an Annual Meeting in the past, you will recall that on the last evening, the Foundation Auction is held. This year, the auction went about like previous years, although I thought that the number of items for sale was slightly less. In the end, over \$25,000 was raised for the Foundation.

At the end of the Foundation Auction, former President, Gary Thien made an announcement in regards to Iowa member Darrell Limkeman. Many of you know Darrell as he always has a smile and a friendly word to say. He has taught many of the ASFMRA courses over the years. Anyway, Darrell's wife was injured and paralyzed in a freak accident around Christmas time. She was plugging the Christmas lights and something snapped in her spine.

Some of the leaders of the Iowa Chapter wanted to raise some money for Darrell to help with his medical expenses, so they re-sold a toy John Deere tractor which they had purchased earlier. This re-sale raised \$2,000 as I recall and the buyer (John Widdoss) said "Sell it again!"

This went on for many rounds and some others joined in and donated their purchase back to be re-sold again as well. In the end, over \$28,000 was raised to help with the medical expenses. Both the amount of money that was raised and the number of bidders involved speak volumes about the kind of person that Darrell is. He has made an art of networking with his peers at these annual meetings and that was evident to me. That so many members of our Society stepped up and donated this amount of money shows the integrity and caliber of people that are members of the ASFMRA and go out of their way to take care of "one of their own". Those are the kind of people that I want to be associated with.

## **EAST RIVER BREAKFAST ATTENDEES WELCOME JIM DUNLAP BACK**

Jim Dunlap was at the meeting. Jim is back to work in a limited role. He still has some pain in lower back. He was going in for a lower epidural to see if it would help with the pain.

Jim was given a present for his return (bag of bungee cords).

Others in attendance included Mike Cooper, Charles Doom, Vince Hanson, Scott Heimes, Allan Husby, Tom Jass, and Paul Sickler.

News items reported:

- John Thune will be on the SDSU campus April 4<sup>th</sup> for a conference on the farm bill. This promises to be a good discussion.
- Broin -The Ethanol Company of SD has recently changed its name to POET. This name change will include its five entities.

Next Meeting will be set at Board Meeting in May.

