

August 28, 29 in Pontiac

Tours, Threshing Machines, Drones Set for Summer Tour Program

From yesterday through today and into tomorrow! That really covers the program that is set for the ISPFMRA Summer Tour which will be held in the Pontiac area August 28 and 29.

“We’ve had some absolutely great summer tours in the past...from the Field of Dreams to the dairy at Fair Oaks to the Shelbyville Dam...but this has got to be one for the books,” says Randy Fransen, ISPFMRA president elect and a member of the planning committee for this year’s Summer Tour.

“Brad Carroll has put together a really great team including Rick Hiatt, Brad Brown and John Marshall and they have organized a fantastic two days of programming for us in the Pontiac area,” he continues.

Base of Operations

“The Pontiac Elks Lodge will be the base of operations for all the activities,” says Brad Carroll. “There will be a full day of education at the Lodge on August 27 (see ar-

ticle, Page 9) and we will stage the activities for Thursday and Friday there as well.”

Thursday Tours

The day will begin with registration and light refreshments at the Elks Lodge at 7:30 a.m. The motor coach will board and leave at 8.

• **Kilgus Farmstead Dairy**

Kilgus Dairy has been in operation since 1950s, when Duane and Arlene Kilgus bought their first holstein cow. After growing the holstein herd for many years, the Kilgus family decided to do a gradual switch over of the herd to Jersey cows in the mid 90s. Since then they haven’t looked back enjoying the scenes of the small, docile, brown cows grazing the lush grasses of central Illinois.



The farm has three large barns, and a number of holding pens for their steers, pigs, and calves. A milk house and milking parlor allows them to milk 20 cows at a time, which they do twice a day. In addition to their store, products are all sold within 150 miles of the farm to insure freshness and customer trust.

• **Slagel Family Farm**

The Slagel Family has been raising livestock in Central Illinois for generations. The farmstead they currently operate is only a mile away from the farm where their great-grandfather settled in 1888. Sam Slagel purchased the original farm on November 1, 1888, and the Slagel family has raised livestock there ever since.

The family all works together to run a small, diversified farm raising hogs, cattle, sheep, goats, chickens, ducks,

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Norbert Says

by Norbert Soltwedel, RPRA
President
Illinois Society of Professional
Farm Managers and Rural
Appraisers



Professionals we all claim to be, whether as Appraisers or Farm Managers. So what makes one a professional? According to the dictionary, the term describes the standards of education and training that prepare members of the profession with the particular knowledge and skills necessary to perform the role of that profession.

In addition, most professionals are subject to strict codes of conduct involving rigorous ethical and moral obligations. As members of the ASFMRA and the ISPFMRA, we subscribe to an adopted set of Professional Standards of Practice and Ethics. As managers we have fiduciary responsibilities to our clients and as appraisers we must comply with the USPAP.

These standards should not be considered onerous but rather a source of pride that fosters trust among those working in real estate professions. To the credit of our members, the ISPFMRA Ethics Committee is our most inactive committee. Ethics must be more than some paragraph in our constitution; that is why we agree to complete the "Best in Ethics" course every 6 years as a condition of membership. The ASFMRA Vision Statement of "The Most Trusted Rural Property Professionals" is more than a slogan; it is our Code of Honor.

Beyond the basic requirement of ethical and moral behavior come competence, expertise, and quality of performance. The education and training provided within our Society is what sets us apart in our professions. Continuing Education may be a requirement for your license or to remain a member in good standing, but more than that it is staying abreast of new developments or renewing skills used infrequently. To this end, our education committees are looking for good topics and speakers; they welcome your suggestions.

Professionals also learn from one another in our network of members who freely share experiences, solutions, and even data from time to time. Our annual Illinois Land Values Conference is an excellent illustration of the value of this network of Real Estate experts. I know our members have a wealth of knowledge on land management and property valuations -- I would like to see some of our members write articles for agriculture publications to further illustrate just what we do. It would serve to inform potential clients as well as the general public about the *professional* services we provide.

My challenge is for all of us to live up to our professional responsibilities by being fully aware of the ethical standards and by striving for excellence as we serve our clients. This excellence should be rewarded and a good means of accomplishing that is by recommending a member for an ASFMRA award. Nominations are currently open for ASFMRA 2014 Professional Farm Manager of the Year Award (due June 14), Appraisal Professional of the Year, D. Howard Doane, Carl F. Hertz Distinguished Service, Early Career, and Meritorious Service in Communications (due Aug 1).

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2014 Committee Chairs

Annual Meeting - 2015 @ Peoria	Steve Burrow, AFM
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Audit	Dan Cribben, AFM, ARA
Bylaws	Winnie Stortzum, ARA
Commercial Sponsorship	Brian S. Neville, AFM Thomas Wargel, AFM
Ethics	Allen D. Worrell, AFM
Farmland Values/Lease Trends Survey/ 2014 Illinois Land Values Conference	Dale Aupperle, AFM, ARA
Conference Meeting	Tim Harris, AFM Winnie Stortzum, ARA
Advertising	Jonathan Norvell, Ph.D.
Farmland Data Collection	Chuck Knudson, ARA Dan Davis, AFM, ARA
Farmland/Lease Trends Survey	Gary Schnitkey, Ph.D.
Government & Policy	Jerry Hicks, AFM
Honorary Awards	Bruce Huber, AFM, ARA
ICAP Representatives	Herb Meyer, ARA Mike Morris, ARA, MAI
Management Education	Steve Glascock, AFM
Membership Development	Doug Greiner, AFM
Memorial Scholarship	Seth Baker, AFM
Nominating	Bruce Huber, AFM, ARA
Public Relations	Ernie Moody
Summer Tour - 2014	Brad Carroll
Young Professionals	Eric Wilkinson, AFM Logan Frye

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Farm Manager Wanted

Manage farm properties (primarily in the Carlinville, IL area) for owners who are clients of our Trust Department. Secure leases with qualified farm operators; make site visits; evaluate and oversee farm operations. Hands-on knowledge of farming and agri-business a must. Requires a bachelor's degree, preferably in an ag-related field, plus 5 or 6 years of ag-related experience; or equivalent combination of education and experience. Must have good oral and written communication skills and a working knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel. AFM accreditation preferred. Job location would preferably be our Carlinville, IL facility, but we would consider relocating the Farm Manager's "home base" to our Alton, Jacksonville, Pittsfield, Taylorville, or Shipman, IL facility for the right candidate. Qualified applicants should email their resume plus salary requirements to ldavenport@cnbil.com (Linda Davenport, SPHR, AVP/HR). 618-433-5109. www.cnbil.com
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August 27 Appraisal and Management Education Program

Easements, Mineral rights & Pipelines – Their Effect on Land Values, An Update on State and Federal Estate Taxes

Time and Location: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Wednesday, Aug. 27
Pontiac Elks Lodge, 459 Elks Club Road, Pontiac

CE Hours: 7 for ASFMRA for ALL Society members attending, 7 hours with State of Illinois (applied for).

Cost: \$100 for ASFMRA members, \$125 for non-members

Program includes breaks and luncheon at the Elks Lodge.

9 a.m. Easements, Mineral Rights & Pipelines

Instructor: Laura Harmon, Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) senior counsel

- *Wind farms and their effect on Agricultural Land Values*
Factors which impact FMV of property with Wind Farm and neighboring landowners
- *Eminent Domain: Just Compensation and Damage to the Remainder of Highway Projects*
Review Eminent Domain Act, Farmland Preservation Act, case law and discuss IDOT's proposed Illiana Project and FMV impacts on farmland
- *Impact of Mineral Rights and Oil and Gas Activities on Agricultural Land Values*
Review impacts to surface where there are drilling (traditional and horizontal) activities and impact on highest and best use of the surface due to mineral/oil gas activities
- *Providing Valuation for Electric Transmission Line Easements*
Overview of pending transmission line cases pending in Illinois. Review law, Easement Calculation Forms and Identify issues related to FMV of Permanent Easement, Crop Loss, Damage to the Remainder and other damages.
Review Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreement (AIMA) and construction standards required for transmission line projects
Role of Ag Inspector on utility projects
- *Pipelines and their Effect on Agricultural Land Values*
Review case law, FMV and Damage issues with pending pipeline projects in Illinois. Review AIMA

12:30 p.m. -- Update on State and Federal Estate Taxes

Instructor: Thomas A. Jennings, Livingston Barger Brandt & Schroeder

- *Overview of Federal Estate Tax*
- *Portability and the Appraiser*
Review the exemption exclusions tax amounts and

requirements of the estate tax code for date-of-death farm appraisals. Discussion of the appraisals needed or not needed for federal estate portability returns.

- *Details of the Illinois Death Tax*
Understand circular table method of calculation, impact of gifting and using the Illinois Only Q-TIP
- *Survey of recent 2032A case law.*
Review and discussion of recent 2032A case law. Identifying any issues from the cases that reflect upon methodology.
- *Appraiser and Estate Lawyer –Improving Communication*
Current interaction techniques and ways to improve such interaction for client appraiser and attorney.

SPECIAL NOTE: More information including registration procedures will be made available to all ISPFMRA members and will be posted on the Web site (www.ispfmra.org) as soon determination is received regarding State of Illinois approval on requested Appraisal Continuing Education hours.

These courses are designed for Appraisal and Management Education credits through ASFMRA.

Norbert Says....

(continued from Page 3)

I encourage all members to take advantage of the excellent networking opportunities at Summer Education Week in Des Moines, our Summer Tour at Pontiac, the Leadership Institute in Washington, D.C. and the ASFMRA convention in Tucson.

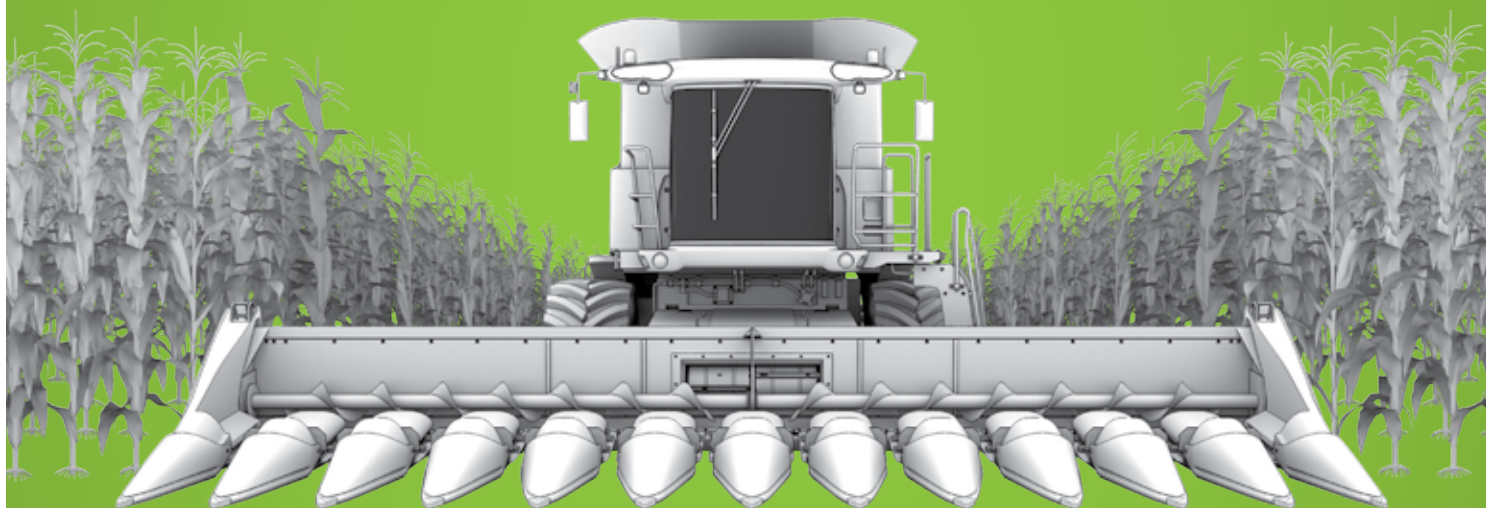
A lot is happening within our Illinois Society. Make sure you are a part of it!



Norbert

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Summer Tour has Full Agenda

(continued from Page 1)

rabbits, corn, soybeans, hay, and pumpkins. Over the generations, instead of modernizing all aspects of the operation, they stayed focused on operating a smaller scale farm which focused more on quality rather than mass production. They control every aspect of the operation from breeding and genetics to the feed rations fed to the livestock. By combining the correct factors they can present consistent, high quality, wholesome meat products again and again.



Lunch will be served at the farm.

• Central State's Threshermen's Reunion

Step back in time at the Central States Threshermen's Reunion, held annually over Labor Day weekend. Come see and experience traditional events including rock crushing, threshing, sheep shearing, tractor pulls, and a variety of country music shows. Daily attractions include the General Store, 1900 Country School House, Singer Saw Mill, 1910 Era Blacksmith Shop, 1920 Conoco Gas Station, Craft Show, and Flea Market.

• Downtown Historic Pontiac

Pontiac offers its visitors a unique collection of interesting places and great things to see. This is the home of the Route 66 Association of Illinois Hall of Fame & Museum, the Pontiac Oakland Automobile Museum & Resource Center, the Livingston County War Museum, and the International Walldog Mural and Sign Art Museum.

There are 24 large, outdoor murals that are conveniently located in the historic downtown shopping district, and nine Looking for Lincoln wayside story boards nearby.

Dinner this evening will be a group event at Bernardi's.

The motor coach will return to the Elk's Lodge at 8:30 p.m.

Friday Activities

7:00 a.m. Breakfast buffet at the Pontiac Elks Lodge

8:00 a.m.

• The Indian Creek Watershed Program

A presentation by Terry Bachtold, Ag Resource Coordinator with the Livingston County Soil and Water Conservation District along with other staff members and local farmers.

9:00 a.m.

• Aerial Drones (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) and how they might work for you

A special program and demonstrations with Chad Colby,

Aerial Media Pros. Chad collaborates with growers throughout the Midwest and is considered to be a key resource person for UAV information and related issues in the United States.

11:00 a.m. Depart via private vehicle to nearby in-field UAV demonstration

-- This will be a private, CLOSED demonstration and will not be open to the public or individuals not registered for the Summer Tour activities. Please DO NOT invite clients or friends to join in this program --

A block of rooms has been set up at the Best Western Pontiac Inn, 1821 W. Reynolds St., Pontiac. The block is in the name of *Illinois Society of Professional Farm Managers* for August 26, 27 and 28.

The block will expire on July 26.

The rate is \$104.99 plus taxes. To make a reservation contact the facility directly at **815-842-2777**.

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WANTED

Candidates for ASFMRA Recognition

Is there an ASFMRA member who you believe is doing a job above and beyond what would be considered normal? Have you ever thought “Gee, they ought to get award recognition for their work!”?

Well, what are you waiting for?

ASFMRA is looking for candidates for national recognition but won't know who to consider for awards **UNLESS someone recommends them!**

Take a look through this roster of ASFMRA awards, then sit down and nominate a colleague. Nominate yourself!!

The application form for most of these is available at the ASFMRA Web site at: <http://www.asfmra.org/asfmra-awards/>, so download it, fill it out, and send it in!! It's really that simple!

The Deadline for the Farm Manager of the Year Award is June 14 (no time to lose on this one).

Deadline for all others is August 1!!

D. Howard Doane Award

This award is given to a member or non-member who has made an outstanding contribution in the field of agriculture with emphasis on farm management and rural appraisal. Preference may go to an American Society member. Deadline for entries is August 1.

Recent ISPFMRA Recipients:

Ray Brownfield, AFM, ARA, 2012

Harold Guither, Ph.D., AAC, 2009

James Hutchinson, 1989

Donald Smith, 1985

Andrew J. Berwick, 1981

Meritorious Service in Communication Award

This award acknowledges an individual, company, or association involved in the area of communications that has promoted understanding and goodwill between producers and consumers of agricultural products. It may be awarded to a member or non-member. Entry deadline is Aug. 1.

Carl F. Hertz Distinguished Service in Agriculture Award

This honor is usually awarded to a non-member in appreciation for distinguished service to agriculture other

than directly in the farm management or rural appraisal professions. Deadline for entries is August 1.

Early Career Award

This national award, given annually by the ASFMRA, recognizes an outstanding “early career” member. This award recognizes “early career” members who are making outstanding contributions to their local chapter(s), the ASFMRA, and their local communities during their first 10 years of ASFMRA membership. August 1 deadline.

Appraisal Professional of the Year

This award recognizes an ARA or RPRA designation member who has made an impact on the profession through involvement in the appraisal education courses, service on professional appraisal boards, community involvement or activities and whose clients, peers and colleagues affirm their professionalism and excellence within the appraisal profession. Nomination should be made using the Appraisal Professional of the Year Nomination Form.

Continued on next page

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ASFMRA Awards Nominations Wanted

(Continued from Page 13)

Farm Manager of the Year

This award recognizes an AFM designation member who has made an impact on the farm management profession. Deadline each year for Farm Manager of the Year Nominations is **June 14**.

Recent ISPFMRA Recipients

Brent Bidner, AFM, 2012
R. Edward Kiefer, AFM, ARA, 2011
Steve Myers, AFM, CCA, 2008
Richard Grever, AFM, 2008
Soy Capital Ag Services Team, 2001

Gold Quill Award

Awarded to the authors of the most outstanding article published during the year in the Journal of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers. Reprint articles are not eligible. Selection is made by the National Editorial Committee. Entry deadline is August 1.

Recent ISPFMRA Recipients

Phil Eberle, Ph.D., 2008
LeeAnn Moss, Ph.D., ARA, 2002
Harold Guither, Ph.D., 2001

Silver Plow Award

This award recognizes those chapter secretary/treasurers with 10 or more years of service. Records are retained by national for award purposes. August 1 entry deadline.

Recent ISPFMRA Recipients

Harold Guither, Ph.D., 1998
R.P. Kesler, 1988
Fay Sims, 1986

H.E. Stalcup Excellence in Education

This award recognizes individuals who have contributed his or her knowledge and countless hours toward the advancement of the ASFMRA educational offerings. Nominations are solicited from the ASFMRA peers currently involved in the education program. Selection is made from the nominations received by majority vote. August 1 deadline for entries.

Recent ISPFMRA Recipients

Fred Hepler, AFM, AAC, 2007

Like a Link? Share a Link

Have you found some particular links that you refer to time and time again? Why don't you share them with the ISPFMRA membership? Here are a few that have been submitted.

www.idfpr.com/dpr/re/APPRAISAL.asp (Illinois site for appraiser licensing)

www.asc.gov/Home.aspx (Appraisal Standards Committee source of federal appraisal policies) doesn't work

www.tax.illinois.gov/Publications/Pubs/Pub-122.pdf (Ill assessment of farm real estate)

www.fikeandfike.com/propertytax/Home/Home.aspx (source of several county assessor records)

www.revenue.state.il.us/LocalGovernment/PropertyTax/farmland.htm (IL Farmland assessment guidance)

www.fdic.gov/news/news/financial/2010/fil10082.html (FDIC Appraisal guidance for federal transactions)

www.publicrecords.onlinesearches.com/Illinois-Assessor-and-Property-Tax-Records.htm (online sources list of Illinois public real estate records)

https://msc.fema.gov/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/CategoryDisplay?storeId=10001&catalogId=10001&langId=-1&categoryId=12001&parent_category_rn=12001&type=1&stateId=&countyId=&communityId=&stateName=&countyName=&communityName=&dfirm_kit_id=&future=false&dfirmCatId=null&isCountySelected=0&isCommSelected=0&userType=G&urlUserType=G&sfc=0&cat_state=13020 (Flood maps)

ISPFMRA On the Move



NextGen PFMs Visit the Cubs

(At left) Members of DuPont Pioneer's NextGen PFMs take a break during their April 22 visit to the Chicago Cubs as part of their two-day visit to Chicago.

The April meeting was Session 1 of a planned series of two-day activities organized by DuPont Pioneer aimed at helping young ASFMRA members from across Illinois and Iowa develop their professional skills. The program included a visit to the trading floor at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and a briefing by staff from Indiana Grain Company and Advance Trading as well as by Paul Luckow, the Luckow Group. The first day wrapped up with the visit to Wrigley Field to watch the Cubs.

The second day featured speakers providing economic outlooks, hedging and trading strategies, and a briefing on weed resistances. Costs for participating in the program are being underwritten by DuPont Pioneer. NextGen PFM program is being headed up by Pat Tomlinson.

Members of this first 'class' are:

Jeremy Crouch, Heartland Ag Group; Forsyth, IL
Mike Cole, Locust Street Company; Evansville, IN
Jeff Evers, Cassidy Turley; Springfield, IL
Barry Houmes, Farmers National Company; Rochester, IL
Chad Kies, Hertz Farm Management; Geneseo, IL
Nick Westgerdes, Farmers National Company; Rochelle, IL
Jaret Wicker, Soy Capital Ag Services; Bourbonnais, IL
Luke Worrell, Worrell-Leka Land Services; Jacksonville, IL
Matt Wyss, Heartland Bank and Trust; Bloomington, IL
Corey Zelhart, Busey Ag Services; Decatur, IL

Another gathering of the group is being organized for later this year.



Addressing Land Values at Chicago Farmers Program

(Photo above) Bruce Ahrens, AFM, left, Farmers National Company, Iowa City, IA, hosted Ed Kiefer, AFM, ARA, Hertz Farm Management, Inc., Geneseo, IL and Mike Morris, ARA, MAI, 1st Farm Credit Services, Normal, IL, at the April 14 meeting of The Chicago Farmers. The group made a presentation on land values trends and distributed copies of the 2014 Illinois Land Values and Lease Trends Report. Ahrens is a member of the TCF Board of Directors. The event was held at the Illini Center on Wacker Drive in downtown, Chicago.

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This Display is Available



This table-top display is available for use by ISPFMRA members who are attending functions where promotion of the Society would be appropriate. It was used at the Annual Meeting and the Land Values Conference. It will be used again at the Illinois Bankers' Ag Conference in Springfield in June and the ICAP Illinois Appraisers Update Seminar in Springfield in July.

If you are aware of a function where this could be used to promote the Society, please let us know. It is very easy to set up and comes complete with shipping case, directions, and literature to display. You may be asked to store it temporarily until we find a home for it following your particular use of the display. We will also need to know if the literature supply needs to be refreshed.

If you have a good use for this, contact the ISPFMRA Office at 262-253-6902 and we will make arrangements to get it to you in a timely manner.

ASFMRA Summer Education Week July 13 – July 17, 2014 Des Moines, IA

Education

For Managers and Consultants

- Courses:
 - Ag Land Management 1
 - Ag Land Management 2
 - Ag Land Management 3
- Seminars
 - Lease Negotiations and Food Quality
 - Water Issues, Quality, Markets, Subsurface Drainage and Pivot Irrigation
 - Legal Issues – Roger McEowen, ISU
 - Marketing and Forecasting- ProFarmer

For Appraisers

- Courses:
 - Cost Approach for General Appraisers – A301
 - Basic Appraisal Principles – A101
 - Basic Appraisal Procedures – A102
- Seminars
 - Key Elements of Grain Elevator Valuation
 - Introduction to Commercial Greenhouse Appraisals
 - Introduction to the Valuation of Permanent Plantings

Joint Education

- ASFMRA Best in Business Ethics

Networking & Activities

- Instructor Workshop
- Career Day – Finding a Great Professional Career in Rural America – Sunday
- Young Professional Meeting – Sunday
- Opening Reception
- Monday Lunch – Sponsored by Bayer CropScience
- Monday Dinner – Sponsored by Monsanto
- Tuesday Dinner – Sponsored by DuPont Pioneer

Hotel Information

Embassy Suites Hotel Des Moines Downtown
101 E. Locust Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
515-244-1700

Room Rate: \$139 Single/Double – Includes complimentary breakfast and the Manager's Reception each evening.

Group Code: ASF

Block Release Date: **June 18, 2014**

Visit <http://www.asfmra.org/sew/>

2014 Leadership Institute

September 8-12, 2014, Washington, DC

Registration IS open.

ASFMRA is a leading voice in ag policy discussions on Capitol Hill and has a track record going back 18 years.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship by DuPont Pioneer, the advocacy/media training will be available to both managers and appraisers once again this year. This valuable training will help you become more articulate on issues and give your speaking skills a huge boost. Not to be missed!

Here is what attendees are saying about Leadership Institute:

- *"Unprecedented access to top thinkers shaping our nation's agricultural policy"*
- *"Leadership Institute surpassed all my expectations and provided education to help me make a difference in our government"*
- *"I would recommend this program to anyone. Well worth the time and investment to attend"*

Take advantage of this unique opportunity to enhance your leadership skills and gain useful tools you can apply to your professional life. Get a bird's-eye view of your government in action.

This leadership training is available and beneficial to managers, appraisers and consultants. Tuition to attend is \$795, your airfare to Washington, DC and back, plus any incidental expenses and meals not covered by the Institute. Your tuition includes a shared sleeping room. If you desire a private room, delegates are required to pay the additional costs for the nights you stay. Alumni of this event all agree that it is a very worthwhile ASFMRA event!

SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE -- ISPFMRA members attending the Leadership Institute are eligible for complete reimbursement for the Tuition charge of \$795.

Contact ISPFMRA for details.

Please note format and schedule change: Managers/Consultants: September 8-12, Appraisers: September 7-11, 2014.

Application Deadline & Cost: Received on or before August 6, 2014: \$795.

Sponsored by



Visit: <http://www.asfmra.org/leadership-institute/>

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* Multiple year head to head comparisons versus DKC 62-97, DKC 62-09, DKC 61-88, DKC 57-50, and Pioneer P1018AM1 in third party testing and Beck's independent testing.

ISPFMRA Committee Activities

2015 Annual Meeting

The 2105 Annual Meeting Committee has begun to put together a program for the Annual Meeting scheduled for February 11 – 13, 2015. The Meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites located on the riverfront in East Peoria.

The general consensus of those who responded to the survey conducted shortly after the 2014 Annual Meeting is to keep the format similar to that used this year.

The committee is busy putting together an itinerary of speakers that will have presentations on topics of interest to the members of the Society.

We hope that you will put February 11-13 on your calendar and plan to join us. We promise to make it an interesting Meeting!

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Burrow, AFM
Committee Chairman

ICAP Report

The ICAP (Illinois Coalition of Appraisal Professionals) board worked through a long successful spring legislative session in support of updating Appraisal and Real Estate laws.

Senate Bill 3044 which updates the: "Real Estate Appraiser's Act of 2002" and the "Real Estate License Act of 2000". This bill passed on the last day of the legislative session with a unanimous vote in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. This bill is necessary to comply with the 2015 ASB qualifications for appraiser certifications. Without the bill Illinois appraisal licensing/certification would have been out of federal compliance on January 1, 2015. Mandatory term limits for board members were removed from both the broker's and the appraisal laws allowing long term serving members of these two Boards to continue in their appointments.

This Bill provides modifications to the Broker's Law and the Appraiser's Law in that it adds definitions for BPO's and CMA's to both laws. The Brokers Law establishes minimum standards, NOT related to USPAP for "Broker Price Opinions" and "Comparative Market Analysis" reports prepared by Real Estate Brokers in Illinois. The bill provides that BPO's and CMA's only become BPO's and CMA's if the Broker charges for them over and above or outside of their listing, sales or rental commissions. There were intense lobbying and coordination efforts between ICAP, the Realtor and The Department to produce a bill that would meet compliance.

The legislature also passed Senate Bill 1841 allowing certain disciplinary actions to be removed from public view on the Department of Professional Registration's web site. This bill provides that persons who hold professional licenses may have

disciplines regarding: failure to pay taxes, delinquent student loans, continuing education violations and advertising offences may be removed from the public view of the web site through an application process and payment of a one-time fee if certain conditions are met. The private disciplinary record of the individual will remain in force with the Department.

ICAP won and lost with the regard to waivers for County and Municipal Engineers in real estate acquisitions of less than \$10,000. ICAP negotiated a requirement for additional educational component in the waiver for County and Municipal Engineers who participate in preparing offers for small acquisitions. If any of these small acquisitions become Eminent Domain actions, the government body will be required to obtain an appraisal.

Senate Bill 3499 died in committee. This bill would have established a list of those who could have represented property owners in front of the real estate tax assessment appeal boards. The acceptable parties for the list included: attorneys, accountants, real estate agents, people with assessor designations and appraisers designated by the Appraisal Institute. This bill would have conflicted with other laws in Illinois including the Appraisal Law. The appraisers take a big risk of being accused of accepting a bias as a "representative" of the property owner.

Respectfully submitted,

Herb Meyer, ARA
Michael Morris, ARA, MAI
Committee Chairs

Young Professionals

We are still working on some details for the Young Professionals group activity/meeting. We sent out a survey to all members and potential members to get an idea for their thoughts on having an initial meeting and what type of activity they prefer. We have been getting some good responses that we hope to share with the membership. We are getting this started and details on the meeting will follow.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric M. Wilkinson, AFM
Logan Frye
Committee Chairs