

# THE SANGAMO MARCH/APRIL 2016



Advocating the Voice of Agriculture through Education and Grassroots Legislation

Phone: (217) 753-5200 • www.sangamonfb.org • farmbureau@sangamonfb.org Springfield, IL • Volume MMXVI Number 2

# coming Committee

#### March

7<sup>th</sup>: Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

10<sup>th</sup>: Women's Committee Spring Fling Dinner, 5:30 p.m.

12th: Young Leader Volunteer Day @ Central IL Foodbank, 10:00 a.m.-Noon

12<sup>th</sup>: Foundation Trivia Night, Eagles Club, 7:00 p.m.

14<sup>th</sup>: Young Leader Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

15th: National Ag Day

17<sup>th</sup>: Women's Committee Meeting, 10:00 a.m.

21st: Board of Directors Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

25th: Good Friday - Office Closed

#### April

4th-5th: Illinois Farm Bureau Youth Conference, Embassy Suites, East Peoria

4<sup>th</sup>: Governmental Affairs Committee Meeting, 6:00 p.m.

6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>: Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference, Crowne Plaza

11<sup>th</sup>: Young Leader Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

18<sup>th</sup>: Board of Directors Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

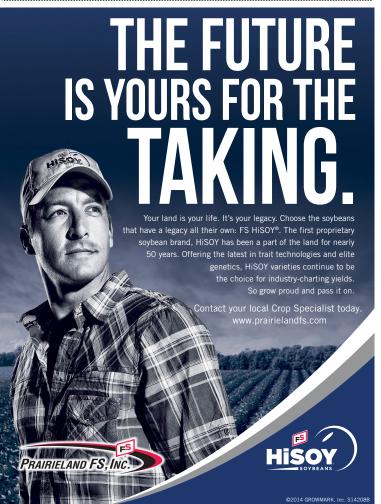
21<sup>st</sup>: Women's Committee Meeting, 10:00 a.m.

25th-29th: AgVenture Barn Tour

All events take place at the Sangamon County Farm Bureau unless otherwise noted.



DON'T FORGET TO "LIKE" OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR THE LATEST UPDATES ON NEWS AND EVENTS! www.facebook.com/sangamoncountyfarmbureau



	J		$^{\wedge}$		$\Box$	IN	$\cup$	,		11
Wayne Benanti	Χ	Χ	Χ	-	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	
Tim Kinner	Χ	Χ	Χ	-	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ		
Jason Komnick		Χ	Χ	-	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	
Otto Rentschler	-	-	-	-	-	ı	ı	-		
Randy Krone		Χ		-		Χ	Χ	Χ		
Tyler Sloan	n/a		Χ	-	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	
Dale Edwards		Χ		-	Χ	Χ	Χ		Χ	
Jason Pickrell (Ass't Sec/Treas)	Χ	Χ	Χ	-	Χ		Χ	Χ	Χ	
Phil Sidles (Secretary)		Χ	Χ	-	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	
Bryon Muench	Χ	Χ	Χ	-	Χ	Χ		Χ	Χ	
David Ray (Treasurer)	Χ	Χ	Χ	-	Χ		Χ	Χ	Χ	
Paul Rice			Χ	-	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	
Cathryn Ayers	Χ		Χ	-	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	
Larry Beaty (President)	Χ	Χ	Χ	-	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	
Matt Heissinger	Χ	Χ	Χ	-	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	
Marty Fairchild	n/a		Χ	-	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	
Colleen Carney-Harms	Χ	Χ	Χ	-	Χ		Χ	Χ	Χ	
Ben Ladage (Vice-President)	Χ		Χ	-	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	
Tim Seifert			Χ	-		Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	
Allen Entwistle	Χ	Χ	Χ	-	Χ	Χ			Χ	
	Χ	Χ	Χ	-		Χ	Χ	Χ	Χ	
tie King	-	-	-	-	-	-	Χ	Χ	Χ	
nair, Toni Krone						Χ	Χ			
	Tim Kinner Jason Komnick Otto Rentschler Randy Krone Tyler Sloan Dale Edwards Jason Pickrell (Ass't Sec/Treas) Phil Sidles (Secretary) Bryon Muench David Ray (Treasurer) Paul Rice Cathryn Ayers Larry Beaty (President) Matt Heissinger Marty Fairchild Colleen Carney-Harms Ben Ladage (Vice-President) Tim Seifert Allen Entwistle Diana Beaty tie King	Tim Kinner X Jason Komnick Otto Rentschler - Randy Krone Tyler Sloan n/a Dale Edwards Jason Pickrell (Ass't Sec/Treas) X Phil Sidles (Secretary) Bryon Muench X David Ray (Treasurer) X Paul Rice Cathryn Ayers X Larry Beaty (President) X Matt Heissinger X Marty Fairchild n/a Colleen Carney-Harms X Ben Ladage (Vice-President) X Tim Seifert Allen Entwistle X Diana Beaty X tie King -	Tim Kinner  Tim Kinner  Tim Kinner  Jason Komnick  Otto Rentschler  Randy Krone  Tyler Sloan  Dale Edwards  Jason Pickrell (Ass't Sec/Treas)  A X  Phil Sidles (Secretary)  Bryon Muench  David Ray (Treasurer)  X X  Paul Rice  Cathryn Ayers  Larry Beaty (President)  Matt Heissinger  X X  Marty Fairchild  Colleen Carney-Harms  Ben Ladage (Vice-President)  X X  Allen Entwistle  Diana Beaty  X X  X  X  X  X  X  X  X  X  X  X  X	Tim Kinner X X X X Jason Komnick X X X X Otto Rentschler Randy Krone X Tyler Sloan n/a X Jason Pickrell (Ass't Sec/Treas) X X X Phil Sidles (Secretary) X X X Phil Sidles (Secretary) X X X Bryon Muench X X X David Ray (Treasurer) X X X Paul Rice X Cathryn Ayers X X X Matt Heissinger X X X X Matt Heissinger X X X X Matt Heissinger X X X X X Marty Fairchild N/a X X X Ben Ladage (Vice-President) X X X X Tim Seifert X X X X Mallen Entwistle X X X X X Manage Cathry Seaty X X X X Manage Cathryn Ayers X X X X Matt Heissinger X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	Tim Kinner         X         X         X         -	Tim Kinner         X         X         X         X         X         -         X           Jason Komnick         X         X         X         -         X         Otto Rentschler         -         X         X         X         -         X         B         -         -         -         -         -         -         -         -         -         -         -         -         -         -         -	Tim Kinner         X	Tim Kinner         X         X         X         -         X	Tim Kinner         X	Tim Kinner    X

DIRECTOR ATTENDANCE - 2015 | 1 | 1 | A | S | O | N | D | 1 | F | M

#### 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: Larry Beaty Vice-President: Ben Ladage Secretary: Phil Sidles

Treasurer: David Ray Asst. Secretary/Treasurer: Jason Pickrell Periodical Class Postage Paid at Springfield, Postmaster:

Send Address Changes To: The Sangamo Farmer 2631 Beechler Court Springfield, Illinois 62703

#### **DIRECTORY FARM BUREAU STAFF**

Manager: James Birge, FBCM Assistant Manager: Jennifer Webb Finance/Membership: Arika Mason 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.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT



LARRY BEATY

As I sit in our office writing this article, I look out the window and I can't see the machine shed for the blowing snow! This cold snowy weather surely makes me miss our winter vacation in the sunny warm south. Unfortunately, \$3 corn does not allow for a winter vacation, but much like the Cubs say, "There is always next year!"

I would like to welcome Otto Kentschler to our Board of Directors. He has graciously agreed to fill the vacant seat in District 2. I welcome him aboard and look forward to working with him.

Most of you have probably seen the budget that President Obama has put forth. Once again, they are coming after crop insurance. The proposal is to cut \$18 Billion out of crop insurance: \$1.8 Billion a year for the next ten years. The 2014 Farm Bill was applauded by President Obama and he signed it into law and now he is proposing a budget to undermine it! To take \$1.8 Billion a year from crop insurance would leave farmers and taxpayers vulnerable. For crop insurance to be successful and operate as intended it must remain affordable and available to farmers. I am sure Illinois Farm Bureau will have a call to action on the budget proposal. Once again, when this call to action comes, I beg you to PLEASE pick up the phone and call your Senators and Representatives. It takes 2 minutes to make these calls. For those of you that have never made a call I am going to attempt to show you how easy it is to do.

Illinois Farm Bureau sends a call to action to contact our Senators asking them to oppose Senate Bill 1234. The following is an example of how simple it is to make this call: Larry: Dialing Senator No Limit at 202-225-XXXX Senator No Limit: You have reached the office of Senator No Limit, how may I help you?

Larry: This is Larry Beaty, Sangamon County, Rochester, IL. I am asking for the Senator to oppose Senate Bill: 1234. Senator No Limit: Please give me your zip code and thank you; I will relay your request to Senator No Limit. Larry: Thank you for your time and consideration. <End of Call>

It is that simple to make an action request and it is one of the most important things we can do. Please, when Illinois Farm Bureau has a call to action, pick up the phone and make the call(s). Once your call(s) are made, make one more call to the Sangamon County Farm Bureau office and let them know so that they can then report how many calls each legislator received. Each year our voice in agriculture gets smaller so it is important that we make these calls. My thanks to each and every one who has taken the time to make these calls in the past and who will do so in the future. EVERY call counts.

Hopefully by the time I write another Sangamo Farmer article we will have our corn planted and our growing season off to a good start. Hopefully we will also have a better price this year.

Be safe as our planting season approaches us. May God Bless You and Our Great Country!



#### Ever wish you could be in two places at once?

That would be great news for your farm! You could be in the field and Springfield at the same time!

That's what it feels like when you join FB ACT. You can stay in the tractor, yet get behind-the-scenes knowledge of what's happening on the Hill. You can keep working with the livestock, yet unite your voice with farmers from around the state.

FB ACT is a program that gives you the tools you need to make your story heard by decision makers in Washington, Springfield, and your own backyard. From e-newsletters to statewide collaborations to contact your legislators, FB ACT tools help identify opportunities to unify on issues that impact you, educate others about farming, and build relationships with your elected officials.

"Picture" yourself in a place of influence.



	and put yourself	
	in two places at one	ce!
First Name	V	
Last Name		
Address		
Town		
State		
County		
Cell Phone		
Home Phone		
Email		
Mail this form to:		
V	or	
	FB ACT	
BUREAU.	Illinois Farm Bureau	
7	1701 Towanda Ave.	
	<b>Bloomington, IL 61701</b>	
or sign up onlin	e at www.ilfb.org/fbact	G739W2

#### THE BUREAU ACCORDING TO JIM



JIM BIRGE

As I promised last issue, you're going to learn the truth about an age old myth that Illinois Farm Bureau helped start State Farm Insurance. So is this true or false? Well ..... the answer is both.

The research and writing on this subject has already been artfully completed. So there was no reason for me to recreate the story in my words. Therefore, here it is in the words of Steve Simms, Promotion and Graphics Arts Director of Illinois Farm Bureau.

The urban legend goes that a McLean County Farmer and businessman by the name of George Mecherle stole the Farm Bureau membership list and used those contacts to establish his early customer base, and the rest is State Farm history. As the corporate urban legend goes Mecherle's action was the reason IFB is so "protective" of its membership list — so some sly entrepreneur will not come along ever again and dupe

Farm Bureau into some scheme like Mecherle's.

Well, George Mecherle didn't "steal" anything, except maybe an idea from the Tazewell County Farm Bureau. In fact, Mecherle had a partnership with Illinois Farm Bureau. He was a member in good standing of the McLean County Farm Bureau and farmed near Merna.

But the story of State Farm's founding and the early successes of state Farm Bureaus throughout the nation are intertwined.

Mecherle was known as a very progressive and scientific farmer. However, in 1919 he quit farming and moved to Florida to improve his wife's health — she had rheumatoid arthritis. The warm climate did not improve her health so they moved back to Central Illinois in 1921.

For a while Mecherle sells insurance for a Bloomington firm that's on shaky financial ground. He quits that job and then sells tractors for a while and discovers he has a real knack for selling to farmers; after all, he's one of them. In the back of his mind he keeps mulling the idea of starting his own insurance company — "an honest insurance company" was the phrase he constantly used. Friends and acquaintances claimed he became obsessed with the

Mecherle thought city insurance companies were "rooking" farmers with high premiums based upon city driving

accident rates.

In the spring of 1921, Tazewell County Farm Bureau organizes a township mutual insurance company which is the idea Mecherle has been considering — a mutual insurance company which is owned by those who are insured through a membership. The Tazewell company was set up to insure property, including automobiles.

Mecherle attends a meeting of the Federation of Mutual Fire Insurance Companies in the summer of 1921 in St. Louis. He talks with Tazewell County Farm Bureau president and those discussions help crystallize Mecherle's idea of starting "an honest insurance company."

Mecherle's idea is

taking shape so he opens his first office late in 1921 in The Illinois House in downtown Bloomington.

In January 1922, he develops a prospectus and presents it to the Illinois State Association of Mutual Insurance Companies meeting in Streator. The plan calls for his company to sell automobile insurance to: "members of Farm Bureau, members of farm mutuals, their immediate families, or those eligible for membership in such organizations."

The association enthusiastically endorses the plan, and Mecherle proceeds to get the state license he needs to operate. On June 8, 1922, - the day after George Mecherle's 45th birthday — State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company is in business. Mecherle moves his office into the McLean County Farm Bureau Building near downtown Bloomington in October of 1922.

For two vears Mecherle's "honest insurance company" has phenomenal growth as he and a couple other fieldmen sell affordable auto insurance to farmers throughout the state. The operation required more office space than available at the McLean County Farm Bureau building so in 1924 State Farm moved to the Durley Building at 102 East Jefferson in Bloomington.

Illinois Farm Bureau begins to consider what role, if any, it may play in providing members insurance. The IFB Board decided in 1924 to meet with George Mecherle, president of that "up and coming insurance company in Bloomington." There are some on the IFB Board who want to buy out Mecherle, and make State Farm a part of Illinois Farm Bureau. Yet, there are others who want Illinois Farm Bureau to start its own insurance company. Mecherle did not want to sell his insurance company "to the powerful Illinois Agricultural Association", and instead suggested the county Farm Bureau farm advisors become authorized agents and sell State Farm Insurance on a commission basis to Farm Bureau members in their counties. The Illinois Farm Bureau board of directors approved this arrangement. No membership list was stolen by Mecherle. He was a clever businessman and struck a convenient arrangement for him and IFB. But the corporate urban legend grew out of these facts.

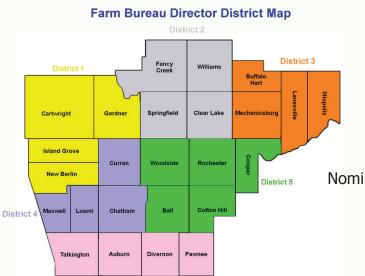
So that's the end of the story right? Well we know the insurance company affiliated with IFB is COUNTRY® Financial, not State Farm. So like Paul Harvey always said, you'll have to wait until the next edition of The Bureau According to Jim to learn "the rest of the story". I can't wait to tell you how it all ends, or at least stands at present time!



## Interested in helping to make decisions about Farm Bureau business?

We are always seeking dedicated individuals who are willing to contribute their time and talents to help guide the Sangamon County Farm Bureau to achieve its mission.

We are currently accepting nominations for candidates to serve on our Board of Directors in Districts 1, 2, 3, and 6.



- Each Director serves a 3-year term.
- The Board of Directors meets monthly on the 3rd Monday of every month at 7:00 PM.
- Directors are encouraged to serve on one or more committees in addition to the Board.

Nominees must be named by Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> in order to be included on the ballot.

For more information, please contact: SCFB Manager Jim Birge Phone: (217) 753-5200

Email: jbirge@sangamonfb.org



#### Sangamon County Farm Bureau® Foundation

# SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE !

The objective of the Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation's Scholarship program is to provide general scholarships to eligible post high school students of Sangamon County Farm Bureau members. The Foundation is offering <a href="five:1,000.00">five:\$1,000.00</a> scholarships for the Fall Semester 2016.

#### To be eligible for consideration, an applicant must:

- Be a high school senior graduating in 2016 or a first year student in a postsecondary school.
- Be a Sangamon County Farm Bureau member, spouse of a member or child of a member. (Minimum 1 year)
- Be accepted for enrollment or be enrolled at a post-secondary school
- Exhibit potential for successful completion of course studies.
- Be a resident of Sangamon County, Illinois.
- Past recipients may reapply, but no student may receive more than two (2) scholarships from the Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation.

#### The criteria for awarding the scholarship are as follows:

- Scholarship
- · Academic performance and honors
- · Rank in Class
- ACT Score
- · Financial Need
- Evidence of self-help. How is the student contributing financially to his/her education?
- · Character and personality
- Maturity
- Industriousness and motivation
- · Intellectual interest
- · Moral character
- · Demonstrated leadership

Applications, with a picture of the applicant, must be received at the Sangamon County Farm Bureau Foundation Office by March 25, 2016.

For a copy of the application, please visit our website at www.sangamonfb.org or call the Farm Bureau Foundation office at (217) 753-5200 and we'll be glad to send you a copy.

# What's new with the Young Leaders?



Katie King 2016 Young Leader Committee Chair

Hello SCFB members! I am very excited to serve as this year's Young Leader Committee Chair. The group has had a busy couple of months and is gearing up for what will be a busy spring. We have a lot of exciting events planned for the next couple of months.

On January 12th, the group hosted a CPR/AED class, with a total of 15 participants. We were able to learn techniques that can be used on infants, young children and adults. Each participant passed the class and is now certified in those areas.

On January 20th, the group hosted our annual FFA Acquaintance Day with Sangamon County FFA chapters. A group of 24 students from Tri-City, Pleasant Plains and New Berlin High Schools were able to see what the University of Illinois College of ACES has to offer. The students toured the meat science lab, where they gained knowledge about the harvesting process and how meat gets from the farm to the table. The students were able to ask questions about all the processes that were taking place. From

there we were graciously hosted by Assistant Dean Jason Emmert, who talked about the programs within ACES for freshman and transfer students. After lunch, the group toured the greenhouses and learned about plants ranging from corn and beans to bananas and papayas.

The annual Illinois Farm Bureau Young Leader Conference continues to grow and was held in East Peoria this year January 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>. Sangamon County was represented by 11 members The group purchased and donated a vintage floor lamp hand made by Randy Krone for the Silent/Live Auction at the event. The lamp was put on the live auction and was a hot ticket item, raising \$125 for Harvest for All!

February 6<sup>th</sup> was the day for our annual Harvest for All Food Drive. Once again, we held it at Schnucks on Montvale. We are excited to share that we raised \$600 in cash and 1,084 pounds of food and supplies for the Central Illinois Foodbank. The cash donation will first be sent to Invest An Acre, where it will be doubled before it is sent back to Central Illinois Foodbank!

On February 27<sup>th</sup> the YLs will combine their annual recruitment efforts with a fun winter outing. This year we are going to Escape Springfield, where we can work together on team building skills. After that we will gather for dinner to meet and welcome new members to join the Sangamon County Young Leader group.

A few other upcoming events - the group will volunteer at the Central Illinois Foodbank on March 12th and compete at the SCFB Foundation Trivia night later that evening. They have been brushing up on hot topics, so get ready!

We are happy that two of our members have decided to take part in the IFB Ag Industry Tour, which will be held in Southern Florida this year March 1-6. Cameron Ayers and Wes Seifert will be making the trip to learn about agriculture in that area. We wish them safe travels.

If you are interested in any of these events or would like to join the YL group, please contact the SCFB office at 217-753-5200.



Several SCFB Young Leader Committee members with the FFA members and advisors from New Berlin, Pleasant Plains, and Tri-City High Schools.



1,084 pounds of food and household supplies ready to go to the Central Illinois Foodbank!



Harvest for All Food Drive at Schnucks Montvale. Left to Right: Gretchen Cromwell, Mike Borgic, Andy Morehouse, Stephen Prather, Emily Prather



Assistant Dean Jason Emmert spoke to the group of students about programs of study within the College of ACES and gave them an overview of how the application process works for freshmen and transfer students.



Students visited the greenhouses and had the opportunity to see and learn about a variety of plant species.



#### YOUNG LEADERS

#### Upcoming Events:

**March 12** • Volunteering at the Central Illinois Foodbank

March 14 • March Committee Meeting

**April 11** • April Committee Meeting

#### Interested in joining Young Leaders?

The committee meets on the second Monday of each month at the SCFB office. Dinner is served at 6:30 pm followed by the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Contact Jenny at the SCFB office for more information. (217) 753-5200 or email jwebb@sangamonfb.org

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### MARKETING COMMITTEE



MATT HEISSINGER

It's been a busy winter so far. Sangamon County Farm Bureau held a crop insurance seminar and a Hunter Lake Informational meeting in January. In February, we held an iPad/Tablet training and a Nutrient Loss Reduction Strategy seminar. All of these events add so much value for our members to be involved with. So, please take advantage of these events to stay on top of the latest topics that pertain to agriculture.

One of the items on our agenda for this winter was the iPad/laptop training classes. We offered our members a training course on how to use their mobile devices, including smartphones, iPads, tablets, and laptops. This 3-day course began with how to turn them on, to how to move and store files, and many things in between. Our instructor,

Jessie Maske, is a fellow farmer who understands the value of these devices to help make users more informed. Jessie uses these devices on their farm and she gave our attendees a lot of good information on how to take advantage of technology in order to help our members be more efficient on their farms. These classes were held in February and our attendees had a lot of positive feedback about the courses.

At our next Marketing Committee meeting we will discuss new topics for this spring and summer. Please contact the Farm Bureau office with any comments or questions.

#### POLICY DEVELOPMENT



**PAUL RICE** 

The Policy Development committee met prior to the board meeting in February and discussed a proposal for an IAA bylaw change that would require candidates for the IAA Board of Directors to announce such candidacy in writing and delivered to the Secretary of the Association not less than 60 days prior to the first day of the business session of the annual meeting of the Association. The bylaw would require the same of candidates running for IAA Vice President and President. Currently

there is no requirement for a notification of candidacy prior to the annual meeting. The committee request for the by-law change was heard before the County Farm Bureau Board and approved. This proposal will now be finalized by IAA General Counsel and presented directly to the delegates at the annual meeting. The delegate body will have the opportunity to adopt or reject the proposal. Bylaw submittals are not subject to amendment, so it will simply pass or fail.

#### **MEMBER & PUBLIC RELATIONS**



DIANA BEATY

As I write my article on this cold wintry, day my thoughts wander toward spring and summer and those warm sunny days we all look forward to. I realize our winter this year hasn't been that bad, but regardless, when the temps fall below 65 degrees so does my mood! This farm girl functions much better when it is warm and sunny!

Thinking ahead to those nice days, I also think of all the events and activities that Sangamon County Farm Bureau has going on during our summer months. We have made a few changes this year. For instance, the annual Farmer Appreciation Day that we normally host in July will not be held this year. This event has lost our county, Prairieland FS, and Menard County Farm Bureau a lot

of money over the past few years. Starting this winter, our approach to show our appreciation to our members and the FS patrons will be to join Prairieland F.S. in their winter appreciation luncheons that they have been hosting at their local plants. Our first appreciation luncheon took place on February 25th with the Illiopolis FS plant. Our plan is to eventually work with Prairieland FS to combine some of these lunches to one easily accessible location and host everyone together for a day. Please be patient with us as we work to make this event a day that you, our members, will enjoy!

Sangamon County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting will take place this year on Wednesday, July 27th at the Farm Bureau Building. We will have a nice catered dinner this year. More info will follow in the next issue with details of tickets and agenda.

This year's next fundraiser for the Farm Bureau Foundation will be our Golf Outing on July 8th at Edgewood Golf Course in Auburn. We welcome all of you golfers for a fun filled day starting with lunch and ending with dinner, all of which is included in the signup fee of \$280/foursome. There will also be complimentary refreshments

on the course throughout the afternoon and some fun games for all to be involved in! We look forward to seeing you there!

This year we are selling tickets to raffle off a drone, with the grand prize being a DJI Phantom 3 standard ship. This drone was donated by Jason Schmidt of FlyingAg.com and Country Financial Crop Insurance. Raffle tickets will be sold for \$10 each or 3 for \$25. These can be purchased any time between now and July 8th when the drawing will be held at the Golf Outing. The winner will have the opportunity to keep this drone or receive a \$500 credit to upgrade to the Pro version from Flying Ag. Please contact a Farm Bureau Director or the office for more information on purchasing tickets.

These are just a few of the events coming up this summer; I will have more details on other events as they are finalized. If you have questions or comments regarding anything we do within your organization, I urge you to contact the office or myself and we will be happy to listen to them.

Be safe this spring as we all work to get our crops in the ground in a timely fashion, prayers for good weather and prices to rally soon!

#### **GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**



**ALLEN ENTWISTLE** 

The Governmental Affairs
Committee hosted an informational
meeting for voting members on
Hunter Lake in mid-January.
The general consensus of those
in attendance was that they
disapprove of Hunter Lake. It was the
recommendation of the committee

that SCFB oppose the project, however, the Board of Directors has not yet come to a conclusion at this time.

GMOs are currently a hot topic in DC, as Syngenta was recently taken over by China National Chemical Corp, a Swiss seed and pesticide company. Scientists are pushing GMOs in order to improve China's crop yields. We are still seeking signatures on the petition to support the Independent Map Amendment. Illinois Farm Bureau supports the amendment and is working for its passage because it creates an independent redistricting commission to draw Illinois legislative redistricts by an unbiased third party, will not be based on political affiliation

and prior election results, and districts will be compact, contiguous, and impartial to party or incumbency. It also sets out guidelines that districts should follow county, township, and municipal boundaries as much as possible. The coalition needs 290,216 valid registered voter signatures to be legally submitted as a ballot question for the November 8, 2016 election. The petitions need to be filed with the Secretary of State by May 8, 2016. For more information on the Independent Map Amendment or to sign the petition, stop by the Sangamon County Farm Bureau office or visit www.mapamendment.

#### CHANGE, CHALLENGE, OPPORTUNITY.

#### **Governmental Affairs Leadership Conference 2016**

April 6-7, 2016 Crowne Plaza, Springfield

GALC workshop sessions will focus on three tracks: water quality, local government and leadership. Speakers also will highlight current federal and state issues agriculture is facing, including GMOs, livestock, transportation and trade. IFB members will have the opportunity to hear from newly-elected American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall. Duvall will spend both days with IFB members, engaging them in discussion and asking for their opinions.

**Contact the Sangamon County Farm Bureau for more information.** 

#### WOMEN'S COMMITTEE



**TONI KRONE** 

The Women's Committee is looking forward to hosting our annual Spring Fling Dinner on Thursday, March 10th at 5:30 PM. We always have a great evening of fun and fellowship, including a guest speaker as well as a nice fried chicken dinner with homemade sides and desserts. If you would like to attend, please let the office know.

We are in the process of planning our Summer Bus Trip, which is scheduled for Wednesday, June 8th. Mark your calendars! We will tentatively be traveling to Decatur for a historic tour, stopping by Beachy's in Arthur, having lunch at Yoder's Kitchen, and finishing up with a little shopping at the outlet mall in Tuscola. Be on the lookout for further details, including pricing and a confirmed itinerary.

We are in the beginning stages of planning our Program of Work for 2016. If you have any ideas for projects that the Women's Committee could do, please let us know. Warm weather is just around the corner and we hope everyone has a safe planting season!

# SAVE THE DATE Women's Committee Summer Bus Trip

Wednesday, June 8

More details coming soon!

# Sangamon County SWCD Annual Fish & Tree Sales

Sangamon County SWCD • 2623 Sunrise Dr. Suite 1 • Springfield, IL 62703 Phone: (217) 241-6635 ext. 3 • michelle.seman@il.nacdnet.net

Name				
Address				Make checks payable to:
City		_ Zip		Sangamon Co. SWCD
Home Phone	Work/Cell _			<b>3</b>
Location of pond: Township		_ Range	_ Section	

### TREES

Trees will only be pre-sold this year
Tree Pick Up on Friday, April 15th
and Saturday, April 16th
inside Sale Barn 26 at the Illinois
State Fairgrounds

### ORDER DEADLINE: March 28th, 2016

The District cannot accept responsibility for sizes and/ or viability of plant materials as stated by the nursery, nor be responsible for replacing. "These plants are for conservation purposes only and should not be used as ornamentals or for landscaping."

Varieties	Size	# bundles		Price	Cost	
Evergreen Transplants (10 trees per bundle)						
Eastern White Pine	16"-28"		Х	40.00		
Norway Spruce	14"-22"		Х	40.00		
Bare-root Seedlings						
Bur Oak	18"		Х	40.00		
Chinese Chestnut	18"		Х	40.00		
Flowering Dogwood	18"		Х	40.00		
Old Fashion Lilac	18"		Х	40.00		
Pecan	18"		Х	40.00		
Redosier Dogwood	18"		Х	40.00		
Red Bud	18"		Х	40.00		
Red Maple	18"		Х	40.00		
Red Oak	18"		Х	40.00		
Swamp White Oak	18"		Х	40.00		
Fertilizer Tablets	*See below		Х	0.25		
Marking Flags	Small		Х	0.20		
Marking Flags	Large		Х	0.30		

<sup>\*</sup> Fertilizer tablets (2 year time release tablets), one per tree

TOTAL	\$

#### FISH

**ORDER DEADLINE: APRIL 11, 2016** 

GRASS CARP ONLY DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2016

Fish will be delivered to the district office on April 18, 2016

Picking up fish: Please bring some type of container to ensure better fish survival during transport.

- Smaller fish will be put into oxygen-filled bags with water. 5-gallon buckets are good for transporting bagged fish.
- For large catfish and large bass, please bring a clean trash can or large container with pond water. For best fish survival, bring fish immediately to your pond.

Species	Size	No.		Price	Cost
Channel Catfish	4-6"		Х	\$0.65	
Channel Catfish	6-8"		Х	0.80	
Channel Catfish*	8-10"		Х	0.95	
Albino Catfish	4-6"		Х	1.05	
Hybrid Sunfish	1-2"(250/bag)		Х	60.00	
Hybrid Sunfish	3-5"		Х	0.75	
Hybrid Sunfish	5-7"		Х	1.05	
Redear Sunfish	1-2"(250/bag)		Х	60.00	
Bluegill	1-2"(250/bag)		Х	60.00	
Bluegill	3-5"		Х	0.75	
Black Crappie	2-3" (100/bag)		Х	50.00	
Largemouth Bass	2-3"		Х	0.80	
Largemouth Bass*	5-8"		Х	2.75	
Fathead Minnows	100/150 lb.		Х	9.50	
Grass Carp	8-11"		Х	9.50	

TOTAL	\$
-------	----

10 The Sangamo Farmer Sangamon County Farm Bureau

# Chicago Culos vs. St. Louis Cardinals AT WRIGLEY FIELD

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22<sup>ND</sup> @ 12:10 PM



## TICKETS: \$75 members / \$85 non-members

Includes light breakfast, snacks, and beverages on the bus

\*\*This is a family outing - the only alcoholic beverages allowed on the bus will be beer in cans. Thank you for your cooperation!

Bus will depart the Sangamon County Farm Bureau at 7:30 AM and return immediately following the game.

Call the SCFB Office at (217) 753-5200 to purchase tickets!

This trip sold out last year, so be sure to get your tickets before they are gone!

Sangamon County Farm Bureau 2631 Beechler Court Springfield, IL 62703



115 Chatham Rd. • Springfield, IL 62704 Office: (217) 787-3200 • Toll Free: (888) 600-FARM

Real Estate Brokerage • Auctions • Farm Management

#### **Paul Rice**

Auctioneer/Broker A Certified Estate Specialist Auctioneer

#### www.myersrice.com



SANGAMON VALLEY SURVEYING & CONSULTING P.C

Hans B. Distlehorst, PLS

PHONE & FAX: (217) 629-7773 CELL: (217) 652-6772 hans.svls@comcast.net

ALTA Surveys • Boundary Surveys Construction Layout • Topographic Mapping • Subdivision Planning Estate Land Divisions • Elevation Certificates

MALAKGONMALAKGONMIA



#### Providing Quality Land Improvement

All fields are GPS installed Mapped using Landrain System. Mains are trenched in and laterals are plowed in. Tile design map provided

We work closely with each individual to insure all your specific needs are satisfied.

CALL TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT



1206 North 000 East Road Pawnee, IL www.maltbyexcavating.com Ryan Maltby 217-962-1452

