

Bulletin

Promoting the understanding of agriculture in our community to improve the profitability of farmers and enrich the quality of life in Knox County

Knox County Farm Bureau 97th Annual Meeting



2014 KCFB Board Directors (L to R) front row: Tim Main, Lori Engel, Terry Boydston, Jim DeSutter, Todd West, Monica Stevens, Beau Bewley, Bill Hennenfent, Pat Sieboldt. Back row: David Bliss, Grant Strom, Jeff Link, Nathan Link, Joe Weibel, David Erickson, Sam Serven. Not pictured: Becky King, Tom Hoben, Jarid Cain, & Drew DeSutter.

On Saturday, January 17th, over 100 members and guests of the Knox County Farm Bureau gathered at the Lake Storey Pavilion, in Galesburg for the 97th Annual Meeting of the Knox County Farm Bureau. The morning began with attendees getting the opportunity to bid on over 40 silent auction items.

The business meeting began at 10:00 a.m. with introductions of guests and members of the Board of Directors and their spouses. Representative Don Moffitt, Representative Norine Hammond and Senator Darin LaHood were recognized and addressed the crowd.

Each year, a COUNTRY Financial Representative is recognized for Membership Recruiter of the Year. Recognition was given to Jeremy Kleine this year as the top recruiter. Jeremy signed 21 new associate members during 2014. We thank all the COUNTRY Financial Representatives, staff, and Agency Manager, Mike Weber, for their support and hard work throughout the year.

Knox County Farm Bureau also recognized members who joined the organization 50 years ago. This year, there were seven members who joined in 1965 and each received a certificate of appreciation.

The Knox County Farm Bureau Board of Directors recognized David Bliss and Bill Hennenfent for their tenure on the Board. David Bliss started his second tenure on the Board representing District 3 in 2005. During his time on the Board he has been the agriculture repre-

sentative for GREDA and represented Knox County numerous times at the IAA and IAAA annual meetings as a delegate. David has been a voice for agriculture and the Farm Bureau throughout the community and in many other organizations as well. We would like to thank you, David, for your devotion to the Knox County Farm Bureau.

Bill Hennenfent has served the county organization for ten years, representing district 4 since 2005. Bill has been very active on the Board, serving as Secretary from 2009-2012, as well as serving on the Farm Business Task Force. He has also been active with the Knox County 4-H Livestock Judging. Under his leadership the Knox County team placed second at the state competition and most recently, the team placed 14th at the Denver competition. Thank you Bill for the time you have devoted to Knox County Farm Bureau. We will truly miss your leadership.

KCFB Manager Kate Lansaw gave comments from the past year and KCFB President Tim Main addressed the crowd with the President's report.

Our keynote speaker for the morning was Mark Gebhards, Illinois Farm Bureau Executive Director of Governmental Affairs and Commodities. In this position, Gebhards supervises a staff that handles all lobbying and political action functions of the IFB at state, and national levels, and assists county Farm Bu-

reaus in local governmental activities. He administers programs for all commodity activities of the IFB, including matters related to farm bill implementation, biotechnology, trade, and other commodity issues. He also serves on President Gebert's management team.

Gebhards also coordinates IFB activities with closely related commodity groups, including Illinois Corn Growers Association, Illinois Soybean Association, and Illinois Milk Producers Association.

The Young Farmers Committee held a county township fundraiser and earned \$400. The money will be donated to area food banks in Knox County.

Following the business meeting, the live auction was conducted by Auctioneer Jim Folger. Over \$5,200 was raised from the live and silent auction and the money will directly benefit the Ag in the Classroom program through the Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation. Thank you to everyone who donated and purchased items. It was a huge success again this year thanks to everyone who contributed to the great cause.

The morning concluded with a lunch buffet and a final opportunity to bid on silent auction items. Thank you to everyone in attendance at the meeting and who helped make the day a success.

Bliss Honored at Annual Meeting

The 2014 Meritorious Service to Agriculture Award was awarded to David Bliss of Maquon on January 17, 2015 at the Knox County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting.

The Meritorious Service to Agricultural Award began in 1980. The award is given to a person or persons who have made an outstanding contribution to the agricultural industry in Knox County. A total of 18 recipients have been awarded to date.

Bliss joined the Knox County Farm Bureau in 1957 and began farming in 1959. His operation has included hogs and cattle and he currently raises corn and soybeans. He was a Knox County Corn Growers founding member and is a member of the Knox County Pork Producers, where he served a term as President.

In 1973, he was named the Knox County Outstanding Farmer and was awarded third place in the Illinois Outstanding Farmer Competition. He served on the Riverland FS, now West Central FS, Board of Directors and as President from 1997 until 2003, when he retired from the Board. In 2007, he received his 50 year Farm Bureau member plaque.

He has served on the Galesburg Regional Economic Development



Knox Agri Center's 2014 Meritorious Service to Agriculture Award was presented to David Bliss at the 2015 KCFB Annual Meeting at which he was also honored for retiring from the KCFB Board of Directors.

Association, or GREDA, as an agriculture representative. During his time with GREDA he served on the Executive Committee as both Secretary and Treasurer. He was named Illinois Master Farmer in 2011.

He has served two tenures, for a total of 20 years, on the Knox County Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following Knox County Farm Bureau members who were recognized at the Knox County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting for their 50 year membership of the organization. We thank you for your loyalty and support over the past 50 years.

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| Robert Boyer | Dale Carlson | Robert Tracy |
| Donald Cain | Michael Gehring | |
| Roy Carlson | Carroll Tomson | |



KCFB President Tim Main presented Roy Carlson with his 50 year member certificate.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

- 3 Knox Ag Roundtable, KAC, 12:00 PM
- 4 Marketing Club, E. Main St. Pizza Hut, 12:30 PM
- 12 Young Farmers Meeting, KAC, 6:00 PM
- 16 Foundation Scholarship/Intern Applications Due
- 16 Food Check-Out Day, Henderson St. Hy-Vee, 8:30 AM
- 17 Prime Timers Meeting, KAC, 12:00 PM
- 18 Marketing Club, E. Main St. Pizza Hut, 12:30 PM
- 19 KCFB Board Meeting, KAC, 7:00 PM
- 20 Ag Day for Kids, Carl Sandburg College
- 24 KCFB Foundation Meeting, KAC, 6:30 PM
- 24 Knox Agri Center Meeting, KAC, 7:30 PM
- 25-26 GALC, Crowne Plaza, Springfield

MARCH

- 4 Marketing Club, E. Main St. Pizza Hut, 12:30 PM
- 12 Young Farmers Meeting, KAC, 6:00 PM
- 18 Marketing Club, E. Main St. Pizza Hut, 12:30 PM
- 19 KCFB Board Meeting, KAC, 7:00 PM
- 20 Women in Ag Conference
- 27 Knox Ag Roundtable, KAC, 12:00 PM
- 30-31 Youth Conference, Springfield

Thank You

Thank you to the following businesses, organizations, and individuals who donated to the Knox County Farm Bureau Foundation's silent and live auctions at the Knox County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting on January 17, 2015. Your generous donations and support is greatly appreciated!

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knox County Extension & 4-H Facilities Corp. • West Central FS • Bard Optical • Birkey's Farm Store • Illinois Farm Bureau • Martin Sullivan • ROWVA FFA & Alumni • Knox Ag Roundtable • Raff's Powerwash • Bob Shipplett & Teresa Sanford-Shipplett • Abingdon Banking Center • ACMcCartney | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agri Gold Seed • Brenda & David Bliss • Compton Accounting • COUNTRY Financial® • Engel Family • F&M Bank • Connie & Dave Flack • G&M Distributors • George Inness • Monica Stevens • Knox Galesburg Symphony • Knox County SWCD • Kathie Lincoln • J. DeSutter Family | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knox County YMCA • Knox County Corn Growers • Knox County Pork Producers • KCFB Young Farmers • KCFB Women's Committee • Kohl's Diamond Gallery • Pilot Knob Comforts • Yemm Chevrolet • Mary Beth & Gary Bowman • 1st Farm Credit Services • Anderson State Bank • Rebecca & Mike Weber • T. Main Family |
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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Knox County Farm Bureau would like to welcome the following to our organization:

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|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Derick Dykeman, Victoria | Mark Glowacki, Galesburg | Allen & Julie Pickrel, Galesburg |
| Aaron & Robyn Feltmeyer, Oneida | Skyler Mossage, Moline | Edward Weaver, Galesburg |

