

Young Farmer Contacts

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Looking for a few good Young Farmers To serve on the Young Farmer Advisory Committee

You've always loved agriculture, from participating in 4-H and FFA as a kid to getting involved with agriculture organizations in college. How do you jump into professional activities on the next level? The Iowa Farm Bureau's Young Farmer Advisory Committee can be your springboard.

The state Young Farmer Advisory Committee helps young producers prepare for their future with leadership development and personal growth, while providing direction to the Farm Bureau organization.

Committee members from districts 2, 4 and 6 (see page 4 for counties within each district) will be retiring in July. The recruitment process is underway to fill the three districts.

If you, or someone you know, may be interested in serving on the Young Farmer Advisory Committee, contact Ron Wood at (515) 240-1181 if you live in eastern Iowa, or Tim Niess at (515) 250-2269 if you live on the western side of the state.

Young Farmer Advisory Committee Considerations

Term: Three years beginning with the July 10-11, 2009 organizational meeting in Sioux City and expiring at the close of the

organizational meeting in July, 2012.

Responsibilities & Duties: Includes both advisory and active leadership roles. Committee members will:

Furnish guidance and actively participate in planning, leading and conducting all young farmer activities (local & state) sponsored jointly by IFBF and the committee.

Attend, participate and be active in the work of the committee including committee meetings and state and national conventions.

Offer guidance to county young farmer committees in your district.

Demonstrate county Farm Bureau leadership by serving on committees and/or on the board, participating in the membership drive and participating in various Farm Bureau programs.

Time Commitment (each year):

This will vary, but a minimum will probably be 15-16 days total. This does not include evenings spent visiting neighboring county Farm Bureau boards and young farmer committees.

Qualifications: Each person nominated shall not be older than 35 by June 1, 2009. Farm Bureau member. Willing to actively serve and attend all meetings.

Young Farmers Earn Prizes for Farm Growth and Farm Bureau Involvement

Farm Bureau's Young Farmer program helps young producers shape the future of agriculture, as well as their individual futures, with leadership development and personal growth.

For some young farmers, the future includes winning the use of an AGCO tractor, FAST STOP gift certificates and other prizes by participating in the Young Farmer Discussion Meet, Young Farmer Achievement Award and Young Farmer Bob Joslin Excellence in Agriculture award.

Achievement Award

This award recognizes young farmers for their efforts in both their chosen occupation and leadership achievement. The key is the growth and financial progress the candidate(s) have made since they started farming. Candidates complete a detailed application on their farm operation, financial information (confidentiality guaranteed) and leadership experience. The state winner will receive the use of an AGCO RT 155A CVT tractor with 155 PTO hp and Power Max CVT shuttle transmission for 3 months or 150 hours of use. Applications will be available in March and due May 15.

Bob Joslin Excellence in Agriculture

This contest is an opportunity for young farmers for contributing and growing through their involvement in Farm Bureau and agriculture. Participants are judged on their involvement in agriculture and leadership ability. Involvement and

participation in Farm Bureau and other organizations (i.e. civic, service and community) are also considered in judging. The Bob Joslin winner will have the opportunity to compete nationally in the Excellence in Agriculture Award. Applications will be available in the summer. The state winner will get a \$750 FAST STOP gift card *provided by GROWMARK* (good for fuel or merchandise).

Discussion Meet

Individuals compete on a panel in free-wheeling style, as if they were sitting around the kitchen table discussing a problem. They exchange ideas and information to solve the problem inherent to the topic. Each contestant is judged individually on cooperative attitude, problem solving and implementation, delivery, analysis of the topic, and opening and closing statements. The preliminary rounds were held during the Young Farmer Conference in January. (See below article for finalists names and prize details.) The top four winners will

advance to the state finals at the IFBF Annual Meeting in December.

National Competition

State winners of the three young farmer awards/contest will have the opportunity to compete nationally during the American Farm Bureau Annual Convention, January 9-13, 2010, in Seattle, Washington.

National winners will receive a Dodge Ram pick up truck, courtesy of Dodge, to showcase the best-of-the-best in the Achievement Award, Discussion Meet and Excellence in Ag competitions.

National runners-up in the Achievement Award will receive a CASE IH DX Farmall compact tractor courtesy of Case IH.

National finalists in the Discussion Meet and Excellence in Ag each will receive a \$6,000 savings bond and a Stihl Farm Boss, courtesy of Stihl.

Discussion Meet Final Four Set

Congratulations to the 2009 Young Farmer Discussion Meet final four. They are Rebecca Hosek from Tama County, Dustin Johnson from Clinton County, Jason Hosek from Jones County and Andrea Harms from Carroll County.

The four will compete for the state title during the Iowa Farm Bureau annual meeting in early December. The winner of the state contest will receive a \$1500 certificate for New Whole Goods from AGCO and will advance to the national competition where they will compete for a 2010 Dodge Ram Truck. The national competition will take place during the American Farm Bureau annual convention in Seattle in January 2010.

Getting Your Online Network Started

If you haven't already started using the Internet to share your story as agriculturists, here are five ideas that will help you begin reaching consumers via online networks.



Start a Facebook page. See the potentials of social networking for your self. Become a "friend" of Southeast Iowa Young Farmers.

Explore Twitter (<http://twitter.com>). A free social networking and micro-blogging service that enables users to exchange short updates. It may not look like much at first glance, but with Twitter, the network can be at your finger tips.

Read blogs related to your passion. Search out topics of interest at <http://blogsearch.google.com> and see who shares those interests.

Participate. If you find bloggers out there who are writing interesting and relevant topics, share your reflections and experience by commenting on their posts.

Use your real name. Be sure not to divulge any personal information that puts you at risk.

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November 2008



Websites of Interest

After reading an article in the newspaper, or hearing it on TV, have you every wished you had the opportunity to set the record straight. Many media outlets will allow you to post comments to news stories. Below are some major media outlets that allow you to post your comments to a news story. Don't forget to check the websites of your favorite news outlets to see if they have blogs or forums.

Des Moines Register

www.desmoinesregister.com

KCCI TV 8

www.kcci.com

WHO TV 13

www.whotv.com/news/blogs/

Cedar Rapids Gazette

www.gazetteonline.com

KCRG TV 9

www.kcrg.com

KWWL TV 8

www.kwwl.com

Quad City Times

www.qctimes.com

WQAD TV 8

www.wqad.com

Sioux City Journal

www.siouxcityjournal.com

KCAU TV 9

www.kcautv.com

Waterloo/Cedar Falls Courier

www.wfcourier.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Upcoming Young Farmer Dates

Farm Succession Planning: What to do when you don't own the farm (yet)

March 17	7:00 p.m.	Grundy County Extension Office, Grundy Center
March 24	7:00 p.m.	Hamilton County Extension Office, Webster City

Achievement Award Deadline

May 15 Award details and applications will be mailed in March.

Young Farmer Ag Challenge

August 18 All day Iowa State Fair, Des Moines
Contest details will be mailed in April.



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IOWA FARM BUREAU

YOUNG FARMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

District 1 (*Howard, Winneshiek, Allamakee, Chickasaw, Fayette, Clayton, Bremer, Black Hawk, Buchanan, Delaware and Dubuque Counties*)

Adam & Brooke Drewelow
2950 Mission Avenue
Fredericksburg, IA 50630
Phone: (319) 275-4343
Cell: (319) 415-08494 (Adam)
drewelow2083@hotmail.com
Term: 2007-2010

District 2 (*Kossuth, Winnebago, Worth, Mitchell, Floyd, Cerro Gordo, Hancock, Humboldt, Wright, Franklin and Butler Counties*)

Doug & Kim Adams
1582 250th Street
Humboldt, IA 50548-8711
Phone: (515) 332-4165
Cell: (515) 332-2456
doug.adams@ia.usda.gov
Term: 2006-2009

District 3 (*Lyon, Osceola, Dickinson, Emmet, Palo Alto, Clay, O'Brien, Sioux, Plymouth, Cherokee, Buena Vista and Pocahontas Counties*)

Chad & Jody VanRegenmorter
2127 – 240th Street
Inwood, IA 51240
Phone: (712) 753-2241
Cell: (712) 441-5388
jcvanregenmorter@hotmail.com
Term: 2007-2010

District 4 (*Woodbury, Ida, Sac, Calhoun, Monona, Crawford, Carroll, Guthrie, Audubon, Shelby and Harrison Counties*)

Greg & Krista Jochum
1629 270th Street
Salix, IA 51052-8024
Phone: (712) 946-6169
Cell: (712) 253-6168
gjjochum@hotmail.com
Term: 2006-2009

District 5 (*Webster, Hamilton, Hardin, Grundy, Marshall, Story, Boone, Greene, Dallas, Polk and Jasper Counties*)

Eric & Deb Finch
73860 280th St.
State Center, IA 50247
Phone: (641) 493-2203
edfinch@fbx.com
Term: 2008-2011

District 6 (*Tama, Benton, Linn, Jones, Jackson, Clinton, Scott, Cedar, Johnson, Iowa and Poweshiek Counties*)

Steve & Amy Swenka
2671 Half Moon Ave. NW
Tiffin, IA 52340-9200
Phone: (319) 626-2713
dgangus@aol.com
Term 2006-2009

District 7 (*Muscatine, Louisa, Washington, Keokuk, Wapello, Jefferson, Henry, Des Moines, Lee, Van Buren and Davis Counties*)

Tony & Sara Adrian
1323 Highway 1
Fairfield, IA 52556
Phone: (641) 919-1953
eaglerebel9@hotmail.com
Term: 2008-2011

District 8 (*Madison, Warren, Marion, Mahaska, Monroe, Lucas, Clarke, Decatur, Wayne and Appanoose Counties*)

Mahaska County
Mark & Stacy Boender
1634 – 235th Street
Oskaloosa, IA 52577
Phone: (641) 672-8805
Cell: (641) 660-3964 (Mark)
stacyboender@yahoo.com
Term: 2007-2010

District 9 (*W. Pott., E. Pott., Cass, Adair, Union, Adams, Montgomery, Mills, Fremont, Page, Taylor and Ringgold Counties*)

Randy & Emily Wuebker
1350 Grand River Dr.
Lorimor, IA 50149
Phone: (641) 763-2782
country_belle79@hotmail.com
Term: 2008-2011

Committee members from districts 2, 4 and 6 will be retiring in July.