

January 2009



Alumni Newsletter

Alumni Session Near . . .

We are a little more than one month away from the LIA Alumni Session in Boise – February 25-26. I hope you will make plans to attend. This year the entire event will be held at the DoubleTree Riverside – site of the 2009 Idaho Ag Summit on Monday and Tuesday of the same week. This has been a goal of LIA to get everything in one location and this year, with Idaho hosting the Special Olympics World Games, everything worked out. In this newsletter are some highlights of this year's Alumni Session for you to keep in mind.

Rick Waitley, President

LIA ALUMNI AUCTION

Wednesday night, February 25—the **Gala Dinner and Auction** start at 6:00. The goal this year is to generate **\$22,000** that will be used for scholarships and support of the LIA Foundation. Several special events are planned for the evening including the **Silent Auction, Live Auction, Balloon Auction and Grand Prize drawing.**

GRAND PRIZES

This year, the Auction Committee has decided on a split Grand Prize. **Two** family cabins are being offered, one in the Salmon River Wilderness area and the other in McCall, Idaho. Enclosed is a flyer that tells more about the cabins and additional prizes related to each of the Grand Prizes. Tickets are \$20 each and you will find a ticket enclosed for your personal purchase or to share with a friend.

NOTE: Please see the enclosed letter from Trustee Chairman, Rich Garber about the Grand Prize Auction.

CLASS 29 INVOLVEMENT

Class 29 has made arrangements to have a full-sized gun safe as their auction item with only 200 chances being sold at \$20 each. Instead of a paper ticket, the class is working to have an Idaho agriculture product for you to take as a proof of your purchase toward this prize. The class is also working on a special gift item just for ladies.

Class 29 has selected four individuals who will speak before the 2009 Larry Branen Idaho Ag Summit. The four speakers are:

- **Jim Miller**, Operations Manager for Primeland Cooperatives in Grangeville
- **Buck Boyer**, Farmer in Lapwai
- **Valentine Celaya**, Northwest Farm Credit Services in Twin Falls
- **Matt Dorsey**, Dairyman in Caldwell

The subject of their presentation at 10:00 on Tuesday, February 24 will be "*If I were Governor of the State of Idaho this is what I would do for Idaho Agriculture, Rural Communities*". The speakers will speak to the Director of Agriculture, Celia Gould; Dean John Hammel, U of I CALS; and a representative from the Governor's Office. The general public and all LIA Alumni are invited to hear this presentation.

Gala Auction Table Sponsors

We invite LIA Classes, Agribusinesses, organizations and individuals to sponsor a table for the LIA Gala Auction and Dinner. The cost to sponsor a table is \$300. This includes a total of eight (8) free tickets for you to share with friends and work associates. Your name will be placed on the table as a sponsor, listed in the evening's program and included on the rolling PowerPoint during the Auction.

Let us know if we can count on you as a Table Sponsor for the 2009 LIA Auction.

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Idaho Ag Summit - 2009

The LIA Alumni Session ties very nicely with the **Larry Branen Idaho Ag Summit** on Monday and Tuesday, February 23-24. Enclosed is information related to the 2009 Summit. I encourage you to consider joining the Summit on Monday and Tuesday and then remain in Boise for Wednesday and Thursday for **LIA activities**. A highlight of the 2009 Summit will be **recognition of Senator Larry E Craig for his contribution to Idaho Agriculture**. A special reception will be held on Monday evening just prior to the Strolling Supper. I hope you will take advantage of the early registration for the Summit and join agriculture leaders from throughout Idaho as we discuss topics of high importance to Idaho agriculture and rural communities.

★ FUN BUS ★

MAGIC VALLEY LIA ALUMNI AND SPOUSES

special - The LIA Trustees and Auction Committee have decided to provide a bus from the Magic Valley to Boise the night of the LIA Gala Dinner and Auction, February 25.

The cost for the bus is \$50 per person and **includes your dinner, a free drink ticket, and five (5) raffle tickets - WHAT A DEAL!** If you want more information please contact the LIA office at 208-888-0988 or Kay at kayjohn@spro.net.

Trustee Chairman Honored

Congratulations to LIA Trustee Chairman Rich Garber, U of I CALS, Assistant to the Dean for Government Affairs and Industry Relations who has been named to receive special recognition during the 2009 Larry Branen Idaho Ag Summit for Excellence in Agriculture in the category of Lifetime Achievement. The award will be presented at the Governor's Luncheon on Tuesday, February 24. Tickets are available through the LIA office for anyone who might like to join this event.

AUCTIONEER

Gale Harding will return as the auctioneer for the 2009 Auction. Gale is a County Extension Educator in Madison County and has been a favorite auctioneer for several LIA Auctions. We appreciate the fine services of Gale Harding. If you know Gale, please express our appreciation from LIA for his cooperation and support.

Auction Items NEEDED

Hopefully, every LIA Alumni in Idaho will plan to have a couple of items at the Auction. If you are unable to attend, then please send your items with a member of LIA Class 29 or directly to the LIA office at 55 SW 5th Avenue, Ste 100, Meridian, ID 83642. We would appreciate receiving a description of the item and an estimated value to be listed on the auction sheet for distribution at the Auction.

Washington DC - 2009

We have to make a serious decision related to the LIA Washington, DC Experience scheduled for March 22-27. Enclosed is a flyer that gives more details about the trip. If you think you are going to participate, we **MUST KNOW** before February 1. Please call Kay Johnson in our office at 208-888-0988 or email to kayjohn@spro.net to indicate your interest.

Space is **limited to 12 people** so we need your response **ASAP** so we can figure you into the delegation for this trip. Spouses are welcome under the conditions spelled out in the brochure enclosed.

2009 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The LIA Annual Business Meeting for the Foundation will be held on **Thursday morning during the LIA Alumni Session**. There are several items that will be discussed.

- Reduction in the size of the Trustee Board from 27 to 23 members
- Report from Carl Rey and Wayne Thiessen, LIA Fundraising Co-chairmen and the direction the Foundation is going in generating Endowment dollars
- Reports from LIA Class 29
- Report on new LIA promotional video
- Report on Washington, DC 2008
- Election of Trustees, Advisory Committee and Officers for the coming year
- Review of by-law revisions:
Note: If you would like a copy of the revised by-laws, please contact the LIA office by phone at 208-888-0988 or by email at kayjohn@spro.net

Class 29 Sponsors

Enclosed is a list of the sponsors for LIA Class 29. This is a record number of sponsors for an LIA class and we **greatly appreciate** the support and financial investment in each of the candidates in the class