

LIA ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Fall 2007

DO YOU REMEMBER? We are just one month away from the initial meeting of LIA Class 28. Do you remember what that felt like? . . .

- Walking into that room at the University Inn – making a first impression
- Figuring out what a caucus was all about
- Learning the rhythm of saying your name, sponsor, what you do and where you are from
- Adjusting to the “Mother Waitley” style and format
- Learning to tie a tie and adjust to wearing a suit each day

Those experiences, I am confident, bring back a flood of memories and believe it or not they will be just as real for members of Class 28 as they were for each of you. Class 28 has a total of 28 people at this time. We still have room for two more if you know of someone who would be interested. There is anticipation and excitement as we think about starting a new class. I have had the privilege of visiting with some of the class members at fairs and other events. Some have called and asked the typical questions related to attendance, dress and scholarships. I hope each LIA alumnus will make an effort to stop and visit the class when we are in your part of the state.

Rick Waitley, President

SPONSORSHIPS

One of the ways we can hold tuition costs and also maintain the quality of the program is to get sponsors for meals, breaks and other events connected to the current LIA Class.

I encourage you to join with others from your class or in your company to sponsor an event or activity at one of the 4 sessions. Please let us know ASAP so we can include your name on the program. It would be great if each of the prior classes would agree to organize and sponsor one of the activities. When you break it down, it's not really very much money spread between members of a class.

OUR SYMPATHY

Our sympathy to members of the George Grant family in the sudden loss of George earlier this month. George was a member of LIA Class 2. He was a strong voice for agriculture labor issues in Idaho and on a national level through the National Council of Agriculture Employers (NCAE). George served as a Western Regional Vice President for that organization in recent years.

2007-2008 ALUMNI DIRECTORY

The 2007-2008 directories have been mailed to all current Alumni members and lifetime members. If you have paid your dues for this year and have not received your directory, please contact our office. Thanks to each of you who provided update information for your directory listing. Also, a special thanks to Kay Johnson in our office for design of the front cover and compiling all the information. In this year's directory we have identified all lifetime members for your ease in identification.

IRP WORKSHOPS

Dale Dixon, Exec. Director of **Idaho Rural Partnership**, has announced their fall schedule of workshops to be held around Idaho. Enclosed is a flier that will provide you with more information about each of the locations and the content of the workshops.

The workshops are excellent continuing education for LIA alumni. You may register online at <http://irp.idaho.gov>

LIA CLASS 28 ANNOUNCED

A list of the 28 members of this new class is enclosed.

We are still working on sponsors for the class participants. Many of these individuals were nominated and recommended by LIA Alumni.

Thanks for your help in recruitment of these participants.

Many Thanks . . .

LIA Alumni played a major role in the success of the **2007 Ag Pavilion** sponsored by Food Producers of Idaho at Western Idaho and Eastern Idaho State Fairs. The Ag Pavilion gave LIA members the opportunity to exercise their skills in helping people learn about Idaho agriculture. Thanks to **ALL** of you!!!

2008 LIA AUCTION

Auction chairman, **David Temple** assembled the LIA Auction Committee to begin work on plans for the 2008 Alumni Auction. The goal is \$35,000.

Special activities are planned and the announcement of the Grand Prize will be made within the next few weeks.

AITC SUMMER WORKSHOPS & TOURS SUCCESSFUL – THANKS TO LIA ALUMNI

LIA alumni were major players in the success of the six Ag in the Classroom workshops held around Idaho this past summer. During each workshop teachers visit farms and agribusinesses. Thanks to the following LIA members who were part of the 2007 Summer Workshops:

Drew Eggers	Mike Hamby	John Hartman	Chad Henggeler	Bonnie Davis	Kim Royer
	Matt Gellings	Lisa Shively	Leah Clark		

In addition, AITC offered two summer tours. LIA graduates were also highly involved in the two tours: Thanks to

Laura Johnson	Terry Helms	Ray Matsuura	Mandi Thompson	Heather Tiel	Rick Phillips
	Mike Aardema	Brad Pintler	Clinton Pline	John Williamson	

Both tours included BBQ's – two in Twin Falls and one in Nampa. Local alumni were invited to be guests and to host the teachers. It was fun to see LIA alumni and several of the teachers in the workshops and tours asked for LIA material to share with spouses and family members who could benefit from the program.

Looking Ahead to WASHINGTON DC in 2008

The 2008 Washington, DC Experience is scheduled for Monday, March 17-Friday, March 21. Participants must arrive in DC before Sunday evening, March 16 at 6:00 for orientation and preparation for the week. The number of participants is limited. If you believe you might like to participate in this whirlwind of activities in our Nation's Capital, please contact Kay Johnson in our office and get your name on the list. The costs are as follows:

Each participant must secure their own plane ticket. Additional costs of approx. \$1500 which include lodging, ground transportation and other fees while in Washington, DC. Personal expenses are not include.

The week includes: visits with the Idaho Congressional Delegation, USDA, Department of Interior, meeting with National Associations and Organizational leaders, and many sightseeing opportunities. Spouses are invited to join this trip and may participate in some evening activities. Other family members attending must be over 16 years of age. We need to have complete signup **by February 20** to know who will be involved in the 2008 Washington, DC Experience. If you have questions, please contact Rick or Kay at the office.

LIA Alumni in the News ...

Congratulations to ...

Don Dixon, LIA Class 15, recently appointed as State Director for the USDA Farm Service Agency. Don will live in Boise as he fulfills this new assignment. **Wayne Hammon, LIA Class 14**, appointed by Governor Otter to serve as Administrator of the Idaho State Division of Financial Management. **Chad Henggeler, LIA Class 24**, on the recent birth of his daughter Lila. **Heather Tiel, LIA Class 24**, on her marriage to Montgomery Nelson on September 22. The Nelsons will make their home in Twin Falls where Heather will continue her work with BLM. **Matt Voile, LIA Class 24**, recently elected chairman of the Idaho Weed Coordinating Committee. **Ann Sexton Bandy LIA Class 17**,

on the birth of a son, Conor. **Diana Thomas, LIA Class 23**, recently appointed by Governor Otter to serve as a State Representative from District 9. **Rick Phillips, LIA Class 1**, named by the JR Simplot Company as Director of Corporate Communications and Public Relations. **Kip Dennis, LIA Class 19**, who joined D.L. Evans Bank as a Commercial/Agriculture Loan Officer. **Pat Momont, LIA Class 17**, was elected co-chairman of the 2008 Larry Branen Idaho Ag Summit. **Janice Stimpson, LIA Class 17**, has been named the U of I Extension Interim District Director for District IV SW Idaho. **Mike Freese, LIA Class 24**, Natural Resource Director for Senator Craig, has taken a new position

with the US Department of Interior in Washington, DC. **Jack Bell, LIA Class 13**, has left his employment with the Nez Perce Tribe as Land Services Manager and has joined Northwest Management, Inc. located in Moscow. **Paul Brusvan, LIA Class 21**, has been named to represent the Nez Perce Tribe on the Idaho Weed Coordinating Committee, a group made up of state and federal agencies. **LIA Trustee Dick Rush**, Executive Director of the American Red Cross of Greater Idaho, has selected the following to serve on the Red Cross Board of Directors – **Kathy Sodhi, Class 24**, and **Rick Phillips, LIA Class 1**. Phillips was elected to serve as chairman of the Red Cross Board of Directors.

2008 BOISE/ALUMNI SESSION

CHANGE IN BOISE SCHEDULE: Please be sure you have the changes for the Boise Schedule in your planner

Sunday, February 10

Opening of the Boise Session for LIA Class 28 in the evening
Dinner with members of the LIA Board of Trustees

Monday, February 11

Boise Session for LIA Class 28
1:30—Opening of the 2008 Larry Branen Idaho Ag Summit
Ag Summit Strolling Supper with Idaho Legislators

Tuesday, February 12

Ag Summit Leadership Breakfast
Ag Summit Governor's Awards for Excellence in Agriculture Luncheon
Continuation of Boise Session for LIA Class 28
Last Supper for LIA Class 28

Wednesday, February 13

LIA Alumni Session begins with breakfast
LIA Alumni Session all day (lunch included)
LIA Alumni Auction and Strolling Dinner in the evening

Thursday, February 14 – Happy Valentine's Day

LIA Alumni Session annual meeting at breakfast
Class 28 Graduation at noon

The change in the Boise Session will allow LIA members to attend the Ag Summit. With the remodel of the Capitol Building, several changes have been made in the Boise Session for the current class. Also, we wanted to avoid the conflict with Valentine's Day on Thursday and having graduation at noon allows participants to be back home for family activities related to Valentine's Day.