

Changes . . .

We have heard of a number of changes for several LIA graduates:

Gayle Batt, Class 18, working on special issues for Idaho Cattle Association; **Steve Brown**, Class 25, working now for Congressman Mike Simpson; **Dale Dixon**, Class 21, named President of Idaho Better Business Bureau; **Mike Freese**, Class 24, elected to join the Senate EPW (Environment and Public Works Committee) on Capitol Hill; **Hank Hafliger III**, Class 26, and his wife Sara moved to Tulare, CA; **Kristin Keith**, Class 16, moved back to Idaho from Montana now living in CDA; **Pat Padero**, Class 17, moved to Buckley, WA; **Viki Purdy**, Class 16 moved to New Meadows, ID; **Rich Turner**, Class 7, moved to King City, CA; **Dan Whiting**, Class 22, working as Chief of Staff for USDA – NRCS in Washington, DC.; **Jane Wright**, Class 23, moved to Idaho State Department of Lands in Boise, **John Chatburn**, Class 16, moved to the Governor's office; **Kim Nelson**, Class 27, stayed with CALS but moved to Development from Student Recruitment, **Clinton Pline**, Class 5, elected to the Nampa-Meridian Irrigation Board of Directors; **Will Ricks**, Class 27, elected to the Idaho Hay and Forage Board of Directors.

NOTE: If you have recently changed locations or occupations, please let the LIA office know. It helps us to keep up our correspondence and information to you as a graduate of the program.

LOOKING FOR EMPLOYMENT or TO EMPLOY SOMEONE?

The resume drawer at our office is full of resumes of some excellent people who are looking for employment. If you are in need of a person in your company or firm or would like to file your resume with us, please feel free to contact Rick Waitley at rcwaitley@spro.net. We also have an excellent list of high school and college students looking for summer internships. If you know of someone who would like to hire a summer intern please contact our office.

Ag in the Classroom

Many of you are familiar with the Idaho Ag in the Classroom program dedicated to providing teachers with programs and materials to help students learn about food and fiber. This summer we will offer three workshops and three tours across Idaho (see enclosed flier).

We will contact a number of our graduates to request your participation on our tours.

We also will have some special LIA Alumni events in conjunction with the week-long tours for teachers. Here are the dates for the LIA evening events and a few details:

Tuesday, July 8—BBQ in the Twin Falls area

Thursday, July 10—BBQ in the Idaho Falls area

Tuesday, July 15—BBQ in Moscow at the University Inn

Thursday, July 17—BBQ in CDA at Rider Ranch

Thursday, July 31—BBQ in the Nampa/Caldwell area

We will provide more details related to each of these events as we get closer. **Please mark these dates on your calendar.** Some are potluck; others are catered events.

Enclosed is a flier about the Ag License Plate Program in Idaho. This is an excellent way to show *you are an Advocate for Agriculture*.



YES, WE HAVE LICENSE PLATE FRAMES

We were temporarily out of the license plate frames that read "*Thank Idaho Agriculture – Three Times a Day*", but we have reordered and have them in stock at a cost of \$5.00 each. If you are interested, please contact the LIA office.

Leadership Idaho Agriculture
55 SW 5th Ave, Suite 100
Meridian, ID 83642

ph 208-888-0988
fax 208-888-4586

REMEMBER—please report changes in contact information or occupation to the LIA office:

kayjohn@spro.net

THANK YOU!

April 2008

Leadership Idaho Agriculture

Alumni Newsletter

What's Been on the Schedule . . .

There is still plenty of snow lying around in various parts of Idaho with the promise of some excellent moisture as we head into the summer of 2008. It seems life since January 1 has been a whirlwind of activities. The 2008 Legislature, Twin Falls and Boise Sessions for LIA Class 28, LIA Graduation, LIA Alumni Session, LIA Alumni Auction and a host of other activities have filled the calendar.

In the middle of March, I was in Washington, DC with the LIA Washington, DC Experience. The level of anxiety about America's politics is high right now across the country—three candidates for President and many, many opinions and attitudes about all three. At home we are looking at a May Primary across Idaho that has many LIA graduates as candidates. During these busy months many things have happened related to LIA and many more things are on the drawing board. I will try to recap a number of things for you in this newsletter.

Rick Waitley, President

Welcome New Trustees

Elections at the 2008 Annual Meeting produced some new faces on the LIA Board of Trustees:

Welcome to new board members

Darrell Bolz – State Representative (representing IRP), Caldwell

Steve Brown – Congressman Mike Simpson's office, Pocatello

Russ DeKruyf – Glanbia Foods, Twin Falls

Drew Eggers – Farmer, Meridian

Kasey Garrett – Rain For Rent, Nampa

Steve Green – Simplot, Boise

Mitch Lucero – Northwest Farm Credit Services, Nampa

Welcome back for another term to

Sara Braasch Schmidt – Western Region USDA-NRCS

Trent Clark – Monsanto

Officers elected for the coming year include

Chairman, **Rich Garber**, U of I CALS

Vice Chairman, **Mary Hasenoehrl**, U of I CALS

Secretary, **Dale Dixon**, Idaho Better Business Bureau

We said goodbye to some long term Trustees who have given faithful service

Mike Edens – Simplot

Cevin Jones – Rancher

Carl Rey – Private enterprise

Blair Wilson – Northwest Farm Credit Services

NEW CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

The LIA Board of Trustees has entered into an agreement with former LIA Trustees Carl Rey and Wayne Thiessen to serve as co-chairmen of an LIA Capital Campaign Drive. The specifics of the Capital Campaign are being worked out with the Board of Trustees and will be released to LIA Alumni when they are finalized. This is a new day for LIA and the personal investment of time and energy by Carl and Wayne is greatly appreciated.

Washington DC Experience '08

Seven LIA Alumni spent the week of March 16-21 in Washington, DC on the LIA DC Experience. Those participating this year included:

Charlie Bryan, LIA Class 10

Kasey Garrett, LIA Class 28

Nicole Kendall, LIA Class 28

Will Ricks, LIA Class 27

Polly Rippee, LIA Class 28

Gary Steed, LIA Class 28

David Temple, LIA Class 26

The group visited staff members in the Idaho Congressional offices, The Fertilizer Institute, National Cooperative Business Association, American Sugarbeet Association, Department of Agriculture, Department of Interior, American Farm Bureau, The Ferguson Group (Mark Limbaugh), Senate EPW Committee, and Farm Credit Council.

It was a busy week filled with sightseeing, visits and experiencing the Nation's Capitol City.

We had 5 spouses join us for the week.

Special thanks to Farm Credit Council, Idaho Ag in the Classroom, Idaho Cooperative Council and the Idaho Sugarbeet Association for financial support for some of the meals during the week in DC.

The 2009 LIA Washington DC Experience is planned for March 15-20. Watch for more details.

LIA Again Joins Ag Summit

In February, the LIA Boise Session realigned to again be held in conjunction with the 2008 Idaho Ag Summit. This allowed LIA participants to meet many more LIA alumni members, attend the Legislative Strolling Supper sponsored by Ag Summit and be present for the presentation of the Governor's Awards for Excellence in Agriculture.

A first for LIA Class participants was the opportunity for five speakers from the class to speak in a morning workshop on the second day of Ag Summit.

It was standing room only as Ag Summit participants gathered to hear excellent speeches from LIA Class 28.

CO-CHAIRMEN FOR LIA CLASS 29

Congratulations to **Russ DeKruyf**, Glanbia Foods, and **Nicole Kendall**, Scythe and Spade Company, who were selected as co-chairmen for LIA Class 29 starting in November 2008.

LIA Alumni Gala Dinner and Auction

The Gala Dinner and Auction this year was held at the DoubleTree Riverside in Boise. This allowed ample room for the dinner and various aspects of the auction. A total of \$30,000 was raised during the auction. The auctioneer was Bill Downs, Nampa, who had help from his grandson. Thanks to everyone who contributed items, purchased items, sponsored tables and brought friends and work associates.

Table sponsors for the evening included the following:

Association Management Group
Camas Prairie Associates
LIA Class 2
ConAgra Food-Lamb Weston
D.L. Evans Bank
Intermountain Community Bank
J.R. Simplot Company
Northwest Farm Credit Services
UBS AgriVest LLC
Wilbur-Ellis Company

During the evening the name of everyone in attendance was put in a hat and a name drawn. That name was put into the drawing for the Grand Prize – the cruise to Alaska. The ticket drawn for the Grand Prize was Mr. and Mrs. Joe Blasko, Polly Rippee's parents, the name placed in the drawing from the audience. The Blasko's will leave on their Alaskan Cruise the first of May.

DATES FOR LIA CLASS 29

Applications for LIA Class 29 are due by Aug. 1, 2008. Session dates for Class 29 are:

Moscow	Nov 3-Nov 6 (Monday evening – 2:00 PM Thursday)
Pocatello	Dec 8-11 (Monday evening – 2:00 PM Thursday)
Twin Falls	Jan 5-8 (Monday evening – 2:00 PM Thursday)
Boise	Feb 22-26 (Sunday evening – 2:00 PM Thursday)

You will note that the February date is later for 2009 due to Idaho hosting the Special Olympics World Games in early February. This has raised havoc with the motel and hotel schedules in Idaho and these dates seemed to be the best solution. The Idaho Ag Summit, LIA Boise Session and the LIA Alumni Session will all be held at the Double-Tree Riverside in Boise in 2009. One stop location – that has been our goal for several years and it appears that 2009 is our lucky year to try this combination.

Friends of LIA Awards Presented

Each year, Friends of LIA Awards are presented to individuals who have helped advance the cause of LIA. This year at the Graduation of Class 28, recognition was given to the following:

Blair Wilson, LIA Class 11 – Northwest Farm Credit Services—Blair has served as a trustee, chairman of the Investment Committee and is a past chairman of the LIA Board of Trustees. Blair has also been an active recruiter of NWFCSE employees and farmers & ranchers to participate in LIA.

Sandy Patano—Sandy is State Director for Senator Larry Craig. She has made numerous presentations to LIA classes through the years on the subject, "The Role of Congressional Offices in Serving the Needs of Idaho Constituents". Sandy has also worked hard to promote LIA among the ranks of Craig Staff members in Idaho and in Washington, DC.

KayDee Gilkey—KayDee works for Northwest Farm Credit in Spokane. She has been a speaker at the Moscow session for a number

of years on the subject of Servant Leadership. KayDee is also responsible for scholarship funds that assist participants under the sponsorship of Northwest Farm Credit Services.

Carl Rey—Carl has been an LIA Trustee and Advisory Committee member, former co-chairman for LIA Auction Committee and most recently named co-chairman for the LIA Capital Campaign. Carl has been directly responsible for starting the Grand Prize Award a few years ago as part of the annual LIA Alumni Auction.

LIA Alumni Receive Recognition

Plaques Presented to LIA Members with PERFECT ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP for the past 10 years

Leland Earnest , Class 12	Dave Kingston , Class 3
Drew Eggers , Class 12	David Marchbanks , Class 12
John Foltz , Class 12	David Mosman , Class 12
Terry Hendrix , Class 12	Mark Ricks , Class 11
Glenn Jacklin , Class 12	Greg Sonnen , Class 11
Laura Johnson , Class 11	Mike Thornton , Class 12

LIA Alumni recognized as LIFETIME MEMBERS of Leadership Idaho Agriculture

Leonard Andrew , Class 26	Julie Pipal , Class 18
Julie Burkhardt , Class 22	Carol Randall , Class 21
Ty Iverson , Class 24	Marcella Stewart , Class 18
Wayne Meyer , Class 27	Mike Thornton , Class 12
Russell Patterson , Class 13	

Candidates for Public Office

We have heard of a number of LIA Alumni Members who are candidates for public office throughout Idaho. Here is a partial list of individuals who have been brought to our attention:

LEGISLATURE:

Sen. Tim Corder, Class 7, Dist. 22
Rep. Ken Roberts, Class 14, Dist. 8
Rep. Darrell Bolz, Class 7, Dist. 10
Rep. Jim Patrick, Class 15, Dist. 23
Rep. Diana Thomas, Class 23, Dist. 9

Pat Takasugi, Class 4, is running for the Idaho Legislature in District 10; **Lisa Shively**, Class 15 is running for the West Jefferson School Board.

NOTE: If you know of other LIA Alumni who are candidates for office, please contact our office with this information. Email Kay at kayjohn@spro.net or Rick at rcwaitley@spro.net.

PERSONAL NOTES

Our sympathy is extended to the family of **Bill Strange**, Class 10, who passed away March 12 after a courageous battle with cancer.

Congratulations to **Jack Bell**, Class 13, and **Valdasue Steele**, Class 16, who were married on Saturday, March 15.

Congratulations to **Kim Nelson**, Class 27, on the birth of a daughter.