

Chapter Update of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers November 2009

The President's Corner

Wisconsin Hunting Holiday is over, so it's back to business, at least until the Christmas and New Year Holiday Season. Wisconsin had a great turn out and representation at the Annual Meeting of the ASFMRA in Denver the last week in October. We had 6 members of our chapter there enjoying the 2 feet of snow that fell, cancelling the tour day event. Even so, classes were good and camaraderie and social time was great. Next year the event is to be in Florida (guarantee of no snow) and it may be possible to have someone from our chapter (a first timer) to attend with most of the cost covered by the national chapter. I hope to have more information on this at our February class and Sweetheart dinner.

Some sad news from Denver – Arlin Brannstrom's term of serving on the ASFMRA Executive Council came to an end. Everyone that I spoke with said they will really miss his insight and knowledge that he brought to the council. That comes as no surprise to those of us that work with him on our chapter dealings. Thank you Arlin for your commitment to the ASFMRA both on the National and State levels.

Our fall meeting in October at Tomah was another success. Thanks to all of you that attended and helped in any way at that event.

Congratulations again to Jim Lau for being the newest of the Wisconsin Accredited Appraisers. Ron has nothing up on him now.

Happy Holidays to all. Hope to see lots of you at the Sweetheart Dinner and USPAP training in February in Waunakee. - Lee

Greetings from the Secretary!

The Wisconsin Chapter of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers has enjoyed another year of growth in 2009. Our roster now includes 65 members and we anticipate receiving a few more applications in the near future. Our newest members are: Julie Hankes, Madison, James Gargulak, Rice Lake, Bill Steigerwalt, Tomahawk, Scott Dellenbach, Milwaukee, Rebecca Grogan, Madison and Daniel Kjolsing, from Baldwin. Full membership directory information is available from our Chapter website.

We held our spring meeting in Appleton with special guests Harold Riggs and Robert Luening (past Chapter Secretaries) able to join us. Following our meetings we toured a cross ventilated free stall barn and learned about the dairy management techniques at Holsum Dairy. We learned that their 80 stall rotary parlor is designed to be in use approximately 23 hours/day!

Our fall meeting was held in Tomah and we enjoyed learning about the cranberry industry and trends in publicly bid agricultural land rental markets. Following the classroom sessions we toured a cranberry bog and watched the harvest process and concluded the day with a visit to a local vineyard and winery. For those interested in learning more about the new UAAR and UCCR software, a 7 hour seminar was conducted the following day by Mark Elder of AgWare.

Wisconsin Continuing Education will continue this February 17 when our own John Rolling will again offer a 7 hour USPAP update course. More information and registration materials will be mailed in early January.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2010 will be another busy year for the ASFMRA and WC/ASFMRA members. Please plan to hold the following dates for Chapter and ASFMRA functions:

February 16, 2010 – WC/ASFMRA Sweetheart Dinner
Rex's Innkeeper, Waunakee WI

February 17, 2010 – WC/ASFMRA 7 Hour USPAP Update
for 2010-11

May 18-19, 2010 – WC/ASFMRA Annual Meeting
Baraboo

July 12-16, 2010 - ASFMRA Summer Education Week –
St. Louis, MO.

October, 2010 – WC/ASFMRA Fall Meeting –
Oconomowoc?

November 1-4, 2010 – ASFMRA Annual Meeting
Orlando, FL



Do you have any news, articles, photos, or ideas for future newsletters? Please contact Dulcie Anderson at dulcie.anderson@agstar.com

Pictures from the cranberry harvest tour near Tomah



Wisconsin Chapter Board News...

Your 2009/10 Board consists of the following members: Lee Jones, President, Paul Bunczak, President Elect, Jim Lau and Jim Rawson 1 year board members, Dulcie Anderson and William Steigerwaldt, 2 year board members. Kevin Boyer is the immediate past president and Arlin Brannstrom continues to serve as secretary / treasurer. The Board tries to meeting quarterly by conference call. If you have concerns or questions about activities of the Chapter, please contact any of the board members.

Wisconsin Chapter Real Estate Transfer Return Service to be continued.

Following the Board meeting on 10/13/09 a decision was made to continue offering the WC/ASFMRA transfer return database as a subscription service to members only. The cost for a 2010 subscription will be \$175.00 – unchanged from last year. Data from the Wisconsin Department of Revenue will be updated on a quarterly basis. It was felt that our search template and extensive historical data made the service a valuable option of chapter members.

Legislative Update:

At the Fall meeting I announced that the Wisconsin Assessor's and the Wisconsin Chapter of the Appraisal Institute were seeking help in opposing a proposed amendment to AB 472 which would allow realtors to provide opinions of things like estate valuation, property tax contestation, or divorce work. Unfortunately, the assembly committee on housing and the full assembly passed the measure and it is now scheduled to go before the state senate. The Wisconsin Realtor's Association is lobbying heavily to get the same language included on the senate side.

I have written a letter to my representative and will be writing to my senator. If you feel strongly about this issue, I urge you to do the same.

Wisconsin Chapter Members attend ASFMRA Annual Meeting in record numbers!

Although the weather wasn't the greatest, a record number of our Chapter members attended the 80th annual meeting of ASFMRA during the last week of October. In addition to hearing well known experts on a variety of appraisal and management topics, we also enjoyed the chance to meet and learn from American Society members from other parts of the country. Those representing the Chapter were: Lee Jones, Paul Bunczak, Arlin Brannstrom, Ken Daws and Julie Hanks.

Arlin concluded his three year term as ASFMRA Academic Vice President and is looking forward to spending more time in Wisconsin! Governing a national organization with 2200 members in 30+ chapters is challenging. Our new ASFMRA Academic VP is Dr. Gary Schmitke from the University of Illinois.

Despite the 18" of snow which fell on Denver during the convention, our arrivals and departures were pretty much on time. Plans are well underway for the next convention which will be in Orlando, Florida November 1-4, 2010. No snow is forecast at this time.

Have a safe and blessed Holiday!



Enjoy the Season!