Thank You

The FCFB Board of Directors and the FCFB Foundation Trustees offer our heartfelt thanks for donations made in the memory of two FCFB members who recently passed away.

The families of both Sylvia Lock of Fairview (who passed away in February), and Lois Vohland (who passed away in May) designated memorials to our Foundation to be used for scholarships. The combined donations brought over $3500 to our Foundation. Our sincere sympathies to the families upon your loss, and our appreciation that in your time of sorrow you chose to honor these two loved ones with a legacy to benefit the agricultural youth of Fulton County.

Farm Bureau “All Member” Pool Party!

Fulton County Farm Bureau members are invited to come on out and soak up the sun at Big Creek Park Pool for the 12th Annual All Member Pool Party! The Fulton County Farm Bureau is again hosting a pool party and cookout for all members.

The fun will take place Friday, July 19th from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. There will be swimming and fun in the (setting) sun. Along with the pool party there will also be a cookout. All food and drinks will be provided! All members and their guests are invited to come out and spend the evening with Farm Bureau friends. Big Creek Park is located at 940 North Main Street in Canton. No RSVP is needed, but questions can be directed to the Farm Bureau office at 547-3011.

Almost 300 students (pre K-6th grade) came through our “Baseball Farm Charm” lesson while visiting the Lewistown HS FFA’s Barnyard Day on May 10th. Our volunteers and teachers talked to the kids about the fact that almost everything used for or enjoyed during a baseball game starts on a farm. Confetti and other small items were used to represent the commodities used for the items, and placed in a “charm” bag to be worn home.

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We were excited to be back at “Westview Day” in Canton, an annual event that brings in outside groups into the elementary classrooms of all the grade levels for a fun-filled day to mix up the end of the school year. This year Westview focused on STEM (Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics). We talked to the nearly 70 4th graders about the science behind ice cream, and then of course, made ice cream! Thanks to our AITC Coordinator Jamie Butler, and our member-volunteers Jane Mellert, Julie Serven, Linda Rock and Linda Lane.
The Fulton County Farm Bureau Board of Directors met in regular session on Thursday, May 9, 2019, at the Farm Bureau office in Lewistown, Illinois, pursuant to the call of President Barry Fisher. Other board members present were July 13th is the day for the AgMazing Race scavenger hunt. July 19th is the county fair. The group will have the chance to enjoy the fair and see the animals up close.

**Old Business:**

- Promotions and Education – June 3rd is the blood drive at the farm bureau building. June 21st is the farm safety camp. Volunteers are needed to serve lunch.
- In Correspondences, “thank you” notes were received from the Saint Germaine students and teacher for hosting them last month. The Vodafone family sent a thank you note for the rose bush given to the family.
- In Affiliate Reports: Jim gave a West Central FS update; corn is 98% planted and soybeans are 70% planted in their sales territory. West Central FS will be donating $5000 to Spoon River College Ag Department, GROWMARK will match their donation.
- The adopted class trip was recapitulated. Field trips were scheduled for Aug 19th.
- Everything went great and Directors are still monitoring a possible resolution from the County Board which would place restrictions on livestock facilities. Directors were reminded of the Nutrient Field Day on July 16th at MWRD farmground near Cuba.
- Legislative – Directors discussed the high tax situation in Illinois.
- Marketing – The local grain and livestock auction.
- Business service – The boardroom has been painted and looks nice. The drywall in the basement is being repaired and the project is just about done. Steve Blackwell will be trenching the new electric line to the parking lot light as soon as possible.

**New Business:**

- The list of unpaid members was passed for audit.
- The board is taking money at gate and grandstand at the county fair. We are still looking for a queen candidate.
- The board members were read. They were accepted without changes. Bob discussed the financial statements. These were placed on file for audit.
- Elaine gave the Membership Report. In total, we have 1007 members; 3 Professional Members, 1568 Associates for a total of 2578 members. Each Director was given a list of all members that have not paid their dues yet and asked to contact them to pay. Directors were also given an updated FSA listing on non-members. These farmers will be sent a complementary subscription to FarmWeek this summer and invited to a membership dinner in August.
- Young Leaders – The show clinic was very successful. 525 students! She will be conducting a session at Farm Safety camp, just assisted with the YWCA day care tour of Fisher Farms, and may do some summer library programs.
- Local Issues – Directors are still monitoring possible resolution from the County Board which would place restrictions on livestock facilities. Directors were reminded of the Nutrient Field Day on July 16th at MWRD farmground near Cuba.
- Legislative – Directors discussed the high tax situation in Illinois.
- Marketing – The local grain and livestock auction.
- Business service – The boardroom has been painted and looks nice. The drywall in the basement is being repaired and the project is just about done. Steve Blackwell will be trenching the new electric line to the parking lot light as soon as possible.
- The adopted class trip was recapitulated.
- Everything went great and Directors appreciated our hosts and everyone that helped during the day.
- County Fair Plans were discussed: we will work the gate and grandstand on Wednesday July 24th. Thursday is the livestock auction; we will serve watermelon and water afterwards. Directors voted to spend approximately the same amount as last year ($1300) during the livestock auction.
- July 13th will be the AgMazing Race scavenger hunt fundraiser. Details will be finalized at the P & E committee meeting on June 25th at 6pm.
- Directors discussed “Membership Roundup; Easy as Pie” drive to be held at Fairview Saline barn on July 18th from 9am-3pm. Farm Bureau members showing their membership card or a new member joining that day get a free piece of pie!
- Directors discussed a Membership prospect dinner at American Grill, tentatively scheduled for Aug 19th.

**Next Meeting:**

- June 6th; they will tour the Kinze plant and receive an updated FSA listing on non-members.
- July 13th is the AgMazing Race scavenger hunt fundraiser. Details will be finalized at the P & E committee meeting on June 25th at 6pm.
- Directors discussed “Membership Roundup; Easy as Pie” drive to be held at Fairview Saline barn on July 18th from 9am-3pm. Farm Bureau members showing their membership card or a new member joining that day get a free piece of pie!
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**From The Ground Up**

**UPSC No. 53 3rd Class Not For Profit**

From the Ground Up is published by the Fulton County Farm Bureau, 15411-A N IL 100 HWY, Lewistown, IL 61542.

- **Ag in the Classroom –** Several class projects were featured.
- **Young Leaders –** June 8th the group will have their yearly picnic.
- **Race scavenger hunt. July 19th is the county fair.** The group will have the chance to enjoy the fair and see the animals up close.

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Carle Rural Health & Farm Safety is hosting a Mental Health First Aid course on Tuesday, July 30, 2019. This groundbreaking eight-hour training course gives people the tools to identify when someone might be struggling with a mental health or substance use problem and to connect them with appropriate support and resources when necessary.

"Farmers in Illinois are experiencing tremendous stress, often without access to appropriate resources," said Amy Rademaker, Rural Health & Farm Safety program coordinator.

The course will run from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. and will be held at the Champaign Co. Farm Bureau Auditorium, 801 N. Country Fair Drive, Champaign. The cost is $10 per person and participants can register online at carle.org/mhfa or call (217) 365-5460 or contact SeedsofWellness@carle.com.

To learn more about Carle's Rural Health & Farm Safety program, visit carle.org/farmsafety or if you have questions about Mental Health First Aid, email SeedsofWellness@carle.com.

The Fulton County Farm Bureau, together with the Illinois Farm Bureau, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago and the University of Illinois College of Agricultural Consumer and Environmental Sciences will again host a field day on Tuesday, July 16th. The coalition will sponsor the day to showcase research being conducted by the MWRD on water quality and nutrient loss reduction on their Fulton County farmground.

The day will start with registration at 11 am. A complimentary lunch will be served from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. The tours of areas to highlight water quality research will begin immediately following lunch and will wrap up around 2:30 pm. Please register by calling the Fulton County Farm Bureau at 547-3011.
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