

Greetings from



Dusty Anderson, Chairman of the Board

Agriculture is the driving force behind South Dakota's economy. In order to grow our rural communities and compete in a global economy, the ag sector will need to provide willing, well trained and able leaders.

It was this principle that led the South Dakota Livestock Foundation to establish the SDARL program in 1999. We are about to embark on our 10th anniversary and have just launched SDARL Class V. The SDARL program has joined the ranks of some thirty-seven other agricultural leadership programs throughout the United States and has quickly identified itself as a flagship to other programs.

As Chairman of SDARL's Board of Directors, I am proud that 150 South Dakotans have graduated from or are presently participating in SDARL.

Those same 150 members are serving their communities via school, city, church, economic development and county commission boards. They are also serving on state and national commodity and ag lending boards. They are in the South Dakota legislature, Governor appointees, and on international humanitarian projects.

It's yet to be determined just how far these SDARL members will go on a personal and professional level. It's our responsibility as board members to provide the avenue for these great leaders.

Board of Directors

Dusty Anderson, Chairman
Parkston, South Dakota

Larry Diedrich
Elkton, South Dakota

Craig Dybedahl
Colton, South Dakota

Dan Gee, Treasurer
Brookings, South Dakota

Bill Hansen, Secretary
Centerville, South Dakota

John Haverhals, Vice-Chair
Hudson, South Dakota

Lynn Hurley
Canton, South Dakota

Lucas Lentsch
Britton, South Dakota

Monte Lucas
Rapid City, South Dakota

South Dakota Agricultural and Rural Leadership (SDARL)

Background

SDARL was formed in 1999 and is dedicated to identifying and developing leaders in agriculture and rural communities. This unique program is designed to provide leadership training to rural residents from farming, ranching, agri-industry, and agricultural organizations. The goal is to assist program participants in gaining the vision, knowledge, confidence, and commitment necessary to assume leadership roles in South Dakota's agricultural industry.

Program

Each SDARL class is comprised of approximately thirty individuals from a variety of locations and occupations. They have all demonstrated past leadership, a thirst for additional learning and a willingness to serve.

The application process consists of a lengthy application and three letters of reference. Candidates and their spouses are interviewed by a committee with the final selection determined by the SDARL Board of Directors.

Each class spans an 18-month period. The group meets nine times across South Dakota for intense two-to-three day seminars. Each class also participates in Washington DC and international travel study seminars.

Mission

SDARL is dedicated to identifying and developing leadership for agriculture and rural communities in order to enhance the quality of life in South Dakota.

Funding

SDARL is a private non-profit organization that relies primarily on foundation, organization, corporate and individual contributions. The cost of the program for the current class is estimated to be \$450,000. Members are responsible for providing \$3,750 each to help defray expenses.

GREETINGS FROM



Denny Everson
Executive Director



Jan Everson
Program Assistant

2008 marked my first year as the new Executive Director of South Dakota Ag & Rural Leadership. What an honor and privilege it has been to serve in this leadership capacity.

SDARL was developed as a long-range solution to insure that South Dakota would continue to be the beneficiary of strong ag leadership. This program has joined the ranks of some thirty-seven other ag leadership groups throughout the United States.



Michelle Robbins
Program Director

The program now has 31 new participants within Class V. It takes critical mass and strong dedicated participants for a leadership program to succeed and earn the respect that it deserves. I believe the SDARL program has met and will continue to embrace that challenge. It is our mission to prepare and motivate men and women directly involved in South Dakota agriculture to become more effective leaders.

Class V Curriculum & Schedule

Session 1

November 22-23, 2008; Chamberlain
-Orientation/Introduction to SDARL
-Personality Analysis

Session 2

December 9-12, 2008; Brookings
-Leadership, Communication Skills, Wind Energy

Session 3

January 27-29, 2009; Pierre
-Political Process: State Government

Session 4

February 22-28, 2009; Washington, DC
-National Study/Travel Seminar
-Social, Political, Economic, and Agricultural Issues

Session 5

March 31-April 2, 2009; Rapid City
-Rural/Urban Economic Development
-National Issues Forum, Military,

Session 6

June 9-12, 2009; Hill City/Custer
-Natural Resources/The Environment
-Forestry, Mining, Range Management

Session 7

November 11-13, 2009; Milbank/Aberdeen
-Dairy Industry
-Expanding Agriculture in South Dakota
-Immigration

Session 8

December 13-15, 2009; Sioux Falls
-Ag's Future
-Media and Communication

Session 9

January 12-14, 2009; Mitchell/Huron
-Investing in SD Ag, Ag Foreign Policy
-Value-added Ag

Session 10

February 2010; International
-Country yet to be determined

Session 11

March 20-21, 2009; Chamberlain
-Graduation

SDARL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



Dan Gee
Director of Alumni Affairs



Rae Jean Gee
Alumni Assistant

The SDARL Alumni Association is privileged to have 119 dedicated individuals from the first four SDARL classes. The association meets several times a year and holds evening banquets to coincide with the current class's schedule. Annual meetings are held in January and alternate between Pierre and Rapid City. The group also offers study seminars in the United States and abroad as options for continued learning. Alumni members have proven their willingness to serve as they fill hundreds of roles within their local communities, across South Dakota, in the state legislature, and on national commodity boards.



Class IV at Forbidden City, Beijing, China



Class III at Carter Ranch in Brazil



Class II at U.S. Embassy in London, England



Class I at Parliament in New Wales, Australia

CLASS V MEMBERS



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Memberships: First Lutheran Church-Volga, Brookings Optimist Club



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Memberships: Stockgrowers, SD Auctioneers Assoc., SD Well Drillers Assoc., SD Stack Movers Assoc., NRA, R-Calf, Custer Co. Fair board



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Memberships: Brookings Area Chamber of Commerce



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Memberships: SD Bankers Assoc., Junior Achievement, Chamber, Watertown Wrestling Booster, First United Methodist



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Memberships: Parker Community Club, Parker Development Corp., Presbyterian Churches of SD, Great Plains Ethanol (Poet) board member



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Memberships: Brookings Wesleyan Church, Farm Credit Services of America marketplace advisor, Flandreau Booster Club, SD Corn Growers, SD Soybean Growers, Moody County Republicans



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Memberships: SD Born & Bred Lamb Assoc., Bethany Lutheran Church, mgr. Little I

WANTED 30 Highly motivated individuals with demonstrated leadership potential for SDARL Class VI

Selection Criteria

- Resident of South Dakota and citizen of the United States
- Involved in farming, ranching, agribusiness, rural leadership, or other agriculturally-related occupations
- Demonstrated leadership potential

Application/Selection Process

- **January-March 2010**
-Class VI applications available on SDARL website
- **March 15, 2010**
-Deadline for submitting completed applications and reference information
- **April 2010**
-Written applications and references reviewed
-Selected candidates and spouses interviewed in six locations across SD
- **May 2010**
-Class VI participants selected by SDARL Board of Directors
- **June 2010**
-Class VI announced to public
- **November 2010**
-SDARL Class VI begins



**Greetings from SDARL
Alumni Association
President, Lynn Hurley**

VISION LEADERSHIP
—To Create Tomorrow's Future

That really is what the SDARL experience is all about. Vision is certainly what the South Dakota Livestock Foundation possessed when they instituted this organization ten years ago as an answer to what seemed like a dwindling supply of

trained leaders for South Dakota's ag industry. What was ten years in the making is now about to celebrate its 10th birthday! We are now 119 strong in alumni with 31 more to join our ranks in March 2010 following their graduation from SDARL Class V.

It has been truly a pleasure to serve as the president of the SDARL Alumni Association. I look forward to continuing to serve over the next year before turning over the reins to Bill Slovek, Class IV President and incoming Alumni President. I have had contact with many of you over the past twelve months and hope that you know that my ear is yours anytime you ask. I am anxious to hear your thoughts and ideas about where you think the SDARL Alumni Association goes next. Much has been accomplished, but much work lies ahead.

If you remember what Bruce Vincent told each SDARL class, "The world is run by those who show up." Our alumni association is no different. Your voice is important! Please make a point to attend the annual meeting and to introduce yourself to Class V members through the joint Class V/Alumni banquets that are held with most seminars. They need our support.

We hope you will enjoy using this directory to maintain contact with fellow classmates and to keep up to date with each one's leadership accomplishments. I continue to be impressed as I watch my fellow alumni members with what seems to be weekly appointments and accomplishments.

It is my hope that each and every SDARL member looks back on their two year journey with pride and fond memories. As we all know, graduation marks more of a beginning than an ending. As you peruse this directory and see what our members are currently involved with, I think you will find that to be true, as well.

Thank you alumni for serving your community, your state and perhaps, most importantly, each other, through your leadership in South Dakota's ag industry. Whether it be county commission boards, state board appointments by the governor, serving in our legislature (which we currently have three), or any one of the other hundreds of capacities that you may serve in – thank you. Your commitment and dedication prove that your journey through SDARL was worth the time, effort and sacrifice that it required. You make the SDARL program proud. We are creating tomorrow's future.

SDARL ALUMNI MEMBERS



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Memberships: Mt. States Lamb/Rosen Coop Director, SD Sheep Growers Director, SD Animal Industry Board, Dept of Vet Science Animal Disease Research Lab Advisory Council, Minnesota West/Pipestone Lamb and Wood Advisory Board, Farm Bureau, Nat'l Sheep Advisory Committee

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development



John Anderson

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Memberships: United Church of Christ Trustees (Chair)

Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Finance, Economic Development, Bio-energy



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Jay Behrends

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Memberships: South Canyon Lutheran Church, Stage Barn Water Board, Black Hills Sportsmen, Young and Beginning Producer Team



Travis Bies

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Memberships: Custer Co. Commission (Chair), Black Hills Advisory Board, G, F & P Advisory Panel, Custer Co. Conservation Board, Black Hills Vision, Black Hills Elk Partnership, French Creek Water Project

Areas of Interest: Landowner Rights, Land Use, Livestock Development, Water Development, Hunting, Govt.



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Areas of Interest: Beef Industry, Education



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Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Finance, Landowner Rights, Transportation, Economic Development, Govt., Education, Land Use, Bio-energy, Livestock Development, Grain, Non-farm opportunities, Water Development, Youth in Ag, Value-added Ag, Recreation, Environment, Regulatory Oversight



Bridget Blindert

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Area of Interest: Landowner Rights, Economic Development, Education, Livestock, Non-farm Opportunities, Tourism, Youth in Ag, Hunting



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Area of Interest: Communication/Marketing, Finance, Landowner Rights, Government, Land-use, Livestock, Grain, Value-added Ag, Hunting



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Areas of Interest: Landowner Rights, Land Use, Bio-energy, Livestock Development, Grain, Value-added Ag



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Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Landowner Rights, Livestock Development



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Areas of Interest: Land Use, Tourism, Value-added Ag



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Memberships: Community Baptist Church Board, Meade County Commission, Central Meade Co. Community Center Board, Great Sturgis Life Care Foundation Board, Future Sturgis Committee, Meade Co. Republicans, SD G, F & P Advisory Panel, Farm Bureau, SD Cattlemen's Assoc., NCBA, SD Stockgrowers Assoc., R-Calf

Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Economic Development, Landowner Rights, Govt., Livestock Development, Education, Bio-energy, Non-farm Opportunities, Youth in Ag, Value-added Ag, Tourism, Recreation



Michelle Colestock

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 Dakota Risk Management
 Owner
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 (605) 397-2298 (Fax)

Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Grain, Livestock Development, Recreation, Land Use, Bio-energy



Matt Connor

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 Connor Farms
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Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Transportation, Livestock Development, Regulatory Oversight



Jerry Cope

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 (605) 225-0859 (Fax)

Memberships: St Mary's Church, Aberdeen Soccer Assoc., Aberdeen Chamber Ag Committee, SD Grain and Feed Assoc. director, Nat'l Grain and Feed Assoc. Rail Shippers/Receivers Committee

Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Transportation, Economic Development, Govt., Education, Land Use, Livestock Development, Grain, Non-farm Opportunities, Water Development, Youth in Ag, Recreation, Environment, Hunting



Michael Crinion

Class 4
 Dairy Owner
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 (605) 692-1045 (Home)
 (605) 691-1045 (Cell)

Memberships: Dairyman's Round Table Discussion Group, Central Plains Dairy Assoc., Brookings Rotary Club

Areas of Interest: Dairy Development, Renewable Fuels



Jay Cutts

Class 3
 Cutts Farms/Producer
 Farmers' Elevator/Mgr.
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Memberships: Vangen Lutheran Church, Yankton Rural Fire

Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Finance, Govt., Livestock, Grain



Darrell Davis

Class 2
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Memberships: SD Wheat Commission (Chairman), SD Soybean Assoc. (Secretary), SD Cattlemen's Assoc., Rosette Township Supervisor, SD Corn Growers Assoc., US Wheat

Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Transportation, Landowner Rights, Bio-energy, Livestock Development, Grain, Value-added Ag, Hunting



Glen Davis

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 CEO
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 DeSmet, SD 57231
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Memberships: American Seed Trade Association, Independent Professional Seed Association, American Lutheran Church, De Smet Development Board, De Smet Chamber of Commerce, SD Retailers Assoc.

Areas of Interest: Grain (Seed)



Kevin Deiter

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 Dieter Bros.
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 (605) 380-8570 (Cell)

Memberships: American Chianina Assoc., SD Chianina Assoc.



Mark DeVries

Class 3
 M Lazy V Ranch
 Producer
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 Belvidere, SD 57521
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Memberships: Belvidere Community Church, Belvidere Christian School Board, Alternative Instruction Assoc., Gideons International, SD Black-Tailed Prairie Dog working group, Jackson Co. Land and Natural Resources Planning committee, SD Stockgrowers Assoc., SD Farm Bureau, SD Wheat Growers Assoc.

Areas of Interest: Govt., Landowners Rights, Livestock Development, Education



Lisa Dorschner

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 SD Ag in the Classroom
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 (605) 224-7426 (Fax)

Memberships: SD Cattlewomen, Ag in the Classroom Consortium, SD Cattlemen's Assoc., Washington School PTO, Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, Ag Unity

Areas of Interest: Education, Bio-energy, Livestock Development, Youth in Ag, Tourism



Mary Duvall

Class 2
Farm Bureau
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(605) 224-1933 (Fax)

Memberships: SD Farm Bureau, Community Bible Church of Pierre, Oahe YMCA

Areas of Interest: Govt., Land Use, Livestock Industry, Regulatory Oversight



Craig Dybedahl

Class 2
Pfizer Animal Health
Senior Territory Manager, Beef Group
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Colton, SD 57018
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(866) 590-0333 (Fax)

Memberships: SD Cattlemen's Assoc., Nat'l Cattlemen's Beef Assoc., Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce, Willow Creek Lutheran Church, SD Ag Education Advisory Board, SD Ag in the Classroom, SDARL Board

Areas of Interest: Education, Livestock Development, Youth in Ag



Penny Dye

Class 2
Dakota Hills Vet Clinic/Dyseville Angus
Owner & Veterinarian
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Hermosa, SD 57744
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(605) 342-9168 (Fax)

Memberships: West River Veterinary Assoc., NAU-Vet Technician Program, Alpha Psi Veterinary Fraternity, AVMA: SDVMA, Our Saviors Lutheran Church

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development



Mike Dykes

Class 1
John Morrell & Co.
Smoked Meats Product Manager
310 E. Kevin Dr.
Tea, SD 57064
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(605) 498-2172 (Home)
(605) 330-3434 (Office)

Memberships: Boy Scout Parent Committee, Junior Achievement instructor, St. Nicholas Catholic Church, Morrell Club, United Way

Areas of Interest: Economic Development, Govt., Education, Livestock Development



Marshall Edleman

Class 2
Edleman Ranch
Producer
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(605) 881-5005 (Cell)

Memberships: Presbyterian Church United, National Cattlemen's Beef Assoc., SD Cattlemen's Assoc., SDCGA

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development, Commodities/Marketing, Economic Development, Value-added Ag



Clay Ekstrum

Class 2
Ekstrum Simmental
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Memberships: Kimball Protestant Parish, Kimball Rodeo Club, Horizons Community Leadership project

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development, Recreation, Hunting



John Fink

Class 1
New York Life Ins. Company
Financial Services Professional,
Managing Partner
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Delmont, SD 57330
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(605) 770-6615 (Office)

Memberships: Avera St. Benedict board, Zion Lutheran Church elder

Areas of Interest: Economic Development



Nate Franzen

Class 1
First Dakota Bank
Sr. Vice-President, Market Mgr.
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Memberships: LSS Foundation-board, Yankton Area Chamber (President), Yankton Economic Development Council, Yankton Area Progressive Growth, SD Banker's Ag/Commercial Lenders Committee, XYZ Corp., Kiwanis, Past President of SDARL Alumni

Areas of Interest: Finance, Govt., Youth in Ag, Hunting, Economic Development, Strategic Planning



Amy Freeburg

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(605) 267-4420 (Fax)

Memberships: Yankton County Planning Commission, Avera Sacred Heart Board of Trustees (Vice Chair), Avera Sacred Heart Finance Committee (Chair), National Hay Association Board of Directors, Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce

Areas of Interest: Economic Development, Healthcare, Govt.



Jeremy Freking

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South Dakota Biotech Association
Executive Director
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Areas of Interest: Economic Development, Bio-energy, Biotechnology, Govt., Grain, Livestock Development, Education, Environment, Regulatory Oversight, Youth in Ag, Value-added Ag



Kari Fruechte

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Community Development
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Memberships: Nat'l Assoc. of Extension Community Development Professionals, Nat'l and SD Assn. of Extension 4-H Educators, SD Assn. of Extension Specialists, Youth Leader, 4-H Adult Leader, Ceres

Areas of Interest: Economic Development, Youth in Ag, Education, Value-added ag



Brian J. Gatzke

Class 3
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Appraiser & Real Estate
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(605) 692-2119 (Fax)

Memberships: Brookings Area Habitat for Humanity board member, Rotary International and Brookings Rotary Club, American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, SD Chapter of American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers board member, Appraisal Institute, Brookings Chamber of Commerce Ag Committee, Brookings Area Economic Development, American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers Nat'l Govt. Affairs Committee member

Areas of Interest: Landowner Rights, Economic Development, Land Use, Bio-energy, Water Development, Value-added Ag, Recreation, Environment, Regulatory Oversight, Hunting, Non-farm Opportunities, Land Assessment, Ag Real Estate, Taxation



Pam Geppert

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Memberships: SD State Fair Commission, Nat'l Assoc. of Farm Broadcasters, SD Farm Bureau, SD Cattlemen's Assoc., SDSU Alumni Council, Brule Co. 4-H Leaders Assoc., St. Margaret's Catholic Church, American Angus Assoc.

Areas of Interest: Land Use, Livestock Development, Economic Development



Roger Gerdes

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Memberships: SD Beef Industry Council, Nat'l Cattlemen's Beef Assoc., SD Beef Breeds Council, Hand Co. Livestock Development and Crop Improvement, SDRL SCAT Society

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development, Recreation, Hunting



Jim Gerwing

Class 1
380 Kamnic St.
Pierz, MN 56364
(320) 468-2646 (Home)
Spouse: Doreen

Memberships: American Society of Agronomy, Soil Science Society of America, Professional Soil Scientists Assoc. of SD

Areas of Interest: Soils, Crops



James Gilkerson

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(605) 693-3378 (Office)

Memberships: Brookings Co. Farm Bureau, Brookings Rotary Club, Brookings Wesleyan Church

Areas of Interest: Dairy, Govt.



Carol Gillen

Class 2
Gillen Farm
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(605) 249-2385 (Fax)

Memberships: SD Corn Growers Assoc., SD No-till Assoc., SD Wheat, Inc., SD Soybean Assoc., St. Peter's Catholic Church member and youth instructor, GFWC, SD Sport Hunting Association

Areas of Interest: Grain, Commodities/Marketing, Value-added Ag, Hunting



David Grinde

Class 2
Grinde Family Farm
Producer
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Salem, SD 57058
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(605) 446-3838 (Office)

Memberships: Minnehaha Pork Producers Council, SD Pork Producers, Salem Lutheran Church

Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Landowner Rights, Livestock, Youth in Ag



Bonnie Halverson

Class 1
Halverson Farms
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Memberships: SD Farmers Union, Our Saviours Lutheran Church, American Legion Auxilliary

Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Landowner Rights, Grain, Environment



Steve Halverson

Class 1
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(605) 222-0270 (Cell)

Memberships: SD Wheat Commission Board, SD Wheat, Inc., SD Cattlemen's Assoc., SD Sport Hunting Assoc., S.D. Corn Growers Assoc.

Areas of Interest: Grain, Hunting



Bill Hansen

Class 1
 Hansen Farms
 Producer, Finance Counselor, Economic
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Memberships: Secretary-SDARL Board, Value-added Finance Authority Board, South Eastern Council of Govt. board, Sioux Empire Housing Partnership board, Inter-lakes Community Action Partnership board, Centerville Development board, Centerville Rotary-Secretary, Centerville School Board-President

Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Banking/Finance, Economic Development, Govt., Education, Livestock Development, Grain, Non-farm Opportunities, Tourism, Water Development, Youth in Ag, Value-added Ag



Russ Hazel

Class 4
 Poet Biorefining Hudson
 Grain Merchandiser & Farmer
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Memberships: Hudson Fire & Rescue, Hudson Economic Development

Areas of Interest: Bio-energy, Economic Development, Commodities/Marketing



Londa Hexum

Class 4
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Memberships: Medary Township board, American Angus Assoc., Lake Campbell Improvement Assoc.



Doug Hoff

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 Producer
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 (605) 484-8688 (Cell)

Memberships: American Lutheran Church, Grand Electric Coop, Community State Bank board, FHA, County water board



Brent Hoffman

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 Producer
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Memberships: NCBA, R-Calf, NRA, Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, Way West Tae Kwon Do Club



Dwight Hossle

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 Dakota Bank
 Market President & Producer
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 Faulkton, SD 57438-0098
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 (605) 380-4677 (Cell)
 (605) 598-4412 (Fax)

Memberships: Faulkton Development Corp., Business & Professional Assoc., Faulkton Housing & Redevelopment; United Methodist Church Council, SD Bankers Assoc. Ag Credit Committee, American and SD Chianina Assoc.

Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Finance, Landowner Rights, Govt., Livestock Development, Economic Development, Youth in Ag, Value-added Ag, Regulatory Oversight



Lynn Hurley

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(925) 817-3198 (Fax/Phone)

Memberships: SDARL Board, SF Chamber of Commerce, SDARL Alumni President, Canton Youth Recreation, Grand Valley Church, Rotary

Areas of Interest: Youth in Ag, Economic Development, Recreation



Paul Iburg

Class 4
HDP Farms, Inc.
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Memberships: Jasper Township clerk, SB Assoc., SD Wheat Growers Assoc., SD Corn Growers Assoc.

Areas of Interest: Bio-energy, Commodities/Marketing



Eric Iversen

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Producer
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Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Land use, Livestock Development, Value-added Ag



David Iverson

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Memberships: Gideons, SD Corn Growers, Deubrook Area School Board, Brookings Assembly of God Church, WISHH board, SD Soybean Assoc., SD Soybean Promotion Council (Chair)

Areas of Interest: Land Owner Rights, Education, Bio-energy, Value-added Agriculture



Kevin Jaspers

Class 4
Farm Credit Services of America
Ag Lender/Producer
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(605) 256-0086 (Fax)

Memberships: East Central Habitat for Humanity Director/V-P, Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church Parish, Council Chairman, Knights of Columbus Trustee, Madison Ag Chamber of Commerce

Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Finance, Education, Livestock Development, Grain, Youth in Ag, Recreation, Hunting



Mike Jaspers

Class 4
Producer
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Sioux Falls, SD 57107
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Memberships: SD Corngrowers Assoc., Glacial Lakes Corn Processors, Hanson Co. Oil Producers, Knights of Columbus, St. Katharine Drexel Catholic Church

Areas of Interest: Economic Development, Govt., Bio-energy, Value-added Ag, Hunting



Terry Jaspers

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Memberships: Sisseton City Council, Sisseton Area Promotion board, Sisseton Economic Development board, Coteau Des Prairies Hospital board, St. Peter's Church trustee, Knights of Columbus

Areas of Interest: Economic Development, Hunting, Finance, Govt., Tourism, Value-added Ag



Tom Jass

Class 3
 Farmers National Company
 Farm Manager
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Memberships: Midwest region director, Management Ed committee, American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, SD Chapter of American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers, Brandon Valley Chamber of Commerce, Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church

Areas of Interest: Ag Land Assessment, Ag Real Estate, Economic Development, Taxation



Sam Johnston

Class 3
 Johnston Ranch
 Producer
 21216 River Rd.
 Elm Springs, SD 57791
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 (605) 685-5431 (Cell)
 (605) 798-2200 (Fax)

Memberships: Elm Springs Church, Elm Springs Fire Dept.

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development, Land Use, Water Development, Hunting



Cody Jorgensen

Class 1
 Jorgensen Land & Cattle
 Producer
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 Ideal, SD 57541
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 cody@jorgensenfarms.com
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 (605) 842-3217 (Office)
 (605) 842-3595 (Fax)

Memberships: Rosebud Cattlemen's Assoc., Country Pride Coop board, Truth Keepers board, Knights of Columbus

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development, Land Use



Merrill Karlen

Class 3
 Karlen Cattle Co.
 Producer
 103 Elm St.
 Oacoma, SD 57365
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 (605) 730-5640 (Cell)
 (605) 734-0970 (Fax)

Memberships: Cattlemen's Beef Board, SD Beef Industry Council, SD Cattlemen's Assoc., Nat'l Cattlemen's Beef Assoc., United Church of Christ board

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development, Land Use, Value-added Ag, Govt.



Wally Knock

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 Knock Farms
 Producer
 19337 421st Ave.
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 (605) 625-5541 (Office)

Memberships: UCC Church, Willow Lake School board, SD Wheat Growers Assoc. board, Clark Community Oil, Tri-County Pork Producers, SD Cattlemen's Assoc., Nat'l Cattlemen's Assoc., Maine Anjou Assoc.

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development, Govt., Education



Sonja Kroupa

Class 2
 Kroupa Farms
 Insurance Agent/Producer
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 (605) 894-4155 (Fax)

Memberships: Kimball Ambulance, Drips Post 130 Auxilliary, Kimball School, DIAL Consortium; Mid-Central Coop



Daniel Larson

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First Premier Bank
Ag Lender
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Volin, SD 57072
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(605) 677-9483 (Cell)

Memberships: Wakonda Community Development Corp., Wakonda Heritage Manor, Wakonda Community Club, Gayville Lutheran Church Board

Areas of Interest: Financing, Livestock Development, Grain, Value-added Ag, Economic Development



Don Larson

Class 1
Larson Auctions
Auctioneer
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(605) 695-4210 (Cell)
(605) 693-3602 (Fax)

Memberships: Rotary, SD Auctioneers Assoc, Brookings Co. Democrats, Nat'l Assoc. of Counties board, SDSU Growth Partnership board, First Lutheran Church, Oakwood Lakes Development Corp., Brookings Chamber, Brookings Co. Commission Chair, Great Plains Public Policy Institute, Brookings Co. Rail Authority, Farmers Union, Nat'l Assoc. Counties Rural Action Caucus, Center for Rural Affairs

Areas of Interest: Govt., Livestock, Education, Environment, Water Development, Economic Development, Land Use, Bio-energy, Regulatory Oversight, Value-added Ag, Taxation, Real Estate



Lucas Lentsch

Class 2
Self Employed/Producer
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(605) 237-8942 (Cell)
(605) 448-2699 (Fax)

Memberships: SDARL Board, SD Republican Party, Glacial Lakes Area Development, VFW, American Legion, Marshall Co. Republicans, SD Stockgrowers Assoc., Nat'l Auctioneers Assoc., SD Auctioneers Assoc., St. John DeBritto Church, Knights of Columbus, Britton Chamber of Commerce, International Dairy Foods Assoc., Institute of Food Technologists

Areas of Interest: Govt., Livestock Development, Grain, Non-farm Opportunities, Economic Development



Jesse Lewis

Class 4
Lewis Angus Ranch
Producer
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(605) 391-2044 (Cell)

Memberships: Black Hills Stock Show Foundation, Central States Fair, Black Hills Angus Assoc., American Angus Assoc.

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development



Jeff Madison

Class 2
JEM Farms
Producer
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Iroquois, SD 57353
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(605) 546-2125 (Home)

Areas of Interest: Landowner Rights, Taxation, Economic Development, Govt., Education



Jason McAreavey

Class 4
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Kenny McFarland

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Memberships: SD Farm Bureau, Piedmont Valley Lutheran Church, Elk Creek First District, Elk Vale Township

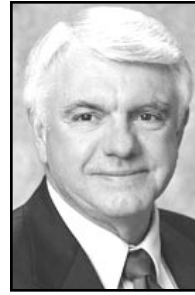


Rachel Mehlhaf

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Memberships: Agriculture Future of America Alliance, Sioux Falls Chamber Ag Division, Sioux Empire Farm Show Angus Show Co-Chair, Trinity Reformed Church member - Sioux Falls, South Dakota FFA Alumni

Areas of Interest: Finance, International Agriculture, Tourism, Youth in Ag



Dan Oedekoven

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Memberships: SD Extension Specialist Assoc., National Assoc. of Community Development Extension Professionals, Epsilon Sigma Phi, American Quarter Horse Assoc., Sturgis Church of Christ



John Morse

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Morse Angus
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Memberships: McCook/Miner/Lake Cattlemen's Assoc., American Angus Assoc., Trinity Lutheran Church, SD Corn Growers Assoc., SD Soybean Assoc., Lake Co. 4-H Advisory Board

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development, Grain



Renee Olson

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Memberships: FSA Co. Committee, SD Corn Growers Assoc., Nat'l Corn Growers Assoc., Waubay School parent advisory board, Cornerstone Marriage Ministry mentor

Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Govt., Value-added Ag



Jim Nielsen

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Memberships: Wakonda Heritage Manor (Director), Wakonda Community Club, Wakonda Development Corp.

Areas of Interest: Finance, Commodities/Marketing, Grain, Livestock Development, Bio-energy, Economic Development, Value-added Ag



Karla Pazour

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Memberships: American Cattlewomen, SD Cattlemen's Assoc, Nat'l Cattlemen's Assoc., Missouri Valley Ambulance District board, SD Corn Growers Assoc., SD Soybean Assoc., American Coalition of Ethanol

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development, Economic Development



Anita Pepin

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Memberships: Red Cross, Black Hills Stock Show Foundation, Central States Fair

Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Finance, Economic Development, Bio-energy, Govt., Livestock Development, Value-added Ag



Steve Pohl

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Memberships: American Society of Ag and Biological Engineers, Minkota Agri-Builders and Equipment Assoc., Rural Technologies, Inc., Heartland Milk Labs

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development, Biotechnology



Brandon Peterson

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Hubbard Feeds/Peterson Angus
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Alcester, SD 57001
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Memberships: American Angus Assoc., church board president, Alcester-Hudson School board

Areas of Interest: Economic Development, Livestock Development, Value-added Ag



Scott Phillips

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Memberships: SD Farm Bureau, Hereford Volunteer Fire Dept, Hereford Country Church



Jim Petrik

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Memberships: GV School Board President, SD Pork Producers Council Exec Board, Farm Bureau, Nat'l Corn Growers Assoc., Corn Growers Assoc., American Soybean Assoc., SD Cattlemen's Assoc., Nat'l Cattlemen's Beef Assoc. and 4-H

Areas of Interest: Govt., Education, Livestock Development, Youth in Ag



Dave Poppens

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Memberships: Lennox School board, SD Soybean Assoc., Eastern Farmers Coop director, SD Corn Growers Assoc., SD Farm Bureau, SD Cattlemen's Assoc.

Areas of Interest: Education, Livestock Development



Cheri Rath

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Memberships: Cooperation Works!, SD Livestock Development Foundation, Central South Dakota Foster Parent Assoc.

Areas of Interest: Value-added Ag, Economic Development



John Reisch

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(605) 772-4396 (Fax)

Memberships: Howard Industries board, SD Cattlemen's feeder council, Howard Township board, Miner Co. Community Revitalization, Farm Credit board

Areas of Interest: Economic Development, Livestock Development, Finance



Jason Reed

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Memberships: SD Stockgrowers, Nat'l Grasslands Coalition, Great Plains Native Plant Society, Faith School Board, Faith United Methodist Church



Rebecca Richter-Havlik

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Memberships: Relay for Life, Toastmasters, Horizons Steering Committee

Areas of Interest: Land Use, Hunting, Recreation, Govt., Education



Marc Reiner

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Memberships: SD Farm Bureau, Friedens Reformed Church

Areas of Interest: Economic Development, Education



John Rickertsen

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Memberships: Agronomy Society of America, SD Seed Certification board



Michelle Robbins

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(605) 693-1360 (Fax)

Memberships: American Legion Auxilliary, 4-H, White Community Club, St. William's Catholic Church, Brookings Area Builders Assoc., Cabinet Makers of America

Areas of Interest: Youth in Ag, Education, Govt., Non-farm Opportunities, Rural Healthcare



Lola Roseth

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Haakon County Emergency Mgr./Producer
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Memberships: Farm Bureau, SD Emergency Medical Technicians Assn., Deep Creek Lutheran Church.

Areas of Interest: Economic Development, Govt., Education, Livestock Industry, Tourism



Lura Roti

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Journalist
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Memberships: Sioux Falls Farm Show, Ag Future of America Alliance, SD FFA Alumni



Curtis Samson

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(605) 380-8732 (Cell)

Memberships: SD Soybean Growers Assoc., SD Corn Growers Assoc., Coteau Hills Processors, Eden Development Corp.

Areas of Interest: Bio-energy, Seed and Grain, Economic Development



Brad Sanderson

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Citizen's State Bank
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(605) 983-3246 (Fax)

Memberships: Lake Preston Development Corp (President), Lake Preston Higher Education Foundation, SD Bankers Assoc., SD Synod ELCA Faith Builders Advisory Board, SDARL Alumni Secretary

Areas of Interest: Finance, Livestock Development, Youth in Ag, Economic Development



Kirk Schaunaman

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Memberships: SD Farmers Union, SD Corn Utilization Council, Brown Co. FSA County Committee

Areas of Interest: Bio-energy, Economic Development, Commodities/Marketing



Karl Schenk

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Memberships: Mission Hill Farmers Elevator board, Yankton Co. Planning board, Clay-Yankton Irrigators



Dewayne Siebrasse

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(605) 228-5788 (Cell)
(605) 226-1234 (Fax)

Memberships: American Society Animal Science, SD Cattlemen's Assoc., FFA Alumni, SD Stockgrowers Assoc., National Cattlemen's Beef Assoc., R-Calf, SD Farmers Union, SD Farm Bureau, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, SDSU Alumni Assoc., American Coalition of Ethanol, ND Stockman's Assoc.

Areas of Interest: Landowner Rights, Livestock Development, Education, Youth in Ag, Land Use, Economic Development, Value-added Ag, Bio-energy



Bill Slovek

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Slovek Ranch
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Memberships: SD Farm Bureau, SD Cattlemen's Assoc., Nat'l Cattlemen's Beef Assoc., South Dakota Grasslands Coalition

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development



Jeff Smeenk

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Memberships: Nat'l Cattlemen's Beef Assoc., SD Cattlemen's Assoc., SD Farm Bureau, SD Public Lands Council, Butte Co. Conservation District, Belle Fourche Masonic Lodge

Areas of Interest: Land Use, Livestock Development, Value-added ag, Water Development



John Smith

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Memberships: Mission Hill watershed, Yankton Area Pheasants Forever, Yankton Youth Wrestling

Areas of Interest: Water Development, Hunting



Nathan Sparks

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(605) 770-1607 (Cell)
(605) 995-7938 (Fax)

Memberships: Mitchell Area Ag Committee (Chairman), SD Bankers Assoc.-Ag Committee, Extreme Ranch Bull Riding, Inc., Mitchell Ducks Unlimited co-chair, SDARL Alumni treasurer

Areas of Interest: Landowner Rights, Economic Development, Finance, Land Use



Dana Stapleton

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Memberships: Sisseton Winter Calf Show committee, Farmers Coop Elevator board, Great Plains Financial board, County Committee member, Sisseton Township board

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development, Commodities/Marketing, Land Use, Finance, Hunting



Kurt Stiefvater

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Stiefvater Farms
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Memberships: McCook/Miner/Lake Cattlemen's officer, Mitchell Vo-tech Adult Farm Mgmt. advisory board, Richland Township Officer, Corn Growers Assoc., SB Growers Assoc.



Justin Stockall

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Rocking S Livestock Development Systems
Owner
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Areas of Interest: Bio-energy, Economic Development, Land Use, Value-added Ag



Bob Thaler

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(605) 695-6444 (Cell)
(605) 688-6170 (Fax)

Memberships: Habitat for Humanity, Masonic Lodge, American Society of Animal Science, Gideons, Faith Reformed Church

Areas of Interest: Govt., Livestock Development Industry, Tourism, Water Development, Land Use, Bio-energy, Youth in Ag, Hunting, Grain, Economic Development, Tourism, Environment



Roger Turbak

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Memberships: Watertown Chamber, Sioux Valley Economic Development Corp., Lake Norden Assoc., Olson-Reid American Legion, Rotary

Areas of Interest: Banking/Finance



Mark Vanderwerf

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Areas of Interest: Commodities/Marketing, Finance, Grain, Youth in Ag, Value-added Ag



Doug Van Duyn

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Double "D" Feedyard
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Memberships: Township board, SD Cattlemen's, Colton Farmer's Elevator, Lake Area Corn Processors, Dakota Ethanol LLC

Areas of Interest: Bio-energy, Livestock Development



Todd Van Maanen

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(605) 665-0523 (Fax)

Memberships: Yankton County Highway Committee, Yankton Chamber Ag Committee, SD Engineering Society, SD Council of Engineering, SD Cattlemen's Assoc., SD Pork Producers, Tri-State Dairy Assoc.

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development, Regulatory Oversight, Environment



Scott VanderWal

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Memberships: SD Farm Bureau (President),
Ag United, First Reformed Church, American Farm Bureau

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development, Value-added Ag, Govt., Education



Kim Vanneman

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Memberships: SD State Representative Dis-
trict 26B, Farm Bureau, Winner United Methodist Church

Areas of Interest: Govt., Education, Livestock Development, Economic
Development, Grain, Finance, Value-added Ag, Regulatory Oversight



Jeanie Votava

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SD DENR
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Memberships: Outdoor Women of South Dakota, Canning Prairie Cem-
etary board

Areas of Interest: Govt., Livestock Development, Regulatory Oversight,
Environment



Julie Walker

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Memberships: American Society of Animal
Science, SD Cooperative Extension Specialist
Assoc.

Areas of Interest: Livestock Development



Chris Wirt

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Memberships: Grace Lutheran Church and Church Council

Areas of Interest: Youth in Ag



Susan Wismer

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(605) 237-3086 (Cell)

Memberships: SD State Representative-Dis-
trict 1, Marshall County Democrats, Britton Economic Development, SD
Farmers Union, SD Society of CPAs, Britton Area Hospice, Presbytery
of SD

Areas of Interest: Govt., Finance, Non-farm Opportunities, Value-added
Ag, Water Development, Education

Personal Gain Comments from Alumni

- We have enough people talking badly about agriculture; we need more positives from ag that are grass-roots based.
- The time you spend in SDARL will increase your awareness of the world and its influences that will greatly benefit your family, business and community.
- SDARL doesn't want people who have time, they want people who make time.
- The time you spend in SDARL is a life-changing experience that will hold a lifetime memory and networking within the state that is invaluable.
- This class helps you become more efficient and better at delegating.
- SDARL broadens horizons.
- SDARL has literally changed my life, both personally and professionally.
- It really gave me insight into characteristics I have that are strong and ones I need to improve upon.
- I expected the education and leadership training to be excellent, but what surprised me was how much fun the bonding and friendships have been.
- SDARL has been the greatest learning experience of my life.
- I have learned that leaders come in all different shapes and forms.
- I have gained a professional network of friends and ag associates throughout the state.
- I have gained the importance of reading books. I am a better listener. I am more willing to step up and get things done. I hope I am a better parent and husband.
- I've gained more self confidence on issues and also at public speaking.