



Rock Island County Farm Bureau

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Phone 309-736-7432

Email: info@ricofarmbureau.org

Website:

www.ricofarmbureau.org

Check us out on Facebook

HOURS

Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Closed on holidays

BOARD MEMBERS

President, Marty McManus
Vice President, Stan Woodburn
Secretary, Dennis Van Daele
Treasurer, Fred Nightingale
At-Large, Phil Fuhr

DISTRICT 1

Brian Brown, David Mueller,
Kevin Oak, Bill Onken, Phil
Fuhr

DISTRICT 2

Andy DeKeyrel, Marty
McManus, Dennis Van Daele,
Fred Nightingale, Bradley
Erickson

DISTRICT 3

Stan Woodburn, Mike Sadoris,
Brent Riewerts, Mitch Jurevitz,
Drew Hohenboken

OFFICE STAFF

Manager, DeAnne Bloomberg —
dbloomberg@ricofarmbureau.org

Office Manager/ Membership
and Bookkeeping, Karen
DeDecker — karen@ricofarmbureau.org

Part-time Administrative
Assistant,
Connie Searl

CLOSED HOLIDAYS

In observance of the upcoming
holiday seasons, our office will
be closed the following days:

Christmas Eve Day
Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2014
Christmas Day
Thursday, Dec. 25, 2014
New Year's Eve
Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2014
New Year's Day
Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015

Kluis leads next Market Outlook

Al Kluis, president of Kluis Commodities, will be the featured speaker on Thursday, Nov. 20, at the Lavender Crest Winery, 5401 U.S. Highway 6, Colona. The evening will begin with a buffet dinner at 6:15 p.m., followed by an update from Gold Star FS Grain Merchandiser, Mike Schaver.

Cost for a single session is \$25 (if not pre-registered cost will be \$30). Reservations must be made by Nov. 13 to guarantee a meal. To make reservations, please call the Henry County Farm Bureau (309) 937-2411 or the Rock Island County Farm Bureau (309) 736-7432.

Alan Kluis has been a commodity adviser and broker since 1976. He is president and managing partner of Kluis Commodities in Wayzata, Minn.

Alan is an introducing broker with R.J.O'Brien. Alan is also a writer. He writes a column, *Your Profit*, which appears in every issue of "Successful Farming" magazine. Before that, Al



Al Kluis

was an expert columnist for "Corn and Soybean Digest" for 13 years; the magazine featured his Marketing Strategies column in every issue. Alan has pub-

lished two books on commodities trading. He is co-author on the first book, Loren Kruse, is now editor-in-chief of "Successful Farming" magazine.

Alan is commonly quoted in major publications, including the Wall Street Journal, and is a featured speaker at commodity conferences nationwide. He is a frequent market analyst for the Linder Farm Radio News Network. Alan was co-author of the weekly AgInvestor Newsletter for 12 years, and is the author of new weekly commodity advisory newsletter, *The Al Kluis Report*.

Alan, a Minnesota farmboy, was awarded his degree in ag economics from the University of Minnesota in 1974, after which he was executive director of the Minnesota Soybean Association before entering the markets full time. Alan's family still owns a farm in southwest Minnesota and Al enjoys helping with fieldwork when the markets allow.

Additional speakers for the series will include:

■ **March 4, 2015** – Dr. Elwynn Taylor, Iowa State University;
■ **July 2015** – Andy Shissler, Roach Ag Marketing.

(Lavender Crest Winery will be the location for all market outlook seminars.)

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The Market Outlook Series is sponsored by the Henry and Rock Island County Farm Bureau Marketing Committees, Gold Star FS, BankOrion, Patriot Renewable Fuels, Steve Sim - Country Financial, 1st Farm Credit Services (Aledo & Geneseo) and Big River Resources.

Senior doing ag internship

Cheyenne Stockton is working at the Rock Island County Farm Bureau for her high school Coop Internship. Cheyenne is a senior at Orion High School and serves as the president of the Orion FFA chapter. Some of the projects that Cheyenne has started through the Orion FFA chapter are the Orion FFA Distracted Driving Campaign, the planting around the FFA Greenhouse, writing the Preliminary Program of Activities, along with Career Development Events such as: Parliamentary Procedure, Job Interview, Dairy Judging, Agronomy and Soils. Through her work at the Farm Bureau, Cheyenne has helped organize the 2014 AgXperience, attended the Summer Ag Institute, and was a guest at the Woman Caring for the Land meeting. Cheyenne also helps around the office by doing daily grain bids, writing articles, updating the website, and much more. Not only does Cheyenne work for the Farm Bureau for a high school internship, it is also her Supervised Agricultural



Cheyenne Stockton

Experience project for FFA. Working at the Farm Bureau is split into two Supervised Agricultural Experience categories, Agricultural Education and Agricultural Communications.

This position at the Farm Bureau is a perfect fit for Cheyenne as she plans to continue her education at Western Illinois University to study agricultural education.

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

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| 17 | Regular monthly board meeting |
| 18 | Rock Island County Board meeting; 5:30 p.m., County Office Building |
| 20 | Market Outlook with Al Kluis; Cost for a single session is \$25 (if not pre-registered cost will be \$30). Reservations must be made by Nov. 13 to guarantee a meal. |
| 27-28 | Office closed in observance of Thanksgiving holiday |

DECEMBER

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| 1 | District 3 Resolutions review meetings; Growmark Distribution Center 6:30 p.m. |
| 3 | Mercer and Rock Island County Young Leader Meeting; Bud's Skyline; 6:30 p.m. (reservations required at FB office) |
| 6 | IAA Annual Meeting begins with Discussion Meet and Awards Program |
| 7 | IAA Annual Meeting continues with General Sessions and Trivia Night |
| 8 | IAA Annual Meeting Business Portion with Delegate Session at 8 a.m. |
| 9 | IAA Annual Meeting Business Portion with Delegate Session ends at noon
Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. |

Harvest Gala notice

Late last spring the RICFB Foundation Board made a decision to discontinue the annual fall Harvest Gala due to increasing food and service costs and the limiting growth in attendance. A direct mail letter was sent to past participants last July detailing the decision.

When we began in 2002 our goal was to hold a dinner fundraiser that could raise awareness and funds for the RICFB Foundation. In the last 13 years, our increase in attendance has been modest and the rising meal costs have decreased our fundraising goal.

In addition, board members recognized the continued trend of a shortage of time by all of our dedicated volunteers and supporters competing with other service and charitable organization demands.

There is a committee of past and present Farm Bureau leaders working on the 2016 Centennial Celebration of the Rock Island County Farm Bureau. Our hope is that we can celebrate the 100 years with a special event while also raising money for the Foundation. We still believe there is an opportunity to bring together those who support the foundation's mission.

If you have any further questions or would like to get involved in promoting the organization, feel free to contact any one of our RICFB Foundation Board of Directors listed below or DeAnne Bloomberg, manager, at 309-736-7432.

Sincerely, RICFB Foundation Board

Local farmers help feed hungry with 'Bushels for Hunger'

This fall, farmers throughout the area will donate bushels of grain as a fundraiser for the River Bend Food Bank through the program "Bushels for Hunger." Farmers often bring harvested corn and soybeans to nearby grain elevators to be sold or for storage. When they unload the crop, the elevator clerk will ask if the farmer would like to donate bushels of grain to fight hunger. All of the grain donated will be sold and the money earned will be donated to the River Bend foodbank.

Caren Laughlin, marketing director of the River Bend Foodbank, stated that "Every week, approximately 10,000 people are served by the Foodbank's distribution network, and last year we distributed more than 7 million pounds of food annually, which helped to provide an additional 5 million meals to the hungry." Laughlin said 40 percent of those consuming the food are children.

Terry Sponheim, manager of the Aledo and Edgerton Big River Resources, said, "Big River Resources has helped with the Bushels for Hunger

program since its inception by collecting bushels and has also helped with food distribution in Aledo. The need for food at the Aledo Mobile Food Pantry was overwhelming."

Laughlin said, "According to Gary Hoff, University of Illinois Extension taxation specialist, the tax advantages of donating commodities far outweigh those for a contribution of cash. A cash donation is made from the sale proceeds of the grain. Therefore, the sale is reported on Schedule F and is included in both taxable income and self-

employment income."

The elevators participating in Bushels for Hunger are: ADM Grain, Atkinson Grain, Big River Resources, Cargill, CGB, Gold Star FS, Hillsdale Elevator, Michlig Grain, Patriot Renewable, River Gulf Grain, River Valley Cooperative, and Rumbold & Kuhn.

The Bushels for Hunger program will continue until Jan. 31. To learn more about the donation, contact the Henry, Rock Island, Mercer, Stark or Whiteside County Farm Bureau.