MANAGERS TO WASHINGTON TRIP PROVES VALUABLE

By Tara Mayhew

I was able to attend this year's IFB Managers to Washington trip October 12-15, and what a valuable trip it was! Monday was our travel day, arriving to our hotel that evening. We started our meetings on Tuesday morning at AFBF, hearing from Nathan Gonzales, editor and publisher of Inside Elections. We then met with Faith Parum, AFBF Deputy Chief Economist, and Brian Glenn, AFBF Director of Government Affairs. We wrapped up the morning with Andrew Cyphers, Government Affairs & SoyPac Manager, and Sadie Knight, Managing Director of Advocacy and Political Affairs. After lunch, we visited the Embassy of Denmark, where we learned all about their agriculture, trade, issues and history from Jesper Vibe-Hansen, Minister Counsellor for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries. This was my favorite stop of the trip! After the Embassy, we traveled to USDA where we got to experience a mock NASS lockup. We wrapped up day one with Marshall Stallings, Senior Director for Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Engagement of United States Trade Representative talking all things trade.

Day two began at the National Pork Producer's Council where the focus of conversation was Prop 12 and continuing to fight to keep a fix to Prop 12 in the Farm Bill. We then headed to Capitol Hill where we met with Olivia Bridges, Congressional and Trade Editor for Agri-Pulse. Following lunch in the Longworth House Office Building cafeteria, we toured the U.S. Capitol building with staff of Congressman Bost. The afternoon was filled with a meeting with House Transportation & Infrastructure staff where we talked a great deal about river transport and updates to lock and dam systems along the Mississippi River. Our trip wrapped up with a meeting with Senate Ag GOP Committee Staff, discussing Farm Bill, trade, labor, and once again, fighting for a fix to Prop 12 in the Farm Bill.

All in all, the M2W trip is a valuable program and I am so thankful to have the opportunity to participate. And when the Leaders to Washington trips occur in March and September, I would encourage any member to attend! So much valuable information is shared and discussed, and helps us fight for those topics and issues when we are in our home counties.

FALL FLORAL ARRANGING WORKSHOP

Join us on Monday, November 23rd for a festive Fall Floral Arranging Workshop with Pretty Petals by Jamie Viren! Jamie will lead this fun-filled workshop on how to arrange your Thanksgiving centerpiece, while teaching attendees all about the flowers being used... from what the flowers are, to their care and how they grow...it's guaranteed to be a fun and educational evening! And you get to create a beautiful centerpiece for your Thanksgiving tablescape!

Monday, November 23rd
6:00-8:00pm

Private Dining Room
Old Oaks Winery, Milan

$60 for members, $65 for non-members. Cash or check made out to Rock Island County Farm Bureau. Price includes all materials and hors d'oeuvres.

Space is limited, so register soon!

Cash bar available.

Payment and registration must be made by Wednesday, November 18th at ***309-736-7432*** or ***tmayhew@ricofarmbureau.org***.

TRAVEL TO TUSCANY WITH FARM BUREAU

Rock Island County Farm Bureau is heading to Tuscany in June 2027. Join other members on a guided tour of this beautiful region of Italy. We will visit vineyards and a farm with goats used to make cheese plus so much more. An informational meeting will happen on November 18th at 6pm at the Henry County Farm Bureau Office. Scan the QR code below to find out more information and register. For additional questions, please contact Christina Zobrist, Tour Coordinator, at ***czobrist1119@gmail.com***

Support the Rock Island County Farm Bureau Foundation

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER

5	Deadline to register for Market Outlook
10	RICFB Foundation Board of Directors Meeting
12	Section 3 FFA Leadership Training School & Aquaintance Day program
12	Market Outlook featuring Jim McCormick
16	RICFB Board of Directors Meeting
18	Travel Program info Meeting at HCFB
18	Registration deadline for Fall Floral Arranging workshop
19	Feed-A-Farmer event with COUNTRY (more info to come!)
22	Foundation shirt fundraiser closes
23	Fall Floral Arranging workshop with Pretty Petals by Jamie Viren
26-27	Office closed for Thanksgiving

DECEMBER

12-15	IAA Annual Meeting
21	RICFB Board of Directors Meeting
24-25	Office closed for Christmas
31	Bushels for Hunger campaign ends
31-1/1	Office closed for New Year's

WANT STAY UP TO DATE WITH EVENTS?

SEND US YOUR EMAIL TO ACCOUNTS@RICOFARMBUREAU.ORG AND LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!