



KARL

Developing Leadership Excellence

June 2011

KARL at 20 Years

Program is Evolving: Staff Expansion, the 20th Anniversary class selection, a KARL Twitter account, KARL YouTube channel and PayPal for credit card donations and event registration add up to continued evolution of the KARL Program. This newsletter will share the growth of your statewide program that makes KARL, Inc. the preferred partner in developing excellence in agricultural and rural leadership development. Our mission will be more easily addressed with today's communication technologies and the challenge to meet developing issues head on - to provide first class development for agriculture and rural stakeholders by designing and offering challenging and illuminating education and enrichment programs as well as a forum for continuous engagement.

Class XI 20th Anniversary Class Named

The new participants named to KARL Class XI (2011-2013) add 30 new members to a list of 300 participants to date for the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership Program. Since Class I (1991-93), those leaders have accomplished many admirable tasks in Kansas' development. KARL's Class XI was announced as the 20th Anniversary Class of the KARL Program. The eleventh class was formed during an important milestone for KARL. A team of volunteer leaders selected the inaugural KARL class 20 years ago this month. Newly selected Class XI member Tanner Ehmke, a Dighton farmer, summed up his acceptance into the 20th Anniversary Class of KARL by saying, *"For me personally, I am inspired to be a part of a great community of lifelong learners. KARL, I feel, is where one can be among others who value learning and teaching, who have a vision for the future, and who are not afraid to challenge their own beliefs or the status quo. Such qualities will be required of future farmers in an increasingly troubled and hungry world that is skeptical of their food supply and demanding of more government regulation in agriculture. Especially in today's politically volatile times, independent thinkers, leaders and teachers are needed more than ever. Thankfully, for organizations like KARL, there is a place for them to learn and grow."*

Highlights of the Class XI curriculum will include the 2012 Blue Chip seminar hosted by Monsanto in St. Louis and the International Study tour in Peru in 2013.

Vice President Named for KARL



Marisa J. Larson

The KARL Program has named Marisa Larson as its new vice president and assistant director. Larson, a 1993 K-State graduate, double majored in political science and international relations and journalism. From 1995 to 1997, Larson lived in Tafraout, Morocco while serving in the Peace Corps as an animal husbandry extension specialist. She spent 12 years at the National Geographic Society in Washington, D.C. as a National Geographic Magazine research editor and Middle East regional editor, and as a National Geographic Channels International researcher and associate producer.

ALUMNI PROGRAM IS UNDERWAY

The new continuing education arm of our program, **The KARL Graduate Program**, is under the direction of long-time President of KARL, Inc., Jack Lindquist. We had a fantastic trip to IRELAND with 30 participants for the first KARL Graduate Program International Tour in July 2010. The first KARL Graduate Program winter conference, an ECONOMIC SUMMIT, was held in February 2011 at the K-State Alumni Center in Manhattan. This summit addressed personal and business economic management. The two-day conference included presentations on understanding the present global economic challenges and functioning within the current domestic and international economic environment, and how to deal with the macro issues personally and professionally. Our objective was to include educational sessions that provided a better life and livelihood for KARL graduates and their connections. Nine of ten KARL classes were represented at the event. The topics and presenters included: Policy Influence on our Current and Future Direction; Global Economic Challenges and Functioning Within the Current Domestic and International Economic Environment; Wealth Management; Agricultural Finance; Agricultural Law Challenges; Banking and Personal Financial Management; and Family and Business Strategic Planning.

Next year's winter conference will be held February 20 and 21, 2012 at the K-State Alumni Center. The workshops will include "**New Methods of Communication**," including social media; "**Opposition Think**," understanding the message from alternate viewpoints; and "**Mind Bending**," rewiring for tomorrow's learning techniques.

The **2011 Domestic Tour** took place in LOUISIANA, June 6-12 and the **2012 International Tour** will be to SWEDEN during a 12-day time span in August 15-30. The **2013 Domestic Tour** is tentatively planned for ALASKA.

All graduate programming is self-funded or pay-as-you-go for participants. There are no donated funds supporting the KARL Graduate Program.

With an alumnus pool of 300 participants plus their spouses, we have nearly 600 KARL family members that can look forward to participation in future graduate program events, whether they be in-depth workshops, regional or statewide conferences, or intrastate, interstate or international tours. The continued growth of our program participants will be lifelong and we, as Kansas citizens, can look forward to this unique and wonderful experience continuing to improve Kansas lives and livelihoods under the banner of the "KARL Graduate Program."

KARL Elects Board Members, Officers

MANHATTAN, Kan. – The board that oversees the KARL Program, established as a non-profit educational organization, has undergone a leadership change. Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership (KARL) has an all-volunteer board of directors.

MEMBERS FOR 2011-12 INCLUDE:

Carolyn Harms, Chair - Derby

Terry Nelson, Vice Chair - Long Island

Ron Suppes, Secretary - Dighton

Jay Joy, Treasurer - Sedgwick

Lynn Chance - Fowler

Gary Doane - Downs

Ray Flickner - Wichita

Dorothy Hutchins - Scott City

Paul Joerger - Overland Park

Dave Jones - Edna

Larry Jones - Holcomb

Michael Leitch - Wamego

Tracey Mann - Salina

Jesse McCurry - Colwich

Gary Millershaski - Lakin

Marcine Moldenhauer - Valley Center

Robba Moran - Hays

Lee Musil - Burdett

Judy Nusser - Plymell

Dewayne Rosson - Coffeyville

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS

Dale Rodman, KS Secretary of Agriculture

Gary Pierzinsky, K-State Interim Dean of Agriculture

Dr. Barry Flinchbaugh

Dr. Vincent Amanor-Boadu



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KARL Marketing Update:

Anyone involved with KARL knows it is a great program but we need to get the word out to a wider audience—we need to connect with the general public as well as stay in touch with the KARL community. We're utilizing social media to do just that. We're using Twitter, Facebook, and Flickr to share the latest KARL news, photos of trips and seminars, and timely information about agricultural and rural issues. The easiest way to access KARL's social media is to go to our website (www.karlprogram.com) and click on the Facebook, Twitter, and Flickr buttons at the bottom of the homepage. We have plans to grow the KARL outreach even more with a YouTube channel featuring short videos of KARL activities.

KARL can also now receive donations and event registration payments online via our PayPal account on our website.

Contributions are Investments:

We are very pleased, especially in this economy, that no tax dollars are utilized for the program. KARL funding comes entirely from private sources. KARL, Inc., is a 501c3 - charitable, educational organization. The KARL training experience carries a value of nearly \$17,000 per person. The participants pay a tuition fee of \$1,500 each of the two years for the remaining costs. Our alumni alone donated over \$80,000 to Class X (2009-2011)—a re-investment everyone can appreciate.

Your partnership can be reinforced with a contribution to kick off the fundraising campaign for Class XI. \$500,000 will be needed to support the project.

Bookmark and visit our website to follow along with KARL updates:
www.karlprogram.com