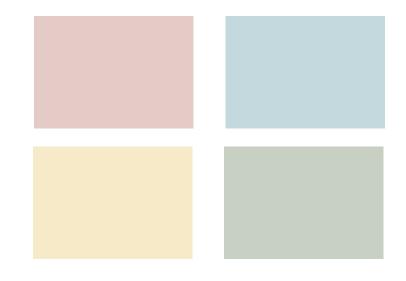
Class XV Directory (2019 - 2021)



## Cultivating Relationships Growing Leaders





KARL Inc. 101 Umberger Hall 1612 Claflin Rd. Manhattan, KS 66506 karl@ksu.edu | 785-532-6300

To donate online visit www.karlprogram.com

# What is KARL?

We are rural Kansas and agriculture and have been for decades.

In mid-1989, a group of twenty individuals representing virtually all segments of Kansas agriculture met to discuss the need and potential for an extensive educational program designed to build a leadership base for Kansas agriculture and its related industries. The first board meeting for the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership program was held October 3, 1989, and KARL, Inc. was formed in 1990. The first class of 30 participants began their leadership development in 1991. Since then, over 330 participants have completed the program.

Since then, over 400 participants have completed the program keeping Kansas on the leading edge of providing leaders who not only influence our communities and our state, but the agriculture industry both here and abroad.

Since its inception, over \$4.5 million has been raised and spent on this program from over 900 entities including individuals, farm, and civic organizations, businesses, foundations, and corporations. That money has been invested to put over 330 agricultural and rural leaders through 7,150 hours of training and experience in Kansas and Washington DC. Our leaders have taken their skills global, as well. Each class takes an intensive two-week international study. Our classes have studied in Germany, Poland, the Czech Republic, Belgium, France, England, the People's Republic of China, Argentina, Australia & New Zealand, Mexico & Costa Rica, Brazil, Ghana, India, Vietnam, Peru, South Africa, Chile, and Cuba.

Leadership continues beyond KARL. Program graduates are on every major commodity association board, several commissions and multiple boards, advisories and councils from the local through national level.

Our graduates have seen state agricultural leaders rise to service. Below are just a few of the leadership roles our graduates have held. These are only a small number of national or notable roles:

#### President of the Kansas Farm Bureau

- > Steve Baccus, Class I
- > Rich Felts, Class I

#### Kansas Livestock Association

- Larry Jones, Class II
- > David Cross, Class I
- Mark Smith, Class I
- Mark Harms, Class IV

### Kansas Wheat Growers

- > John Thaemert, Class I
- > Jerry McReynolds, Class I
- > Kendall Hodgson, Class IV
- > Gary Millershaski, Class VIII
- Kansas Soybean Commission
- Bob Haselwood, Class I

### Kansas Dairy Commission

Dennis Metz, Class VI

### No-Till on the Plains Chair

- Doug Palen, Class III
- > Josh Lloyd, Class VII

### **National Sorghum Producers**

> Dan Atkisson, Class XI

### National Association of Wheat Growers

- John Thaemert\*, Class I
- > Jerry McReynolds, Class I
- Dana Peterson, Class VII, CEO

### **US Wheat Associates**

> Ron Suppes, Class IV (chairman)

### Kansas Water Authority

Gary Harshberger, Class VII

#### Kansas Legislature service

- > Don Schroeder, Class I, House of Representatives
- Susan Concannon, Class IX, House of Representatives
- > Ken Rahjes, Class III, House of Representatives

### **Other Agriculture Leaders**

- > Holly Martin, Class VI, Publisher of High Plains Journal
- Jill Zimmerman, Class V, President of KARL
- > Eric Atkinson, Class IV, Ag Today

\*First national commodity role for KARL graduate

Class Introductions



## Northwest Kansas

**Leigh Ann Maurath** Oakley Kansas Farm Bureau

"Equipping others to preserve rural life."

I grew up on my family's 4th generation farm where we raise corn, wheat, soybeans, and sunflowers. My family also owns and operates a small cow-calf herd. After a recent move, I am proud Northwest Kansas resident again. Being a farmer's daughter is one of my favorite titles. I studied Agricultural Communications and Journalism at Kansas State University and Bible and Leadership Studies at Manhattan Christian College, through their dual degree program. I am passionate about the work farmers, and ranchers do each day so working at Kansas Farm Bureau was a natural fit after school. For two years, I served on the Education and Training team, presenting training programs for volunteer leaders at the county. Now I am the District Administrator for Kansas Farm Bureau's District 10. I cover 11 counties in Northwest Kansas and partner with county Farm Bureau Boards and coordinators to be the Voice of Agriculture. Clay Schemm Sharon Springs Arrow S Farms

## "Enhancing production, preserving heritage around me."

Even being in an amazing program like KARL, I remember the lessons that I have learned through other experiences that have gotten me to this point in life. Be it learning about the need to be a good communicator at a Duke TIP national recognition event or interviewing with the Dane Hansen Foundation for a college scholarship. Even turning down an acceptance to the Naval Academy taught me a lesson: I learned that turning down something that prestigious can be hard to do, even if it isn't the right fit for you. Turning down the Naval Academy's offer allowed me more time off to visit family. Unfortunately, this time showed its full value to me after my brother passed away during my sophomore year of college. Now, however, I am at Arrow S Farms to do my best to bring more value and life to my community and the agriculture industry.





## South Central Kansas

**Kim Baldwin** Inman BowerComm

"Leadership is a state of action."

I am originally from New Mexico, but after marrying a farmer, I now call Kansas home. My family and I live and farm in McPherson County where we raise primarily wheat, corn, sorghum, soybeans, and popcorn. I oversee the marketing of the family popcorn business, Papa Baldy's Poppin' Snacks. After beginning my career in the television news industry, I served as a public school teacher before transitioning into strategic marketing and public relations. I serve a number of volunteer roles within my community, including working with and coaching FFA members to help develop their leadership skills. I also serve on our local community foundation's leadership committee and as a board member for McPherson County Farm Bureau. Additionally, I am a CommonGround volunteer and enjoy connecting with consumers while answering questions about food and farming. I am a self-proclaimed lifelong learner and enjoy exposing my children to the wonders of the world. Karly Frederick Pratt BTI John Deere

"Authentic friend, Thought explorer, Change driver."

I grew up in central Kansas on a farm and custom harvesting operation. Entrepreneurship and thinking as a business were instilled in me from a young age, as my dad is a first-generation farmer and harvester. The ability to take a risk and start your own business in agriculture in the 80s is something I admire of my dad. My high school experience was diverse as I was involved in sports as well as debate and forensics, but what I missed was an agricultural education program. It was a no-brainer for me to choose to major in Ag-Business at K-State, as I wanted to learn more about agriculture. K-State is where my passion for agriculture blossomed as well as my love of leadership development. After graduation, I started working at BTI as the Marketing Manager. I love working for a family-owned company, and being around green combines all day!



## Jackie Mundt Preston Kanza Cooperative Association

"Heart for service, mind for growth."

I live in Preston, Kansas, with my significant other, Marc, on his family's farm where they grow wheat, corn, soybeans, sorghum and have cow-calf pairs. I am a native of Pittsville, Wisconsin, and hold a BS in Agricultural Communications from California State University, Fresno and am currently pursuing a Master's in Agricultural Communications through Kansas State University. I began my career with Dow AgroSciences. I held several sales and marketing communications roles. I went on to teach agriculture at high school and community college levels. I am a graduate of Tomorrow's Agribusiness Leaders program through the Kansas Agribusiness Retailers Association and Kansas Farm Bureau's Leadership KFB program. Currently, I am the Communication and Marketing Manager for Kanza Cooperative Association in Iuka. I serve in a variety of community leadership roles through Farm Bureau, 4-H, FFA, and the Chamber of Commerce. I am passionate about agriculture, youth development, and growing strong communities.

**JR Robl** Wichita Hutton Construction

"Burning determination evens up the score,"

Kansas is a place I can identify with. I have lived in Kansas my entire life, visited most communities, and crossed many bridges. My career experience is both in the private and public sectors, my higher education attainment is both Jayhawk and Wildcat, and my lifestyle is both rural and urban. The career that found me at Hutton involves project development and my ongoing interest in boosting local endeavors that improve quality of life. These undertakings put me in front of a podium at public meetings that seek solutions to building projects. My side hustle is a property group that designs and constructs homes in rural areas that lack standard housing. In my moonlighting hours, I write grants for non-profits and in 2018 reached my \$10 million fundraising milestone. My career has provided valuable lessons on economic growth and the difficult challenges that must be overcome to move Kansas forward.

## Class Introductions



## South Central Kansas

**Anthony Sieler** Wichita Sedgwick County Farm Bureau

"Gratefully serving God, family, and neighbor."

I grew up on my family's dairy farm northwest of Wichita. As a high school senior, I knew I wanted to get far enough away from home that Dad could not ask me to milk cows on the weekend and I ended up at the University of Dallas. My college decision started a journey that included working in Rome, Italy for two years and spending four years in Washington D.C. on Senator Pat Roberts' Agriculture Committee Staff. While these were amazing experiences, they helped me realize my desire was always to be back home. I was able to fulfill that desire and move home, marry my beautiful bride Tory, and help start a new chapter for our county Farm Bureau as the first Executive Director. It is a blessing to get to advocate for farmers every day at work, while still having a little bit of time to milk cows. Helping on our family farm after finishing my work week at my full time job is almost an all consuming hobby. Debra Teufel Hutchinson Hutchinson/Reno Co. Chamber of Commerce

"Passionate cheerleader, Community developer, Leading Change,"

As President/CEO of Hutchinson/Reno County Chamber of Commerce, leading Visit Hutch, Greater Hutch, and Downtown Hutch organizations, I love promoting my community, advocating, and helping develop a prosperous business and economic climate in Kansas. A native of Cowley County, I previously served as Vice President of the Greater Wichita Partnership and Wichita Metro Chamber of Commerce, as Director of Economic Development in Cowley and Sumner Counties. Prior to moving to Hutchinson, I was Director of Public/Private Partnership at the Price College of Business at the University of Oklahoma. A graduate of Southwestern College with a CEcD designation from IEDC, and a graduate of the OU Economic Development Institute, I'm a recovering Sooner who loves being back in Kansas. In my spare time I enjoy family time, photography, tennis, going to sports and concerts, traveling and of course the Kansas State Fair.



## Northeast Kansas

**Leland Brown** Lenexa Norbrook, Inc.

"Do what you love every day."

My experience with agriculture was limited growing up. During summers as a kid I would bale hay as a summer job and later moved to the suburbs. I have lived in many areas of the country as an Air Force kid and ended up in Florida where I attended college. I progressed in my career on the small animal side until another company offered me the opportunity to learn the food animal world. It was like night and day. Deals were done on a handshake, a person's word meant something. And, I discovered it wasn't a career but a lifestyle. Advocate is a big part of what I do and in Johnson county it is a constant reminder of how important it is to be one. I have been involved in KLA Young Stockmans Academy for 10 years and involved with KSU with selection of internships. KARL was really a natural choice when looking to expand my knowledge and leadership skills and I will use the opportunity to demonstrate how important animal agriculture is for the next generations of leaders. **Allison Burenheide** Kansas City Merck Animal Health

"Follow leaders with heart, not titles."

If I could describe myself I one sentence it would be: fifth generation cattle rancher and agriculture advocate, that loves her Texas Aggie football and Mexican food. Growing up in agriculture I have been surrounded by incredible leaders who have instilled their passion for others and this industry in me. After receiving my undergraduate degree in Animal Science and Agricultural Communications from Texas A&M University and my master's from Oklahoma State University I knew I wanted to continue my career in agriculture. After a great internship, I moved to Kansas to pursue my dream job at Merck Animal Health where I currently am a U.S. Commercial Swine Product Marketing Manager. I have always had a passion for agricultural and growing up in West Texas and West Colorado I have special place in my heart for rural communities. As a new member in my community I have become very involved in 4H and youth leadership programs.





## Northeast Kansas

**Roy Frey** Sabetha Kansas Insurance Group, Inc.

"Get better each day, Eyes up!"

I grew up near Bern, graduated from KSU, and taught for four years before moving to the insurance world. I am honored to have shared my love of basketball and youth while coaching high school ball for 25 years. I own/manage Kansas Insurance Group in Sabetha. Kansas Insurance is an independent agency with five additional locations. I enjoys family time, checking cattle, and golfing. My wife, Shari, is a special education teacher and agent. Our daughter Jacqueline is a Neurology Physician Assistant in Des Moines and our Son Jacob is an OT student at KU Med. Our youngest son Broderick is a KSU senior in sales. My faith in God and love of community and family are what motivates me. I teach kindergarten Sunday School, I am a a member of Kiwanis club, and an Ambassador for the Greater Sabetha Community Foundation. Sean Gatewood Topeka Gatewood Governmental Relations & Consulting

"I love being a utility player,"

I am a health advocate and lobbyist in Topeka. I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in organizational leadership from Fort Hays State University. I served in the Kansas House of Representatives in the 2009-2012 sessions, where I earned the national honor of becoming a BILLD fellow. I also served on the Committee on Taxation and Federal and State Affairs Committee and was the Ranking Member on the Children and Seniors Committee. Since that time, I ran a statewide nonprofit focused on health advocacy and my partner built the KanCare Advocates Network, and I was on the leadership team that now contracts with the Alliance for a Healthy Kansas. I have also created a small rental business on the side and enjoy rehabbing houses. I am married to Terica Gatewood and have two kids Kennedy and Koen. In my spare time, I enjoy woodworking, wake-boarding, and camping.



## Justin Kaster Manhattan Kansas State University/Trinity Canton Church

"No parking on the dance floor."

My wife Susie and I have two children, Ian and Sally, and we live in Manhattan. Having benefited from good mentors, I love to help others in their academic, career, and life development. As a K-State faculty member, former honors program director, and Anglican minister, I serve in a multidisciplinary array of academic units, while pastoring a purposefully informal Christian community (Trinity Canton Church). When mentoring, I emphasize scholarly (not simplistic) approaches to public service. As a former city commissioner (1995-1997, Manhattan) and Truman and Fulbright Scholar (1998-2003, United Kingdom and Canada), I am fascinated by local, global, and historical perspectives; I regularly use history and policy insights to train current and future trade officials responsible for the safety, security, and operation of the global food system. Since my ordination in 2014, and especially for those in Trinity Canton, I have intentionally expanded my mentoring into faith and life-purpose domains. **Garrett Reiss** Saint George Phytech U.S., Inc

"Implementing practices today for success tomorrow,"

I am currently employed as a Sales Manager for Phytech. I help growers with irrigation timing and efficiency with the goal of optimizing water use and profitability. I am passionate about agriculture, especially helping farmers be sustainable. My passion for agriculture began on the family farm raising livestock, growing crops, and being involved in my family's agronomy retail business. I grew up in Weskan, Kansas which is where my family raises 4-H swine and cattle. In 2013, I graduated from Butler Community College while participating on the livestock judging team. I then went to Kansas State University and graduated with an Agronomy degree. After college I served as a seed sales manager for an independent ag retailer until I joined Phytech. My wife, Kylie, and I currently reside in Saint George. I enjoy being outdoors, hunting, camping, and kayak bass fishing.





## Northeast Kansas

**Shawn Thiele** Manhattan IGP Institute, Kansas State University

"Dream it, believe it, build it!"

My name is Shawn Thiele and I reside in Riley Kansas. I am employed by Kansas State University in the Department of Grain Science and Industry serving as the Associate Director and the Flour Milling and Grain Processing Curriculum Manager for the IGP (International Grains Program) Institute. At IGP, I develop and teach milling and grain processing courses, workshops, and other technical outreach programs to enhance the market consumption and utilization of U.S. cereal grains worldwide. I am excited to partake in the KARL program as I love to learn about everything Kansas Agricultural can do for our great state and world trading partners. KARL will help me expand my agricultural knowledge while making great connections along the way. When I'm not working, I enjoy spending time with my wife and three daughters partaking in church and school events, sporting events, and enjoying the outdoors boating, hunting, and fishing. **Beth Wiebert** Abilene Ag Risk Consulting

"Dream big, work hard, stay focused."

My name is Beth Weibert. I grew up on a small farm by Burdick, Kansas and graduated with a secondary education degree from Kansas State University. After teaching high school history for three years in Newton we moved to Greeley, Colorado. I started working with the Colorado Corn Growers Association and realized just how much I had missed the agriculture community. In 2006 we moved to Dalhart, Texas and I took a grain merchandising position with DeBruce Grain. When we moved to Abilene, Kansas, to be closer to our family. I continued working as a merchandiser and later a location manager for Gavilon Grain. In 2019 I opened a branch office for the ARC Group and currently work with my husband Nick providing risk management services for farmers and ranchers across Kansas. We have two kids-Kaylee and Kaxton and love living in the country close to family and friends.



## Southwest Kansas

**Stewart Cauble** Liberal Seaboard Farms

> "Education, Agriculture, Professional, And, some bacon,"

I grew up in Liberal and graduated from Liberal High School. I then went to Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas. After graduation, I found employment with National Carriers in their safety department, cutting my teeth and finding my passion in claims. Looking to advance my career and gain additional knowledge, I found employment with State Farm as an auto claims representative. Wanting to branch out and have the opportunity to be my own boss and move into the sales side of insurance, I then obtained another license and became an agent for Farm Bureau Financial Services. I went to work for Crawford and Company handling property and casualty claims. Seaboard was looking to enhance its worker's compensation program and reached out. Returning to Southwest Kansas and become involved in the community was a call that I couldn't turn down. I have been with them and here ever since. Austin Love Garden City Commerce Bank

> "Listen well, Appreciate others, Wear purple,"

I have the privilege of serving as a Community Banker in Western Kansas, where I partner with Agribusiness and C&I companies to help them achieve their primary objectives by offering value-added products and solutions. Before starting at Commerce Bank, I worked for Koch Industries within Fertilizer Procurement & Supply Chain. After learning an abundant amount and growing in my understanding of business operations, I then decided to move further down the supply chain which is how I ended up transitioning to relationship building in the banking world. In my community of Garden City, I get to serve as a Big Brother for Big Brothers Big Sisters and serve as a board member for the famous Lee Richardson Zoo. Outside of working hours, I enjoy running and biking on Talley Trail with my Golden Retriever, Sadie, and helping on our family farm in Montezuma where we grow wheat, corn, soybeans, and milo.

# Class Introductions



## Southwest Kansas

**Kyler Millershaski** Lakin *MK Farms, Inc.* 

"Better your community by bettering yourself.

I was born into a farm family in 1992. After high school I attended the John Deere Technical Program at Garden City Community College, and after the completion of the program worked at a John Deere dealership for a year before returning to work on the family farm full time in 2015 with my grandpa, dad, and brother. On our farm, we raise wheat, corn, and grain sorghum as well as a cow/calf operation. In 2016 I was elected to the board of directors of the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers and currently serve as the Vice President. In 2016 I also started the Corn Corps program with the Kansas Corn Growers Association and remain heavily involved with Kansas Corn today. In 2019, I joined the county volunteer fire department. When I'm not working, I enjoy going snowboarding and spending time at the lake with family and my German Shepherd, Maverick. **Robert Tempel** Garden City WindRiver Grain, LLC

"Driven, passionate, collaborative, faithful and loyal."

My name is Robert Tempel, and I am the COO of WindRiver Grain, in Garden City. I have been in this position since the company's inception in 1997. Before taking the helm at WindRiver Grain, I grew up on a farm in rural Colorado. It was there that I learned the value of hard work and teamwork, and learned my passion for trading by raising show lambs and showing steers he sold throughout the Midwest. After receiving a degree in Agribusiness from Colorado State University, I started working in the grain business with my uncle's family company. I moved from there into a merchandising position with Cargill, where I eventually landed in the position of running WindRiver, which has become a leader in exports sales of wheat and milo to the Texas gulf, PNW and Mexico as well as an importer of corn. I believe developing Win/Win relationships is the key to long term success in life.



## Southeast Kansas

J.J. Bebb Mound Valley Cornerpost Crop Insurance

"Love to serve others every day!"

I have always loved being involved in agriculture since I can remember. I grew up and around all different kinds of production agriculture from irrigated corn in Southwest, Kansas, to specialty crops like head lettuce and potatoes in Colorado. Growing up, all I ever wanted to do was play in the dirt and run machinery. I worked for farmers as a kid, starting at 10 years old and continued until 2007 when I had the opportunity to buy my farm and rent more acres. God had a hand in intervening years later by slowing me down and guiding me to work more for Him and others! The passion and drive I had for myself is now focused on others and groups that are worthy of my time. KARL will be a tremendous opportunity for me to see what others are dealing with in their communities. I am blessed to live in Kansas and call you family forever! Jesse Muller Liberty Muller Construction, Inc.

"Every day is a new day."

I am the farm and ranch manager at Muller Construction, Inc. and a fourth generation employee of the family business. I also assists with other family members' operations, including Pumpkin Creek Farms. Residing in rural Liberty, the Muller family raises registered and commercial Simmental, Simgenetics, and Angus cattle, along with wheat, soybeans, and corn. I farm with my great uncle as the 6th generation on the Wishall family land. I attended Labette County High School, Coffeyville Community College, and Kansas State University, with majors in Agricultural Economics and Animal Sciences. I have served or am serving in various civic and trade organizations. When I'm not caring for cattle, you'll find me spoiling my eight nieces and nephews. I capture photographs of life on the farm, past travels, and scenery. I hops to build upon the foundations of the past to construct more opportunities for the future in Southeast Kansas.

# Class Introductions



## Southeast Kansas

**Kendra Riley** Dexter Self-Employed

"The experience is worth the risk."

I was raised on a commercial cow/calf ranch near Dexter, where my family also produced sheep, swine, wheat and hay. I received a Bachelors degree in Animal Science from Kansas State University and a Masters degree in Agricultural Communications at Oklahoma State University, and I am near completion of a PhD in Pathobiology from the Kansas State College of Veterinary Medicine. I am currently renovating an old farmhouse, learning the art of social media marketing, and recently opened The West Riley LLC, selling quality vintage home decor with my mother in our hometown of approximately 300 people. I serve on the board of the Dexter Community Improvement Foundation, where I hope to actively encourage positive growth. Previously, I worked for the Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Animal Health as the Animal Disease Traceability Program Coordinator since 2010 and the Kansas Brands Program manager since 2013.



## North Central Kansas

**Darci Cain** Ellis Fort Hays State University Foundation

## "Practice faith and kindness without reward,"

As an Associate Vice President of Development at Fort Hays State University Foundation, I am part of a team responsible for raising financial support to meet the funding needs of the university and leads the planned giving efforts for the Foundation. I have been in the financial services industry for over 20 years and was most recently employed as a financial advisor at Werth Wealth Management of Hays. I worked in the banking industry as a vice president and trust officer. In addition, I spent time dedicated to higher education and charitable philanthropy at the Kansas State University Foundation. I am a graduate of Tabor College where I met her husband of 23 years, Brent. Together we enjoy many sporting events including cheering on Railer activities in Ellis, where our son Tegan attends. I am active in several community organizations in Hays as well as Ellis. **Amy Doane** Osborne Smith County Memorial Hospital

"Think global, Act local, Enjoy life,"

Growing up in North Central Kansas has given me a unique point of view, and I have used that perspective to tell the story of rural America. After earning a degree in political communications from Sterling College, I moved to Washington, D.C. During my time there, I worked for several membership and trade associations providing programming and communications that helped tell the stories of their members. I recently moved back to Kansas and serve as the director of marketing and communications for Smith County Memorial Hospital. Both in my career and through volunteer efforts, I spend much of my time thinking about the health of our communities and how we can be good stewards of the resources we have been given. I am amazed and proud of the work being done to preserve the rural lifestyle and am passionate about finding solutions to keep our communities vital for future generations.





## North Central Kansas

Jessica Ebert Tescott Ebert Ranch/CALF News

"Passionately advocating while feeding the world,"

Born and raised in Kansas on a diversified operation that includes farming and cow-calf cattle enterprises. I am a fourth-generation family business and I hope to one day have our boys, Ty and Mason, be the fifth. My husband, Levi, and I started Ebert Ranch in 2009. We run a commercial SimAngus cow-calf operation and put embryos in for three different purebred ranches. We also assist in the Ahlquist Farms operation with my dad and brother. This last fall we added Spanish brush goats to our operation for pasture management and extra income from the sale of the kids for meat. I have worked in the agribusiness sector after earning a degree in agribusiness from Fort Hays State University. I am the National Account Sales Manger for CALF News, Sales Account Manger for Akaushi Prime Time, and Sales Representative for Braunvieh World. **Kayla Jarvis** Phillipsburg First National Bank & Trust

"Every experience is meant to be."

I was born and raised in Phillipsburg. I grew up working on the family farm and ranch. My brother and I spent our summers hauling our Gelbvieh cattle, sometimes across the country, from show to show, with the help of our parents, of course. I attended Fort Hays State University and obtained a degree in Agricultural Business. I also played on the tennis team there for two years. After graduating from college, it has taken some time to settle into a career. I've been a cattle accountant at a feed yard and sold beef in Colorado. I decided it was time to move home in 2016 to help on the farm and work at the local bank in their Trust Department. I enjoy traveling to visit friends and checking out local breweries, going to concerts, and golfing. My favorite pastime is any activity I can bring my dog Fritz along.



## Andrew Ochampaugh Russell *Agrilead, Inc.*

"Work hard, pursue excellence, glorify God."

As Director of Operations & Technical Services, my role at Agrilead, Inc. of Russell is to manage the operational team and manufacturing of our seed care products and provide technical service to our customers. I have a passion for agriculture and consider myself blessed with the opportunity to be a small part of this industry for which the lives and well-being of so many depend. I value the work ethic and integrity of the people I work with and the customers we serve along with the relentless pursuit of innovative problem solving and continual improvement. I am involved in my local community serving upon local boards aimed at improving the economic outlook and sustainability of our region. I enjoy building things at work and at home, often engaged in the next home improvement project. I love my family and friends and most importantly put my trust in God.

## Program Curriculum

The development of Kansas agricultural and rural leaders with greater knowledge, broader perspectives and improved communication skills, resulting in effective participation in local, state, national and global discussions. Objectives also include improving decision-making and analytical skills so that participants may better serve their industry and their community, better articulating needs and resolving differences. Summaries of seminars are posted on www.karlprogram.com under the current class tab.

### 2019

**Genesis Seminar** August 22, 23, 24 Kansas Dept. Agriculture Manhattan Rock Springs 4-H Center

**Economic Development** November 6, 7, 8 Garden City Area

**Personal Development** December 4, 5, 6 Norton

### 2020

**State of the State** January 15, 16, 17 Topeka

**Conflict Management and Tools for Peace** February 9 and 10 Leavenworth

## National Issues and Service

February 10 to February 16 Washington, D.C. & Gettysburg

**Blue Chip** November 4, 5, 6 BNSF, Dallas/Ft. Worth

Adapting to Change December 9, 10, 11 Pittsburg/Southeast Kansas

Seminar locations and content are subject to change at the recommendation of the KARL Board of Directors.

## 2021

**Economies of Kansas and Global Leadership** January 13, 14, 15 Location TBD

**Energy, Water and Natural Resources** February 10, 11, 12 Hays

International Study Tour March United Arab Emirates

**The Power of a Network** April 10 Manhattan

## Program Outcomes

- > Broader views
- > Seek out mentors
- ► Learn styles of leadership
- > Self-confidence
- > Positive can-do attitude
- Different perspectives
- Civil discussion tactics
- > Problem-solving skills
- Decision-making skills
- > Public speaking skills
- > Networking
- > Desire to lead
- > Desire to engage
- ► Responsibility
- > Mentorships

International Study

## International Study Tour United Arab Emirates

Image from rawpixel.com

Class XV will discover United Arab Emirates while learning about the differences in agriculture in an entirely different part of the world. The international study seminar will include various experiences Dubai, Al Ain, and Abu Dhabi. The highlight of this trip for our class will be the cultural differences and experiencing this real oasis.

The plan for Class XV is to spend time in Dubai at the "Miracle Garden" known for its millions of flowers planted each year. They will also see the highest building in the world at 823 meters with 124 floors, and break bread with an Emirati family to learn about traditions, faith, and culture. Also included will be a trip to a local market to explore how locals purchase food.

The class will meet with local officials to learn about efforts the UAE is making in global trade and connections with the United States. They'll learn about Nakheel, a government owned development company, that has fast growing and ambitious construction projects. They'll get a first-hand look at small communities and how they are building and what amenities are being offered for the promotion of growth and development.

The Port of Abu Dhabi is on the itinerary to learn about commercial trade in the Arabian Gulf.

A visit to the Grand Mosque, the third largest mosque in the world, is planned. As well as an interesting stop to a Falcon Hospital where more than 6,000 falcons are received for examinations and treatment per year. They will visit the Zayed Agriculture Center, which is part of the Zayed Higher Organization for Humanitarian Care that employs persons with special needs. The class will see different production projects that use a specific organic cultivation system which uses the waste from aquaculture tanks. For example, a project that produces 15 tons of tilapia fish and around 200,000 heads of lettuce a year.

In Masdar City the class will discover a Zero Carbon City project and see examples of how to build in order to save as much energy as possible in the harsh climate.

Camels will also be included in this study. The class will see a camel training arena and learn secrets of camel racing. They will also see and tour a camel dairy in Al Ain and learn how camel milk is comparable to cow's milk, but much richer in nutrients.

A trip to the local livestock market is also planned with education on what makes one camel better than the other, and how the local market operates by selling goats, sheep, and sometimes cattle through their facility.

In the oasis of Liwa the class will learn about vegetable farming in the desert and meet with a local rural community leader to learn about their way of governing and projects for their citizens. There will also be some fun in store with dune bashing on the sand dunes.

Across the world the class will not only learn about another way of life and culture, they'll gain perspective on life here at home and take valuable lessons back home.

## Board of Directors

The KARL Board of Directors is made up of alumni and industry professionals who volunteer their time and talents to give back in support of the KARL organization. They meet quarterly in different areas of the state to direct and guide the strategy of the organization and provide resources for current class members. The board is responsible for overseeing financial integrity, transparency, and communication. They are tasked with guiding the program strategically and to foster the growth and training of the next generation of leaders impacting rural Kansas and agriculture.

Board members are appointed to three-year terms and care is taken to make certain all areas of the state are represented. Careful thought and recruitment go into forming the Board of Directors so it may maintain the same level of diversity, development, and professionalism expected of KARL class members. Directors not only fulfill their duties in the board room, they attend seminars, and assist with fundraising efforts.

The Board of Directors are partners in leadership for our current class participants and can serve a mentors or guides through the two-year process. They serve diverse areas of industry in and outside of agriculture, and are all recognized as leaders in their own communities, careers, and causes.

Without the diligent work and guidance of the KARL Board of Directors our program would not be possible. Below are the current members of our board.

### **Executive Committee**

**Chair of the Board Steve Baccus** Minneapolis \*Class I

**Vice-Chair Doug Hofbauer** Manhattan

**Secretary Heather Hartman** Beloit \*Class XII

**Treasurer Dick Works** Humboldt \*Class VI

**Assistant Treasurer Shawn Alloway** Edna \*Class X

## **Committee Chairs**

**Investment and Budget Dick Works** Humboldt \*Class VI

Marketing, Branding, and Diversity Sarah Farlee Lawrence \*Class XII

**Board Selection and Review** Mary McCurry Burrton

**Curriculum Chris Tanner** Norton \*Class XI

**Fund Development** Jerry McReynolds Woodston \*Class I

**Alumni Relations** Laura Moffet Stockton \*Class XIII

## Directors

Jeff Deeds, Goodland \*Class III Troy Dumler, Garden City Jancey Hall, Manhattan \*Class XIV Carolyn Harms, Derby Scott Poor, Wichita \*Class VII Barry Purdy, Wichita \*Class VI Ken Roberts, Great Bend John Thaemert, Sylvan Grove \*Class I

## **Ex-officio Members**

Mike Beam, Secretary of Agriculture Dr. Gregg Hadley, KSRE Dr. Vincent Amanor-Boadu, KSRE Dr. Barry Flinchbaugh, Prof. Emeritus

## **Professional Staff**

Jill Zimmerman, President Susan Sankey, Vice-President Janice Lierz, Administrative Assistant