



AAW 2016



FARM CREDIT

Legislative Fly-In Schedule

SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2016

7:30 a.m. Board Bus for Tour, *Hotel Lobby*

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. “Agriculture and American Military, Our Nation’s Strength” DC Monument Bus Tour (Arlington National Cemetery, WWII Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, White House), *Hotel Lobby (You must pre-register to attend) Contact: Rachel Vondebaar*

Lunch on your own

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Registration, *Holiday Inn*

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. AAW Orientation and White Paper Review, *Holiday Inn; Contact: Heather Hampton+Knodle and Karolyn Zurn*

5:00 – 6:30 p.m. AAW Reception, *Holiday Inn; Contact: Sue McCrum*

Dinner on Your Own

MONDAY, JUNE 6, 2016

Breakfast on your own

8 – 8:30 a.m. Bus Departs for the EPA Building, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington DC 20640, *Hotel Lobby*

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Security Clearance to Green Room, 3rd Floor, William Jefferson Clinton South Guard Station

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. EPA Visit, *Contact: Ruth Jensen*

- 9-9:30 a.m.: “EPA and the Agricultural Community” by Joel Beauvais
- 9:30-10 a.m.: “The Clean Water Act including WOTUS” by Allison Wiedman –Chief of the Office of Water
- 10-10:30 a.m.: “Water – Pesticides – Safety” by Kevin Keaney and Carolyn Schroeder – Office of Pesticide Enforcement
- 10:30 – 11 a.m.: “Update on Nutrient Recycling Challenge” by Hema Subramanian – Director of Animal Waste Division
- Ron Carleton – Agriculture Counselor to EPA

11:30 a.m. – Noon. Bus Departs for ACLI, 101 Constitution Avenue, NW #700, Washington, DC 20001, *EPA Foyer*

Noon p.m. – 12:45 p.m. Luncheon and Group Photo, Sponsored by the American Council of Life Insurers; *Contact: Sue McCrum*

1 p.m. – 3 p.m. Symposium: “Rippling Effects of Aquifer Depletion” Sponsored by the Past Presidents’ Council, *ACLI Rotunda; Contact: Sue McCrum*

3:15 p.m. Bus Departs for the Embassy, *ACLI Lobby*

4 – 5:30 p.m. Embassy Visit – Mexico; *Bring your passports to get them signed; Contact: Stacy Whitner*

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2016

Breakfast on own

Travel all day on Capitol Hill on your own

8:00 am – Noon Congressional Roundtable, *Senate Russell 188; Contact: Annette Sweeney*

Lunch on your own (Recommendation: US Capitol Basement)

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm Congressional Appointments (on your own)

4:30 pm – 6:30 pm Congressional Reception, *Longworth 1300; Contact: Doris Mold*

Return to Hotel on our own

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2016

Breakfast on your own

7:45 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Bus Departs for the USDA Jamie Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave., *Hotel Lobby*

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Security Clearance to 1400 Independence Ave., Williamsburg Room 107A

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. USDA Caucus, *USDA Williamsburg Room 107A; Contact: Doris Mold*

- Secretary Tom Vilsack
- 9-9:30 a.m.: “USDA and the Agricultural Community” by Undersecretary Alexis Taylor
- 9:30-10 a.m.: “Crop Insurance, Emergency Grants, Farm Bill Update” by Val Dolcini, Administrator of Farm Service Agency
- 10-10:30 a.m.: “Reporting Crop Values” by Harold Harman, Administrator of the National Agriculture Statistic Service
- 10:30-11 a.m.: “US Forest Service/AMS”

11:30 am – 1:15 pm Lunch “Ag Issues Open Mic”, *USDA 3rd Floor Cafeteria (You must pre-register to attend)*

- Monte Lake, Esq and/or Lynn Jacquez, Esq
- Craig Regelbrugge
- Dr. Barbara Glenn

1:30pm Bus Departs from the USDA Jamie Whitten Building to the Holiday Inn Capitol Hotel to pick up bags or to be dropped off then it will make one stop at the Union Station and Reagan International Airport (Note: You are responsible for your own transportation to the airport or Union Station beyond these stops.)

1:00 pm – 4:00pm Additional Personal Appointments (on your own, if needed)

Fly-In Meeting Descriptions:

- **Orientation:** The Orientation Meeting is always scheduled for Sunday afternoon by which time most of the participants will have had opportunity to arrive, check in to the hotel and get settled in. Those that choose to participate in the morning event generally arrive the day before. Orientation is the opportunity for everyone to gather together, get an overview of the Itinerary for the week, review the key AAW issues that participants will take to their appointments, and hear from invited speakers, usually a Washington, DC based Agricultural Association Government Affairs Representative, such as from Farm Bureau, Cattlemen's Association or depends on what topics AAW is advocating. This is also the time when the name tags, Agenda Packets, and Advocacy Packets are distributed.
- **Symposium:** This year AAW celebrates the 23rd Annual Symposium. The AAW Symposium is a meeting featuring a panel of experts brought together to discuss a specified subject. The panelists are each given a specific amount of time to deliver their presentations, which may include a power point presentation. After the speakers have all presented, a microphone is set in the middle of the room to allow audience participants to ask questions. This event is usually recorded, transcribed and made available to members. The AAW Symposium is usually arranged by the Past President and her team. They decide on the subject matter and invite the panelists. This event is usually planned for Monday morning but this year, that may change.
- **Congressional Roundtable:** The Congressional Roundtable is a fairly new feature to Fly-In and extremely well received. It is a meeting where the invited speaker is a member of the House of Representatives or the Senate in 15 – 20 minute increment, allowing 5 minutes for Q&A. Two – three hours are generally allowed for this event, depending on the venue and how many speakers can be secured. The table is arranged in a round or semi-circle for the AAW attendees and a podium or head table set-up for the speaker.
- **Agency Roundtable:** The USDA Agency Roundtable has always been a favorite for Fly-In and planned for Tuesday morning. It is a meeting where the invited speaker is a USDA or other Governmental Agency of

Special Invited Guest, such as Agriculture Coalition for Immigration Reform or FDA. This event is always held in the Williamsburg Room which has a huge oval table. Agency officials are invited to speak in 15 – 20 minute increment, allowing 5 minutes for Q&A. Two – three hours are generally allowed for this event, depending on how many speakers can be secured. The speaker sits at the head of the table.

Tour Guide:



Daniel Minchew will be our Tour Guide on Sunday. He has many great experiences! I wanted to highlight a few: Chairman, US International Trade Commission; Executive Office of the President – President John F. Kennedy; Executive Office of the President – President Lyndon B. Johnson; Office of the Secretary of Defense – Secretary Robert McNamara; Office of Senator Richard B. Russell – Office of Senator Herman E. Talmadge; US Japan Trade Council - National Cotton Council

Orientation Speakers:

Kristi Boswell serves as the Director of Congressional Relations in the Public Policy Department of the American Farm Bureau Federation in Washington DC, handling labor and food safety issues. Prior to joining AFBF, Boswell practiced corporate defense litigation, including labor and employment matters, at Stinson Morrison Hacker LLP in Omaha, Nebraska. She also worked as an aide to former Nebraska State Senator Pamela Redfield in the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature. Kristi grew up on a farm in southeastern Nebraska where her family raised corn and soybeans. She received her Juris Doctor with Distinction from the University of Nebraska College of Law in 2009.



Ryan Yates is the Director of Congressional Relations at the American Farm Bureau Federation. In this capacity, he advocates on behalf of American farmers and ranchers on policy issues including federal lands management, the Endangered Species Act, and protection of private property rights. Previously, Yates has worked at the National Association of Counties (NACo), where he handled policies affecting county governments impacted by federally owned land in the western United States. Additionally, he has served on the staff of the U.S House of Representatives Committee on Resources for Chairman Richard Pombo (R-CA). As a native westerner, Yates grew up working as a farmhand in California's San Joaquin Valley. He has a degree in



agricultural business from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

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EPA Speakers:



Joel Beauvais serves as the Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water. Prior appointments include Associate Administrator for EPA's Office of Policy and Associate Assistant Administrator in EPA's Office of Air and Radiation, where he oversaw a broad portfolio of domestic and international air quality and climate policy

issues. He previously served as Special Counsel to the Office of the Administrator in EPA's Office of General Counsel. From 2007 to 2010, Mr. Beauvais worked on energy and climate legislation and policy in the U.S. House of Representatives – first as counsel to the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming and then as counsel to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. He clerked for Justice Sandra Day O'Connor on the Supreme Court of the United States and for Judge Harry T. Edwards on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, and has worked in the private sector on environmental regulatory issues and appellate litigation. Mr. Beauvais graduated summa cum laude New York University School of Law, and holds a B.A. in political science (magna cum laude) from Yale University.

Hema Subramanian is an Environmental Protection Specialist in EPA's Office of Water Headquarters in Washington, DC. Since 2010, Hema has served as a member of the Rural Branch in the Water Permits Division of the Office of Wastewater Management. She works primarily on voluntary partnership initiatives related to animal feeding operations. Prior to joining EPA, Hema gained ten years of experience working on environmental, agricultural, and health issues at a variety of non-profit organizations and pesticides data analysis for EPA as a contractor. Hema graduated in 1999 with a Bachelors Degree in Environmental Studies and Psychology from Pitzer College in Claremont, California and is pursuing her Masters Degree in Environmental Management with University of Maryland University College.



Allison Wiedeman has devoted her entire career working with the EPA. In EPA's Office of Water she was in charge of the development of national water pollution regulations for energy related industries including coal mining and oil and gas drilling and production. She worked at

the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program for 9 years, where she was in charge of directing activities to accelerate the restoration of the Bay through technological innovation. Allison served as the Acting Agriculture Counselor to the EPA Administrator in 2014. She currently manages the Office of Water's animal livestock water quality protection programs and applications of pesticides to US waters. She received a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering from Vanderbilt University and a Master's degree in Public Administration from American University.

Kevin Keaney is the Chief of U.S. EPA's Pesticide Worker Safety Programs (national programs in agricultural worker protection, pesticide applicator certification, pesticide container / containment / disposal), has managed worker safety projects in Mexico, and Central America and implements an initiative to better prepare health care providers to recognize and manage pesticide poisonings. He has taught at universities in Pittsburgh and Baltimore, directed a Virginia community action program, was a planner / economist for Washington's Metro subway development and has undergraduate and graduate degrees in Economics and English Literature, and has studied law.

Carolyn Schroeder came to EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs from a public health background and has been working in the area of farmworker and pesticide applicator protection in the 10+ years she has worked in EPA. Carolyn works to improve pesticide worker safety through regulation, resource development, outreach, and training. She works on two federal regulations: the Worker Protection Standard and Certification of Pesticide Applicators. Carolyn served as Peace Corps volunteer in Guatemala, where she worked closely with small communities promoting public health and sanitation and the protection of natural resources. She has an MSc in public health from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

USDA Speakers:



Val Dolcini is the Administrator of the Farm Service Agency of the United States Department of Agriculture. Val Dolcini was selected to serve as the Administrator for the Farm Service Agency in September 2014. He previously served as state executive director of the California Farm Service Agency, a position he was appointed to in 1999 by President Bill Clinton and again in 2009 by President Barack Obama. Dolcini also served as the acting Farm Service Agency Administrator in 2011. As state executive director, Dolcini was responsible for overseeing 30 county offices and for administering farm programs and policies in one of the nation's largest agricultural states. Dolcini has many years of public and private leadership experience. Prior to accepting the state executive director position, he managed government relations activities for Accenture LLC, a global consulting firm. In that position, he strategized with business teams about relationship development and consulted on a wide range of political matters. He previously served in a senior staff position for the California governor and

lieutenant governor as well as members of the U.S. House of Representatives. A fifth-generation Californian and a native of Davis, Calif., Dolcini has served on numerous non-profit boards and commissions in his community. Dolcini received his bachelor's degree in history from San Francisco State University and a juris doctorate from Golden Gate University School of Law.



Alexis Taylor is the Deputy Under Secretary Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services of the United States Department of Agriculture. Alexis Taylor was delegated the duties of the Under Secretary for the Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services (FFAS) mission area by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack in March 2016. FFAS is comprised of the Farm Service

Agency (FSA), Risk Management Agency (RMA), and Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS). FFAS helps to keep America's farmers and ranchers in business as they face the uncertainties of weather and markets. FFAS delivers commodity, credit, conservation, disaster, and emergency assistance programs that help improve the stability and strength of the agricultural economy. FFAS also delivers USDA's international food assistance programs and works to build new markets and improve the competitive position of U.S. agricultural products in the global marketplace. In her previous role as Deputy Under Secretary, Alexis oversaw the department's international activities. She had key responsibilities in international trade policy and export assistance programs, and coordinated USDA's role in international food assistance. Alexis Taylor was formerly the Chief of Staff for FFAS where she worked to implement provisions of the 2014 Farm Bill. Before joining USDA, she served as the legislative advisor to Congressman Leonard Boswell of Iowa, a member of the House Agriculture Committee, and later to Senator Max Baucus of Montana, a senior member of the Agriculture Committee and Chairman of the Finance Committee. During her time in Congress, Alexis negotiated key provisions of the 2008 Farm Bill, as well as the Senate version of the 2012 Farm Bill which was ultimately enacted into law as the 2014 Farm Bill. Alexis served in the United States Army Reserves from 1998 to 2006. During her time in the Reserves she did one tour in Iraq with the 389th Combat Engineer Battalion. Alexis is a graduate of Iowa State University and grew up on her family farm in Iowa which has been in her family for over 150 years.