Meet me (us) in St. Louis!

St. Louis Convention – November 10-14, 2010

The 2010 convention agenda is full of great speakers and opportunity for visiting with old friends and making new ones! The speaker lineup includes Dr. J. Scott Vernon, professor/communicator/auctioneer and founder of the “I Love Farmers; They Feed My Soul” campaign; Brett Begemann, Monsanto executive vice-president; and Sarah Muirhead, editor of Feedstuffs magazine.

There will be great tours, workshops and meetings as well. Spouse/guest tours in the area are planned for Thursday and Saturday. On Friday, all participants will tour research farms and facilities and the world renowned St. Louis Zoo. At the zoo, we’ll enjoy dinner and an animal welfare panel, a surprise event and live auction, called by Dr. J. Scott Vernon.

For the first time at an AAW convention, we are planning two different tracks which members may choose to attend. One track will include individual skills and career development workshops, and the other track will include issues sessions and AAW committee meetings. You do not have to stay on one track throughout the convention but may choose between tracks for any time period.

Also, we will have early bird optional training sessions on Wednesday afternoon – Annie’s Project staff will be putting on an Annie’s Project training. This is a great opportunity for those who have not been through this educational program dedicated to strengthening women’s roles in the modern farm enterprise. This will be a fast-paced, interactive seminar. In addition, back by popular demand, for those who were unable to attend the training at Mid-Year meeting, Ron Wilson will present his Leadership Learnin’ - Lessons of a “Roads” Scholar.

Please register and book your hotel rooms as soon as possible, as we are concerned about running out of hotel rooms at the Ritz-Carlton. This is a wonderful location, convenient to the airport and interstate, with a great rate for our convention - $119 per night. All registration information is enclosed, or you may register online.

Meet us in St. Louis!
Dear AAW Members,

I hope this finds you well and those of you in harvest are bringing in a great crop and will be finished early!

I also hope you will be able to join AAW members from around the country in St. Louis for our November convention and annual meeting. What a great line up of speakers and sessions in store!

As always, the best part will be sharing with friends in AAW and meeting new ones. I am excited about the many members who will be attending for the first time.

A wonderful aspect of AAW is the sharing among generations of women involved in agriculture. I was reminded of this again recently when my daughter Joanna was interviewed for an article in the Kansas State University Agriculturist magazine about her involvement in AAW. She emailed me the answers she’d given, and I would like to share them with you, because it illustrates how AAW members inspire the next generation of Agri-Women.

Q: What is your perspective on the importance and mission of American Agri-Women?

A: American Agri-Women’s mission is extremely important. Consumers, people from urban areas, and anyone who doesn’t have close contact with agriculture will always have questions about the agricultural industry in America and world-wide. Right now our nation is questioning how food is produced. Agriculture isn’t how it’s portrayed in the media. Part of AAW’s mission is to educate the public on things like this. Jean Ilendahl, a long time member of AAW, founded Ag in the Classroom, which is now a nationwide program. Another really important task that AAW takes on is helping our lawmakers understand how the laws they’re making will affect agriculture. Since senators and representatives rarely have firsthand knowledge concerning agriculture, AAW gives agriculture a face, tells them how laws can or will affect agriculture, and answers questions. If the senators and representatives understand the issues, they can vote in a way to help ag, and everyone can benefit. Those involved in agriculture, whether it be specialty crops, beef, corn, or whatever, are grossly misunderstood and misrepresented.

So, I guess to really answer your question, my perspective on the importance and the mission of American Agri-Women is that educating the public about agriculture and advocating for ag will always be needed and extremely important.

Q: Is there anyone in the organization you have looked up to? If so who and why?

A: Aside from the obvious (my mother), I’ve looked up to so many wonderful women in AAW. I could name lots of women from AAW who I look up to, admire, and love. I’ve sort of grown up inside AAW and it, along with the women, has definitely helped to shape me into the person I have become. Women in American Agri-Women have such different backgrounds and pasts, yet all have a common passion for agriculture.

Q: What do you plan to do in the future? How has American Agri-Women influenced that decision?

A: I was recently accepted into the Early Admission program at Kansas State University’s College of Veterinary Medicine. I plan on becoming a large animal veterinarian. More than that, however, I would like to have my own little ranch and a modest beef cattle operation. I fully intend to stay involved in American Agri-Women for the rest of my life.

I’ve always wanted to be a large animal veterinarian and I don’t think anything could have changed that. Regardless, AAW has definitely inspired me to aim higher. The members of AAW have always encouraged me, supported me, and made me feel like I could do anything I set my mind to. Because of American Agri-Women I know that I will definitely always want to be involved in advocating for agriculture.

I couldn’t agree more!

Chris
Officer nominees span the country

Wisconsin Women for Agriculture member Lisa Condon is running for Vice President of Education. She and her husband Robert own and operate a 350-cow dairy, raising 330 heifers along with growing corn, soybeans, wheat, alfalfa, sweet corn and peas. They run 400 owned and 400 rented acres near Horicon, Wisconsin. Lisa is responsible for young stock up to age 6 months, all recordkeeping, helping with harvesting crops, employee issues and maintaining the farm landscape. She and Bob have 3 children: Kelly, 23, Adam, 21 and Kimberly, 18.

In 1998, the Condons were named Outstanding Young Farmers in their local Jaycees program and were runners-up at state. This honor opened up many opportunities for their involvement in agriculture education. Their family represented Wisconsin in Washington DC on National Ag Day in March 1999, where they visited three inner-city schools to educate children about daily life on the farm. The children treated them like celebrities. This was a life changing experience and Lisa knew then, it was part of their job as dairy producers to educate the public about agriculture.

The Condons hosted the county dairy breakfast in June 1999, serving breakfast to over 2600 people and continue to welcome groups of all ages to tour their dairy.

Lisa has been a member of American Agri-Women for ten years and, secretary of her local Rock River Chapter for eight years. She is chairperson for the group’s county fair ice cream booth, where local youth furthering their education in agriculture receive the proceeds. The scholarship program that Lisa spearheaded in 2006 has benefited 13 local youth so far. Rock River Chapter also sponsors many 4-H programs.

Lisa is a member of Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin, Dairy Business Association, and Farm Bureau. She attended Syngenta Leadership training in April of 2010.

Lisa says, “While touring our calving area, a young boy asked: ‘How do you know these cows are pregnant? Because their eyes are bigger?’ . . . Answering his own question. How many consumers are answering their own questions with misinformation?”

Texas Agri Women president Jody Elrod is the nominee for AAW secretary. Her grandfather ran a dairy and father ran cattle and because of her connections to agriculture, she has always worked for ag lenders. She now works for the farm credit system at Texas AgFinance as Documentation Officer. She appreciates ag because as an industry it affects everyone... directly or indirectly. “As a member I am amazed at the number of amazing women able to work together for the greater good.” She and her husband Will have a son, Trent.

Resource Center board member Sue McCrum from Maine Agri-Women has been nominated for a second term.

Sue has been a member of Maine Agri-Women since they formed in the early 1990s. She has been state president. She joined AAW in 1991 and co-chaired the 1992 AAW convention hosted by Maine Agri-Women in Bar Harbor.

Sue and her husband, Jay, and have grown potatoes and grains in Maine for 39 years and have added a transportation business to get their crops to market and also have a potato processing plant. Sue has been married to Jay 39 years and they have three married children and seven grandchildren.

Ohio Agri-Women’s incoming president Jane Marshall is also running for Resource Center board. She is a dairy farmer in southwest Ohio and has been attending AAW conventions since 2004. She has also attended Syngenta.

Slate of Officers Selected

The AAW nominating committee is pleased to announce that they have secured nominees for two offices and the AAW Resource Center board.

Wisconsin Women for Agriculture member Lisa Condon is slated to run for Vice President of Education and Texas Agri-Women member Jody Elrod will be running for Secretary.

Members nominated to sit on the Resource Center board are: Sue McCrum, Maine Agri-Women; Jane Marshall, Ohio Agri-Women; and Dolly Lillis, Idaho Women in Timber.

Ardath DeWall, Illinois Agri-Women; Carolyn Kleiber, Kansas Agri-Women; Jacque Compton from Nevada; and Jeree Mulkey, Oregon Women for Agriculture, will be next year’s nominating committee.

As stated in the bylaws, members may be nominated from the floor. with the nominee’s consent.

This year’s nominating committee included Arlene Kovash (OR), Ardath DeWall (IL), Lois Schlickau (KS), Katie Yost (MT) and Sue McCrum (MA).

She met her husband on the way to the Farm Science Review, an ag show in Ohio. They have five children who have all been involved in 4-H and Bible Study Fellowship.

Idaho Women In Timber member Dolly Lillis is the third nominee for the Resource Center board. Dolly has been active in AAW for several years, attending conventions, Mid-Year meetings, and the Fly-In to Washington DC. She has chaired several committees for American Agri-Women, including the Timber committee and, currently, Global Issues, and has been the Strategic Action Response Team (StART) coordinator.

Officer nominees span the country

Wisconsin Women for Agriculture member Lisa Condon is running for Vice President of Education. She and her husband Robert own and operate a 350-cow dairy, raising 330 heifers along with growing corn, soybeans, wheat, alfalfa, sweet corn and peas. They run 400 owned and 400 rented acres near Horicon, Wisconsin. Lisa is responsible for young stock up to age 6 months, all recordkeeping, helping with harvesting crops, employee issues and maintaining the farm landscape. She and Bob have 3 children: Kelly, 23, Adam, 21 and Kimberly, 18.

In 1998, the Condons were named Outstanding Young Farmers in their local Jaycees program and were runners-up at state. This honor opened up many opportunities for their involvement in agriculture education. Their family represented Wisconsin in Washington DC on National Ag Day in March 1999, where they visited three inner-city schools to educate children about daily life on the farm. The children treated them like celebrities. This was a life changing experience and Lisa knew then, it was part of their job as dairy producers to educate the public about agriculture.

The Condons hosted the county dairy breakfast in June 1999, serving breakfast to over 2600 people and continue to welcome groups of all ages to tour their dairy.

Lisa has been a member of American Agri-Women for ten years and, secretary of her local Rock River Chapter for eight years. She is chairperson for the group’s county fair ice cream booth, where local youth furthering their education in agriculture receive the proceeds. The scholarship program that Lisa spearheaded in 2006 has benefited 13 local youth so far. Rock River Chapter also sponsors many 4-H programs.

Lisa is a member of Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin, Dairy Business Association, and Farm Bureau. She attended Syngenta Leadership training in April of 2010.

Lisa says, “While touring our calving area, a young boy asked: ‘How do you know these cows are pregnant? Because their eyes are bigger?’ . . . Answering his own question. How many consumers are answering their own questions with misinformation?”

Texas Agri Women president Jody Elrod is the nominee for AAW secretary. Her grandfather ran a dairy and father ran cattle and because of her connections to agriculture, she has always worked for ag lenders. She now works for the farm credit system at Texas AgFinance as Documentation Officer. She appreciates ag because as an industry it affects everyone... directly or indirectly. “As a member I am amazed at the number of amazing women able to work together for the greater good.” She and her husband Will have a son, Trent.

Resource Center board member Sue McCrum from Maine Agri-Women has been nominated for a second term.

Sue has been a member of Maine Agri-Women since they formed in the early 1990s. She has been state president. She joined AAW in 1991 and co-chaired the 1992 AAW convention hosted by Maine Agri-Women in Bar Harbor.

Sue and her husband, Jay, and have grown potatoes and grains in Maine for 39 years and have added a transportation business to get their crops to market and also have a potato processing plant. Sue has been married to Jay 39 years and they have three married children and seven grandchildren.

Ohio Agri-Women’s incoming president Jane Marshall is also running for Resource Center board. She is a dairy farmer in southwest Ohio and has been attending AAW conventions since 2004. She has also attended Syngenta.
**35th Annual Meeting: November 10-14, 2010**

**Convention Registration Form**

Name ______________________________________________
Affiliate ____________________________________________

Address ____________________________________ City _________________
State_____ Zip ____________
Phone __________________ Fax______________
E-mail __________________________________________

Spouse/Guest _________________________________
Phone_______________________________________

Voting Member of AAW? □ YES □ NO Are you a first time conference attendee? □ YES □ NO

### Registration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>#Attending</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Early Registration (postmarked by October 15, 2010)</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Late Registration (postmarked after October 15, 2010)</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Saturday Only Registration</td>
<td>$145.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Day Only Registration</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

please indicate day: □ Thursday □ Friday

### Optional Events (please indicate if attending and how many)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>#Attending</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Wednesday Optional Dinner</td>
<td>Self Pay</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Wednesday Optional Training Sessions</td>
<td>complimentary</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

please choose one: _____Annie's Project Training

_____Leadership Skills Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>#Attending</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Thursday Morning Tour</td>
<td>complimentary</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Thursday Afternoon Spouse/Guest Tour</td>
<td>complimentary</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Friday All Attendees Tour &amp; Dinner</td>
<td>complimentary</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

please choose one: _____Monsanto Breeding and Agronomics Technology Tour

_____Monsanto Biotechnology Tour

_____Novus Research Facilities (Limit 50)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>#Attending</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>□ Saturday Spouse/Guest Tour</td>
<td>complimentary</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Illinois Post Convention Tour</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Branson Post Convention Tour</td>
<td>Self Pay</td>
<td>______</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grand Total** ________

### Additional (see attached pages for descriptions of these services)

□ I will require daycare for _______ children.

List ages here: _______________________.

□ I would like to participate in the Social Media Training

Indicate which session you would like to attend to reserve your spot

please choose one: _____Beginner

_____Advanced
Networking at the Convention

By Doris Mold, Networking Committee Chair

Convention is a great time to network with AAW members and guests and we are going to add a few fun activities to encourage even more networking this year in St. Louis. In addition to matching first timers with seasoned AAW mentors, we will have activities for all members to participate in so that you can get to know new people or find out more about the people that you may already know.

There will be a networking treasure hunt for everyone that will take place throughout most of convention. Given that it is a treasure hunt we guarantee everyone will find some treasure by meeting some terrific people and to add to the fun we will have some great prizes for those that participate. There will also be some informal networking activities at some of our meal functions that will mix it up and provide you insight into some people that you are dining with. There is sure to be a surprise or two thrown in just for fun.

We are looking forward to networking with you in St. Louis!

Schedule of Events

Wednesday, Nov. 10
2:00-5:00 p.m.: Optional Training Sessions
3:00-6:00 p.m.: Registration
Dinner on your own

Thursday, Nov. 11
8:00 a.m.: Orientation for First Time Attendees
9:00 a.m.: Spouse/Guest Tours Depart
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: Workshops
1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.: Workshops
4:00 p.m.: Board of Directors Meeting
4:00 p.m.: Mentors and First Time Attendees Meeting
5:30 p.m.: Reception and Welcome to St. Louis
Dinner on your own
6:30 p.m.: President’s Caucus Meeting
8:00 p.m.: Town Hall Meeting

Friday, Nov. 12
7:45 a.m.: Breakfast and Opening Ceremonies
9:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: Workshops
12:00 p.m.: Lunch and Keynote Speech
1:30 p.m.: Networking Tours
5:00 p.m.: Dinner at St. Louis Zoo, Auction, and Special Treat

Saturday, Nov. 13
7:45 a.m.: Breakfast and Keynote Speech
9:00 a.m.: Spouse/Guest Tours Depart
9:00 a.m.: Business Meeting
12:00 p.m.: Lunch
2:00 p.m.: Workshops
6:00 p.m. Reception and Banquet

Sunday, Nov. 14
8:00 a.m.: Worship Service
9:00 a.m.: Post Convention Tours Depart

Additional Convention Information

Hotel Accommodations:
A block of rooms are reserved under American Agri-Women at Ritz-Carlton in St. Louis for a special rate of $119 per night excluding taxes. Reservations must be made prior to October 17, 2010. Call the hotel directly at 1-800-960-7056. Group rates will be offered for November 10-15. Parking and internet service is complimentary during our stay there.

Payment & Inquiries:
Make checks payable to American Agri-Women and mail with registration form to: Carolyn Kleiber, P.O. Box 111, Hillsboro, KS 62033.
Any inquiries contact Carolyn Kleiber at 620-877-0274 or e-mail treasurer@americanagriwomen.org

Cancellation Policy:
Cancellations need to be made in writing and sent before October 1, 2010 for a full refund.

Childcare:
Interested in childcare at the hotel? AAW will make arrangements for childcare to be provided on location during the convention sessions. The cost would be shared between those parents using the service (anticipate $5 per child per hour). Snacks and activities would be provided.

Social Media Training
Social media training sessions are an option. Michele Payn-Knoper of AgChat will be providing two sessions - one for beginners and one for more advanced social media users. Each of those sessions are limited to the first 30 participants to register. Please plan to bring a laptop if possible.
Convention Post Tours

Sunday, Nov. 14:

Illinois Post Tour

Bus departs at 9 am for Lewis & Clark Point of Departure at Hartford, IL, where we can see a replica of the boat they used to go up the Missouri River to the Pacific Northwest. Guides will take us up an elevator at the recently completed tower, to see the landscape from several levels. Then on to the Heepke horseradish farm where they will be harvesting horseradish and demonstrate how to use horseradish in cooking. We will be served a complete meal using horseradish in various dishes.

From the Heepke farm we will travel to the National Great Rivers Museum and Melvin Price Locks and Dam at Alton. At the dam a step-on guide will meet the bus and take us on a brief tour of this historic river town, including a photo op at the statue of the world's tallest man. Then we will drive north to Grafton where we will see the Piasa bird, subject of a Native American legend, and enjoy wine tasting and heavy hors d'oeuvres at a local winery. The bus leaves Grafton on a ferry across the river to St. Charles, MO, which is a short drive from Clayton, returning to the hotel at approximately 7:00 p.m. All of this is included in your $50 tour fee. However, if you are driving and choose to follow the bus, you may want to book lodging in Grafton overnight. They have many lovely lodges and bed and breakfasts, which we can help you evaluate.

Sunday, Nov. 14 – Wednesday, Nov. 17:

Branson Post Tour

We have reserved 10 rooms for three nights at the Lodge of the Ozarks in Branson, MO. The cost is $102 per night including tax. This hotel is centrally located on Highway 76 -- next door to Mickey Gilley's, connected to the Hughes Brothers, across the street from Jim Stafford and Number One Hits of the '60's, plus the Titanic Museum and several other attractions are just a couple of blocks away. Check out their website www.lodgeoftheozarks.com but make your reservation through Carolyn for our excellent rate. Also note that most motels are already sold out during this time!

Beginning November 1 each year, Branson is transformed into a festive wonderland with spectacular lighting displays, dazzling shows celebrating the true spirit of Christmas, theme parks in all their holiday glory, and numerous special events -- a fabulous time to visit!

Christmas show schedules are not out yet, but you can contact the Branson Convention & Visitors Bureau at ExploreBranson.com or 1-800-BRANSON for information. They say the Branson airport has good connections to larger cities.

If you are interested in visiting Branson, you need to contact AAW treasurer Carolyn Kleiber and send her $100 deposit to hold a room. Your deposit will be refunded if you contact Carolyn before Oct. 15 or find someone to take your room. If you do not want to stay all three nights, that is permissible but Carolyn needs to know that. These rooms are first come-first served.

AAW is not in the travel business. If you are not driving to convention, you may want to join forces with other AAW members and spouses to rent a van from St. Louis to Branson and consider flying home from Branson. It is a four hour drive mostly on I-44. There are some interesting sites to see as you drive down, such as civil war battlefields, Laura Ingles Wilder's home, and Lambert's restaurant where the waiters throw you homemade rolls. You would have to make your own theater reservations, etc.

One last thought: If you're going to Branson but want to try that horseradish meal before you leave, you could do that and still get to Branson in time for a Sunday night show. You would be leaving Heepkes about 1:00 and it should be about 5 hours to Branson. (Of course you would have to follow the bus to Heepkes.)
Three of our many outstanding convention speakers

Brett Begemann

Brett Begemann will speaking on the challenges facing agriculture in this century to meet the demand for food, as we will need to double production by 2050.

Brett is the Executive Vice President with commercial responsibility for Monsanto’s businesses in North America, EMEA (Europe, Middle East, and Africa), Asia Pacific, China, India, and South America. Begemann leads the strategic approach and global coordination aimed at accelerating the growth potential of Monsanto’s businesses.

As a part of his strategic priorities, Begemann develops and directs regionally adapted strategies focused on the expansion of the company’s seed-and-trait platform and growth initiatives in each region, including the successful implementation of a value-sharing system for Monsanto’s Roundup Ready technology in soybeans in Brazil.

Brett grew up on a diversified grain and livestock farm in the Midwestern United States. He graduated from the University of Missouri with a degree in agricultural economics. He joined Monsanto in 1983 as a sales representative in Minnesota. Throughout his career with the company, he has served in a variety of sales, marketing, commercial development and general management positions for Monsanto in both U.S. and international markets. Begemann currently resides in St. Louis, Missouri with his wife. Outside of Monsanto, his interests include college sports and golf.

Sarah Muirhead

Sarah Muirhead will address challenges to animal agriculture.

Sarah is editor and publisher of Feedstuffs, the leading weekly newspaper for animal agriculture. She has more than 25 years of editorial and communication experience and over the last 15 years has been instrumental in moving the 80-plus-year print publication to various electronic platforms. Sarah also is the creator of Feedstuffs FoodLink, a multimedia communication effort that provides the facts related to modern food production. Sarah grew up on a hog and seed farm in northern Illinois. She holds a bachelors degree in agricultural journalism from the University of Illinois.

Dr. J. Scott Vernon

Dr. J. Scott Vernon is a motivational speaker, speaking out for agriculture through the “I Love Farmers; They Feed My Soul” campaign.

Dr. Vernon has spent a lifetime in agriculture. He has farmed in the San Joaquin Valley, and in his own words, “rustled cattle in Alabama (just kidding!), and sold livestock throughout the western United States as the country’s slowest auctioneer. As a kid he rode bulls and roped in rodeos, but soon learned he was better at spreadin’ bull than trying to ride and rope ‘em!”

Vernon received his Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees from Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo and his Ph.D. at Texas A&M University. A veteran teacher, Dr. Vernon has been honored as California’s Young Agriculture Teacher of the Year, twice honored as the San Joaquin Valley Star FFA Advisor of the Year, selected as an Outstanding Teacher at Texas A&M University, awarded Club Advisor of the Year at Cal Poly, and bestowed an honorary American FFA Degree, by the National FFA Organization.

Vernon is a professor in the Agricultural Education and Communication Department at Cal Poly and was recently recognized by the California State Assembly for his leadership in communicating about agriculture. Dr. Vernon is a pilot, successful auctioneer and business owner. He writes a column called “The Winner’s Circle” for several national magazines.

Dr. Vernon delivers fun-filled speeches and seminars on communication, leadership and motivation to agricultural audiences throughout the nation! His positive message has helped thousands of people, young and old, lead more energetic lives. He works with companies and organizations to improve communications and leadership to enhance teamwork, productivity and profits.

Check our website, americanagriwomen.org, for additional speaker information as it becomes available!
LOOKING FOR AN EDITOR

AAW is seeking proposals for the paid position of editor of the Voice. The editor prepares five to six 8–12 page newsletters for publication each year under the direction of the president and vice president of communications.

It is the responsibility of the editor to solicit articles from affiliate organizations, officers and committees and edit them. She will report at convention, Midyear and Fly-In events and write articles and take pictures as needed.

The editor position is a one-year contract and may be renewed. Proposals are due Oct. 30 to Linda Swiercinsky, 1739 IL Rt. 8, Maquon, IL 61458, or by email to showlamb@earthlink.net with the subject line EDITOR.

The current printer in Topeka, KS, requires a working knowledge of Adobe InDesign, word processing, and Adobe Acrobat.

Feel free to contact Linda if you have any questions as you write your proposal.

ACTION NEEDED ON CLEAN WATER ACT LEGISLATION

AAW asks that all members contact their Senators and congressional representatives asking them to co-sponsor SB 3735 in the Senate, the FIFRA Paperwork Reduction Act, and its companion legislation HR 6087 in the House.

This legislation clarifies that permits (specifically, water permits) are not required for pesticides applied in compliance with FIFRA. This legislation would re-establish the legal primacy of FIFRA over all pesticide uses, as well as instructing the EPA and courts that Congress did not intend other environmental laws to overtake FIFRA by creating duplicate regulatory burdens.

This legislation is critical. Last year, the 6th Circuit Court of Appeals overturned EPA’s 2006 rule exempting aquatic pesticide applications from the Clean Water Act’s (CWA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), so the EPA is now forced to develop a NPDES permitting system for such pesticides.

The effects of not seeing this legislation pass could be devastating for agriculture. To date, EPA’s proposed general permit only covers applications of pesticides registered for aquatic use and applied to water or forest canopies; it would not cover pesticide applications registered and intended for land use. However, activists indicate that they believe most pesticide applications should have to have a permit if there is even a chance that the pesticide could come in contact with any water. So, even though the EPA may not currently cover farm applications, nothing in the CWA or the proposed permit protects against citizen suits against farmers for not obtaining a permit.