Don’t miss this exciting AAW convention at Niagara Falls in November!

Everyone is invited to our 2013 National American Agri-Women Convention from November 6 – 10, 2013, in Niagara Falls, NY. The Past Presidents’ Council is planning a super convention that will have it all – beautiful location, newly remodeled hotel, updates on issues, renewing friendships, an international meeting in Canada (DON’T FORGET YOUR PASSPORT) with shopping and dining, and great speakers, and you can even “whine” to us while we give you wine, cheese and chocolate! What else could you ask for?!!

Well, you could ask for a casino — there is one down the street from the hotel. You could ask to have the Falls close to the hotel and guess what? They are! Just a short walk to them. They have nightly Falls illumination from 5 pm to midnight, in fact. There is the Niagara Falls State Park just blocks from the hotel and you can explore the award winning wineries along the Niagara Wine Trail. You can visit www.niagara-usa.com or call 1-877-FALLS US for more information about the area.

Convention Registration starts on Wednesday at 1 pm and some meetings will be that afternoon (check the agenda in this Voice). There’s a Welcome Reception at 6 pm where you can meet with all your old friends – and make new ones too.

Thursday morning we leave bright and early for Canada (DON’T FORGET YOUR PASSPORT!!) for a day full of interesting speakers, shopping and dining.

On Friday, we start with our business meeting and have concurrent sessions again this year. Kris Zilliox is leading the Personal Development session in the Education and Professional Development track. The affiliate presidents’ meeting will start us off in the Membership & Issues track. Lunch with woman extraordinaire Past President Mitzi Perdue as our speaker will be highly entertaining and delightful. Affiliate presidents will not want to miss the Board positions Doris held are:

• AAW Vice-President of Education
• AAW Resource Center Board of Directors – President, board member, and AAW Liaison as VP of Education
• AAW’s National College Project Chair and Convention Liaison
• AAW Consumer Education Chair
• AAW Networking Chair
• Leaven Award Committee Chair
• AAW Public Understanding and Awareness Committee Member
• 2007 National Convention Co-Chair

Doris has served on numerous other committees as well, and has received many awards. Continued on page 8.
President’s Report

Dear AAW Members,

American Agri-Women members have been busy all across the country with summer activities — parades, summer meetings and public tours — in efforts to help educate more people about our industry. I am honored to have been chosen to lead women in agriculture who have done so much, and continue to do much, for the good of our country; and am honored to be a part of an organization whose members are well-informed, interested, and willing to speak out for agriculture. Thank you.

And now, Fall is upon us: harvests are coming in, grass — where there IS grass (Sorry, Texas. I wish you at least had some DRY grass rather than no grass at all.) — is turning brown, state fairs are winding down, and the kids are back in school . . . all of which contributes to us having a little more breathing room.

Well, maybe just some small breaths! Because it’s time to think about the November annual meeting and convention in Niagara Falls, New York — “Neighbo(u)rs Working Together.” This is truly an international experience with tours planned in Ontario, Canada, and New York, USA. Registration forms are online and in this issue of the Voice. Do NOT neglect to get your passport if you have not already done so. Please register soon and invite someone new to come along with you! If you are like me, this is actually a time of refreshment and encouragement as we meet new friends and are inspired by good speakers and a lively exchange of ideas.

Two friends of AAW, Dr. Noel Vietmeyer (who spoke to us in D.C. at the Fertilizer Institute) and William Perry Pendley, of the Mountain States Legal Foundation, have both recently released new books: Dr. Vietmeyer’s story of Dr. Norman Borlaug, the new Memorial Edition of Our Daily Bread, retails at $24. Dr. Vietmeyer has offered to make this book available to AAW affiliates as a fund-raising opportunity. What better idea could you have for gifting to your friends, your Representatives, and just about everyone who questions the practices of modern agriculture to help them understand the many benefits it has given the world. Contact Dr. Vietmeyer directly if your organization would like to find out more at noelvi@cox.net.

William Perry Pendley (who spoke to us at midyear in Louisville, KY) has just released his book entitled Sagebrush Rebel, about former President Ronald Reagan. I recommend both of these books if you haven’t already read them, ask you to recommend them, and if you have already read them, again, to give as gifts to help spread a positive message to those who may not know it!

AAW reaches out to spread the messages of reasonable policies, consumer education, and all other segments of our economy necessary for America’s prosperity, and we can be encouraged to know that others are seeking the same goals. We have many friends in other organizations, in other industries and in other countries who are aligned with us to help unify our messages. We must not give up embracing our neighbors’ concerns and we must do our best to eliminate

Continued on page 11.
## Agenda
### 2013 AAW Convention
Niagara Falls, NY

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2013**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 am – 2 pm</td>
<td>Executive Committee meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 – 5 pm</td>
<td>Registration Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:15 am – 3:15 pm</td>
<td>Resource Center Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30 – 4:30 pm</td>
<td>Joint AAW Exec. Committee and Resource Center Meeting</td>
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<td>4:45 – 5:30 pm</td>
<td>Education Standing Committee Meeting</td>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>6 – 7 pm</td>
<td>Welcome Reception - Cash Bar with hors’doeuvres</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 pm</td>
<td>Dinner on your own (suggestions for restaurants provided by hotel)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 – 8 pm</td>
<td>Start Chair, Coordinators and Committee Chairs Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Hospitality Room open</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 pm – 10 pm</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting continues</td>
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**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2013**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 am</td>
<td>Hospitality Room — hot coffee/drinks for bus ride to Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 am</td>
<td>Bus leaves for Canadian tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Return from Canada after eating dinner</td>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>9 am (cont.)</td>
<td>MIP Track (Membership &amp; Issues Participation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>Membership Standing Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 – 10:45 am</td>
<td>Affiliate Presidents’ Caucus: Expectations/Duties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 am-Noon</td>
<td>Personal Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 am</td>
<td>Mentors &amp; First Timers Meeting — Kris Zilliox</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Lunch with Speaker – Mitzi Perdue</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 – 3:30 pm</td>
<td>Board of Directors Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45 – 5 pm</td>
<td>Town Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>Syngenta Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Dinner with speaker</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:15 pm</td>
<td>Hospitality room open</td>
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**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2013**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Registration Open - Continental Breakfast</td>
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>AAW Meeting Opening Ceremonies</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Spouse Tour Departs</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>Sessions – Concurrent Tracks</td>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>9 am</td>
<td>EPD Track (Education &amp; Professional Development)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 am (cont.)</td>
<td>MIP Track (Membership &amp; Issues Participation)</td>
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<td>Membership Standing Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 pm</td>
<td>Syngenta Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Dinner with speaker</td>
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<td>8:15 pm</td>
<td>Hospitality room open</td>
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**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2013**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 – 8:45 am</td>
<td>Breakfast – Speaker, NY Dept. of Ag (unconfirmed)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 – 10:30 am</td>
<td>AAW Business Meeting – Opening Ceremony with Affiliates’ Flags</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45-12 noon</td>
<td>AAW Business Meeting Continues</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 noon</td>
<td>Silent Auction Closes</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 – 3:30 pm</td>
<td>Pick up and pay for Silent Auction items</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 – 4 pm</td>
<td>AAW Business Meeting Continues</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 – 4:30 pm</td>
<td>Resource Center Meeting (elections)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:15 – 5:30 pm</td>
<td>Sweet W(h)iners Session – wine, cheese &amp; chocolate (Don’t miss it!)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>President’s Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Banquet</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
<td>Hospitality Room After Banquet</td>
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**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2013**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Worship Service – Eunice Guell, AAW Lay Chaplain</td>
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**Depart for Post-Convention Tour**
Convention News, continued from page 1

of Directors meeting after lunch. It’s a time to participate and help guide our organization into the future. General membership is also welcome.

We are trying something new this year for our Town Hall. We are holding it in the afternoon and are planning more involvement by the StART committee members. And as always, anyone can come and update us on what is happening in their area – or a concern you want others to help you with. It is always educational and gets our “juices” flowing as we discuss local, state and national events.

We have a GREAT speaker Friday evening, Mr. Tom DeWeese, who is going to educate us about Agenda 21 and how it is being implemented throughout our United States. Since we have incorporated opposition to Agenda 21 in some of our positions this year, you need to learn why we did that. Do not miss him!

Saturday we continue with our Business meeting. Of course we will have the Silent Auction again this year. Don’t forget to bring your items for sale!! This has been such a great way to raise money for American Agri-Women – AND we get to shop! Another new feature this year will be the “Sweet W(h)iners Session” where you can tell us all about what you liked and have not liked about convention! And we give you wine, cheese and chocolate to help ease your pain! Of course, our banquet will be that night with awards and installation of new officers.

The cutoff date for the hotel is October 16th. Please get your reservation in before then as room availability after that date could be limited. If you have a question, please email Kathy Reavis at kjreavis1948@hotmail.com or call 956-432-8122. For questions on the hotel, call Marcie Williams at 740-893-4300 or email at wmsfarms@gmail.com.

The Past Presidents are looking forward to welcoming you to this year's convention and annual meeting. See you soon!

Post Convention Tour

Our Post Convention Tour is going to be all day Sunday and New York Agri-Women will be highlighting some of West New York’s (WNY) finest agri-businesses.

We will be visiting Becker Farms and Vizcarra Vineyards and Lamb Farms, Inc. Becker Farms and Vizcarra Vineyards are a unique Agri-tainment farm as well as vineyard and brewery. Becker Farms sells local products from their farm store as well as gives wine tastings and sells baked goods from their bakery.

Lamb Farms is one of WNY’s finest and largest dairies as well as NY’s largest Kosher dairy. The main farm milks approximately 2,400+ cows and has a rotary style parlor. The farm grows all of their own crops and has a strong working relationship with vegetable crop producers in the area.

Convention Details

The best airport to fly into is in Buffalo, NY. It is about a 30 minute ride from the airport to the Sheraton at the Falls Hotel (phone #716-285-3361) in Niagara Falls. You can take the shuttle or rent a car.

The shuttle prices are one way and includes all fees and baggage handling: 1 passenger is $45; 2 passengers are $25 per person; and 3 passengers are $18 per person. It may be a good idea to coordinate the shuttle to the hotel with other people. If you use the shuttle, YOU NEED TO MAKE RESERVATIONS AHEAD OF TIME by calling 716-685-2550 or 877-750-2550. You can also email Lauren Roehner at lauren@buffaloairportshuttle.com.

If you want to rent a car, Budget Rent-a-Car of Buffalo is giving AAW a discount for all members. The rates look good so if you are interested, call Martha A. Ward at 716-566-3508 or email her at martha.ward@budgetbuffalo.com. Be sure to give the reservationist the Rate Code A18 for the discount. I believe you can go to our website and get the rates for different vehicles.

For those attending convention, we have a request. This year we are asking members to bring their old tote bags from previous conventions that they have stored somewhere in their house. Please bring as many as you can for others who do not have one. A prize is going to be given to the person who brings the oldest tote bag. So, clear out some storage space and give someone a “piece of history.”
# 2013 American Agri-Women Convention Registration Form

## November 6 – 10, 2013 * Niagara Falls, NY

**Name:** ____________________________________________  **Affiliate:** ______________________________

**Address:** ____________________________________________  **City/State/Zip__________________________

**Phone:** _____________________________________________  **Email:** ________________________________

**Voting Member of AAW?** ____Yes ____ No  ***Are you a first time attendee?***  _____Yes  ____ No

**Spouse/Guest:** ________________________________________  **Phone:** _______________________________

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<tr>
<th>REGISTRATION:</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th># Attending</th>
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<tr>
<td>___ Early Registration (postmarked by Oct. 16, 2013)</td>
<td>$250.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>___ Late Registration (postmarked after Oct. 17, 2013)</td>
<td>$275.00</td>
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<td>___ Student Registration: School__________________</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
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**Graduation Year __________________**

___ Day Registration Only. Indicate day __Thurs. __Fri. __Sat. $125.00  _________ $______________

## THURSDAY: Canadian Tour @ $30/person

**Choose a first and second choice tour:**

- Prins Grow Floral Greenhouse & Upper Canada Cheese
- OR Vineland Research & Innovation Centre
- OR Inniskillin Winery

**FRIDAY: Spouse/Guest Tour**

- __________

**SUNDAY: Post-Convention Tour**

- $60/person  _________ $______________

**TOTAL**

- $ ______________

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**Make checks payable to:** AAW 2013 Convention, and mail registration form to Jean Pettibone, 2013 Convention Treasurer, 6835 Road 2, Kanorado, KS 67741-9400.

**HOTEL INFORMATION:** Sheraton at the Falls, 300 Third Street, Niagara Falls, NY 14303. Registration **cutoff date for hotel rooms** is **October 16, 2013.** Rooms are reserved under American Agri-Women. Reservations can be made by calling 1-866-961-3780 or visit our personalized website at: https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroupsWeb/res?id=1211301443&key=9F60A

**SHUTTLE INFORMATION:** Reservations are required for the Buffalo Airport Shuttle, phone 1-716-685-2550 or toll free 1-877-750-2550; website is BuffaloAirportShuttle.com. Credit card required to hold the reservation and have your travel information available. Rate is one way per person and includes all fees and baggage handling: 1 passenger, $45 per person; 2 passengers, $25 per person; 3+ passengers, $18 per person. Price does not include driver gratuity. Questions? Go to Lauren Roehner at the above mentioned numbers or lauren@buffaloairportshuttle.com

**CAR RENTALS:** BUDGET is offering AAW a discount for rentals. Call them at 716-632-4662 or online @ www.budgetbuffalo.com. Be sure to give them the **Rate Code of A18.** If you need personal assistance with your reservation, call the local representative Martha Ward @ 716-566-3508 or email martha.ward@budgetbuffalo.com

**CANCELLATIONS** need to be made in writing and sent postmarked by October 1, 2013, for a full refund.
Romania is a country located in Central Eastern Europe, latitude 45 degrees, a country proportionally shaped by fields, hills and mountains with almost a quarter to each.

Romania is a European Union member with excellent AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES and an AGRIBUSINESS infrastructure. It is #7 in Europe with agricultural land, with around 14.7 ml ha, and #5 with arable fields, with approximately 9.4 ml ha.

Romania is the 2nd largest sunflower and corn producer in the EU (after France), and the 4th in wheat (after France, Germany and Poland), competing directly with the UK. It must be specified that Romania is a milling wheat country mainly.

The most well known agricultural resources are the large amount of arable land and skilled people to work in the industry, with a vast horizon of data and information ready to be centralized in order to improve the operational AG future. Did you know that Romania has an incredible number of rivers which could be used for irrigation? Not to mention the water table which is quite high here so close to the Black Sea.

The agribusiness infrastructure is mainly represented by the Danube River (including the Danube Delta) and Black Sea (therefore accommodating barge and vessel transport by the Danube up to Austria), the high number of input suppliers and AG buyers, and a road system for transport which is improved year after year. Romania has a great Panamax Harbor in Constantza, Black Sea, and increasing number of ports on the Danube (South and South East of Romania).

Still, Romania needs to learn more about higher yields due to state of the art business concepts, real know how and horsepower, high productivity and a real instinct to connect to the prospects and perspectives of the AG market both on a local basis and international (regional).

On 1 January 2012 the population of the EU-27 was estimated at 503.7 million; this was 1.3 million people more than the year before. With around 21.36 million people (end of 2012), Romania is in the very centre of attraction for agriculture stakeholders all over the world. From 2007 (when the country entered the EU) more and more investors showed interest to invest in both agricultural resources and services. Romania is an important market and business hub not only to Europe.

As you may be aware, dear readers of The Voice, one of the main things happening lately in the world is about the business culture in our business activities. The mentality, attitude, etc., are part of the culture and it is incredible how important it is to take care of the business culture, to take care of the specific elements in different parts of the world when rolling into business but into AG.

At the end of 2012, of the Romanian population of 21.36 million inhabitants, 10.4 million are men (48.7%) and 10.9 million are women (51.3%).

On January 1, 2012, 11.7 million persons were living in the urban area, accounting for more than half of the country’s population, and 9.6 million persons were living in the rural area, accounting for 45.0% of the country’s popula-
tion. Communities with 1000 to 5000 inhabitants represented 80.9% of the total number of communities. The female population, with an average age of 41.5 years, was, on January 1, 2012, 3.0 years older than the male population. At the end of December 2012, out of 9.26 million employees 2.68 million were involved in agriculture, forestry and fishing.

There are women in the agriculture field in Romania in the far North of the country, East side, in the South Plains and in the West. There are no public statistics on this aspect but probably not that important at the moment as it can be noticed in different other European countries. For instance, Italy has a female farm labour force of 1.2/1.3 million, well ahead of comparably-sized European Union nations such as France and Germany, neither of which reached even 340,000. In Spain, a more traditional agricultural country, there were only 660,000 female workers, half of those in Italy one year ago. Based on Eurostat September 2012, just over one third (35%) of the regular agricultural labour force in the 27 EU countries was female, although in the Baltic Member States and Austria this share was closer to half, peaking at 48% in Latvia. Women in agriculture in Romania work very hard, as everywhere in the world. Few have access to information, reliable international data, and know how. There are some women driving tractors and combines, strong women with strong drives.

Others are involved in working their small fields for cereals and spring crops, roses or lavender, and other aromatic plants. Romanian agriculture women can travel in Europe to learn about AG and business in general. There are a few famous AG Universities in the West of Europe where more and more female students enjoy a top academic education. More and more creative Romanian ladies act as top employees in the large AG funds with investments in farming, livestock, processing and trading in this Black Sea country. Famous top Romanian business women switched from real estate, cosmetics, pharmacy, and furniture to agriculture, bringing exquisite flavour to the industry.

The actual times are those where the practical abilities boasted by men are now paired up by the soft skills in business generated by women. Romanian agricultural women are welcome now from the board directors to operational activities in the fields or in the offices. Their creativity, constructive attitude, understanding and ‘the how to do it’ show off these times. They balance the male drive and open new horizons in Romania.

Thank you for your attention and interest in AG Romania and AGRI-Women in Romania. Let me wish all of you great AG times ahead! Together we can improve our future, our AG CULTURE!

Creatively yours,
Dana Bucur

Dana Bucur
AG Romania 2013
Officer nominees, continued from page 1.

Doris states, “I believe that the combination of my life experiences, training and education have prepared me well for the office of First Vice President of Vital Issues.

I have experienced and understand a broad base of our agricultural system. I have developed a large network of agriculturalists and beyond, that I can call on to provide expertise and connections when the need arises. I have provided leadership on all levels, working in many different groups with a wide range of personalities and have learned what it takes to bring out the best in people so that we develop a team that moves our work forward and accomplishes astounding things. More importantly, I have held leadership positions and worked on all levels of Agri-Women and know what it takes to develop and nurture new leaders and activate volunteers.

I am particularly pleased that many of the women that I have advised through our Collegiate Agri-Women have gone on to take on state and national leadership posts within our organization and agriculture in general. Finally, I have the passion and desire to serve the organization in national leadership posts within our organization and agriculture in general.

Our current treasurer, Peggy Clark, is running for a second term.

Peggy is a member of Ohio Agri-Women and is secretary-treasurer of Mike Farm Enterprise, a family farm corporation. She, her husband Mike, and son David manage 5500 acres of corn, soybean, and wheat for 67 different landlords in four different counties. They also manage a small trucking firm, hauling grain and bioproducts.

Peggy is active in many community organizations, including Waynesville United Methodist Church, Warren County Farm Bureau, and Waynesville Progressive Women, and is AAW’s current treasurer and past president of Ohio Agri-Women. She and Mike have three children: David, Steven, and Jaime.

Both Peggy and her husband are alumni of the Ohio State University Leadership Education and Development Program (LEAD). She has always taken a keen interest in serving her community in various aspects. Some of the positions she’s held over the years include, Madison County MRDD Board of Trustees, London Cub Scout leader coordinator, Waynesville Girl Scout neighborhood director, LEAD alumni board of trustees, board of trustees for Quaker Heights Nursing Home, Warren county commissioners’ farmland preservation/open ground committee, and Clearcreek Township land-use committee. Peggy is currently volunteering at Quaker Heights every afternoon as a craft leader for the residents.

As a note of interest, Peggy and her family over the past 25 years have hosted many international exchange students and guests from 75 different countries. She and her family have traveled extensively throughout the world on visits and agricultural tours. Besides traveling, Peggy’s hobbies include genealogy and photography, and anything with family and friends.

Those running for the Resource Center board are Maine Agri-Women member Pam Townsend, Kentucky Women in Agriculture member Jenny Stelmach Inman, and Ohio Agri-Women member Jane Marshall.

Pam Townsend is vice president of Maine Agri-Women and has attended the Syngenta Leadership At Its Best Training and is manager of a local bank.

Jenny Stelmach Inman has been AAW Start Commodities Coordinator this year, is chair of her Chamber of Commerce Ag Business Committee and a member of the Kentucky Ag Council and Kentucky Farm Bureau. She is also on the Kentucky Commissioner of Ag’s Fuels Lab Task Force. She has completed the Syngenta Leadership At Its Best training and, most importantly, believes in AAW and where it can go in the future.

Jane Marshall is currently president of Ohio Agri-Women and co-chair of the 2014 AAW Convention which will be in Ohio, as well as president of the Resource Center board, and nominating committee chair. She has been involved in many committees.
American Agri-Women
Brazilian Trip sign-up date extended

American Agri-Women has had interest from members for us to set up an agriculture tour in Brazil. We still have room for more so have extended the sign-up deadline. Karolyn Zurn would also like to have your feedback on cost or other concerns. Please contact her at 218-850-9219 (Colzurn@yahoo.com).

The tour is set up for American Agri-Women members to meet with other women in agriculture groups and have the opportunity to tour farms and ranches owned and managed by women. There are many women who are integral partners and/or owners in the farms and ranches in Brazil so we have taken extra steps to include them during this stay. You will see sheep and cattle ranches and many types of crops. The types of crops we will see will include the same types of crops grown from California to the Midwest and the East Coast.

We will be offering this as two packages to help accommodate your schedule:

A. Basic Package dates of tour March 16th-25th, 2014, includes round trip airfare from Miami, USA, to Brazil. A travel allowance of $1000 may be deducted from the total cost of this trip if you choose to use your own airline.

B. Add-on Package to Iguassu Falls, March 24th-27th. This will include a tour of Itaipu Dam, one of largest hydroelectric dams in the world.

The Main Tour (A)
The main tour is $4,275 per person, based on double occupancy (add $463 to guarantee a single room). In addition to airfare, it includes:

• 9 days/7 nights in superior tourist class accommodations
• 21 meals: 7 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 7 dinners
• Transportation in luxury air-conditioned motorcoach
• Sightseeing and technical visits
• Services of full-time tour manager with ag background
• All taxes and fees

Tour to Iguassu Falls (B)
This tour is an additional $775 per person, based on double occupancy ($300 additional for single room).

Reservations are limited to first come first serve. Karolyn Zurn, 218-850-9219 (Colzurn@yahoo.com), will be handling the details and confirming reservations. It is necessary that you contact her as soon as possible.

Donate and receive a FREE copy of Sagebrush Rebel by William Perry Pendley

Remember William Perry Pendley, our fascinating speaker from Mountain States Legal Foundation at Midyear? His book, Sagebrush Rebel, is available now and you can both get it free AND help MSLF by donating $50 to MSLF (or donate $60 to MSLF for a free autographed copy).

Perry’s book is the untold story of Sagebrush Rebel Ronald Reagan, his courageous natural resources and environmental policies, and why the lessons taught by Reagan are worth relearning today.

Ronald Reagan sought not only to transcend the Soviet Union (“We win and they lose.”) but also to transcend environmental extremists and their war against Western civilization. Reagan knew these extremists from their War on the West and knew their demands doomed Americans to endless scarcity and privation. Reagan—a sagebrush rebel—would have none of that; he demanded use of the nation’s abundant energy and natural resources to restore the economy, defeat the Soviet Union, and build a bright future for all Americans.

Reagan’s battle was not about protecting the environment—he was an environmentalist himself. It was over whether people were part of the ecosystem, as Reagan argued, and between competing visions of government: powerful New Deal-style government run by progressives and technocrats or limited government that emphasized individual liberty and economic freedom. Little wonder the environmentalists hated Reagan, lied about him then, and lie about him today.

This is a book worth reading. Go to http://www.mountainstateslegal.org/home#.UfaLof_nbEY for YOUR copy!
**Affiliate News**

**Women’s Mining Coalition 2013 Fly-In a success**

The Women’s Mining Coalition’s 21st annual trip to Washington, DC, was another success.

By the numbers, we had 48 women from 19 states participate in 222 meetings on the Hill (compared to 179 meetings during the 2012 Fly-In, an increase of 24%), all in 3-1/2 days. We met directly with 63% of the House offices we contacted for visits and 65% of the Senate offices. In addition to meetings with Congressmen, Senators, and staff, we dropped off information to 78 offices, occasionally with the chance to speak to staff members who handle resource issues. Thus, the total number of offices that were visited was 300!

This year, we made an extra effort to schedule meetings with staff at various regulatory agencies. This effort resulted in productive meetings with the EPA, U.S. Forest Service, Office of Surface Mining, and the BLM.

Our issues were not only well-received, but in many cases, familiar to the staffers and members with whom we spoke. Many plan to use our 12 issue papers as reference materials during the 113th Congress. Our issues covered both coal (GHG, coal ash, dust rule, fill material, emissions standards, SBZ rule) and hardrock (financial assurance, sage grouse, critical & strategic minerals, minerals reliance, incinerator regulations).

Perhaps one of the best signs that our mining advocacy is effective is the fact that five mining-related bills passed out of committee in the House during the week following the Fly-In.

WMC once again thanks its loyal Fly-In sponsors and contributors, who never fail to guide and fund us when we put out the call: National Mining Association, American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity, ADA Environmental Solutions, Chevron, Northwest Mining Association, Peabody, Caterpillar, Mine Development Associates, American Coal Council, Sumitomo, and WMC Director Debra Struhsacker.

Thanks also to all the companies who encouraged their employees to participate in the Fly-In.

**Sigma Alpha is Getting ‘Wild About Agriculture’**

*By Lindsey Liebig, National Sorority Board President*

Fall is one of the busiest times of the year for Sigma Alpha as we prepare for our National Convention. Nearly 200 sisters will convene in sunny San Diego, CA, on October 17-19th, with events including a reception at the San Diego Zoo & Safari Park, keynote speaker Chris Heeter from the Wild Institute and plenty of sisterhood and fellowship.

The National Convention focuses on showcasing the four pillars of Sigma Alpha and provides workshops and breakout sessions for sisters on leadership development, philanthropic activities and a career fair featuring various businesses looking for strong women with an agricultural background.

Sigma Alpha is a professional agricultural sorority that promotes scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship among its members. Since our creation in 1978, Sigma Alpha has become a national organization consisting of more than 80 collegiate and alumni chapters and is 9,900 members strong.

For more information about Sigma Alpha, National Convention or ways to support our Educational Foundation please look at our website at www.sigmalpha.org or contact the National Board President, Lindsey Liebig at president@sigmalpha.org.

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**President’s Column, continued.**

any message that divides agriculture. Respecting and promoting the talents and priorities of other commodities, of competing products, and even of trading partners, does not lessen the importance of American agriculture. In this world of growing populations and escalating food needs, there is a place for us all. In that line of thought, what a delight it was to receive the VOICE article about farming in Romania from AAW life-time member Dana Bucur! I believe it will encourage you.

The 2014 AAW Brazilian Tour (March 16-25th, 24-27th added tour) is confirmed and promises to be an enriching experience. Tour availability is limited, with registration extended to October 31st. We will be accepting late registrations at the annual meeting in Niagara Falls, if space allows.

Contact Karolyn Zurn, president of Minnesota Agri-Women at 218-850-9219 or colzurn@yahoo.com for more information.

I was fortunate to be invited to speak at the Iowa Women in Agriculture Conference last month along with South Dakota friends Troy and Stacy Hadrick. What an inspiration it is to listen again to their wonderful presentation in their own unique story-telling manner. Thanks, Hadricks! You are true “Advocates of Agriculture!” Thank you Iowa Agri-Women for a great program and for the opportunity to share about AAW. I am looking forward to attending meetings in Arizona and North Dakota next month.

I appreciate the opportunities to visit many state affiliates during these past two years as your president. I have enjoyed traveling to see AAW members in their home states. I know the encouragement we can give to each other is immeasurable; our AAW presidents’ time has always been stretched thin and so I welcome your ideas for examining AAW strategies to increase the effectiveness of our directors, committees and officers, who I realize are volunteers with the priority of running their own businesses. I hope to see you all in Niagara Falls!

“It’s not good enough to be good...you’ve got to be good for something!” Sister Thomas More
**2013 AAW Resource Center Photo Contest**

Deadline for the AAW Resource Center photo contest is October 1, 2013.

Submit Photographs to: Lori Brammerlin at ag06grad@yahoo.com

Winning photographs will be unveiled and featured on note cards and Christmas cards being sold at the National AAW Convention in New York. All proceeds from the notecards will go towards the AAW Resource Center to provide scholarships for women in agriculture.

**GUIDELINES & RULES**

The primary theme of the photographs must be “agriculturally related,” whether it is a photo of scenery, a close-up, a record, or pictorial photo. Judging points are based on composition and content.

- Photos must be submitted by October 1, 2013, but can be from the past or present.
- Primary theme of photo may be scenery of a farm/ranch in the different seasons, stages of production of different agricultural commodities, close-up of a particular agricultural product, portrait, or collage, etc.
- Contestant must be an AAW member.
- Photos submitted must be the original work of the contestant.
- No more than two photos may be entered by each contestant.
- Photos may be taken with any type of camera: digital, 35 mm, etc.
- Each photo must be submitted in an electronic tif. or jpg. file format.
- Each photo entered must be labeled with the contestant’s name, address, and description of the photograph.
- Each photo must not have a date or number on the front.
- A panel of judges will select the winners.
- All photographs become the property of the AAW Resource Center for any and all uses determined by the entity. Photos will not be returned.

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**Environmental groups receive $1.25 million in grazing case**

*By Mateusz Perkowski, in the Capital Press, Salem, Oregon*

Environmentalists have won $1.25 million in compensation for attorney fees and costs in their years-long battle against cattle grazing in Oregon’s Malheur National Forest.

Last year, a federal judge ended a court battle between environmentalists, ranchers and the U.S. Forest Service over the effect grazing had on threatened steelhead habitat.

During the nearly 10 years of litigation, U.S. District Judge Ancer Haggerty issued several injunctions that limited grazing at the request of the Oregon Natural Desert Association (ONDA).

Grazing in the national forest is now governed by a new “biological opinion” developed by the government, which ended curtailments imposed by the court.

Haggerty ultimately concluded that ONDA won several of its legal claims against the Forest Service, which entitled the group to attorney fees and costs from the federal government.

The environmental group originally asked for nearly $1.4 million in compensation, which the government called “prodigious” and “excessive” because ONDA’s legal victories were modest.

The government also claimed the group inflated the requested amount by billing at premium “expert” rates for work that didn’t require extensive environmental experience.

However, Haggerty slapped down the government’s arguments, finding that the “fees requested are great, in large part because this case involved a large administrative record, complex scientific materials and a lengthy duration of time.”

“Heartened, there is no doubt that the hours expended were increased dramatically by repeated delays caused by federal defendants and government counsel,” the judge said in a ruling.

If the defendant were a private party, Haggerty said he would have granted ONDA its full request. Because the money came from taxpayers, though, it deserved more scrutiny, he said.

While the government argued that the amount of compensation should be cut by up to 50 percent because ONDA didn’t prevail on all of its claims, Haggerty said the “federal defendants underrepresent the success plaintiffs achieved.”

The environmentalists “prevailed, or partially prevailed, on eight out of twelve claims eventually litigated, obtained substantial injunctive relief during the years prior to final judgment, and most importantly, were able to reverse the degradation of habitat in the MNF and achieve substantial protections for threatened steelhead,” the judge said.

Haggerty also rejected the government’s arguments that the plaintiffs billed for excessive hours at high rates.

“It is safe to say that if a large firm had handled this case, the fees would have been an order of magnitude larger,” he said.

Even so, Haggerty ordered the amount of the award to be reduced for technical reasons related to the federal statutes under which compensation for different types of claims is allowed.

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**Nominees, continued from page 8.**

and issues in Preble County. She writes a column about agriculture and Lost Arts for a local paper, and is a faithful member of Concord United Church of Christ. She also serves on a variety of housing committees including Habitat for Humanity, the Continuum of Care, and the homeless task force.
American Agri-Women
PO Box 111
Hillsboro, Kansas 67063

American Agri-Women
Calendar of Events

October 1, 2013
AAW Meet and Greet:
Phoenix & Wickenburg area

October 2013
AAW Meet and Greet:
10/8 – Dickinson, ND
10/9 – Fargo, ND

November 6-10
AAW 2013 Convention,
Niagara Falls, NY & Ontario,
Canada.

March 16-27, 2014
AAW Brazil Tour

AAW Web Site
www.americanagriwomen.org

American Agri-Women is the
nation’s largest coalition of farm,
ranch and agribusiness women with
over fifty state, commodity and
agribusiness affiliate organizations
throughout the country.

Trenna Grabowski, former AAW president (1992-93) was posthumously
named to the Illinois Agri-Women Hall of Fame during the recent Illinois
State Fair. Pictured L-R: Trenna’s son Paul, husband Ron, and daughter Liz
Rodgers; production ag winner Suzy Eilers; and Jennifer Timm, agribusiness
winner.