FALL 2019: BOUNTIFUL TOURS AT THE END OF THE OREGON TRAIL

By Mallory Phelan

The 2019 AAW Convention is the perfect opportunity to convene with fellow members and learn all about agriculture in Oregon as well as grow in your leadership development. This year’s event features a variety of speakers on pertinent topics and a whole host of fun and informative tours.

Thursday morning kicks off with the AAW Foundation Board, AAW Executive Committee, Affiliate Presidents, and other standing committees - meeting throughout the morning, while first-time attendees have an opportunity to gather and meet one another. Thursday afternoon, all attendees can board a bus destined to show some of the best Oregon has to offer!

First stop is at the state’s land-grant university, which is also one of only two universities in the country with sea-, space-, and sun-grant designation: Oregon State University (OSU). Our tour specifically will be at OSU’s North Willamette Research and Extension Center (NWREC), a 160-acre experimental farm running 85 field trials and almost 50 greenhouse and lab trials and is one of 12 field stations OSU manages around the state to address the research and education needs of area farmers and agribusinesses.

Next stop is at the Northwest Hazelnut Company (NHC), a family-owned

AAW FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

By Ardath DeWall, Scholarship Coordinator

The AAW Foundation has had an exciting scholarship year, with excellent applications, deserving recipients and a very helpful committee. Thank you, Lesley Schmidt, Jenny Stelmach and Deb Whalen. We will be giving five academic scholarships this year.

The two Daughters of American Agriculture Scholarships, Jean Ibendahl High School Scholarship for age 18-23 and Sister Thomas More Bertels Continuing Education Scholarship is for age 24 and older. These scholarships

CONVENTION, continued on page 4 ►

SCHOLARSHIP, continued on page 8 ►
My final Voice article! It is hard to believe how fast my time of service as your president has been!

Personally, I have been a member of American Agri-Women for 14 years. The one thing you notice when you attend a meeting, is that AAW has acquired many members who not only care about the success of our organization, but also work tirelessly towards the betterment of our industry as a whole. Your elected Executive Committee members are some of these women. It has been an honor to serve by their side. Initially, we were seven women from all over the country, who barely knew each other at all. What a journey we have had! I will always fondly remember it.

The younger members of your Executive Committee have kept me on my toes! We began each year with a retreat where we reviewed the duties that each position was responsible for. These duties were then coordinated with all committee members activities, enabling us to reach many of the goals we had set collectively for the year. Inclusive and transparent discussions fostered creative solutions, which we embraced and implemented. I trusted and empowered each member of our team with their engagements, and I was left in awe of their capabilities as they spread their wings and transcended our organization to the next level.

I am proud to have served with them and know that our organization is in good hands with the energy, determination, and vision of the next generation. Managing a national, all VOLUNTEER organization of women with diverse backgrounds can only occur because of the people in the room with you. There are many internal and external committees that run the day to day operations of our organization. For instance, many of our members serve in the capacity of governmental affairs, education, membership, finance, communications, nominating committee, Past-Presidents’ Council, bylaws, community affairs, and special projects, etc. I sincerely thank my appointees, and everyone who has served in support of AAW’s efforts through their work on these committees. Please know how much your time, talents and efforts are appreciated. The weather and markets made this year difficult for many. With all that was happening on our farms and ranches, I was even more thankful for your continued support. It made me realize that many members work on projects represents their lifelong contributions to our country, and not just our founder’s vision.

These past two years, I have also learned how highly engaged and efficient teams are an indispensable part of an organization! AAW's hard-earned reputation for relationship building, strategy development, implementation, and achievement was desperately needed to respond to the fast pace of changes that occurred for our industry in Washington D.C. Our response times proved that the foundation of American Agri-Women's operational structure has served us well these many years. We run like “a well-oiled machine”. Technical advances may change how our machine communicates. Cultural and political change requires our machine to be constantly evolving, but AAW has proven itself to be able to easily change, adapt, and implement new leadership styles. Every two years we experience this internally within our organization as well, and I look forward to all the future holds!

Several members have contacted me wondering what my next steps will be. Professionally, I will be launching several start-ups and working throughout the continent of North America and possibly Africa. On my ag advocacy journey, I will continue to serve AAW as Immediate Past President, and California Women for Agriculture as Past State President. This volunteer work allows me to continue my participation in federal and state issues, while my professional work may permit me to test the waters of Ag advocacy on the international level. Additionally, I plan to start advocating for the Arthritis Foundation in 2020.

The women that I have had the opportunity to work with, will be counted among my friends for the rest of my life. Our friendship is a treasure to me. It is a bond that had been forged by our battles in the trenches advocating together for our cause. Let's keep in touch.

Best Regards,

Jeanette Lombardo

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SIGMA ALPHA CONVENTION REPORT
By Karolyn Zurn

Sigma Alpha Sorority is an affiliate of American Agri-Women and is by far the most significant of the collegiate affiliates.

I was honored to give a welcome and say a few words about American Agri-Women at their annual convention held in Scottsdale, Arizona. The heat index, while I was there, rose above 110 degrees. However, now I know why the rooms are so inexpensive during the summer in Arizona.

The convention was held at a beautiful resort, The Scottsdale Resort at McCormick Ranch, with many outbuildings for meeting rooms, nice pool facility and great food.

I was so impressed with the whole convention; so very organized and it ran very smoothly plus the women were fabulous hosts.

This was a learning process for me to see what Sigma Alpha was all about and how the organization is set up. I learned about the various regions and how each one plays into their master plan to achieve success.

Kelly Lawler, president of the national board, was there to greet me along with Megan O’Connell, the outreach director, who visited with Jane and I about attending.

There were several speakers and several round-table lead discussions, including AAW’s table. This was a great avenue to speak about the many scholarship opportunities AAW has to offer young women, such as the CHS Foundation/American Agri-Women Foundation scholarship, available now. My table was surrounded the whole time with interested women wanting to know more about our organization. Several of them wanted a collegiate membership, which I was happy to help them out with.

The program booklet for the convention was very nice and to my surprise as I flipped pages there was a half-page picture of AAW members posing on the steps of the White House annex during our 2019 Legislative Fly-In. I flipped another page and there was the Sigma Alpha Educational Foundation Report written by our very own Lisa Campion Sullivan, who is the President of Sigma Alpha Educational Foundation and Past President of Sigma Alpha Sorority.

A few of the speakers really stood out in my mind, like Lesley Kelly, who authors the “High Heels and Canola Fields” blog and is a co-founder of the “Do More Agriculture foundation” – her content revolves around food, farming, family, mental health and agriculture trends and topics that impact farmers and the industry.

About Sigma Alpha
Sigma Alpha is a professional agricultural sorority that promotes scholarship, leadership, service and fellowship among its members. The sorority was founded in 1978 at the Ohio State University by five women who wanted an alternative to the social Greek sorority system. Since that time, Sigma Alpha has become a national organization consisting of more than 80 chapters, comprised of undergraduate and alumnae members. Today, more than 11,000 members have been initiated into Sigma Alpha Sorority.
and operated processing facility. We’ll catch the tail-end of harvest processing and see this uniquely Oregon product fresh out of the field and sorted through the most modern, efficient and eco-friendly processing plant in the industry.

Weather permitting, we will see Christmas tree helicopter harvest south of Oregon City (end of the Oregon Trail), stop for snacks to purchase at EZ Orchards, a family-run market full of locally grown and made seasonal produce, gourmet foods, and artisan goods. Our last stop before dinner will be at Pacific Rim Export Straw Service (PressCo), another family-owned, vertically integrated operation.

We will conclude our day at Scenic Valley Farms, a third-generation family operation growing wine grapes as well as cherries, pears, hazelnuts, green beans, grass seed, hemp, and hops. We’ll enjoy their selection of wines, Oregon craft beer, Oregon salmon, and other local flavors.

On Friday, guests of AAW members can attend a Machinery and Technology tour (lunch included) focused on local fabrication for equipment to be modified to harvest Oregon’s 200+ crops. While Friday dinner is on your own, you can sign up to eat with an Oregon Women for Agriculture member who will drive you to an eatery off-site - might be in the suburbs, might be downtown Portland. Find your match and sign up! On Saturday guests can connect with local farmers for unique, from-the-pickup tours of the Willamette Valley.

For anyone looking for a post-convention optional tour on Sunday, you have your pick of a full day or half-day tour. If you need to get out of town in the afternoon or evening, the half-day tour will take you through the Columbia River Gorge to Bonneville Hatchery, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife’s largest hatchery facility. On your way back you’ll stop for lunch at Multnomah Falls, a 611-foot waterfall cascading down basalt cliffs, making it the tallest in Oregon. If you have a full day, join us on a trip to the Oregon Coast. The first stop is at Tillamook Creamery where you can watch cheese production, taste samples, visit the general store, and eat lunch in the beautifully renovated dining hall. Next stop will be Cannon Beach, home of the famous Haystack Rock and your chance to touch the Pacific Ocean. We’ll make our way back over the coastal mountain range and stop for dinner at a winery.

Make sure to register at www.owa-online.org so you don’t miss out on all that Oregon has to offer!

**Mental Health First Aid**

Pre-Conference Class
Wednesday, November 6th, 2019 from Noon – 8:00 p.m.

Mental Health First Aid Class is a public education program that introduces participants to risk factors and warning signs of mental illnesses, build an understanding of their impact, and overviews common supports. This 8-hour course uses role-playing and simulations to demonstrate how to offer initial help in a mental health crisis and connect persons to the appropriate professional, peer, social, and self-help care. The program also teaches the common risk factors and warning signs of specific types of illnesses, like anxiety, depression, substance use, bipolar disorder, eating disorders, and schizophrenia. Space is limited, and you must register in advance. Cost $25.

What the course provides:

- A five-step action plan to support someone developing signs and symptoms of a mental illness or an emotional crisis.
- Information on depression, anxiety, trauma, psychosis, and substance abuse.
- Available evidence-based professional, peer, and self-help resources.
- A certificate in Adult Mental Health First Aid.

On **Friday, November 8th, 2019** our opening ceremonies will feature a welcome to Oregon by Lisa Hanson of the Oregon Department of Agriculture and an update on the #TimberUnity movement. Then we will have a timed of round-table mini-sessions. Roundtables will include topics on Ag in the Classroom Literacy Programs, Adopt a Farmer, Farmed Ending Hunger, Leveraging LinkedIn, Cultivating Change Foundation, the Oregon Women for Agriculture Auction and more.

A networking lunch with humorist Sharon Lacey will follow the roundtables. In addition to being a sought-after keynote speaker for companies like Microsoft, Sharon is also an internationally touring headlining comedian. She performs in comedy clubs all across the USA, Canada, China, and has been to Iraq twice to entertain U.S. troops. Sharon is the author of “A Funny Thing Happened on The Way to Dementia: A Stand-Up
Comedian's Race Against Time.”

The afternoon will include breakouts with sessions on Grassroots Action, Oregon Innovations— including the success stories of Pink Shrimp and Meadowfoam, how to approach your legislators, “The Oregon Trail and Eating Ever After” and “It’s About Time” a panel featuring women holding positions on agriculture boards at all levels from community, state and national organizations. The panel discussion will range from applying for board positions to juggling school, work, and family.

Saturday, November 9th, 2019 will include keynotes by science communicator Kevin Folta and author Jane Kirkpatrick.

Kevin Folta calls himself “A scientist in a scientifically illiterate nation at a time when we need science the most.” Kevin has been the interim Chair of the Horticultural Sciences Department at the University of Florida and is a Professor of Horticultural at the University of Florida. He has degrees in Biology and Molecular Biology. Kevin is a researcher specializing in strawberry genomics. He was awarded the Borlaug CAST Communication award in 2016 by the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology.

The methods that scientists, farmers and agricultural industry professionals use to share information with professional audiences fall flat with public audiences. Kevin has learned this by boots-on-the-ground science communication attempts with some success and lots of failures.

His Science Communications workshops attempt to rewire the failed strategies scientists, farmers, and industry professionals employ, turning lost messages into impactful seeds of change. Lessons from hostage negotiation, customer service and Aristotle can reshape our approach to building trust and presenting scientific content.

Jane Kirkpatrick is internationally recognized for her lively presentations and well-researched stories that encourage and inspire.

A New York Times Bestselling author, her works have appeared in more than 50 national publications including The Oregonian, Private Pilot, and Daily Guideposts. With more than 1.5 million books in print, her 30 novels and non-fiction titles draw readers from all ages and genders. Most are historical novels based on the lives of actual historical women often about ordinary women who lived extraordinary lives. Her works have won numerous national awards including the WILLA Literary Award, the Carol Award, USABestBooks.com, Will Roger’s Medallion Award and in 1996, her first novel, “A Sweetness to the Soul,” won the prestigious Wrangler Award from the Western Heritage and National Cowboy Museum.

In 2010, after 26 years on the Homestead, Jane and Jerry and their dogs, Bo and Caesar moved to central Oregon and call Bend home. The seasons on the ranch changed their lives and they left with no regrets. They continue to enjoy new adventures in writing and life.

Jane will close our convention meeting time with a talk about inspiring and enterprising women from History.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH, 2019
Noon – 8:00 p.m. Mental Health First Aid
  *(Limited Space. Must Register to Attend.)*
5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Registration
8:00 – 10:00 p.m. Hospitality Suite Open

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH, 2019
7:00 a.m. Registration Open
8:00 a.m. Foundation Meeting
8:00 a.m. Affiliate Presidents Caucus
8:30 a.m. First Time Attendee Gathering
10:00 a.m. Joint Executive Committee and Foundation Meeting
11:00 a.m. Standing Committee Meetings
Noon
Board Buses & Pick Up
Boxed Lunches
Tours & Dinner Reception
8:00 – 11:00 p.m. Hospitality Suite Open

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH, 2019
7:00 a.m. Registration
8:00 a.m. Silent Auction Opens
8:30 a.m. Spouse/Guest Tour & Pick Up Boxed Lunches
8:00 – 10:00 a.m. Board of Directors Meeting
10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Break
10:15 – 11:15 a.m. Opening Ceremonies
11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Round Table Mini Sessions
12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Networking Lunch
1:45 – 2:45 p.m. Session 1 (Panels or Speakers)
2:15 – 3:00 p.m. Break
3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Session 2 (Panels or Speakers)
4:15 – 5:00 p.m. Town Hall
5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Syngenta Reception
6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Dinner in Portland Area
  *(Groups will travel with Oregon Members)*
8:30 – 11:00 p.m. Hospitality Room Open

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH, 2019
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Trade Show Open
8:15 a.m. – 12 p.m. AAW Business Meeting
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Lunch & 2020 Convention Invite
1:15 – 2:00 p.m. AAW Business Meeting
  *(If more time is needed)*
2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Keynote by Kevin Folta
3:00 – 3:15 p.m. Break
3:15 – 4:15 p.m. Keynote by Jane Kirkpatrick
4:30 – 5:00 p.m. Foundation Meeting (Elections)
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. President’s Reception
7:00 p.m. Banquet and Entertainment
9:00 – 11:00 p.m. Hospitality Suite Open

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH, 2019
8:10 – 8:40 a.m. Worship Service
8:10 – 8:40 a.m. Post-Convention Tours

AAW FOUNDATION’S MINI-GRANT PROGRAM
By Janell Reid

Do you have a grand idea to increase the membership of your state’s AAW affiliate but just need some extra cash to put it together? If so the American Agri-Women Foundation has your answer. Each year the Foundation gives up to three grants in the amount of up to $500 to worthy affiliate projects. The Foundation requires the affiliate to have at least 50% of what they ask the foundation for. In addition, the foundation’s money must be at least 10% of the total budget. Any AAW affiliate may apply if they are requesting the money for education or membership activities. Grant applications are due by October 15, 2019. The application may be found on the AAW Foundation portion of the AAW website, located under the Mini-Grant tab (https://americanagriwomen.org/mini-grant/). Email the completed application to foundation@americanagriwomen.org. Any questions can be directed to this email as well. Please apply today.
NATURAL RESOURCE COMMITTEE UPDATE: ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT
Jacquie Compston, Co Chairwomen of the Natural Resources Committee

I have been instrumental in introducing proposed changes to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) while serving as chair for the Natural Resource Committee for AAW for over 20 years. There have been many administrative changes in the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) over the years, and it was extremely difficult to be heard during some administrations.

The AAW organization has been proactive in efforts to reform the ESA. In 2006 we awarded Richard Pombo the Veritas Award because of the diligent work he had done to reform the ESA while in Congress, as a member of the House of Representatives from California. His approach to reforming the 1973 Act was based on sound science, adopting a solid recovery plan, while protecting private property rights.

It has been a pleasure to work with the Trump administration, and to attend the signing by Secretary of the Interior, David Bernhardt when he unveiled the improvements to the ESA. The improvements to the ESA are designed to improve the implementation of regulations and increase the transparency and effectiveness by bringing it into the 21st century. Secretary Bernhardt said, “An effectively administered Act ensures more resources can go where they will do the most good: on the ground conservation.”

GROUP TEXTING PROGRAM ADDED TO HELP COMMUNICATE WITH MEMBERS
By Jenny Stelmach

As a means to get out very time-sensitive information, AAW has added a group texting program to alert members. This program is set up where you must opt-in to receive the text messages on your mobile device. To register, go to the AAW website, click membership, and then member login. At the bottom of that page, you will see a tab that says, “Sign up to receive text message alerts.” Click there and enter your phone number and click the submit button. Then you will select the “American Agri-Women Alerts” checkbox and hit “Submit” again. You will then receive a text message on the phone number you just registered that says, “Welcome to American Agri-Women Alerts.” Once you receive that you are all set.

You will not be able to reply to this text nor will you be able to see any of the other numbers that have received the text.

*Carrier fees may apply. Please contact your cell phone provider for more information.

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were created to honor the memory of these women and encourage the present generation to continue their education in agricultural pursuits. Mahindra donated two scholarships. A total of 84 scholarship applications were received this year.

Brea Hostert, Nebraska, received the High School Scholarship. Through her endorsements, her key traits were her work ethic and drive to succeed. This scholarship will give Brea the opportunity to build on the knowledge she already possesses and will further her ability to make a positive contribution to the agricultural community. She is a wonderful representation of all the great things that agriculture has to offer.

Julie Ann Wadzinski, Wisconsin, received the Continuing Education Scholarship. Julie’s goal is to teach all farmers the options available to them so that they can live their potential much like Sister Thomas More Bertels. “I want this scholarship to help me continue the work that she started. Though we have never met, I feel that we are kindred souls and that we hope for the same things.” Julie is creative, takes initiative and is supportive of others. She illustrates a true team spirit and wants everyone to succeed. $1,000 scholarship is given to each age division.

Jacqueline Sue Taylor, a High School Graduate from California, received the Mahindra Scholarship. She is very intelligent and has prepared herself exceptionally well for leadership roles in the agricultural industry. Jackie was the recipient of the 2019 Fresno State President’s Spirit of Service Award. She has demonstrated focus, purpose, and direction not only in the pursuit of her academic program, but has developed tremendous leadership experience through her high school and college leadership roles. With her endless curiosity, passion for agriculture and animals, and her people skills there is no limit to her growth and achievements in college.

Jenna Louise Le Blanc, a High School Graduate from Texas, also received the Mahindra Scholarship. Her personal goals include a career deeply rooted in agriculture and the beef cattle industry. To that end, Jenna’s goal is to earn a degree in Animal Science, then Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, and pursue a career in large animal medicine, with specialization in cattle reproductive technologies and/or pathology. She plans to continue running her own beef cattle herd with Red Angus, Red Brangus, and Brahman cattle. Jenna is a Texas 4-H Livestock Ambassador putting in countless hours of service both locally and around the state. She works at multiple shows and has assisted other FFA and 4-H members showing other cattle when they need help or assistance. $1,200 will be given to both Mahindra Scholarship Recipients.

AAW FOUNDATION PHOTO CONTEST

Foundation Photo Contest Deadline is October 1st

Get out there and capture great agriculturally related photos to send in for the annual photo contest! The winning photos will be placed on notecards the Foundation sells every year as a fundraiser. Photos cannot include people and must be original work of the contestant.

Send all entries, no more than two photos per contestant, to verstuyftm@gmail.com by October 1st.
With the Annual Meeting approaching, affiliate members have a unique opportunity to learn, practice and observe two critical leadership skills: presiding over meetings and engaging members in healthy debate.

When presiding, two essential skills are 1) preparing and following an agenda, and 2) handling motions fairly and consistently.

**Sample Meeting Agenda**
(Excerpted from the NAP publication, *The Chair’s Guide: Order of Business*)
- Call to Order
- Opening Ceremonies (optional)
- Roll Call or Credentials Committee Report
- Reading and Approval of Minutes
- Reports of Officers, Boards, and Standing Committees
- Reports of Special Committees (if such committees are prepared or instructed to report)
- Special Orders (announced only if there are special orders)
- Unfinished Business and General Orders
- New Business
- Announcements
- Program (if a program or a speaker is planned for the meeting)
- Adjourn

Experienced leaders will note the use of the term “Unfinished Business” rather than “Old Business” on the sample agenda. The latter is an outdated term that is often misused. Old business is just that, items that were disposed of at a previous meeting. Unfinished business is commonly given to topics of conversation from a previous meeting that were tabled, or left unresolved.

**What is the Proper Procedure for Handling a Main Motion?**

**First Step: Obtain & Assign the Floor**
1. A member rises when no one else has the floor and addresses the chair: “Madam President,” or “Madam Chairman,” or by other proper title. (In a large assembly, the member gives his or her name and identification.) The member remains standing and awaits recognition by the chair.
2. The chair recognizes the member by announcing his or her name or title, or, in a small assembly, by nodding.

**Second Step: Bringing a Motion Before the Assembly**
1. The member makes the motion: “I move that (or ‘to’) …” and resumes his/her seat.
2. Another member, without rising, seconds the motion: “I second the motion,” or “I second it” or even just “second.”
3. The chair restates the motion: “It is moved and seconded that ….”

**Third Step: Consideration of the Motion**
1. Members debate the motion (when allowed).
2. The chair puts the motion to a vote by asking, “Are you ready for the question?” If no one rises to claim the floor, the chair proceeds to take the vote.
3. The chair says: “The question is on the adoption of the motion that … All in favor, say ‘Aye’. (Pause for response.) Those opposed, say ‘No’. (Pause for response)
4. The chair announces the result of the vote. “The ayes have it, the motion is adopted, and … (indicating the effect of the vote),” or “The no’s have it, and the motion is lost.”

**Engaging in Healthy Discussion**

Discussion, or debate in parliamentary terms, is how an assembly decides whether a proposed course of action should be followed. Disagreement is healthy, even necessary, to get all ideas on the table and achieve buy-in from the members. Healthy debate helps the organization make the best decision if discussion is approached fairly and consistently, as described below:
- Before speaking in debate, members obtain the floor as described above in Presiding.
- The person who makes a motion may speak on it first, if he or she expresses the desire to do so.
- All remarks are addressed to the chair, not to other members.
- Debate is confined to the merits of the motion currently under consideration.
- The amount of time each person is allotted for debate can be set in the rules of the assembly.
- Debate can only be closed by order of the assembly (2/3 vote), or by the chair if no one seeks the floor for further debate.

**OHIO’S JANE MARSHALL HOLDS SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAiser**

By Janell Reid

American Agri-Women member Jane Marshall from Ohio held a fundraiser for her birthday in 2018 on Facebook. As a result, Jane was able to raise and donate $1,200 to the AAW Foundation so the group was able to donate one more scholarship this year. Receiving a $1,000 scholarship for the 2019-2020 school year was Eliza Ann Hunzeker of Nebraska. The Foundation would like to thank Jane for her generous donation and to congratulate Eliza on winning the scholarship.
OREGON CAP AND TRADE LEGISLATION

By Tracy Duerst

As Oregon Women for Agriculture members prepare to host the 2019 AAW Convention, I thought it would be appropriate to discuss one of the most recent contentious issues facing the natural resources industries in Oregon, Cap and Trade. During our convention, you will most likely hear many of our Oregon members speak of the burdensome regulation that our Governor is determined to enact. Several Oregon Women for Agriculture members have been active in the grassroots efforts to defeat some of the legislation at Oregon Capital. Marie Bowers Stagg was invited to the White House in July to listen to President Trump’s remarks on America’s Environmental Leadership because of her leadership in fighting the Oregon Cap and Trade legislation. Brenda Frketich, owner of Kirsch Family Farms in St. Paul, spoke at the rally at the State Capital in June and recently wrote an editorial for the Oregonian newspaper on the topic. You can follow her on Facebook and read more on her blog at www.nuttygrass.com. I received permission to share the following two articles on this subject in this edition of the Voice.

By Oregonian’s For Food and Shelter (Edited by Tracy Duerst)

The 2019 Oregon Legislative session adjourned on June 30th, just hours before the Constitutional deadline. The final gavel capped off a tumultuous session that featured plenty of political theater and significant policy changes for Oregon businesses and the natural resources sector. The session will be remembered for the deep partisan divide and the unprecendented number of advocates who came to the Capitol to make their voices heard. While school, health care, and public employee groups all filled the hallways and the Capitol steps, the most notable demonstration was the massive rally in late June. Thousands of loggers, truckers, farmers and ranchers brought their families and equipment to Salem to protest (and kill) HB 2020 – the “Cap & Trade” bill, probably the most notable bill of the session which brought national attention to the issue. This was the legislation that motivated the Senate Republicans to leave the state and its death was contingent on them returning. No one expected the minority caucus and rural grassroots to leverage the supermajority and start a movement that has received national attention. It is because of these combined efforts that HB 2020 is dead today.

What was HB 2020 really? Following the lead of California’s program, HB 2020 attempted to set a statewide cap on emissions. Every entity emitting more than 25,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e) would have been required to purchase allowances equal to the tons of CO2e they emit. Over time, the number of allowances available steadily declines — 45 percent below 1990 levels by 2035, and 80 percent by 2050. The cap covered all fossil fuels distributed in Oregon (including transportation, heating, and industrial fuels), all electricity generated or imported for use there, and a range of industrial processes that produce GHGs as a by-product. All told, roughly 100 entities, representing 80 percent of the state’s GHG emissions would be covered by the program.

What would this have meant for Oregonians?

• Force farmers, nurseries and other price-taking industries to absorb significant increases in their operating costs;
• Place additional stress on our state’s already fragile forest products industry

What’s Next? Not taking this loss lightly, the Monday directly following sine die, Governor Brown doubled down on her support of an Oregon Cap & Trade program. At a press conference, she announced interest in calling a special session to advance legislation or utilizing her “executive powers and direction of state agencies.”

Salem insiders question her ability to push a proposal through a special session and what major actions she could take without the legislative assembly creating some statutory authorities first. However, with Democratic majorities that support seeing Oregon leads the nation in greenhouse gas reductions, we expect the legislature to continue work on this issue.

After leaving Salem to stop a vote on HB 2020, Cap and Trade, the Senate Republicans have agreed to return under a negotiated agreement that will kill HB 2020. This will allow the legislature to complete their business and adjourn by the constitutional sine die of June 30th. It will also prevent a special session.

OPINION: THOUSANDS OF US SPOKE UP AGAINST CAP AND TRADE. LEGISLATORS FINALLY HEARD US

By Brenda Frketich July 17, 2019

Thousands of hard-working Oregonians stood on the Capitol steps in Salem last month to make their voices heard. Truck drivers, loggers, mill workers, and farmers like me who would be disproportionately impacted, and in many cases decimated, were
standing up to a Legislature that refused to listen to our voices speaking against Oregon’s proposed cap and trade legislation, House Bill 2020.

As a lifelong Oregonian and farmer, I take pride in being a steward of the land. I also stand behind efforts to protect the environment; however, for something as global as the climate, we need a plan that encompasses more than just Oregon. Under HB 2020, Oregonians would have gotten nothing except skyrocketing energy costs, loss of rural jobs, and an enormous new tax at the fuel pump.

And for what environmental gain? The expected environmental impacts were negligible — and some argue that the loss of manufacturing to states far more dependent on fossil fuel-based energy would have increased global emissions.

Not a single major newspaper editorial board in our state came out in support of HB 2020. Some, including The Oregonian/OregonLive Editorial Board, did not take a public position. Those that did take a position adamantly opposed it. I’m not talking about conservative-leaning newspapers from our state’s east side. I’m referring to some of the most liberal.

The Daily Astorian declared that, “After careful consideration, we believe this legislation would be disastrous — both for Oregon as a whole and Clatsop County in particular. Working-class Oregonians would be particularly hard hit. That message seems to be falling on deaf ears in Salem.”

Eugene’s Register-Guard took it a step further, “The bill reeks of rich, progressive urbanites misunderstanding rural and struggling Oregon. It lacks incentives to encourage and support individual changes. Those ablest to change wouldn’t feel the pinch.”

Thankfully, several legislators took the time to listen and put responsible science before empty political rhetoric. They saw the faces of those who represent the backbone of many rural economies, recognized that they were about to drive off a cliff and hit the brakes.

A story by The Oregonian/OregonLive’s environmental reporter Rob Davis seemed to blame the legislation’s defeat on corporate campaign contributions, as if it were inconceivable that a bipartisan majority of legislators could study the issue and ultimately choose to stand up for good-paying, family-wage jobs in their districts. The story also seemed to, illogically, question why several legislators would receive financial support for their campaigns from the major employers in their districts just as public employee unions and other entrenched special interest groups give to Democrats to drive political agendas in Salem. What Davis refused to see was exactly what newspaper editors, responsible legislators, and hard-working Oregonians could see – poorly conceived policy.

It shouldn’t take a five-mile-long line of trucks, tractors, and hard-working people to bring common sense to Salem, but if it does, I’m proud to have been part of it and grateful to those who listened.

“A SPECIAL VISIT WITH KAREN BUDD-FALEN

“Several members of AAW visited with Karen Budd-Falen, Deputy Solicitor for Parks and Wildlife during the June 2019 AAW Fly-In. While her schedule did not allow participation on the AAW Symposium panel at the Department of Interior (DOI) on Monday morning, Ms. Budd-Falen made a special effort to invite AAW members into her conference room to discuss concerns of rural America following the event.

A candid discussion of Endangered Species reforms was on the table as well as a true listening session of member concerns in other areas of the DOI matters. Her desire to help protect both natural resources and the people who manage it was clear to those who attended.”
ARDATH DEWALL, FOUNDATION DIRECTOR NOMINEE

Ardath DeWall, of Shannon, Illinois, and representing Foremost Farms USA and Illinois Agri-Women, is a nominee for AAW Foundation director. As AAW Vice President of Education, and liaison to AAW Foundation, she helped members see how we could work together on projects and educational programs. Ardath has been chair of the DAA Scholarship Committee for the Foundation Board, enabling her to communicate with applicants who benefit from one of the scholarships it funds and how their love for the agricultural industry can be deepened and leadership in their communities broadened by joining AAW.

Ardath’s AAW experience includes being AAW President, 1st Vice President, Secretary, and Vice President of Education and serving on several committees: Dairy, Bylaws, Presidents’ Council, Convention Co-Chair, Fly-In Symposium, Membership Dues, Fundraising, Membership, and New Affiliate. She has attended conventions, Mid-Year meetings, and Fly-In for several years. She is also a Leadership at its Best graduate.

Ardath has served on the National Dairy Board, has been Associated Milk Producers Inc. (AMPI) Women’s president and president of Agricultural Women’s Leadership Network, and presently serves on the Illinois Milk Promotion Board, Mid-West Dairy Board, Highland Community College Board, and FFUSA Board, and attends Prairie Dell Presbyterian Church.

MAGGIE HOWLEY, FOUNDATION BOARD NOMINEE

Maggie Howley, a candidate for the AAW Foundation Board, grew up on a dairy farm one of seven children in southern Wisconsin. Her father built the first milking parlor in the state of Wisconsin, and they also had a dairy plant bottling their own milk and making cheese as well. Maggie was active in 4-H, and everything sports. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor of Science degree in Family Resources and Consumer Sciences. After two years of teaching High School and marriage, as a couple, she and her husband went into the Peace Corps. They were stationed in West Africa where they worked with Infant/Mother nutrition and animal husbandry. After returning to the US, they settled in Polson, MT and operated a dairy herd and raw milk bottling plant for 10 years. A move to Texas and managing her parents 800 cow dairy herd for three years brought them to their present ranch in Custer, MT where they live now. They were active in 4-H during their five children’s growing up years, and she remains active as a co-chair and Chief Horse Management judge in an American version of the youth British Horse Society. She is a grandmother of four, with children living in Denver, California, and Germany (now in Okinawa, Japan) where they love traveling and seeing Agriculture all over the world in our travels. They love striking up conversations with farmers and food producers wherever they travel.
JANE MARSHALL, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT OF VITAL ISSUES NOMINEE

Jane Marshall is our nominee for First Vice-President of Vital Issues. She is a member of Ohio Agri-Women where she has served as president and secretary. She lives in Preble County, near Eaton, Ohio. She and her husband Thomas have five children ages 18-29. Their family, along with Thomas’ brothers, operate a dairy and grain farm. She has a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering from The Ohio State University. Jane is a faithful member of New Hope United Methodist Church in Preble County.

Jane has been active in AAW since 2004 when she attended Syngenta Leadership at Its Best and the Quad Cities Convention that same year. She was hooked and was quick to make great friends. She was the Veritas committee chair in 2009, served as president of the AAW Foundation for four years of the six she was on the Foundation. She served on the nominating committee in 2012 and was nominating chair in 2013 and 2014. She was awarded the Leaven Award in 2014. Jane served as co-chair for the 2014 Ohio Convention. Jane’s latest service to AAW was as VP of Communications in 2015-2017.

Jane explains why she is running for First Vice-President of Vital Issues, “AAW has been a very important part of my life over the last 15 years. My family and I have made lots of friends and learned lots of things through AAW. I want to give back to AAW. I want to be part of the team that continues to build this hard-working, caring, encouraging, agricultural organization. I look forward to serving AAW and its members.”

SAMANTHA JO KORZEKWA, VICE-PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS NOMINEE

Samantha Jo Korzekwa is the nominee for Vice-President of Communications. She is from Uvalde, Texas where she serves as president of Texas Agri-Women and the Uvalde Chapter of Texas Agri-Women. These positions have allowed her to demonstrate her leadership skills and work with Banquet in the Field Committee.

Growing up living the life of farming and ranching, which includes her family’s seed business, Samantha continued her education and obtained her bachelor’s degree in horticulture and a minor in agronomy from Texas A&M University in College Station. Samantha is a County Extension Agent with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in Uvalde County.

She loves keeping people in the know and wants to help fulfill this by running for Vice President of Communications. Along with her strong agricultural background, she will also bring positivity, motivation, and creativity to the leadership team. Samantha also has experience in creating flyers and newsletters through her work with ag producers.

KATIE YOST, TREASURER NOMINEE

Growing up in Montana, Katie Yost has been involved in agriculture throughout her life. Her family comes from a ranching background, and she now works for her family-owned livestock liquid feed company, Nutra-Lix, Inc. Since 2007, she continues to share her passion for agriculture by actively participating in American Agri-Women. She has served on the American Agri-Women Foundation board and the American Agri-Women Executive Committee Board.

On the state level, she has previously served on the board of Montana Agri-Women as their secretary and is currently a chair for the national convention in 2020. She spends her summers working for Yost Events producing team roping. In Katie’s downtime, she loves to travel the World.
AMERICAN AGRI-WOMEN
LEAVEN AWARD NOMINATION FORM

AAW presents the LEAVEN AWARD to those persons who, to an outstanding degree, have acted as “leaven”, a truly feminine concept since “lady” means giver of bread. “Leaven” (yeast) is a small element that can interact and influence everything around it. It permeates and raises the elements it’s mixed with. Leaven multiples its effectiveness for good. AAW presents the LEAVEN Award annually to recipients that are nominated by AAW affiliates. An Awards Committee comprised of four (4) former Leaven Award Recipients makes the final selection. The first Awards Committee (1977) came up with the word “Leaven” as a means of evaluating the candidates. Please submit the name of a person whom you feel is outstanding and deserving of recognition for efforts for agriculture and service to AAW. List the qualities and contributions that you feel are appropriate to AAW. There should only be one nominee per affiliate. Candidates must be members of AAW. Submit nominations by October 25, 2019 to kimberlylschmuhl@gmail.com and aaw@americanagriwomen.org.

ELIGIBILITY:

- The committee will give consideration to a candidate’s achievements, be they on a state, regional or national scale.
- You may include additional information; comments and letters of support that you feel may strengthen your candidates’ qualifications.
- The Awards Committee will use an evaluation system, allotting from 1 to 10 points for each quality described by the person(s) making the nomination.
  - (L) Loyalty to the mission of AAW
  - (E) Enthusiasm
  - (A) Anticipatory (thinks and plans ahead; does not react to crises only)
  - (V) Valiant (has courage; overcomes any natural timidity)
  - (E) Effectiveness (exhibits ability to produce intended effects)
  - (N) Nurturing (encourages and helps develop talents and skills of others)

GUIDELINES FOR NOMINATION AND SCORING FOR LEAVEN AWARD:
These guidelines were approved November, 1983, and revised 1990, 2000, & 2004

- The LEAVEN Award is the highest award given to American Agri-Women members.
- The LEAVEN Award shall be reserved for those members in good standing whose service to AAW is performed on a volunteer basis.
- Since sixty (60) points is the top score – the standard for selection of a recipient should be fifty (50) or above. A maximum of three (3) awards may be given annually.
- The Awards Committee shall be comprised of at least four (4) of the former Leaven Award recipients. The President shall appoint the Chairperson.
- Nomination forms will be available on the website and will be given to affiliates at the AAW Mid-Year Meeting.
- Completed forms are to be received by August 1st. Late forms will not receive any consideration.
- An affiliate group must recommend a candidate. Each affiliate can nominate one candidate annually.
- Forms should be filled out completely with support evidence where applicable.
- An Affiliate should be notified to allow possibility of having recipient present to receive the Award, but the nominee should not be told of her/his selection as recipient.
- An engraved plaque will be presented to each recipient.
- The Chairperson will furnish information to the Vice President of Communication for preparation of a news release. The Vice President of Communication will also provide pictures.
- NOTE: It was recommended the Executive Committee consider establishing an “Ag Service” or other appropriate award as recognition for deserving persons not eligible for the Leaven Award.
Name of Organization: ___________________________________________________________

Organizational Endorsement – Two Officers:

Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________________
Printed Name: __________________________ Position: __________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________________________

Signature: __________________________ Date: __________________________
Printed Name: __________________________ Position: __________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________________________

Name of Candidate: _____________________________________________________________
(First)   (Middle)   (Last)
Address: ______________________________________________________________________
(Street or Box)   (City)   (State)   (Zip Code)

Phone: (          )  ___________________   Email: ___________________________________

(L) LOYALTY to the mission of AAW
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

(E) ENTHUSIASM
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

(A) ANTICIPATORY (Thinks and plans ahead; does not react to crises only.)
_____________________________________________________________________________________
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(V) VALIANT (Has courage; overcomes any natural timidity.)
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
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(E) EFFECTIVENESS (Exhibits ability to produce intended effects.)
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

(N) NUTURING (Encourages and helps develop talents and skills of others.)
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________

Please write a paragraph (not to exceed 250 words) about the candidate’s relation to/interest in agriculture (raised on a farm, in agri-business, owns lands etc.)

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE

(L) ____ (E) ____ (A) ____ (V) ____ (E) ____ (N) ____ TOTAL: _____
**ADVERTISING RATES & DEADLINES FOR SPONSORS**

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Contract rates available. Ask about special sizes and display advertising. To advertise, contact Lisa Campion at (586) 530-1771 or aaw@americanagriwomen.org.

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Have a membership question? Need to update any of your information?
Contact Lisa Campion, AAW’s executive assistant, with all membership requests. You can e-mail aaw@americanagriwomen.org or call 586-530-1771. You can also write Lisa at: American Agri-Women 142 Oak Circle, Colchester, VT 05446

**AAW CONVENTION**
**NOVEMBER 6-10, 2019**
**TIGARD, OREGON**