

SCFB

NOVEMBER 2021

news

NOTES FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Mick Rausch

I am Mick Rausch and I will be serving as the Sedgwick County Farm Bureau President this year. I want to thank outgoing president, Jon Kerschen, for his leadership.

SCFB is an organization committed to helping Sedgwick County agriculture producers. Our board is men and women from Sedgwick County who want to be a voice for agriculture. The board includes industry professionals who work in Wichita and surrounding communities to farmers and ranchers of all ages. Together we meet monthly to discuss the current issues and seek opportunities to fulfill our three mission pillars of advocacy, service and education. It might be meeting with elected county and state officials, talking to the media about things that affect agriculture, or putting together events that educate consumers about the food we produce. For example, we have recently delivered supper to local volunteer fire departments and hosted an agriculture education booth at the Klausmeyer Farm and Pumpkin Patch.

With the pandemic hopefully running its course, we are gearing up for more events and the ability to have a more visible presence in com-

munities. We are looking at ways to spread agriculture education in schools and provide resources to teachers. Also, Sedgwick County has welcomed the start of several FFA chapters the past few years, including several large chapters in mostly urban high schools. Supporting these youth in agriculture-based

organizations is at the forefronts of the board's minds considering the number of schools and students in the county.

Another place we see opportunities is furthering connections with our county Farm Bureau Financial Services team. Farm Bureau provides numerous benefits from hotel discounts to the new health plans. We are looking at ways to partner with the financial services group to better equip our members to capitalize on Farm Bureau benefits.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your membership in Farm Bureau. We appreciate your help in allowing us to advocate on your behalf for agriculture and support our local communities. Our doors and phones are always open to suggestions or concerns that you might have. Please feel free to call the office or anyone on the board, we are here to help you.

KANSAS FARM BUREAU
The Voice of Agriculture

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS maximize

In addition to the great customer service and products available through Farm Bureau Financial Services, you'll find added value with these quality products and services... exclusively to YOU with your annual membership!

- AGRI TOURISM**
 - LandFest** LandFest is the largest Member-Agency Member that connects producers with local entrepreneurs, seeking opportunities to experience entrepreneurship, hunting, fishing, boating, and more. LandFest members receive 50% control for price, priority sales, limited sales and booking approval. Members who sign up and do their production on LandFest.com receive a 50% reward share.
- APPAREL**
 - Swaggers** Save 20-50% on premium men's and women's wear, work clothes, including Carhart®, GAP, Mother's®, and more. Members get 10% off on all apparel. Offer not available in total stores.
 - KEP Apparel** KEP provides reliable assistance for replacement and office wear. Save up to 20% at work. Members also have access to custom designed KEP apparel for your home or business.
- AUTOMOTIVE**
 - AVR Automotive Rentals** Save 20-50% on daily car rentals, plus additional rewards. Visit www.kfb.org/benefits or call 800-311-1211. AVR discounts member required.
 - Budget** Save 20% on Budget Best rates, and additional coupons. Visit www.kfb.org/benefits or call 800-311-1211. AVR discount member required.
 - Budget Trucks** Save 20% off Budget Truck Rentals. Visit www.kfb.org/benefits or call 800-311-1211. AVR discount member required.
- AGRICULTURE & TECHNOLOGY**
 - Green & Grain** Save \$10 on a new, live your subscription. New subscribers, regular \$45.50 or \$25 for active services. Offer only valid with coupon.
 - High Plains Journal** Save nearly 50% off digital and print subscriptions or get 1 year gratis for the price of one. Offer valid only with coupon for new or renewed subscriptions through 12/31/21.
 - Now Tech** Shows your membership card and get your first two months free and free installation for any new tech service (TV, internet, phone or home security).
 - New Tech Wireless** Bring your FFB membership card and the new Tech Wireless offer flow to any retail store to receive 20% off current published rates, 50% off accessories and select activation fees. Some restrictions apply. See store for details.
 - TechnoHome** TechnoHome is complete home technology support that makes it easy to setup, use, protect, and show your networked devices, software, hardware. Standard member 20% off anything, members Standard member 20% off anything, members Standard member 20% off anything. Register only or www.offering.
- EQUIPMENT & SUPPLY**
 - Case IH** Save up to \$200 on qualifying Case IH equipment. Certificates required at time of purchase.
 - Case IH** Save up to \$1,000 off select Case IH equipment. Certificates required at time of purchase.
 - Case IH** Save up to \$1,000 off select Case IH equipment. Certificates required at time of purchase.
 - Case IH** Save up to \$1,000 off select Case IH equipment. Certificates required at time of purchase.
- FINANCIAL, INSURANCE & LEGAL**
 - Farm Bureau Financial Services** Farm Bureau Financial Services makes it simple for Kansas Farm Bureau members to compare other members and prepare for the future. Our members receive a variety of benefits, including: health, dental, life insurance, and more. Contact your local Farm Bureau agent for more information or visit www.kfb.org.
 - Life Insurance** Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company and Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company are members of the American Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company.
 - Annual Mortality Coverage for 4th and 5th members** Farm Bureau Financial Services offers annual mortality coverage for 4th and 5th members. Annual mortality coverage requires level and

Sedgwick County Farm Bureau Agricultural Association's mission is to help members identify their needs and provide services and programs to meet those needs. SCFBAA will work for the success of the farm community which we serve. We will broaden our base by being proactive in community participation which enhances all phases of farm life.

Did You Know?

About 11% of U.S. farmers are serving or have served in the military.



TANNER HOMMERTZHEIM

Tanner Hommertzheim is serving as a 2021-2022 Ag Ambassador. He attends Andale High School and is a member of the Renwick FFA Chapter and Andale Jets 4-H Club. In this role, he hopes to positively impact the community by educating people on the importance of agriculture to equip them with the knowledge to support and sustain the industry.



CLARK NEVILLE

Clark Neville, a senior at Andale High School, is a 2021-2022 Ag Ambassador. He is a member of the Renwick FFA Chapter and helps with a bit of everything on his family's farm. As an ambassador, Clark wants to form connections with other agriculture producers and strengthen his ability to serve as an advocate for agriculture.



2021-2022 SCFB Board

Back Row: Michael Speer, Joseph Neville, Mick Rausch (President), Jon Kerschen (Secretary), Zach Simon and Jay Pauly
Front Row: Donna Wise (Vice President), Meghan Mueseler, Joy Carp and Heidi Wells



HEIDI WELLS

Hi! My name is Heidi Wells and I am so very grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Sedgwick County Farm Bureau Board.

Agriculture has been a part of my life since day one. I was born and raised in Northeast Kansas, near St. Marys. Our family farm is nestled between the Kansas River and the start of the Flint Hills. My dad and two brothers continue to expand the family operation, which consists of a cow-calf operation, row crops (corn, beans and milo) and now a trucking company. Watching my dad make it through all the tough times and take some business risks to keep the farm going has taught me so many things. Most importantly, that hard work and dedication never fails.

Although staying on my family farm was not in the cards for me, agriculture shaped my career as a registered dietitian. My career journey has included clinical, community health, private practice and management experiences. Currently, I am the foodservice director for the Renwick

and Cheney school districts. I strive to promote agriculture any chance I get within my job, including sourcing local foods in our menus and supporting agriculture friendly groups such as FFA and 4-H.

My husband, Byron, and I reside on our farm located south of Cheney. Byron works on his family's dairy farm, and will soon be taking over the dairy operation. Together, we have a small farming operation of our own, and also have some cattle within the milking herd at the dairy. The most important part of our farm life, though, is raising our five children. Breanna (14), Hailey (12), Bridget (10), Heath (8) and Bethany (6) are all very active in many different activities including sports, FFA and 4-H. We are very fortunate and thankful to raise our kids on the farm, and hope that agriculture has the same impact on them as it has on us.

I look forward to representing our Sedgwick County farmers and ranchers as I serve on the SCFBAA Board and being a strong voice for agriculture. Most of all, I look forward to getting to know more farmers and ranchers in the area and about the challenges you face.



KLAUSMEYER FARM & PUMPKIN PATCH

New this fall, SCFB hosted an agriculture education booth at the Klausmeyer Farm and Pumpkin Patch near Clearwater. The booth hosted two activities, which included planting seed and taking it home to grow and coloring a cow tag that was punched into a leather keychain. Each Saturday and a few weekdays staff and volunteers advocated for agriculture as kids and adults participated in the activities.

THANK YOU TO THESE SPONSORS FOR MAKING THIS ACTIVITY POSSIBLE!

*Farmers Coop, Garden Plain
Kohls Seed, Goddard
Rob-See-Co, Nate Meile
Speer Farms, Clearwater
Tom Pauly Seed, Conway Springs*

NEWLY AMENDED BYLAWS

Anthony Seiler

At the Sedgwick County Farm Bureau Agricultural Association Annual Meeting in August, members amended SCFBAA bylaws to expand voting membership to include individuals who work in agribusiness and agricultural education. The board proposed these changes as a reflection of their thoughts toward the future reach of Farm Bureau in the county. We're fortunate to have many people who grew up on farms and ranches around our state that relocate to our county and continue to contribute to our industry by working for agriculture-based companies like equipment manufacturers, banks, elevators and as agriculture teachers. We've met many of these people who

still have strong ties to agriculture and a desire to give back to the community even if they don't own farmland or actively work on an operation.

WE'VE MET MANY PEOPLE WHO STILL HAVE STRONG TIES TO AGRICULTURE AND A DESIRE TO GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY EVEN IF THEY DON'T OWN FARMLAND OR ACTIVELY WORK ON AN OPERATION.

This amendment to our bylaws is an effort to engage folks like these in the work Farm Bureau does in advocacy, education and service on behalf of farm and ranch families and our community. If these expanded voting membership criteria apply to you or someone you know, contact our office at sedgwickfb@kfb.org or at www.scfbaa.org to request reclassification by the board of directors.

With so many consumers and legislators in our county, we need everyone's help to share the story of agriculture and continue to strengthen our community.

FOLLOW SCFBAA ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER: @SEDGWICKCOFB | WWW.SCFBAA.ORG





SEDGWICK COUNTY FARM BUREAU
AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

The Voice of Agriculture®

889 N Maize Road
Suite 100
Wichita, KS 67212
316-773-9851
SedgwickFB@kfb.org

DEC
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KFB ANNUAL MEETING

Manhattan, Kansas

www.kfb.org/KFB-Annual-Meeting-2021

JAN
7-12

AFBF CONVENTION

Atlanta, Georgia

www.annualconvention.fb.org

JAN
26

DAY AT THE STATEHOUSE

Topeka, Kansas

www.kfb.org/Article/Day-at-the-Statehouse

JAN
28-30

YF&R LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Manhattan, Kansas

www.kfb.org/Article/YFR-Leaders-Conference

FEB
9-10

CAMPAIGN SCHOOL

Manhattan, Kansas

<https://www.kfb.org/Article/Campaign-School>

UPCOMING DATES