

Committee News

Newly Accredited/ Professional Advancement

CONGRATULATIONS!

The CA Chapter had five members sit for the accreditation exam in June and all passed!

For the rest of you members, the hours of education requirements to qualify for a designation will be changing from 259 hours to 415 hour starting in 2009. Applications for accreditation in 2008 will be the last year before the requirement for additional hours of education takes effect.

Applications must be submitted by January 1, 2008. The Demonstration Report must be submitted with the application. The education classes and hours will remain as they currently stand if the application is submitted by January 1, 2008.

Members must have five years of appraisal experience prior to the accrediting exam date. So, the member's appraisal experience gained during 2008 can count toward the five years experience needed as long as it totals five or more years prior to taking the accrediting exam. The national accrediting committee is considering holding the exam later in the year so more people can qualify. I have heard it could be as late as September or October. So for those close to the meeting the five years of experience, factor this in and submit your application. If you are remotely considering pursuing a designation, now is the time. Don't put it off.

Again, if you would like a grading sheet used for the demo report so you can use it to check your report let me know. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Lyle Wilkinson, RPR
Committee Chair / lylew@c-x.com

Awards Committee

Nominations are now being accepted for recipients of the California Chapter, ASFMRA Distinguished Agriculturalist of the Year and Ag Stewardship Awards. Both of these prestigious awards are presented at the Spring Ag Outlook Conference. Selection criteria for each award is included below:

Distinguished California Agriculturalist Award - This award honors an individual who has, through accomplishment, contributed in a significant and highly visible way to the betterment of California agriculture throughout his or her career.

Agricultural Stewardship Award - This award was developed to give recognition to an agribusiness in California that has demonstrated excellence in conserving, maintaining and improving our natural resources and environment by using innovative and progressive business practices. The Ag Stewardship Award is co-sponsored by the California Chapter and Western Agricultural Services.

Please submit your nominations to:

Martin Seanez, ARA
Awards Committee Chair
Fresno-Madera Farm Credit
P.O. Box 13069, Fresno, CA 93794
P 559.276.4825 / F 274.9739
martin.seanez@fmfarmcredit.com

2008 Spring Ag Outlook Conference

It's never too early to secure your sponsorship for the popular Spring Ag Outlook Conference. Next year's meeting will be held in Bakersfield (final date/location pending). Watch for the Water Infrastructure Seminar & Tour II to be offered in conjunction with the meeting. Multiple sponsorship opportunities providing tremendous exposure are available at various price levels. Contact the chapter office for more information...209.368.3672 / secretary@calasfmra.com.

Scholarship Committee

It's time to start thinking about auction items for the 2008 Spring Ag Outlook Auction. Next year's meeting will be held in Bakersfield - with plenty of support from our south valley members! If you have a donation in mind, contact Suzie in the Chapter Office at 209.368.3672 (secretary@calasfmra.com) or Scholarship Committee Chair, Susan Weidemann 707.343.1112 (scweidemann@yahoo.com). A list will be maintained and reminder calls made to ensure all donations are collected prior to the meeting. Thank you in advance for supporting the chapter Scholarship Program!

Land Values Survey Committee

It's just about that time again... time to secure your advertising for the 2008 *Trends in Agricultural Land & Lease Values* publication. Last year, this valued resource grew to 84 full color pages and the book remains in high demand. If you are interested in paying for your 2008 ad in calendar year 2007, please contact the chapter office so that we can arrange for you to be invoiced. Rate cards will be available later in the Fall.

Continuing Education

Mark your calendars for the Word/Excel Workshop to be held on October 27, 2007 following the Fall Meeting in Monterey. Word and Excel are the programs most of us use in our analyses and reports be they appraisal, management or consulting. How many of you feel that you are able to get the most out of these two powerful programs. I know I don't, and from the results of our recent education survey, many of you feel the same way. Here is your chance to increase those skills with a curriculum designed around our industry.

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