



Missouri Agribusiness Association Wrap-Up

April 18, 2011

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MO-AG Board of Directors

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MFA Inc.
Columbia

First Vice Chairman
Brian Parman
Fertilizer Dealer Supply
Boonville

Second Vice Chairman
Chris Hoffman
Hoffman and Reed
Trenton

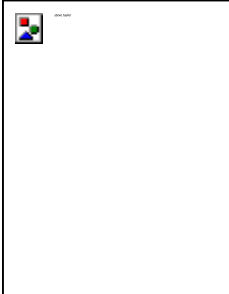
Immediate Past Chairman
Rex Martin
Syngenta
Springfield

Board Members

Jonathan Cooper
T and R Soil Service
Chillicothe

FROM STEVE'S DESK

by Steve Taylor



Passing of Butch Fletcher

One of the founding fathers of the Missouri Agribusiness Association (MO-AG) has passed away. Walker C. (Butch) Fletcher Jr., 81, of Marshall, died Wednesday, April 13, 2011, at his home. Mr. Fletcher served on the MO-AG Board for many years as well as the Boards of the

National Grain and Feed Association and the Agricultural Retailers Association. To learn more about the life of one of the giants of Missouri agribusiness, see below.

Legislative Update

Two major legislative priorities for MO-AG passed the general assembly and are now on their way to the Governor's Desk. SB113/95 was 'truly agreed to and finally passed' by a vote of 85 - 71 last Wednesday. This bill corrects and improves Proposition B (the so-called Puppy Mill Bill) that was passed by the voters last fall. Last week, Governor Nixon proposed allocating \$1.1M to the Missouri Department of Agriculture to regulate dog breeding facilities. As 'Wrap-up' goes to print, the Governor has not publicly stated whether or not he will sign SB113/95. A rally is being planned for this Wednesday, April 20th, at 5:00pm at the Capitol to show support for this legislation and to let the Governor know how important this legislation is for agriculture. If at all possible, please make plans to attend. More information is below.



Senator Mike Parson describes how his bill builds on the will of the people by making sure licensed breeders must follow common-sense guidelines to protect the health and well-being of

Jerry Foster
Cargill
Jefferson City

Jeff Geisendorfer
Lincoln County
Farmers Coop
Troy

Rex Meyr
Shawnteetown
Feed & Seed
Jackson

Wayne Orey
Riggins R-Co.
Marshall

Jason Paris
MFA Inc.
Columbia

Duane Simpson
Monsanto
St. Louis

Hank Thomas
Van Diest Supply
Marshall

Aaron Wade
Crop Production
Services
Sikeston

Jerry Young
Agriservices of
Brunswick
Brunswick

their dogs and new puppies.

Last Friday, I had the honor of introducing Sen. Parson at the Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City (ABC-KC). I asked the Senator to come and discuss his bill, SB 113. With the passing of the bill last week, the timing was perfect. Senator Parson did an excellent job describing to the gathering how HSUS's Proposition B is a threat to all agriculture.



MO-AG President/ Executive Director introduces Sen. Mike Parson to the Agricultural Business Council of Kansas City and describes Sen. Parson as a true friend of all agriculture.

Another top priority bill for MO-AG is SS/SCS/HB 209 sponsored by Rep Casey Guernsey. This legislation reforms Missouri nuisance laws and will stop multiple lawsuits and frivolous lawsuits which currently threatens animal agriculture in Missouri and potential all aspects of agricultural production directly. SS/SCS/HB 209 also passed the General Assembly and is on its way to the Governor's desk.

So all in all, a good week for the advocates of agriculture and for your 'Advocates for the Business of Agriculture' . . . MO-AG. To see a summary of the latest actions on these bills and all the priority bills for MO-AG, see [here](#).

Until next time,

Steve

MEMBER NEWS

MO-AG Staff

Executive Director
Steve Taylor

**Director of Member
Services**
Jeff Leonard

Legislative Consultant
Jim Russell

Legal Counsel
Robert Brundage

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Passing of Butch Fletcher

Walker C. (Butch) Fletcher, Jr., 81, of Marshall, MO, died Wednesday, April 13, 2011, at his home.

Born December 8, 1929, he was the son of the late Walker C. Fletcher, Sr. and Nancy Branch Fletcher. He was a graduate of Marshall High School and Missouri Valley College where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps from December of 1951 to December of 1953. On February 19, 1954, in Flora, IN, he married Marjorie Sherlock who survives of the home. He was owner/operator of Fletcher Grain Company from January 1, 1954 until his retirement on August 31, 1999. He was co-founder of Brunswick River Terminal and was co-owner of Mid-State Seed. He was a founding member of MO-AG and served as a director for it and its predecessor organization, Missouri Grain & Feed Association. He was a member of the National Grain and Feed Association for 35 years serving as a director for six years. He was a founder and director for four years of the National Agricultural Retailers Association which later became Agri Retailers Association. He had served on the Board of Trustees of Missouri Valley College since 1977 and received an honorary Doctor of Humanities Degree from Missouri Valley College in 2000. He served on the Board of directors for Farmers Savings Bank in Marshall which was later Charter Bank, then Boatman's Bank, then Nations Bank. He was a member of the First Christian Church in Marshall where he served as Deacon, Elder, Treasurer, Board Chairman and Elder Emeritus. He co-chaired the Salt Fork YMCA Capital Campaign raising 3.5 million dollars to build the YMCA building in Marshall. He was honorary campaign chairman for the capital campaign for Nicholas-Beazley Air Museum and Martin Community Center. He served as an advisory council member for the capital campaign for building the Community Cancer Center at Fitzgibbon Hospital in Marshall.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by four children, John Fletcher and wife Patricia of Marshall, Steven Fletcher and wife Shauna of Kansas City, MO, Nancy Wertz and husband Derold of Jacksonville, FL and Lucy Fletcher and fiancé Thomas Jones of Marshall; 14 grandchildren; and ten great-grandchildren.

2011 MO-AG Recycling Program Registration

The application for the 2011 MO-AG Pesticide Container Recycling Program is now available and due on April 25th. The containers are tentatively scheduled to be picked up in August this year. You can download the brochure by clicking [here](#).

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Rally Planned at the Capitol for SB113

Earlier this week, the legislature completed action on Senate Bill 113, the bill to amend Proposition B. Missouri agriculture has been strongly advocating for this measure and is now urging Governor Nixon to sign it into law. It is very important we let the Governor know how vital this legislation is to Missouri agriculture.

A rally has been scheduled for 5 p.m. on Wednesday, April 20 at the State Capitol in Jefferson City. The Stand Up for Animal Agriculture Rally will take place on the Capitol steps. Senator Mike Parson and other key legislators will lead the rally.

Missouri Farmers Care, a broad coalition of agriculture and allied organizations around the state, is coordinating the rally. All farmers, agribusiness partners and industry supporters are strongly encouraged to participate in Wednesday's event.

This is our chance to prove to the Governor that agriculture is united in fighting the broad agenda being advanced by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and its allies such as People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA).

We must do everything we can to show the Governor how much agriculture means to Missouri. Please do your part. Share this message with your neighbors, family and friends and make plans now to be in Jefferson City Wednesday afternoon. (Source: Missouri Farmers Care)

More Competitive Rail Industry Needed

The National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA) and 11 other major agricultural producer and agribusiness trade organizations this week united to urge the federal Surface Transportation Board (STB) to improve its regulatory structure to foster a more competitive rail environment.

Enhancing both regulatory access to the agency and problem-solving in rail markets between carriers and their customers could spur growth in both U.S. agriculture and the rail sector, which in turn would support an "improved overall U.S. economy and provide for more vibrant job growth in many sectors served by rail," the NGFA and other organizations said in a joint statement submitted to the STB.

The groups noted that railroads have become "very profitable" based upon any reasonable business yardstick, and there are "few risks to general rail profitability if the STB chose to make some reasonable adjustments in moving toward a more competitive (rail) environment." There are approximately 15,000 agricultural-related shipping points in the United States, with rail comprising about 35 percent of the physical volume of agricultural movements compared to about 50 percent for trucks and 15 percent for barges. The organizations said many agricultural facilities, particularly those involved in longer-haul shipments where trucks do not provide a competitive alternative, have

"less-than-adequate" competition to discipline railroad market behavior. (Source: NGFA)

Congressman Refuses HSUS Award

Alaskan Congressman Don Young refused an award this evening from The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and the Humane Society Legislative Fund that would have honored his work for animals in 2010. While capitalizing on the good work of local humane societies that shelter, spay, and neuter animals, the HSUS does not own, operate, or directly control a single animal shelter in our country, despite a budget of well over \$100 million.

"HSUS are hypocrites, plain and simple, and I will not join them by accepting this award," said Rep. Young. "Local animal shelters and humane societies do excellent work by caring for neglected and homeless animals, and through their spaying and neutering programs. This organization, however, has absolutely nothing to do with animal welfare. Instead they prey on the emotions of big-hearted Americans. They flash images of abused animals on our television screens to raise money that will eventually go to pay their salaries and pensions, not to helping better the lives of these animals. They run anti-hunting and anti-trapping campaigns and are of the same cloth as PETA and other extremist organizations. I can only guess that I was to receive this award due to my support of the Wildlife Without Borders program, which develops wildlife management and conservation efforts to maintain global species diversity. That program is true conservation; what this group wants is preservation. To accept this award would be supporting their manipulative ways and misguided agenda, and I want no part of that." (Source: Congressman Dan Young)

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE, 2011

7 2nd Annual Clover Classic Golf Tournament; Columbia, MO
28 Missouri Pork Classic Golf Tournament; Columbia, MO

JULY, 2011

20-22 MO-AG Summer Meeting; Lake Ozark, MO

AUGUST, 2011

11-21 Missouri State Fair; Sedalia, MO

SEPTEMBER, 2011

28-30 MO Seedmen's Assoc. Annual Meeting; Lake Ozark, MO

OCTOBER, 2011

5 MU CAFNR Career Fair; Columbia, MO

NOVEMBER, 2011

17 ALOT Annual Meeting; Columbia, MO

DECEMBER, 2011

4-6 MO Farm Bureau 97th Annual Meeting; Lake Ozark, MO

16-17 MO Cattlemen's Assoc. Annual Meeting; Columbia, MO

JANUARY, 2012

11-13 **MO-AG Winter Convention; Lake Ozark, MO**

Note: Items in **red** are new postings since the last Wrap-Up issue.

JOB OPENINGS

Agronomy Manager

Ray-Carroll County Grain Growers, Inc. has an opening for a Agronomy Manager who will be the lead on fertilizer, chemical, and seed product lines . Please contact Mike Nordwald at 816-776-2291 for more information.

Agronomy/Precision Sales Representative - Marshall, MO

Central Missouri Agri Service at Marshall, MO has an opening for a Sales person experienced in Agronomy sales and current knowledge of VRT/ GIS precision equipment. This individual must have organizational & time management skills, be self motivating, self starting individual with experience and /or a B.S. Degree in Agriculture. This position would include developing a close working relationship

with producers. This would include farm calls, grower meetings and other related services. If you have interest in fulfilling this position contact Gabe Ramsey at CMAS; Box 549; Marshall, MO 65340; e-mail: gabercm-as.com; or phone: 660-886-6970.

Mid-West Fertilizer - Agronomist Job Description

Mid-West Fertilizer has an open position for an Agronomist in the southeast Kansas area. Looking for self motivated, self starting individual with experience and/or a degree in Agronomy. The position would include developing a close working relationship with producers in the area and working to develop our VRT/GIS based offerings. Contact Mid-West Fertilizer at 620-839-5251 for more details.

Butterfield & Associates Grain, Inc. & T&R Soil Service - Farm Consultant Job Description

Set up and administer seed programs for Monsanto (Dekalb and Asgrow) and Garst seed companies. This is to include sales of products, test plot planting and harvesting, yield checks, working with company reps to effectively implement programs.

Plan and administer Purina Mills and Land O' Lakes feed products and programs. This is to include sales, setting up feed trials and working with producers to customize cattle management and nutrition. Working with company rep in retail operations involving equine and pet food sales. The successful candidate will utilize resources and facilities of Butterfield & Associates Grain, Inc. and T&R Soil Service for 60% of time in seed and 40% in feed. Salary and bonus compensation based on experience and knowledge. Position open immediately. Time allotment 50% @ Butterfield & Associates Grain, Inc. and 50% at T&R Soil Service. Must be able to attend product and sales training by suppliers; some overnight stays may be required. Contact Butterfield & Associates at 660-938-4116 or T & R Soil Service at 660-646-2589 for more details.

Note: If you have a job you would like listed on our Web site's classified page and in the Missouri Agribusiness Wrap Up, please email to mo-ag@mo-ag.com.

Letters To The Editor

Do you have a response to the Missouri Agribusiness Wrap Up? Let us know! The Missouri Agribusiness Wrap Up is a bi-weekly publication of the Missouri Agribusiness Association (MO-AG). MO-AG is a member-owned association based in Jefferson City, Mo. which protects

members' interests in state legislation and provides educational opportunities.

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