

Communicator

http://www.ams.usda.gov/nmna

March 2006

Greetings!

This issue of the <u>Communicator</u> is being e-mailed to all current **paid members**, new employees (first year free membership), and Lifetime members to save on printing costs. It will also be available on the NMNA website. If you did not receive an e-mailed copy, please contact Debbie Friday.

Reviewing the 2005 Workshop

It has been an honor serving as your President of the NMNA for 2005. It was also a pleasure to be a member of the Executive Board during the past several years and have the opportunity to serve with such fine folks from both the federal and state levels.

As you know, this year was the 90th anniversary of the USDA Market News Service and marked an important milestone in our profession of providing valuable information to our nation's agricultural community. Many thanks to all of you who traveled to our conference and were able to visit our beautiful state of Georgia. I hope you had an enjoyable visit and were able to take home many memories of your stay in Atlanta, as well as return with many new ideas and procedures presented during the conference workshops.

My grateful appreciation to all of those who assisted in the planning, preparation and all of those many duties necessary to set up our NMNA Conference. Special thanks to Poultry Market News and Livestock Market News staff of the Georgia Department of Agriculture for their help with the conference.

Sincerely,

Donald Carnes Poultry Market News Service Georgia Department of Agriculture

2005 Scholarship Award Winner

Stephanie T. Ring is a senior at the University of Georgia majoring in Poultry Science and is the 2005 recipient of the NMNA scholarship in the amount of \$2500.00. She and her husband Matt reside in Hull, Georgia. She plans to graduate from UGA with the honors designation of Summa cum laude in the Spring of 2006. She was one of two students selected to represent the Poultry Science Department on a Study Abroad Program in Mexico in the summer of 2005. After graduation she plans to further her education by obtaining her masters degree. She grew up on a small farm with cows and four chicken houses and developed a love for animals and things related to agriculture early in life. She is a country girl at heart and always knew that she wanted a career relating to agriculture. After several poultry science classes and a great deal of consideration she decided that poultry science was her passion. Later she decided that agribusiness was an interesting option as well, and selected agribusiness as her minor. Her activities and memberships include the Poultry Science Club, Alpha Zeta Honorary Fraternity, help with Shoebox Santa, help with Pack a Backpack for less fortunate school children and help feed the homeless during Thanksgiving at Miracle Hill Ministries in South Carolina.



NMNA President Donald Carnes of Atlanta Poultry Market News, presented a \$2500 Scholarship To Stephanie T. Ring to further her studies in Poultry Science at the University of Georgia.

New Officer- Sherry Warren - North Carolina Department of Agriculture

Sherry began her career with the North Carolina Market News office in June 1996 as a Statistical Assistant. In October 1999, she was promoted to Market Reporter. Primary responsibilities were to cover the blueberry, strawberry, cabbage, sweet potato, greens, fresh and chipping potatoes and summer vegetable markets. Because North Carolina is a multi-commodity office, her responsibilities included coverage poultry, egg, livestock and grain markets. In October of 2002, Sherry was promoted to Officer-in-Charge in Raleigh with responsibilities including the supervision and training of Market Reporters, developing and directing the implementation of goals and objectives for the Market News program as well as managing budgets, preparing work plans and performance evaluations, interviewing applicants, planning and coordinating promotional activities and daily radio broadcasts. Of course, Sherry fills in as a reporter for all commodities covered by the NC office and other responsibilities necessary to insure that the goals and objectives of the office are met. In her spare time, Sherry enjoys motorcycle riding, reading and cooking. Congratulations Sherry, we welcome you to the National Market News Association Board.

NATIONAL MARKET NEWS ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING

September 10, 2005

The meeting was called to order by President Donald Carnes.

Secretary: Barbara Meredith presented the minutes of the 2004 National Market News Association Business meeting. Motion was made and seconded to accept minutes as published in this year's program and passed..

Treasurer: Russ Travelute presented this years treasure's report as printed on page 10 of this year's program. IT was moved and seconded that the report be approved as published. The motion carried.

The Honorary Lifetime Membership Committee report was presented by chair Russ Travelute. His committee members were Ed Czerwien, Mick Davie, Kathy Posh, and Deb Schwartz. There were no nominees for the Honorary Lifetime Membership. As a result no Honorary Lifetime membership will be awarded this year.

The Awards Committee report was given by Debbie Friday. Announcement of these years' recipients was deferred until this evening's banquet.

There was some discussion on modifying the criteria for some of the awards, specifically the Market Reporter of the year and the Distinguished Service Award. It was suggested that the Market Reporter of the year be more specific instead of focusing on an entire career and that the Distinguished Service Award focus on career instead of current. Terry Long suggested modifying the award descriptions. Debbie Friday indicated that we will work towards that.

Nominating Committee report was presented by Tina Colby. Her committee consisted of Abbie Hannon and James Ward. There were five nominations. This year's nominee is Sherri Warren, from the Fruit and Vegetable Market News. It was moved and seconded that her nomination be accepted. The motion carried.

Scholarship Committee report was given by President, Donald Carnes. His committee included Debbie Friday and Russ Travelute. This year's recipient is Stephanie Ring from Hull, GA.

<u>Old Business</u>: It was announced that the pictures from last year's meeting were being mailed out. Donald Carnes presented the information on sending out the Communicator by e-mail only. There was a motion made and seconded. The motion carried.

New Business: There was a discussion about the need for group pictures. This process has gotten very expensive. The ideal solution would be for someone in the group to act as a photographer to take group pictures. After discussions on the possibility of the states providing a photographer, and the hotels providing photographers, Fred Teensma stated that historically, each branch took care of their own needs. Suggestions were also offered to raise the membership fee to cover the cost or to raise the registration fee. At the end of the discussion, a motion was made and seconded to leave the issue of a photographer for group pictures up to each branch; the \$7.00 member fee would continue to cover the development and distribution of the group pictures. The motion passed.

There was a suggestion to form a committee to oversee spending over \$500.00. The suggestion was discussed at executive committee meeting. The committee decided that it would be difficult for the president to pass all decision on the annual meeting that cost over \$500.00 through a committee. During the discussion of the issue, there were concerns about the current financial situation of the association. There was a motion to set up a committee, consisting of the President, the Historian and the Treasure to establish sound financial practices for the association by the president seeking approval of the committee for expenditures that will exceed \$500.00. The motion was seconded and carried.

Terry Long made a motion for the National Market News Association to offer to pay for refreshments at an event hosted by USDA, AMS to commemorate the 90th anniversary of USDA Market News. The motion was seconded. During the discussion the amount was limited to \$500.00. The motion as amended was approved.

A motion was made and seconded to elevate the current officers to the next level. The motion was carried. A motion was made to and seconded to adjourn. The motion carried.

Submitted by Barbara Meredith Secretary

2005 NMNA TREASURER'S REPORT

2005 NMNA Treasurer's	•		
Beginning Balance Jai Checking account #46171		\$2,601.49	
CD Account # 21	41	\$25,207.92	
CD Account # 21	TOTAL	\$27,809.41	
Income from Interest	IOIAL	ψ21,003. 4 1	
CD Account #21		\$434.60	
CD Account #22		\$38.78	
OD 71000001111 1122	TOTAL	\$473.38	
Income From 2005 Workshop		¥ 11 6166	
Workshop Registration Fees		\$17,780.00	
Spouses/Guests Registration		\$1,870.00	
NMNA Membership Dues		\$798.00	
Scholarship Donations		\$482.00	
Scholarship Silent Auction	1	\$170.00	
Scholarship Live Auction		\$7,297.50	
Contributions		\$4,600.00	
Advanced Seed money		\$3,000.00	
NLGMA	Income	\$9,375.00	
	TOTAL WORKSHOP		
	INCOME	\$45,372.50	
		TOTAL FROM ALL INCOME	\$73,655.29
Expenses for 2005 Work	shop		
Audio/Visual/Internet		\$1,015.17	
Banquet		\$5,199.69	
Hospitality Suite		\$1,251.84	
Printing & Postage		\$1,175.54	
Stone Mountain (Dinner C	ruise,		
Buses, and Laser Show		\$17,077.50	
Spouses Program		\$2,210.00	
Scholarship		\$2,500.00	
Awards & Engraving		\$603.22	
Registration Bags		\$155.28	
Bank Charges		\$49.45	
Pictures		\$383.61	
Door prizes / speaker gifts	3	\$929.79	
NLGMA Expenses		\$9,375.00	
	TOTAL WORKSHOP	\$44.000.00	
	EXPENSES	\$41,926.09	•
		NET INCOME FOR 2005	\$31,729.20
Closing Balance for 2005	5		
Checking account		\$8,047.90	
CD #21		\$13,642.52	
CD #22		\$10,038.78	
Transferred \$10,000 to CI	7 400		
Transferred \$2,000 to che			

\$31,729.20

TOTAL

NMNA Award Nominations!!

It's time to begin thinking about NMNA award nominations for 2006. Nomination forms and details are available on the NMNA website in the awards section. Complete the application, click submit, and receive an e-mailed confirmation. If you have questions, contact Tina Colby.



Dave Foster presented the" Market Reporter of the Year" award to Diana Landry, Livestock and Grain Supervisor in Baton Rouge, LA .during the banquet at the Atlanta meeting in 2005.

2006 Awards Committee

Tina Colby, Chairperson-LG-Oklahoma City, OK.
John Goetz, LG, Des Moines, IA.
Patty Willkie, FV-Idaho Falls, ID.
Brittany Dreier, LG, St, Joseph, MO.
Joe Harrison, FV-Philadelphia, PA.



49th Annual NMNA Conference August 24-26, 2006 Hyatt Regency Chicago

Make your reservations now! 1-800-233-1234

More details in the next Communicator.

RESERVATION DEADLINE:

July 25, 2006

Where: Hyatt Regency Chicago, 151 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL, just off Michigan Avenue, in the heart of the Magnificent Mile and the heart of world-class shopping, international cultural attractions and the city's financial district! The Hyatt Regency Chicago connects you to the best music, art, entertainment and the night life of Chicago! Newly renovated among downtown Chicago hotels, it is recognized for its excellence in hospitality and cuisine.

When making your reservation, mention you are part of the NMNA to secure our special rate. Rates are \$127.00 for single or double occupancy. Rates are good for 3 days before or after the groups' departure.

Reservations at our special rate cannot be guaranteed after the deadline, so reserve a room prior to that date. Reservations may be cancelled up to 72 hours prior to arrival.

Registration form will be available on the website by May 1, 2006.

Bring the family...much to do and see in the heart of the city...Millennium Park, Sears Tower, Navy Pier, Magnificent Mile, museums, Art Institute, theatre and more!

Webmaster Thank You!

Thanks, Denise Melcher, (LG Market News) for your upkeep of the NMNA website and your terrific web ideas!

BRANCH UPDATES:

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE

Advanced Portal Training

During the week of October 24-28, 2005 Market News conducted Advanced Portal Training classes for reporters at the Fresh Products Branch training facility in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Two separate groups of reporters were trained for a day and a half during the week. Two make-up sessions were offered in January for those unable to attend in October. Nearly all Market News reporters, including several State reporters, have been trained in using the new Portal website.

The goal was to deliver hands on, detailed training on the FV MN Portal. Our goal is not only to familiarize our reporters with the product, but also to enable us to show our customers and contacts how to use it to meet their specific needs. It is important to note that we continue to get rave reviews on the Portal website from our customers.

Modification of Staffing Levels

Fruit and Vegetable Market News has made significant technology advances in electronic dissemination of information in the last year or two that are leading us to change the way we do business in FVMN. Instead of generating market reports, we will provide market information. At the same time, we have been further pressured by budget constraints. So, while technology allows us to make some changes, our budget situation forces us to. The budget shortfall for FVMN for this year is forecast at approximately \$300,000. To deal with this, we have announced that we will cease reporting wholesale flower markets and cease to generate most composite market reports.

What does this mean? It means that we will be eliminating the support staff positions that assemble these reports. There are 14 GS-303 positions nationwide, mostly Market Reporting Assistants, and all but two positions will be eliminated.

The release of the Market News Portal has empowered customers by providing direct access to the Market News Information System (MNIS), or database. The Portal also allows users to customize the Portal to meet their specific needs, and to determine in what format they would receive their information. As a result, customers now can build their own reports. If we can deliver data to our customers and allow them to customize it to meet their needs, they no longer need "canned" market reports that contain vast amounts of detailed data they do not want.

Examples of the composite reports that will be eliminated are the St. Louis Wholesale Fruit and Vegetable Report, the Tomato Fax Report, and the National Watermelon Report. Examples of the national level reports that will remain are the National Shipping Point Trends, the National FOB Review, and the Peanut Report. The text reports will remain, with the exception of the wholesale flower reports as those markets will no longer be covered.

We sincerely regret this staff reduction, as well as the loss of our "traditional" market reports, but no obvious alternative exists. The Agency and the Branch will do those things that we can to help reduce the impact on our team mates. We genuinely appreciate the contribution of all of these folks to our success of this Branch to this date, and nothing in this action should be taken as a reflection on the abilities and the professionalism of these 12 persons. We thank them for their service and wish them the very best in the future.

Fred Teensma, Weldon Hall (retired Livestock and Grain) and Steve Dailey (retired Fruit and Vegetable) will travel to India at the end of April to assess marketing practices and market information systems for fresh fruit and vegetables. They will travel to two states with produce

markets and one shipping point area to see how the India market information system could be enhanced. The group will work with officials of National Institute for Agriculture Marketing (NIAM). New, more open markets are emerging in India so this allows for an opportunity of increased market transparency. Fred and Weldon traveled to India last year to part of a fact-finding mission to define the parameters of a technical assistance program. The trips are funded by the U.S Agency for International Development (USAID).

Fernando Palmer and John Kyranos traveled to El Salvador January 22-29 on a technical assistance project for the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) and in cooperation with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA). The primary purpose of the trip was to do an assessment of the current efforts to collect and disseminate market information, and to design a program to enhance those efforts. The project is an outcome of a trip by a USDA team made to El Salvador in September, 2002. Fernando and Terry Long were the AMS representatives on the USDA team.

POULTRY

Reporting Initiatives: In 2005, in conjunction with industry members and trade groups, Poultry Market News developed a series of weekly reports covering the feature activity by grocery retailers for the most common consumer cuts of chicken and turkey, and grades of shell eggs. These new reports, "Retail Feature Activity Reports" expand AMS Market News reporting coverage into the retail sector and provide a tool for users to measure, analyze, anticipate, and react to retail marketing trends. These reports have been well received by the feathered industries who are requesting more information on the demand side of the marketplace. In addition, retailers have expressed a great interest in using these reports to monitor their own promotional activity against the general retail population. In response to the changing needs of its customers, these new market reports are available only in the Adobe portable document format (pdf). This move away from text-based reports is in response to industry requests for more user-friendly reports that highlight market relationships in graphical format. These new reports are only available on the Poultry Market News website as well as by email delivery. In FY 2006 Market News will continue to look for ways to expand and/or enhance these reports and applications including the expansion into USDA Certified Organic and natural chicken and turkey products and into feature activity of egg products.

In 2005, the "Weekly Fresh Turkey" report was expanded a national level. Previously, only the eastern region of the U.S. was included. With the report coverage expanded to a national basis, all major U.S. turkey processors are now included in the report, increasing the volume of trading comprising the report and strengthening confidence in the price discovery process. At the same time, the report format was updated to reflect current industry practice and to make it more user-friendly.

For a number of years, AMS Market News reporters have collected retail price information for poultry items, mainly turkey, featured during holiday marketing periods. This information was never officially released but was shared with turkey industry cooperators, trade associations, and a few media outlets. The information allowed users to compare how their products, and those of their competitors, were being featured in various markets. In response to industry requests to expand the information and make it public, AMS Market News began to release this retail price information in the form a new report, "Holiday Retail Promotions Featuring Poultry", available seasonally to the public in Adobe pdf format on the AMS Market News website. Due to the volume of information, the report is made available in sections. The report covers feature activity for whole turkeys, turkey breasts, Cornish hens, ducklings, geese, roasters, broth, turkey dinners, and eggnog categorized by conventional, kosher, USDA Certified Organic, free-range, or natural. Retail activity for each item is categorized by region (Eastern, Central, and Western U.S.) corresponding to established turkey marketing regions. Major retail markets are listed by states under each region and include primary retail outlets in each market. These unique reports have become very popular with the industry who use them to determine the competitiveness of their products in the marketplace.

In recent years, the in-line segment of the egg products industry has seen rapid growth which has impacted the dynamics of both the shell egg and egg products industries. In response to concerns raised by the shell egg industry, AMS Market News added information to the "Weekly Eggs Processed Under Federal Inspection" report showing the total number of cases broken by in-line facilities is provided along with the percentage of cases broken by in-line facilities. A similar breakdown is provided for liquid whole egg production. Using this information, users can now track seasonal and long term trends in the respective production of in-line and off line plants.

In 2005, AMS Market News was releasing two reports covering the trading of shell eggs to retailers in the Midwest, the Daily Chicago and Midwest Egg report and the Daily Midwest Regional Egg report. The Chicago and Midwest report covered the market for shell eggs delivered to the store door while the Midwest Regional report covered the market for shell eggs delivered to the warehouse. AMS Market News incorporated the Chicago and Midwest delivered store door information into the "Midwest Regional" report and discontinued releasing the Chicago and Midwest report separately. While this change did not result in the loss of any existing market coverage, the simply combination of delivered warehouse and delivered store door price information into one report eliminated confusion over having two overlapping reports. In addition, the format of the Midwest Regional Egg report was made more user-friendly and efficient report with all Midwest shell egg market coverage contained in a single report.

In response to requests from the U.S. Egg Products industry, AMS Market News updated its "Monthly Inventory of U.S. Dried Eggs" report to show blended product as a separate class while providing total poundage for each class of dried egg along with a percentage of total dried egg inventory for each class of dried egg. These changes allow users to more easily assess the relative inventory of dried egg products.

Reflecting industry trends Market News updated the "Mechanically Separated Chicken" reports to show only product with skin added. While trading in mechanically separated chicken without skin does occur the volume is such that reporting it could violate confidentiality rules.



Dave Gonsoulin of Livestock and Grain in Mobile, AL. expressed his thanks as a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award in Atlanta

LIVESTOCK AND GRAIN

Authorization for Livestock Mandatory Reporting expired on September 30, 2005. The House has passed a 5-year reauthorization and the Senate has passed a one-year extension. Several hearings have been held with Senate Staff members, but at this time, there is no projected time for reauthorization. Most packers continue to cooperate on a voluntary basis. The only reports that are not being

published are the imported lamb cut report and some slaughter cow reports.

Carol Meinders, OIC, Minneapolis, MN. took her second trip to Serbia in late February. She along with Bill Meyers (Retired Livestock and Grain Reporter) are working with the Economic Research Service to assist the Serbian Ministry of Agriculture develop a market information program for livestock, grain, and hay.

COTTON

Cotton Market News Branch Begins Publication of Daily Quality Report: On October 24th the Cotton Market News Branch began publication the Daily Cotton Quality Summary. The report is a daily summary of the quality of cotton classed the previous day and lists the number of bales classed, the predominate color and leaf grades, the percentage of extraneous matter and average for staple, micronaire, strength, uniformity and trash for each office. Additional pages of the report show daily summary information for the past seven days along with weekly and seasonal information.

MARKET NEWS SUPPORT UNIT

The Poultry programs Market News Support Branch, headquartered in Washington, DC, administers and supports the Market News Information System (Oracle Databases, Oracle Web Services, and Oracle Forms and Reports), the Market News Communication System (Backweb, e-mail, Web) for all six Market News Commodities, and provides limited support for the Market News Portal. Equipment is maintained in Washington, DC; Des Moines, IA; Memphis, TN; Madison, WI; and Fresno, CA.

In November 2005, Mark Shell was hired as the Branch Chief for the MNSB. Mark came to the USDA from General Motors, where he held a position as regional information technology manger for GM Powertrain in Fredericksburg and GM Powertrain Allison Transmission in Baltimore. Mark previously held positions with Bosch, Norsk Hydro, Navistar, and ALCOA. Mark has a MBA in E-Business and a MS in Information Systems and has extensive experience in database design, database administration, application development, networking, communications, and infrastructure hardware.

The MNSB is composed of two information technology groups; market news information systems (MNIS) and market news communication systems (MNCS), with eight employees based in Washington, DC and one employee based in Colorado. The MNSB provides information technology support / technical support to AMS market news (Cotton, Dairy, Poultry, Fruit and Vegetable, Livestock and Seed, and Tobacco). In addition to technical support, the MNSB develops database systems and applications to support the collection of data and information and the creation and distribution of market news reports.

The Market News Support Branch ensures that the 350 market reporters across the country can gain access to the Market News Oracle databases to enter market information and release Market News Reports to the Web, e-mail, and Backweb feed. The branch also provides helpdesk assistance to Market News offices across the country as well as technical computer support assistance.

Summary of Progress

During FY05/06 the Market News Support Branch provided technical knowledge and assistance with the implementation of the Market News Portal for the Fruit and Vegetable and Livestock and Grain commodities. The MNCS group focused on deploying new infrastructure hardware and operating systems to replace aging hardware and operating systems that were no longer supported. The MNIS group focused on upgrading databases and applications to replace aging applications and databases and to mitigate security risks presented by Windows NT servers. Additionally, the MNIS and MNCS groups focused on improving COOP (disaster recovery / backup and recovery) capabilities, with the implementation of Data Guard and testing of Oracle Recovery Manager. Both groups will continue to focus their efforts on replacing aging infrastructure hardware, upgrading operating systems, upgrading applications, upgrading databases and improving COOP capabilities. In FY06 the MNSB plans to develop a prototype Market News Information System designed for web deployment with remote data access capabilities and inherent COOP capabilities.

MARKET NEWS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (MNAA) NEWS

The MNAA held their third annual meeting in conjunction with the NMNA Conference in Atlanta. The meeting was held on Friday, September 9, 2005. Our attendance was down but we enjoyed seeing all of our old friends and enjoyed the Friday evening dinner aboard the Henry W. Grady River Boat and the Stone Mountain Laser Show. Donald Carnes put together a great program. We were able to tag along with the spouse tours of Coca-Cola Museum, city tour, CNN offices, and Centennial Olympic Park as well as Cumberland, Gallaria and Perimeter Malls. The MNAA now has 48 members and hope to pick up more as the new year begins. Plans are being made for our next meeting, details will be posted in the next Communicator.

Officers Elected:

Charlie Hackensmith - President (<u>Hackensmith@yahoo.com</u>)

Ernie Morgan - Vice-President (<u>jeanmorgan@wcsonline.net</u>)

Weldon Hall - Secretary/Treasurer (sjhall@tds.net)

Also approved was the Treasurer's report:

Beginning Balance: \$1055.58

Income:

Member Dues \$400.00

Expenses:

\$00.00

Total Expenses: \$00.00 Operating Balance \$1,455.58

Dues for 2006 were left unchanged at \$25.00.

We are actively seeking new members among our Market News retirees, so if you know of someone that has not been contacted, please let us know (email - sjhall@tds.net).

Dues should be sent to Weldon Hall, 15121 Clementown Rd., Amelia, Virginia 23002.

See you in Chicago,

Weldon Hall, MNAA Secretary/Treasurer

More 2006 NMNA Committees

ExecutiveScholarshipMembershipDebbie Friday, ChairDebbie Friday, FV, ChairSherry Warren, Raleigh NC. ChairTina ColbyTina Colby, LGDan Schussler, LG, Columbia, SCLinda VerstrateRuss Travelute, LGAmos Hardy, Poultry, Wash. DC.

Barbara Meredith **Nominations**

Lewis Langell Linda Verstrate, Chair-FV, Yakima, WA.
Sherry Warren Becky Stauder, LG, San Angelo, TX.
Steve Skuba John Kyranos, FV, Washington, DC.
Randy Alford Mick Davie, FV, Idaho Falls, ID.
Holly Mozal Charlie McIntire, LG, Sioux Falls, SD.

Donald Carnes

Russ Travelute

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, please let one of the Nominations Committee members know of your interest. They are seeking nominations now.

Lifetime Membership

Barbara Meredith, Chair-Cotton, Memphis, TN. Paul Pasholk, F & V, Phoenix, AZ. Cathy Greene, Cotton, Memphis TN. Kesha Graves, Poultry, Atlanta, GA. Annie Terry, Poultry, Atlanta, GA.

If you would like to be considered for a Board position or interested in serving on a committee, please make this known to one of the Board members. Your name will be placed on the list for consideration.

Achievement & Recognition Report as of December 2005

<u>Committee – Russ Travelute, Chair</u>

Mick Davie, FV, Idaho Falls, ID. Kathy Posh, FV, Dallas, TX. Debra Schwartz, LG

Retirements	New Employees	30 years of Service
Dorothy Bear – LG	Dixie Simpson-LG	Carol Bell-Cotton
Phil McFall- LG	Greg Harrison-LG	
Bob Miles – LG	Mark Werner-LG	

Awards

Livestock & Grain

Performance Awards	Extra Effort Awards
Erin Morris	Alan Hummel
John VanDyke	Chris Sommers
Jerry Alexander	Lance Cline
Jimmy Beard	Bill Worlie
Sjontelle Crocker	Gerald Bawdon
Cheryl Johnson	Charles McIntyre

Tom Sandau Richard Tanger Kaye Orton Judy Baldridge Richard Hruska Taylor Cox Phil McFall

Jodie Pitcock

Jim Epstein Georgia Williams

Spot Awards Time Off

Nina Biensen Portia White Kirk Christie Nancy Gallagher John Goetz Ami Kreager Larry Johnson

Portia White

Donna Larson Penny Sockel Baldemar Ortiz

Fruit & Vegetable

Extra Effort Awards

Bob Corwin Donna Lupo Richard DeMenna Michelle McKelvy Philip Montgomery Art Muchow Maureen Murray James Praski Gina Thrasher Lisa VanMeter Roxanne Wiseman Tom Cooper Mick Davie Marcial Rafanan Jerry Fernandez Scott Karney Malinda McNeil Paul Pasholk Jeff Main Francine Marando Barbara Maxwell Vivian Thompson Malinda McNeil Holly Mozal Michael Rann Lori Tasos Billie Turner Patty Willkie Cedrick Thomas Marlene Martinez Larry Gartelman Darlene Oliver Charlie Hackensmith Steve Skuba Jim Piedlow Jeanne Barrett Angelo Galioto **Dennis Jemmerson** Kathy Posh **Tony Sorenson** Charlotte Doan Debbie Friday

Spot Awards

Richard DeMenna Abbie Hannon Cedrick Thomas Elizabeth Freeman Marcial Rafanan



Fruit and Vegetable Market News Branch Chief Terry Long presented Assistant Branch Chief John Okoniewski with the Distinguished Service Award in DC Following the 2005 conference.

Dairy

Performance Awards

Colleen Curran Steve Schneeberger

Cotton

Performance Award

Cathy Greene Jim Bass

Spot Award

Barbara Meredith

2006 NMNA Officers

PRESIDENT

Debbie A. Friday

USDA AMS FV Market News Service

120 Water Street

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FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

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SECRETARY

Sherry Warren

NCDA and CS

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Market News Alumni Association

Weldon Hall, President & Ex Officio

Phone: 804-561-5271 Email: sjhall@tds.net

COMMODITY SECTION HEADS

COTTON MARKET NEWS

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Email: Barbara.Meredith@usda.gov

DAIRY MARKETING

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FISHERIES STATISTICS & ECONOMICS DIVISION

David Van Voorhees, Chief Telephone: 301-713-2328

Email: <u>Dave.Van.Voorhees@noaa.gov</u>

FRUIT & VEGETABLE MARKET NEWS

Terry Long, Chief Telephone: 202-7202745 Email: Terry.Long@usda.gov

LIVESTOCK & GRAIN MARKET NEWS

John VanDyke, Chief Telephone: 202-720-6231 Email: John.VanDyke@usda.gov

POULTRY & EGG MARKET NEWS

Michael Sheats, Chief Telephone: 202-720-6911

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TOBACCO MARKET NEWS

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