



In-Grain

The Knowledge Resource for the Grain Handling and Processing Industry

A New Era!

We're making a variety of improvements to better serve our members.

Also Inside

Safety Best Practices Across Our Industry
Meet Your New Board of Directors
GEAPS Advances Communication Tools

Safety Best Practices

One of the great benefits of GEAPS membership is the ability to share information with industry colleagues.

Since the best way to learn something is straight from an expert, we reached out to a handful of GEAPS members who have committed their careers to making sure their colleagues go home each day. We asked them to dig into their proverbial safety toolboxes and share what they deem most important as we all work to make sure everyone stays safe on the job. Give it a read see what changes you could implement in your work days to foster a safety culture in your workplace.

All GEAPS members, the experts we reached out to include **Julie Bell-Waltz** from R&J Safety, **Josh McClure** from PMI Nebraska, **Butch Hendrix** who serves as safety director for Kokomo Grain locations, **Corey Hopkins** with DEKRA and **Casey Abel** from Gavilon.

What is the best safety tip you’ve ever received?

Regardless of the job, never expect someone else to do what you yourself haven’t or won’t do. In other words: set the example, do what you expect others to do. -JBW

Paperwork doesn’t make a safety program. Culture does. -JM

Overall, many times people aren’t sure if they should lockout/tagout, fill out entry permits, is it confined space or permit required confined space, wear respirators, goggles vs. safety glasses, etc. If you are not sure which way to go, go with the most stringent method. An example would be, if you’re not sure if the equipment should be locked out for what you are doing, go ahead and lock it out, and remove all doubt. Same with permits, if unsure, fill it out the permit to remove the doubt! -BH

Always challenge whether or not a task has to be done, or done the way “it has always been done.” Elimination is the most effective control in the hierarchy of controls. Sometimes we get in unnecessary routines, or do tasks simply because that’s the way it has always been done in the past. We must challenge those ideas. -CH

Safety Best Practices continued on page 3

In-Grain

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4800 Olson Memorial Highway, Suite 150
Golden Valley, MN 55422 USA
(763) 999-4300 • info@geaps.com • GEAPS.com

GEAPS’ vision is to be *The Knowledge Resource* by providing key information in these core competencies:

- Grain Quality
- Facility Maintenance and Design
- General Operations
- Risk Management
- Human Resources

GEAPS Staff

Steve Records, executive director
Adrianne Fjerstad-Miller, conference and expo director
Julia Kloehn, director of operations
Brittany Labatt, sales and conference manager
Patsy Lee, professional development support associate
Jim Lenz, director of training and education
Deb Most, member and chapter manager
Krissy Ohnstad, marketing specialist
Betsy Polis, senior project manager
Jessica Waltzer, communications manager, editor

Safety Best Practices continued from page 2

“Safety performance leads business performance”- *Tom Krauss* Simply put, for an organization to be successful, safety and the wellbeing of its employees must be the #1 priority. An organization can preach safety as a priority, but they also must be willing to listen to the concerns of their employees, invest in their employee training and, most importantly, invest in safer systems and facilities. -CA

What is the most important thing people in the grain industry can do to keep themselves and their teams safe?

Always keep in mind “situational awareness.” Whether working on the farm or at the elevator, know what is going on around you. Every action has a reaction—what could go wrong? -JBW

Engaged leadership, constantly refining work processes and timely risk mitigation are the best way to ensure safe work practices. -JM

Team work, and helping others to operate safely. If you see something say something! -BH

Look at your policies and procedures as tools, not rules. There are some critical procedures out there (confined space entry, lockout tagout, fall protection, etc.) that get viewed as “rules.” If you actually study the procedures and follow them; they are truly tools that can prevent catastrophic outcomes. Use them accordingly. -CH

Build an effective safety culture, from top to bottom, starting with leadership. “Safety culture” can mean a lot of different things. In my mind, an effective safety culture starts with a focus on incidents involving a serious injury or fatality (SIF), or SIF potential. Employees must be willing to honestly report incidents and near misses without the threat of being reprimanded. Employees are not the problem makers; they are our most effective problem solvers. Increased reporting leads to increased solutions. Once reported, an organization should conduct extensive investigations that convey causal factor(s) that led to the incident. When key factors from an incident are identified, the focus should then shift toward how the organization better its systems and/or facilities to effectively control the hazards. This not only applies to reacting to an incident, but also being proactive in identifying high risk operations and tackling hazards before an event occurs. Accepting that humans will make errors and building systems that allow that to happen without an injury is the only effective way to eliminate hazards in the workplace. We must shift from a “make do” to a “make right” mentality. This is done through eliminating, substituting, or engineering away from the hazard. Simply relying on employees to be flawless in their work, or demanding them be “safer,” will never lead to the results we desire. -CA

How do you stay up-to-date on safety best practices?

Stay up-to-date on safety best practices by talking to the guys doing the work. What is working for them? Meet and talk with equipment suppliers. What is the latest and greatest in safety equipment? Pay attention to recent OSHA citations in the grain industry. Serve on committees with safety peers. Read trade magazines like Grain Journal. -JBW

Experience, networking and working relationships with multiple vendors help me stay up to date. -JM



Julie Bell Waltz CSP
Safety Professional
R&J Safety



Josh McClure
Safety Director
PMI Nebraska



Butch Hendrix
Safety Director
Kokomo Grain



Corey Hopkins
Principal Consultant
DEKRA



Casey Abel
Safety Manager
Gavilon LLC

I’m a member of many organizations like GEAPS, NGFA, Agribusiness Council of Indiana, Indiana Risk Coordinators, Fire service, NFPA, and I also subscribe to many newsletters and email type newsletters. -BH

Continuous networking, newsletters, safety magazines/articles, memberships in safety associations, etc. -CH

This “new view” on safety isn’t necessarily new. Many industries, like the energy sector, shifted their focus toward SIF/p incidents years ago, and the results have been tremendous. Our industry must continue to learn from those who’ve done it right and have the results to prove it. Todd Conklin has been a huge voice in this “new view” on safety. His podcast “Pre-Accident Investigation” is full of great examples and insight from industry leaders. As far as the grain/feed industry, we must be willing to collaborate with one another and share practices that are working within our organizations. We may be business competitors, but we all have a common goal to send our employees home the way they showed up each day. Involvement in GEAPS is great platform for industry leaders to tackle our challenges around safety together. -CA

Safety Best Practices continued on page 4

Anything else you want to mention?

It's human nature is to think, "It's not going to happen to me!" In our youth, we think we are invincible. As we age, we think we've been doing this for so long we must be right, we get complacent. Both extremes are hazardous to our wellbeing. No one gets up in the morning thinking they are going to do something stupid at work and die. Words of wisdom: you are NOT invincible. It is up to you to choose to do your job the safe way. Do not take shortcuts. -JBW

Nothing can substitute experience. If you don't have it, ask someone who does. If you have it, mentor those who do not. -JM

I always try to involve our employees doing the day-to-day work in the development of policies and procedures. Many times, I also go out in the facility to work with employees as they are doing different tasks, to evaluate the hazards, along with reviewing the process for any policy updates. And, of course, to make sure it still within OSHA Standards. -BH

Safety has no quitting time. It's a lifestyle, not a workplace thing. It's important at work, at home, and on the road. -CH

Safety is a never-ending journey. We'll never wake up one day and say, "we did it, we are 100 percent safe." This creates complacency. We must continue to learn, evolve, and invest in safety systems as new challenges present themselves. Our industry is full of innovative minds working toward a common goal. Getting away from "the way we've always done it" and committing to continuously learning and system building is how we save lives in the future of on industry. -CA

You've read through what your peers had to say about staying safe, what do you have to add to the story? What are your safety tips and best practices? Please reach out to jessica@geaps.com to share your knowledge!



Butch Hendrix helps with a demonstration at the Grain Entrapment Safety Demonstration at GEAPS Exchange.

Pack Your Road Snacks!

It's Not Too Late to Attend CONVEY'22

CONVEY'22 is right around the corner—but you still have time to register to attend CONVEY'22! The in-person conference and trade show is scheduled for July 26-27 at the Omaha Hilton in Omaha, NE. Attend for just \$275.

CONVEY'22 features safety, operations and grain quality education topics. This is the place for grain handling professionals at multiple levels to gain practical knowledge and training on real-world compliance issues, best practices and emerging industry trends. The conference will feature expert speakers covering the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Transportation (DOT), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Federal Grain Inspection Service (FGIS) rules and regulations.

You'll also have opportunities to learn from others; CONVEY'22 is a great place to network! There will be more than 55 exhibitors at the trade show.

Panel discussions are planned on fumigation practices and safety techniques, grain grading operations and managing health and safety incidents. CONVEY also offers training focused on behavioral safety and incident management as well as safe driver training and development.

CONVEY'22 is made possible by a collaboration of National Grain and Feed Association (NGFA), Grain Journal and Grain Elevator and Processing Society (GEAPS).

For more information, visit convey22.com



President's Report

Barb Grove, Central Valley Ag Cooperative, Great Plains Chapter, GEAPS International President 2021-2022



It has been my honor to serve as GEAPS International President for the last year. Wow! And what a year it has been! Together, we did so much!

As we in the agricultural profession have done for centuries—we found a way to thrive in the face of adversity. While still in the midst of a global pandemic, together we had not one in-person GEAPS Exchange, but two in the last fiscal year. So far, this year brought our first leadership conference since 2019 and our first new chapter since 2004—the Lonestar Chapter near Houston, TX.

This spring, we reached an agreement with longtime member Mark Avery to acquire Country Journal Publishing, which includes Grain Journal, Seed Today and Milling Journal, among others. We are grateful Mark Avery will continue his leadership role for the publications under GEAPS Media Group, the publishing subsidiary of GEAPS.

Despite a challenging time, our membership did not shrink. Our ranks grew by an impressive 20 percent! We have welcomed members from near and far—including 60 from the Sudan and welcoming members from IOMSA, who are coming GEAPS as their association closes.

GEAPS staff has been working hard to bring so many improvements to the way you learn about GEAPS opportunities and industry news. Look for a new and improved website later this summer, a revamped In-Grain newsletter and a new email system.

In so many ways, at so many levels, GEAPS is a thriving, growing association. Together we have and will continue to do so much.

I have every confidence GEAPS will continue to prosper in the next year. You are in good hands with Chris Blair as your next president.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve you and our members as your Board President.

New President's Report

Chris Blair, NEW Cooperative, Inc, Greater Iowa Chapter



In the last fifteen years, I have had many opportunities with GEAPS. This latest opportunity is a big one. I am humbled and honored to serve as GEAPS President for 2022-23. Thank you for having faith in me for this important role. I am looking forward to accomplishing much with you and for you over the next year.

GEAPS is in a great place. We are a thriving, growing association looking to the future. When the industry changes, we adapt. We try new things in order to best serve the nearly 3,000 members of our GEAPS family, while holding true to our core values. We are making strategic investments into new projects to drive value.

This summer and fall, members will notice some changes; we hope they are considered improvements. Last year, we told you we were working to build you a new website. I'm happy to say, it's almost done. It will provide the content you told us you want (thanks for answering those member surveys) and bring us together even more. This new, mobile friendly website will help even more industry colleagues find their way to GEAPS. The website will be an evolving, ever improving tool for all of us.

In-Grain, our member newsletter, has a new approach to content and its first new design in 14 years. We are also changing the way we send email communication to you all. We want the emails you receive to be relevant, helpful information for you.

We've got all that and more on our plate, but I'm confident our goals will be reached. Working together we can accomplish everything we set out to do. If you're member and want to see changes, I wholeheartedly invite you to get involved so you can share your viewpoints. There are many ways to get involved. Committees are formed to help inform the board and help us make good decisions. No matter how you are involved, it will make a positive difference.

Together, we will make this a wonderful year!

"Working together we can accomplish everything we set out to do. If you're a member and want to see changes, I wholeheartedly invite you to get involved so you can share your viewpoints." - Chris Blair

We're Remodeling!

While the heart of GEAPS remains, we are making a variety of improvements to better serve our members. We welcome your input and hope you enjoy the changes. As with all things, we have made these improvements for your benefit.

GEAPS.com & GEAPSExchange.com

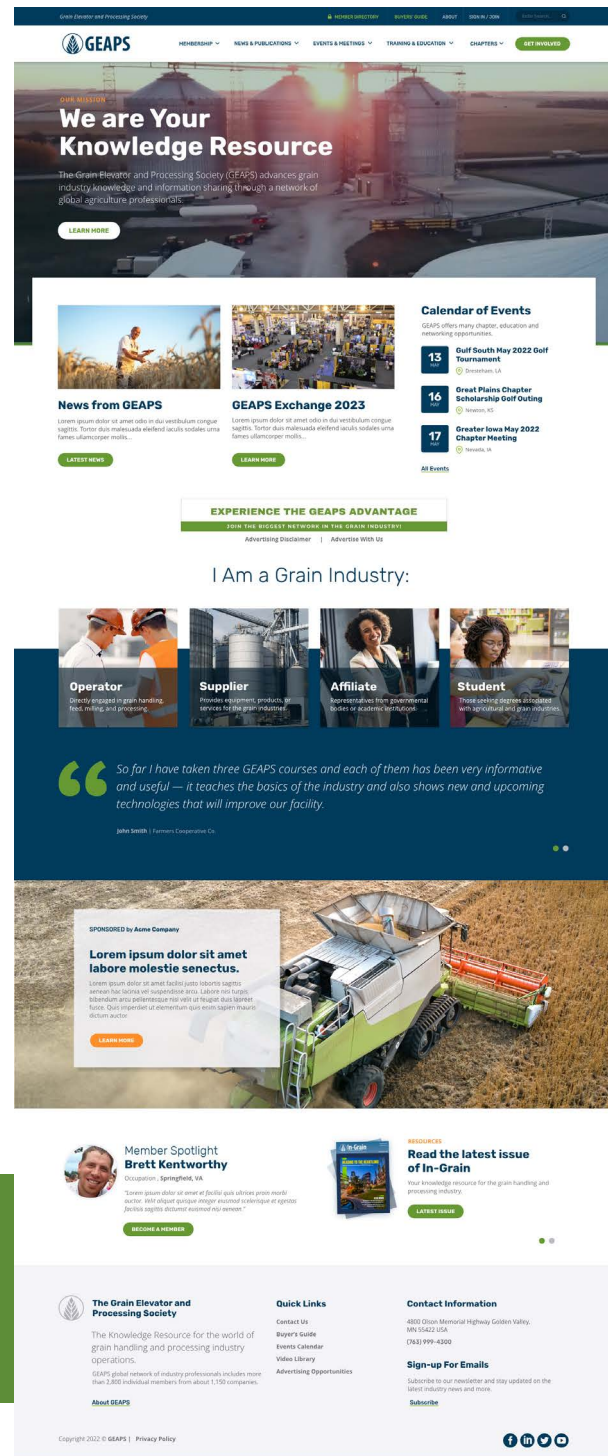
Last year, we mentioned plans to revamp your association website. Later this summer, you will see we have kept our word—and then some!

We have wanted to make these changes for some time. Due to the global pandemic, we waited to make the investment until we had more clarity for our operations and finances. The state of GEAPS is strong, and we are thrilled to be able to make these changes.

“The website needs to be the ‘front door’ to GEAPS, itself a tool to attract members and add value,” said GEAPS Executive Director Steve Records. “We also want to use our website to be able to deliver new services to our members. Our site hadn’t been updated since 2016, it simply wasn’t adaptable for how association websites need to work.”

While the new website will have a great look, it’s not about a makeover. The change is tied to GEAPS’ strategic plan for member attraction and retention and member value delivery. The new site will be easy to use and navigate and—soon—generate added revenue for the association.

Your new website will have all the features you have come to depend on—and then some.



We're Remodeling continued from page 8

Think of this new site as a living document, one where we will add enhancements and make changes which add value to our members such as videos, blogs, and training content from across the industry.

“We want our website to be a place people start, not a place they only go when directed there,” Records said.

In-Grain Member Newsletter

As soon as you opened your mailbox you saw something looked a bit different. We are taking a new approach with your member newsletter, In-Grain.

While the look is different and we will work to continue to explore new ways to bring you relevant, usable and interesting content, the heart of In-Grain remains the same.

In-Grain is and always has been your newsletter. Members are at the heart of every story, page and issue. We welcome your ideas. If you have thoughts on what would make for a great feature story—or simply have suggestions for your newsletter, please email Jessica@geaps.com.

In-Grain has evolved since its first issue in 1981. The last redesign was 14 years ago, in 2008. Before there was In-Grain, GEAPS members would receive a copy of Grain Age as a member benefit.

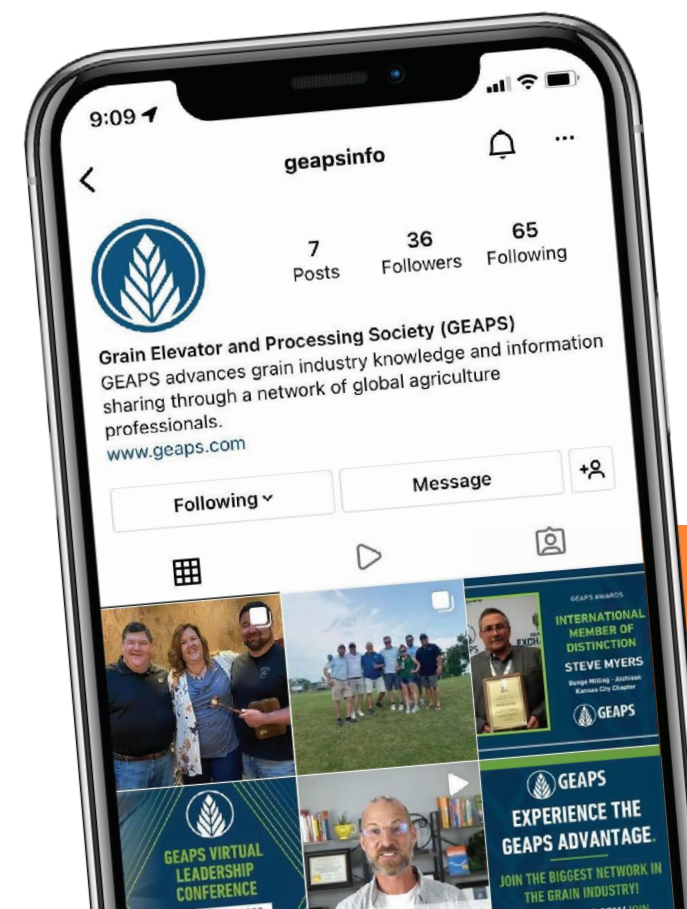


Email, Social Media

We’re also making improvements to how we send emails and broadening our social media reach. By summer’s end, look for some changes to your emails. We are working to make sure the content we sent is useful and helps you get the most out of your GEAPS membership.

If you haven’t already, be sure to follow GEAPS new Instagram at [Instagram.com/geapsinfo](https://www.instagram.com/geapsinfo). We hope you’re already following GEAPS on Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter! We have worked to make these pages dynamic, interactive and full of relevant content for and about the wonderful people who make GEAPS a fantastic organization.

Be sure to follow GEAPS new Instagram page at [Instagram.com/geapsinfo](https://www.instagram.com/geapsinfo)



Meet Your 2022-23 Board of Directors

In response to a bylaw change approved by GEAPS members, GEAPS will now be led by a unified board of directors comprised of both Regular, Associate and Affiliate members.

We express our gratitude to those who stepped up to lead our association and those who participated in the election by voting. All GEAPS members are encouraged to get involved and seek out future leadership opportunities.

(R) = Regular

(A) = Associate

(AF) = Affiliate



Barb Grove, CGOM (R)
Board Chair



Chris Blair (R)
President



Steve Records
Executive Vice President



Casey Abel (R)
Board Director



Holly Betten (R)
Board Director



R. Scott Brittingham (R)
Board Director



Charlie Hurburgh (AF)
Board Director



Casey Jones (R)
Board Director



Bob Klare (A)
Board Director



Alex Westlind (A)
Board Director



Chuck Kunisch (R)
First Vice President



Austin Carpenter (A)
Second Vice President



Matthew Schmitt (A)
Secretary



Robert J. Horvat, PE (R)
Treasurer



Todd Morey (A)
Board Director



Mervin A. Rapp (R)
Board Director



Paul Steinlage (R)
Board Director



Jori Templeton (R)
Board Director

What Do You Have to Share at GEAPS Exchange?

If you made it to GEAPS Exchange earlier this year, you saw firsthand the commitment GEAPS makes to not only bring attendees the biggest and best show in the grain industry—but to provide a long lineup of quality education on relevant industry topics.

The Exchange Educational Programming Committee (EPC) is already at work planning education for when we gather for GEAPS Exchange February 25-28 in Kansas City, MO. Could your skills, experience and knowledge make next year's Exchange even better?

GEAPS' EPC is accepting presentation proposals. If you are a dynamic speaker interested in sharing new ideas, products or services with the grain industry, you are encouraged to apply.

For more information:
geapsexchange.com/callforspeakers



GEAPS Exchange 2023

Booth Sales, Sponsorship Opportunities Coming Soon!

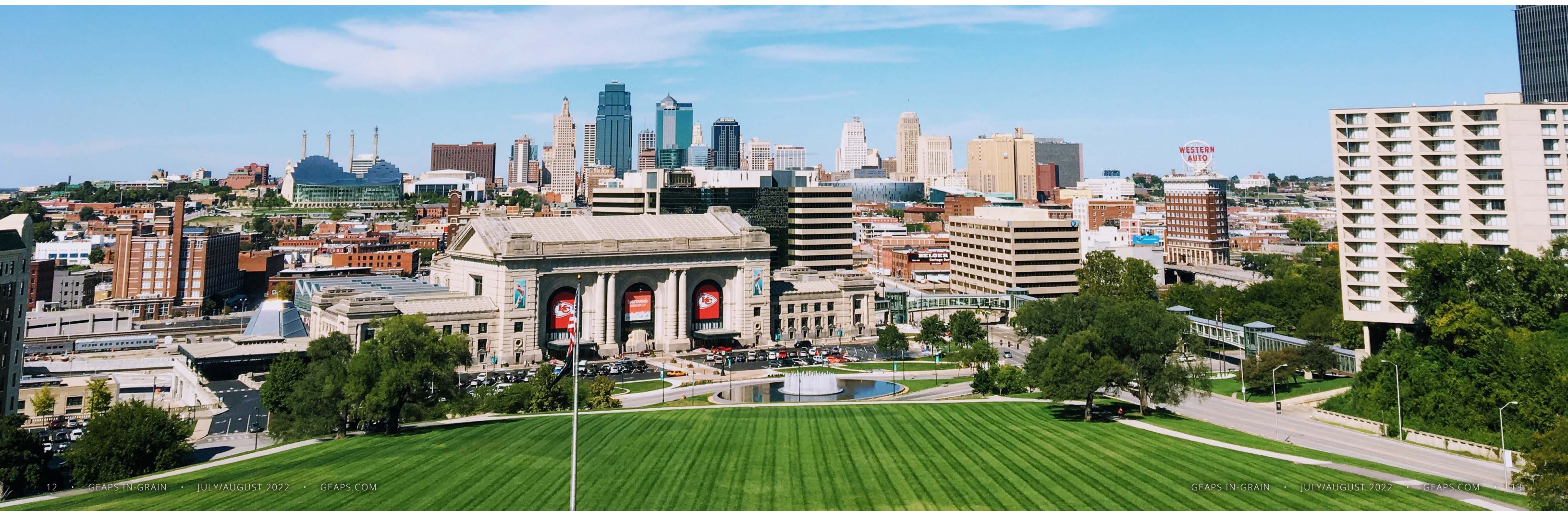
Plans are already underway for GEAPS Exchange 2023 February 25-28 in Kansas City, Missouri.

If your company would like to be part of the biggest and best show in the grain industry, be sure to watch your emails and this publication for launch of booth sales and sponsorship opportunities in the coming weeks. Until then, if you have any questions—or want to make sure we reach out to you—please reach out to Brittany Labatt at conferences@geaps.com.

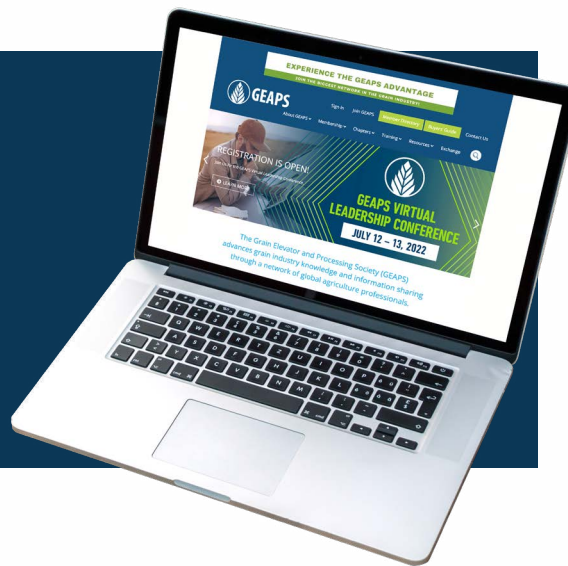
We expect next year's conference and expo to be even bigger and better than the great show we all enjoyed in March.



GEAPS
EXCHANGE
KANSAS CITY • 2023



Online Resources



Wednesday Webinars

We hope you have been able to watch and participate in one of the many great webinars we've been bringing you each month. While the webinars are generally offered on Wednesday mornings, as a member you are able to view past webinars at anytime in GEAPS Video Library.

Offered one Wednesday a month, the webinars are an opportunity to learn more about relevant industry topics. We didn't bring you a webinar in July—instead we brought you a two-day virtual leadership conference. We're back on track next month discussing the future of automation.

We're busy planning a great slate of webinars for this fall on topics such as safety, maintenance and further discussions on the impact of the Russia/Ukraine conflicts on the grain industry. For more on that topic, members should be sure to visit the Knowledge Resource Center to view June's webinar about how the Russia/Ukraine conflict is impacting the commodities market.

Schedule *(times listed in Central time)*

10 a.m. Wednesday, August 10

Topic: The Next Generation of Automation, What Will the Future Bring?

Speakers: Holly Betten, Jeff Gwartz and Karl Von Knobbelsdorf

For more information: geaps.com/webinars



Holly Betten
Landus



Dr. Jeff Gwartz
JAG Services Inc.



Karl von Knobelsdorff
Knobelsdorff

Introducing Jim Lenz

Please join us in welcoming Jim Lenz! Jim is GEAPS' new Director of Training and Education. Based near Green Bay, Wisconsin, Jim says he enjoys playing at the intersection of learning, technology, strategy and business.



Jim has spent his career dedicated to education, including working for two associations. He earned a BS in Biology, Education, & Resource Management from UW-Stevens Point and an MS in Curriculum & Instruction - Learning Technologies from UW-Whitewater.

He has been a teacher, instructional designer & consultant, and manager of professional development programs for nonprofit associations like GEAPS. Most recently, Jim has worked for the Credit Union Executives Society and the American College of Physicians in Learning/Professional Development roles, where he helped those associations create and deliver programs that attracted and engaged members and create new revenue streams. Jim also has experience in assisting in digital transformation.

When he's not working, Jim enjoys spending time with family, fishing, boating, running, biking, traveling and watching the Green Bay Packers.

He also is a magician. Who couldn't use a little magic, right?

"I'm looking forward to working in partnership with colleagues, committees, our board of directors and members. Great opportunities lie ahead for GEAPS to expand our depth and scope of our in-person and virtual education offerings, delivery channels and networking opportunities." - Jim Lenz

Member Spotlight

Mervin Rapp III

Facility Planner, CHS Inc.



Chapter and committees:
Gulf South Chapter Past President
Nominations Committee
International Board of Director GEAPS

Family:
Wife, Michelle Rapp; Daughter, Macy Rapp; Son, Miguel Rapp

Position and company:
Facility Planner, CHS Inc.

Years with company:
12 years

Years in industry:
12 years

Interesting or unique fact about your facility/ company:
Based in Inver Grove Heights, MN, CHS Inc. (chsinc.com) is a global agribusiness owned by farmers, ranchers and cooperatives across the United States. CHS is committed to helping its farmer-owners, customers and other stakeholders grow their businesses through domestic and global operations. CHS supplies energy, crop nutrients, grain marketing services, animal feed and food ingredients. It also operates petroleum refineries/pipelines and manufactures, markets and distributes Cenex® refined fuels, lubricants, propane and renewable energy products. CHS preferred stock trades on the NASDAQ exchange under CHSP, CHSCO, CHSCN, CHSCM and CHSCL.

Past positions:
Operations Manager, Terminal Manager, Team Leader and Production Supervisor.

Member Spotlight continued from page 16

Education:
Executive MBA Southeastern Louisiana University

Biggest influence on your career:
The biggest influence in my career would have to be Steve Talbot. Steve was the General Manager of CHS Inc. in Myrtle Grove when I first arrived. Steve has giving me opportunity to be in positions and gain experiences that have shaped and propel my career. He recently passed away, and I'm going to miss his knowledge, charisma and guidance.



How has GEAPS helped your leadership skills?
GEAPS is where my educational journey started in the grain industry. With the education, I have trained, development and mentor many individuals, coworker, managers and executives. GEAPS has also afforded me an unmatched network of third-party vendor relationships.

What are three of your favorite memories from GEAPS?
Becoming Gulf South President, joining the Board of Directors, and meeting so many amazing people along the way.

What is the best advice you have received from another GEAPS member?
"Continue to grow and challenge yourself in this industry, don't get comfortable." - Robert Taylor, Past President of the IBD.

"GEAPS is where my educational journey started in the grain industry."

- Mervin Rapp III

What is one industry-wide trend affecting your company right now? How are you reacting to it?
The war on Ukraine has increased demand to produce and deliver commodities around the world. We must produce more grain in our past year's slower months this Fiscal Year. Making sure the facility is reliable during this time is important.

What is something unique about the grain industry in your region?
Based on my experience, being in the gulf south is all about volume and speed. High Volume and High Capacity.

Chapter News

Golden Triangle

GEAPS Board of Directors voted to formerly disband Golden Triangle, which had been an inactive chapter for some time. Members in that area are wholeheartedly welcomed at the recently-established Lonestar Chapter.

Greater Nebraska

On January 11 the Greater Nebraska Chapter held a meeting at Tommy Gunz in Grand Island. Ryan Savage of PMI Iowa delivered a presentation on the different types of man lifts and the required maintenance and troubleshooting issues.

The next month the Greater Nebraska hosted their annual Spouses' night. Three members and spouses took part in an escape room event at Sleuth Escape Room and then to dinner afterwards.

On May 20, Greater Nebraska hosted its Annual Golf outing in Cairo, NE to raise money to support the scholarship fund.

Lonestar

GEAPS' newest chapter, Lonestar hosted its first meeting on April 7 at Shady Oaks BBQ. Nineteen people attended the inaugural meeting and discussed upcoming plans.



GEAPS Minneapolis Chapter members gathered at Rahr Malting facility in Shakopee, MN to learn more about how they do business, and sample a bit of the beer they make possible!

The Lonestar chapter then hosted a virtual meeting on June 7. The virtual event covered emergency preparedness and effective communication with your local fire department during their site visits. Thanks to Chad Tye with Specialty Fire & Rescue Services for presenting.

Mid-South

Mid-South hosted its Annual Fishing Tournament with 28 of their members at Peckerwood Lake May 13.

Minneapolis

The 19 members of the Minneapolis Chapter took time out of their busy schedules to give back to the community recently April 13 by packing food at Second Harvest Heartland. The group packaged 5,622 pounds of apples and 944 pounds of Cheerios. Chapter leaders say they look forward to making this an annual event!

On May 11, 55 Minneapolis chapter members visited Rahr Malting to learn about the malting process, receive a thorough tour of their facility, and sample the end product at their tap room. Rahr was a gracious host and the event was enjoyed by all!

Happy Summer!



Do you remember those lazy, hazy days of summer where you seemed to have all the time in the world? As we grow up, those lazy, hazy days become days of working, home projects and kids' sports! Sometimes it doesn't feel like we slow down at all.

But our chapters still slow down. July and August tend to have less meetings than the rest of the year. Chapter Leaders need vacations, too. They also spend some of this time planning for the coming year, determining what meetings will they host and who will do what.

So, if you see no chapter meetings right now, don't fret.

Your chapter will be back.

Want a robust, thriving chapter? You can help.

If you have a topic in mind for your chapter to cover, email a chapter leader and share your idea. Chapter leaders truly want to have meetings that work for their members. If you have a topic you can speak on, reach out to the chapter to see if they are interested this year.

Would your facility be willing to host a tour or a meeting? Raise your hand.

Chapter leaders need to have their meeting schedule to GEAPS by September 1, so this is a great time to get in front of them.

Until the chapter meetings and event start again, go grab one of those cold drinks the grain industry helps make possible, find a comfy lawn chair and just sit back and watch the grass grow a bit.

You deserve the break.

Upcoming Board & Committee Meetings



DATE

July 12-13, 2022

July 12, 2022

July 26-27, 2022

August 10, 2022

August 11, 2022

August 25-26, 2022

August 25, 2022

September 6, 2022

September 21-22, 2022

EVENT

GEAPS Virtual Leadership Conference

GEAPS 2022 Annual Meeting

CONVEY'22

Webinar: The Next Generation of Automation: What the Future May Bring

Membership Committee Meeting

GEAPS International Board Summit

GEAPS Continuing Education Programs Oversight Committee

Chapter Resource Committee

Exchange Educational Programming Committee Meeting

There is a Lot to Gain With Your GEAPS Membership

To my fellow GEAPS members,

I've recently stepped into a new role with GEAPS, as your 2022-23 President. I'm looking forward to getting to know all of you better. Together, we can accomplish so much this year.

I have gotten a lot out of my membership since I joined 15 years ago.

When I first joined GEAPS, I was a Location Manager in Ritter at Farmers Coop Society and living in Sheldon, Iowa. Now, I work as the Region 4 Manager at NEW Cooperative, Inc, overseeing operations for Grain and Agronomy in a half dozen locations. It's a big job, but one I love to do. I am living in Rockwell City, IA just 14 miles from where I grew up! A lot has changed over the years and have been great changes both personally and professionally for myself and my family.

Over the years, I've been involved with the Exchange Education Programming Committee (EPC) and I've been a member and served as chair of the Continuing Education Program Oversight Committee (CEPOC). Of course, I have also been serving on the International Board of Directors and supporter of the Greater Iowa Chapter, which has been a very strong chapter for many years with lots of support for the GEAPS mission and vision.

Because of the networking opportunities I've had with GEAPS, I've been able to build relationships with industry colleagues. This has helped in my career as I know who to call when I need to talk about what to do if something is broken, or I need ideas on how to do something better.

GEAPS has also helped me with my leadership skills, which is just as important as trying to fix equipment. Our people are our biggest asset and working and learning how to communicate with other employees is one of the most important tools to have in your toolbox.

As a GEAPS member, you all have the same opportunities to learn, grow and lead.

Get involved with your local chapter, enroll in Professional Development courses, share your ideas and get to know grain industry folks from all over by participating in a GEAPS committee. When you're ready, run for GEAPS board of directors.

Like many things in life, the more you put into your GEAPS membership, the more you will get out of it. Take a first step by renewing your membership for the coming year. The team at GEAPS has so many great things planned for us. If you'd like to expand your involvement but aren't sure where to start, please reach out; I'd be happy to talk.

I look forward to getting to know all of you more in the coming year.

Sincerely,

**Chris Blair, NEW Cooperative, Inc, Greater Iowa Chapter
2022-23 GEAPS President**



“Our people are our biggest asset and working and learning how to communicate with other employees is one of the most important tools to have in your toolbox.” - Chris Blair

Welcome New Members

GEAPS = Industry Connections

As a member of GEAPS, you are connected to folks from all areas of the grain industry—from 14 countries across the globe!

Any problem you come across, you have a GEAPS colleague who has been there, done that. Those great ideas that come to mind on your morning commute? They just might be the solution for another GEAPS member three states away.

The headlines, and our bottom lines, show us every day how connected we all are no matter where we live. When bad weather hits one part of the world, we feel the impact in our markets. When there is conflict between Russia and Ukraine, everyone in the grain industry feels the ripples.

Whether you're reading this in Sioux Falls, Switzerland or Sweden—from the heart of Texas or Trinidad and Tobago—from Louisiana or Libya—you are a part of an incredible network of grain industry professionals.

As a GEAPS member, you know this already. Some of our most recent additions to the GEAPS family include 60 new members from the Sudan who came to us for our education offerings. We recently welcomed a large group from Canada and another large group from America's south. We are also welcoming members of IOMSA, whose association recently dissolved. People from far and near realize it's a great time to be a part of GEAPS.

As a GEAPS member, you truly are a part of the knowledge resource for the grain handling and processing industry. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, make sure to take care of that today. The grace period on lapsed membership ends next month.

GEAPS is strong in numbers, but we're stronger with you.

To renew: Visit [GEAPS.com](https://www.geaps.com) and login to your account. Click the renew button. It's that simple!



GEAPS members networking and learning from each other at GEAPS Exchange 2022.

New Members

Please welcome these new members who recently joined GEAPS

Italics denote student members

Canadian Prairies

Brent Clegg
Jason Coreau
Brett Davey
Ashley Day
Chad Dettmer
Ryan Foss
Eugene Kalupa
Benjamin Krahn
Elyse Love-Dillman
David Lund
John Messner, *referred by James Weeda*
Justin Paterson
Sean Skorbohach
Gary Smith, *referred by Robert Ewanchuk*
Malary Staples
Sibu Thomas
Chris Trenholm
Sheldon Wiebe
Corey Yurchevich

Columbia River

Keith Anderson, *referred by Timothy Wright*
Stephen Harshom
Chris Schmutz, *referred by Matt Strand*
James Stewart

Cornbelt

Scott Adams
Nathan Masters
Tyler St. Peters

Great Plains

Shane Anderson
Peyton Besco
Carter Brown
Connor Brown
Jason Brown
Brice Clark
Tyler Cloud
Aaron Colgin
Brett Counts
Caydren Cox
Jaeden Dalke
Stone Hageman
Toni Jakes
Keith Ramsey
Zeb Sjolander
Hilary Worcester

Great River

Sam Bair
Zach Bryan
Sam Henningsen
Mike McMahon
Mike Mollenbreck
Ryan Patty
Bridgett Wildermuth

Greater Iowa

Jacob Berrey
Ryan Dietzenbach
Nate Erickson
Alex Grandgeorge
Brady Hotovec
Jose Meza

David Raposa
Kevin Simpson
James Stapleton
Brian Stein

Greater Nebraska

Staci Drake
Bill Wentz

Gulf South

Danielle Babbs, *referred by Sean Ryan*
Seth Badeaux
Donna Banks
Drake Betancur
Tyler Buras
Oscar Cabrices
Aron Casey
Bryan Cato
Dwayne Clement
Jesse Curci
Reggie Figley
Chelsey Finlay
Nathan Kilbum
Michael Landry
Rhett Marcombe
Thomas McLeod
Brian Miles
Malcom Miller
John Moreci
Tuan Nguyen
Daryl Peltier
David Pierce
Nick Walnoha
Seth Ward
Joe Williams

Hoosier

Jimmy Boes, *referred by Greg Oberle*
Nicholas Camin
Tom Elliott
Mark Foerder
Nathan Holland
Daniel Lien

Intermountain

Jason Boose
Libby Wickum

Kansas City

Jessica Collins
Daniel Gibson
Lanny Miller
Chase Sommer

Lonestar

James Bryan
Nicholas Herron
Mike Moore
Jose Naveja
Trey Smith
Dan Sullivan
Devon Tuttle
Jeremy Vandewater

Michigan/South Ontario

Zachary Agombar
Peter Brink
Marvin Cook
Iassc Dales
Dan Davey
Dalton Delisle
Tyler Denham
Brandon Dirker
Jodie Eadie
Hollie Evans
Nikolai Fennell
Nick Hauck
Stuart Hacketter

Kendra Hornell
Bill Johns
Paul Kerr
Garret Kreager
Jack Meurs
Brad Miller
Megan Miners
Drake Morgan
Carl Norris
Nathan Norris
Monica Quinn
Skylar Rutledge
Colin Richardson
Hannah Simpson
Cole Snobelen
Thomas Symes
Troy Tate
Darren Vander Hoek
Duane VanBolhuis
Kurtis Wick
Brendan Zettler
Jason Zonderva

Mid-America

Carole Bates
Jessica Citta
Nick Provost
Roger Townsend

Mid-Atlantic

John Achzet
William Heller
Kim Raczka
Junior Still

Mid-South

Scott Boyd
Jordan Emily
Kenzie Silva

Minneapolis

Dylan Brandell
Tyler Day
Brady Eckart
Jim Graham
Truman Hollerich
Daniel Jenniges
Michael Rhodes
Danny Schmalz

Seaway

Steve Smigelski
Jason Tipton

Siouxland

Juli Anshutz

Tri-State

Mark Ebeling
Jeff Jowers
Jason Muir
Danny Troublefield

Vancouver

Syed Bagar
Jim Bruce
Jodie Bilan
Jack Deroo
Saleh Sharif Tehrani

GEAPS *In-Grain* is printed on paper stock sourced through eco-friendly paper manufacturers.

Calendar

An extensive and up-to-date calendar can be found on the GEAPS website.

Canadian Prairies

September 13, 2022

Golf Event
Kingwood Golf & Country Club
La Salle, MB

January 10-12, 2023

Cooltest Show
Victoria Inn
Winnipeg, MB

Cornbelt

August 4, 2022

Tour of Bayer Seed Plant
Bayer Seed Plant
Farmer City, IL
10:00am

November 15, 2022

Hoosier/Cornbelt Chapters Mini
Convention
The Beef House Restaurant
Covington, IN

Gulf South

September 15, 2022

TBA
TBA, LA
6:30pm

October 20, 2022

Golf South Chapter's Annual
Associates' Night
TBA
TBA, LA
6:30pm

Inland Empire

September 7, 2022

TBA
Applebee's
Kennwick, WA
3:00pm

Mid-Atlantic

August 11, 2022

Crab Feast
Suicide Bridge Restaurant
Hurlock, MD
6:00pm

Mid-South

July 15, 2022

2022 Skeet Shoot Tournament
Remington
Lonoke, AR
10:00am

Siouxland

July 8, 2022

Networking Lunch and Planning
for Next Year
Pizza Ranch
Sioux Falls, SD
11:30am