

YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES JUNE 30

RENEW, OR SWITCH TO NEW FACILITY MEMBERSHIP AND SAVE!



GEAPS
Grain Elevator and Processing Society

**THE BEST PROFESSIONAL
NETWORKING AND EDUCATION
IN THE GRAIN INDUSTRY**



EDUCATION – NETWORKING – FUN







In-Grain

Grain Elevator and Processing Society

The Knowledge Resource for the Grain Handling and Processing Industry

May/June 2021

Volume 41, No. 3

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GEAPS

EXCHANGE

COLUMBUS • 2021



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R. Scott Brittingham** *p. 8*

**Save with New Company and Facility
Membership Models** *p. 11*





Thank You for Sticking with GEAPS

By: Jeff Jones, MKC, *Great Plains Chapter*
GEAPS International President 2020-2021

We all know it's been a challenging year. As my presidency winds down, I'd like to thank you for sticking with GEAPS. It's been surreal not being able to gather in person. I am very proud of the way we have banded together to embrace virtual chapter meetings, an online conference and other virtual tools to stay connected.

GEAPS memberships expire June 30. I hope you will renew your membership and encourage others to get involved.

There's a lot to look forward to in the next year. We are on track to host Exchange 2021 in-person Aug. 6-9 in Columbus, Ohio. Our chapters are getting more comfortable with virtual meetings and I'm optimistic that we will continue to see more hybrid events in the coming months.

Beyond these opportunities to connect, GEAPS continues to offer new ways to build our skills. We recently enhanced your membership with free courses from GEAPS and Safety Made Simple. We are seeking out new partnerships to share knowledge and planning new training programs.

GEAPS is making it easier than ever to get your co-workers involved with the new Facility and Company memberships. You can now enroll up to six members at your location for \$1,000 or seven or more for \$2,500. Learn more and sign up at www.geaps.com/groups.

It's been a challenging year, but we have persevered together. I look forward to many continued years of membership with you.

Sincerely,

Jeff Jones

Vice President of Eastern Operations MKC
GEAPS President 2021

In-Grain

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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

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@GEAPInfo



Reach More Customers with GEAPS

Grow Your Business with DirectaSource, Online Buyers Guide



As a member of the GEAPS family, you understand the benefits of communicating with other GEAPS members.

They're the people you reach out to when you have a question, the people who can help solve a problem. The people you trust.

It makes good business sense to look to these same people when it is time to market your business! Your customers work in grain storage and export facilities. They look to

GEAPS events and publications to make connections and learn about new products and solutions.

Meet them where they're at and take advantage of your GEAPS network!

Advertise in our annual directory and Online Buyers' Guide to put your products in front of thousands of members in facilities in the United States and around the world.

The print *DirectaSource* is mailed to 2,500 members and our Online Buyers' Guide had thousands of visitors last year. We will get you noticed!

With GEAPS, you can gain customers in our print publications, on the web and at events. Simply put, GEAPS has the ability to connect you with thousands of potential customers by putting you in front of grain industry workers and decision makers.

To get your business listed, email sales@geaps.com or call (763) 999-4305. geaps.com/advertising



Though we are in this digital world, many of us still have an office and work from our desktops. I have heard from some of those that are at job site locations and travel from one location to another, the GEAPS DirectaSource has a place on the console, dash or seat beside them. My copy of the DirectaSource is always within easy reach to find the address, email or phone number for a fellow chapter member, industry expert or supplier contact. With this in mind, Seedburo feels there is value in this directory and therefore wants to maintain a prominent position in the GEAPS DirectaSource." **Tom Runyon, Seedburo**



GEAPS Sweepstakes:

Drive Away a Winner with an ATV or Fistful of Cash

Summer is the perfect time to have fun with a TRACKER 800SX LE side-by-side all-terrain vehicle. Lucky you—as a GEAPS member you have the opportunity to win the ATV, or a handful of cash!

The TRACKER, with an approximate retail value of \$17,000, is the top prize in GEAPS' sweepstakes. If a minimum ticket level is not met, the winner will get half the cash raised in the sweepstakes.

GEAPS Executive Director Steve Records explained how the sweepstakes benefits the organization. "One of the biggest benefits of GEAPS is the connections we make, and the fun we have doing it," Records said. "This sweepstakes puts GEAPS in a position to continue building programs that deliver value to our network. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to win a fun, new vehicle or a cash prize!"

Sweepstakes tickets start at \$25, but if you use the promo code LASTCHANCE you get a 50 percent bonus on tickets. Simply put, that gives you more shots at winning.

The deadline to enter is Tuesday, June 15.

<https://geaps.tapkat.org/winatracker800sx?promo=LASTCHANCE>



All together now!

Join Us for GEAPS Exchange in Columbus

It's time for a GEAPS family reunion! We look forward to seeing you all—live and in person—as we come together for GEAPS Exchange, Aug. 6-9 in Columbus, Ohio.

This year's conference is more accessible than ever. Enjoy deep discounts—just \$475 for non-members and \$225 for members to enjoy an all-access pass to the expo and all the education sessions you can pack in while at the show.

"Our mission is to advance knowledge and information sharing and we know Exchange is the premier place to do this. Knowing many companies have suffered this year, we're making it easier to attend with better registration packages at significantly lower costs," said Steve Records, GEAPS executive director. "We are excited to welcome everyone back to GEAPS!"

In another effort to be mindful of costs—and recognizing some may not be comfortable attending social events due to COVID—special events have been segmented out and also feature special low prices.

Attend the Get-Acquainted Party for \$75 or the President's Reception for just \$50. We would love to see you at both! Social event tickets will be limited, so book early to ensure you don't miss a great time with friends.



Register Early; Register Online

Be sure to register soon to take advantage of the best rates and have the most fun. The early bird deadline is July 16. You'll still be able to register after, even up until the day of the Exchange, but prices will increase by 25 percent.

In another effort to keep GEAPS attendees safe, we ask all people register online in advance of the event. Register online anytime before you enter the Exchange, even on your phone as you're walking through the door—and your badge will be ready and waiting for you to pick up! Of course, registration staff will be on hand to assist as needed.

Learn, See and Do at the Exchange

GEAPS Exchange is four days packed with networking, education and fun! More than 300 exhibitors are looking forward to seeing you in the Expo.



The Expo is a one-stop shop for you and your colleagues to find equipment for your plant. Network, see new products and solutions and learn from hands-on demonstrations.

An Exchange favorite, Expo Pods are back. Stop into four areas and participate in a series of demonstrations focused on Confined Space Entrapment. You'll also be able to see and learn about new equipment and how it can help you when you get back to work.

GEAPS Educational Programming Committee has been busy planning a full slate of learning opportunities. With about 30 hours of education during the Exchange, you are sure to gain valuable knowledge to bring back to work.

We are Working to Keep You Safe

We are following requirements from the state of Ohio and Columbus Public Health to work toward a safe event for everybody! You will notice some changes from a typical Exchange event—in order to have the conference we must follow some rules. Your safety is our top priority. We promise you will enjoy your time in Columbus. Social distancing will be enforced throughout the event. Be sure to keep checking the event website as it will be updated as needed.

We Have a Room for You!

Not sure where to stay while visiting Columbus? No worries. We have you covered. We have contracted with four hotels near the convention center to offer you discounted rates.

Hilton Columbus Downtown is the event's host hotel, and the site of the Get-Acquainted Party Friday night. You may stay there for \$194 a



Aug. 6-9, 2021 Columbus, Ohio

Full Registration: \$225
Expo Hall: Free For Members
Register by July 16 for the best rates!

night. Other options are the Hyatt Regency Columbus with a nightly rate of \$183, the Sonesta Columbus Downtown for \$179 or the Drury Inn and Suites for \$175 nightly.

Please visit geapsexchange.com to book your room before July 16. All hotels have COVID protocols in place and you'll find specific information on these precautions on their website. COVID restrictions are ever-evolving.



Listen to Chuck

Don't take our word for how great GEAPS Exchange is, listen to Chuck Kunisch. He's the general manager and safety director at Michigan Agricultural Commodities. A long-time GEAPS member, he's also involved with the Exchange Education Planning Committee which has been working to plan the full slate of educational offerings you'll be able to take while in Columbus.

"I have been attending GEAPS Exchange since 1999 and I have lost track of all the helpful information and new products I have learned about and use every day at MAC operations," he said. "Every year it is something new to learn or try out. By far, the best opportunity I have gained from attending Exchange is the relationships and friendships I have built over the years with fellow GEAPS members, presenters and staff."

While he has appreciated staying connected via online platforms, Kunisch said he is excited to see people in person again.

"No matter how good Zoom is, relations just aren't the same over a phone or computer. I can't wait to get to Columbus," he said. "See you there!"

Whether through networking or participating in educational offerings, GEAPS Exchange will help connect you and your team to the people and products you need to move ahead.

*"No matter how good Zoom is,
relations just aren't the same
over a phone or computer.
I can't wait to get to Columbus."*



Stand Up 4 Grain Safety

Stand Up 4 Grain Safety, an annual online event hosted this spring, brought together more than 2,000 people committed to safety.

The event has grown considerably since it started with a few chapter members in Kansas who had connections with someone from OSHA.

Each year, hundreds of workers are injured or die while on the job. The free event focused on how to prevent those hazards while working in the grain storage and processing industry.



"Because everyone deserves to go home from work each day, we have come together as an industry to take a stand for safety," said Barb Grove, GEAPS' First Vice President on the International Board of Directors and an organizer of the event.

A Stand Up event differs from other training in that it isn't an informational flier handed out or something casually mentioned. It's stopping all activity, bringing everyone together and focusing on safety during a dedicated time.

People from across the country—and beyond—participated in five days of interactive webinars learning about a wide range of topics including bin safety, emergency action plans and how safety can impact quality of grain. They were able to hear from and interact with the experts and see live safety demonstrations. Organizers don't want learning to stop when the computer is turned off.

"We encourage people to do something at their own facility also," Grove said.

Stand Up 4 Grain Safety is sponsored by the Alliance, which includes OSHA, NGFA, Grain Industry Safety Coalition and GEAPS. It was made possible, in part, by a grant from the Susan Harwood Training Program.

For more information, please visit standup4grainsafety.org.





online resources

GEAPS, Your Career Training Partner

No matter how impressive your company's training programs are, there's always more to learn. GEAPS is here to help! Our catalog of training programs combine the knowledge of our agriculture network with academic experts to supply training at every stage of your career.

Help Interns and New Hires Thrive With GEAPS 500

Many of us struggle to attract new employees. New hires often come from outside the industry, sometimes with no ag background at all. **GEAPS 500: Introduction to Grain Operations** is a helpful addition to your on-boarding program in these cases.

This entry-level course teaches your employees how to stay safe and how grain moves through a facility. It's self-paced and your new hires can complete it over five weeks. It will give your new employees an understanding of how grain facilities work that you can build on for your specific plant.

Cargill uses the course to set a foundation of knowledge for summer interns. After hearing positive feedback from interns who took the course last year, they plan to have 30 more take the online course later this spring.

Cost: \$700 GEAPS members/\$965 Non-Members

Available: On-Demand, Anytime

Visit www.geaps.com/education to learn more about our training programs!

Convey '21 Returns to In-Person Format in Omaha

The National Grain and Feed Association, GEAPS and *Grain Journal* are teaming up to provide live education sessions and a tradeshow at the annual Convey

Conference. The event will be July 13-14 at the Omaha Hilton in Omaha, Nebraska. Look for emails from all three organizations with more info!





WITH GEAPS, HELP IS JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY

Barb Grove Reflects on Agriculture, Benefits of Membership



Like many farm kids, Barb Grove grew up thinking about moving off the family farm and exploring the world.

"I went to college to study business administration and marketing, but I came back to agriculture," she said while driving through a thunderstorm on her way to her next meeting. Agriculture is no longer something to avoid, but her life's work.

Grove is a familiar face within GEAPS. The quality systems manager for Central Valley Ag in Beloit, Kansas serves as GEAPS' First Vice President on the International Board of Directors.

Before she was a member, Grove attended the Exchange conference and was hooked. She marveled at the size and the number of educational offerings and opportunities to network. She was quick to join.

Grove said GEAPS has helped her gain leadership skills, has expanded her technical knowledge and helped her build a great network of folks who are available when she needs it.

"A lot of times, when something is going on with a piece of equipment, you can't usually call your neighbor because they're probably your closest competitor," she said. "For me, GEAPS truly is having those industry colleagues you can call upon."

Because of GEAPS, Grove said help is always a phone call or a text away.

"You send a text and say 'hey, I've got this idea,' and then you hear from this great network," she said. "There is always somebody that can help you work through something."

Over the years, especially since COVID-19 changed the way we live, the agriculture industry has changed.

"If you want to look for a silver lining of COVID, it helped our industry learn to be flexible," she said.

Virtual meetings on platforms such as Zoom may have taken some getting used to, but Grove said it has helped bring people together, regardless of distance.

"Having some face-to-face is still important, but we can be so much more efficient not being on the road four of five hours to attend a meeting," she said.



NETWORKING, EDUCATION, FRIENDSHIP

Scott Brittingham Shares Many Benefits of GEAPS Membership



R. Scott Brittingham, MGC, is the first to admit he never planned on a career in the grain industry.

"My father ran a grain elevator and I worked for him as a kid. I swore I would never work for a grain elevator as an adult," he says with a laugh.

Real life, experience and maturity have a way of changing minds. After doing his own thing for a few years, Brittingham learned what

started out as a high school job would become his life's work.

"I've been back more than 45 years; when I grew up it turned out to be a great career," he said.

Brittingham works as regional manager of grain facilities at Mountaire Farms. He's part of the *Mid-Atlantic Chapter*. Of all the benefits that come with a GEAPS membership, networking tops the list for Brittingham, whether it be through a local chapter, via an online class or at an Exchange event.

"You meet a lot of people who have experienced whatever problem you're having and they can help solve that problem," he said. "A lot of the acquaintances I've made, I can call them up and usually they can help solve a problem. Having a wealth of opinions and knowledge to draw from is invaluable."

For the last three years, Brittingham has been the top recruiter for GEAPS. He encourages others to get involved because membership has done so much for him personally and professionally. In addition to networking, GEAPS offers a variety of educational offerings both online and onsite.

"The knowledge I have gained from taking the courses—you always walk away with something new. The recognition for obtaining those certifications has benefited me personally and benefitted the company I work for," he said. "It's benefitted me by advancing my career as well."

He first earned the base CGOM then completed three specialist credentials to earn the Master Credential in Grain Operations Management—totaling 180 hours of training.

"GEAPS is like a lot of things in life; the more you put into it, the more you get out of it," he said.

Brittingham said he is looking forward to traveling to Columbus, Ohio later this summer for the Exchange. Incidentally, his favorite GEAPS' memory is from an Exchange years ago.

Brittingham and his colleagues were at the airport looking for transportation to the hotel when they saw another group who had hired a ride to the same hotel.

"I asked if they'd be interested in sharing their ride, they said sure. It turned out they were someone I talked to on a regular basis through GEAPS," he laughed. "We hijacked a ride and found out they were our friends!"



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

GEAPS Leaders Make Everything Possible

As we near the end of this fiscal year and look to the next, we must pause to thank our volunteer leaders who pitched in with their time and talents during an incredibly challenging time.

There is much to be thankful for in any given year, but we can all agree this past year was extraordinary. From expanding use of virtual connections, to finding new solutions, you all stepped up.

Members are the heart and soul of GEAPS. Without you, GEAPS cannot provide networking and education programs. Your time and dedication make everything possible. As grain-industry professionals, you keep our organization focused on what's really important—the issues, concerns and challenges you all face every day in your facilities.



"I've gained so much from my GEAPS membership," said Jeff Jones, GEAPS IBD Board of Directors president for 2020-21 and MKC's vice president of eastern operations. "When I joined GEAPS I was relatively new to the industry. Getting involved in both my chapter and the International Board has taught me a lot and brought tremendous value back to my company. You meet a lot of great people. I've had a blast and I hope you will get more involved too."

To see a complete list of GEAPS leaders, visit geaps.com/thanks. We encourage you to join Jeff in thanking our colleagues for their efforts by reaching out to them with a call or a text.

What Talents Do You Bring?

We invite other GEAPS members to increase their involvement with GEAPS. Whether it's with your local chapter, serving on an international committee or our board of directors, your involvement not only helps your fellow members, but will likely help you advance in your career.

As a GEAPS leader, you'll receive education, experience and leadership training you just can't get any other way. This network of project efforts, standing committees, special events and programs is your opportunity to shine.

"GEAPS' success depends on the passion and commitment of our member leaders," said GEAPS' Executive Director Steve Records. "Thanks to all who have served and thanks in advance to those who will serve in the future! We look forward to your energy and leadership."

For more information, or to get involved with GEAPS, reach out to Deb Most at deb@geaps.com. She'd be happy to help!



It seems that no matter what problem or issue that has come up at MAC I know someone in GEAPS I can call to get information to help me out. Being able to serve on various GEAPS committees over the years and now serving on the IBD has only given me more opportunities to meet leaders in the grain industry. It also has also given me a chance to give back to the industry and organization that has helped me out so much over the years."

CHUCK KUNISCH

GM/safety director at Michigan
Agricultural Commodities



Get More of Your Team Involved and Save Over \$1,000

With GEAPS memberships expiring June 30, GEAPS has an exciting new way to get your co-workers involved in the organization – Company and Facility memberships. If your plant has more than three employees, you'll start saving money on membership today!

The new model was created by the Membership Committee as part of a strategic plan to increase membership and better serve our members. The larger our member base grows, the more access we have to knowledge and solutions.

Membership Committee Chair Jacob Elder, Proximity Malt, *Mid-Atlantic Chapter*, said the committee was focused on making it easier to bring new employees into the association.

"As a committee, we discussed a number of different ways to increase membership," Elder said. "The conversation kept coming back to new employees. They have the most to gain from GEAPS membership. This

new model makes it easier for companies to invest in their teams with lower price points for groups of members."

If you are the only member at your facility, nothing changes for you. You can renew for the individual rate and keep taking advantage of our network and training. With two members at your plant, how valuable would it be to bring a new employee into GEAPS? They can learn a lot and make valuable connections. If a problem comes up at your plant, they will have the tools to find a solution.

Whether you are on an individual, company or facility membership you still get access to all the benefits of GEAPS. We hope you will encourage more of your team to get involved as well!

To learn more and take advantage of this new membership model, visit geaps.com/groups or contact Membership Manager Deb Most at (763) 999-4300 or deb@geaps.com.

Company and Facility Memberships Now Available!

RATES:

- Individual member: \$370
- Up to six members at facility or company: \$1,000
- Seven or more members at facility or company: \$2,500





MEMBER PROFILE

*Brett
Coverdale*

Chapter and committees:

GEAPS Mid-Atlantic Chapter

Position and Company:

Grain Elevator Manager with Mountaire Farms Inc.

Years with company:

Four

Years in Industry:

Four official years in the industry however, I'm a lifelong grain farmer.

Interesting or unique fact about your facility/company:

Mountaire Farms has been family owned since the early 20th century. Their corporate office is in Little Rock, Arkansas. Most of its production is located within the Delmarva Peninsula and portions of North Carolina.

Past positions:

I started as the Assistant Manager at Mountaire's Harrington Grain Facility.

Education:

Bachelor's Degree in Agriculture and Natural Resources from the University of Delaware. Associate Degree in Production Agriculture from Delaware Technical and Community College.

Biggest influence on your career:

Scott Brittingham who was my first boss at Mountaire. I started out as the Assistant Manager at my current facility working under Scott. Everything I know pertaining to facilities management, grain quality and customer relations is because of him. He's now the Regional Manager of the Maryland grain facilities. I intend to take the same career path and hopefully follow in his footsteps.

How has GEAPS helped your leadership skills?

Becoming a member of the chapter board has introduced me to many other people in the industry. Being able to see how others lead group sessions has been beneficial to my leadership approach. GEAPS has taught me to be a better communicator and facilitator. Networking is key to advancing your career and GEAPS provides that opportunity for individuals at any skill level.

What are three of your favorite memories from GEAPS?

- 1) Attending the chapter meeting and touring the Proximity Malt facility in Laurel Delaware. Touring the site was very informative. Being able to see how things operate within different sectors of the industry is intriguing to me.
- 2) Attending the end of year Christmas socials prior to the COVID era. These gatherings always bring fun times and good food to the forefront.

- 3) Attending the IGP-KSU Grain Elevator Managers Course at Kansas State University in early 2019. My promotion to facility manager didn't occur until April of that year. This three-day course provided me the opportunity to advance my knowledge in all facets of elevator management prior to taking on a new role.

What is the best advice you have received from another GEAPS member?

Scott Brittingham encouraged me to become a GEAPS member, learn from others in the industry and become a board member. Without his guidance and advice, I wouldn't have met so many individuals from varying sectors. Get out and network is the moral of the story.

What is one industry-wide trend affecting your company right now? How are you reacting to it?

Volatility in the commodities markets is something that affects our company every day. My approach is to keep our customers informed of market trends daily to ensure they're capitalizing and making a profit. Most of my customers call my cell phone directly instead of the office. Gaining their trust and loyalty is key to success in my opinion. You must keep an open line of communication and navigate the peaks and valleys by their side.

What is something unique about the grain industry in your region?

Most of the grain elevators on the Delmarva Peninsula are poultry driven. Mountaire is an end user for every bushel of corn that it receives. We also have a working relationship with competing poultry companies as many of our soybeans are sold directly to Perdue Farms. Poultry production essentially is the economy on the Eastern Shore and I'm here to do my part to ensure its longevity.



Brett and Luke

CHAPTER NEWS

Great Plains

The *Great Plains Chapter* held a virtual meeting March 30 with 47 attendees. Brad Bousquet shared a stoic moment-by-moment experience of a Central Valley Ag (CVA) Rope Rescue Team being called by the local fire department into a community for a rescue turned recovery grain bin engulfment.

Bousquet shared his approach to safety leadership using a deck of cards. He said safety is simply a matter of controlling the face cards to change the odds. In other words, safety is stacking the deck in your favor. Throughout his presentation, he shared the meaning of the face cards and our role as safety leaders in controlling them.

Chapter Member Dave McDonnel, Region 7 OSHA, led a conversation with the group on how we can all work together to make a difference. President Jeff Holling, CVA, led the group in a short business meeting and chapter update.

Great Plains

Chapter Treasurer Shawn Cadman, KASA Controls, planned this meeting focused on the dangers of distracted driving on Feb. 16. Kansas State Trooper Ben Gardner shared experiences from his 22 years as a trooper. Ben utilizes Twitter to educate and bring awareness to hazards on the road.

He shared statistics from 15 years ago as roadway fatalities started to lessen through today as they have started to increase again. The group discussed these trends. Gardner explained how our brains work while driving and gave the group good insight on tactics to focus on while driving. Numerous chapter members were joined by spouses and teens who sat in on this meeting.

President Jeff Holling, CVA, led the group in a business meeting and virtual networking session following the presentation. The virtual meeting drew 40 attendees.

Minneapolis

The *Minneapolis Chapter* hosted a virtual meeting on analytics and their role in operations with 25 attendees on April 7. They discussed upcoming events including a meeting scheduled for May at Moir Park and a golf outing in June. McCormick Construction sponsored the meeting. Frank Byers, President/CEO of AgrisSphere provided a thorough presentation on analytics and how they can help an operation.

Minneapolis

Minneapolis met March 3. Josh Mulder, Power System Engineering, presented on the importance of Arc Flash Awareness.

Minneapolis

Minneapolis had another virtual meeting April 7 on Barge Loading Technology. Members from across the country participated.

Greater Nebraska

Twenty members from the *Greater Nebraska* met March 9. Dustin Drake, Drake Inc., presented on Structural Issues with Concrete Silos. His program showed types of cracks and what a lack of timely maintenance can do to concrete silos. He explained what to look for and how to repair them. After the presentation, the chapter had a brief business meeting discussing scholarships.



New Members

Welcome these new members who joined GEAPS recently.
Italics denote Student Members.

Canadian Prairies

Dean Appelt, Foremost Agriculture

Hoosier

Titus Wilson, Kokomo Grain Co Inc.,
recruited by Tim Weaver, Kokomo Grain Co Inc.

Intermountain

Chanda Broderick, The Andersons, Inc.

Kansas City

Morgan Maloney, Industrial
Accessories Co.

Mid-America

Matthew Podany, EBM Manufacturing

Mid-South

Brandon Williamson, Graincraft
Beth Miller, American Services, LLC.
David Toliver, Bunge North America,
recruited by Shane Maxwell, Bunge North America

Minneapolis

Marcus Raines, North Central States
Regional Council of Carpenters
William Merritt, Merritt Consulting
Services, LLC, *recruited by Mark Fedje, General Mills*
Tom Pearson, Hendricks
Farmers Elevator

Seaway

Timothy Meyer, Legacy Farmers
Cooperative, *recruited by Mitchel Welty, Legacy Farmers Cooperative*
Sean McVicker, Ardent Mills

Siouxland

Kelli Midland, Sioux Rubber
and Urethane

Thunder Bay

Jules St. Pierre, WEIGHTRONICS-
MANUGRAIN

Tri-State

Harley Bennett, Gavilon Grain, LLC,
Amarillo Grain and Fertilizer, *recruited by Casey Abel*

Vancouver

Greg Anaka, Community Electric Ltd.

New Lifetime members

Early Joy, Siouxland

Upcoming Board and Committee Meetings

DATE	TITLE
May 14, 2021	International Executive Committee Meeting
May 25, 2021	Membership Committee Meeting
May 27, 2021	Associates Board of Directors Meeting
June 11, 2021	International Executive Committee Meeting
June 24, 2021	Chapter Resource Committee Meeting
June 25, 2021	International Board of Directors Meeting
June 29, 2021	Membership Committee Meeting
June 30, 2021	Associates Board of Directors Meeting
Aug. 6, 2021	Chapter Resource Committee Meeting
Aug. 6, 2021	Membership Committee Meeting
Aug. 8, 2021	Associates Board of Directors Meeting
Aug. 19, 2021	GEAPS Continuing Education Programs Oversight Committee



Virtual and Hybrid Meetings Continue to Evolve

As COVID-19 forced GEAPS to halt all in-person gatherings in the last year chapters were forced to evolve and adapt to virtual and hybrid meetings. While challenging, a number of chapters were able to put on engaging meetings in a virtual format.



Jacob Elder

Proximity Malt, *Mid-Atlantic Chapter*

Our chapter chose to work with GEAPS staff to make the most of our virtual events. The meetings went very smoothly due to our planning and preparation. We managed to have some very successful and helpful presentations.

GEAPS helped us get set up on Zoom. From there, we planned the meetings much the same as we did with in-person meetings. The officer team would meet the day before via zoom to make sure we worked out any issues with the presentations and logging on.

The meetings were a mixed success. We planned meetings for the daytime instead of our usual evening times. We figured that more people would attend a zoom meeting during

working hours. This did work for most members, but some were too busy to attend during the day. We usually saw 20-30 members accept invitations, but only about 50 percent of those attended the meetings.

Virtual and hybrid meetings provide an opportunity to engage more members. As your chapters are planning meeting schedules for the coming year, we hope you will use some of our tools to include hybrid meetings in your plans.

- **Speakers Bureau** – find speakers by topic. A virtual event is a great way to find a speaker, even if they aren't able to travel to your region. Need a speaker suggestion? Your chapter contact can help with that!
- **GEAPS Zoom Account** – intimidated by running a virtual meeting? We can help! Not only can you use the GEAPS Zoom account, we can help you run the meeting to make sure everything runs smoothly.
- **Registration** – Whether you are meeting online or in-person, GEAPS can manage your registration. We'll give you a link to share with members. We'll give you a report of everyone who registers, and we'll pay the credit card processing fees.

Don't forget, the deadline to submit your 2021-2022 chapter meeting schedule is Sept. 1. We are here to help if you have any questions. You can either call the GEAPS chapter team at (763) 999-4300 or email chapterservices@geaps.com.



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

C H A P T E R S

GREAT PLAINS

May 17, 2021

2021 Great Plains Scholarship
Golf Tourney
Sandcreek Station
Newton, KS
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

GREATER IOWA

June 8, 2021

1st Annual Kevin Miles
Golf Tournament
Cedar Pointe Golf Course
Boone, IA

GREATER NEBRASKA

May 21, 2021

Golf Outing
York Country Club
10 a.m.

HOOSIER

May 25, 2021

Elections
Chippendale Golf
Kokomo, IN
11 a.m.

INTERMOUNTAIN

May 20, 2021

Fumigation Seminar
Clarion Inn
Pocatello, ID
8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

MID-ATLANTIC

May 13, 2021

Power Trans
Heritage Shores
Bridgeville, DE

MID-SOUTH

May 14, 2021

2021 Wilson Pittman Memorial
Fishing Tournament &
Annual Conference and
Equipment Expo
Brinkley Convention Center
Brinkley, AR
5 a.m.

MINNEAPOLIS

June 14, 2021

Al Meier Spring Classic
Golf Tournament
Keller Golf Club
St Paul, MN
Noon

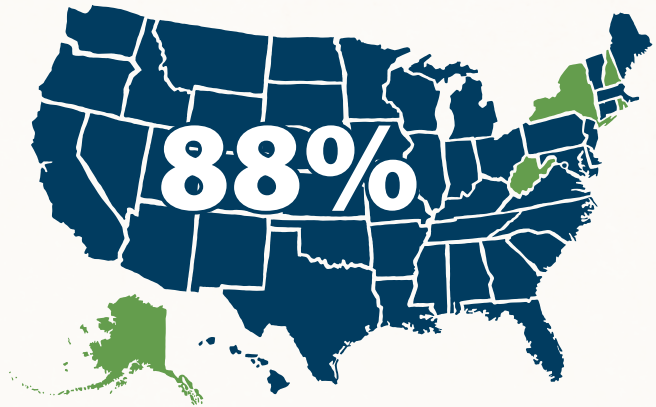
NORTH IOWA

June 29, 2021

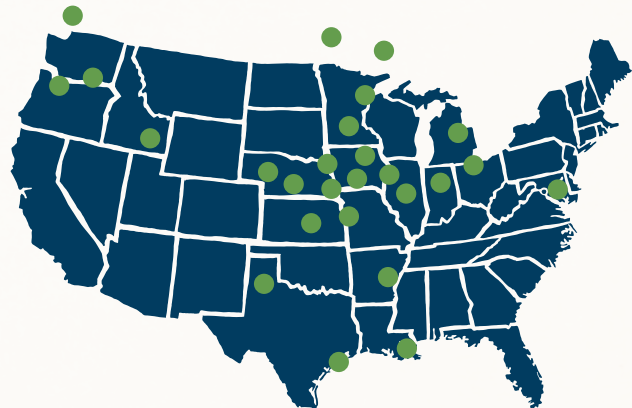
Annual Golf/Networking Event
Highland Golf Course
Mason City, IA
8:45 a.m.



88% of United States Have Members



26 Chapters in North America



Canadian Prairies, Winnipeg, MB

Columbia River, Portland, OR

Cornbelt, Decatur, IL

Golden Triangle, Houston, TX

Great Plains, Hutchinson, KS

Great River, Davenport, IA

Greater Iowa, Ames, IA

Greater Nebraska, Kearney, NE

Gulf South, New Orleans, LA

Hoosier, Delphi, IN

Inland Empire, Kennewick, WA

Intermountain, Pocatello, ID

Kansas City, Kansas City, MO

Mich./So. Ont., Frankenmuth, MI

Mid-America, Omaha, NE

Mid-Atlantic, Salisbury, MD

Mid-South, Stuttgart, AR

Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN

North Iowa, Mason City, IA

Oregon Trail, Ogallala, NE

Seaway, Toledo, OH

Siouxland, Sioux City, IA

Thunder Bay, Thunder Bay, ON

Tri-State, Amarillo, TX

Twin Ports, Duluth, MN

Vancouver, Vancouver, BC

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