



In-Grain

Grain Elevator and Processing Society

The Knowledge Resource for the Grain Handling and Processing Industry

November/December 2020

Volume 40, No. 6

www.geaps.com



GEAPS Members Reflect on 2020, Look Ahead to Next Year page 10

What's New With GEAPS?

In a year of rapid change, GEAPS is thrilled to be offering a number of new innovations! Here are some of the things that are new this year:

First Year Member Price: \$250

GEAPS has made it easier than ever for new members to join! If you have a colleague or co-worker who could benefit from the GEAPS network, they get a special price for the first year. **Sign up today at geaps.com/join.**
















Professional Business Training

We don't always have the skills we need to be successful. GEAPS now offers a huge list of professional business training courses, covering management, leadership, budgeting and Lean Six Sigma. Build the skills to help your business thrive!

Learn more on page 7 or register for courses at www.geaps.com/business-training.

GEAPS Exchange Online Conference

GEAPS will hold our first ever online conference Tuesday, Feb. 23, through Thursday, Feb. 25. The event will have education sessions and a virtual trade show. It's a great way to stay connected. **Learn more on page 3.**

| Learning Categories | | |
|--|--|--|
| Career Building 7 Courses  | Communication 5 Courses 1 Certificate  | Computer Applications 9 Courses 1 Certificate  |
| Creativity & Innovation 4 Courses 1 Certificate  | Data Analytics 6 Courses 1 Certificate  | Emergency Management 2 Courses  |
| Emerging Technologies 3 Courses 1 Certificate  | Fast Company Courses 6 Courses 1 Bundle  | Finance 6 Courses 1 Certificate  |
| GED Exam Prep 4 Courses 1 Bundle  | HR Management 32 Courses 3 Certificates  | Inc. Magazine Courses 6 Courses 1 Bundle  |
| International Trade 4 Courses 1 Certificate  | Leadership 6 Courses 1 Certificate  | Management 18 Courses 1 Certificate 1...  |

Professional business training is available in more than 20 areas of interest!

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<http://www.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

Jay Bergland MCGOM, director of professional development

Whitney Bey, conferences manager

Adrienne Fjerstad-Miller, exposition director

Melissa Ferguson, training programs manager

Julia Kloehn, senior director of operations

Brittany Labatt, tradeshow sales manager

Kristin Miller, marketing manager

Deb Most, membership manager

Betsy Polis, director of member engagement

Tom Sedlacek CGOM, communications manager, editor



Reconnect with Your Customers at GEAPS Exchange Online Conference

GEAPS will hold our first ever online conference Tuesday, Feb. 23 through Thursday, Feb. 25. For industry suppliers, this event is a great way to meet new clients, schedule appointments and demonstrate the value of your product to the grain industry.

GEAPS Executive Director Steve Records said the virtual event will help keep the industry connected until it's safe to hold in-person events again. "Throughout the pandemic, GEAPS has looked for new ways to fulfill our mission and provide value to our members," Records said. "This virtual event is a way to make sure our members have access to the GEAPS network and provides an opportunity to engage workers that would never be able to attend an in-person GEAPS Exchange. We expect hundreds of grain industry workers to attend and meet with exhibitors to keep their plants running."

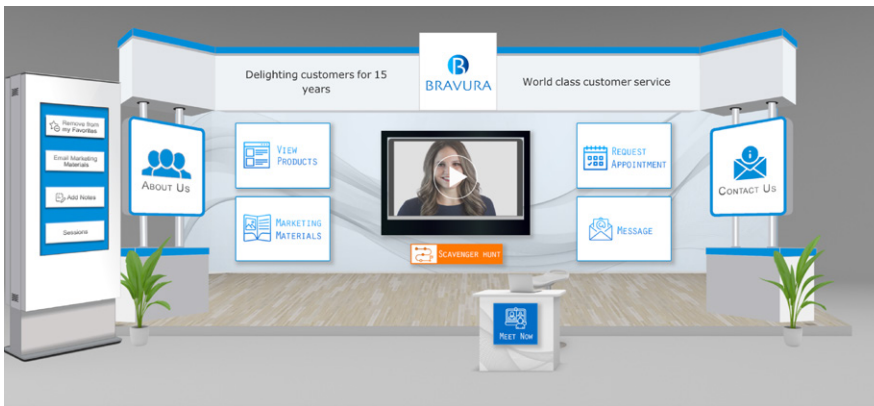


Virtual Booth Space

Online conference exhibitors will each have their own booth that attendees can find in a virtual floor plan or through a searchable list of exhibitors. You can customize your booth with your company's logo, brand and marketing materials. During the show you can see what pieces of your booth attendees interact with and receive their contact information to follow up.

Each standard virtual booth space includes:

- virtual lead tracking
- pre-scheduled appointments
- two complimentary registrations



Prescheduled and Live Appointments

Prior to the event, look through the attendee list and rank the potential customers you would prefer to interact with. The conference platform will match you up with prospective leads and will generate 10 prescheduled appointments that automatically appear in the attendees' agenda. During the show, you can also set availability for live meetings in your booth.

Make a Bigger Impact

If you want to make your brand stand out, several upgrade options are available. You can increase the

size of your booth in the virtual floor plan, take part in a scavenger hunt or produce a product demo video to be incorporated into the agenda. Sponsorship opportunities include floorplan banners, education sessions or registration confirmation emails.

The online event will be a great opportunity for you to reconnect with clients you haven't seen in a while and meet new customers. Booths are only \$1,500, and booth sales open Dec. 7. Be on the lookout for emails with more details!

"This online event is a great way to make sure our members have access to the GEAPS network. We expect hundreds of grain industry workers to attend and meet with exhibitors to keep their plants running."



Treasurer's Report: GEAPS Endures Challenging Year, Braces for Future Obstacles



By: **Bob Horvat**, Cargill, *Minneapolis Chapter*

You will notice a different name on the Treasurer's Report this year. After many years serving as International Treasurer Mark Fedje, General Mills, *Minneapolis*, stepped down from the role and I was appointed to the office in July. I want to thank Mark for helping me with the transition.

Fiscal year 2019-2020 was financially challenging for GEAPS due to the COVID-19 pandemic and associated turmoil. We started the year expecting a normal year of GEAPS business including another successful Exchange. Early in the year, pre-COVID, the Board authorized a one-time donation of \$1.2 million to the GEAPS Foundation. The donation fully funded the Foundation's professional development endowment. This was an appropriate and fiscally responsible use of resources and the Foundation endowment will help support GEAPS and our mission for years to come.

Because of COVID-19, we had to cancel GEAPS Exchange 2020 and we refunded or credited 100 percent of fees, sponsorships and registrations back to attendees and exhibitors. The cancellation accounted for a \$2.3 million revenue loss and a negative \$1.6 million impact overall. We ended the year with a loss of \$2.8 million that required us to tap into our reserve assets. Fortunately, our forefathers left the organization in a sound position to weather this crisis.

Looking ahead, GEAPS continues to face uncertainty related to COVID-19. Year over year, we have cut more than \$1 million of expenses out of the annual budget as we tighten our belts and remove all unneeded expenses. We have also postponed Exchange 2021 until August, which will have an impact on the fiscal year 2020-2021 financials. The Board is watching these events closely and reviewing the budget monthly. We do still have over \$4 million in assets to continue to help us weather this uncertainty.

Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Revenue

- Total revenue was \$1.25 million
- This major revenue shortage was directly attributable to Exchange being cancelled. The conference accounts for \$2.3 million in annual revenue and is over 60 percent of yearly revenue

FY 2019-2020 Expenses

- Total expenses were \$4.1 million
- Prior to COVID, the GEAPS staff was able to identify and capture nearly \$300,000 of cost reductions as we were looking at budget tightening last fall

Other Items

- The Board adopted an updated Strategic Plan with tactics for growing membership and diversifying revenue. We are strategically investing in programs that will deliver on these tactics
- For fiscal year 2020-2021 GEAPS has moved to accrual accounting which will bring us in compliance with GAAP rules
- The International Board reviewed and adopted the year-end external audit

Volunteers Needed – Bylaws Review Task Force

GEAPS is looking for a handful of members to participate in a Bylaws Review Task Force. Bylaws are the official documents of an organization, or operating manual. They guide the Board's actions and decisions. It is a best practice for non-profit organizations to review their bylaws regularly.

We invite all Regular, Associate and Affiliate members to volunteer for this task force. GEAPS staff will vet volunteers.

Contact steve@geaps.com to express your interest!



Membership Committee Evaluates Company/ Facility Pricing Models

The Membership Committee met online Oct. 27 to continue discussions about potential company and facility pricing models for GEAPS membership. The committee's goal is to increase total GEAPS membership and to create more opportunities for younger professionals to join the network.

While the group discussed several potential thresholds for different price points, GEAPS International Treasurer Bob Horvat, Cargill, Minneapolis Chapter, pointed out the challenges posed by different types of member facilities.

"Elevators are getting more efficient," Horvat said. "There are some that have five to six employees, not counting seasonal help."

Committee Chair Jacob Elder, Proximity Malt, Mid-Atlantic, agreed, noting that he had a hard time seeing most grain facilities committing more than three members per location.

Upcoming Membership Committee Meetings

The Membership Committee meets monthly and welcomes your participation! The upcoming meeting schedule for the committee:

- **Nov. 24: Group Pricing** - final review and policy recommendations
- **Dec. 22: Farmer Members** - interests and barriers for farmers
- **Jan. 26: Farmer Members** - how to attract farmers

Contact Deb Most at deb@geaps.com for more information and a link to join!

The committee's goal is to increase total GEAPS membership and to create more opportunities for younger professionals to join the network.

2020-2021 Membership Committee Goals

- Research and develop recommendations on company/facility pricing
- Research and develop recommendations on farmer member program
- Develop a new recruiting program
- Develop Student Day for Exchange 2021



online resources

GEAPS/Grain Journal Webinars

Design and Exclusion Principles for Pests of Stored Grain

Thursday, Nov. 19, 10 a.m. CST

Presenter: **Dr. Matt Frye**, Cornell University

Pest management practices protect the food supply from production and harvest to storage, distribution and sale. This presentation will cover relevant design and exclusion principles to address insect and rodent pest problems in grain storage facilities. Details about pest biology and conditions conducive to pest populations will set the stage for information on implementing a management program.

Dr. Matt Frye is an Extension Educator with the New York State Integrated Pest Management Program at Cornell University. He provides education and conducts research related to pest management in and around buildings. Matt received his Masters and Ph.D. in entomology from the University of Delaware and worked as an urban entomologist before joining the IPM Program.



Avoiding Dust Explosions Caused by Static Electricity

Thursday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m. CST

Presenter: **Vahid Ebadat** Ph.D., M.Inst.P, MIET, C.Phys., Stonehouse Process Safety, Inc

This webinar discusses the different ways electrostatic ignition hazards could arise in grain and food handling and processing facilities and the practical measures that can be considered to prevent/control them based on the requirements of NFPA 77, Recommended Practice on Static Electricity.

The presentation covers:

- How electrostatic discharge hazards occur
- How to recognize hazards that can trigger fires and explosions
- Practical methods to evaluate and control electrostatic discharge hazards

Vahid Ebadat has worked extensively as a process safety consultant for the chemical, pharmaceutical, food, paper/wood and other process industries globally for over 30 years. Dr. Ebadat has published many technical articles and papers and is a regular speaker on process safety topics, including dust explosion, static electricity, gas and vapor flammability and thermal decomposition/self-heating hazard assessment and control. Dr. Ebadat is a member of NFPA 77 Technical Committee on Static Electricity.



Build Your Acumen with Business Training

GEAPS has a new slate of online business training courses. The new offerings include 180 courses in 20 categories, for as little as \$49 per course. Courses are available anytime and you have access to materials for 90 days or more.

“GEAPS has traditionally offered a number of in-depth courses and programs on grain operations topics,” GEAPS Executive Director Steve Records said. “These new courses support our mission to advance industry knowledge by expanding beyond grain operations to include training in all facets of business operations, including leadership, project management and specific skills like Lean Six Sigma.”

Records also said the training content is applicable to everyone in the industry, including Associate members and suppliers who can build financial, marketing and data analysis skills.

GEAPS International President Jeff Jones, MKC, noted the value the business training courses could bring back to his company. “We are always looking for ways to develop our internal talent,” Jones said. “From new employees who are just getting started in the industry to potential facility managers, we can build an individualized plan that we can use as part of performance reviews.”

Courses are developed by MindEdge Learning and are available anytime on demand. Some courses provide digital Badges on completion. For more information and to register, visit the course catalog at www.geaps.com/business-training.

Course Spotlight: Lean Six Sigma Basics

Price: \$799

Total PDUs/ Contact Hours: 38

Strategic and Business Management PDUs: 2

Technical PM PDUs: 26

CEUs: 3.8

Access Time: 180 days

Course Description

The Lean Six Sigma Basics course describes the strategies, techniques and concepts practitioners will need to complete process improvement projects and activities. The course’s eight modules describe the important themes, principles and tools of the DMAIC methodology that help refine processes and enhance operations. Throughout the course, learners will be tested on their comprehension of course topics through exercises, interactive games and case study assignments. Each module also includes quizzes and tests that learners can use to prepare for the 50-question exam at the course end. Video segments from subject matter experts supplement the course material, to provide real-world examples and enhanced understanding of important concepts and best practices.

Learning Outcomes

- Identify processes and programs that could benefit from Lean Six Sigma implementation
- Apply the five stages of the DMAIC methodology to improve operations and meet objectives
- Utilize the proper tools and techniques that will help in achieving organizational targets
- Define the cultural and change management factors that must be addressed to sustain improvements and preserve progress



Home FAQ Login 

Home > Six Sigma & Lean > Lean Six Sigma Basics

Lean Six Sigma Basics

\$799

ADD TO CART

VIEW CART



Total PDUs/ Contact Hours: 38 **100%**

Strategic & Business Management PDUs: 2 **Access Time: 180 days**

Technical PM PDUs: 26

CEUs: 3.8 (Contact Hours: 38 hours)

Course Description

The Lean Six Sigma Basics course describes the strategies, techniques, and concepts practitioners will need to complete process improvement projects and activities. The course's eight modules describe the important themes, principles, and tools of the DMAIC methodology that help refine processes and enhance operations. Throughout the course, learners will be tested on their comprehension of course topics through exercises, interactive games, and case study assignments. Each module also includes quizzes and tests that learners can use to prepare for the 50-question exam at the course end. Video segments from subject matter experts supplement the course material, to provide real-world examples and enhanced understanding of important concepts and best practices.

Business Training Course Categories

- Management
- Leadership
- Project Management
- Communication
- Computer Applications
- Finance
- Data Analytics
- Creativity and Innovation

See the full catalog at www.geaps.com/business-training



Help Define the Future of GEAPS

Leadership Nominations Now Open

Just as your organization is dealing with the obstacles 2020 has presented, GEAPS faces short and long-term challenges. We need effective volunteer leaders to grow membership, launch programs and set up future success. We are poised to capitalize on numerous opportunities to fulfill our mission. We need your time, energy and talent to make it happen!

Whether you are interested in helping shape GEAPS' future yourself, or know an outstanding volunteer to nominate, GEAPS welcomes new leaders from all backgrounds and avenues of the industry. As a board member, you will be involved in setting direction and priorities for GEAPS programs and services. Among your responsibilities, you will have a role in determining future professional development programs and providing direction and oversight for Exchange planning and production. Board terms are three-year commitments.

Nominees must be willing to invest time and out-of-pocket expenses to actively serve as leaders. Nominations are due by Feb. 1, 2021.

Who Can Get Involved?

International Board of Directors – leads and governs GEAPS while representing the interests of all members, defining and overseeing the execution of GEAPS' strategic plan to fulfill GEAPS' mission.

- Regular members serve on the International Board.
- Members can volunteer or can be nominated by any GEAPS member.

Associates Board of Directors - represents Associate member interests and advises the International Board on the development and implementation of GEAPS' strategic plan and Exchange exposition policies and planning. The Associates Board functions as a standing committee in GEAPS.

- Only Associate members serve on the Associates Board.
- Regular or Associate members must nominate Associates Board candidates.

Election Information

- Elections take place in the spring.
- Nomination forms are available on the GEAPS website.
- Complete nomination criteria are available on nomination forms.
- A member of the GEAPS Nominations Committee contacts International Board candidates to discuss the opportunities.

Nominate someone today at
[geaps.com/nominations](https://www.geaps.com/nominations)

Why Volunteer?

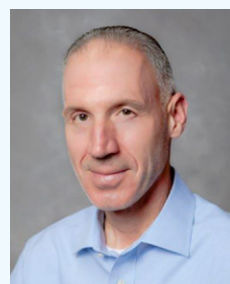
- Expand your network
- Build leadership and communication skills
- Flex your critical and strategic thinking skills



Jeff Jones, MKC, GEAPS International President
Great Plains Chapter

How has volunteering benefitted your career?

This opportunity has allowed for relationships and networking opportunities that have grown my career immensely. GEAPS provides industry expertise in all aspects of grain handling and processing while challenging you to grow your personal and professional skills through volunteer leadership and education.



Vince Marze, WL Port-Land Systems, Inc.,
Associates Board President, *Seaway*

How has volunteering benefitted your career?

As a volunteer leader for GEAPS, it has enabled me to gain more in-depth industry knowledge, develop professional skills, expand my network of contacts, enhance existing industry relationships, build confidence and solve problems working in a team environment.



GEAPS Foundation Prepares to Award First Grants Next Year

The GEAPS Foundation held their annual meeting Oct. 14 to review progress on investments and elect new leaders. With the Foundation's endowment fund reaching its \$4 million goal last year, the organization is finalizing procedures for awarding grants.

The group reviewed the Foundation's account balances and investment strategies and discussed what level of risk would be tolerable. GEAPS established the Foundation in 2011 as a mechanism to secure a stable and predictable funding stream to support GEAPS' training programs.

Foundation Board Election Results:

- Chair: Mark Fedje**, General Mills, *Minneapolis Chapter*
- President: Cheryl Lansink**, Comco, *Siouxland*
- Treasurer: Bill Merritt**, Merritt Consulting Services
- Secretary: Robert Taylor**, Cargill, *Minneapolis*
- Barb Grove**, CGOM, Central Valley Ag Cooperative, *Great Plains*, three-year term, re-electable
- Regan Heaton**, SCAFCO Grain Systems, *Inland Empire*, one-year term, re-electable
- Jeff Jones**, MKC, *Great Plains*, two-year term, re-electable
- Vince Marze**, WL Port-Land Systems Inc, *Seaway*, two-year term, re-electable
- Brandi Miller**, Kansas Co-Op Council, three-year term, re-electable
- Steve Myers**, Bunge Milling, *Kansas City*, one-year term, re-electable
- Tim Sullivan**, retired, *Greater Iowa*, three-year term, re-electable
- George Vis**, AGI, *Canadian Prairies*, three-year term
- Darren Zink**, Tuthill Transfer Systems, *Hoosier*, one-year term, re-electable



*Andrew Merkins, Chairman Minneapolis Board,
Lorraine Lego, Vancouver Secretary / Treasurer and
Keith Lien, Vancouver Chapter President*

Close Out the Year with Member Recognition

As we prepare for the holiday season, a deadline is approaching to recognize your chapter's most outstanding members. Nominations for the Chapter Member of Distinction Award are due on Dec. 31.

If you have a chapter member who has done a great job this year, recognize their efforts with this award. There is no limit to the number of members you can recognize in a year.

Membership Pin Program

Don't forget to order membership milestone pins for your members! We'll send you a list of everyone who is eligible for five, 10, 15 and 20 year pins.

**Contact Membership Manager Deb Most at deb@geaps.com
for more information on these programs!**



GEAPS Members Reflect on 2020, Look Ahead to Next Year

In-Grain recently reached out to a number of members to ask about the biggest challenges they faced at work this year and what they were looking forward to in 2021.



Johnny Wheat, President, 4B Components, *Cornbelt Chapter*



Brad Brekke, General Manager, B&E Construction Inc., *Greater Iowa*

What was one of the biggest challenges your company faced this year?

JW: Navigating the ever-changing COVID-19 environment and helping our employees with additional work flexibility so they could attend to their family's needs.

BB: We are based in a small rural community. Our biggest challenge was finding reliable employees when needed through our busiest months. Our base core of employees are incredibly capable but the available pool for new quality hires is very limited and competitive. The current pandemic has exacerbated this challenge. We have only had a couple employees contract COVID-19 to date. Each week we are getting more reports in our area and we are just beginning to see more self-isolation due to possible outside contact.



What went well this year?

JW: There is no better business policy than having a contingency plan in place for unforeseen issues. As the pandemic took hold and more of our personnel had to work from home, we were able to continue our high level of customer service and support with no interruption. Having the plan allowed us to scale up our remote communications by adding IP phones and additional online video conferencing tools and everything went very smoothly and in fact better than we could have hoped for.

BB: Despite pandemic-related material delivery delays along with other unexpected issues we were able to complete our main projects on time. It certainly was challenging at moments, but through teamwork and constant communication with the engineering firms, vendors and customers we were able to keep everyone on the same page to work towards a common goal. The people that we work with in this industry are just incredible.

What are you looking forward to at work in 2021?

JW: Getting the pandemic behind us and being able to visit more of our customers and friends and seeing them again at tradeshow.

BB: We have already been awarded a couple of nice projects for 2021 and we are certainly looking forward to working with those customers to take care of their material handling and storage needs. We are also very much looking forward to a vaccine that will put an end to this pandemic and get everything back to normal.



Recognize Your Plant's Commitment to Safety

It's important to recognize all the hard work that goes into keeping your workers safe. GEAPS recognizes companies who participate in the Safety Awards Program for reaching two standards of excellence: going the entire year without any lost time accidents or injuries, or going the entire year without a recordable incident.

We recognize individual facilities for the accomplishments, as well as the five companies with the most cumulative hours worked while completing the programs, and the facilities that have completed the program in consecutive years.

There are two ways to enroll:

- **First time enrolling:** complete a paper application
- **Past participants:** enroll online

We recognize companies that successfully complete the program on our website, in *In-Grain* and at GEAPS Exchange. You will also receive a plaque for your facility. For more information or to register contact Deb Most with GEAPS at deb@geaps.com.



LAST YEAR'S TOP FACILITIES

Cumulative Hours

- Fifth place, 1,079,384 hours **Cargill Inc**, Albion, NE
- Fourth place, 1,479,223 hours **Zen-Noh Grain Corp**, Convent, LA
- Third place, 1,546,738 hours **Bunge North America**, Council Bluffs, IA
- Second place, 1,561,204 hours **The Kelly Group**, Decatur, IL
- First place, 2,064,247 hours **Bunge North America**, Russell, MB

Cumulative Years

- Fifth place, 25 years
 - **Bunge North America**, Albany, IL
- Tied for Fourth place, 26 years
 - **Bunge North America**, Finley, TN
 - **Cargill Inc**, Lima, OH
- Tie for Third place, 33 years
 - **Bunge North America**, Blytheville, AR
 - **Bunge North America**, Hickman, KY
 - **Bunge North America**, LaGrange, MO
 - **Bunge North America**, Yazoo City, MS
- Second place, 37 years
 - **Bunge North America Fountain Bluff**, Grand Tower, IL
- First place, 41 years
 - **Bunge North America DeSoto Landing**, Arkansas City, AR





MEMBER PROFILE

Hobie Stutt

Chapter and committees:

President of the *Great River Chapter*

Family:

My family consists of my wife Sarah, daughters Lydia and Madelinn, stepson Tyler and our dogs Hans and Sky.

Position and Company:

I am currently employed as a Regional Operations Manager for River Valley Cooperative.

Years with company:

22 years in various positions

Years in Industry:

25 years

Interesting or unique fact about your facility/company:

River Valley Cooperative's elevators are complete truck houses. No rail or river loading which equalates to a large volume of truck freight in and out every year.

Education:

Much of my education in the grain handling and agriculture field has been from experiences and getting involved. No matter how much classroom learning you attend it will never replace the hands-on learning as you evolve and grow in the industry.

Biggest influence on your career:

My supervisor today has been the biggest influence on my career. Even before he was my supervisor, he instilled in me to own it, whether it is a success story or a mistake. The best thing you can do is to step up and push on. You need to commit and agree, commit and disagree or move on. The key is you need to be committed to what you are doing, no matter how important the task.

How has GEAPS helped your leadership skills?

GEAPS has introduced me to many people in the industry I would not have had the chance to meet any other way. I have also attended some of the online training sessions that have been very useful in assisting with some of our planning and development.

What are three of your favorite memories from GEAPS?

I have a lot of great memories wrapped around GEAPS. Most of them start or end with a good quality networking session. The Exchange Expo is always interesting and full of knowledge. I recently attended the maintenance day hosted by our neighboring *Greater Iowa Chapter* and it was great. They did an excellent job bringing in relevant topics and speakers for a day of learning.

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

Get involved! That is how you meet people in the industry. Before you know it you have made countless friends you can bounce ideas and issues off of.

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

As with everyone, COVID-19 is an issue we face today. As we move through this it touches every aspect of our business from our employees to ingredients at our mills down to parts to keep our fleet on the road. Our response must be fluid to change as the virus changes and different areas of our business are affected.



Upcoming Board and Committee Meetings

| DATE | TITLE | CONTACT | EMAIL |
|---------------|---|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Nov. 16, 2020 | International Executive Committee Meeting | Julia Kloehn | julia@geaps.com |
| Nov. 24, 2020 | GEAPS Membership Committee Meeting | Deb Most | deb@geaps.com |
| Dec. 1, 2020 | Associates Board of Directors Meeting | Adrienne Fjerstad-Miller | adrienne@geaps.com |
| Dec. 3, 2020 | Continuing Education Planning Oversight Committee | Jay Bergland | jay@geaps.com |
| Dec. 18, 2020 | International Executive Committee Meeting | Julia Kloehn | julia@geaps.com |
| Dec. 22, 2020 | GEAPS Membership Committee Meeting | Deb Most | deb@geaps.com |
| Jan. 14, 2021 | International Board of Directors Meeting | Julia Kloehn | julia@geaps.com |
| Jan. 26, 2021 | GEAPS Membership Committee | Deb Most | deb@geaps.com |
| Feb. 20 2021 | GEAPS Continuing Ed. Programs Oversight Committee | Jay Bergland | jay@geaps.com |
| Mar. 12, 2021 | International Executive Committee Meeting | Julia Kloehn | julia@geaps.com |



New Members

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

Canadian Prairies

Kelly Tkaczyk, Providence Grain Solutions

Cornbelt

Mike Michalski, Migratory Bird Management LLC

Deon Thompson, NORD Gear Corporation

Great Plains

Aaron Bailey, MKC

Mike Beaver, SonicAire

Justin Logan, MKC

Bo Moran, Safe-Grain/Maxi-Tronic Inc, *recruited by Scott Chant*

Matt Parsons, MKC

Alan Woodard, CoMark Equity Alliance

Great River

Ray Franz, Keller

Greater Iowa

Dan De Jong, Ag Partners LLC, *recruited by Bill Lyster*

Greater Nebraska

Scott Bonnie, Country Partners Coop

Katie Leininger, CCS Group, LLC, *recruited by Cheyenne Wohlford*

Josh Loos, CCS Group, LLC, *recruited by Cheyenne Wohlford*

Amanda Roberts, CCS Group LLC

Gulf South

Robert Ford, Tyson Foods - Local Grain Services

Bob McNeese, Millcreek Engineering

Kansas City

Luis Castillo, Garden City Cooperative Inc

Nathan Flores, Garden City Cooperative Inc

Mike Mings, Garden City Cooperative Inc

Justin Pierce, Garden City Cooperative Inc

Dennis Rice, Tyson Foods Inc

Joe Ward, Garden City Cooperative Inc

Michigan/So Ontario

Bradley Marino, CEL Electric

Jason Phillips, Global Food and Ingredients Inc.

Mid-America

Brent Brinegar, Lincoln Premium Poultry, *recruited by Kile Smith*

Darcey Mizer, KTI. Inc.

Mid-Atlantic

Adam Haroz, Conversion Technology Inc., *recruited by R. Scott Brittingham*

Ginger Pasley, Mountaire Farms

Efrain Ruiz, Mountaire Farms, *recruited by R. Scott Brittingham*

Brent Weiss, Mountaire Farms, *recruited by R. Scott Brittingham*

Mid-South

Gary Cleveland, WEG Electric Corp

Nick Henick, Ecolab, **recruited by Perry Nettles**

Auston Salazar, Ecolab

Jason Salecki, Riceland Foods Inc, *recruited by Steele Boyd*

Minneapolis

Sean Callahan, ABB Motors and Mechanical Inc, *recruited by Thomas Lee*

Seaway

Jeff Camp, Safe-Grain/Maxi-Tronic Inc, *recruited by Scott Chant*

Tri-State

Brock Scroggin, CCS Group, LLC, *recruited by Cheyenne Wohlford*



Columbia River Chapter Adjusting to Life After COVID-19



Jeff Johnston, EGT LLC, Columbia River
Secretary/Treasurer

How did you first get involved with GEAPS?

When I was hired at the terminal I was completely new to the grain industry. My supervisor explained what GEAPS was and asked if I'd like to join. I said yes as I wanted to advance and enhance my career.

What led you to become a leader for your chapter?

Honestly, it was difficult finding volunteers. Our president approached me and asked if I'd be interested in the treasurer position. Our son is old enough now to where I don't have sports coaching obligations so I agreed to put my name in the hat.

What goals do you have for your chapter in the coming year?

Our golf tournament is our biggest annual fundraiser. We had to cancel it this year due to COVID-19. My goal is to make 2021's tournament a big bang to make up for some of the lost revenue.

How is your chapter adjusting to life in a COVID-19 world?

Chapter leaders have been able to meet, but as with most chapters we haven't held physical meetings. We are keeping our members in the loop with email updates. Since our golf tourney was cancelled we've issued a challenge to individuals and businesses to donate to the chapter. We have a prize for the largest individual and company contribution. It ended Sept 30. We received several donations – our members and their employers' generosity is greatly appreciated!

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CALENDAR

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

C H A P T E R S

GREATER IOWA

November 17, 2020

Site Safety with Contractors

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

1 p.m.

February 2, 2021

Annual Maintenance Day

Ag Info Center

8 a.m.

Nevada, IA

March 16, 2021

HR Panel - Employee Recruitment
and Retention

Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

1 p.m.

June 1, 2021

First Annual Kevin Miles

Golf Tournament

IA

GREATER NEBRASKA

November 20, 2020

Concrete Structures

Chances R

6 p.m.

York, NE

January 12, 2021

Fumigation Updates

Tommy Gunz

6 p.m.

Grand Island, NE

March 12, 2021

Spouse's night

Mac's Creek

Lexington, NE

May 21, 2021

Golf Outing

HOOSIER

November 19, 2020

Trap Shoot Forty Sporting Clays

11:30 a.m.

Bourbon, IN

December 8, 2020

Maintenance

The Anderson's

Noon

Delphi, IN

February 5, 2021

Axe Throwing

Anarchy Axe Throwing

7 p.m.

Indianapolis, IN

May 25, 2021

Elections

Chippendale Golf

11 a.m.

Kokomo, IN

MINNEAPOLIS

December 2, 2020

Second Harvest Heartland -

Volunteering

Time: TBA

Brooklyn Park, MN

January 6, 2021

Vendor Show and Bean

Bag Tournament

Dan Patch American Legion

Noon

Savage, MN

February 3, 2021

Barge Loading Technology

Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center

Noon

Bloomington, MN

April 7, 2021

Data Analytics

Minnesota Masonic Heritage Center

Noon

Bloomington, MN

May 5, 2021

Rahr Malting Facility Tour

Rahr Malting

Noon

Shakopee, MN

June 7, 2021

Al Meier Spring Classic

Golf Tournament

Keller Golf Club

Noon

St. Paul, MN

