



[Link to MARR Website](#)

September 26, 2018

In this issue:

- We have moved!
- Spouses Session
- From the Desk of Eriks Dunens
- MARR alumni among Farm Families of the Year
- Class VIII Vietnam study trip on KSMQ
- Approaching start of Class X
- Landuyt wins Environmental Stewardship Award by NCBA
- Impact of trade wars on dairy farms

Events

- [Class X Kickoff Seminar Banquet, Nov. 8, Willmar](#)
- Class X Marshall Seminar Banquet, Dec. 12
- Class X St. Paul Seminar Banquet, January 16, 2019

Board of Directors

Chair: Cheryl Glaeser (Class VII), Hutchinson

Vice Chair: Mike Yost, Murdock

Dr. Robert Milligan, Lauderdale

Bruce Tiffany (Class V), Redwood Falls

Chad Willis, Willmar

Shelly Schell (Class VI), Altura

Joan Lee (Class VII), McIntosh

Rick Schwarck, St. Ansgar IA

From the Desk of Olga Reuvekamp



Fall 2018 is a special one for MARR, with the kickoff of Class X happening in November. Our team is at full speed preparing the first season's seminars and is looking forward to working with the thirty selected participants. Many graduates of MARR are helping out with advising or as hosts, presenters and directors on our board. There is a special role for our significant others in the MARR experience as well. The robust nature of the leadership program requires a lot from our participants, as well as from those who keep everything going while we are in session. A special opportunity for MARR alumni spouses to share their stories with current loved ones is held at the Kickoff seminar in Willmar on Thursday November 8th from 1:30pm - 2:00pm. Spouses of MARR alumni are welcome to join and share their experience and tips with the spouses of Class X. Please contact Olga by October 26 to sign up.

The first opportunity to meet Class X will be on Thursday November 8th at the leadership banquet in Willmar. Special guests are leaders from the Minnesota Turkey Growers Association and our keynote speaker is Glenn Leitch, Hormel Exec. VP Supply Chain. There will be a social at 6:00pm, followed by dinner and a program at 7:00pm at The Oaks Eagle Creek in Willmar.

Join us! Class X participants do not need to register, as the event is included in the two day seminar.

[Click Here to Register](#)

Visit the MARR office in our new, yet familiar location: the McFarland Building across from the SMSU Campus in Marshall. Stop by!



Last summer's events were a success, thanks to many volunteers, hosts, sponsors and participants. Photos of the Farmfest picnic, booths (also at Big Iron) and the golf tournament are found below. Thanks again to all for connecting, cultivating new relationships and further expanding MARR!

Paul Simonsen, Fairfax

Shawn Schloesser (Class VIII)
St. Peter

Katie Schneider (Class IX),
Inver Grove Heights

**Non-voting Class IX
Representatives:**

Sarah Domink, Fridley

Adam Ulbricht, Melrose

Ex-Officio Directors

Bill Mulso, Marshall

Dr. Kent Olson, St. Paul

Whitney Place, St. Paul

Dr. Connie Gores, Marshall

Dr. Bev Durgan, St. Paul



Graduates and staff gathering at the MARL booth MN Farmfest, l-r: Olga R, Sam Ziegler (Class VII), Ron Obermoller (Class I), Wally Thomas (Class IV), Warren Formo (Class II), Eriks D..

Yours in Agriculture and Rural Leadership,

Olga

Olga Reuvekamp is the Executive Director of Minnesota Agriculture and Rural Leadership at Southwest Minnesota State University

From the Desk of Eriks Dunens



Summer has passed and it was great getting to see so many alumni engaged in different ways to support MARL. Alumni contributed to recruitment of Class X, interviewing candidates, and doing outreach and fundraising through FarmFest and the annual golf tournament. We hope to see many more of you at our seminar banquets that launch in November with Class X.

With autumn approaching in an election year, I encourage you to put your leadership into practice to support a core practice of our democratic system. Whether in canvassing for a specific candidate or volunteering as an election judge, there are many opportunities to participate. Here are three more suggestions to engage in the process:

1. Encourage voting – this may be through registering first-time voters or helping people register to vote early or absentee by mail
2. Get informed on local issues and elections – the local level is where leaders can make the most impact so know what's going on at home
3. Educate on issues and candidates – engage others in the process through conversations that provide credible information

Best regards,
Eriks Dunens

Eriks Dunens and Christy Kallevig are Extension Educators with the University of Minnesota Extension in St. Paul and Willmar respectively, are program leaders of Minnesota Agriculture and Rural Leadership.

MARL Mentions:

Pat Troendle (Class I) and **Tom Hayes** (Class IV) and families were recognized as Farm Families of the year by the University of Minnesota. Congratulations!

KSMQ has wonderfully featured MARL Class VIII's Vietnam Study Trip in their documentary about Minnesota farmers and their connections to the Southeast Asian country. Thanks to Lona Rookaird (Class VIII) for sharing photos, Compeer Financial for facilitating space, and Dan Hoffman (Class IV) for connecting KSMQ and MARL. Follow the link to watch (minute 18:30): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8I7Iqv8vwa4&feature=youtu.be&t=1108>

"Each class is a new crop which creates greater networks and stronger opportunities for collaboration and problem solving" (Joel Mathiowetz). An article worth reading, written by Jenifer Goblisch for SMSU. Featuring Joel Mathiowetz (Class IV), Deb Chute, Brian Thalman (both Class V), Adam Ulbricht (Class IX), Shawn Schloesser (Class VIII), and Steve Schmitt (Class X). Read more: http://www.smsu.edu/today/articles/2018/08-12-2018_marlprogram.html.

Mike Landuyt (Class III) and family were awarded by the National Cattlemen's for best environmental stewardship practices in beef industry in 2018. Congratulations! [Read more...](#)

Join us elsewhere:



MARL is made possible by many investors' generosity. Thank you to all for supporting our dynamic, bridge-building program.



Grain Gift

To make a gift of grain to MARL, please contact Olga at 507-537-6430 - olga.reuvekamp@smsu.edu

Trade wars, tariffs, and the impact on local Minnesota businesses. **Steve Hoffman** (Class IX) was interviewed by Minnesota Public Radio on the pain felt by the dairy farmers. [Read more...](#)

Thank you, golf committee chair Gary (Class V) and Yvon Lager, Reuben (Class VI) and Judy Bode and sons, Jill Manthei and Katie Schneider (Both Class IX), Christy Kallevig (Co-Program Leader), and all sponsors and attendees for a great day of golf, while supporting MARL at the 7th annual MARL Golf Tournament.



Thank you to Bruce (Class V), Matt (Class X) and the Tiffany family from Redwood Falls for opening up their farm and home to host and organize a picnic for MARL members and friends on a beautiful summer evening, as well as a board meeting. Thank you to Mike Liepold and other volunteers for helping with setup and clean up.



Paul Torkelson (Class IV) blessing the meal at the Farmfest Picnic at Tiffany's family farm near Redwood Falls



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