


LIA CLASS 44

These quality men and women come from diverse backgrounds and regions, but all share a common commitment to agriculture and rural Idaho. Upon graduation, they will join the ranks of over 1,000 alumni who are currently making a difference locally, regionally, and nationally. This network of graduates provides leadership to a wide range of organizations and industries.

 = ALSO INVOLVED IN PRODUCTION AGRICULTURE



DANIELLE BINGHAM 
Amalgamated Sugar Co.
District HR Manager
Twin Falls

HR Manager for Amalgamated Sugar and partner at Conner Farms in custom farming, transportation, and beef cattle.



CRAIG CHANDLER
Idaho Dept. of Water Resources
Civil Engineer
Idaho Falls

Incoming District 1 Watermaster, managing water rights, regulation, and storage for Snake River, upstream from Milner Dam.



MICHAEL COLLE
University of Idaho CALS
Assoc. Professor - Meat Science
Moscow

Assoc. Professor of Meat Science; teaches livestock production and works to improve shelf-life/tenderness of meat.



KELSEA DONAHUE
Sawtooth Law Offices
Attorney
Twin Falls

Attorney with Sawtooth Law offices specializing in agriculture, property rights and property transactions.



BRI EGGERS
Drew Eggers Farms
Meteorologist
Meridian

The youngest member of a multi-generational peppermint farm family. Spent 15 years in Broadcast Meteorology.



EMILY ELLIOT
HUB International Insurance
Account Executive
Pullman, WA

Account Executive in Crop Risk Management. Assesses risks for growers and producers based in the Palouse region of WA and ID.



ADDIE FAUST
Idaho Department of Lands
Program Manager
Boise

Natural Resource Leasing Manager and oversees the policies/programs of grazing, agriculture, and conservation.



JARED GILES
Giles & Meyers Farms, LLC
Production Agriculture
Hansen

Second-generation farmer and the Manager for Giles & Meyers Farms. He also is the owner Gordito Farms.



ERIC HANSEN
Grant 4-D Farms
Production Agriculture
Rupert

Farm Director for Grant 4-D Farms growing potatoes, corn, sugarbeets and onions. Manages irrigation and crop health.



TOM JACOBSEN
University of Idaho CALS
Extension Educator
St. Anthony

Extension Educator developing and delivering horticultural and food products systems programming throughout the state.



ERIC KASPER
Kasper Land & Cattle
Production Agriculture
Melba

Farmer from Melba involved in several family partnerships producing milk, corn, alfalfa and triticale in ID, NV and CA.



CRAIG LOUDER
Axiota Animal Health
Technical Services Veterinarian
New Plymouth

Technical Services Vet covering the continental US. He and his wife also run a commercial cow/calf operation.



ANDY LUNDQUIST 
AgWest Farm Credit
Relationship Manager
Idaho Falls

Works with farmers/ranchers, helping to provide financing for their capital needs to ensure their businesses are successful.



CRISTINA MACHADO
Latitude 42 Farm
Production Agriculture
Filer

Administrative Assistant for Latitude 42 Farms, the first commercial lettuce grower in Idaho.



TREVOR MERRILL
Idaho Milk Products
Logistics Supervisor
Jerome

Oversees 21 drivers, along with nearly 5 million pounds of milk from the dairy to the milk processing plant.



RYAN MORTENSEN
Idaho Wheat Commission
Comm. & Program Manager
Boise

Idaho Wheat Commission's Communications and Program Manager, providing education to wheat farmers and staff.



NATE MURRAY
Idaho Power Company
Community & Economic Dev.
Twin Falls

Works as a Community and Economic Development Advisor representing Idaho Power to local officials and customers.



JOHN O'CONNELL
University of Idaho CALS
Asst. Dir. of Communications
Pocatello

Responsible for publicizing the research and extension efforts within University of Idaho CALS.



BRONSON REEDER
AgWest Farm Credit
Relationship Manager
Twin Falls

Works alongside ag producers by taking care of their financing needs to maintain and grow their businesses.



PATRICK REGLI
Idaho Dept. of Agriculture
Dairy Bureau Prog. Specialist
Kuna

Program Specialist for the ISDA in the Dairy Bureau. He does sanitation inspections, BTU ratings, butter grading.



MANDIE SEWARD
Valley Agronomics
Crop Advisor
Greenleaf

Crop Advisor working directly with Treasure Valley growers, consulting on crop nutrition and pest management.



JIM SHOEMAKER 
Nunhems/BASF
Ag Production Specialist
New Plymouth

Oversees carrot and onion seed and owns Lazy S Ranch, a third generation producer with direct to consumer beef.



MICHAEL SIEGERSMA, JR.
Eagle Ridge Dairy
Production Agriculture
Kuna

Manager of his family dairy, where they consistently supply a high quality, nutritious product that feeds the world.



CASEY STEVENSON
Stevenson Farms, LLC
Production Agriculture
Rupert

Operations Manager for Stevenson Farms and oversees planting, irrigation, and harvest of sugarbeets and malt barley.



MICAELA SWALL
Bear Grace Ranch
Production Agriculture
Caldwell

Manages and markets direct to consumer, ranch-raised, Angus beef on her family owned farm/ranch operation.



DON TERRY
Burley Irrigation District
General Manager
Burley

General Manager of Burley Irrigation District, where they provide water for approximately 48,000 acres.



DEREK WANDERS
Payette River Ridge Farm
Production Agriculture
Payette

Owner of Payette River Ridge Farm, with his wife Chelsea, farming potatoes, wheat, corn sugarbeets and a vineyard.



JAYDE WILSON
Glanbia Nutritionals
Marketing Specialist
Twin Falls

Works in corporate marketing for Glanbia Nutritionals. She grew up appreciating ag on a farm in northern Idaho.



RYAN WINTERSWYK
Conquest Insurance
Agent
Boise

Partner at Conquest Insurance, helping agricultural producers with risk management strategies across the West.

February 22, 2024
Attachment 5

ABOUT

Leadership Idaho Agriculture is recognized as a premier leadership development program in the state of Idaho. LIA is the only leadership organization in Idaho that works to directly cultivate leaders in agriculture, the state's biggest and most influential industry. Since 1985, LIA has been offering concentrated study and hands-on experiences that enhance skills for future leaders in agriculture, rural communities, agribusiness, and governmental agencies. The program builds and sharpens personal leadership and communication skills through tours, guest speakers, panel discussions, and group interaction. LIA has been developing advocates for agriculture and rural communities who will serve as a voice for the industry for generations to come.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

- 1) Improve personal leadership skills, enhance self-confidence, and develop agriculture and natural resource awareness
- 2) Encourage a network of leaders to take an active leadership role in community, state, and national issues
- 3) Promote Idaho agriculture and the development of strong rural communities
- 4) Continue to build a network of informed, trained, and motivated rural leaders in Idaho

RICK WAITLEY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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KENDRA DUSTIN, DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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TRAVIS LAMMERS, VICE CHAIRMAN, CLASS 34

AgWest Farm Credit

NIC WITTMAN, SECRETARY/TREASURER, CLASS 39

The Amalgamated Sugar Co.

NEIL DURRANT, PAST CHAIRMAN, CLASS 34

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BRITT BEENE, 36

Corteva Agriscience

KOLBY CARPENTER, 41

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Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

PAT PURDY, 30

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Production Ag

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Production Agriculture

BLAIR WILSON, 11

Retired

KYLE WOODS, 32

Assoc. Insurance Services

MONICA YORREE, 42

Western Range Association

OUR MISSION



*To educate and equip
a network of leaders
who advocate for
Idaho agriculture.*



INTRODUCES:

CLASS 44

2023-2024

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