

# Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation

## Report to Donors & Contributors



### "FUN"draising

• **Kane County Fair Country Store**— The Fair provides the Foundation the opportunity to raise funds and friends by offering unique hand crafted items and farm themed gifts. Buck Bros, Inc of Hampshire and DeKane Implement of Big Rock cooperate in this effort, allowing the Foundation to sell farm toys on consignment.



• **Bucket Raffles**— A second Fair FUNdraiser, the Foundation holds Bucket Raffles in conjunction with our Farm Zoo and the Country Store. Local businesses donate merchandise, gift certificates, etc. for the raffle. Fairgoers purchase the raffle tickets and place their ticket in the bucket corresponding to the prize they hope to win. Funds raised from this event go towards scholarships and internships for college students pursuing careers in agricultural fields of study.



• **John Buck Memorial Golf Outing**— Established in 2001 by an endowment in memory of the late John Deere dealer, the proceeds raised from this annual benefit fund John Buck Memorial Scholarships, administered by the Foundation.

• **Farm Bureau dues notices**— an agreement between the Foundation and the KCFB allows for Farm Bureau member contributions to be made to the Foundation along with annual dues to KCFB.

### Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation Programs & Activities...

#### Touch-A-Tractor



This second annual educational event took place on March 30-31, 2007 on the lawn of the Kane County Farm Bureau. Touch-A-Tractor was a huge success thanks to our many generous volunteers, local farmers who contributed farm equipment and antique tractors and local FFA Chapters.

Touch -A-Tractor helped teach families and especially young children more about agriculture and farming with activities for the whole family. Children could ride a pedal tractor, go to the farm animal zoo, explore the tractors and combines, while adults enjoyed the antique tractors, perused the displays of direct farm marketers or listened to the Bluegrass band.



#### Ag Days

In March, over 2,000 fourth grade elementary school students participated in Kane County Farm Bureau's AgDays at Mooseheart. Now in its 22nd year, this Women's Committee Program promotes the agricultural industry to students in a fun, educational and exciting way.

Students, most from urban and suburban areas are able to experience the many facets of agriculture, its importance and how it affects their daily lives. More than 150 volunteers are required to make AgDays a success. The program's longevity and volunteer support are indicative of its importance and the chief reason why the Foundation provides financial support for this effort.



#### Red or Green Raffle

This first ever event helped the Foundation raise nearly \$14,000 in 2006-07. The proceeds from the raffle helped increase Scholarship awards by 50% for students entering or returning to college in 2007. With a unique twist the Grand Prize was a choice between a restored 1953 Farmall Super H or a new John Deere X324 lawn tractor or \$3,000 cash.

The winner, a current college student and former Foundation Scholarship winner, chose the cash to defray his college tuition. The Foundation is repeating the program in 2008, offering a restored John Deere B or a new Cub Cadet lawn tractor as the Grand Prize. Get your tickets by calling (630) 584-8660.



#### Summer Ag Institute

Sixteen teachers from local schools participated in the Kane County Farm Bureau's 7th "Agricultural Tour for Teachers," June 11-15, 2007. A graduate credit course on agricultural research, inputs, production, processing and marketing, the course is invaluable in helping teachers incorporate agriculture into their classrooms.

With over 30 tour sites and presenters, the week long course provides a broad overview of Kane County farms, commodities and agribusiness. Teachers consistently rate this course as "one of the best I've ever taken!"



**Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation Programs & Activities...cont.**

**Scholarship Programs**

The Foundation offers several scholarships to area students. Over \$25,000 in Scholarships and Internships were awarded for the 2007-08 school year.

**The John Buck Memorial Scholarship,**

in the amount of \$1000, is awarded annually to a student from Kane, DeKalb, McHenry, Boone, DuPage, Will or Lake counties pursuing higher education in an agriculture field. The Scholarship was established in 2001 by an endowment in memory of Buck Bros. Inc. founder John Buck by friends and family of the late John Deere dealer.



A senior Animal Science/Pre-Vet major from the University of Illinois Katie Stoll was the 2007-08 recipient of the John Buck Memorial Scholarship.

**Foundation President's Scholarship,**

established in 2006, recognizes the most outstanding applicant among high school seniors seeking to further their education in an agricultural field of study. The award is in the amount of \$2000.



Michael Drendel, Hampshire, recipient of the 2007-08 Foundation President's Scholarship is attending Kishwaukee Comm. College.

**Foundation General Scholarships,**

awarded to students pursuing higher education for careers in agricultural fields and whose parents have been Kane County Farm Bureau members for at least the past two years. The number of scholarship winners varies based on applications. Each winner will receive a minimum of \$1000.

In 2007-08, nearly \$20,000 in General Scholarships were awarded and over \$75,000 in tuition assistance has been provided by the Foundation in the past five years.



2008 Tractor Raffle

Grand Prize options, a 1952 John Deere B or a new Cub Cadet LT1046. Get your ticket today. Contact the Foundation at (630) 584-8660.

**Ag Literacy Programs**



The Foundation helps to fund many Kane County Farm Bureau Ag Literacy Programs. The Ag Literacy Library, located in the Farm Bureau, is one example. The Library has books for all ages and interests available for check-out by Farm Bureau members & Kane County teachers.

**National Ag-In-The-Classroom Conference**

Former teacher and Kane County Farm Bureau Ag Literacy Coordinator Suzi Myers participates annually in the National AITC Conference thanks to the Foundation. Conference tours, workshops, exhibits and contacts help keep local AITC materials and presentations fresh and up to date on the latest technology in agriculture.

**Bookmark Contest**

An annual contest open to all Kane County Fourth Grade school students, it creates an educational awareness of agriculture's importance. The theme for 2007, "Baseball & Agriculture, helped students to understand how agriculture makes our National Pastime possible. Winners receive a prize, a classroom visit from Ag Literacy Coordinator Suzi Meyers, and a lesson and party for the entire class, compliments of the Foundation.



**U of I Extension Grant**

An annual Foundation grant to U of I Extension, Kane County helps fund Extension's 4-H, youth education, food, and nutrition programs.

**Internship Programs**

**Internships** are offered by the Kane County Farm Bureau Foundation to students who have completed at least 30 undergraduate hours. Student interns are responsible for many tasks and internships are structured to meet student needs. The Foundation offers summer, winter and mid-term internships.



Ashley Kabureck of Geneva, a student at Illinois State University, is the summer 2007 intern for Kane County Farm Bureau

Interns help coordinate Ag-in-the-Classroom projects, county fair activities, media relations and assist in developing grant requests for the Ag Ed program in Kane County, with P.R. efforts, newsletters, press releases and other correspondence.

**THE KANE COUNTY FARM BUREAU FOUNDATION WAS ESTABLISHED TO PROMOTE EDUCATION, LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURAL FIELDS. IN 2007-08, OVER \$25,000 WAS AWARDED IN SCHOLARSHIPS AND INTERNSHIPS TO AREA COLLEGE STUDENTS PURSUING CAREERS IN ONE OF ILLINOIS' LARGEST INDUSTRIES, AGRICULTURE.**

**Gifts to the KCFB Foundation support local education and leadership development for the future of America's most essential industry, Agriculture!**

**Thank you for your generosity!**

**\_\_\_ \$100    \_\_\_ \$75    \_\_\_ \$50    \_\_\_ \$25    \_\_\_ Other**

**Payment Information - Please make checks payable to:**

**KCFB Foundation, 2N710 Randall Road, St. Charles, IL 60174**

**The KCFB Foundation is an IRS 501(c)(5) charitable organization that supports education, leadership development, research and charitable activities for the benefit of agriculture and farm families.**