

KENTUCKY AGRICULTURAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

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You have likely heard, the Kentucky Agricultural Development Board awarded the Kentucky Agricultural Leadership Program \$500,000 in September of 2018. Our goal is to raise \$500,000 as a match over the next five years. Dr. Snell and Dr. Isaacs are working hard to find partners to help raise the match.

Want to help? Please consider setting up a recurring online gift. You can set any amount to deduct monthly. This is the easiest and best way to help KALP!

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EASTERN KY RESOURCES & ISSUES

Class XII put 530 miles on a University of Kentucky motorpool bus, travelling from Robinson Forest, to Pikeville, to Flemingsburg, and everywhere in between.

Day 1: We started session 5 visiting Dr. Jeff Stringer in Robinson Forest to learn about ongoing forestry and hydrology research. Did you know that each acre of harvested timber in KY has a \$20,000 economic impact? We ended the evening listening to bluegrass music. Our very own Will and Maggie Bowling, graduates of Class X and XI, even taught us how to square dance.

Day 2: AppHarvest's Shelby Valley High School Container Farm was our first visit today. We learned about the importance of providing agricultural



education opportunities in communities without dedicated ag teachers, like the mining community of Pikeville. Next, we chatted with Pike County Deputy Judge Executive, Reggie Hickman. After lunch, we enjoyed a tour and tasting at Alltech's Dueling Barrels Brewery & Distillery. Our final official stop was the Rite Coal Mine in Flat Gap to see an active strip mining operation. The Fergusons, Tyler and Andrea, hosted a delicious dinner at their home to complete a fantastic day.



Day 3: Class XII began the morning with an amazing breakfast at Savage Farms, thanks to KALP alum, Julia Rollins (Class IX). If you haven't tried their maple syrup, you're missing out! Next, we visited Harold White Lumber and spent time discussing local and international trade issues. Morehead State hosted a luncheon with Dr. Jay Morgan, Joe Fraley (Class X), and special guest speaker, Rep. Rocky Adkins. Following lunch, we toured Morehead State's research farm, focusing on hemp, livestock and mineral research. Our final educational visit was Independent Stave Company's Morehead facility. KALP Class XI graduate, Stacy Sipes hosted dinner at her family's gorgeous Lowe Lake property.



Day 4: Our last day of touring the region began with Hinton Mills and the Kentucky Welding Institute, hosted by Class X graduate, Adam Hinton, where we discussed labor and providing opportunities in the area. Our second and final tour was at GenCanna, learning about their hemp processing and what it can/will mean for Kentucky's farmers and economy. Class XII finished the session strong, once again having to be cut off from asking excellent questions. We shared a lot of knowledge and laughs during this learning journey.



MEDIA TRAINING & WESTERN KY AGRICULTURE

Day 1: Class XII's Western Kentucky seminar began with the story of Siemer Milling and Continental Mills. Next, a trip to visit regional leader, Mr. Wayne Hunt, to hear what he thinks makes a great leader. The evening concluded at at Class XII's Micah Lester's farm. Scholars drove equipment, toured the operation, discovered the advantages of precision agriculture, and drove a combine simulator. Class XI's Joanna Carraway sponsored a delicious dinner of local foods.

Day 2: In the age of social journalism, it's imperative that agriculturalists share their stories to keep the 99% informed on the science, integrity, commitment, and compassion that keeps the world fed. KALP Class XII spent the day at Murray State University, engaging in dynamic and "hot potato" media training. In all aspects of agriculture we're telling the stories of the land, the animals, and the people. Class XII participants engaged in interviewee tips, a tv style subject matter expert panel discussion, social media analytics, and continued self-reflection through conflict management analysis. The day's touring concluded with a visit to West Kentucky Aquaponics. This evening, Planter's Bank and Joseph and Lisa Sisk were kind enough to host our group and local alumni at Casey Jones Distillery, where UK Trustee Elizabeth McCoy addressed the group.

Day 3: Tobacco was the primary focus. The group visited Class



XI alum, Joseph Sisk's operation to discuss the challenges and opportunities of the emerging hemp industry. Then, a visit to Todd Harton's place, the largest dark fired tobacco producer in the world, led to discussion about H-2A employees and different types and grades of tobacco. The Christian County Agribusiness Club and Bayer's Lewis Bradley hosted lunch. Class X alum, Brian Lacefield conducted a panel discussion with area producers, and Class XII heard the story of the black patch wars from Bill Cunningham, author of On Bended Knees. The final visit was to Hail & Cotton where the group learned more about processing, grading, and the international tobacco market from Ed Alexander, Class IX's Daniel Green (with Burley Stabilization Cooperative), and Class XII's own Abbi Graves.

Day 4: Thanks for Farm Credit Mid-America for including KALP Class XII in the Tennessee Agricultural Leadership Forum. Speakers that challenged the group's thinking ended our session on the perfect note.



UPCOMING EVENTS:



- December 18-20, 2019 -- Owensboro Seminar "Leadership and Trade"
 - December 18th - Area Alumni Dinner
- January 23-28, 2020 -- Domestic Learning Journey, traveling from Miami to Tampa, Florida
- March 16-20, 2020 -- Washington D.C.
- July 5-20, 2020 -- International Learning Journey, traveling to Japan, Vietnam, and Thailand
- October 7-9, 2020 -- Lexington Graduation Seminar
 - Friday, October 9th - Alumni Celebration

Contact Emily with questions or concerns: e.brown@uky.edu

Alumni News:

- **Adam Hinton Appointed to the Morehead State University Board of Regents**
- **Laura Knoth Appointed to Farm Credit Mid-America Board of Directors**
- **Todd Clark Elected to Farm Credit Mid-America's Board of Directors**
- **Brian Furnish Speaks at the Hemp Production and Farm Bill Hearing in DC**
- **Donald Mitchell and Doug Lawson Serve on the GOAP Ag Finance Board**
- **Aaron Miller joins First Financial Bank's Nationwide Farm/Ranch Lending Division**
- **Richard Medley Featured as Outstanding at Ag Credit Publication**

We will begin the recruiting process for Class XIII during the summer of 2020. Application materials are likely to be available in October of 2020 with a tentative deadline of December 1, 2020. Interviews are likely to be held in January of 2021. Class XIII's first seminar will be held in Lexington in March 2021.



Thinking about KALP?
Class XIII starts 2021



Have ideas of things you would like to see featured? Share them with us!

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