

PRO-VISIONS

PRO COOPERATIVE MEMBER NEWSLETTER

QUARTER 2

JULY 2020



PRO
COOPERATIVE



PRO CEO ANNOUNCES RESIGNATION

June 15, 2020

To: Pro Cooperative Members

Kyle Kuepker, Pro Cooperative's CEO has resigned as CEO effective June 30, 2020. In his notice to the Board of Representatives of Pro Cooperative, Kyle ensured that his decision did not come lightly. Kyle has experienced some recent personal changes that have shifted his priorities in life and has chosen to make his family a priority. Therefore, with that shift he has resigned as CEO of Pro Cooperative.

We, as a board, want to reassure you that we have been working tirelessly to make sure this transaction goes well without any interruptions to the operations of Pro Cooperative. Effective July 1, 2020, Scott Summa will assume the position of Interim CEO while we continue to search for a full-time Chief Executive Officer.

Pro Cooperative employees endeavor every day to meet our members needs and earn their business. Pro Cooperative will continue to focus on the basics of the business during this transition. Pro Cooperative has plans in place to service our members during this spring/summer in Agronomy, in addition to the summer fill programs for Energy, daily services in Feed, while continuing to get ready for fall harvest in Grain.

If you have any questions related to the business, again, please talk to the department leaders. If you have questions or suggestions around finding a new CEO for Pro Cooperative, please contact your local board member to discuss. We also want to thank Kyle for his years of service to the Coop and we wish him well in his future endeavors.

Warmest regards,

Jim Shimon
Pro Cooperative Board President



UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION IN RUTLAND

“The farmer should dump their corn with almost no wait time”

In April of 2020, demolition and construction begun at the Rutland grain elevator. Ronald Trenary, the location manager for Rutland and Bradgate reports, “harvest last year, the wait time to dump grain trucks was almost two hours. Now the pit should be empty before the trucks pull away from the site!”

In addition to the new bin, a new receiving pit and leg will be added to the facility to move the grain into the storage bins. The new pit will be able to process only corn, but it will be a huge improvement compared to the system that was at the Rutland location previously.

Trenary goes on to explain, “The new grain storage bin will have the capacity of about 750,000 bushels! This new bin will

positively impact our location as well as our company. We will be able to move corn so much faster!” The new pit and grain leg, at full operation, will be receiving corn at about 30,000 bushels per hour. In comparison, last year, this location was pushing about 10,000 bushels per hour. “With this new system, the farmer should dump their corn with almost no wait time.”

When this facility is completed, the storage will be at about a half million bushels for beans. With the new bin, the corn storage will be increased to about 1.7 million bushels! Construction on the Rutland location is expected to be completed by the 2020 harvest. ~



***“Spend more time in the field
and less time dumping grain!”***

Construction has begun on the Pocahontas grain elevator! Dan Wallace is the location manager of the Pocahontas grain location and he shares, “I am so excited for this new site to be completed! It will be so beneficial to the farmer. Our goal for this location is for the farmer to spend more time in the field and less time dumping grain!”

The old bin was taken down earlier this year as it was unsafe and outdated. The new bin will be faster for the people dumping their trucks. Wallace continues, “At full operation, this facility will be able to receive 20,000 bushels of corn per hour in the receiving pit. In addition, the grain dryer, at full operation, will be pushing 4,700 bushels of corn per hour! That is a dramatic shift and we are so excited to be here to help the farmer to dump their corn faster and make the whole process

UPDATE ON CONSTRUCTION IN POCAHONTAS

more efficient.”

In addition, the farmer will be able to unload at 3 different pits. Beans will be able to be received on two of the pits while corn will be assessable at all three. Wallace adds the bean capacity has increased and will be able to process about 15,000 bushels per hour.

Another improvement is the functionality and convenience of the location. Trucks will now be able to drive a circle formation, dump their grain and be on their way. The renovations are scheduled to be completed and ready to receive grain before 2020 harvest.

Check out our website and Facebook page to see regular updates on the Pocahontas grain renovations. ~

NEW HIRES AT PRO



Ellyse Knaak, originally from Spencer, IA is Pro's new Grain Originator. She is a recent graduate from South Dakota State University (SDSU) with a B.S. in Agricultural Science. She lives on a farm with her fiancé, Zach, where together they own Red Angus cattle in addition to their two dogs. Ellyse was an intern with Pro Cooperative for two summers before accepting a full-time position. Ellyse will be serving the northern locations.

Gracie Vathauer, originally from Wheaton, MN, is Pro's new Communications and Marketing Specialist. Gracie is a recent graduate of Iowa State University with a B.S. in Agricultural Communications. Her role at Pro will be promoting the Coop within the community and marketing our brand to the public. Gracie comes from a Simmental cattle farm and showed pigs in 4-H and FFA. Gracie enjoys gardening and spending time on her family farm.



PRO'S 2020 SUMMER INTERNS



Betty Strohman is the daughter of Mark and Angie Strohman and is originally from Mallard, Iowa. This year, Betty will be one of Pro Cooperative's Agronomy Dept. Crop Scouting interns. Betty just finished her freshman year at Iowa State University where she is majoring in Agricultural Studies. Betty shares, "I am excited about this opportunity and cannot wait to see where this leads me in my future career!"

Jalen Heintz is originally from Polk City, Iowa. Jalen will also be one of the Pro Cooperative Agronomy Crop Scouting 2020 Summer Interns. She just graduated from DMACC this past May with an A.S. in General Studies. Next fall she is planning to attend Iowa State, majoring in Animal Science. Jalen shared her thoughts on joining the Coop, "I am so excited to be working for Pro Coop! I love the people at the Coop and the environment."





PRO'S NEW VP OF OPERATIONS: CHRIS COSGROVE

We are pleased to announce that Chris Cosgrove is the new Vice President of Operations for Pro Cooperative! Chris oversees the business operations, maintenance, quality control, and safety of the different locations of the Coop.

Chris began his agricultural career working for Cargill as an Assistant Plant Manager in various facilities across the US. In addition, Chris has also worked for Perdue Poultry in Petaluma, California as Mill Operations Manager and has held the titles of Feed Quality Director and Operations Manager. For the last three years, he has served as Plant Manager for NEW Cooperative in Bode, IA. Chris shares, "I am so humbled to work for Pro Cooperative! I enjoy the leadership team across all the locations; they truly care for their fellow employees and the members of the Coop!"

Chris's hometown is Sergeant Bluffs, Iowa. His grandparents had a farm outside of Omaha and helping on their farm is what sparked his interest in agriculture! After he graduated high school, he attended Iowa State University and graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration and Management. In Chris's free time, he loves spending time with his wife and 11-month-old daughter, Everly. Together, they enjoy boating, fishing and other outdoor activities. We are so excited to welcome Chris to the Pro Cooperative team! ~

AGRONOMY UPDATE

Too many wind turbines in your area? Looking for grower-proven yield benefits from late-season fungicide applications?



Aerial applications may cover ground faster, but ground applicators do a more consistent application. Pro Cooperative's ground driven Hagie's have guaranteed coverage tip to tip! The combination of improved efficacy and higher volume output might be enough in themselves to drive more acres to ground application with Pro Cooperative's Hagie applicators!

Reach out to your local PRO Sales Agronomist for more details!

ENERGY UPDATE

SUMMER FILL PROGRAM JULY 1-AUGUST 31, 2020

Don't forget to get your farm diesel tanks filled before harvest! If you place an order between July 1 and Aug 31, we are invoicing the fuel at cash price on the day of the order with delayed payments until Oct 20, 2020 . For an additional \$0.03 discount per gallon, be sure to pay for your product within 7 days of delivery. *

ETHANOL

**RUBY
FIELDMASTER™**
PREMIUM AG DIESEL FUEL

*Must have an account set up at one of our locations and maintain an open account status



Products we offer for the summer fill program:

- Ruby Fieldmaster
- #2 Dyed Diesel
- Soy Bio Diesel
- Propane

FEED UPDATE

Pro Coop continues to expand its feed presence in Northwest Iowa and would like the opportunity to help meet your feed needs! We have over 40 years of combined sales experience and serve the swine, beef, and retail markets. Pro Cooperative will grind your livestock feed the way you want it and we can order all brands. To feed livestock across the region, we have two feed mills including the Rolfe location and our new facility in Ayrshire! Reach out to your local Pro Cooperative location for more information!



GRAIN UPDATE



A Quick June Grain Market Report

The June production report has come and gone and with it the markets have taken on a bullish posture. Corn acres fell from 96.9 million to 92 million in an unprecedented acreage cut, and beans acres were cut ~300k from March. This should allow for short term opportunities to sell rallies, and the market should still be mindful of a still bloated balance sheet. Please call your local Pro Cooperative grain buyer for more market details and to structure your marketing plan!

AFA ANNOUNCES RECIPIENTS



Betty Strohman: Recipient of an AFA Scholarship - "I hope to gain new relationships with other AFA attendees while continuing to develop my leadership skills in the agricultural community"



Calvin Carlson: Recipient of an AFA Scholarship - "The AFA Leadership Conference will give me the opportunity expand upon my network which will serve me well as I work towards a professional career."

Every year, over 800 students from around the USA annually attends the Agriculture Future of America (AFA) Conference in Kansas City, MO. The AFA program provides high school and undergraduate leaders the opportunity to attend this personal and professional conference and enhance their knowledge of food and agriculture. Pro Cooperative sponsored scholarships that were awarded to Betty, Calvin, Alli and Christopher. These scholarships provide the funds for their trip to the conference and/or a scholarship. If members of the community are interested in supporting a 2021 scholarship, please visit agfuture.org for more information.

"So Thank A Farmer"

Pro Cooperative is pictured donating a basket to the "So Thank A Farmer" event. By nominating a farmer, the person who nominated the farmer is entered into a drawing for a chance to win a Green Mountain Smoker along with other gifts. On July 4th, the Ruthvan Meat Processing Locker will be doing a 'Facebook Live' event on their Facebook page to announce the winners of the smokers in addition to our basket we donated.

Thank you, farmers!



PRO HELPS THE COMMUNITIES



In partnership with Land O' Lakes, Pro Cooperative matched funds with the Rolfe Fire Department earlier this year. Pictured from left to right: Roger Peters, Fire Department Captian - Glenn Munson, Fire Department Chief - Bill Kemna Assistant Fire Chief - Denny Trenary.

In May of 2020, Pro Cooperative partnered with Land O' Lakes to assist with funds for the Wallingford Fire and Rescue. Pro Cooperative's Wallingford Location Manager, Chuck Tostenson, is pictured here presenting a check to Jarrod Fisher, Chief of the Wallingford Fire Department.



NEW PPE POLICY FOR PRO EMPLOYEES



We are taking a more PROactive approach to ensure we mitigate the risks and hazards at every Pro Cooperative location and making safety our top priority. The purpose of the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Policy is to protect employees from exposure to workplace hazards. Effective June 22nd, hard hats, safety glasses, and high visibility vests or clothing will be worn anywhere outside of the location office or control rooms, which includes the grounds of the elevators and inside the feed mills by all employees. We are making smart decisions to boost production while reducing risks at all our locations.



PO BOX 189
17 3rd AVE NE
POCAHONTAS, IA 50574



LOCATIONS

Ayrshire	515-884-8410	Laurens	515-890-5460	Rolfe	515-890-5430
Bradgate	515-375-6523	Manson	515-890-5409	Rolfe Heartland ..	515-890-5473
Estherville	712-362-3857	Milford	712-338-2223	Rolfe TBA	515-890-5463
Gilmore City	515-373-6174	Pioneer	515-373-6513	Ruthven	515-884-8430
Gilmore City TBA..	515-373-6174	Pocahontas	712-335-3575	Rutland	515-332-1491
Graettinger	515-884-8298	Pocahontas HQ ..	712-335-3060	Terril	515-884-8452
Havelock	515-890-5402	Pocahontas TBA ..	712-335-3611	Wallingford	515-884-8462
		Plover	515-890-5420		