KALP Class X Begins

Will Snell and Steve Isaacs, Co-directors of the Kentucky Agricultural Leadership Program are pleased to announce the selection of the twenty-two members of Class X.

The class is representative of Kentucky agriculture and, like Class IX, will include two Tennesseans thanks to the financial support of interests in that state. Geographically, the class has eight Western, eight Central, and four Eastern Kentucky members.

Vocationally, there are large grain and tobacco farmers, small livestock farmers, equine managers, agribusiness owners, and educators. Class X has eleven full-time and seven part-time farmers.

Class X’s members range in age from early twenties to early forties, and there are a record number of female participants – eight. Complete list page 2.

Class X kicked off in October with an introductory seminar in Lexington. The first afternoon and evening was devoted to getting acquainted with KALP and each other. Greetings, congratulations, and challenges were issued by Roger Thomas, GOAP; Larry Jones, former PM and KALP director; and program alumni Angela Blank (VIII), Andi Branstetter (IX), Adam Andrews (VII), and Danny McKinney (I).
**Alumni Updates**

Bill McCloskey (Class VI) was awarded the Jane Longley-Cook Volunteer Service Award at the National Ag Alumni Development Association meeting in June 2012.

Brian Lacefield (Class IX) is now the General Manager of Financial Services with Commonwealth Agri Finance, LLC.

Quentin Tyler (Class IX) is the new Assistant Dean of the UK College of Ag’s Office for Diversity.

Farm Credit Mid-America’s 2012 directors: Kevin Cox, Donald Blankenship, Hugh Adams, Bill Patterson and John Kuegel, Jr. (Class IV).
**KALP Class X...**

In a KALP first, participants sent photos of their farms, families, and businesses to assemble a “get acquainted” slide show.

Kim Anderson Heller returned to provide a day of interactive visioning, team building, and discovering things about ourselves and each other. Dean Scott Smith, UK College of Ag dropped by at lunch with some timely comments about the “big tent” of agriculture and food systems that meshed perfectly with some of the afternoon activities.

Robert Egger of the DC Central Kitchen presented some unique insights on the end of the food system that we don’t often experience as he discussed his career of salvaging food that would otherwise be wasted and using it to provide both jobs and sustenance for those in need in our nation’s capital. Seminar 1 wrapped up with a visit to Class VII alumni Jenny Evans’ popular agritourism venue, Evan’s Orchard.

Class X is off and running. They engaged with each other quickly and are already discussing the production of a reality TV show. Stay tuned for great things from Class X.

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**Alumni Directors**

- **Class I**
  - Hoppy Henton
- **Class II**
  - Alec Russell
- **Class III**
  - Alvin Lyons
- **Class IV**
  - Mark Roberts
- **Class V**
  - Dale Cinnamon
- **Class VI**
  - Bud Blair
- **Class VII**
  - Adam Andrews
- **Class VIII**
  - Brennan Gilkison
- **Class IX**
  - Andi Branstetter

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**A few final notes**

**Thanks!**

A special thanks to each of you for your nominations and letters of support. We had 70 nominations for Class X and ended up interviewing 40 very strong individuals.

The selection committee consisted of Larry Jones, former PM/KALP program director; Laurie Rinker, EKU professor and member of our advisory board; Anthony Koch, KALP alumni; Angela Blank, representing the Governor’s Office of Ag Policy and KALP alumni, and Jill Mahan, KALP alumni. With such a strong applicant pool, the selection committee faced a tremendous challenge in narrowing the class to fill our 22 spots.

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**An Invitation**

As President of the KALP/PM Ag Leadership Alumni Association, I would like to invite you to a reception on Tuesday, December 11 honoring Class X. Stay tuned for more details. We are offering alumni a chance to provide sponsorship for the event. If you would like to be a sponsor for the reception please contact me at adam@kycorn.org.

- Adam Andrews

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**Tis the Season for KALP Giving**

If you want to mail a gift or a pledge to the KALP Endowment, send it to:

**UK College of Ag**
**ES Good Barn**
**1451 University Drive**
**Lexington, KY 20546**

For online giving visit:
giveto.uky.eduAG_p/ag.htm

Be sure to write your check to the University of Kentucky and indicate KALP in the memo line.