

# of Renville County



**Mission Statement:** *To support and enhance the viability of agriculture and rural communities through education, cooperation, and communication in the area of production, processing and marketing.*

**Board Members / Area**

- Becky Bruns**  
Poultry
- Jon Butler**  
F&M Bank Minnesota
- Mike Filzen**  
Coop Country Farmers Elevator
- Dick Hagen**  
Farm Bureau
- Pat Halbe**  
United FCS
- Susie Lang** - Secretary  
Renville County HRA/EDA
- Joel Mathiowetz** - Chair  
Corn Capital Innovations
- Keith McNamara**  
SMSBC
- Brad Nere**  
Horizon Farms, Inc.
- Gregg Riley** - Treasure  
Monsanto
- David Scheibel**  
Minnesota West Ag Services
- Doug Toreen**  
Corn & Soybean Growers

## **YOU ARE INVITED TO ProAg of Renville County Annual Meeting**

**February 25th, 2013**

Max's Bar & Grill, Olivia

- ◆ **6:00pm Arrival/Social**, drinks on your own
- ◆ **6:30pm Meal**,  
Free to ProAg members, \$20 non-members
- ◆ **7:05pm Annual Meeting**
- ◆ **7:30pm Speakers**;  
Steve Prokosch, Paul Simonsen, Doug Toreen  
- MN Soybean "See for yourself" tour to China

**RSVP with form below**

**Save the Date:**  
March 18th, 2013

**ALL Ag Banquet**  
Island Ballroom,

5:30 Social  
6:30 Dinner  
7:30 Entertainment  
Silent/Live Auction

*If you would like to donate an item for the auction on the 18th feel free to bring on Feb. 25th or drop off at United FCS, Olivia. 100% of proceeds go back into community.*

### **Why be a member of Proag?**

- ◆ **To support the mission of education, cooperation, and communications of agriculture**
- ◆ **To be invited to the annual ProAg bus tour**
- ◆ **To support the educational opportunities ProAg offers**
  - ◆ **AFA Scholarships**
  - ◆ **County Scholarships**
  - ◆ **Harvest Tours**
  - ◆ **Educational Seminars**



**Please return to ProAg at 508 Gales Dr., Redwood Falls, MN 56283 by February 18, 2013**  
**Or call at 507-829-5634 (Gregg Riley) or gregg.t.riley@monsanto.com**

- ~ Yes I would like to renew my ProAg annual membership of \$50 Individual/\$100 Business, check enclosed.
- ~ Yes I plan to attend the Annual meeting February 25th. **Members - free, non-members \$20.**
- ~ Yes I would like to attend future ProAg tours; please contact me at the email below.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Agriculture Future of America Scholarship (AFA)**

Renville County was well represented at the Agriculture Future of America, AFA, annual Leaders conference held in Kansas City, MO this past November. The two scholar winner's mentioned below and returning to attend additional tracks were Taylor Anderson, Ellen Nere, and Brady Meyers. ProAg along with Corn & Soybean growers, Dairy producers and Farm Bureau collectively sponsored 1 & ½ scholarships and then matched by AFA. The scholarship is \$3,200 to the student's school and \$1,000 to attend the AFA Leaders conference. This past year the committee selected Mark Senkyr from Cedar Mountain and currently at SMSU and Cody Groen from Renville County West and currently at St. John's.

### **Comments from 2010 AFA Scholar Winners;**

I wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed the Leadership Conference this past week. I was unsure of what to expect going into it, but once I attended the first night of sessions, I knew I'd be coming back again next year, regardless. I couldn't believe how everyone from AFA treated me and those around me. They truly cared if we were to succeed or not. I was told many times that the workers there are a resource for me, and I could contact them any time and ask any questions. The conference schedule was run very efficient, and they were able to give us many more sessions than I thought possible (which can be a good and a bad thing, I'm still trying to get caught up on sleep!) But with how much I learned about the agricultural business and the amount of friends I made in those long hours, I feel that it was definitely worth my time to go. In closing I would like to thank you once more for making me aware and giving me this incredible opportunity.

Best Wishes, **Cody Groen**

**Mark Senkyr** had the following to share when he returned from the AFA Leaders Conference:

My time at the AFA conference in Kansas City was probably one busiest weekends I've had in a long time. Every minute was booked from Thursday afternoon to Sunday afternoon. During this time, I learned about different parts of Agriculture, not just the production side of it which I am accustomed to. At the different sessions, my instructors covered everything from dining etiquette to changing public perception of agriculture. I got instruction on developing my resume and making a good impression at job interviews. After that, I had the opportunity to attend an opportunity fair and meet with representatives with some of the biggest agriculture companies like Monsanto, Syngenta, and John Deere about internships and possible career opportunities. I got to meet people from different states and it was neat to hear about how farming is done in different parts of the United States. All in all, it was a great experience. I am glad I had the opportunity to attend and would like to say thanks to all the people who donated to make this possible.