



NGFA's 118th Annual Convention Hilton Head, S.C. March 30 - April 1, 2014

“A Tradition of Community...A Future of Growth”

Native Americans, English, Spanish, and French colonists, pirates, African-Americans, and soldiers – all part of Hilton Head Island history – have left their footprints on the sands of South Carolina's Treasured Coast. Despite development, much of the Island remains as it was when sighted from William Hilton's ship more than 300 years ago. Hilton Head Island's spectacular seascapes, exceptional ecology and historical sites now beckon a new generation of explorers.

Convention kicks off Sunday, March 30 with a day of open NGFA committee meetings and forums. On Tuesday, April 1, we wrap up with our gala beach party. In between, you can count on a program featuring top policymakers and outstanding general sessions exploring the most important issues facing the industry in the year ahead. The convention's program sessions will provide the information you need to operate and strategically position your business for success. And don't forget social events like the Foundation Golf Tournament and several island tours for a bit of fun while you're here.

The NGFA convention also is an ideal opportunity for you and your colleagues to interact and exchange ideas. Schedule a side meeting with suppliers, customers or clients. Develop new business opportunities with other convention attendees. Reward key employees and give them the opportunity for professional development. See old friends and make new acquaintances. All in a great location with plenty of attractions for all.

Invest in your business and your professional success – and reward yourself for a successful year of hard work and for making it through a harsh winter. Register today for the NGFA's 118th annual convention!

When to Arrive and Depart

A detailed convention “Schedule-At-A-Glance” appears on page 2. Here are suggested arrival and departure dates for your travel planning purposes:

Suggested Arrival Date:

Saturday, March 29 or Sunday morning, March 30

On Sunday, beginning at 1 p.m., NGFA committees will conduct substantive work sessions and open forums, most of which are open to all convention registrants. Committee meetings and major open forums continue until 5:15 p.m. There's no better way to get current on the most important issues confronting your business, and to share your views on how NGFA committees should address these matters.

Suggested Departure Date:

On or After Wednesday, April 2

Plan to stay for the Gala on Tuesday evening, held in the Westin Hilton Head's grand beachfront patio. This event will be a night adjusting of our attitudes to a more Southern island latitude - bare feet encouraged! A fantastic live band, sumptuous low-country dinner, and the surf & sand will set the mood for an evening you don't want to miss!

Westin Hilton Head Resort

Fresh off a \$30 million renovation, this 416-room beachfront resort has been transformed to indulge its guests with the latest Westin signature touches that will delight all. Nourish your soul on its sandy beaches and challenge your spirit at its Port Royal Golf & Tennis Club. And don't forget to bring the family, as Parents Magazine recently ranked Hilton Head Island the #1 Beach Town for Families in the United States!



Hotel Alert!

We have sold out of our block of rooms at the Westin Hilton Head; *a room block has been reserved at the Omni Hilton Head Oceanfront Resort – more information is available on our website, www.ngfa.org. If you have difficulty obtaining a room, please contact Rebecca Grubbs, NGFA Director of Meetings & Event Marketing, at rgrubbs@ngfa.org, or by calling her at 202-289-0873. Let Rebecca know if you would like to be placed on a wait list for the Westin Hilton Head and notified if rooms become available. If plans change and you are unable to use your room at Westin Hilton Head, please notify Rebecca before cancelling; other NGFA members may be able to use your room.*

Convention Schedule At-A-Glance

Sunday, March 30

- 8:30 – 9:15 a.m. Foundation Trustee Meeting (*closed*)
- 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Executive Committee (*closed*)
- 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Committee Apprentice Meeting
- 1 – 3 p.m. **Committee Meetings** (*Open to all unless otherwise noted.*)
- Country Elevator Committee
 - Grain Grades and Weights Committee
 - International Trade/Agricultural Policy Committee
 - Rail Shipper/Receiver Committee (*closed*)
 - Trade Rules Committee
- 3:15 – 5:15 p.m.
- Joint Meeting
 - Biofuels and Co-Products Committee
 - Feed Legislative/Regulatory Affairs Committee
 - Feed Manufacturing & Technology Committee
 - Risk Management & Finance and Admin. Committees
- 3:15 – 5:30 p.m.
- Transportation Open Forum
- 5:30 – 6 p.m. New Member/First Time Attendee Reception
- 6 – 7:30 p.m. CoBank Welcome Reception and Grain and Feed PAC Silent Auction

Monday, March 31

- 7 – 8 a.m. Grain and Feed PAC Coffee
- 7 – 8 a.m.
- Rail Arbitration Rules Committee
- 8 – 9:30 a.m. Grand Opening General Session Plated Breakfast

- 9:50 – 11:30 a.m. General Session
- 9 – 11:30 a.m. Spouse/Guest Breakfast & Program
- 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. • NAEGA/NGFA Joint Biotechnology Committee
- 11:45 a.m. – 6 p.m. NGFF Classic Golf Tournament
Oyster Reef Golf Club
- 12:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. • NAEGA/NGFA Joint Grain Grades and Weights Committee
- 1 – 5 p.m. Daufuskie Island History and Artisan Tour
(*RSVP and separate fee required*)
- 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Reception (*Hosted by Bunge North America Inc.*)
- Evening: Open for Private Receptions and Dinners

Tuesday, April 1

- 6:30 – 8 a.m. Idea-Exchange Continental Breakfast
- 7 – 8 a.m.
- Arbitration Appeals Panel (*closed*)
 - Membership and Marketing Committee
 - Waterborne Commerce Committee
- 8 – 11:45 a.m. General Session
- Noon – 4 p.m. Board of Directors Lunch/Meeting (*closed*)
- 1 – 5 p.m. Tours (*RSVP and separate fee required*)
- May River Boat Cruise and Bluffton Oyster Experience
 - Tour of Parris Island Marine Recruit Depot
- 4 – 4:30 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting (*closed*)
- 6 – 10 p.m. Gala Banquet & Entertainment

Convention Program Highlights

Sunday, March 30

The **Transportation Forum** annually delivers an important opportunity for shippers/receivers and their transportation providers to discuss infrastructure, service and policy issues. This year, **Jack Hellman** (*confirmed*), president and CEO, Genesee & Wyoming Inc., has agreed to share his vision for his company's fast-growing agricultural business and the rail sector. **Mike Toohey** (*confirmed*), president and CEO,



JOHN HELLMAN



MIKE TOOHEY

Waterways Council Inc., will present on the policy environment and funding needs for the inland waterways system. And **John Miller** (*confirmed*), vice president, ag products, BNSF



JOHN MILLER

Railway, will discuss infrastructure investments and service challenges facing rail carriers.

Monday, March 31

Opening General Session



HON. BOB GIBBS

Rep. Bob Gibbs (*confirmed*), R-Ohio, has been invited to deliver the keynote address on Monday morning. A second-term member of the House, Gibbs serves on the Agriculture Committee and has been a key ally of the NGFA, especially regarding the structure of commodity programs in the recently completed Farm Bill. Gibbs will discuss the challenges facing Congress in today's volatile and fragmented political environment and upcoming legislative priorities.

Perhaps no subject presents as much promise or as many challenges as biotechnology. **Howard Minigh** (*confirmed*), president and CEO of CropLife International, will present a major address on the enhancements to agricultural productivity today and looking forward – and on the mutual challenges faced by biotech developers and the grain handling/processing industry concerning marketing and regulatory issues around the globe.



HOWARD MINIGH

Monday, March 31 (Cont'd)



MARC FREEDMAN

Marc Freedman (*confirmed*), executive director, Labor Law Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Washington D.C. – As a leading voice for business at the U.S. Chamber, Freedman will address **“Regulatory Overreach – Meeting the Challenge!”** Using examples relevant to the grain, feed and processing industry, Freedman will discuss the burdens imposed on business by federal government over-regulation.



DAVE HOOGMOED

NGFA Chairman’s Address – Dave Hoogmoed (*confirmed*), executive vice president of Land O’Lakes/Purina Animal Nutrition, will present the traditional Chairman’s Address as his two-year term of office comes to an end. Hoogmoed will discuss macro-trends in the industry and how NGFA’s policy efforts -- from biotech to transportation, from food safety to ag policy -- support the industry’s economic prospects.

Tuesday, April 1

General Session

Acting CFTC chairman **Mark Wetjen** (*invited*) and **Bryan Durkin** (*invited*), chief operating officer of the CME Group, will present a unique “Fireside Chat.” Wetjen leads the Commodity Futures Trading



BRYAN DURKIN

Commission at a critically important point in its role as regulatory watchdog of the futures industry. How will the Commission relate to industry and new market challenges, and what challenges face the CFTC? With years of experience and relationships among ag customers, Durkin is ideally positioned to address how marketplace and regulatory

landscapes have shifted and how exchanges and customers will be affected.



MARK WETJEN



RANDY SPRONK

Randy Spronk (*confirmed*), president of the National Pork Producers Council; and the perspective of an conservation organization working with U.S. agriculture on sustainable practices, presented by **Sean McMahon** (*confirmed*) of The Nature Conservancy.



STEVE PETERSON



SEAN MCMAHON

Spouse Program and Family Activities

We hope that you plan to bring your spouse, children, and other guests to Hilton Head Island and have put together a schedule of events to keep everyone active and entertained. Use the enclosed registration form to sign up for:

Special Spouse/Guest Event: A special event awaits spouse/guest registrants! A decadant sit-down breakfast will be served on Monday, March 31 (not too early!) followed by instructions and materials to make your own low-country sea grass basket. *[Cost included in Spouse/Guest registration fee.]*

Parris Island Marine Recruit Depot Tour: Under the watchful eyes of drill instructors, some 20,000 men and 2,000 women complete their training at Parris Island each year. Highlights of the visit will be the Iwo Jima Monument, Parade Field, and the Marine Museum, one of the top 20 visitor attractions in South Carolina. *Last day to register March 7. [Additional fee; see registration form.]*

Daufuskie Island History and Artisan Tour: Participants will cruise down Broad Creek, through the backwater marshes, and across the Calibogue Sound to Daufuskie. Along the

way, you will have the opportunity to stop and observe wildlife and historic points including the First Union African Baptist Church, the Praise House, the Mary Field’s School where author Pat Conroy taught, the site of the Bloody Point Lighthouse, and several artisan’s studios. *Last day to register March 15. [Additional fee; see registration form.]*

River Boat Cruise and Bluffton Shopping, Gallery & Oyster Experience: Spend a few leisurely hours relaxing on a cruise along the scenic May River with a visit to the quaint and historic town of Bluffton, S.C. From the dock at the base of Calhoun Street, stroll the lazy streets dotted with 19th century homes and visit the antebellum Church of the Cross. Visit quaint shops and Low country art galleries along the way. A highlight of the trip will be a visit to the Bluffton Oyster Company. *Last day to register March 15. [Additional fee; see registration form.]*

Oyster Reef Golf Club – Foundation Tournament

Oyster Reef Golf Club, originally opened in 1982, proudly features an award winning 18-hole championship course. This Rees Jones design has been voted one of the Top 20 courses in the Carolinas and was most recently awarded Low Country Golf Course Owners Association "2006 Golf Club of the Year." Oyster Reef Golf Club has also been named as one of the "Top 75 U.S. Golf Resorts" by Golf Digest and was named as the favorite course of Hilton Head Island golfers by The Island Packet.

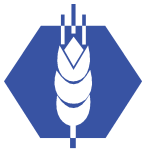
Registration for the NGFF Classic is limited to the first 144 players, so register to play today. Players will be given the opportunity to assemble playing groups as the event nears. The cost is \$175; of that amount, \$70 represents a tax-deductible contribution to support the Foundation's



research and education mission. The entry fee includes bus transportation, a deli box lunch at the course, greens fees, carts and all contests. Once again, NGFA-member sponsors will provide fabulous prizes to the low-scoring foursome, longest-drive winner, closest-to-the-pin winner, longest putt winner, and hole-in-one on a designated hole. Rental clubs are available for \$50.

Become a Convention Sponsor!

Generous NGFA-member sponsors help keep registration fees reasonable and support high-quality programming. Sponsoring our Annual Convention offers you the opportunity to promote your organization in a well-targeted manner while also contributing to NGFA, our members and our mission. For information please contact Rebecca Grubbs, NGFA Director of Meetings & Event Marketing, at rgrubbs@ngfa.org, or by calling her at 202-289-0873.



National Grain and Feed Association
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