



NGFA's 116th Annual Convention Charleston, S.C. March 18-20, 2012

Nothing could be finer than to be in Charleston, South Carolina at NGFA's 116th Annual Convention!

Morning, noon and night, Charleston is a world-class destination full of historic homes, American history, lowcountry cuisine, and genteel Southern hospitality. Golfers will rave about the Atlantic views from the greens, while others will soak up the mild spring weather on a carriage ride down cobblestoned streets or enjoy the scent of a freshly shucked oyster.

The NGFA convention also offers a star-studded program, featuring top policymakers, substantive open forums 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.

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 family 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 116th annual convention!

Charleston Place Hotel

It's been several years since we've visited the Charleston Place Hotel. For those who weren't with us in 2006, you are in for a treat! Located at the very heart of downtown Charleston, the Charleston Place Hotel is widely regarded as Charleston's finest accommodations. Once on-site, you can relax at the rooftop pool, dine in one of their three restaurants including the award-winning Charleston Grill, or enjoy shopping at exclusive boutiques. Additionally, The Spa at Charleston Place was recently named one of the top hotel spas by Conde Nast Traveler Magazine. Charleston Place's prime downtown location makes it possible to easily enjoy all that the city has to offer, it's all just steps from your front door.

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 17 or Sunday morning, March 18

On Sunday, beginning at 12:30 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, March 21

Plan to stay for the Gala Reception Tuesday evening, held at Charleston's Gibbes Museum of Art. Located two short blocks from the Charleston Place Hotel, the Gibbes Museum of Art and its tree-shaded courtyard will be the perfect setting for our lavish Lowcountry feast under the stars. Dancing and dining under the magnolias on a sweet southern night – what could be better?!



Hotel Alert!

We anticipate selling out of our block of rooms at the Charleston Place Hotel and encourage everyone to book their accommodations as soon as possible. Room blocks have been reserved at several back up hotels in the event we sell out of rooms at the Charleston Place Hotel – more information will be made available when necessary. If you have difficulty obtaining a room, please contact Rebecca Grubbs, NGFA Manager 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 Charleston Place Hotel and notified if rooms become available. If plans change and you are unable to use your room at Charleston Place, please notify Rebecca before cancelling; other NGFA members may be able to use your room.

Convention Schedule At-A-Glance

Sunday, March 18

10 a.m. – Noon	Executive Committee (<i>closed</i>)
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	Committee Meetings (<i>Open to all unless otherwise noted.</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country Elevator Committee
1 – 3 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trade Rules Committee Trade/Agricultural Policy Committee Finance and Administration Committee Rail Shipper/Receiver Committee (<i>closed</i>)
1:30 – 3:15 p.m.	Workshop on Grain/Feed/Processing Industry Compliance with Food Safety Modernization Act
3:30 – 5:15 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biotechnology Committee Biofuels and Co-Products Committee Feed Legislative/Regulatory Affairs Committee Feed Manufacturing & Technology Committee Risk Management Committee
3:30 – 5:15 p.m.	Rail Open Forum (<i>Hosted by Rail Shipper/Receiver Committee</i>)
5:30 – 6 p.m.	New Member/First Time Attendee Reception
6 – 7:30 p.m.	CoBank Welcome Reception

Monday, March 19

6:30 – 8 a.m.	Idea-Exchange Continental Breakfast
7 – 8 a.m.	PAC Breakfast

7 – 8 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rail Arbitration Rules Committee
8:15 – 11:30 a.m.	Grand Opening General Session
9 – 11:30 a.m.	Spouse Breakfast & Activity
11:45 a.m. – 6 p.m.	NGFF Classic Golf Tournament Patriots Point Links on Charleston Harbor
1 – 5 p.m.	Boone Hall Plantation Tour (<i>RSVP and separate fee required</i>)
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.	Reception (<i>Hosted by Bunge North America Inc.</i>)
Evening:	Open for Private Receptions and Dinners

Tuesday, March 20

6:30 – 8 a.m.	Idea-Exchange Continental Breakfast
7 – 8 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arbitration Appeals Panel (<i>closed</i>) Agroterrorism/Facility Security Committee Membership & Marketing Committee Waterborne Commerce Committee
8:15 a.m. – Noon	General Session
Noon – 1 p.m.	Grain and Feed PAC Committee
Noon – 3:30 p.m.	Board of Directors Lunch/Meeting (<i>closed</i>)
1 – 5 p.m.	Tours (<i>RSVP and separate fee required</i>) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fort Sumter Charleston Carriage Ride
3:30 – 4 p.m.	Executive Committee Meeting (<i>closed</i>)
6:30 – 10 p.m.	Gala Banquet & Entertainment at the Gibbes Museum of Art

Convention Program Highlights

Sunday, March 18

On Sun. afternoon, two important Open Forums will be conducted on major issues. The first, scheduled for 1:30 – 3:00 p.m., will focus on **“Complying with the Food Safety Modernization Act.”** Confirmed presenters **Matt Frederking**, Director, Regulatory Affairs and Quality Assurance, Ralco Nutrition, Marshall, Minn., and **Dave Fairfield**, Director of Feed Services, National Grain and Feed Association, Atlantic, Iowa, will provide an insightful primer into requirements of this sweeping new law for grain handlers, feed manufacturers, processors and other firms.

As always, the NGFA convention is a crucible for development and discussion of U.S. rail policy. A second Open Forum scheduled from 3:30 – 5:15 p.m. will examine “Rail Issues for 2012.” Presenters will discuss policy and regulatory issues comprising the **“STB’s Agenda for 2012,”** and will also look at **“Impacts of the Domestic Energy Situation on Rail and Truck Demand.”**

Monday, March 19

Opening General Session



HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

The Honorable **Debbie Stabenow** (*confirmed*), D-Mich., chairs the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry. In her second term representing Michigan, Stabenow will play a critically important role in writing a new Farm Bill this year. The NGFA enjoys a close relationship with Sen. Stabenow and anticipates working closely with her and her staff on Conservation Reserve Program reforms and other policy matters.

James R. Young (*confirmed*), chairman, president and CEO of the Union Pacific Railroad Co., Omaha, Neb., will present a major address on the issues and economics facing rail carriers and their agricultural shipper/receiver customers, including the important business partnership between rail carriers and their customers and how resolving issues together will impact industry economics in the future.



JAMES YOUNG

Monday, March 19 (Cont'd)

Well known and respected in agricultural and agribusiness circles, **Terry Barr** (*confirmed*), director, Knowledge Exchange Group, CoBank, will present an executive-level briefing on the **"Economic Outlook for 2012."** Tensions in the Middle East, uncertainty in Europe, the U.S. housing market and unemployment situation – all these and more contribute to a potentially volatile economic mix. Barr will help sort through the economic factors that will be drivers in the coming year.



TERRY BARR

give convention participants an executive-level report on matters that will shape the industry through 2012 and beyond.

Michael Taylor (*confirmed*), deputy commissioner for foods, U.S. Food and Drug Administration, is a focal figure in the U.S. government's development and enforcement of food and feed safety policy. Taylor has been invited to share with the NGFA his views on the application of new federal requirements and how they will affect the grain, feed and processing industry.



MICHAEL TAYLOR



MARC FREEDMAN

Marc Freedman (*confirmed*), executive director, Labor Law Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Washington D.C. – As a former Senate committee staffer and now 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.



HAL REED

Hal Reed (*confirmed*), chairman, National Grain and Feed Association – Hal Reed will deliver the traditional NGFA chairman's address to assembled attendees. In his valedictory appearance after two years leading the Association, Reed will review major accomplishments and present a dynamic view of NGFA priorities and challenges ahead.

Tuesday, March 20

General Session

Industry Keynote Address – Each year, a notable leader from industry is invited to present a keynote speech examining the state of the industry and critical issues that will be faced in the coming year. This year's speaker, **Soren W. Schroder** (*confirmed*), president and chief executive officer, Bunge North America Inc., will



SOREN SCHRODER

"Mitigating Safety and Health Risks in 2012 – A Management Perspective"

– **Eric Conn** (*confirmed*), Head of OSHA Practice, Epstein Becker Green, Washington, D.C. – As a former high-level OSHA appointee, Conn has an insider's knowledge of how the agency works and its current appetite for stricter regulation. The grain-handling industry has been targeted by OSHA for enhanced levels of inspections.

Conn will advise on what senior managers need to know and do to put in place a robust safety and health program and manage regulatory challenges.



ERIC CONN

Spouse Program and Family Activities

Bring your spouse, children, and other guests to Charleston! Use the enclosed registration form to sign up for:

Special Spouse/Guest Event: As always, a special event awaits spouse/guest registrants! A sumptuous sit-down breakfast will be served on Monday morning, March 19 (not too early!) followed by a champagne tasting led by the hotel's sommelier. *[Cost included in Spouse/Guest registration fee.]*

Boone Hall Plantation Tour: Take a comprehensive guided tour of Boone Hall Plantation, one of the oldest in Charleston. Led by a well informed guide in historical dress, the tour will highlight the elegant Plantation Home as well as its spectacular gardens, including such highlights as the antique rose bushes and the Butterfly Pavilion. We will also visit the exciting new exhibit, "Black History In America," which highlights slaves' daily lives, how they worked and lived, and the struggles they faced. *[Additional fee; see registration form.]*

Ft. Sumter & Citadel Tour: A National Monument and the site of the Civil War's first shots, Fort Sumter features an excellent museum containing priceless Civil War exhibits. Accessible only by boat, this tour includes a cruise around Charleston's historic harbor with views of the Atlantic Ocean and entrance to Charleston Harbor. On the way back to the hotel, we'll take a driving tour of The Citadel, the premiere military academy of South Carolina. *[Additional fee; see registration form.]*

Carriage Ride through Charleston: Take a private tour of Charleston's Historic District in a horsedrawn carriage and see many of the "Port City's" major landmarks from a more intimate vantage point. During the carriage ride your guide will regale you with Charleston folklore and "insiders' " stories. *[Additional fee; see registration form.]*

Patriots Point Links

...Golf with a Harbor View...

Situated on the edge of Charleston Harbor and offering spectacular views of the city, Fort Sumter, and ships arriving from all over the world, Patriots Point has been for years a favorite place to play for local Charleston golfers and resort guests. Players of all skill levels will enjoy this Willard Byrd designed links course, located in Mount Pleasant at the foot of the Cooper River bridge and just five minutes from downtown. Enjoy the perennially awarded "Best Par-3 in the Lowcountry" 17th hole, an island green poised in Charleston Harbor with sweeping vistas of Fort Sumter, Shem Creek and the historic downtown skyline.



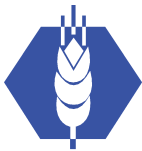
Registration for the NGFF Classic is limited to the first 144 players, so register to play today. Players will be given the opportunity to assemble playing groups as the event nears. The cost is \$150; of that amount, \$82 represents a tax-deductible contribution to the Foundation. The entry fee includes bus transporta-

tion, 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. Patriots Point is a spikeless facility; no metal spikes allowed.

Closing Gala and Entertainment

"Twilight Under the Magnolias"

Bring the whole family to the convention's signature closing event! This year, the banquet will be held at the Gibbes Museum of Art, the city's preeminent museum dedicated to the art of Charleston and the American South. Enjoy a fun-filled party featuring a festive Lowcountry dinner and special entertainment that will be fun for all ages – all hosted in the museum's magnolia tree-lined courtyard! Don't miss it!



National Grain and Feed Association
1250 Eye St., N.W., Suite 1003
Washington, D.C. 20005



Sponsor of the CoBank
Welcome Reception
"Platinum" Sponsor



Sponsor of the NGFA Board of
Directors Lunch
"Platinum" Sponsor



REGISTRATION FORM

NGFA's® 116th Annual Convention

March 18-20, 2012
Charleston Place Hotel
Charleston, SC



Please type or legibly print all information. One person or family per form, please; duplicate this form for additional registrants. Return by fax to (202) 289-5388 or by mail to: 1250 Eye St., NW, Suite 1003, Washington, DC 20005. Confirmations will be mailed to registrants.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS: Call the Charleston Place Hotel reservation line at (800) 831-3490 to reserve a room, or via email at groupres@charlestonplace.com. Identify with National Grain and Feed Association to obtain special room rates of \$239. **Room block cut-off date is Feb. 17.** After Feb. 17, the hotel will accept reservations based on availability at the NGFA group rate. **If you have difficulty obtaining a room, contact Rebecca Grubbs at NGFA by calling (202) 289-0873.**

REGISTRANT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Company: _____

Business Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Business Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____

Email: _____

Is this the first NGFA convention you have attended?

☐ Yes

☐ No

* Included in the spouse registration fee is:

Sun., March 18: CoBank Welcome Reception

Mon., March 19: Special Spouse Breakfast and Program and Bunge Reception

Tues., March 20: Continental Breakfast and Closing Gala Banquet

Please list names of spouse, guests and children attending the convention (for name badges):

Spouse or Guest: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____

Child's Name: _____ Age: _____

☐ **Special Needs:** If you require special assistance or if you have specific dietary needs **including allergies**, please check box and attach an explanation.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Registration fees will be refunded in full if cancellation notice is postmarked or faxed on or before **Feb. 17, 2012**. Cancellation notices postmarked or faxed between **Feb. 18 and March 9** will be assessed a \$75 administrative fee. No refunds will be provided to any person canceling or failing to give notice of cancellation after March 9, 2012.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

Interested in being a convention sponsor? Please contact: Todd Kemp at tkemp@ngfa.org or call (202) 289-0873.

REGISTRATION—5 EASY STEPS!

1

REGISTRATION FEE

(PLEASE CHECK APPROPRIATE FEES)

	Early Bird (by 2/17/2012)	Regular (After 2/17 but before 3/16/2012)	On-Site (After 3/16/2012)
Member:	<input type="checkbox"/> \$535	<input type="checkbox"/> \$595	<input type="checkbox"/> \$650
Spouse:	<input type="checkbox"/> \$315	<input type="checkbox"/> \$315	<input type="checkbox"/> \$315
Non-Member:	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1250

2

ADDITIONAL MEAL TICKETS

Breakfast	# Tickets	Banquet (Tuesday)	# Tickets
Mon. \$30	_____	Ages 5-10: \$70	_____
Tues. \$30	_____	Ages 11-18: \$130	_____
		Adults: \$150	_____
SUBTOTAL \$ _____			

3

FOUNDATION GOLF TOURNAMENT (Monday, March 19)

\$150 (Includes a \$82 tax deductible donation to the Foundation)

Join your friends and colleagues for the annual Foundation Golf Tournament at Patriots Point Links on Charleston Harbor.

SUBTOTAL \$ _____

4

TOURS AND ACTIVITIES

No. of
Tickets

Boone Hall Plantation - Mon 3/19 **\$62 x** _____
A professionally guided tour of the house, gardens, and slave quarters of Boone Hall Plantation, built in 1681.

Ft. Sumter & The Citadel - Tues 3/20 **\$62 x** _____
Enjoy a boat ride to Ft. Sumter in Charleston Harbor to tour the site where the Civil War began. Afterwards, take a driving tour of The Citadel, the South's oldest military college.

Charleston Carriage Ride - Tues 3/20 **\$22 x** _____
A wonderful tour of Charleston's Historic District from the unique vantage point of a horse drawn carriage.

SUBTOTAL \$ _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS

5

TOTAL \$ _____

☐ CHECK ENCLOSED

☐ American Express

☐ Master Card

☐ Visa

Account Number

Expiration Date

Print Name of Cardholder

Signature

Billing Zip Code

ADVANCE REGISTRATION PAYMENT POLICY: **Important**

– To qualify for either the Early Bird or Regular registration rates, payment must be received by the NGFA when the completed registration form is returned to the NGFA, regardless of the method of transmittal. Please provide credit card information for registration forms returned to the NGFA by fax or email. No invoices will be sent. Higher, on-site registration fees apply if either the Early Bird or Regular registration payment is not received in this manner, and will be due upon arrival.