



## Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup>

Our Saturday sessions are developed by the attendees of the last Summit. After the topics are fleshed out, we find the nation's leading experts on the topics and ask them each to prepare about 15 minutes of material, and then depend on you, the attendees, to share your experience, insights and questions; your involvement is what makes or breaks every session. If you have legislation you would like to share with the group, please let Carolyn know to add it to the resource page!

**6:30 am – 7:50 am**      **Breakfast Buffet - Salon 1**

**8:00 am**            **Welcome and Opening Plenary, Salon 2 & 3.**

*Moderator, Representative Steve Kulik, Massachusetts*

**8:15 am -8:50 am**    **Millennial Focus Group:** Listen to Middle America consumers respond to questions put together by SARL members on food, agriculture and technology. Please respect their opinions and refrain from responding to them directly. Questions will be collected on notecards.

*Allyson Perry, The Center for Food Integrity*

**8:50 – 9:45 am**    **How to sell the agriculture/rural story.** One of the nation's most influential political campaign communicator will talk to us about how to sell the rural story to today's consumer. As an audience we can discuss the focus group after they have left.

*Steve Jarding, Harvard Kennedy School*

**10:00 am -11:15 am**    **Breakout I**

A.    **Local Food Systems and State's and Provinces' Efforts to Support Entrepreneurship, Ballroom Pre-function Area.**

Do you wonder what the real role of local food systems in the state economy is? How you can put together a state wide local food system? Join the expert on what consumers buy what they buy, what that means to the local food movement and what the local food movement means to the economy and the man responsible for putting plans for a statewide sustainable food system into action in a discussion on the local food movement. Bring your ideas and questions.

*Winton Pitcoff, Executive Director, Massachusetts Food System Collaborative*

*Dawn Thilmany, Professor, Colorado State University*

*Moderator, Senator Carolyn McGinn, Kansas*

*Staff, Bob Haefner*

B.    **Affordable Rural Housing and Its Impact on the Rural Workforce, Pavilion 6.**

Affordable workforce housing is imperative to the ability of employers to keep the workers they need. Surveys in multiple states have shown that large portions of rural America do not have enough affordable, livable housing. Ensuring that rural residents can live in the communities where they work is important for the viability of those rural communities, there isn't anyone in the nation with a broader background in rural housing than the speaker in this session. Come talk about possible solutions and options at the federal, state and non-profit levels.

*David Lipsetz, Executive Director, Housing Assistance Council*

*Moderator, Annette Sweeney*

*Staff, Sarah Thorn*

C.    **State Legislation impacting Pets, Pavilion 2.**

Whether it is activists or advocates, there are an ever increasing number of laws introduced seeking to regulate pet ownership. There is an increasing issue of animal importations to meet adoption demands and a movement to change the definition of ownership. Patti Strand has spent her life tracking legislation affecting animal owners and Elizabeth Choate works for the veterinarians in one of the largest livestock states in the nation. If together they can't bring you up to date on animal legislation, no one can. What is happening in your state?

*Patti Strand, National Director, National Animal Interest Alliance*

*Elizabeth Choate, Texas Veterinary Medical Association*

*Moderator, Representative Kevin Ryan, Connecticut*

*Staff, Tara Sad*

**D. The States/Provinces; Marijuana Regulation, Successes and Failures, Pavilion 3.**

When you ask the Senate President in the state that leads the nation in marijuana firsts, who he calls with questions on marijuana policy, and he says Kristi Kelly, then that's who you get to tell other state legislators what is going on. Let's not focus on whether you think it is wrong or right, but on how states are doing it and what has worked and what doesn't work.

*Kristi Lee Kelly, Executive Director, Marijuana Industry Group*  
*Moderator, Representative Norine Hammond, Illinois*  
*Staff, Anne Roberts Brody*

**E. The Future of the Renewable Fuel Industry and the Impact of Natural Gas, Pavilion 1.**

One topic we have never discussed is natural gas, which may be the elephant in the room. Its availability not only impacts the price of every other carbon based fuel, it impacts fertilizer prices dramatically. What is the future of natural gas in North America and how does this impact the future of renewable fuels? Renewable fuels drive much of the agriculture market so where are we headed with changes in federal and state policy?

*Geoff Cooper, Executive Vice President, Renewable Fuels Association*  
*John Harpole, President, Mercator Energy*  
*Moderator, Senator Eddie Fields, Oklahoma*  
*Staff, Ben Husch, NCSL*

**11:30am -12:30 pm Lunch, Salon 1.**

*Moderator, Representative Brad Witt, Oregon*  
*John Cruickshank, Canadian Consul General, Chicago*

**12:45 – 1:30 pm Plenary 2 Trade: The Role of and Reward for States and Provinces. Salon 2 & 3**

What is the value of trade to state and provincial coffers? How do state and provincial trade efforts really work for those companies that are wanting to export?

*Peter Hall, Vice-President and Chief Economist, Export Development Canada*  
*Norm Krug, CEO, Preferred Popcorn*  
*Moderator, Representative Senator John Kuehn, Nebraska*

**1:45 – 3:00 pm Breakout II**

**A. Cyber Security, Pavilion 6.**

Cybersecurity is not just a big-city problem. In America's Heartland we are producing a valuable product that adversaries want. It is why they are and will continue targeting us. This isn't even thinking about the target you are in the statehouse! As a result of the proliferation of technology we face a changing world order in which lone hackers, organized crime syndicates and nation states are all increasingly able to harm our shared networks and our livelihoods. Few of us are prepared. Can you imagine if our rural electric, bank or health care system was compromised? Join this session to hear what Homeland Security is doing, what states and what you can do to help protect our data.

*Geoffrey F Jenista, Cyber Security Adviser, Homeland Security*  
*Moderator, Dana Brooks, Land O Lakes*

**B. Market Driven Sustainability Efforts. Pavilion 1**

You may not like the word sustainability, the term may have been co-opted, but consumers and the industry buying our products are demanding it. Dr. Rice, world renown for his work in soil health can explain how soil is crucial to protecting water quality and every aspect of environmental stewardship and sustainability. Hear about the research and farmers that are fostering a transformation in agriculture through improved soil health, bioenergy and carbon sequestration. Combine that with the woman that led Lisa Ling through Cargill and is now Vice President of the Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef in addition to her role as OSI's senior vice president of the company's McDonald's global business unit, they will convince you that sustainability in agriculture is essential, environmentally sound, socially responsible and most important economically viable.

*Charles Rice, Professor, Kansas State University*  
*Nicole Hoffman Johnson, Senior Vice President, OSI Group*  
*Moderator, Doug Jones, Idaho*  
*Staff, Anne Roberts Brody, CSG*

C. **State/Provincial Water and Environmental Efforts, Pavilion 3.**

*Between lawsuits, budget battles, hogs and corn, Iowa has all the makings of the state to lead the way in water quality issues, and it doesn't disappoint. But our speaker can talk beyond Iowa's borders about ways that states can address water quality, carrots, sticks and more. And if there is one area impacting water more than crop fertilizer, it is manure, there is no one in North America better suited to talk to you about how to store it to keep it out of the water than our NCRS presenter. So come to this session to talk with people about how to improve your state's water.*

*Mike Naig, Deputy Director, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship*

*Jeff Porter, Animal Manure Management Team Leader, USDA - NRCS*

*Moderator, Assembly member Didi Barrett, New York*

*Staff, Tara Sad*

D. **New Ideas for Rural Education, Pavilion 2.**

Rural education has to do more than urban education, with less. Beginning with the nation's expert on issues impacting rural school districts and continuing with a discussion on how to involve community college students in active apprenticeships, join this session to learn ways to revitalize your rural schools.

*Shonda Atwater, Metropolitan Community College*

*Allen Pratt, Executive Director, National Rural Education Association*

*Moderator, Representative John Patterson, Ohio*

*Staff, Bob Haefner*

E. **Challenges Facing Growing the Livestock Industry, Ballroom Pre-function Area.**

Join the nation's top odor expert, one of the best in the nation at helping corporate America address activists and changing consumer demands and a national expert in building bridges between livestock producers and consumers to learn how policy makers can help address the issues that challenge the livestock industry. We all know that odor, neighbor's perceptions and water quality are three of the key issues limiting the expansion of the livestock industry, how can these be addressed in policy and practice?

*Steve Hoff, Professor, Iowa State University*

*Sara Lilygren, Independent Consultant*

*Ashley McCarty, Executive Director, Missouri Farmers Care*

*Moderator, Senator Bill Heath, Georgia*

*Staff, Tara Sad*

3:15- 4:30 pm Breakout III

A. **The Changing Face of Rural Health Care, Ballroom Prefunction Area.**

Rural residents face a variety of access barriers to critical health care, whether it is medical, dental or mental. Ideally, residents should be able to conveniently and confidently access services such as primary care, dental care, behavioral health, emergency care, and public health services. Come think outside of the box with the man who knows what is going on in rural health care across the country and a school superintendent/legislator who took the lack of health care in his school into his own hands.

*Alan Morgan, Executive Director, National Rural Health Association*

*Moderator, Representative Terry Goodin, Indiana*

*Staff, Sarah Thorn*

B. **Growing the Dairy Industry, A Working Session. Pavilion 6.**

If you are passionate about the dairy industry, come to this session and develop a plan to help the dairy industry. This is a working session. Two of the top dairy economists in the nation will tell you what they think the short/long term future of the industry is, but then you are expected to help Commissioner Harsdorf develop a list of things states/provinces can do to help the dairy industry, a keystone industry for many of our states.

*Scott Brown, Missouri State University*

*Mark Stephenson, University of Wisconsin*

*Moderator, Commissioner Sheila Harsdorf, Wisconsin*

*Staff Karen Marshall*

**C. Building the Rural Infrastructure, Pavilion 2.**

Today's transportation infrastructure system was built for a different time. A properly planned infrastructure should pay for itself. Action is needed to catch up to the accelerating rate at which technology is advancing. Infrastructure must bring together and further improve commerce. Rapid changes in technologies are already stretching the capacity of the public sector to respond, facilitate and finance innovations. Do you need proof of how important broadband and good roads are to your communities? How can you help build your community's roads, broadband and rural infrastructure?

*Leif Magnusson, President, Claas America*

*Don Williams, Senior Specialist, NTIA*

*Moderator, Senator Bill Hansell, Oregon*

*Staff, Bob Haefner*

**D. Hemp; State, Provincial Successes and Failures, Pavilion 1.**

Hemp is one of the oldest domesticated crops known to man, and while Kentucky is leading the nation in trying to bring it back as a crop, Canada is leading the U.S. in that effort. Come hear about hemp production and marketing efforts in Canada and Kentucky.

*Ryan Quarles, KY Commissioner of Agriculture*

*Kim Shukla, Canadian Hemp Trade Alliance*

*Minister Ralph Eichler, Moderator*

*Staff, Anne Roberts Brody*

**E. Options to Address Opioid Abuse, Pavilion 3.**

Effective, evidence based treatment of opioid abuse disorders is urgently needed in rural America. Multiple barriers stand in the way of appropriate treatment, including a decaying rural mental health and substance abuse treatment infrastructure, lack of rural physicians and mental health practitioners and administrative barriers. Come talk about how you can address one of the greatest threats facing rural America today.

*Regina Labelle, LaBelle Strategies*

*Moderator, Senator Ron Miller, West Virginia*

*Staff, Karen Marshall*

**4:45-5:30 pm Plenary on Agriculture Technology, Research and the Rural Economy Salon 2 & 3**

It is widely agreed that increased productivity, arising from innovation and changes in technology, is the main contributor to economic growth in U.S. agriculture. Every dollar invested in public agriculture research generates ten to twenty times that amount in benefits to society. America's farms are among the most productive in the world, but they will not stay that way without continued investment in research. Where will that research lead agriculture? Come hear the winner of multiple awards on communicating about science talk about food, research, agriculture and you.

Salon 2 & 3 *Alison L. Van Eenennaam, Ph.D. University of California, Davis*

*Moderator, Representative Richard Creagan, Hawaii*

**6:00 pm Reception and Dinner, Salon 1.**

Western state and provincial residents. Please sit at the tables indicated, or look for Oregon Representative and SARL Board member Brad Witt. Together the western attendees need to come up with co-chairs for the 2020 Summit.

*Moderator, Senator Eddie Fields, Oklahoma*

*Invocation, Senator John Wilkinson, Georgia*

*Representative Triston Cole presents 1<sup>st</sup> Annual SARL Defender of Ag and Rural Award*

*Recognition of Tim McIntyre, Vice President, Communications, Dominos*

*SARL Past Presidents, Doug Jones, Idaho, Senator David Johnson, Iowa and Senator Bill Heath, Georgia, for the Introduction of resolutions and board candidates*

*Introduction of 2019 Co-Chairs Minister Ralph Eichler, Manitoba and Minister Oneil Carlier, Alberta*

*Announcement of Trivia Winners*

9:00 pm

**Movie Night, Salon 2& 3.**

Food Evolution, narrated by Neil DeGrass Tyson who says “the film explores all the ways science has been used and abused in public discourse surrounding the genetic engineering of food. In a world of misinformation and disinformation, nothing can be more timely.”

9:30 -11:00 pm **Hospitality Suite - Rooftop Bar.**

**Sunday, January 7**

8:00 am

**Annual Meeting, Salon 1.**

See attached agenda

9:00 am

**Federal issues, Salon 1.**

Here is your chance for an open discussion with leaders of the two governmental entities that may have more impact on agriculture than the USDA

*Larry Sands , Senior Advisor for Agriculture Policy, Environmental Protections Agency*

The agriculture and rural issues that the EPA oversee seems to be an endless list, Water Quality including the Waters of the US regulations, reporting of Air Emissions from Livestock Operations, Pesticide Handling including Dicamba, the Clean Power Plan, Small and Rural Wastewater Systems. It seems the EPA is in every aspect of agriculture.

*Dr. Stephen Ostroff, FDA, Deputy Commissioner for Foods and Veterinary Medicine*

The FDA and state agriculture programs have gotten extremely close since the implementation of the Egg Safety Inspection program, in which 8 states contract with the FDA to inspect shell egg producers to prevent Salmonella. Then came the Food Safety Modernization Act, which is requiring states to decide whether to harmonize their food safety regulations with the FDA as well as decide how involved they want to be in producer education, inspection and compliance. This year the Veterinary Feed Directive came along requiring veterinary prescriptions for the use of many antibiotics in animal feed. And in many states, legislators and regulator are seeking help in restricting milk labeling to products from mammals, and yet people willask what does the FDA have to do with agriculture. If they only knew.

*Moderator, Senator Brian Munzlinger, Missouri*

**Buffet lunch will be available to eat there or box to take to airport.**