THE AG LEADER

August 2022

Upcoming Events	
Sweet Potato Research Field Day Sweet Potato Station Chase	August 18
Louisiana Forestry Association 75th Annual Meeting Lake Charles	Aug. 30 - Sept. 1
Northeast Beef and Forage Field Day Morehouse Parish	Sept. 15
Ag Leadership Class XVII Seminar Shreveport - Bossier City	Oct. 3-5
Ag Leadership Board of Directors Meeting Alexandria	Dec. 15
Ag Leadership Class XVIII Seminar Baton Rouge	Jan. 3-5
Ag Leadership Class XVII International Trip Panama - Costa Rica	January 17-29

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Ag Leadership in Washington D.C.

The Washington D.C. trip has always been valuable to each class of the program. Class XVII's trip was just as useful during their visit in June.

Briefings from American Farm Bureau, National Cotton Council, The Fertilizer Institute and U.S.A. Rice Federation were a part of the preparation for the Hill visits. The final session of the day was delivered by Jack Pettus who talked about the lobbying process in Washington D.C. Pettus works on behalf of the American Sugar Cane League and has done an excellent job of preparing our groups throughout the years.

The class had a busy day at the Capitol. Some of the highlights were visits with both the House and Senate Ag Committees. Congressman G.T. Thompson (PA) and Senator John Boozman (AR) each addressed the group about the upcoming issues in agriculture.

Congresswoman Julia Letlow met with the class. She discussed her new role with the House Committee on Appropriations. She is serving on the subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development and Food and Drug Administration. Senator Cassidy capped the day on the Capitol steps.

The final full day of the trip was spent at Gettysburg, PA. We began at the Gettysburg National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center. After the museum visit, the class spent more than three hours doing a battlefield tour focused on leadership.

Finally, Class XV graduate Caroline Salisbury-Orlowski hosted the class for dinner at her farm in Knoxville, MD. A number of her neighbors in agriculture visited and talked about their operations and the issues they are facing agriculturally. It was a wonderful way to complete our trip.







Director's Message



It is a time of transition. Class XVII is closer to finishing their long tenure in our program. I cannot thank them enough for keeping the faith throughout all of the COVID-19 delays. Our Board of Directors approved the international trip to Panama and Costa Rica for January 2023.

We are actively recruiting for Class XVIII. The application is on our website at www.LSUAgCenter.com/agleadership. The deadline is August 26. If you know of anyone who is interested in our program, please reach out.

The Agricultural Leaders of Louisiana (ALL) met at the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation Convention in June. Lance Bruce, Class XIV, is now the president of ALL. Lance is a banker with B1Bank in Bastrop and also raises beef cattle. Burch Pierce, Class XV, was elected Vice-President. He farms cotton and soybeans along with some cattle. He also manages farmland in Catahoula and Avoyelles parishes.

The final transition is with our Board of Directors. Bobby Skeen, Class XIII, will now serve as the chair of the Board of Directors. Tommy Laborde, Class V, will serve as vice-chair. We want to thank Marty Wooldridge, Class IX, for his years of service as our board chair.

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