

## Extension Section Meeting Minutes Conference call on January 8, 2010

Present on the call:

Robert Craven, Henry "JH" Bahn, James Robb, Linwood Hoffman, Thomas Hertel, Mary Mafuyai-Ekanem, John Hewlett, Gary Schnitkey, Lori Lynch, Ron Rainey, Kristin Agard, Brian Mondragon Jones, Margot Rudstrom

1. Update on extension graduate student competition. Margot Rudstrom reported that there is an April 15<sup>th</sup> deadline for submission. The first place prize is \$1,000. Notification will be sent to various email lists. This will include messages to department heads, graduate student coordinators, policy group, RME program and other recruiters and a note to the extension section list. Margo requested additional judges, especially from the Southern Region to volunteer for the Graduate student competition.
2. Office:
  - a. Tom Hertel reported that there was a busy board meeting in Atlanta. AAEA plans on drawing more heavily on section leaders when current issues come to the forefront.
  - b. Kristen reported that about 40% of AAEA members are involved in sections. The percent of AAEA members in sections is growing.
  - c. Extension session proposals for the AAEA meetings have been accepted.
  - d. Extension luncheon information. AAEA needs information for the extension luncheon as soon as possible. Alan Barkema, senior vice president at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City is top person for the luncheon speaker.
  - e. Reminder to extension section. Everyone is encouraged to share information with colleagues, recruit members for Extension and AAEA. Extension Section is targeting  $\geq 200$  members this year.
  - f. AAEA Exchange Newsletter is becoming more inclusive to draw from other sections. We discussed how to handle in-coming media requests to the AAEA office. It was suggested since Extension employees are used to handling media/publicity, they could help respond. AAEA office is working to setup a system that will share media concerns/request. The Extension Section leadership could help identify the appropriate volunteer with expertise to handle/address in-coming issue.
3. Media award. John Hewlett presented the redesign of the former extension web award to the broadened "outstanding electronic media award". The nomination submissions must include 1) the goal of the education effort, 2) identification of all relevant, electronic components, and 3) why the effort is being nominated. Lori Lynch moved that the revised award be accepted. The motion passed. The same distribution strategy as for the graduate student completion will be used for the web award. John Hewlett will send out the media award notice to the Extension Section.
4. Section addendum. Bob Craven noted that are by-laws that need to be changed. Bob will send an email to the extension section asking members for feedback.
5. Extension Tour. Tour information is needed as soon as possible. General ideas for the tour have been discussed. The tour will not be in the northern part of the states. The tour will likely consist of tours in the Boulder county (smaller farms dealing on the urban fringe) larger operations further away from metropolitan areas. Jeff Tranel and Jim Robb met briefly in December to start work on the tour.

## **Extension Section notes - Conference call for February 12, 2010**

### **Agenda**

1. Welcome
2. Approve Jan Minutes
3. Update on Grad Student Competition, Margot Rudstrom & Frayne Olson
4. Update from AAEE office, Tom, Brian & Kristin
5. Media Awards
6. Extension Tour & Luncheon, Jim Robb
7. Section Addendum
8. Nominations, Doug Jose

President elect

1890 Institutions

Northeast region

9. Other Business

### **Present on call**

Doug Jose, Gregg Ibendahl, Bob Craven, Jim Robb, Brian and Kristen from AAEE, Mary Mufayai, Lori Lynch, Gary Schnitkey and Margot Rudstrom

2. Motion to approve January and December minutes made by Jim Robb, seconded by Gregg Ibendahl. Approved.
3. Update to grad student competition - First wave of announcements have gone out to Extension listserv. and to other list servs and to dept heads. New first prize is creating excitement. Sending out a second wave of announcements next week. Applications are due 4/15. For next year, can we add the due date in the AAEE Exchange. Brian says we can. He will try to put the announcement in the March issue.

Bob - Margot was looking for someone in the South to be a judge. Bob talked to Ron Rainey about doing this or at least finding someone.

4. Update from AAEA - Brian - not much happening so far. He is sending out track submissions to JH. Our section has speaker info in place. Question to Bob about web site access. Bob will check next week. We now have 155 members as of 2/12. We are on pace compared to last year. We usually get more members before summer meeting.

Bob - moving to a common design for AAEA sections.

5. Media awards - Encourage people to apply for these. Still need judges for this.
6. Extension tour - Jim - AAEA working on bus and meals. Stops include Conagra flour mill, wheat operation, organic farm, box lunch at Boulder city park, and finally visit to original site of Coors. We should be back by 5:30. Start promoting tour. The tour next year will be on Wednesday. Tour cost = bus cost + \$15.

Bob - side note - Alan Barkema will be our luncheon speaker for the Extension luncheon. No talk title yet for the talk.

7. Section Addendum - Bob - working on for 9 months. We've voted on most issues but still need to approve addendum. One change Bob did make was on Article 6, the final amendments. Previously it said we had to go entire membership to make changes. Bob changed to say it takes 2/3 of Extension section board to make changes. We are operating under new by-laws so we can do this (without going to full membership first).

Motion to accept revised language. Moved by Doug Jose, Second by Lori Lynch. Motion passed by we need 2/3 of members and not that many on call. Bob will run a survey monkey to get votes.

Followup: In the electronic polling following the Feb conference call, there were 10 votes to accept and 1 to reject. The vote exceeds the 2/3 majority, addendum accepted.

8. Nominations - Doug Jose - Doug is open to suggestions. We need president elect, NE member and 1890 rep. No at-large rep needed this year since going back to 2 at large reps.

No other topics.

Next call 3/12.

Submitted by Gregg Ibendahl

**Extension Section Meeting Minutes**  
**Conference call on March 12, 2010**

Present on Call: Doug Jose, J H Bahn, Jim Robb, Gary Schnitkey, Tom Hertel, Brian, Lin Hoffman, John Hewlett, Ron Rainey, Margot Rudstrom.

1. Minutes were approved with the following corrections on motion by John Hewlett seconded by JH Bahn. Approved
  - Jim Robb was listed twice in present on call list.
  - Item 3. should read "have gone out to..."
  - Item 4 should read "We are on pace...."
2. Margot reported the deadline for the grad student competition is April 15 and one application has been received. Ron Rainey volunteered to be a judge. The deadline for applications for grad students travel grants is April 26 and Margot reported the committee will inform the finalists in time for them to apply for a travel grant. She asked if there is a list of current winners and their current professional position. Brian volunteered to check on the list of winners and check to see if they are current AAEA members. The discussion focused on using the success of previous winners as a means to publicize the competition and the benefits of participation in AAEA and the Ext Section. She also reported the committee is working on preparing more specification on the judging criteria, particularly for the oral presentations.
3. Tom reported the first edition of the Applied Economics Perspectives and Policy journal has been published and encouraged publicizing it and encouraging submissions. It was suggested an email be sent to the Ext Section membership alerting them about this new publication.
4. Brain reported the current Section membership is 164. He anticipated more members will join as they register for the annual meeting. The registration for the Denver meeting is now open.
5. John Hewlett reported the deadline for the media award is April 15 and three applications have been made.
6. Doug Jose asked for nominations for the three officer positions. Ron offered to try to generate some suggestions from the 1890 institutions.
7. JH discussed initiating discussion on the benefits of membership in the section. He said he intends to make this a priority during his term as section president. Jim Robb indicated that membership cost is a major deterrent. This will be put on the agenda for the annual meeting.
8. Gary Schnitkey agreed that FarmDoc will again help underwrite the Ext Section reception at the Denver meeting.
9. The next conference call will be April 16 at 10 am central time.

Notes taken by Doug Jose

## Extension Section notes - Conference call for April 16, 2010

### Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Approve March Minutes
3. Update on Grad Student Competition
4. Update from AAEEA office
5. Media Awards
6. Nominations

### Present on call

, Gregg Ibendahl, Bob Craven, Margot Rudstrom, Jim Robb, Brian and Kristen from AAEEA, Lynn Hoffman, Henry Bahn, and John Hewlett

2. Motion to approve March minutes made by Jim Robb, seconded by John Hewlett.  
Approved.
3. Update to grad student competition - Margo - 12 applications received by deadline. Goal is to get 8 finalists by end of week. Committee consists of Frayne Olson, Ron Rainey, Stan Earnst, Don Ricks, TJ Hanson, Mary Mufayai, and more. Grad student travel deadline is coming up.
4. Update from AAEEA - Brian - 182 membership so far. This is 16 or 17 shy of last couple of years. Annual meeting registration is now open. Some signup for Extension luncheon and tour. May 3 is deadline for awards. May 10 is deadline for election info (name and affiliation). Bob - Is there a standard form for questions for election candidates? Henry - in the past there were some generic questions that were asked. Brian - suggested we send an email to listserv to announce that meeting registration is now open.
5. Media awards - John - Good pool, 9 nominations. Bob asked Gary Schnitkey to lead judging of the awards. Lynn Hoffman has volunteered to help judge. Bob will ask William Edwards to help too (last year's award winner). Henry Bahn will help too. Other folks can volunteer too by contacting Gary.
6. Nominations - Doug Jose has been working on this. The list of nominees includes:  
  
Northeast - Jim McCanon from Maine and Jim Hanson from Maryland

President - Laurence Crane with NCIS and Rodney Jones from OK state

1890 - Duncan Chembezi from Alabama A&M and Bob is working on another nomination

For next year's agenda - work on increasing 1890 membership

Bob - tour is on wednesday after the event. Annual meeting is at 1:30 on that sunday. For next call, discuss inducements to come to meeting.

Ideas - pay registration if we have a contest or maybe pay membership. maybe a drawing during the annual meeting. Do we need to limit to attendees at board meeting or actual Extension section members. We could also have a second or third prizes as well. Prize does not have to necessarily be a one year section membership. It could be a multiple year membership with first prize 3 years, second prize 2 years, etc.

Henry - Shared material library - we need more materials.

Next call 5/14.

Submitted by Gregg Ibendahl

## **Extension Section notes - Conference call for May 14, 2010**

### **Agenda**

1. Welcome
2. Approve April Minutes
3. Update on Grad Student Competition
4. Update from AAEA office, Tom, Brian & Kristin
5. Promotional & Agenda Ideas for the Business Meeting
6. Website Update
7. Other Business

### **Present on call**

Gregg Ibendahl, Bob Craven, Margot Rudstrom, John Hewlett, Gary Schnitkey, Tom Hurdle, Brian from AAEA, Ron Rainey, Doug Jose, JH Bahn and Dave Miller.

Bob noted some typos in the previous minutes

2. Motion to approve April minutes as amended made by ron Rainey, seconded by Gary Schnitkey. Approved.
3. Update to grad student competition - Margo - 12 applications received by deadline and down to 8 finalists. Quality of applications was very good. The competition is set for the Sunday of meetings from 8 to 3.

Our Extension section will meet at 1 pm for our annual meeting in the Gold room.

We could announce winner at reception (which is at 5 pm) but we'll hold off until AAEA ceremony.

Bob - how to handle the funding of this award. The Farm Foundation is committed to \$1000 and our section was going to kick in \$500. Should FF write a check directly or pass

money through AAEEA. Brian suggested FF write a check directly.

The 8 finalists and Neil will need tickets to our luncheon.

Judging team is being finalized.

Question about breakout of Masters vs Ph.D. applications. Margot - Some of both with good variation in topics and locations.

4. Update from AAEEA - Brian 24 tour registrants so far and 44 luncheon registrants. Both of these are about half so our final numbers from last year. 189 members currently

Brian had a question about drink tickets. Bob - will there be a joint bar. Yes. There will be a new sponsor this year. NCIS is donating \$400. Along with \$400 from Farmdoc and \$400 from Center for Farm Financial Mgmt. Last year we had 100 drink tickets. Also last year we had \$1000 in donations and only spent \$600 so maybe we can do 2 drink tickets. Bob - do we have schedule for Extension schedule track sessions yet. Brian - yes but he will check if we can release it yet.

Tom - looking for committee assignments - need people for outreach committee. This committee meets every 6 weeks

Bob - was there a move to use past presidents on this committee. Brian - Yes. William Edwards is still on until 2012. JH is also on committee.

Doug - item for business meeting is to discuss this committee. Maybe get William to give a report on what this committee is doing.

Shared materials site discussion.

Bob - suggested that we put the shared materials site as a topic for the business meeting

JH - lack of material on site and we are vulnerable to complaints if we don't get more things up and in pipeline.

Bob - we'll include on next conf call and also get Walt on call. JH will invite.

John H - want to look at the niche for this material

5. Annual meeting discussion

Promotional ideas for annual meeting

Bob - any new ideas besides drawing for memberships. Review 5, 3, and 1 year memberships as well as drink tickets are current ideas.

Dave Miller - Prizes could help if there are more incentives to come early.

Motion to provide a drawing for 3 prizes 1st is 5 year membership to Extension section, 2nd is 3 years, and 3rd is 1 year. Motion made by JH seconded by Ron R. Motion passed. Note board members are not eligible.

Dave - have drawings throughout meeting with the big prize at the end.

Other topics for annual meeting

- Shared materials

- role of outreach committee

- 1890 recruiting - Ron will lead this discussion

- applied economist recruiting as opposed to our traditional ag econ group - JH will lead this discussion

- Doug suggested we get charter Extension president or someone like that to talk about how our extension section came to be.

- whether we should keep the 3 outlook sessions or maybe move to 2 outlook sessions - Dave miller or Gary S or maybe Jim Robb to lead.

- ways for section to benefit membership

## 6. Websit update

Brian - still finishing this up. should be ready to review next week.

Bob - standardizing websites across websites

Other topics

Elections - 6/1.

Still looking for 1890 rep - no luck so far.

Award situation - there was a tie. Past winners get to serve on judging committee for next year.

Next call 6/18 at 10 am.

Submitted by Gregg Ibendahl

## **Extension Section notes - Conference call for June 11, 2010**

### **Agenda**

1. Welcome
2. Update from AAEA office, Brian
3. Discussion about AAEA Outreach materials sharing site
4. Business Meeting Agenda
5. Other Business

### **Present on call**

Bob Craven, John Hewlett, Brian from AAEA, Lori Lynch, and JH Bahn.

2. Update from AAEA office – there are 189 registered for the section, 35 signed up for the tour, and 61 registered for the luncheon. The section election is open until the end of June.
3. Discussion about AAEA Outreach materials sharing site –Walt Armbruster joined the call to discuss the status of the materials sharing website. There was discussion about some of the challenges and possible ways to make it more attractive for the section members to participate. It was also noted that additional promotional effort is possibly needed. It was decided to have a discussion about this topic at the annual meeting in Denver. William Edwards, who it currently coordinating the reviews, will lead the discussion.
4. Business Meeting Agenda – the outline to the business meeting agenda developed in the May conference call was discussed. Bob Craven agreed to get a draft agenda for the business meeting circulated before the July conference call.

Next call 7/11 at 10 am.

Submitted by Robert Craven

## **Extension Section notes - Conference call for July 9, 2010**

### **Agenda**

1. Welcome
2. Approve May and June Minutes
3. Update from AAEA office, Brian
4. Business Meeting Agenda
5. Other Business

### **Present on call**

Bob Craven, John Hewlett, Jim Robb, Lynn Hoffman, Doug Jose, JH Bahn, and Brian and Kristin from AAEA

1. Jim Robb announced he had changed positions and is now working at CoBank in Denver.
2. The John Hewlett moved and Jim Robb seconded approving the May minutes, motion carried. JH Bahn moved and John Hewlett seconded approving the June minutes, motion carried.
3. Update from AAEA office – there are 196 registered for the section, 39 signed up for the tour, and 78 registered for the luncheon. The section election is open until the end of June.
4. We reviewed the draft agenda. To accommodate schedules the Extension Track Sessions, Report from the Outreach Committee, and Reception/Extension Luncheon topics were moved earlier in the agenda. There was some discussion about 1890 recruiting. JH Bahn agreed to help Ron Rainey with the topic during the meeting. The door prizes were added to the agenda. Bob agree to make the changes and send the final agenda to the section board.
5. The reception food and drink was discussed. We requested that more food be added to the order, because it was short last year. Also, 120 drink tickets would be available with the expectation that we would likely use around 100.

Next call will be in September.

Submitted by Robert Craven

## **Extension Section notes – Conference call Sept 10, 2010**

### Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Approve Minutes
3. Treasurers Report
4. Update from AAEA office
5. Review roles of section leadership
6. Update on Shared Materials Library
7. Establish calendar for Fall 2010 activities
8. Other?

### **Present on call**

JH Bahn, Linwood Hoffman, Robert Craven, John Hewlett, Rob King, Rodney Jones, Jim Hanson, James Robb, and Brian and Kristin from AAEA

1. Henry Bahn welcomed participants to the conference and called the meeting to order.
2. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the July call. Motion carried.
3. The section financial report is included in the draft newsletter that was circulated.
4. Brian reported that any changes in section dues for the upcoming year need to be proposed to the AAEA office by Sept 15. The section budget template and information will be out in December, and specific information regarding track sessions for the annual meeting will be out in October.
5. Section leadership roles were spelled out in a recent email from Henry, as well as in materials recently emailed out from Brian.
6. The shared materials library is growing very slowly. We are all prompted to keep after our colleagues to submit materials.
7. The 2010-2011 timeline for sections has been circulated electronically to section leadership. Fall deadlines include section budgets due in December, and track session proposals also due in December. Rodney will work on the section call for track session proposal to go out in early October, with the intent of making section track session decisions in early November so that the section can get those proposals in. Any additional proposals that need to be considered by the AAEA Executive Board for the 2011 meeting are also due in December.
8. There was a brief discussion regarding the section newsletter draft that had been circulated electronically. Editorial suggestions pertained to adding a discussion of the membership fee waiver for graduate students who submit entries for the graduate student competition at the annual meeting. John Hewlett suggested that it might be useful to do a survey on the timing of the Extension tour associated with the annual meeting (do it before the meeting, or after the meeting). It was also suggested that we may need to add to the tour fee, since it comes very close to breaking even every year. Brian indicated that a survey could be done through the AAEA office.
9. It was moved, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting call.

## **Extension Section notes - Conference call for October 15, 2010**

### **Present on call**

Gregg Ibendahl, Bob Craven, Ron Rainey, JH Bahn, Jim Hanson, Rodney Jones and Jim Robb

Motion by Jones to accept minutes seconded by Craven. Motion passed.

### **Tour update**

Survey of which day to hold tour 17 (41%) voted to have tour on saturday. 14 (34%) voted for wednesday. The rest (25%) voted no difference.

JH noted comment about potential extra day of expenses for the saturday tour.

Bob noted that tour numbers were slightly down this year. Also the wednesday date gives us the opportunity to see some things that might be closed on saturday.

JH is looking for ways to increase membership. Is there anything in the tour to use.

Motion to try the wednesday tour again for next year - motion by Jones and seconded by Robb. Motion passed

### **Budget discussion**

Most things broke even last year.

JH would like our section to have more funds so that we can do more activities.

Bob suggested adding a \$10 risk premium to the tour budget. Bob would also like to have a few extra tickets available for the luncheon for last minute folks. Kristen pointed out though that room size is often a constraint.

Rodney suggest that we don't raise both the luncheon and the tour fees together.

JH - we had \$1800 in sponsorships this year. Is this sustainable.

Bob - we still have \$400 in receivables coming from FarmDoc. Bob suggested we budget for \$1200 again.

JH will have Margo check with getting funding for Farm Foundation for next year.

Jim suggested about getting sponsors for the tour and the luncheon

### **Call for proposals**

Rodney - call for proposals going out. Deadline was originally 11/5. Rodney volunteered to receive proposals.

JH suggested we move deadline to 11/7 since 11/5 is a friday.

The Extension list is a way to communicate things [Extension@aaealists.org](mailto:Extension@aaealists.org)

### **Newsletter**

Add comments about dues

Also note about the listserv that is available to all members

Presentations from meeting are now all on-line.

The shared resource site now has 19 items under review but 18 are from the same person.

### **Webinar**

Bob - Gene Nelson called about us helping with a webinar about Choices when it releases. This will be cast as least partially as an Extension activity. Group out West will help too.

JH - We'll be noted if we don't help.

Bob - should be a win-win. We'll get more exposure with this.

Do we need a motion to support this? Bob suggested we wait until he hears from conference call.

Motion to adjourn.

## **Extension Section notes - Conference call for November 12, 2010**

### **Present on call**

Gregg Ibendahl, Bob Craven, Gary Schnitkey, Rodney Jones, Lin Hoffman, John Hewlett, Rob King and Brian from AAEA

JH is out this week so Bob is handling the call

Motion by Jones to accept minutes with the correction that the listserv should be EXTENSION@AAEALIST.ORG (original minutes had an extra s in the same). Seconded by Hoffman. Motion passed.

### **Update from AAEA**

Rob King - There is a task force to review outreach activities. Damona Doye is chairing and the group has had one conference call to discuss. Key outreach areas are Choices, shared outreach materials, and policy issues series. Report to board by January board meeting.

Brian - 12/6 is next deadline from AAEA. Budget is due and also tour proposal. We can share membership list of section with our members but not public.

Bob - question about renewal reminders. Also, suggested that we include on the December call a topic about recruiting new members to the section.

Brian - AAEA sends renewal reminders out every 2 or 3 weeks starting in December.

Gregg - Here is the list of winners from the Extension section drawing for free section membership: 1st winner - Rodney Jones (1 yr membership?). 2nd winner - William Edward (2 yr membership). 3rd winner - Rob King (5 yr membership).

### **Track section proposals**

Rodney - 6 proposals submitted and 2 emails about joint sessions. Rodney had a question about whether the graduate student one is for a half. He hasn't seen their proposal yet. Rodney solicited proposals for the crops, livestock and policy proposals.

For livestock, Glynn Tonsor was contacted and he proposed a combination of outlook and hot topics.

For grain, Dan O'brian was contacted and he proposed more of a traditional outlook session. He already has his speakers lined up.

For policy, Steven Klose was contacted and his proposal is our traditional policy talk. Bob suggested that maybe FAMPS could be a co-sponsor.

Next, there was a risk management proposal from folks at Cornell and Purdue that included crop insurance. This was a half slot proposal as it was already approved by FAMPS.

If the above 5 were all approved that would either be 3.5 or 4 slots depending upon whether we could get FAMPS to take half of the policy session.

With either 2 or 2.5 slots left, Rodney had 2 proposals and 2 emails about potential proposals. One proposal is from Sam Funk with a focus on changing supply and demand for commodities. Another is from Cole Gustenson from ND state and one of his students looking at cellulose fuel production.

The 2 email ideas were both for half sessions. The first was from Dave Shidler (sp?) about rural development and Extension. The second was from Walter Armbruster with the senior section looking at the 2012 farm bill.

Rod suggested we reject the Gustenson proposal and accept the rest including the email ideas. Lin suggested we see fleshed out proposals from all and then vote. John mentioned that the webinars to be discussed could be an outlet for some of these ideas.

Bob - will call Klose and FAMPS about doing the policy outlook as a joint session. But we may not want too many sessions as there are only 8 sessions at the meetings and we could end up with either 9 full or half session sponsorship.

There was also another idea (email) about covering a women in ag project (Annie's project). There was a suggestion to get a proposal for this too. A suggestion was made to get fleshed out proposal to Rodney by 11/22.

A conference call will be held on 12/3 to decide on the track sessions. We will use survey monkey to help vote. Either AAEEA or Bob will set this up.

## **Webinars**

John - idea to take one of last year's section tracks that was not accepted and do a 20 minute webinar. Choices folks also want to do a webinar but we are still waiting for a formal proposal from them.

Motion from John - Sponsor a single webinar with maybe 2 speakers in January or February with help from the folks who did "Ag in Uncertain Times". This would be a trial run for the webinars. Seconded by Rodney. Amended by Bob to cover modest out of pocket expenses related to putting this on. Motion passed.

Rodney, Bob, and JH will work on getting one of last year's proposals lined up for this

webinar.

Next regular call on 12/10. Tour will also be on agenda for this call.

submitted by Gregg Ibendahl

## **Notes - Conference call on December 10, 2010**

### **Present on call**

Bob Craven, Brian and Kristin from AAEA, Rob King, John Hewlett, Ron Rainey, Jim Robb, Duncan Chembezi, and Rodney Jones

### **AAEA Update**

Brian and Rob King provided an overview of the review process for the outreach task force. Brian mentioned that AAEA would have a reception at the winter meeting

### **Budget**

Bob provided an overview of the budget, it was approved

### **Sessions**

Final paper submissions are due March 15. Luncheon, Reception, and Business meeting proposals are due next week. Rob King from the AAEA board indicated that the level of partnering on track sessions would be a net benefit. Ultimately it all depends on attendance.

### **Luncheon**

Discussion of potential speakers. Topic areas might include Policy, Risk, International focus, or Rural Development/energy. Group expressed the most interest in something along the line of Rural Development, with a focus on the geographic area around Pittsburg.

It was suggested that the Rural Development section might join in promoting the luncheon if the topic were to be Rural Development focused.

### **Tour**

Stan Ernst has been contacted to work on the tour, and could use some help.

### **Webinars**

Bob has been trying to contact potential Webinar speakers for January.

C FARE has proposed to do a dedicated webinar associated with each issue of Choices.

There was a pitch for more submissions to the Shared Materials Library.

Minutes submitted by Rodney Jones