

STATE AGRICULTURE &
RURAL LEADERS
6181 West State Rd 28
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www.agandruralleaders.org



At the 2013 meeting, Joe Dales, founder of Farms.com discussed his production of the 2013 Superbowl Ad and how to reach voters.

We would not exist without our great private industry members



STATE AGRICULTURE AND RURAL LEADERS, 2014

As a respected leader on agriculture and rural policy, you are cordially invited to participate in the **2014 Legislative Ag Chairs Summit to be held January 3-5, 2014 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.**

The last year has been a wild ride for agriculture and rural communities. Our farmers, rural residents and legislatures have been facing numerous challenges and opportunities. As state and provincial legislators responsible for adjusting and implementing the policies that address food production, natural resource management and rural development, we hear from everyone with an issue related to economic development, food, fiber or energy production. It is beyond difficult for us to stay informed on every issue that impacts our rural communities.

That is where State Agriculture and Rural Leaders (SARL) and the Legislative Agriculture Chairs (LAC) Summit comes in. Since 2001, the LAC Summit has been providing a non-partisan unparalleled educational opportunity for elected state and provincial officials with an interest in agriculture and rural communities to work together, collaborate and create problem-solving partnerships.

The 13th Annual Summit will be structured a little differently than most. We generally begin the Summit Friday morning with optional sessions and a tour of the agriculture and rural highlights of the area. However, because New Year's Day is Wednesday, we will begin the Summit Friday afternoon, January 3rd with dinner at the Oklahoma State House. Saturday will still be devoted to the plenary and breakout sessions that legislators request, covering topics from animal welfare through rural first responders to water policy. Sunday morning will have sessions on topics like dairy policy and the farm bill, and then Sunday afternoon will be the site visits, including the National Cowboy Museum and the National Weather Center. The entire agenda is being planned by the 2013 legislative attendees.

As always, three nights of room, registration and meals are all covered by SARL. There are also travel scholarships for those without state or campaign funds for transportation. Additional information, including the working agenda, is available on the SARL website (www.sarl.us) or give one of us a call. The LAC is designed to provide the sound, science based information you need to address agriculture and rural issues to help you shape the best policy for your communities. We hope to see you there.

Bill

Senator Bill Heath, GA
President 404-656-3943

Larry Rhoden

Senator Larry Rhoden, SD
Vice President 605-985-5461

WHAT ATTENDEES SAY ABOUT THE SUMMIT



"The opportunity to have open discussion is key to the success of the Summit." Sen. Jean Leising (IN) joins Sen. David Johnson (IA) and Rep. Doc Anderson (TX) at 2013 breakout.



"The top state agriculture policy makers all attend Ag Chairs."
Sen. Mike Brubaker, PA



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Legislative Ag Chairs Summit
facilitated by
State Agriculture and Rural Leaders
in collaboration with



2013 Legislative Agriculture Chairs Summit

SAVE THE DATE

TO: Legislative agriculture and rural leadership from across North America
FOR: 2014 Legislative Agriculture Chairs Summit XIII
WHEN: Friday January 3-5, 2014
WHERE: Oklahoma City, Oklahoma



2014 Legislative Agriculture Chairs Summit

BUILDING OUR INDUSTRIES AND COMMUNITIES

The agenda for the 2014 Summit will focus on the issues that you face as a leader in rural policy. Plenary and breakout topics will include:

- Rural Energy Generation
- Animal Welfare
- Economic Development
- Federal Issues
- Current State Legislation
- Water Quality/Nutrient Management
- Rural First Responders
- State Export Programs
- Food Safety
- And more!!!

The Legislative Agriculture Chairs Summit is designed for state and provincial legislative committee, caucus and chamber leadership with an interest in agriculture and rural policy.

Attendance is by invitation only. If you know of someone who should be invited, please contact us.

All sessions are designed to provide information that applies directly to constituent and state legislative issues.

Registration, meals and hotel costs are covered by SARL, a 501 c(3) educational non-profit run by state and provincial legislators dedicated to enhancing the leadership skills of agriculture and rural policy legislators across North America.

Registration materials are enclosed or can be accessed online at www.sarl.us

There are travel scholarships available for attendees whose state or campaign funds do not provide travel.

To apply for travel assistance, or for information on any aspect of the Legislative Ag Chairs Summit, please call

Dr. Carolyn Orr, (765) 893-8209, or corr@sarl.us

What will you say about the Summit in 2014?



LAC attendees in 2012 hear from USDA Secretary Vilsack at the White House

Want to see how severe weather is tracked? Join us for the site visit to the National Weather Center

Vermont and Connecticut attendees focus on plenary on rural development at 2013 LAC Summit.



"Ag Chairs is the only meeting for state and provincial legislators that works to resolve the most challenging issues in agriculture and rural viability."
MLA Leo Glavine, Nova Scotia

The combination of smaller breakouts and discussion oriented plenary have served the Summit well. The program is designed for action oriented information that legislators can put to use in the legislature and their districts. Time is also available for networking and collaborative partnerships.

Each year's agenda is planned by attendees at the previous Summit.

The 2013 Legislative Agriculture Chairs Summit was held June 7-9 in Vancouver, B.C. The first time the meeting was held in Canada. This invitation-only meeting had the house and/or senate chairs from 43 states and 7 Canadian provinces attending. As a result of the 2012 elections, we had over 40 % new attendees. The Summit focused on discussions related to the water quality, quantity and sharing, talking to voters, state fairs, rural energy, agriculture and carbon emissions, rural development, animal housing, immigration, right to farm and more.

In addition to the invited legislators, the only other attendees are SARL private industry members. More than 300 potential attendees are turned away each year to keep the meeting at a size where discussions can occur. All on-site expenses for elected officials are provided and travel scholarships are also available.