

Illinois  
Corn

Building on a solid  
**FOUNDATION**

Illinois Corn Growers Association

Annual Report 2013

[www.ilcorn.org](http://www.ilcorn.org)



# LETTER FROM YOUR PRESIDENT





For this past year, it has been my pleasure to serve you as the President of the Illinois Corn Growers Association. You entrusted me in this position to continue to broaden the foundation for a better organization; to strengthen that foundation to support farmers in the years ahead; and to build upon that foundation, a continually thriving corn industry for the future. I hope I have not let you down.

As an organization this year, we faced many challenges. Our most vexing was a lack of funding to accomplish what we have been told by our members needed to be done. Like many of you, to achieve these goals with limited resources, we reprioritized, trimmed and focused our spending to get through the aftermath of the 2012 drought. After the worst drought in recent Illinois history, I am so pleased to hear that in 2013, abundance is returning to much of Illinois.

Another significant challenge was a Congress that struggled to even appear functional. This impacted our priorities and progress in Washington, DC. It hurt us in many ways, but ironically helped in others. With seemingly bigger issues like the recent government shut down and raising the debt ceiling, sometimes our initiatives just plain had to wait for action.

Because of government leadership that struggles to achieve measurable accomplishments, ICGA is making significant investments in water quality research and initiatives that we expect will place us in front of potentially more rigorous, and likely very costly, regulations ahead. Additionally, your organization also worked to craft a farm bill that would be beneficial for Illinois farmers. Though the end result remains to be seen as I prepared these remarks, I still have hope that even in the event of another extension, we have built a strong foundation from which to hopefully complete work next year.

And perhaps ICGA's most important accomplishment this year is your own. The Illinois Corn Growers Association has grown by nearly 600 members this year! I am so happy to see my neighbors and colleagues within the state standing firm with me as we face significant obstacles to the way we farm.

ICGA has a very strong foundation in place for the future. We stand on a solid network of Illinois farmers, united in our passion for the land and for farming. We elect a steady group of farmer leaders who build an excellent board and represent you with confidence and enthusiasm. Excellent farmer volunteers from Illinois are also in place at NCGA on national level activities to continue our legacy of strong, grassroots leadership to corn farmers.

I'm very proud to be a part of the Illinois Corn Growers Association. I offer my sincere thanks to you for your trust and confidence in me. I also offer a big thank you to the rest of our leadership team and staff who have served you, family corn farmers of Illinois, faithfully this past year.

Sincerely,

*Paul Taylor*

*"You win by working hard, making tough decisions, and building coalitions."*

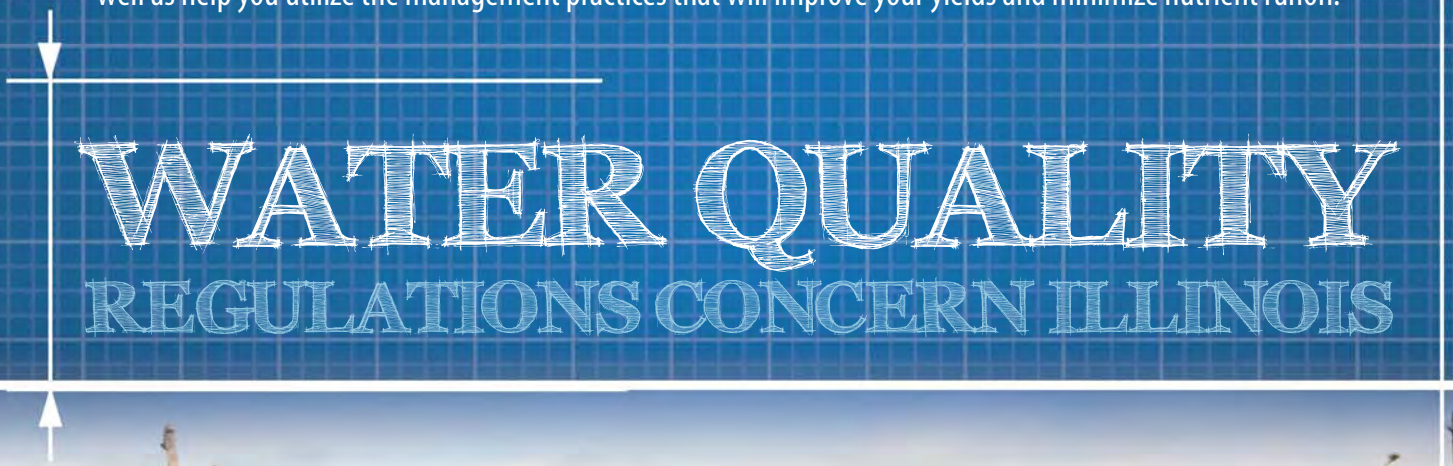


You are concerned about regulations. Your association hears you loud and clear. Because of your concern, we have poured our efforts into the water quality debate – occurring in the Chesapeake Bay Region in the past and moving very quickly towards the Midwest and the Mississippi River.

ICGA has lead Illinois efforts to research water quality as one of your peers, Jeff Jarboe of Loda, served as Vice President of the Council on Best Management Practices (CBMP) this year. CBMP is a coalition of Illinois associations and agribusinesses that seeks to encourage adoption of best management practices to protect and improve water quality in Illinois.

Through CBMP, we have worked hard to research current nutrient runoff data. We have conducted field trials on cover crops and other best management practices. We continue to be in relationship with the Illinois EPA to slow the development of nutrient regulations.

We hear your concerns and we plan to help you prove that you are good stewards of the land and water, as well as help you utilize the management practices that will improve your yields and minimize nutrient runoff.

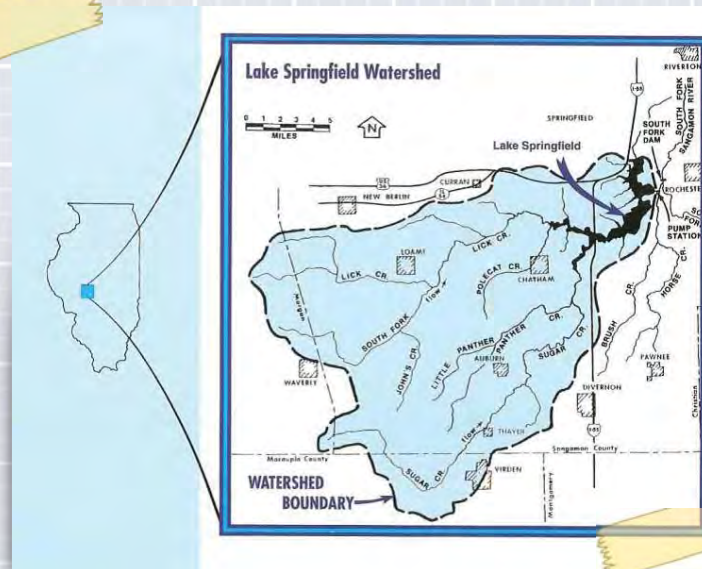


# WATER QUALITY REGULATIONS CONCERN ILLINOIS





Using the Wisconsin Discovery farms as an example, CBMP is building a Discovery Research Farm in Lexington, IL to study the effects of many different best management practices on the soil profile and nutrient loss. Pictured are Mike Plumer, CBMP Coordinator and Dr. Armstrong, Illinois State University considering the drainage system on this farm.




CBMP is launching a three year special nitrogen management program in the Lake Springfield, IL watershed. The program encourages ag retailers and farmers to adopt a nitrogen management system in the watershed to minimize environmental impact, optimize harvest yield, and maximize input utilization.



During the 2013 Farm Progress Show in Decatur, IL, many Midwestern farmers got to see a field of cover crops first hand. Mike Plumer, CBMP Coordinator, is conducting research that shows a significant yield and water quality improvement associated with the use of cover crops over the winter on IL fields.

**2012 harvest data shows**  
that cover crops had a  
**9.6 percent increase**  
in **corn yields** compared  
to **side-by-side fields**  
with no cover crops

*"The road to success is always under construction."*



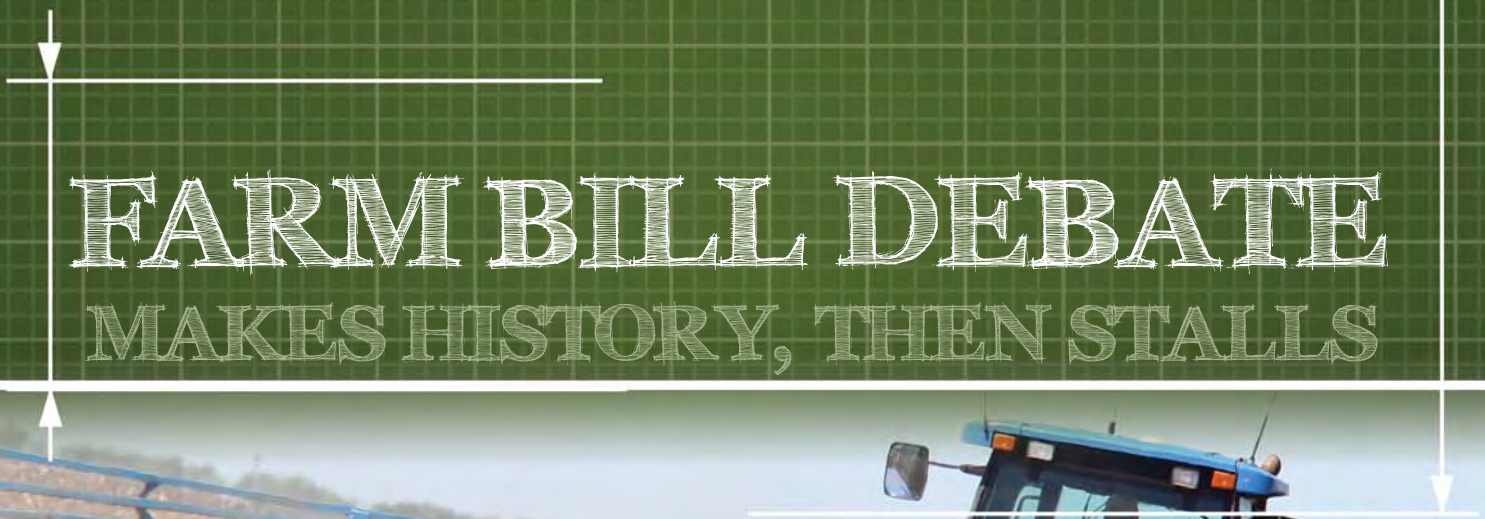
For the second year in a row, ICGA has worked to craft and pass a farm bill that we believe is workable for Illinois farmers. For the second year in a row, Congress has allowed the September 30 expiration date to come and go without passing a bill.

This is disappointing, but rest assured that ICGA did work all year behind the scenes, trying to anticipate action and build support for a farm bill that we believe is in your best interest. And most of that farm bill proposal is included in the Senate version passed this year.

We worked hard to try to prevent the House from splitting the bill in two. We launched a campaign to encourage you to call your Congressman and let them know how much you needed a farm bill. We urged farmers to write their legislators, pleading for action before September 30.

Politics got in the way.

But we have a foundation for next year. If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.



# FARM BILL DEBATE MAKES HISTORY, THEN STALLS





During the three day Farm Progress Show in Decatur, August 28-30, ICGA urged farmers to write a letter to their Congressman asking for action on the farm bill. All together, we faxed approximately 1500 letters to Washington in three days. That's some grassroots action.



Already in March and again in July, your farmer leaders were pushing for farm bill action in Washington, DC with members of the Illinois Congressional Delegation like Senator Durbin (above). They understand that the farm bill is important to your way of life.



**63%** of ICGA members believe that **conservation compliance** should be tied to **crop insurance subsidy eligibility**.

*"The shortest distance between two points is under construction."*

The ethanol market is a cornerstone to increased corn demand, higher prices, and economic vitality we've seen in rural areas in the past couple of years. As your association, it is our job to attempt to keep corn demand from ethanol markets vibrant and growing. But the job isn't easy.

One benefit to a Congress that refuses to act is that no one followed through on threats to the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) to fight in 2013. We still laid groundwork with our Congressional delegation, encouraging and educating them regarding ethanol and the RFS. That groundwork will hopefully pay off in the future.

And we worked in Springfield, Illinois to pass our Consumer Fuel Choice Act, which transfers the current E10 incentive to E15, and lowers the incentive a bit providing additional income for Illinois. We saw no traction there either, but we continue to work.

In the end, a dysfunctional state and federal government make significant change impossible and that's both good and bad for Illinois farmers and the ethanol industry. All ICGA can do is try to stay ahead of the curve and be prepared for whatever potential opportunity or challenge comes next.

## HIGHER BLENDS OF ETHANOL ARE KEY TO GROWING MARKET





On March 14, several Illinois farmers including your Vice President Gary Hudson joined Kenny Wallace in Springfield, IL to draw attention to the Consumer Fuel Choice Act. Kenny shared NASCAR's success with E15 and encouraged Illinois legislators to pass the act, helping to move E15 into the marketplace.

April 5, 2013

The Honorable Fred Upton  
Chairman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
3125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Henry Waxman  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2322A Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Upton and Congressman Waxman,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in response to questions regarding the implementation of the Energy Independence and Security Act and the Renewable Fuels Standard, specific to the blend wall and fuel compatibility issues<sup>1</sup>. These discussions will play a role in ensuring that the goals of the Energy Independence and Security Act as envisioned by Congress in 2007 will be met. The defined goals of the Renewable Fuel Standard passed by Congress in December of 2007 are to 1) move the country to greater energy independence and security, 2) increase the production of clean renewable fuels, 3) protect the consumers, and 4) reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

#### GREATER ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND GREATER SECURITY

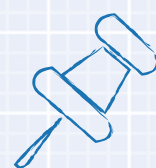
By any evaluation of the above goals, the Renewable Fuel Standard has been a resounding success. The number one stated goal in the RFS2 legislation was to reduce our dependence on imported oil to make our country more energy independent and more secure. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), our oil imports have decreased from 60 percent of our total usage to 45 percent. As recently cited by John Miller (an energy consultant and blogger in [theenergycollective.com](http://theenergycollective.com)), "The largest sources of transportation sector reduced gasoline consumption from 2008 to 2013 was due to improved fuel efficiency of new vehicles and increased biofuels. Increased ethanol biofuels accounted for about 45 percent of the total reduced transportation petroleum gasoline consumption 2008-2012."<sup>2</sup>

Energy security is not only about reducing foreign oil imports, but also about providing a buffer to supply and price disruptions such as natural disasters, economic and/or political upheavals, accidents or man-made events such as strikes or embargoes. Due to economies of scale and


During 2013, the House Committee on Energy and Commerce allowed the public to comment on their series of white papers related to ethanol, ethanol legislation, the marketplace, and more. ICGA provided comments on every one of these papers helping to debunk key problems and myths included within.



One thing Illinois farmers can do to help themselves and increase corn demand is to use E85 in their flex fuel vehicles. This summer, we marketed that idea to farmers during our I Grow It, I Use It campaign. The price for E85 is right. Make sure you are supporting your industry by filling up with E85!

 **41%**  
of ICGA  
members  
**own flexfuel  
vehicles**

"Whatever good things we build end up building us."

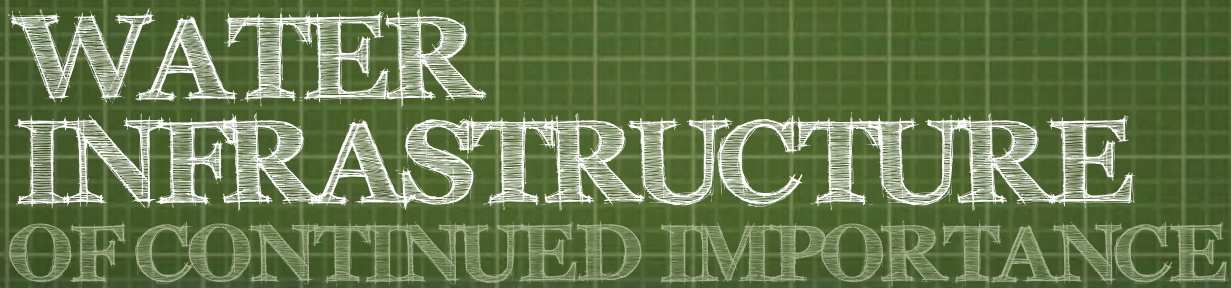


Back in 2007 when Congress passed the Water Resources Development Act that authorized funding to upgrade locks and dams, we thought we had finally achieved success. Six years later, we still don't have appropriation of funds to begin construction on our locks and dams. But we continue to plug away in the name of progress.

Throughout this year, our coalition of labor, environment and ag interests has remained strong. We listened to Congress when they told us that we needed more than just one industry speaking up for locks and dams. We delivered and we still wait for them to deliver.

We worked to position the Mississippi River in the media this year as a vital lifeline for Midwestern industry. We fought low water, but we also helped America realize how important our river system is. Congress took notice, but funding and compromise are hard to come by.

Our dedication to this cause will continue. Improvement of the water infrastructure will create a real and meaningful impact to every farmer in Illinois. You told us it was important to you, and we continue to seek investment in our infrastructure.



# WATER INFRASTRUCTURE OF CONTINUED IMPORTANCE





At the beginning of 2013, the drought of 2012 reminded us of its presence with the threat of discontinued barge traffic on the Mississippi River. Illinois Corn and Senator Durbin helped to bring attention to this issue, elevating the importance of the river in the minds of Americans and removing rock pinnacles that threatened to make the River impassable.



We've seen a lot of interest in our cause in both the Senate and the House, with the RIVER Act in the Senate, WAVE 4 in the House, and a Water Resources and Reform Development Act passed in both chambers. That the issue of needed improvements is visible is good. That we still have no funding appropriated isn't.



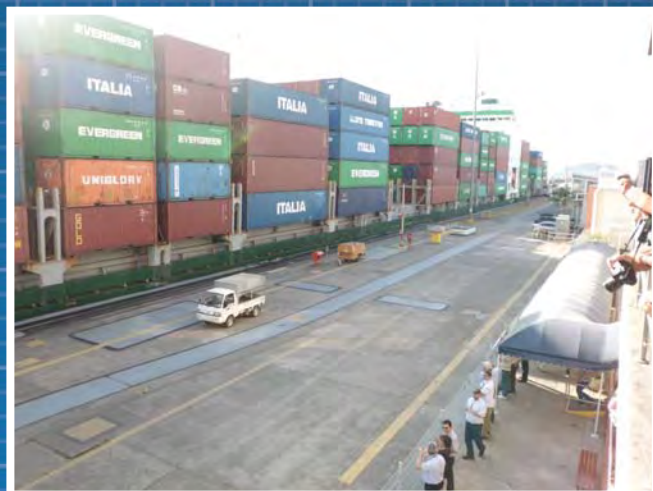
Olmsted project cost is now  
**\$3.1 billion,**  
**well over** the original projected  
 cost of **\$775 million.**

*"The loftier the building, the deeper the foundation must be laid."*



Martin Barbre, former ICGA President and Carmi, IL farmer, looks forward to leading the National Corn Growers Association this year as their President. ICGA looks forward to excellent Illinois leadership at the national level.

Last year we passed three important free trade agreements – with Korea, Panama, and Colombia. This year, we saw implementation finalized. Our future plans are to continue working with these countries to see our market opportunities grow!



# WE HAVE BIG PLANS FOR THE FUTURE!



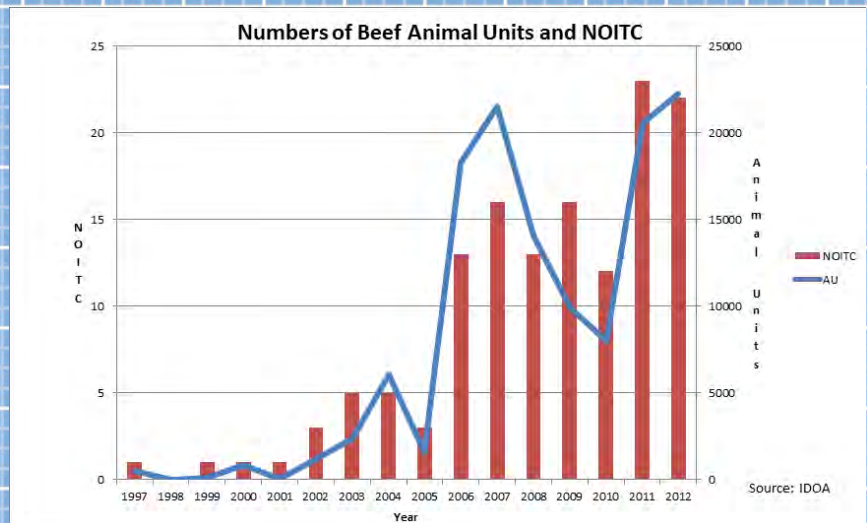


We have concerns about the regulations in store for farmers regarding water quality. The EPA wants to institute numeric guidelines, describing the trace amounts of nutrients that may be found in the water – and some of those could be coming from your farm! We have an extensive body of work planned in this area for next year to continue improving nutrient use on our fields and minimizing run off which impacts water quality AND your bottom line.



For the last two years, we have advocated for a new farm bill that would preserve crop insurance benefits that Illinois family farmers count on. Politics, partisanship, and dysfunction in Washington, DC have made passing a bill difficult but we have laid a foundation for farm policy that you told us was important. This will be a key component to our future work.

Since 2006, Illinois has added 114,592 head of beef finishing spaces. ICGA will remain committed to improving demand for meat domestically and internationally in 2014.



*"There is great satisfaction in building good tools for others to use."*

## Illinois Corn Growers Association

Bloomington, Illinois . Year Ended September 30, 2013

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

#### ASSETS

##### Current Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$88,956
Short Term Investments	894,336
Accounts Receivable	12,961
Prepaid Expenses	7,161
Total Current Assets	1,003,414

Investments	119,231
-------------	---------

Net Property, Plant and Equipment	514,672
-----------------------------------	---------

Other Noncurrent Assets	25,167
-------------------------	--------

<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,662,484</b>
---------------------	--------------------

#### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

##### Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$98,047
Other Deferred Revenue	211,895
Deferred Dues Revenue	244,607
Accrued Expenses	41,311
Total Current Liabilities	595,860

##### Long-Term Liabilities

Accrued Post Retirement Benefit	190,289
Deferred Rental Revenues	153,373
Total Long Term Liabilities	343,662

##### Net Assets

Unrestricted - Board Designated	27,000
Unrestricted - Undesignated	695,962
Total Net Assets	722,962

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,662,484</b>
---	--------------------

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

#### REVENUES

Dues	\$145,808
Corporate Partners	1,925
Interest	1,173
Project Funding	954,000
Rental	13,918
Special Projects	18,682
County Projects	27,000
Equity Income (Loss)	0
Unrealized Gain on Marketable Securities	(61,920)
Other	105,056

<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$1,205,642</b>
-----------------------	--------------------

#### EXPENSES

Exports Committee	363,459
Grassroots Committee	262,054
Industrial Committee	519,220
County Projects	6,781
Special Projects	96,728

##### General and Administrative

Management and Clerical	78,195
Building Repairs & Maintenance	395
Real Estate Tax	423
Depreciation	3,953
Post-Retirement Health Benefit	(4,396)
Utilities	1,354
Equipment/Maintenance	4,112
Meetings & Travel	3,480
Telephone	963
Internet & Website	1,567
Office Supplies & Postage	6,290
Illinois Corn Growers Newsletters	1,785
Audit and Legal	1,956
Insurance	1,241
Miscellaneous	4,452
Total General and Administrative	105,770

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>1,354,012</b>
-----------------------	------------------

<b>NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS</b>	<b>(\$148,370)</b>
---	--------------------

# Your Staff and Volunteers

P.O. Box 1623, Bloomington, IL 61702  
309-557-3257(p) . 309-827-0916(f) . [ilcorn@ilcorn.org](mailto:ilcorn@ilcorn.org)

Rodney M. Weinzierl, Executive Director  
[weinzier@ilcorn.org](mailto:weinzier@ilcorn.org); 309-838-5568(c)

Tricia Braid, Communications Director  
[tbraid@ilcorn.org](mailto:tbraid@ilcorn.org); 309-830-3393(c)

Dave Loos, Technology & Business Development Director  
[dloos@ilcorn.org](mailto:dloos@ilcorn.org); 309-830-2319(c)

Jim Tarmann, Field Services Director  
[jtarmann@ilcorn.org](mailto:jtarmann@ilcorn.org); 309-824-0548(c)

Philip Thornton, Value Enhanced Project Director  
[pthornton@ilcorn.org](mailto:pthornton@ilcorn.org); 309-824-5975(c)

Kayla Veeder, Office Manager  
[kveeder@ilcorn.org](mailto:kveeder@ilcorn.org); 317-446-5533(c)

Lindsay Mitchell, Project Coordinator  
[lmitchell@ilcorn.org](mailto:lmitchell@ilcorn.org); 309-846-6622(c)

Rosie Sanderson, Membership Administrative Asst.  
[rsanderson@ilcorn.org](mailto:rsanderson@ilcorn.org)

Suzie Rogers, Accounting Analyst  
[srogers@ilcorn.org](mailto:srogers@ilcorn.org)

Becky Finrock, Communications Administrative Asst.  
[bfinrock@ilcorn.org](mailto:bfinrock@ilcorn.org)



**ICGA 2013 Officers pictured left to right  
Tom Groppe, Treasurer; Paul Taylor, President; Gary Hudson,  
Vice President; Grant Noland, Secretary (not pictured)**

## **DISTRICT 1 / Paul Taylor, President**

1419 Baseline Rd, Esmond, IL 60129  
H: 815-393-4441 . C: 815-751-4014 . [ptaylor1@rochelle.net](mailto:ptaylor1@rochelle.net)

## **DISTRICT 2 / Aron Carlson**

3741 Westlake Village Dr, Winnebago, IL 61088  
C: 815-262-5886 . [aroncarlson91@gmail.com](mailto:aroncarlson91@gmail.com)

## **DISTRICT 3 / Randy DeSutter**

2947 Knox Hwy 6, Woodhull, IL 61490  
H: 309-334-2605 . C: 309-368-4802 . [rdesutter74@gmail.com](mailto:rdesutter74@gmail.com)

## **DISTRICT 4 / Craig Buhrow**

2374 Pipeline Rd, West Brooklyn, IL 61378  
H: 815-453-2446 . C: 815-739-4631 . [buhrow@oglecom.com](mailto:buhrow@oglecom.com)

## **DISTRICT 5 / Justin Durdan**

2 Brittany Court, Utica, IL 61373  
C: 815-252-9040 . [jdurdan@durdanfarms.com](mailto:jdurdan@durdanfarms.com)

## **DISTRICT 6 / Jeff Jarboe**

765 N St Rt 115, Loda, IL 60948  
H: 217-379-2255 . C: 217-249-2279 . [turboj@illicom.net](mailto:turboj@illicom.net)

## **DISTRICT 7 / Jim Reed**

771 E 1950 North Rd, Monticello, IL 61856  
H: 217-762-3444 . C: 217-493-3334 . [jim.reedfarms@gmail.com](mailto:jim.reedfarms@gmail.com)

## **DISTRICT 8 / Ted Mottaz**

708 N. Fairground Way, Elmwood, IL 61529  
H: 309-742-2350 . C: 309-368-0154 . [tmottaz@frontier.com](mailto:tmottaz@frontier.com)

## **DISTRICT 9 / Andy Bartlow**

292 Jana Road, Macomb, IL 61455  
C: 309-678-4304 . [andy.bartlow@gmail.com](mailto:andy.bartlow@gmail.com)

## **DISTRICT 10 / Andrew Goleman**

1248 Divernon Rd, Divernon, IL 62530  
H: 217-628-1125 . C: 217-899-5465 . [farmerboy@myfrontiermail.com](mailto:farmerboy@myfrontiermail.com)

## **DISTRICT 11 / Grant Noland**

2634 N 2000 E Rd, Blue Mound, IL 62513  
C: 217-433-8084 . [noland.farms@gmail.com](mailto:noland.farms@gmail.com)

## **DISTRICT 12 / Glenna Taylor**

PO Box 22, Oakland, IL 61943-0022  
H: 217-385-2455 . C: 217-251-7297 . [mfexpress@hughes.net](mailto:mfexpress@hughes.net)

## **DISTRICT 13 / Richard Gates**

928 CR 1600 N, Carmi, IL 62821  
H: 618-382-2207 . C: 618-384-8322 . [richard.gates@plantpioneer.com](mailto:richard.gates@plantpioneer.com)

## **DISTRICT 14 / Ken Hartman**

201 Holstein Pl, Waterloo, IL 62298-2743  
H: 618-939-7073 . C: 618-806-4076 . [glendell@htc.net](mailto:glendell@htc.net)

## **DISTRICT 15 / Jeff Scates**

315 W Posey Ct, Shawneetown, IL 62984  
H: 618-269-3163 . C: 618-269-0829 . [jeff@scatesfarms.com](mailto:jeff@scatesfarms.com)

## **AT-LARGE**

### **Gary Hudson / Vice President / At Large Director**

PO Box 25, Hindsboro, IL 61930  
H: 217-346-2072 . C: 217-276-2350 . [hudsspuds@consolidated.net](mailto:hudsspuds@consolidated.net)

### **Tom Groppe / At Large Director**

PO Box 68, Jerseyville, IL 62052  
H: 202-494-7234 . [tgroppe@gmail.com](mailto:tgroppe@gmail.com)

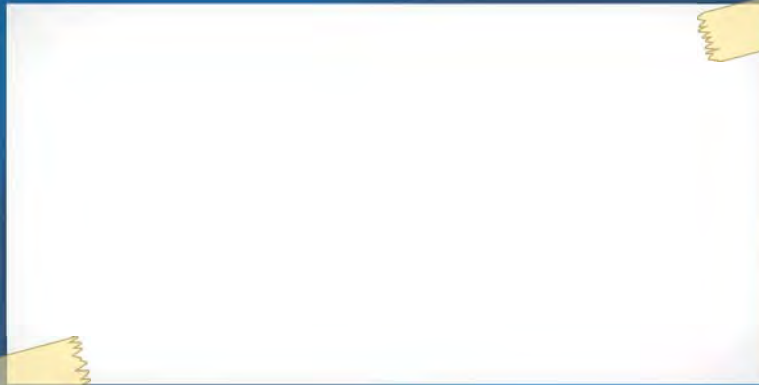
### **Wayne Anderson / IAA Interlocking Director**

17646 Liken Rd, Geneseo, IL 61254  
H: 309-944-6612 . C: 309-945-8276 . [contactwayneanderson@yahoo.com](mailto:contactwayneanderson@yahoo.com)



# Illinois Corn Growers Association

P.O. Box 1623  
Bloomington, Illinois 61702



# Illinois Corn

Join us



## Illinois Corn Growers Association

P.O. Box 1623, Bloomington, IL 61702-1623  
Phone 309-557-3257 • Fax 309-827-0916

Our organization is only as strong as our  
foundation in grassroots membership.  
Please share this with a neighbor and  
encourage them to join us.

*Or join us online  
at [www.ilcorn.org](http://www.ilcorn.org)*

- ☐ \$75 - 1 year      ☐ \$145 - 3 years  
☐ \$1000 Lifetime Membership

We will invoice you upon receipt of this card.

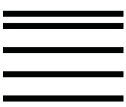
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
County \_\_\_\_\_  
Acres in Corn \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax (    ) \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Who shared this with you? \_\_\_\_\_



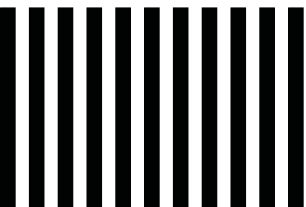
Building on a solid  
**FOUNDATION**

*[www.ilcorn.org](http://www.ilcorn.org)*

\_\_\_\_\_



NO POSTAGE  
NECESSARY  
IF MAILED  
IN THE  
UNITED STATES



**BUSINESS REPLY MAIL**

FIRST-CLASS MAIL PERMIT NO 368 BLOOMINGTON IL

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY ADDRESSEE



ILL CORN GROWERS ASSN  
PO BOX 1623  
BLOOMINGTON IL 61702-9799

