Dear WAEA Colleagues:

Another busy summer is rapidly coming to an end and the hustle of fall semester has already immersed us. One of the highlights of my summer was the WAEA meetings in Hawaii. Not only was this a new exciting adventure to a place that I had never been, it was also the start of my service as president of the WAEA. This is a challenge that I am both anxious and excited to fulfill. Our association has much to offer to current and prospective members and the strength of our group rests heavily upon membership and member participation. So, please encourage your friends and colleagues to be members and engage in the activities and services offered by the WAEA.

The ability of the WAEA to successfully serve the profession and its members relies critically on those who so willingly devote time and talent to the association. Over the past year, Bruce Godfrey culminated his long lasting service to WAEA by being an outstanding president. Thank you Bruce for your hard work and leadership! In addition, we all owe a huge debt of gratitude to Dawn Thilmany for her excellent management of our finances, the web page, association communications, and about 10 other things that she does for the betterment of the WAEA. In addition, Bruce and Dawn together with Dana Hoag, who did a wonderful job with the selected papers, deserve hearty congratulations for such an excellent summer meetings in Hawaii. The 2004 summer meetings were a prime example of the quality of experience dedicated leaders provide the WAEA.

The 2004 meetings were a great success with about 120 attendees, 88 presented papers, 6 symposiums, and a general session. Cheryl DeVuyst did a masterful job with this year’s awards recognition committee. Congratulations to our new WAEA Distinguished Scholars (listed on the next page). They are truly an inspiration to all of us for their outstanding accomplishments and we genuinely appreciate their long-standing support of and service to WAEA (5 of this year’s inductees are past presidents of WAEA). Heartfelt congratulations to this year’s other award winners for their commitment to excellence. Please continue to consider nominating your peers for these well deserved recognitions.

Let’s look briefly to the future. Plans are in place for the 2005 WAEA meetings in San Francisco on July 6-8 held jointly with Western Economics International Association and the Canadian Agricultural Economics Association as well as several other groups will be joining the meetings. Note the call for papers and organized symposiums listed in this issue of NewsNotes. I ask that you participate by submitting selected papers (and especially encourage graduate students to become involved in this activity), organizing your colleagues for a symposium, and attending and participating in the meetings. Several interesting opportunities will be on the WAEA business agenda as well.

I want to reiterate that I am very proud and honored to serve as the 2004-05 WAEA president. I invite your comments and suggestions for how the WAEA can better serve existing and potential clientele. Please call, e-mail, or contact me in any way if you have ideas, concerns, and/or suggestions. I look forward to hearing from you. Best wishes for a productive fall.

Best regards,

Ted Schroeder

Next Secretary-Treasurer

Lynn Williams from California State University—Fresno has graciously offered to be our next Secretary-Treasurer for 2005-2007. He will begin taking 2005 memberships this fall and become part of WAEA leadership in January.
2003-04 WAEA Award Winners

Congratulations to the following winners. Their hard work, like many others who aren’t recognized here, received well-deserved recognition at the WAEA annual meetings in Honolulu. We look forward to next year’s entries!

Distinguished Scholar of the WAEA

WARREN E. JOHNSTON, University of California-Davis;
JOHN LOOMIS, Colorado State University;
ALEX F. MCCALLA, University of California-Davis;
RON MITTELHAMMER, Washington State University;
DALE MENKHAUS, University of Wyoming;
A. GENE NELSON, Texas A&M University;
RICHARD SHUMWAY, Washington State University;
NORMAN K. WHITTLESEY, Washington State University; and
ROBERT A. YOUNG, Colorado State University

Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher
Less than 10 years experience

JOE ARATA, Kansas State University

Outstanding Undergraduate Teacher
More than 10 years experience

DANA HOAG, Colorado State University

Outstanding Master’s Thesis

JOSE ENRIQUE LOPEZ, Texas Tech University
“An Econometric and Simulation Model of the Mexican Cotton Industry”

Outstanding Extension Program

JAMES B. JOHNSON, Montana State University

Outstanding Extension Project
Kansas State University

VINCENT AMANOR-BOADU
ART BARNABY
DANIEL BERNARDO
MIKE BOLAND
KEVIN DHUYVETTER
SARAH FOGELMAN
RODNEY HOLCOMB
TERRY KASTENS
MICHAEL LANGE MEIER
JAMES MINTERT
CLAY SIMONS

Outstanding Published Research

JUNJIE WU and ANDREW J. PLANTINGA, Oregon State University

Outstanding JARE Article

BARRY K. GOODWIN, North Carolina State University and VINCENT H. SMITH, Montana State University

Outstanding Seniors

JERRI JO BURGER, University of Idaho
BRANDY JO COCHRAN, University of Wyoming
ANDREA ELIASON, Oregon State University
JEFFRY R. GITTINS, Utah State University
MIRANDA JAMES, Eastern Oregon University
BEN KAUFMANN, South Dakota State University
CARMEN ELIZABETH KELLING, Texas A&M University
CLAY MITCHELL, Colorado State University
JONATHAN ROVEY, University of Arizona

Please nominate the Outstanding Seniors from your western state or province. Send their names, major and contact information to: thilmany@lamar.colostate.edu
NEWSNOTES

New Officers and Executive Committee

The following individuals were elected or selected to serve the association as new members of the Executive Committee:

President-Elect
Dana Hoag, Colorado State University

Vice President
Jill McCluskey, Washington State University

Directors, 2004-2006
Eric Schuck, Colorado State University
Cheryl DeVuyst, North Dakota State University

We express our appreciation to all those who stood for the election and look forward to working with the new members of the Executive Committee. Continuing members of the Executive Committee include:

President
Ted Schroeder, Kansas State University

Past President
E. Bruce Godfrey, Utah State University

Directors, 2002-2004
Penelope Diebel, Oregon State University
Paul Patterson, Arizona State University

Secretary-Treasurer
Dawn Thilmany, Colorado State University

Head Editor
Dee Von Bailey, Utah State University

Membership and Dues

Membership in WAEA comes with many benefits, including an exceptional journal, new newsletter format with timely articles, and joint and independent meetings with great content and networking opportunities. Still, we have been able to retain low dues given past financial management successes and a solid membership base. Dues for 2005 will remain as follows:

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<th>Domestic</th>
<th>International</th>
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<tr>
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<td>$17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family</td>
<td>$30</td>
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Please promote our association to your colleagues and graduate students. It is a great value. A membership form for 2005 is on the insert page.

WAEA Awards for 2005

Materials for WAEA awards will not be due until the spring of 2005. But, this fall is a good time to decide to apply and to begin preparing materials. See the WAEA website (http://www.waeaonline.org) for criteria and an outline of material needed.

Call for Selected Paper Proposals

It’s time to start thinking about submitting manuscripts for the 2005 annual meeting held jointly with the WEAI in San Francisco, California (July 6-July 8). We will handle the paper selections as we did last year. Our goal is to let you know whether your papers are accepted by early March. The call for abstracts is enclosed in this newsletter. Check out our website, http://waeonline.org/or visit the WEAI website, www.weainternational.org in coming months for more program information.

Call for Organized Symposia

We will have organized symposia again at the 2005 annual meetings in San Francisco (July 6-July 8). In addition to the WEAI, the Canadian Agricultural Economics Association will be joining us as well. Therefore, hopefully we will have one or more joint symposiums. Look for more information on submitting your symposia proposal in the newsletter, and watch the Webpage for program information!
Membership Application and Dues Notice for 2005
includes a subscription to the
Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics
Volume 30

Name and Mailing Address (if employed by a government agency or university, office address is preferred.)

______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

E-Mail Address:

Do you want to receive WAEA newsletter via (circle one): electronic, paper, both

(Please check appropriate category)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Type of Membership</th>
<th>U.S., Canada, &amp; Mexico</th>
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<tr>
<td>[ ] Regular</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>[ ] Student (requires departmental certification)**</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
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<td>[ ] Senior (persons who have retired)</td>
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<tr>
<td>[ ] Family (two memberships, one copy of Journal sent)</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
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Lifetime Dues

| Age 55-59 | $240 | Age 60-64 | $190 |
| Age 65-69 | $125 | Age 70+  | $80  |

**I certify that the person named above is eligible for student membership.

______________________________
Department Head or Staff Member

Make check or money order (U.S. dollars) payable to:
WESTERN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS ASSOCIATION
Members are not guaranteed shipment of any journals or newsletters published prior to their membership date.

Total amount enclosed: ____________________________

Send payments to:
Lynn Williams, Secretary-treasurer, WAEA
Department of Agricultural Economics
California State University—Fresno
Fresno, CA 93740-8001
Phone: (559) 278-2949     E-mail: lynnw@csufresno.edu