



NETWORK NEWS

Monthly Newsletter of the
DES MOINES LEADERSHIP NETWORK

SEPTEMBER 2008

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LEADERSHIP NETWORK

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www.dmladershipnetwork.org
desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com

BUSINESS LUNCHEON FACTS

DATE: **Thursday, September 18th**

TIME: **11:45 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.**

PLACE: **The Des Moines Embassy Club, 801 Grand Avenue
40th Floor -- Downtown Des Moines**

COST: **\$20.00** cash or check payable to **Leadership Network**

RSVP: By noon on Tuesday, September 16th

- E-mail to desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com
- Contact Us page at www.dmladershipnetwork.org
- Phone Marlena at 286-4953

Cancellations are accepted through noon on Tuesday. If you are unable to honor your reservation, we still must bill for the meal. However, this monetary obligation is removed if someone else can attend and pay in your place.

SEPTEMBER LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

“WHERE WOULD WE BE WITHOUT ETHANOL?”



Ron Litterer, President of the National Corn Growers Association, will be our opening speaker for the new membership year. Mr. Litterer shares the following information about his upcoming educational presentation.

“Today’s media paints quite a picture of how much better off the world would be without ethanol. The renewable fuel has been charged with driving up food prices, creating commodity shortages and even causing environmental destruction in the Amazon. Yet, economic analysts have reported that without ethanol, gas prices would be 15 percent higher! At today’s national average, that

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SEPTEMBER SPEAKER CONTINUED

would mean gas prices would skyrocket to about \$4.60 a gallon. Comparing the savings over the entire expected U.S. gasoline usage for 2008, ethanol will save the country at total of \$70 billion this year alone! Since transportation costs have a greater impact on food price than commodity prices, without ethanol, food costs would also soar. It's time American consumers hear the real truth about ethanol, not the skewed image Big Oil and Big Food are painting in the media.”

SPEAKER BIO

Ron Litterer serves as President of the National Corn Growers Association, a producer-directed trade association headquartered in St. Louis with a second office in Washington, D.C. Its mission is to create and increase opportunities for corn growers.

Mr. Litterer farms corn and soybeans near Greene, Iowa, where he also has a hog finishing operation. At the national level, he serves as president of the Sweetener Coalition, as a delegate on the U.S. Grains Council and as a committee member on the USDA Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee for Trade and the National Corn-to-Ethanol Research Advisory Board. He has served as chair of the Public Policy Action Team and as a member of the Finance Committee and Joint Trade Policy A-Team. He has been active in Iowa Corn Growers Association activities, including the Production and Environmental Issues Team, Livestock Task Force and the Political Action Committee. Mr. Litterer served as a member of the Iowa Farm Bureau, the Iowa Soybean Association, and the Iowa Pork Producers Association.

Mr. Litterer is a graduate of Iowa State University and taught vocational agriculture at Starmont and Webster City Community Schools prior to farming. He has traveled to the Czech Republic and Russia on agricultural projects sponsored by Iowa State University. He has been farming for 29 years, and he and his wife, Janice, have two daughters.

THE SPOTLIGHT IS ON...

Brant Ausenhuis will spend a few minutes at the start of the September 18th meeting acquainting members and guests with his new leadership development organization, Leadership Pursuit.

A NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Our membership roster has grown with this month's addition of Terry Ebke of Security Equipment, Inc.(SEI) in Des Moines. Terry plans to meet everyone in a couple of weeks -- and he has already recommended a luncheon speaker! We look forward to getting to know you, Terry.

TRANSITIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Judi Pierick has been granted the Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) designation. Individuals earning the CFRE credential have met a series of standards set by CFRE International and must pass a rigorous examination testing the knowledge, skills and abilities required of a fundraising executive. Well done, Judi.

Send *your* professional news to desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com for publication in the October edition of **Network News**.

OUR SIGNATURE LOCATION

The time and place of our business luncheons is consistent from month to month for the ease and enjoyment of Leadership Network members and guests. Here are some things to remember and pass on to potential members.

Our meeting venue is The Des Moines Embassy Club, 801 Grand Avenue, downtown Des Moines, on the 40th floor of the Principal tower – where the view is fabulous in any season! Meetings always take place on the third Thursday of the month from September through May.

Reservations are required by noon on the Tuesday preceding the meeting date. Our website at www.dmladershipnetwork.org has a contact form for this purpose. A phone call to 286-4953 or e-mail to desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com are also acceptable means to reserve a seat.

Meetings begin promptly at 11:45 a.m. Leadership Network accepts \$20.00 in cash or check upon arrival at the meeting (though we must bill you for a missed meal if someone could not attend in your place). Diners choose their favorite dishes from an extensive buffet and eat and meet in a private dining room. The meeting ends by 1:00 p.m., though we readily admit to having kept the occasional speaker behind with questions.

Please mark all nine Thursdays on your calendar and enjoy the benefits of meeting regularly with your Leadership Network friends and hearing some great presentations at our signature location.

Leadership Network Membership Application

New Member Referred by _____ Renewing Member

Regular Member Annual Dues: \$95.00. Retirees may join for half price.

Name _____

Title _____

Company or employer _____

Street address or postal address _____

City _____ ZIP Code _____

E-mail address _____

Phone _____ Mobile #, if different _____

FAX _____

Professional certification _____

Company/employer Web address (for Leadership Network Web links)

LEADERSHIP NETWORK P.O. Box 30128 Des Moines, IA 50310
www.dmleadershipnetwork.org desmoinesleaders@yahoo.com

Preparing Tomorrow's Leadership Team Today.

Mission: To enhance the leadership experience, knowledge, growth, and commitment to ethical practices and professionalism of our members through program meetings and networking with one another.