

Cooperative Notes

Official Publication of the Northeast Cooperative Council

Forum Focuses on — “Advancing Our Commitment to Members”

The Northeast Cooperative Council will hold its Cooperative Leaders Forum and 57th Annual Meeting on March 15-16 at The Wyndham Hotel in E. Syracuse New York. The Forum is held in conjunction with CoBANK's regional customer meeting.



Papadellis

Randy Papadellis, CEO of Ocean Spray will kick off the Forum with a presentation on “**Building Member Value.**” Papadellis heads Ocean Spray Cranberries, a nearly \$1.4 billion enterprise owned by 650 cranberry growers and 100 grapefruit growers, that produces and markets hundreds of fruit-based beverages and foods in some 130 countries worldwide. His career in the food-and-beverage industry spans nearly 25 years with some of the top brands in the business. He joined Ocean Spray in July 2000 as President and Chief Operating Officer, managing day-to-day operations through a period of intense internal changes and outside competition. Under his leadership, the organization trimmed more than \$100 million in costs, introduced one of the most successful new product lines in the brand's history and began an operating alliance with Nestlé USA that has saved both companies millions. He holds an MBA in marketing from Cornell University and an undergraduate degree in government and administrative science from Colby College in Waterville, Maine.

Bill Davisson, CEO of GROWMARK, will address “**Cultivating International Membership.**” Davisson became CEO of GROWMARK, Inc. in 1998. GROWMARK is a federated, regional agricultural cooperative that provides products and services to member cooperatives in the Midwest U.S. and



Davisson

Ontario, Canada with total revenues of \$2.8 billion in 2005. In 2002, GROWMARK acquired the assets of Agway Agronomy and Seedway, LLC. Davisson serves on a number of boards of directors, including National Cooperative Refinery Association, CF Industries Holdings, Inc., MID-CO COMMODITIES, INC., GROWMARK FS, LLC, Seedway, LLC, FS Preferred Insurance Company, maltaCleyton, and the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives (NCFC) Executive Council. Bill graduated from the University of Iowa in with a bachelor's degree in Accounting and is a Certified Public Accountant.



Chimerine

“**Advancing Our Commitment to Rural America**” is the theme of the CoBANK session which will include a report on 2005 operating results from Bob Engel, Chief Operating Officer. Roy Orton, Chair of the CoBANK board will present a report from the board followed by customer questions and answers.

Dr. Lawrence Chimerine will present an “**Economic Outlook.**” Chimerine is president of Radnor International Consulting, managing director and chief economist at the Economic Strategy Institute (ESI) in Washington, D.C.. and senior economic advisor at the WEFA Group. As a speaker, he is known for his entertaining and insightful commentary on the U.S. and global economies, domestic politics, and international trade. A frequent guest on network television, he has recently appeared on ABC's *Good Morning America*, CNN's *Crossfire*, and PBS's *MacNeil/Lehrer NewsHour*

Events

National Council of Farmer Cooperatives Annual Meeting – January 19-21 in Orlando, Fla. for more information, see Web site at www.ncfc.org

NECC Future Leaders Conference Planning Committee – March 14 at 7:30 p.m. at The Wyndham Syracuse.

NECC Board of Directors – breakfast meeting on March 15 at 7:00 a.m. at The Wyndham Syracuse.

NECC Cooperative Leaders Forum and Annual Meeting – March 15-16 held in conjunction with CoBANK's regional customer meeting at The Wyndham Syracuse. For more information, contact

Carol Thomson at 607/255-5464 or cmt8@cornell.edu or visit our Web site at <http://cooperatives.aem.cornell.edu>

National Cooperative Business Association Annual Meeting and Conference – May 3-5 in Washington, D.C. For more information, see Web site at www.ncba.coop

NECC Future Cooperative Leaders Conference – July 19-21 at the Radisson Hotel in Plymouth, Mass., hosted by Ocean Spray Cranberries. For more information, contact Brian Henehan at 607/255-8800 or bmh5@cornell.edu

and *Wall Street Week*. Chimerine has served on numerous corporate boards, is a member of various professional associations and has held teaching positions at three universities.



Zolli

Andrew Zolli will review “**Forces Shaping the Coming Decades.**” Zolli is an author and futurist, forecasting the effects that trends in demographics, technology, geopolitics, and business have on corporations, governments and other organizations. He is a visiting fellow of the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, a frequent commentator on Public Radio's “Marketplace,” and a member of the Global Business Network. He is futurist-in-residence at Popular Science magazine and the organizer of the annual Pop!Tech conference, a unique intellectual and creative conference that explores the social impact of technology and the shape of things to come. He founded Z + Partners, a design and foresight lab that helps organizations understand their future and develop forward-looking brands, businesses and strategies.

The Wednesday afternoon program will be followed by a reception sponsored by CoBANK directors and the annual NECC banquet. The after-dinner speaker sponsored by CoBANK will be Nido Qubein who will speak on “**From Success to**



Qubein

Significance.” Nido Qubein is a respected business leader. He is the chairman of Great Harvest Bread Company, which includes 175 stores in 34 locations. Mr. Qubein is also the CEO of an international consulting firm and serves on the boards of 17 organizations, including a Fortune 500 company with \$93 billion in assets. Mr. Qubein has published numerous books and addresses approximately 100 groups around the world each year.



Corcoran

The Forum will continue on Thursday morning with a presentation on “**Developing Global Marketing Strategies**” by Tom Corcoran, Chair of Glanbia USA. Corcocan operates a family dairy farm with two sons in Waterford County, Ireland. Glanbia, plc is an international dairy, consumer foods and nutritional products company headquartered in Kilkenny Ireland, with total revenues of 1.83 billion euros in 2004. He currently serves as Chairman of the Glanbia USA advisory board consisting of non-executive directors from both the U.S. and Ireland as well as executive directors. He has been involved in establishing other global operations including a joint venture in Nigeria. Corcoran first joined the board of directors of Glanbia in 1988. He became vice chairman in 1997 and group chairman in 2000 and retired from that position in July 2005. He also serves as Vice President of the Irish Co-operative Organization Society which coordinates the cooperative movement in Ireland. He was recently

President's Column

Roger Murray



Once again its time to mark our March calendars for the annual Cooperative Leaders Forum. The NECC Leaders Forum, held in conjunction with CoBank, is rated one of the best leadership development meetings held each year. This year's program looks to be of the same caliber. The focus will be on how each of our cooperatives can advance their commitment to members. Building member value and staying committed to their needs is what it's all about. We are pleased, once again, to schedule our conference together with CoBank's customer meeting. By pooling our collective resources, we are able to present to you a most stimulating forum on cooperatives. Don't miss this opportunity to sharpen your cooperative leadership skills.

In other news, Cornell has approved the hiring of Assistant Professor (Agribusiness) position to be housed in the Department of Applied Economics and Management, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. A search committee is reviewing applications and will be interviewing candidates soon. This position will help to fill, in part, the void that occurred due to the retirement of Dr. Bruce Anderson. Thank you for your support in helping to encourage the college to fill this position. We have a unique relationship with Cornell and we enjoy access to Cornell staff and resources that help us fulfill our mission.

Lastly, I'd like to thank the membership for their support of the council through annual dues, attendance at programs, and donations to the Cooperative Leadership Fund. It is through this support that we are able to continue to provide programs that will help us all be better cooperative leaders for the future.

appointed to The National Dairy Council in Ireland and has been appointed by the Irish Government to serve on the "Irish Food Board or "Bord Bia" (Bia meaning food).



Hayes

David Hayes & Charles Sullivan, attorneys with Bond, Schoeneck & King, LLP will address the subject of "**Reviewing Antitrust Law: An Update on the Capper-Volstead Exemption.**" Hayes is a lawyer whose practice includes agricultural cooperatives and antitrust. He is Of Counsel to Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC, and practices in the firm's Syracuse, New York office. He is also an Adjunct Professor of Law at the Syracuse University College of Law where he teaches the Antitrust course. Mr. Hayes is an Associate Member of the Northeast Cooperative Council, and is a member of the Legal, Tax & Accounting Committee of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives, Washington, D.C. and a member of the NCFC's Antitrust Task Force. He is a graduate of Syracuse University and the University of Virginia Law School. Sullivan is a lawyer who advises cooperatives, agricultural suppliers, agricultural lenders, food processors, other agribusinesses and farmers about



Sullivan

a variety of matters, including antitrust law. He is a Member of Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC, and practices in the firm's Syracuse, New York office. Mr. Sullivan is an Associate Member of the Northeast Cooperative Council, a member of the Legal, Tax & Accounting Committee of the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives and a member of the American Agricultural Law Association. Mr. Sullivan is a graduate of St. Lawrence University, the University at Buffalo School of Law and the University of Arkansas School of Law (LL.M., agricultural law). He was raised on a dairy farm in Malone, New York.

The Forum will wrap up with round table discussions for directors and managers. These sessions have become very popular and allow leaders from across the Northeast to discuss current issues and share strategies.

For more information on the schedule or registration for the conference, visit the following Web site: <http://cooperatives.aem.cornell.edu/events1.html> or contact Brian Henehan at 607/255-8800 or e-mail at bmh5@cornell.edu.

The Northeast Cooperative Council...

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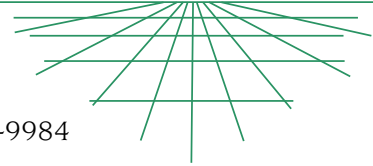
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NECC

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To learn more about NECC or read past issues of
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