

Spring 2019 Edition



Annual Meeting Information

Our annual meeting will take place June 30 – July 2 at the Coeur d’Alene Resort in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. Please register for the meeting at the following link before June 1 to receive the early registration discount: <https://waea.execinc.com/edibo/am19>

Early registration fees are \$325 for members, and \$175 for graduate students. The registration fee includes Sunday’s reception, Monday breakfast and lunch as well as Tuesday breakfast and lunch. More details on the program can be found below. **All Selected Paper and Organized Symposium presenters must be registered by May 1.**

To make a reservation at the Coeur d’Alene resort, please either use this link: [WAEA Conference Hotel Reservations](#) or call 800-688-5253 and tell the reservation agent you are with the Western Agricultural Economics Conference. Conference room rates are \$229 for the Park Tower; an optional upgrade to the Lake Tower is available for \$279. Unfortunately, the resort is already 100% full on Saturday night, June 29, so if your travel plans include a Saturday night stay in Coeur d’Alene, you will need to find other accommodations for that night. We apologize for any inconvenience. The hotel is honoring our conference rate for two days after the conference should you choose to extend your stay. Reservations in our block are guaranteed until May 21, so please make your reservations prior to that date for the best availability.

Post-Conference Agricultural Tour Tuesday, July 2

The Western Extension Group has yet another informative and interesting agricultural tour arranged to begin Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. following the awards luncheon. This year’s tour will follow a scenic northerly route along Lake Pend Oreille (the 5th deepest fresh water lake in the U.S.) and then east along the Priest River in Idaho. The last third of the route will take us through the Rathdrum Prairie – a once predominantly agricultural area. Tour stops will include a large cattle ranch to discuss mountain grazing pastures and grazing resources; forest management regarding bark beetle infestation; wolf management issues in NE Washington and Idaho; and the history of grass seed production and current domestic and global markets at Simplot. A post-tour dinner is also in the works. We plan to return to the resort by 8:30 p.m. The tour fee is \$65, and you can register right along with your conference registration. These tours have been highlights of the last several meetings, so we encourage you to join in the fun!

Transportation to the Meeting

The nearest airport to Coeur d’Alene is Spokane, WA, which is served by Alaska, American, Delta, Frontier, Southwest and United. The hotel is about 40 miles (45 minutes) from Spokane airport. The Coeur d’Alene Resort has shuttle service available with 48-hours’ notice for \$69 round trip for adults, \$50 one way. For those who are driving, parking is available at the resort for a conference discounted fee of \$12 per day.

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Future Meetings

2020 WAEA Annual Meeting
Santa Fe, NM, June 28-30, 2020

Meeting Planning

The schedule for the meeting will be released by mid-May with the presentation and organized symposium sessions. Paper sessions will be held Monday morning and afternoon, as well as Tuesday morning. Our conference will kick off with a Welcome Reception on Sunday, June 30, starting at 6 p.m. Two program elements from the past are being reintroduced – a keynote speaker for Monday’s lunch and an Awards Luncheon on Tuesday. We are lucky to have **Dr. Robert Johansson, Chief Economist of the USDA**, as our Keynote Speaker, who will discuss *Economics at USDA – Past, Present and Future*.

WAEA directors Jo Ann Warner and Aleksan Shanoyan are organizing the Selected Paper sessions. We had 140 paper submissions and 112 selected for presentation. Thanks to all of the WAEA members who served as topic chairs and reviewers, we appreciate your time and effort. Of the submitted papers, 15 requested to be included in the graduate student paper competition and 12 papers were chosen to present in that competition. Wade Brorsen is organizing the Graduate Student Paper Competition. Authors of selected papers have been notified of decisions. **Selected paper presenters must be registered for the conference by May 1.**

WAEA directors Karina Gallardo and Cory Walters have organized the WAEA awards selection. Thanks to the many WAEA members who volunteered their time as committee chairs and committee members to choose from a very strong slate of nominees in all award areas. Award winners have been selected and nominators have been notified. The awards will be presented at Tuesday’s Awards Luncheon.

WAEA Outstanding Senior Awards

The WAEA Outstanding Senior Award recognizes outstanding undergraduate seniors who have achieved academic excellence at their institution and are expected to make important contributions to western agricultural, resource, and/or environmental economics in their career. One senior standing student may be selected by each degree granting institution in the nineteen western states of the United States (Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming) and four western provinces of Canada (Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan). Each department makes their own eligibility criteria, selection process, and outstanding senior award decision. Award winners will receive a certificate and recognition in the WAEA awards program and on the WAEA website. Certificates are mailed to each department rather than the student. Please send selected senior names and department contact information to Lynn Hamilton, lhamilto@calpoly.edu.

Golfing at Couer d’Alene Resort

The resort is offering all members of our group a discounted rate of \$170 (taxes included). This rate includes water taxi to the course, 18 holes of golf, golf cart, unlimited floating practice balls, personalized bag tag, forecaddie and complimentary warm-up sports massage. Please call the Golf Course at 208-667-GOLF (4653) to schedule at least 48 hours in advance.

Future Meetings

The 2020 meeting will be in Santa Fe, NM from June 28-30, 2020. President-elect Chris Bastian is working with the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society to hold a 2021 joint meeting in Banff, Alberta, Canada. Dates TBA. We look forward to seeing you in Coeur d’Alene!