



Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation
99th Annual Meeting


November 16-18, 2017

DoubleTree By Hilton • Bloomington, MN



Minnesota Farm Bureau®

Farmers • Families • Food



“Growing up my father was involved in Farm Bureau, and from that I learned the value of our organization’s membership. Farm Bureau has a history of pulling people involved in agriculture together in times of hardship and in times of success.”

— Bob Roelofs, Blue Earth County



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Thursday, November 16

3–7 p.m. Registration

Evening Producers Club Recognition
(Invitation Only)

Farm Bureau volunteers who have signed at least five new members by September 29 are invited for a night filled with celebration of membership successes.

Friday, November 17

6:30 a.m.–6 p.m. Registration

8 a.m. Voting Delegate Session

8 a.m. Ag in the Classroom Visits

Visit a metro classroom and teach students about farming. Pre-registration is required.

10 a.m. Showcase Opens

11:30 a.m. District Meetings/Caucuses

Noon Delegate Lunch

1 p.m. Voting Delegate Session Resumes

1 p.m. Volunteer Service Project

Back by popular demand, come make sandwiches for Allen Law, “The Sandwich Guy,” to deliver to those in need. Law has volunteered more than 175,000 hours to serving the poor and homeless in the Minneapolis area.

4 p.m. Social Hour with Elected Officials

5:30 p.m. Awards Banquet
President’s Address

7:30 p.m. Foundation Auction

Saturday, November 18

6:30 a.m.–2 p.m. Registration

7–8 a.m. PAC Breakfast
(Contact Public Policy Team for details)

Saturday, November 18 (Continued...)

8:30 a.m. Discussion Meet Semi-Final

8:30–9:30 a.m.



General Session:
National Issues Update
Mary Kay Thatcher
AFBF Senior Director
Congressional Relations

Having worked through seven previous farm bills, Mary Kay knows the opportunities and challenges associated with writing the next one. Get updated on the 2018 Farm Bill’s progress, AFBF priority issues and more.

8:30 a.m. Achievement Award Interviews
Excellence in Ag Presentations

9 a.m. Collegiate Discussion Meet

9:45 a.m. Discussion Meet Semi-Final

9:45–10:45 a.m. General Session:
Rural Resiliency

Farm families deal with stressors such as commodity prices, health care, weather, etc. Thankfully, there are ways to handle stress on the farm. Gather tools and resources to help build rural resiliency.

11 a.m.–Noon



General Session:
Economic Challenges Facing Agriculture
Betsy Jensen
Farm Business Management Instructor
Northland Community & Technical College

Betsy shares her struggles with crop marketing and farm management through blogging and a regional magazine column. As both an educator and farmer, she loves numbers, and will keep you entertained while covering the basics of farm management.

Noon Luncheon
Discussion Meet Finals
Keynote Speaker Matt Birk
YF&R Awards
Prize Drawings

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Registration

Pre-registration deadline is November 1. After this date, daily event fee increases \$5 per day.
All attendees, including voting delegates, must fill out a registration form and pay.

How to Register

1. Fill out the form on this page and mail with a check to MFBF office by November 1.
2. Visit fbmn.org and under "Events" click on "Minnesota Farm Bureau Annual Meeting." Follow the directions on screen and pay online or send check to MFBF office by **November 1**.

Contact Information (One registration form per person.)

County: _____

Name: _____

Membership Number: _____

I am not a Farm Bureau member
(Become a member at fbmn.org.)

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Payment Information

Check all that apply:

Ag in the Classroom Visits	No cost _____
Friday Attendee (Includes banquet ticket)	\$50 _____ (\$55 after November 1)
Saturday Attendee (Includes luncheon ticket)	\$50 _____ (\$55 after November 1)
TOTAL	\$ _____

Mail registration with payment to:

Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation
Attn: Annual Meeting Registration
P.O. Box 64370
St. Paul, MN 55164-0370



After **November 1**, register at the annual meeting. Daily event fee increases \$5 per day. No refunds after registration deadline.

For registration information, contact Lori Wiegand at 651-768-2102 or lwiegand@fbmn.org.

Reminder: You must make your own hotel reservations. See back for more information.

Hotel Information

DoubleTree By Hilton

7800 Normandale Boulevard
Bloomington, MN 55439
800-222-TREE • doubletree3.hilton.com

* Located at corner of
Interstate 494 and
Highway 100.



Hotel Reservations

You are responsible for hotel reservations. The deadline for room block reservations is November 3. Contact the hotel at 800-222-TREE. Room rate is \$101.70 inclusive.

Frequently Asked Questions

I am not a delegate, just a member. Is it even worth attending the Annual Meeting?

Yes! The Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting is a time of year for all members to come together, celebrate accomplishments and get excited for the new year. Check out the available opportunities inside this brochure.

Does MFBF make hotel reservations for me?

No. Contact the hotel to make reservations. Deadline for room block reservations is November 3. Resolutions Committee members still need to contact the hotel, but may submit one night's expense for reimbursement after the meeting.

Win a trip! 2018 AFBF Annual Convention

Turn in your nametag at the Saturday Luncheon for a chance to win air, hotel and registration for one to the American Farm Bureau Annual Convention, January 5-10, 2018, in Nashville, TN. Must be present and a paid Farm Bureau member to win. Prize is non-transferable. MFBF Board of Directors, staff and their spouses are ineligible to win.

Keynote Speaker

Matt Birk is a former football center who played college football at Harvard. He was drafted by the Minnesota Vikings in the sixth round of the 1998 NFL Draft. Birk is a two-time All-Pro and six-time Pro Bowl selection. He retired in 2013 after winning the Super Bowl as a member of the Baltimore Ravens.



In 2002, Birk established the HIKE Foundation, which seeks to impact the lives of at-risk children by providing interactive programs and resources needed to guide a child through the key educational transitions between elementary, middle, high school and college. The foundation launched "Ready, Set, Read!" in select Baltimore area public schools in the fall of 2010. The program works with about 100,000 Baltimore students on improving their reading skills through an incentive-based system.

Birk was named the sixth-smartest athlete by the Sporting News in 2010, and in 2011 he received the Walter Payton Man of the Year Award for his commitment to improving literacy among at-risk youth. He currently works for the National Football League as Director of Football Development, where he strives to grow and develop the pipeline of football people at all levels.

Throughout his football career, Birk faced his fair share of ups and downs. He had to sit out the entire 2005 season due to a hip injury, and thought his career was over long before it actually was. Though Birk says he never let football define himself, the sport taught him a lot of important life lessons, enough to fill a book titled, "All-Pro Wisdom: The 7 Choices that Lead to Greatness."

In his motivational program, "Leading to Win," Birk explains how star players can win games, but it's the bottom of the roster that ultimately win championships. He goes on to deliver the message that good leadership reaches everyone and gets them fully engaged in the mission.

Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation

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