

Hotel Information

DoubleTree Hotel

7800 Normandale Boulevard
Bloomington, MN 55439
800-222-TREE • doubletree3.hilton.com
I-494 and Highway 100

Hotel Reservations

You are responsible for making your own hotel reservations. The room block deadline is November 6. Contact the DoubleTree Hotel at 800-222-TREE. Room rate \$101.70 inclusive.

Frequently Asked Questions

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

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

Does Minnesota Farm Bureau make hotel reservations?

No. Contact the hotel to make reservations. The room block deadline is November 6. Contact information is found above. If you are on the Resolutions Committee, you still need to contact the hotel, but you may submit one night's expense for reimbursement after the meeting.

Win a Trip to the 2017 AFBF Annual Convention

Turn in your nametag at the Saturday Luncheon for the chance to win an air, hotel and registration expense paid trip for one to the American Farm Bureau Annual Convention, January 8-11, 2017, in Phoenix, AZ. Must be present to win and must be a paid Farm Bureau member. Prize is non-transferable. MFBF Board of Directors, staff and their spouses are ineligible to win.

Keynote Speaker John Kriesel



If Dr. Norman Vincent Peale was writing his popular book, "The Power of Positive Thinking," today he would need to add a separate chapter on John Kriesel.

In 2006, Kriesel was nearly blown to shreds by a 200 pound roadside bomb in the parched sands of Iraq, but battlefield angels in army uniforms kept him breathing long enough to reach a field hospital. He died three times and was shocked back to life. Somehow he survived through four hospitals, 35 surgeries and months of recovery. He lost both legs and suffered numerous other major injuries, but it was the loss of two close friends that hurt the most.

The guy who wasn't supposed to survive and was told he probably would be in a wheelchair the rest of his life walked out of Walter Reed Army Medical Center after nine months. Today he is a brilliant beacon illuminating Dr. Peale's gospel of positive thinking to anyone who will listen. "You are not going to get blown up by a roadside bomb, but at some point you will face hardship," he asserts, "and you can deal with it."

Eight years after his near-death experience in Iraq, Kriesel is Director of Veterans Services for Anoka County, a frequent contributor on KFAN Sports Radio and former member of the Minnesota House of Representatives. He was elected in 2010 after a vigorous campaign where he was told a Republican could not win in his district. He personally visited several thousand homes in all weather conditions and literally wore out the socket in one of his prosthetic legs.

The new legislator was anything but a quiet freshman in his first session challenging even his own party and frequently speaking his mind. John planned to remain in the legislature, but when his boys pleaded with him to spend more time coaching their football and baseball teams, he put politics on hold.

Kriesel lives with his wife, Katie and sons, Elijah and Brody in Cottage Grove.



Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation 98th Annual Meeting

November 17-19, 2016 • DoubleTree Hotel, Bloomington, MN



"Farm Bureau has been an important part of my professional and personal development. I have become a part of a network of people who share my passion and enthusiasm for agriculture. I'm grateful to Farm Bureau for having a Young Farmers and Ranchers program that invests in future leaders."

Mike Miron
Washington-Ramsey County
2016 National Excellence
in Agriculture Winner

3080 Eagandale Place
Eagan, MN 55121
651-768-2100
www.fbmn.org • info@fbmn.org



Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation 98th Annual Meeting

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Thursday, November 17

3-7 p.m. Registration

Evening Producers Club Recognition
(Invitation Only)

Farm Bureau volunteers who have signed at least five new members by September 30 can join us for a night filled with celebration of membership successes.

Friday, November 18

6:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Registration

8 a.m. Voting Delegate Session

8:30 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

1:30-3:30 p.m. The Sandwich Guy Service Project
Help make sandwiches for Allan Law, "The Sandwich Guy," to distribute to those in need. Law has volunteered more than 175,000 hours to Minneapolis Recreation Development, Inc. for this project.

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 19

6:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Registration

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

8:30-9:30 a.m. General Session:
Strategic Communications in a Social Media World

Mace Thornton,
AFBF Executive Director,
Communications

Whether the topic is transparency, sustainability or feeding the world, findings from communications research conducted with consumers can help build a foundation for engagement around your personal farm and ranch stories.

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:
Property Taxes 101
Property tax statements. Valuation statements. Truth in taxation meetings. School bond tax credit. During this session, a panel of state and county experts will explain what exactly these and other terms mean, how the property tax process works and what opportunities you have to get involved.

11 a.m.-Noon General Session:
Election Update and Legislative Preview

Mary Kay Thatcher,
AFBF Senior Director,
Congressional Relations

With the 2016 election in the rear-view mirror, attention turns to what the impact of the election will be nationally and statewide. Hear an analysis of the election, and how issues could be addressed in the upcoming sessions.

Noon Luncheon
Celebrate MFBF through the Discussion Meet Finals, keynote speaker John Kriesel, Young Farmers and Ranchers award winners and door prize drawing.

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Register by October 28.

All attendees, including voting delegates, must fill out a registration form and pay.

Contact Information

One registration form per person.

County: _____

Name: _____

Membership Number: _____ I am not a Farm Bureau member.
To become a member, visit fbmn.org.

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Payment Information

Mail registration with payment by October 28 to:

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

Register at the conference after October 28. Prices increase after October 28. No refunds after October 28.

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.

Check all that apply:

Ag in the Classroom Visits No cost. _____

Friday Attendee \$50 _____
(Includes banquet ticket) \$55 after October 28.

Saturday Attendee \$50 _____
(Includes luncheon ticket) \$55 after October 28.

TOTAL \$ _____

Ways to Register

1. Fill out the form on this page. Mail with a check to the Minnesota Farm Bureau Federation by the October 28 deadline.
2. Visit www.fbmn.org. Under Events, click on Minnesota Farm Bureau Annual Meeting. Follow the directions on the screen. You may pay online or send in a check by the October 28 deadline.