From The Publishers

The Powerful Grip of Tenacity

The Fluid Journal, and its parent organization the Fluid Fertilizer Foundation (FFF), are offsprings of the National Fluid Solutions Association (NFSA), together an aggregation that dates back 61 years to 1954. Their founders, independent fluid fertilizer dealers, were dedicated to the proposition that fertilizers in the fluid form are the most efficient and productive way to feed crops.

Over the years, there have been some consolidations and changes in the world of agriculture that have required foresight and determination of those in the world of fluid fertilizers to adjust to the times and carry on.

By the early nineties the FFF was operating as its own entity when the NFSA discontinued operation. At the time, the FFF was being revitalized. The Fluid Journal was formed to replace Solutions Magazine, which had been the primary source of spreading word about fluid fertilizers under the auspices of the NFSA.

Today, the Fluid Journal is read worldwide over a website stretching across 104 countries and regions, informing its readers about the FFF and the advantages of fluid fertilizers in crop management and producing higher yields.

While the FFF continues on, thanks not only to ag companies who’ve contributed their time and skills and the leadership of the FFF’s President Dale Leikam, it should never forget the tenacious efforts over the years of the principals who would never say quit.

A powerful grip, indeed.

24th Fluid Forum Offers Broad Agenda

Insights provided on a wide range of research showing the advantages of fluid fertilizers in improving yields.

Talking Stick was again the site for the 24th Annual Fluid Forum held from February 15 to 17 in Scottsdale, Arizona as researchers and ag people from the United States and overseas gathered for two days of sharing the latest in field research to improve crop yields. Information-packed sessions, led by leading researchers funded by the Fluid Fertilizer Foundation, headquartered in Manhattan, Kansas, spoke to packed sessions on the latest developments in improving yields using fluid fertilizers.

Opening the first session Monday afternoon was Russell French of DuPont/Pioneer who spoke on “Implementing Research and Adapting for High-Yield Agriculture.” The opening day sessions ended with a talk assessing the potentials for drip irrigation and fertigation, delivered by Dr. Fred Below of the University of Illinois.

An FFF board-sponsored reception in Talking Stick’s spacious Garden Atrium followed the afternoon session, treating a crowd of 121 registrants to a multi-tabled array of gourmet delights.

Steve Keller, Chair of FFF Board of Directors, calling the 2015 Annual Meeting of the FFF to order.

Never forget the tenacious efforts

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He also briefly discussed some of the subjects brought up at the recent Board of Directors meeting.

Dale Leikam also made the President’s Report, offering thanks to supporting members, recognizing FFF board companies who have served as sponsors, researchers, and program speakers. He also brought members up-to-date on the FFF’s finances and any new research projects.

This was followed by a presentation of the Researcher of the Year award which went to Dr. Tony Vyn of Purdue University for his outstanding fluid fertilizer research contributions to agriculture.

The prestigious Werner Nelson Award was presented to Dr. Carrie Laboski of the University of Wisconsin for her outstanding contributions to wise use of fertilizer to maximize crop yields and profits.

Fluid Fellow Awards, given in recognition of leadership in the fluid fertilizer industry, were presented to: Waddy Garrett of VitAg, Carl Bruce, of Wilbur-Ellis, Cliff Snyder of IPNI, and Tom Fairweather of Tessenderlo-Kerley. At the close of the meeting, the gavel was passed from Board Chair Steve Keller of Morral Companies to Dr. Terry Tindall of J.R. Simplot Company.

Following a Continental Breakfast the next morning, the discussion was an hour presentation by Dr. Peter Mansoor of Ohio State University on the formation and activities of ISIS, the vile acts they perform and the effect they are having worldwide. This was followed by a broad range of subjects covering the latest in fluid technology reports by ten researchers speaking on such topics as irrigation timing in corn fertigation, a recap on 4R nutrient stewardship, environmental challenges, and improving cotton production efficiency.

The noon annual meeting of the FFF was a festive occasion that included a multi-course luncheon followed by an annual report concerning FFF business, including Board of Directors reports. Recognition was given by Board Chair Steve Keller to those members who have regularly provided FFF support, plus eight new companies who have recently joined in their support of the Foundation.

In 2016, the 25th Annual Fluid Forum will again be held at Talking Stick Resort in Scottsdale, Arizona. Dates are February 15 to 16, 2016. Be sure and put this on your calendar.