

**POWER OF ONE SEMINAR-Class X, April 21, 22 - 2011: Salina**



Two years ago, KARL Class X was formed and we began a journey to become more responsible leaders. Today, after 52 days (or 600 hours) of intensive learning, from 200 speakers and hosts, we have arrived at Graduation Day.



Thursday evening we gathered for a get-together dinner with family and friends and enjoyed a reception with many of the class members wearing their Made In Vietnam attire. The group enjoyed the slides from the two years. A Surprise event was the class created auction of several cases of our favorite Vietnamese beverage, Tiger. Proceeds went to the "Tiger Squadran Fund" to benefit the next class.







Friday morning we began the day with the KARL Board of Directors. Several board members made challenges to the class, such as setting goals and putting our learning experiences to use. We have gained knowledge from the program and from each other and we need to reinvest into our community. We must not forget that “time” is our most important asset. It is also important to remember that this is not the end of our KARL experience, but the beginning of our continuing education.

Once the board was finished, it was each class member’s turn to talk about their KARL experience and how it has changed their life. Many thoughts and memories were shared, but the one word that seemed to come up often was family.





After lunch, class X regrouped to discuss our long term goals and to elect a class member to serve on the KARL Board of Directors. After some short campaigning and a ballot count, the class nominated Jesse McCurry from Colwich.



*"What are Chicken Stips?", Mark Coberly*



*Now that's better - BEEF!*

Our evening included a great banquet and introductions of special guests. Director Jack Lindquist recognized board members that completed 6 years of service to the program including Chair Clark Boyer (Class VII), Dr. George Ham, Jean Hixson and Lance Woodbury (Class IV).





Our speaker for the evening was Florence Metcalf. Florence was a Charter Board Member of Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership Inc and served as the first Curriculum Chair of the KARL Program. She is a graduate of Leadership Stevens County, Leadership Liberal and Leadership Kansas. She received the Kansas Friend of Extension Award in 1998 and the Huck Boyd National Institute for Rural Development Leader of the Year Award in 2000. She currently serves as a trustee for Southwestern College and as a board member for Smoky Hills public television.



Florence and her husband Ted strongly believe in the mission and goals of the program and Florence has led by example in her support of KARL both during her board tenure and in the years following. In fact, The Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership Program received a \$30,000 endorsement from the Metcalf's during the Economic Revitalization Seminar in Liberal November 8 of 2006. Florence Metcalf, presented an agreement between the Ted and Florence Metcalf family, the High Plains Heritage Foundation and KARL, Inc. with earned funds from

the investment to be used specifically for the educational efforts of the Kansas Agriculture and Rural Leadership Program.



Florence' speech reflected on the humble beginnings of the program and the dedication to make the program one of the top leadership development programs in the nation. At the conclusion of her speech Florence was awarded a Lifetime Meritorious Award for her role model leadership by KARL, Inc. Chair Clark Boyer on behalf of the board.



Response by Jesse McCurry, Class Representative to the KARL, Inc. Board

We can't express our appreciation enough for the vision Florence Metcalf had by providing a framework of unmatched educational experiences for future agricultural and rural Kansas leaders. Her gift is a model for other successful rural leaders to extend their legacy to the benefit of emerging leaders. In effect, Florence Metcalf has encouraged others to follow in her footsteps-others that share in her belief in the importance of strong leadership within the agricultural industry and rural communities. We are grateful for all contributions but especially for her families trust in our program". With the gift, the Mecalf's have joined the select group of major endowment donors known as KARL Legacy Benefactors.





Class X has now graduated and will move on to do great things. So if you thought this is the end you are quite mistaken...it just the beginning. Our next phase of learning is in the KARL Graduate Program for the rest of our lives.

**WE ARE... DEVELOPING LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE!**

