



# THE FARMSTEAD

BENEWAH COUNTY FARM BUREAU® NEWSLETTER  
VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2  
OCTOBER 2015

## ANNOUNCING BENEWAH COUNTY ANNUAL FB MEETING

What: Benewah County Annual Farm Bureau Membership Meeting

When: Friday, October 30th

Time: 6:00pm

Where: The Gateway Café in Plummer

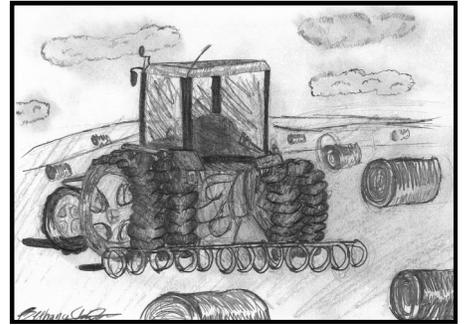
Jim Chmelik will be there to speak about the need for getting control of lands held in trust for the State of Idaho (a.k.a. Federal Lands).

### FARM BUREAU CONTESTS FOR K-12

Something for all grades!

We have some new contests for students:

- ◆ Grades K & 1 is a color page contest
- ◆ Grades 2 & 3 is a color page contest
- ◆ Grades 4 & 5 is an essay contest
- ◆ Grade 6 is a poster contest
- ◆ Grades 7 & 8 is an art design contest
- ◆ Grades 9-12 is a speech contest



Contests are sponsored by the Idaho Women's Leadership Committee.

The details for each contest are available on our county website [www.benewahcountyidaho.org](http://www.benewahcountyidaho.org) or contact the county FB office.

District and State winner receive money!

### FB WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Idaho has five Farm Bureau Districts. Benewah County is in district five. The counties in the district take turns providing a Woman of the Year. Benewah County has chosen Marjorie Cooke. Her and her husband Larry own Evergreen Tree Farm just off Highway 3 South East of Saint Maries.

Congratulations Margie!

### TRADE AGREEMENTS OR PARTNERSHIPS?

American Farm Bureau has many policies regarding trade agreements with other countries, but none deal with partnerships. In essence, these misnamed "partnerships" (entanglements) constitute a major step toward formation of the New World Order (one world government over all countries). We must

remember that one of the most important documents delivered by George Washington to the Congress and the American people was his 1796 Farewell Address. He wisely advised the new nation not to become entangled with foreign countries and their governments. We

encourage you to do your own research on Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) negotiations. Visit these sites [jbs.org](http://jbs.org) and [tna.com](http://tna.com) to start and then contact your congressman to share your concerns.

*Del Rust,*

*Benewah County FB President*

**Benewah County Board**

**President:** Del Rust  
drusty555@hotmail.com

**Directors:**  
Area 1 - Carole Rust/Secretary  
Area 2 - Rachael Johnson  
Area 3 - Bud Steinebach  
Area 4 - Russell Lowry/VP  
Area 5 - Stan McNutt  
Area 6 - John Ferris/Treasurer  
Area 7 - Karen Calistero  
Area 8 - Mike Ingersoll

**Committee Leaders:**  
Woman's Committee Co-Chairs -  
Brenda Steinebach and  
Rachael Johnson  
Young Farmers and Ranchers Chair -  
Jon Patterson

**Regional Manager:**  
Bob Smathers  
bsmathers@idahofb.org

**To Contact** any board member  
by phone, fax, or e-mail,  
please speak with our  
County Customer Service  
Representative, Susie Patterson.

**Tel:** 208-245-5568

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***We Know Idaho.  
We Grew Up Here.***

**Benewah County Farm  
Bureau is on the Web!**  
[www.benewahcounty  
idaho.org](http://www.benewahcountyidaho.org)

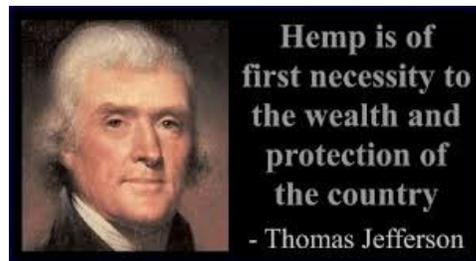
- ⇒ Code of the New West  
(video and sup. docs.)
- ⇒ Membership Benefits
- ⇒ News articles
- ⇒ Calendar of Events
- ⇒ Activities
- ⇒ About Benewah FB

## HEMP BIOMASS VS. FOSSIL FUEL

When comparing hemp and fossil fuel there are benefits to turning to hemp. Pyrolysis facilities can process hemp using the same technology used now to process fossil fuel oil and coal. Petroleum coal and oil conversion is more efficient in terms of fuel-to-feed ratio, but petroleum fuel increases carbon monoxide in the atmosphere and contributes heavily to global warming and the greenhouse effect. Considering this, there are many advantages in turning to hemp to fulfill our energy needs.

- 1) Hemp biomass has a heating value of 5000-8000 BTU/lb., with virtually no ash or sulfur emissions.
- 2) Ethanol, methanol, methane gas, and gasoline can be derived from biomass at a fraction of the cost of the current cost of oil, coal, or nuclear energy, especially when environmental costs are factored in. Each acre of hemp could yield about 1000 gallons of methanol.
- 3) When an energy crop is growing, it takes carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from the air, and releases an equal amount when it is burned, creating a balanced system. On the other hand petroleum fuels only release CO<sub>2</sub>. When an energy crop like hemp is grown on a massive scale, it will initially lower the CO<sub>2</sub> in the air, and then stabilize it at a level lower than before the planting of the energy crop.
- 4) Use of biomass would end acid rain, end sulfur-based smog, and reverse the greenhouse effect.

Hemp produces the most biomass of any plant on earth. It is at least four times richer in biomass/cellulose potential than its nearest rivals: cornstalks, sugarcane, kenaf, and trees. Since it produces the most of any crop, it is the natural choice for an energy crop. Hemp converts the sun's energy into cellulose faster than any other plant through photosynthesis to produce 10 tons of biomass per acre every four months. Enough energy could be produced on 6% of the land in the U.S. to provide enough energy for our entire country (fuel cars, heat homes, electricity, industry) -- and we use 25% of the world's energy!



To put it into perspective, right now we pay farmers not to grow on 6% (around 90 million acres) of farming land, while another 500 million acres of marginal farmland lies fallow. A great step in the right direction would be to put this land to use growing hemp as an energy crop and also using it as a rotation crop in working fields. The most compelling thing this hemp crop would offer is fuel. Right now we are depleting our reserves of petroleum and buying it up from other countries. We could have a fuel source that is reusable and we could grow right here, making us completely energy independent.

*Bud Steinebach, Benewah County FB Board Member*