



Speaker Information

January 5-7, 2012

Allen, Andy received his Master's Degree in Horticulture working with fruit crops from the University of Arkansas. He serves as the Extension Viticulture Associate for North Carolina State University for three and half years before coming to Missouri in 2004. He serves as the Extension Viticulturist with the Institute for Continental Climate Viticulture and Enology at the University of Missouri. 108 Eckles Hall, Columbia, MO 65211. **P:**(573) 882-6752. **E:**allenra@missouri.edu.
W: iccve.missouri.edu.

Arnold, Paul & Sandy own Pleasant Valley Farm in upstate New York and have been farming for 24 years; they have two teenage children who are home-schooled and help run the family farm. Over 40 varieties of diverse fruit and vegetable crops are grown with organic methods on about 8 of their 180 acres of land, and they grow a diverse range of crops in two high tunnels. The Arnolds make their living selling their produce year-round at 3 area farmers' markets each week; they specialize in season-extension and profitability, and enjoy using renewable resources such as solar. Although neither came from a farming background, they have enjoyed farming as their sole source of income for the past 20 years and have also enjoyed the great lifestyle it offers. Pleasant Valley Farm, 118 South Valley Road, Argyle, NY 12809. **P:**(518) 638-6560.
E: arnold.pvf@gmail.com.

Barden, Charles has worked for K-State Research and Extension since 1998. He grew up in Rhode Island, working in his grandfather's apple orchard, which was established in the 1930's, and was one of the first to begin pick-your-own operations in the 1970's. He saw a customer base, and as a teenager began raising pumpkins, gourds and sunflowers to sell to the apple pickers. He currently oversees the K-State Master Gardener vegetable trials. He earned his Ph.D. from Penn State, his Masters from Virginia Tech, and his B.S. from the University of Rhode Island. KSU, 2021 Throckmorton-HFRR, Manhattan, KS 66502. **P:**(785) 532-1444. **E:** cbarden@ksu.edu. **W:** hfr.ksu.edu.

Bates, Marlin is a regional horticulture specialist for University of Missouri Extension in the West-Central region of the state. Marlin works regularly with specialty crop producers in the Kansas City region. His programmatic efforts include production planning, pest management, marketing, and the development of new local-food producers through one-on-one consultations, workshops, and field days. University of Missouri Extension, Platte County, 11724 NW Plaza Circle, Suite 300 Kansas City, MO 64153. **P:**(816) 270-2141. **E:** batesma@missouri.edu.

Blanchard, Chris owns and operates Rock Spring Farm, with fifteen acres of certified organic vegetable, herb, and greenhouse production north of Decorah, Iowa, selling produce year-round through a 200-member CSA, food stores, and a farmers market since 1999. Prior to 1999, Chris managed student farms, worked as an intern, packing house manager, plant breeding assistant, and farm manager, and provided consulting for a major organic processor, in California, Wisconsin, Maine, and Washington state. Under the banner of Flying Rutabaga Works, Chris' workshops about farm business concepts, food safety, organic vegetable production, and scaling up to farmers throughout the country have gained a reputation for fresh approaches, down-to-earth information, and honesty. He also co-directs the MOSES Organic Farming Conference. Rock Spring Farm, 3765 Highlandville Road, Decorah, IA 52101. **P:**(563) 735-5613. **E:**frw@rsfarm.com.
W: flyingrutabagaworks.com.

Bollinger, Mike and his wife Katie operate a certified organic small acreage farm nestled into the hills near Decorah, Iowa. In the year and a half they have spent establishing River Root Farm, they have been growing seedlings for regional farmers, providing specialty greens and vegetables for area restaurants and groceries, as well as producing seed stock and researching new varieties for seed companies. Mike is also the Agriculture Specialist and Co-Founder of Four Season Tools, a company specializing in season-extending movable high tunnels, farm development consultation, and uniquely designed farm implements. 2789 River Bend Road, Decorah, IA 52101. **P:**(763) 280-3276. **E:** mike@smallfarmtools.com.
W: riverrootfarm.com or smallfarmtools.com.

Bunch, Matt has been in the horticulture trade since 1994 first on the commercial side, then the municipal side, and has been with Powell Gardens since 2004. Since 2008 Bunch has been the lead horticulturist for Powell Garden's Heartland Harvest Garden a 12 acre edible landscape featuring as many as 2000 distinct edible plant varieties. **P:**(816) 697-2600. **E:**mbunch@powellgardens.org. **W:** powellgardens.org.

Byers, Patrick is regional horticulture specialist for SW Missouri, headquartered in Greene County. He provides programming for 16 counties. Prior to joining Extension in 2008, he was fruit grower advisor for the MSU Missouri State Fruit Experiment Station, where he provided outreach education for commercial fruit producers. Patrick is involved in fruit and vegetable research, with a particular interest in alternative fruit crop development. Greene County Extension Center, 2400 S. Scenic, Springfield MO 65807. **P:**(417) 881-8900. **E:** byerspl@missouri.edu.

Carney, Kelly operates North Pulaski Farms and is a retired IT executive with 20 years of experience in the online and government travel industry. Kelly was the CIO and one of the principals of World Wide Travel Service Inc. WWTS was sold in 2003 and he was retained by the new owners to assist with the transition of the online travel management tool QualityAgent he had created in 1991. In 2007 he retired from Carlson Wagonlit Travel and has a small IT consulting firm, Kreative Logic. Kelly has always had a passion for growing and is proud to be a part of certified organic agriculture. 8 Tara Mount Drive, Jacksonville, AR 72076. **P:**(501) 240-4233. **E:** info@northpulaskifarms.com. **W:** northpulaskifarms.com.

Chapman, Linda and her partner, Deryl, have been building and growing Harvest Moon Flower Farm in southern Indiana for the past 24 years. Growing and marketing well-grown and beautifully arranged flowers is the 'bread and butter' of their farm, and they now market 48 weeks of the year. They produce more than 100 varieties of sustainably grown flowers and are known for beautiful floral crafts. **E:** chapdale@bluemarble.net.

Chastain, Lance and his wife, Elizabeth, are the owners of Chautauqua Hills Farm located in Chautauqua County in southeast Kansas. They grow Blueberries, Blackberries, Asparagus and Garlic. Their Blueberries are becoming known regionally for their size, taste and quality. Their produce is available each season by Pick Your Own and Order & Pick Up in the Wichita Area. They employ a proprietary and unique reservation system utilizing their website to manage and coordinate reservations for Pick Your Own customers and off-farm demand for their produce. **P:**(620) 249-3369 or (316) 371-6864. **E:** info@chautauquahillsfarm.com. **W:** chautauquahillsfarm.com.

Cloyd, Dr. Raymond is a Professor and Extension Specialist in Ornamental Entomology/Integrated Pest Management Extension (70%) and research (30%) appointment at Kansas State University. Research and extension program involves pest management in greenhouses, nurseries, landscapes, turfgrass, conservatories, interiorscapes, and vegetables and fruits. Extension specialist in horticultural/ornamental entomology for the state of Kansas. Dr. Cloyd has published over 60 scientific refereed publications and over 400 trade journals on topics related to pest management. Major clientele includes homeowners, master gardeners, and professional and commercial operators. 123 Waters Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506-4004. **P:**(785) 532-4750. **E:** rcloyd@ksu.edu.

Connors, Deb has been employed by Copaken Brooks as Market Master for the City Market in Kansas City, Missouri, for the past nine years. She currently serves on the board of the Missouri Farmers Market Association and the Kansas City Missouri Health Department Food Protection Advisory Board. She is also a member of the National Association of Produce Market Managers, AgriMissouri, Farmers Market Coalition and a Heartland Tourism Ambassador. City Market, 20 East 5th Street, Suite 201, Kansas City, MO 64106. **P:**(816) 842-1271. **E:** dconnors@copaken-brooks.com. **W:** thecitymarket.org.

Cranford, Elaine graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a B.A. in Environmental Studies, emphasis Anthropology, in August 2003. Since January 2004 Elaine has been working full time with the Nebraska Cooperative Development Center. Elaine provides technical assistance, education and training to cooperatives and groups throughout the state who have been building their businesses, and also for those who are just in the beginning stages. Cranford help launch and sustain Nebraska's Buy Fresh Buy Local program and has been involved in a variety of local food system and sustainable agricultural projects. Elaine also served as Market Manager for the Old Cheney Road Farmers' Market in Lincoln, NE for two seasons. **P:**(402) 472-1748. **E:**ecranford2@unl.edu. **W:** ncdc.unl.edu.

Deffenbaugh, Rachel studied environmental studies and international relations at Knox College. During this time, she studied sustainable development and agriculture in Thailand. Since then, she has worked as a community educator at an educational organic farm in California and as an AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteer In Service To America) at Gateway Greening, a non-profit gardening organization in St. Louis. Currently, she is the Urban Farm Manager for Gateway Greening's City Seeds Urban Farm. 2211 Washington Ave., St. Louis, MO 63103. **P:**(314) 588-9600 ex. 32. **E:** rachel@gatewaygreening.org. **W:** gatewaygreening.org.

Delate, Kathleen is a Professor of Organic Agriculture in the Departments of Horticulture and Agronomy at Iowa State University. She has a Ph.D. in Agricultural Ecology from UC-Berkeley and works on teaching, research and Extension in organic agriculture. She hosts the Iowa Organic Conference in Ames, Iowa, every November, which features talks on organic grain, vegetable and fruit production. 106 Hort Bldg, ISU, Ames, IA 50011. **P:**(515) 294- 7069. **E:** kdelate@iastate.edu.

Duever, Jim & Valerie have been keeping bees for about 10 years on their farm in Bachelor, MO. Jim is the President of the Boone Regional Beekeepers Association and Valerie is their Secretary and maintains their Facebook and website pages (time permitting). They raise bees, primarily for honey production, but mostly because this creature is just fascinating. The majority of their honey sales come from the local FFA annual fundraising program and each year, Valerie donates a day to help educate the High School students on the benefits of honey and the basics of the honeybee. Both are graduates from the University of Missouri-Columbia, with degrees in Horticulture. Boone Regional Beekeepers Association, Columbia, MO. **W:**boonebees.org or find them on Facebook. Jim 'n' I Farms, Inc. **P:**(314) 402-4841. **E:**jimandifarms@ktis.net. **W:**jimandifarms.com.

Duffner, Paul is a Resource Conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) stationed in the Missouri State Office in Columbia, Missouri. One of his responsibilities is technical oversight of the Seasonal High Tunnel offering in Missouri through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). Paul has a B.S. degree in Plant Industries from Southern Illinois University and a M.S. degree in Agronomy from the University of Illinois. NRCS, State Office, Parkade Center, 601 Business Loop 70W, Columbia, MO 65203. **P:**(573) 876-0908. **E:** paul.duffner@mo.usda.gov. **W:** mo.nrcs.usda.gov.

Gale, Wanda Heuser works as VP of International Plant Management which is a company that test, protects, introduces and markets new fruit varieties. She is also Vice President, Sales and Marketing, of Summit Tree Sales. A horticulturalist, Wanda has a lifetime of experience in the fruit industry and is available to help you select the varieties, rootstocks, and planting systems that will work best for your particular climate and market. **P:**(800) 424-2765. **E:** wanda@summittreesales.com. **W:**summittreesales.com.

Garbos, Greg received both his bachelor's and master's engineering degrees from Duke University. As a trained engineer, Greg applied his skills to implementing solutions for sustainability in a variety of roles/positions. In 2007, Eliot Coleman introduced Greg Garbos to Mike Bollinger, a dedicated farmer and agriculture consultant, and together Mike and Greg founded Four Season Tools. Their ag & engineering talents has resulted in the design of industry-leading, innovative products and services that extend crop growing seasons, enable greenhouses to move, revolutionize greenhouse production, and create opportunities for pastured animals to be protected within movable agriculture buildings. Four Season Tools, 9615 Grandview Road, Kansas City, MO 64137. **P:**(816) 444-7330. **E:**info@smallfarmtools.com.

Graff, Rebecca & her husband, Tom Ruggieri, tend a diverse farm of vegetables, fruits and herbs for a 120-member CSA in Northwest Missouri. Fair Share Farm works toward the goal of sustainability by using organic growing practices and solar-powered machinery. The Fair Share Farm CSA builds community through member participation in the production & distribution of the farm produce. 18613 Downing Rd., Kearney, MO 64060. **P:**(816) 721-4456. **E:** rebecca@fairsharefarm.com. **W:** fairsharefarm.com.

Graznak, Liz is the owner and farmer of Happy Hollow Farm, LLC an 82 acre certified organic Community Supported Agriculture farm in Jamestown, Missouri. Happy Hollow Farm CSA serves Columbia, Jefferson City and the surrounding areas. Liz's passion for farming & food stems from time spent with her grandparents as a child. Just entering her third year of farming with 56 CSA members, Liz has developed and fostered a large community of neighbors and CSA members dedicated to supporting and helping Happy Hollow Farm thrive. **P:**(660) 849-2430. **E:** lizgraznak@gmail.com. **W:** happyhollowfarm-mo.com.

Gu, Sanjun is the Extension Vegetable Specialist in Missouri. He received a BS in Vegetable Production and a MS in Vegetable Breeding and Tissue Culture from China; and a Ph.D. in Viticulture from University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Dr. Gu joined Lincoln University of Missouri in 2008 with state-wide responsibility for commercial vegetable production. His research interests include vegetable grafting and vegetable production in high-tunnels and other solar plastic greenhouses. **P:**(573) 681-5524. **E:** Sanjun.gu@lincolnu.edu.

Hannan, Joe worked at the Muscatine Island Research Farm in Fruitland, IA for 5 years producing melons and conducting fruit and vegetable research. He earned his Master's degree in Horticulture from Iowa State University in 2011 and has been working for ISU Extension and Outreach for one year. Joe is working with growers to improve plant fertility, is a member of the food safety team, and is involved in several research projects. ISU, 28059 Fairground Road, Adel, IA 50003. **P:**(515) 993-4281. **E:** jmhannan@iastate.edu. **W:** IowaProduce.org.

Hodges, Laurie is the Extension Vegetable Specialist for commercial production of field and high tunnel crops (except potatoes) for Nebraska. For the past 10 years she has been using organic production methods in the field and high tunnels. She recently initiated a research project on organic control of sunflower rust. Pollen-free sunflowers have become a key crop in the cut flower industry and profitable crop for many growers who sell directly to consumers or florists. With over 200 cultivars to choose from, growers have many questions. Dept. of Agronomy & Horticulture, 377 Plant Sciences Bldg-UNL, Lincoln, NE 68583. **P:**(402) 472-1639. **E:** lhodges@unl.edu.

Hoormann, Rich has been an Agronomy Specialist for the University of Missouri in the Central and East Central Regions since 2005. He studied Plant & Soil Science at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, and has worked as an agronomist for: University of Nebraska, University of Missouri, Farmland Industries, Agrilience, Cropland Genetics and as an independent consultant. He has been involved in various research & demonstration projects including cover crops as part of local "On Farm Research" efforts. He has been a Certified Crop Advisor since 1996. 310 Salisbury St., Suite E, Montgomery City, MO 63361. **P:**(573) 564-3733. **E:** hoormannr@missouri.edu.

Kelly, Katherine co-founded the KC Center for Urban Agriculture in 2004 after eight years of running her own Kansas City urban farm, Full Circle Farm, four years of working as field crew on farms in the Boston area and a lifetime before that as a home and community gardener. She grew up outside Eldorado, KS, where she worked on her neighbor's row crop and livestock farm. She has worked professionally as a community organizer, non-profit manager, fundraiser, grant maker, and organizational development consultant in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Boston, and Kansas City. She co-founded the Growing Growers Training Program and the Farmers Community Market at Brookside and is actively engaged in efforts to develop the Kansas City food system. KCCUA, 4223 Gibbs Road, Kansas City, KS 66106. **P:**(913) 931-2444. **E:** Katherine@kccua.org.

Kennelly, Megan is a plant pathologist at Kansas State University. She is originally from Madison, Wisconsin. She studied at University of Wisconsin and Cornell, then worked at Michigan State University before coming to KSU in 2006. Her position includes research, extension, and diagnostics for horticultural commodities including fruits and vegetables. KSU, 4024 Throckmorton, Manhattan, KS 66506. **P:**(785) 532-1387. **E:** kennelly@ksu.edu.

Kirk, Steven has been the Field Supervisor for the Commercial Vegetable Production Program at Lincoln University Cooperative Extension's George Washington Carver Farm since September 2009. Previously, he worked for the University of Missouri in a variety of extension, research and horticulture positions including Integrated Pest Management and Agroforestry. His first major project at Lincoln University was constructing two 96' x 30' Zimmerman High Tunnels. Lincoln University, 302D Allen Hall, Jefferson City, MO 65101. **P:**(573) 681-5521. **E:** kirks@lincolnu.edu.

Kittler, Warren joined Community CROPS in Lincoln, Nebraska, as the Farm Program Manager in 2011. Warren learned about urban farming through field work at Cultivate KC and Blue Door Farm in Kansas City, KS. He ran a small vegetable farm on vacant lots in urban Kansas City, KS, for three years before moving to Lincoln, NE. 1551 S. 2nd Street, Lincoln, NE 68502. **P:**(402) 474-9802. **E:** warren@communitycrops.org. **W:** communitycrops.org.

Kleinhenz, Matthew has been an Extension Vegetable Specialist with The Ohio State University for twelve years. Previously, he was a Crops Specialist with Univ. of Maine Cooperative Extension. Matt helps vegetable farmers and other members of the industry to maximize their sustainable profit potential through integrated crop management approaches. He works in field and high tunnel, organic and conventional, and fresh market and processing crop systems. His extension-research topics include grafting, season extension, product quality and soil management. OSU-OARDC, 1680 Madison Ave., Wooster, OH 44691. **P:**(330) 263-3810. **E:** kleinhenz.1@osu.edu. **W:** hcs.osu.edu/vpslab.

Kocher, Bob has a formal education in architecture and planning, working in Washington, DC with architects, landscape architects, and urban planners. Since moving to St. Louis, he has joined the City Seeds Urban Farm, working in downtown St. Louis training unemployed veterans in landscaping and providing therapeutic horticulture for people battling substance abuse or homelessness. 2211 Washington Ave., St. Louis, MO 63103. **P:**(314) 588-9600 ex. 32. **E:** bob@gatewaygreening.org. **W:** gatewaygreening.org.

Kuebler, Dan has been growing organic produce since 1989 on his 30 acre farm, The Salad Garden, in southern Boone County Missouri and selling at local farmers markets and restaurants in Columbia, MO. He and his farming partners grow on 1.5 acres of land and began using low tunnel production in 1991. Presently the farm has two unheated tall tunnels and one moveable tall tunnel which was erected in October, 2010. The moveable tunnel has been moved twice in the 2011 growing season. The farm is anticipating adding extra track to create a third rotation with the moveable tunnel in the future. 16471 Hawkins Road, Ashland, MO 65010. **P:**(573) 356-9388. **E:** dlkuebler@yahoo.com.

Leskey, Tracy received her B.S. in Biology, from Wilson College, Chambersburg, PA; her M.S. in Ecology at Penn State University, University Park, PA and her Ph.D. in Entomology at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. She is employed as a Research Entomologist for USDA-ARS at the Appalachian Fruit Research Station (AFRS) in Kearneysville, WV, USA. Her research focuses on behavioral and chemical ecology of economically important tree fruit pests. She has written over 80 publications and secured over one million dollars in extramural grants to support her research. Her lab group is developing effective monitoring tools and behaviorally based management strategies for a number of insects including the brown marmorated stink bug, plum curculio, dogwood borer, and apple maggot fly to reduce insecticide inputs and increase sustainability of orchard agroecosystems. USDA-ARS, Appalachian Fruit Research Station, 2217 Willshire Road, Kearneysville, WV 25430. **P:**(304) 725-3451x329. **E:** tracy.leskey@ars.usda.gov.

Lominska, Bob grew up on Long Island, New York and came to Kansas in 1966 to attend KU. After graduation, my wife and I served in the Peace Corps in Nicaragua from 1970 - 1973. We returned to Kansas to continue our education. We rented a place North of Lawrence, and worked on a ranch there for three years. We bought Hoyland farm in 1976. I raised and sold produce while teaching school for 31 years. I retired from teaching in 2005 to focus on the farming. The farm was certified organic from 1994 until 2008. I am a founding member of The Rolling Prairie Farmers' Alliance: a multi farm CSA and I am a long-term board member of the Kansas Rural Center. **P:**(785) 842-5697. **E:** rlominska@wildblue.net. **W:**rollingprairie.net

Markwardt, David is a Federal Program manager with the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service. He graduated with a degree in biology from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point in 1973. His career with the USDA Fruit and Vegetable (F&V) Inspection service started in 1977 in central Wisconsin as an inspector of potatoes and Cranberries. He also worked in Chicago, inspecting produce on the South Water Market. From there he moved on to supervise the F&V inspection program in Wisconsin. He was able to visit farming and packing operations throughout the United States in his ten years there and continues to operate nationally with the USDA from Kansas City. David studied auditing procedures in the late 1990's and landed the position of USDA Program Manager over thirteen Midwest states in 1998. He has been very active in the development of the USDA's Good Agricultural Practices and Good Handling Practices audit program. His current duties include auditing F&V inspection programs and produce farm and handling operations. He also teaches, reviews and evaluates auditors and works on inspection procedures and protocols for the USDA, AMS, Fresh Products Branch. 1511 NE Parvin Road, Kansas City, MO 64116. **P:**(816) 453-4926. **E:**david.markwardt@ams.usda.gov. **W:** ams.usda.gov/fv.

Marr, Chuck served as vegetable specialist for K-State for 37 years. He conducted vegetable trials and research, worked with commercial growers throughout the midwest. He has spoken at vegetable conferences throughout the US and taught vegetable production and fruit production at K-State as well as advised a number of graduate students. Professor Emeritus and retired Extension Vegetable Specialist, Kansas State University. 1509 Westwind Drive, Manhattan, KS 66503. **P:**(785) 532-6173. **E:** cmarr@ksu.edu.

Masterson, Sarah is currently pursuing her M.S. degree in the department of Horticulture at Kansas State University where she is working with Dr. Cary Rivard. Her research focuses on the propagation and utilization of grafted tomatoes for organic and conventional production. Sarah received her undergraduate degree from the University of Alabama and has worked on organic farms in Alabama and was the manager at the Willow Lake Student Farm in Manhattan in 2011.

E: samaster@k-state.edu.

Matteson, Lee studied horticulture and agronomy at Iowa State University. He is the farm manager of Berry Patch Farm, a diversified fruit farm and greenhouse vegetables just outside of Ames Iowa. He has been growing fruits and vegetables since he was a young kid back on his parents' farm. He is also currently serving on the North American Raspberry and Blackberry Association executive council for region 6. 62785 280th St., Nevada, IA 50201. **P:**(515) 290-1409.

E: leematteson@yahoo.com. **W:** berrypatchfarm.com.

McGuire, Chris and his wife Juli have farmed at Two Onion Farm in Belmont, WI, since 2004. Together with a small crew of seasonal employees, they raise 5 acres of produce for a 400 member CSA. Their specialty crops include lettuce, carrots, broccoli, and winter squash. As farmers they emphasize beautiful and flavorful produce; recordkeeping and organization; and providing their employees with meaningful, healthful, and rewarding work. 19638 Cottage Inn Road, Belmont, WI 53510.

P:(608) 762-5335. **E:** farmer@twoonionfarm.com. **W:** twoonionfarm.com.

Miller, Sally is a Professor in the Department of Plant Pathology, The Ohio State University, and is the state Extension specialist for Vegetable Pathology. Dr. Miller's major research efforts are focused on 1) the development of sustainable disease management strategies in organic and conventional field and greenhouse vegetable crops, 2) detection and quantification of pathogens and biocontrol agents, 3) use of molecular approaches to study taxonomic relationships among plant pathogens, 4) microbial ecology of vegetable phyllospheres and rhizospheres and 5) vegetable food safety. The Ohio State University OARDC, 1680 Madison Ave., Wooster, OH 44691. **P:**(330) 263-3678. **E:** miller.769@osu.edu.

Millsap, Melissa is an avid gardener turn profession. She and her husband own Urban Roots Farm, a four season urban farm in downtown Springfield, MO. She is the founder for Springfield Urban Agriculture Coalition and has been actively involved with local policy. 900 N. Benton Ave., Lay Hall 304, Springfield, MO 65802. **P:**(417) 827-7046.

E: mel@urbanrootsfarm.com. **W:** springfieldduac.org.

Mitchem, Wayne earned a BS in Agronomy and a MS in Crop Science with a focus in Weed Science from North Carolina State University. After being hired to coordinate research trials for the NC IR-4 Field Research Center he assumed responsibilities for tree fruit weed management in 1996. In 1999 he became a regional specialist working across state lines, which is the position he currently holds that is funded jointly by NC State Univ., Clemson Univ. and the Univ. of Georgia. Wayne comes from agriculture background. He was raised on a farm in western NC that he and his brother still operate today. 400 David's Chapel Ch. Rd., Vale, NC 28168. **P:**(704) 472-0770. **E:** wayne_mitchem@ncsu.edu.

W: wolfpackweeds.com.

Nair, Ajay recently joined as a new faculty in the Department of Horticulture at Iowa State University. His expertise is in the area of sustainable vegetable production. The focus of his research program is on season extension strategies, cover cropping, nutrient management, and soil health. He also has an interest in local food production and works on production aspects and techniques needed to meet the rising demand locally grown produce. 145 Horticulture Hall, ISU, Ames, IA 50011.

P:(515) 294-7080. **E:** nairajay@iastate.edu.

Nichols, Eileen organized the Webb City Farmers Market in 2000. She, with the help of other volunteers, manages all aspects of the market including making over 200 farm visits. She helped organized the Missouri Farmers Market Association and has provided leadership in the organization since its inception in 2001. PO Box 1, One South Main, Webb City, MO 64870. **P:**(417) 673-5866. **E:** eileennichols@sbcglobal.net. **W:** webbcityfarmersmarket.com.

O'Malley, Patrick has interests in all aspects of horticulture and has over 25 years of experience in the field. He has always had a special affinity towards fruits and vegetables. His formal training has been in the Midwest and Hawaii (B.S. in Horticulture from Iowa State University, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Horticulture from the University of Hawaii). He has been able to work with both temperate and tropical plants. For over fifteen years Patrick has been the Commercial Horticulture Field Specialist with Iowa State University Extension for the eastern third of Iowa. 3109 Old Hwy 218 S., Iowa City, IA 52246. **P:**(319) 337-2145. **E:** omall@iastate.edu.

Pendleton, John and his wife Karen own Pendleton's Country Market, a diversified farming operation. The farm grows a wide variety of vegetables, bedding plants, and cut flowers. They maintain a booth at the Lawrence Farmers' Market, and also have a seasonal vegetable and flower market on the family's farm. They invite customers out to "pick-their-own" produce and flowers, allowing non-farm families to feel ownership, and be a part of their diversified farm. 1446 E. 1850 Rd., Lawrence, KS 66046. **P:**(785) 843-1409. **E:** karenp@pendletons.com. **W:** pendletons.com.

Piñero, Dr. Jaime works for Lincoln University as an Assistant Professor / State Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Specialist. His current research is aimed at investigating key aspects of insect behavior to develop affordable alternative insect pest management strategies that are compatible with organic agriculture to combat key insect pests of vegetable crops in Missouri. Jaime is currently evaluating the use of trap crops as an effective way of minimizing insect pest damage to vegetables with a focus on cucurbits. Jaime also has a state-wide Extension responsibility for all aspects of IPM in vegetable and small fruit production.. Lincoln University, 900 Chestnut St, Allen Hall 212, Jefferson City, MO 65101. **P:** (573) 681-5522. **E:** pinerroj@lincolnu.edu

Pisarkiwicz, Craig has been working in the wholesale irrigation/plumbing supply business since 1974. I was a mechanical engineering major at Missouri S&T. I have been designing and selling Drip irrigation products since 1981. I am a Certified irrigation designer in Agricultural Drip Irrigation through the Irrigation Association. I am currently an Irrigation Designer and Outside Salesman for MPR Supply Company in St. Louis. I am the Immediate Past President of the Landscape and Nursery Association of Greater St. Louis as well as a Board Member of the St. Louis Hort Co-op. **P:**(314) 426-4838. **E:** craig@mprsupply.com. **W:** mprsupply.com.

Pollock, Rachel has been the coordinator of the New Roots for Refugees since 2007, an urban farm incubator program helping refugees start farm businesses in Kansas City, Kansas. In this capacity, Ms. Pollock has helped 17 farmers learn how sell at 7 local farmers' market and through a 65 member CSA. Her favorite vegetable for the 2011 season was Spinach! Catholic Charities of NE KS, New Roots for Refugees, 2220 Central Ave., Kansas City, KS 66102. **P:**(913) 909-1027. **E:** rpollack@catholiccharitiesks.org. **W:** catholiccharitiesks.org/newroots.

Rhoades, Becki grew up on a farm in Northwest Missouri and earned a degree in agricultural journalism from the University of Missouri-Columbia. The past 10 years, she worked for the State of Kansas in agriculture marketing and agritourism, assisting agricultural entrepreneurs with their businesses and promoting Kansas agricultural products. Currently Becki is the Director of Marketing and Communications at the National Association of Farm Broadcasting. 1100 Platte Falls Road, Platte City, MO 67049. **P:**(816) 431-4032. **E:** becki@nafb.com. **W:** nafb.com.

Schierman, Shelly attended Arizona State and Missouri Universities. She and her husband started the Louisburg Cider Mill in 1977 and continue to own and operate the specialty retail and wholesale business today.

Schweizer, Cory has worked for C.F. Schweizer and Sons Inc., and Schweizer Orchards his entire life. He graduated from the University of Missouri with a BS in Plant Science and a Minor in Economics. After college he came back to the corporation and in a few years became the Vice President. He works alongside his brother, Nick (Vice President), and father, Steve (President). Together they have taken the Schweizer farm from a small roadside stand market to one of the bigger producers of vegetables and fruits in the state of Missouri on a commercial and retail level. 7300 County Road 431, Savannah, MO 64485. **P:**(816) 475-2531. **E:**schweizer@bbwi.net. **W:**schweizerorchards.com.

Stevens, Alan is Director of the K-State Research & Extension Center in Olathe, Extension State Leader, and State Extension specialist for greenhouse production. He conducts annual and perennial cultivar trials to promote outstanding performers via Prairie Star and Prairie Bloom programs. 35230 West 135th St., Olathe, KS 66061. **P:**(913) 620-0554. **E:**alans@ksu.edu.

Taylor, Mykel is an Extension Economist focused in the areas of crop marketing and farm management. She grew up on a cattle ranch in Montana and attended Montana State University majoring in Agribusiness Management. Her PhD in Economics is from North Carolina State University. Mykel has worked in extension positions at both Kansas State University and Washington State University. Some of her current research areas include measuring basis risk for cross-hedged commodities, implications of country of origin labeling on meat demand, and direct marketing strategies for diversified crop and livestock farmers. 331C Waters Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506. **P:**(785) 532-3033. **E:** mtaylor@ksu.edu. **W:** agmanager.info.

Taylor-Puckett, Mercedes is the Local Food and Farmers Market Coordinator for the Kansas Rural Center. Her current projects include expanding SNAP access at farmers markets, as well as launching the local food branding program, Our Local Food, for the state of Kansas. In addition to serving as the Kansas co-lead for the National Farm to School Network, Mercedes is involved with farm food safety and the Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) Program. She contributes to the Great Plains Growers Conference as a member of the planning committee, develops manager and board training, and organizes the annual Kansas Farmers Market Conference. Prior to joining KRC, she was the coordinator of the Downtown Lawrence Farmers Market and served as the local food forager for the 2008 National SARE Conference in Kansas City. 4377 Wallace Road, McLouth, KS 66054. **P:**(785) 840-6202. **E:** Mercedes.taylorpuckett@gmail.com. **W:** ksfarmersmarkets.org.

Wahle, Elizabeth is a Horticulture Extension Educator for University of Illinois Extension. Her area of expertise is fruit and vegetable production for both commercial and home growers, and her outreach program also includes ornamental horticulture. She provides educational programming and materials in fruit and vegetable production, organic and IPM plant protection systems, production and protection of plants in urban and suburban ornamental landscapes, and delivers programs to volunteers within the Master Gardener Program. She has an 8-county service area that extends east from the metro-east St. Louis area. 900 Hillsboro Ave., Box 427, Edwardsville, IL 62025. **P:**(618) 650-7050. **E:** wahle@illinois.edu.

Warner, Bill along with his wife, Judy Hageman, co-own and run Snug Haven Farm. The Farm is at the edge of the driftless area in south central Wisconsin. They have been growing in hoop houses since 1989, and growing all winter since 1995. Snug Haven Farm is known for its winter spinach. They sell at the Dane County Farmers' Market year-round in Madison, WI. Restaurants in Madison and Chicago and a spinach buyer's club/CSA make up a large part of their sales also. 1170 Hageman Road, Belleville, WI 53508. **P:**(608) 424-3296. **E:** spinach@snughavenfarm.com.

Weinzierl, Rick has worked as an Extension Specialist in Entomology at the University of Illinois since completing his PhD in at Oregon State University in 1984. He specializes in fruit and vegetable insect management, with emphasis on sweet corn, vine crops, peaches, and apples. Dept. of Crop Sciences, 1102 S. Goodwin, Univ. of Illinois, Urbana, IL 61801. **P:**(217) 244-2126. **E:** weinzierl@illinois.edu.

Yoder, Keith received a Ph.D. in Plant Pathology from Michigan State University. Since 1976 he has been with Virginia Tech University's Ag. Research and Extension Center at Winchester, VA. His research has focused on alternative tree fruit disease management strategies, fungicide activity spectrum and resistance management, PGRs to control fire blight shoot infection, apple powdery mildew economic thresholds, disease susceptibility and resistance of new apple cultivars. copper formulations for control of fire blight and other early season apple diseases, and pollen tube growth in apple pistils and bloom thinning with lime sulfur and other materials. 595 Laurel Grove Road, Winchester, VA 22602. **P:**(540) 869-2560x21. **E:** ksyoder@vt.edu. **W:** treefruitdisease.blogspot.com.

Zdorovtsov, Chris is a Community Development Field Specialist for SDSU Extension where she works on community food projects. She received a Bachelor's of Science in Horticulture from Iowa State University and a Master Degree in Family and Consumer Sciences from South Dakota State University. Prior to her current position, she worked for the Chef's Garden in Ohio, where she trialed specialty vegetables and herbs for high-end restaurants. Chris is the Extension liaison for the Sioux Falls Community Gardens program and education chair for Urban Agriculture Initiatives. 2001 E. 8th Street, Sioux Falls, SD 57103. **P:**(605) 782-3290. **E:** Christina.Zdorovtsov@sdstate.edu.