



Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, Inc.

7000 Commerce Circle • Baton Rouge, LA 70809 | P.O. Box 95004 • Baton Rouge, LA 70895-9004
O: (225) 922-6200 | lafarmbureau.org

February 22, 2024

To: Parish Presidents

The Louisiana Farm Bureau's 102nd Annual Convention is Thursday through Sunday, **June 27-June 30, 2024**. We will again be at the New Orleans Marriott Hotel. We hope you will do everything possible to make this another successful convention. **Please note that all convention related forms, certifications and applications must be received in the State Office by May 1, 2024, labeled CONVENTION. Please make every effort to adhere to the May 1st deadline.**

Enclosed is the information pertaining to the 2024 LFBF Annual Convention. To streamline the process, all forms, lists, and applications are available on our website at www.lfbfconvention.org/forms. If for some reason you are unable to access the forms online, please contact your Area Field Services Director for assistance in obtaining the forms.

Federation Voting Delegates: The voting delegates for your parish must be submitted using the Jotform system. You will be submitting the same information in a revised process which no longer requires original paper copies be submitted to the State Office. See the attached procedures for more detailed information on the updated process. Also attached is a list of all parishes indicating this year's voting delegate allocation for each parish Farm Bureau and the procedures for the Federation Voting Delegates. Please note that all Federation Voting Delegate information should be sent to Rebecca Benson at rebeccab@lfbf.org.

Awards Booklet: The 2023-2024 Awards Booklet is available on the website.

Resolutions: Any resolution, which your parish wishes to be considered, must be submitted to Jessica Lange at jessical@lfbf.org.

Convention Registration: The convention registration link is available on the website. Please pre-register **everyone** from your parish that you think might attend, including children and family members of any youth contestants.

Marriott Room Reservations: **The cutoff date for room reservations is May 1, 2024.** Reservations requested after the cutoff date and/or after the room block is filled, are subject to availability and may not be available at the group rate.

Farm Bureau Friday Night: All convention attendees are invited to join us for Farm Bureau Friday Night on June 28th immediately following the Talent Contest. Attendance is free to Farm Bureau convention attendees, but parishes can reserve a table of 10 for \$200. Reservations will be limited to **two** tables per parish. Reserving a table is **NOT** mandatory! There will be additional seating available. The link to reserve tables is available on the convention website.

Please note the deadline for all Convention items is May 1, 2024

Exhibitor Booth Registration: All exhibitors planning to have a booth must complete an Exhibitor Booth Registration Form submitted using the Jotform system. The Jotform link is available on the convention website. If you need electricity, internet, or any other AV, a separate request must be submitted directly to the AV company. The link to make the request is located on the Jotform. Space in the exhibit area is limited, so registration is necessary.

Women's Leadership Committee (WLC) Activities:

WLC Voting Delegates and Official Certification: The WLC Voting Delegate List and Official Letter of Certification from your parish board of directors must be submitted. The number of WLC Voting Delegates from the eligible parishes will be the same as the number of Federation Voting Delegates for each parish. District Directors in the odd-numbered districts, as well as the State Committee officers, will be elected. The WLC Voting Delegates **must meet the same delegate eligibility requirements** as the Federation Voting Delegates.

Women's Brunch: The Women's Brunch is on Saturday, June 29th, at 11:00 a.m. Parish queens will be introduced during their annual style show. Tickets cost \$20 each. Parish queens and State Women's Leadership Committee will not be required to purchase Brunch tickets. Only online ticket order submissions using the Jotform system will be accepted. Once you have completed and submitted your form, you will receive a confirmation email that will include a PDF attachment of your submission. A copy of this PDF submission and your check will be due to the state office by May 1st. **Note: Pre-ordering tickets is mandatory. Tickets will not be sold at convention. We will not be able to refund tickets.**

Memorial Service: Only online Memorial Service submissions using the Jotform system will be accepted. You will need a high-quality **DIGITAL** photo, and a brief statement about the person(s) you wish to be eulogized during the Memorial Service on Sunday morning, June 30th. Remember that those memorialized must have passed away between last year's convention and May 1, 2024. Do not forget to submit the names and addresses of immediate family members so that they can be invited to the service.

WLC Award of Excellence: The Women's Award of Excellence is selected based on the WLC section of the 2023-2024 Parish Awards Book. To be considered for the Women's Award of Excellence, you must receive **75 of the 100** possible points in the WLC section of the awards book.

Silent Auction: Once again, we are asking each parish to submit one *VERY UNIQUE* item to be placed in the Silent Auction.

Youth Contests: Only online youth contest application submissions using the Jotform system will be accepted. Please discard any applications you presently have on hand. Remember, the forms **REQUIRE** the family membership number. **Incomplete applications will be returned to parishes.** A copy of this year's Youth Contest Brochure can be found on the convention website.

Contest Registration (Thursday, June 27)

Talent - 2:00 p.m. Talk Meet - 3:00 p.m. Queen - 4:00 p.m.

Youth Contest Prizes: State contest winners will be awarded a cash gift.

Prizes will be awarded as follows:

Talent (junior and senior division) - 1st Place \$250, 2nd Place \$150, 3rd Place \$100

Talk Meet - 1st Place \$250, 2nd Place \$150, 3rd Place \$100

Queen - 1st Place \$500, 2nd Place \$150, 3rd Place \$100 and \$100 Miss Congeniality

Queen: Point values for the categories are as follows: Knowledge of Farm Bureau and Agriculture (40%), Conversational Ability (15%), Personality (15%), General Appearance (10%), Poise (10%) and Beauty (10%).

Please note that queens will not be escorted during the contest on Saturday evening. Parish Presidents will have the opportunity to take photos with their queen from 4:30 – 5:00 pm in Salons GH prior to the contest on Saturday evening.

Talk Meet: The topic for 2024 is “How can Farm Bureau help sustain American agriculture?” Although suggested, practice is not mandatory. A list of reference materials and best practices are included with the entry form on the website.

Talent: Music files used for competition must be uploaded to the online youth application submission using the Jotform system by the May 1st deadline. Please bring the original CD to convention for back-up purposes. Ages for the junior contestants are 6 through 13, while senior contestants must be 14 through 19. Contestants are allowed only two trial runs at practice.

Young Farmers and Ranchers (YF&R) Activities:

YF&R Official Letter of Certification: The Official Letter of Certification from your parish board of directors must be submitted to the State Office.

YF&R Lunch/Business Session: The YF&R Business Session will be held during lunch on Thursday, June 27th, at 12:00 noon. We are asking you to include in your list of members attending this convention at least one couple between ages of 18-35 who can attend this special lunch and program. District committee members in even-numbered districts, as well as state officers, will be elected. Tickets are \$5 each for the lunch. Only online ticket order submissions using the Jotform system will be accepted. Once you have completed and submitted your form, you will receive a confirmation email that will include a PDF attachment of your submission. A copy of this PDF submission and your check will be due to the state office by May 1st. **Note: Pre-ordering tickets is mandatory. Tickets will not be sold at convention. We will not be able to refund tickets.**

YF&R Award of Merit: The YF&R Award of Merit is selected based on the YF&R section of the 2023-2024 Parish Awards Book. To be considered for the award, you must receive a total of **75 of the 100** possible points in the YF&R section of the awards book.

YF&R Raffle: If your parish would like to sell raffle tickets, you may now submit a request through Jotform. The link to the Raffle Ticket Request form is on the convention website.

YF&R Contests: YF&R Contestant registration is Thursday, June 27th at 8:00 a.m. All contestants should be present, as photos will be taken at this time. The Discussion Meet will be held beginning at 8:30 a.m. that morning followed by Excellence in Agriculture presentations at 10:15 a.m. All YF&R finalists and winners will be announced during the Awards Program on Thursday, June 27th.

YF&R Hospitality Room: This is the 40th year that the YF&R Committee will host a hospitality room. However, we need your help for it to be a success. We are asking for cash donations for the Hospitality Room so the State Committee can coordinate the food and refreshments. Please make checks payable to Rapides Farm Bureau and send as early as possible to Rapides Farm Bureau, Attn: Young Farmers and Ranchers, 4504 Coliseum Blvd., Alexandria, LA 71303.

Ag in the Classroom Mini-Grant: Louisiana Ag in the Classroom offers mini-grants of up to \$500 for parish Farm Bureaus on a competitive basis. Parishes must have an active AITC Parish Chair whose name has been submitted to the State Office.

Media Awards: Parish Farm Bureaus may nominate local television, radio, weekly newspapers, and daily newspapers. The winners will be announced during the Awards Program on Thursday, June 27th.

Thank you for your cooperation in preparing for another successful Annual Convention. Remember all forms, certifications, and applications are online at www.lfbfconvention.org/forms. Please note that all convention related forms, certifications and applications must be received in the State Office **by May 1, 2024, labeled CONVENTION**. Please make every effort to adhere to the **May 1st** deadline.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give us a call.

Sincerely,



Jim Harper
President

Enclosures: Tentative Convention Schedule
Youth Contest Brochure
Convention Checklist
Federation Voting Delegate Info

cc:	State Board	Parish Offices	Field Staff
	WLC Parish Chairs	State WLC	State AITC
	YFR Parish Chairs	State YFR	