The Gateway Chapter of the National Agri-Marketing Association &

The St. Louis Agri-Business Club

2005-2006 Joint Meeting Schedule

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at the Sheraton Westport at 900 Westport Plaza. Networking reception begins at 11:30, followed by lunch and the featured program at noon.

Tuesday, October 18, 2005 St. Louis at the Heart of the BioBelt

Dr. Roger Beachy, president of the Danforth Center, will speak on the unique work and research being done at the Center. The Danforth Center partners with other research institutions across the region and the United States in conducting ground-breaking research in the plant sciences. Dr. Beachy is internationally known for his research on virus-resistant plants and oversees 160 staff and 12 labs at the Center.

Tuesday, November 15, 2005 Renewable Fuels Panel Discussion It's Here...Now What Does It Mean For Us?

From producers to investors to industry researchers, increasing attention is focused on the role of renewable fuels, such as biodiesel and ethanol. Joe Jobe, executive director of the National Biodiesel Board, and other industry experts will discuss the impact of these technologies, how they will affect other agribusinesses and what's coming on the horizon.

December 2005 Anheuser-Busch After-Hours

Date & Time TBA

Tuesday, January 10, 2006 Bringing Internet Access To Rural America

Producer connectivity is growing by leaps and bounds, which has huge implications for marketers and agribusinesses. Kip Pendleton, president of AgriStar Global Networks, will discuss the changes taking place in rural America, how Internet changes the way farmers do business, and how agribusinesses can capture these opportunities. Mr. Pendleton was named "Ag Communicator of the Year" by the National Agri-Marketing Association and his company is at the forefront of making broadband connections available for all producers.

Special Blogging Workshop

1:30 to 2:30 (open to all at no cost)

Has your company or association caught the blogging bug? Chuck Zimmerman of ZimmComm Marketing & Communications will offer a special workshop on the ins and outs of blogging, what it can & can't do and what it could mean for your business. Please be sure to RSVP for this separate event as space is limited!

Tuesday, February 14, 2006 Global Agribusiness

It's a small world. Whether you're a one-man (or woman) shop or an international firm, it's important to understand the forces shaping global agriculture today and in the future. A representative from Rabobank International will be on hand to address these issues and answer questions on the economic implications. Outside of its home base in the Netherlands, Rabobank has 244 offices in 37 countries; the company's goal is to be the premier food and agribusiness financial institution in the United States.

Friday, March 17, 2006 Agribusiness Luncheon with the National Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization

St. Louis agribusinesses will have the opportunity to exhibit at the career show to recruit the best and brightest agricultural college students for future employees and interns. St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay has also been invited to welcome the group and to sign a proclamation for National Agriculture Week.

PAS is an organization associated with agriculture/ agribusiness and natural resources offerings in approved post-secondary institutions, with a membership of over 1,000 students representing 58 chapters in 18 states. PAS seeks to unite education and industry in agriculture, enabling its members to experience individual growth, leadership and career preparation. **Special Location:** Millennium Hotel in downtown St. Louis, 200 South 4th Street; 314/241-9500

Tuesday, April 11, 2006 New Business Partnerships

Agricultural companies and universities are combining resources and working together in innovative ways to bring new technologies and products down the pipeline. Dr. Steven Pueppke, director of the National Soybean Research Laboratory at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, will be presenting, along with speakers from other nearby universities. **Special Location:** Collinsville, IL – details TBA

Tuesday, May 9, 2006 The "New" Small Farmer

More and more, producers are looking outside the mainstream commodity market for new business opportunities – agritourism, agri-entertainment, direct marketing and more. Jane Eckert, founder and president of Eckert Agri-Marketing, will discuss how growers are adapting and exploring new opportunities and niche markets.



