



2020 Annual Meeting Summary by Dave Green Executive Vice President

The WQC held its annual meeting, speakers forum and technical review sessions February 18-20, 2020 at the KCI Embassy Suites Hotel in Kansas City MO with 145 people registered. Best crowd in a few years mainly due to good nationwide weather and a great set of speakers. The WQC is the only industry wide organization that brings together all wheat interests from breeders to producers to millers, processors and bakers. These participants are provided information on the milling and baking qualities of wheat varieties that will be released, grown and processed in the next few years.

The Executive Board and Board of Trustees elected a new full slate of officers and members to guide the Council this year. They are all listed on our website. The Council is in good financial condition and we have four new members this year. Our two hard wheat technical boards met to discuss improvements and check varieties. The changes are to continue improvements in the growout process to better compare varieties across different environments. Their minutes and board members can be found on the website.

Our speakers forum was a success again this year drawing our largest audience. Dale Nellor from NAMA and Lee Sanders of ABA started by giving updates on pressing issues affecting the Milling and Baking industries. Our speakers forum was moderated by our current WQC Chair Royce Schaneman. First speaker was Steve Rosenweig of General Mills who introduced us to Regenerative Agriculture. It's the next step forward from Sustainability efforts. Mike Miller who is the former chair of US Wheat Associates and a grower from Washington State discussed increasing certified seed usage in their area. Scott Haley discussed his efforts to breed wheat for specific end use customers. Jose Luis Fuente who is the President of the Mexican Millers Assoc spoke about the needs of the Mexican mills. Richard Horsley, Professor from NDSU, discussed their variety release committee membership and function. Lastly Mary Guttieri presented an update on her ongoing study of the effects of soil sulfur levels on wheat quality. Our evening dinner speaker was Dr Edward Jhee who discussed his new position at USDA/GIPSA here in Kansas City.

Our spring wheat group evaluated eight new cultivars across our six growing locations. They were milled at the ARS Wheat Quality Lab in Fargo and evaluated by our 12 baking cooperators. Almost all of our spring wheat breeder organizations entered lines. In the winter wheat session we had entries from Colorado, Texas, Oklahoma, Limagrain, Kansas, Bayer, Nebraska, Montana, North and South Dakota. All of our testing data is included on the website under Test Results. The Soft wheat group will meet in Wooster Ohio in mid- March to discuss new lines with the breeders and growers from the Eastern regions. Our meeting continues to be well attended due to the value our members place on quality and the knowledge gained from our speakers. It is a great way to make the industry contacts you need in today's workplace.



Royce Schaneman (left) receiving a "Full Kernel" Award for his service as Chair of the Executive Comm.



Hillary Hall and Scott Brenner of Kroger Bakery recognized as new members by WQC Exec Dave Green



Tim Aschbrenner of Graincraft presents the Millers Award to Jim Anderson of the University of Minnesota.