



SfL Delegate Bios

Jocelyn Anderson, SfL farmer envoy, is a fourth-generation farmer from Northern California. Her family farm grows almonds, walnuts and operates a walnut huller.

She has served on the American Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Rancher (YF&R) National Committee as vice chair. She currently serves on the California Farm Bureau Board of Directors as state YF&R chair. She is also a board member of the Glenn County Resource Conservation District, which promotes and helps farmers and ranchers with sustainability and conservation practices, including healthy soils programs and a variety conservation-focused grants.

Brad Doyle, SfL farmer envoy, is a soybean, rice, wheat and grass hay farmer as well as manager of Eagle Seed, LLC., a family-owned seed business in Northeast Arkansas.

Doyle's business includes crop breeding and research related to row crops, pasture crops, cover crops, and wildlife seed. The irrigated family row-crop farm has 150 acres of surface water in a tailwater recovery system that reduces dependence on groundwater by capturing excess rainwater. This not only conserves water for rice and soybean production, but also provides habitat for migratory birds and local wildlife while trapping any sediment or nutrient runoff.

Doyle currently serves as the president of the American Soybean Association and serves on several USA Rice committees. He was recognized as the 2019 Walton Family Foundation Conservation Champion and received a grant in 2020.

John Farner, chief sustainability officer for Netafim, brings more than 20 years of experience as a leader in the irrigation industry.

Farner led the creation of irrigation's first national sustainability dialogue, which has brought together a diverse group of stakeholders to develop best practices for the irrigation industry relating to environmental, economic, and social sustainability. He also serves as a recognized international water management expert, currently sitting on the steering committee of the United Nations CEO Water Mandate.

Before joining Netafim as the global chief sustainability officer, Farner most recently served as the industry development director for the U.S.-based Irrigation Association, where he not only led sustainability efforts but also served as the chief advocate and spokesperson for the industry before international policymakers and NGOs.

Ray Gaesser, SfL board member, grows corn and soybeans in Iowa using the latest technology and innovations in seed and equipment.

Gaesser's farm has been 100% no-till since 1991, and he has planted cover crops since 2010. He continues to test new practices to conserve and enhance resources.

Gaesser is a former president of the American Soybean Association. He also serves as co-chair of the Iowa Smart Agriculture Work Group and as a member of the North American Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance.

AG Kawamura, SfL co-chair, is a third-generation fruit and vegetable grower and shipper from Orange County, California.

Kawamura is the former Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (2003-2010). He currently serves on several boards and committees, including the Farm Foundation Board, the Ag Advisory Committee for the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, California State University Ag Research Institute (ARI) Board, and the Southern California Water Coalition Board. He is a former chair and current board member of Western Growers Association.

As a progressive urban farmer, AG has a lifetime of experience working within the shrinking rural and urban boundaries of Southern California. Through his family farming company, Orange County Produce, LLC, he is engaged in building an exciting, interactive 21st century urban agricultural showcase at the Orange County Great Park in Irvine, California.

Ernie Shea, serves as president of Solutions from the Land (SfL), a not-for-profit organization that incubates and supports farmer-led, multi-stakeholder platforms that inspire, educate, and equip agricultural partners to innovate and lead efforts to sustain productivity, enhance climate resilience, and contribute to local and global goals for sustainable development. SfL brings agricultural thought leaders to the forefront of conversations about the food system, the environment and the future. SfL also serves as a lead organization in the Global Agriculture for Climate-Smart Agriculture (GACSA).

Among his current activities, Shea facilitates the 25x'25 and North American Climate Smart Agriculture alliances. He also coordinates SfL's global, national and state work. He serves on the board of the Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology and is involved with the Chesapeake Bay cleanup effort focusing on agricultural, conservation and bioenergy projects. He is also the founder and principal of Natural Resource Solutions (NRS), LLC, a conservation and natural resource policy and program consultancy.

Bryan Sievers, co-chair of Solutions from the Land's Iowa Smart Agriculture Working Group, operates a grain and livestock farm.

His farm includes 2,300 acres of tillable land and a 2,400-head beef cattle feedlot. He also serves as vice chair of the American Biogas Council.

Verity Ulibarri, SfL farmer envoy, is an owner/operator of a crop and livestock farm with her husband, Anthony Ulibarri, in Curry County, New Mexico. They primarily produce grain sorghum, winter wheat, forages and cattle.

Ulibarri is a fifth-generation farmer and continues to be active in farm management, production and farm-related organizations. She has 15 years of agricultural lending experience in the Farm Credit System and a number of years of experience as a board member of the United Sorghum Checkoff Program, U.S. Grains Council and a long-term member of National Sorghum Producers.

Fred Yoder, SfL co-chair, is a fourth-generation farmer who has lived and farmed near Plain City, Ohio, more than 40 years. With his wife, Debbie, and two children, he grows corn, soybeans and wheat.

Yoder also has operated a retail farm seed business for over 36 years and sells seed to all kinds of farmers, including those who use biotech varieties, conventional varieties, and also to those who grow

organic crops. Yoder has traveled many times to the European Union to speak about co-existence of production systems, where both organic and other production systems can thrive side-by-side as neighbors.

Yoder is a founding board member and now co-chair of Solutions from the Land. He also serves as chair of the North American Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance, representing all factions of production agriculture and working to ensure that farmer-to-farmer education and economics will be the driving force to adapting to feeding the world while dealing with a changing climate.