



Iowa Renewable Fuels Association

# GREEN Team

Grassroots REnewable Energy Network

Newsletter for renewable fuels advocates

5505 NW 88th Street #100 • Johnston, IA USA 50131-2948 • 515-252-6249 • FAX 515-225-0781

January 19, 2009

Issue #72

## Robert Zubrin A Headliner at 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Renewable Fuels Summit

World renowned engineer and best-selling author **Robert Zubrin** will be a keynote speaker at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Iowa Renewable Fuels Summit on



**January 27, 2009.**

Zubrin will address Summit participants on “**Energy Victory: Winning the War on Terror by Breaking Free of Oil.**” The event is hosted by the **Iowa Renewable Fuels Association (IRFA)** and will take place at the Polk County

Convention Center from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Zubrin is well-known for his straightforward, practical energy policy calling for Congress to pass a law requiring that all new cars sold be flex-fueled – able to run on a combination of gasoline and ethanol. He argues that this one action would destroy the monopoly that the oil cartel has maintained on the globe’s transportation fuel supply, opening it up to competition from alcohol fuels. According to Zubrin’s estimates, within three years of enactment, such a regulation would put 50 million cars on the road in the U.S. capable of running on high-blend ethanol, and at least an equal number overseas.

“We’re honored to have such a distinguished and captivating speaker on energy independence address the Summit,” said **Monte Shaw, IRFA executive**

## E85 Sales Hold Steady in 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Despite Falling Gas Prices

The **Iowa Renewable Fuels Association (IRFA)** has announced that E85 sales in Iowa remained strong during the third quarter of 2008 despite rapidly falling gasoline prices. According to the **Iowa Department of Revenue**, sales of E85 by Iowa retailers reached 2,208,837 gallons during July, August, and September of 2008 – more than double the 1,270,587 gallons sold during the same period in 2007.

“Despite a narrower gap between E85 and regular gasoline prices at the end of last year, E85 sales remained strong,” said **IRFA Executive Director Monte Shaw**. “I talked with several retailers that had seen some customers switch from E85 to E10, but they stated that many preferred the home-grown, renewable fuel. E85 is a premier product that many consumers seek out because of their concerns over energy security and global climate change. As gasoline prices head back toward \$2 a gallon, E85 remains a great choice for consumers – not just for energy security and the environment, but for the pocketbook as well.”

Iowa currently has 107 E85 retail outlets. A list of all the E85 stations can be found at:

[www.iowarfa.org/ethanol\\_e85refueling.php](http://www.iowarfa.org/ethanol_e85refueling.php).

Retailers interested in installing an E85 pump can apply for a grant from the **Iowa Department of Economic Development**. Information and a grant application may be found at:

[www.iowalifechanging.com/business/renewablefuels.html](http://www.iowalifechanging.com/business/renewablefuels.html).

- See **Zubrin**, Page 2 -

[Zubrin continued from Page 1]

**director.** “Mr. Zubrin brings a no-nonsense approach to weaning the world from reliance on OPEC nations for transportation fuels. His open source fuel standard builds a strong case for adoption of high-level ethanol blends to achieve greater energy independence and provide broader market access for renewable fuels.”

#### Book Signing

Mr. Zubrin will be signing copies of his book, “Energy Victory,” which has been hailed as a vitally important book about the most critical issue we face today, in the Summit trade show. Exhibits will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

#### Other topics featured at this year’s Summit are:

- RFS2: Holding Renewable Fuels to a Higher Standard?
- An Acre for An Acre? Implementing a Low Carbon Fuel Standard
- Beating the Blend Wall
- Linking the Value Chain

For the complete program, go to:

<http://www.iowarfa.org/documents/program.pdf>

#### Exhibit Space Available

► *For information on exhibiting, contact: Lucy Norton, IRFA Managing Director, at 515-252-6249 or [lnorton@IowaRFA.org](mailto:lnorton@IowaRFA.org)*

*Register Online by January 22 at:*

<http://www.iowarfa.org/summit-form.php>

**New Ethanol Blender Pumps  
E10, E20, E30, E50 & E85**



**Aspinwall Cooperative Co.**  
1201 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Manning

**Green Plains Grain Co.**  
1808 Okoboji Avenue, Milford  
1002 Burlington Avenue, Superior

## Continental Airlines Powers Flight with Biodiesel

**Continental Airlines** has become the first U.S. commercial carrier to successfully demonstrate the use of biodiesel. During the test flight, which carried no passengers, a 50% biodiesel blend produced from algae and jatropha oil was used to operate one engine, while the other ran on traditional jet fuel.

The demonstration flight was conducted in partnership with the Boeing Co., UOP LLC, and GE Aviation.

The oils were processed using UOP’s proprietary hydro-processing technology, which creates a hydrocarbon similar in properties to petroleum-based jet fuel. No modifications to the aircraft or engine are required. The biodiesel exceeds specifications necessary for jet fuel, including a flash point and freezing point appropriate for use in aircraft.

**Continental Chairman and Chief Executive Larry Kellner** said the goal was to analyze technical aspects of using biofuels, including effects on the plane’s mechanical systems.

During the nearly two-hour demonstration flight, Continental’s test pilots successfully conducted a number of normal and not-so-normal flight maneuvers, such as mid-flight engine shutdown and re-start, and power acceleration and deceleration. Continental reported that preliminary data suggests that the biodiesel fuel met all performance requirements as compared to traditional jet fuel.

## New CEO for Agribusiness

The **Agribusiness Association of Iowa (AAI)** has appointed **Mark Reisinger** as its new **Chief Executive Officer**.

Reisinger, a native of Eldora, Iowa, previously served as **Chief Agricultural Policy Advisor for U.S. Senator Charles Grassley**. During that time, he developed and managed numerous legislative proposals related to agriculture, rural development and renewable energy. Most recently Reisinger served as **State Director** for the **U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Rural Development** in Iowa.

## Iowa Leaders Look to Renewable Fuels to Power Economy



On January 13<sup>th</sup>, **Iowa Governor Chet Culver** gave his Condition of the State address to the **Iowa Legislature**. While recognizing the many challenges facing the state this year, Culver stated: “The condition of the State is strong, because the people of Iowa are strong!”

Given the tight budget situation, Culver called upon the legislature to protect the investments that will power Iowa’s economy in the future, noting: “For example, in the **Iowa Power Fund**, which has helped create green collar jobs across the state...And let’s build upon our progress on making Iowa the renewable energy capitol of the United States, and the silicon valley of the Midwest.”



In his opening remarks to the Iowa Senate, **Majority Leader Mike Gronstal** (D-Council Bluffs) stated: “While our state’s economy is struggling right now, I’m certain these hard times won’t last. And when things begin to brighten, it will be easier for everyone to see that Iowa’s

renewable energy economy is a shining example of where the world economy is headed.

“The shift away from fossil fuels is going to be the big story of this century. Limited supplies, increasing costs, foreign entanglements, and global warming mean that the world’s economies must move away from fossil fuels. You can argue about how quickly this fundamental change will occur but you can’t claim that it won’t happen.

“Here in Iowa, we are at the epicenter of the change the world is looking for. Iowa consumes about 1.6 billion gallons of fuel a year. A decade ago, almost all of that fuel was imported, much of it from

## Northey Recognizes Top Renewable Fuels Marketers

**Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey** selected **Galva Holstein Ag (GHA)** of Galva and **Keck Energy** of Des Moines as the 2009 winners of the Secretary’s Biodiesel and Ethanol Marketing Awards. The awards were created by the **Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship** to recognize fuel marketers that have gone above and beyond in their efforts to sell renewable fuels.

“Iowa is the leading producer of renewable fuels and it is retailers and distributors, like these two companies, that are the link between that industry and the customers who are using the product,” Northey said. “Galva Holstein Ag and Keck Energy have both made promoting renewable fuels an important part of their businesses and these awards are an opportunity to recognize them for their efforts.”

The Secretary’s awards were designed to recognize businesses that market the renewable fuels they have available through creative efforts including, but not limited to: hosting special events highlighting their renewable fuels, development of creative signage, initiation of new advertisements or marketing efforts, and dramatically increasing pump availability.

**Delayne Johnson** of Galva Holstein Ag was recognized for efforts to promote ethanol and expand the availability of higher ethanol blends. GHA has been a long-term advocate of renewable fuels and this year was the first fuel retailer in Iowa to install an ethanol blender pump, which allows customers with flex-fuel vehicles to select from a number of different ethanol blends. Galva has one of only 10 blender pumps currently operating in the state. GHA was nominated by the **Iowa Renewable Fuels Association**.

**Mark Meyer** of Keck Energy was selected for efforts to expand the availability of biodiesel and promote its usage by their customers. Meyer has worked to promote biodiesel usage at both the wholesale and retail level. In particular, the company has been involved on the ground level in preparing for and responding to the issues facing biodiesel and other biofuels. Keck Energy was nominated by **Kum & Go**.

## [Leaders Continued from Page 3]

unstable countries. Today, Iowa produces over three billion gallons of fuel a year. And Iowa's bio-fuel industry and researchers at our universities are hard at work developing new ways to create fuel, including cellulosic ethanol."



In his opening day speech to the Iowa House, **Speaker Pat Murphy** (D-Dubuque) proposed spurring economic growth "by making Iowa a green state and creating programs and jobs that help promote alternative energy production and usage in Iowa."

He went on to state: "We need to continue to be the renewable fuels leader among the 50 states. Whether through ethanol, soy diesel, or wind energy, we will push hard to promote renewable fuels."



**House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy** (D-Des Moines) rounded out the comments in his speech to the Iowa House, noting: "Of the 46 states currently facing economic hardship, Iowa is in a better position than almost any other state to

weather this economic storm. We are one of only a few states that are now net exporters of energy – our investments in ethanol and wind development are beginning to bear fruit and these investments will continue to bring jobs to our state."

In a series of meetings, **Iowa Renewable Fuels Association (IRFA) Executive Director Monte Shaw** has thanked Iowa leaders for their bipartisan support of biodiesel and ethanol. "We are confident the renewable fuels industry will rebound in 2009 and help Iowa's economy rebound in the process. But this will not happen if we weaken public policies promoting renewable fuels production and use. Our number one legislative goal is to preserve and protect the landmark 25% Iowa Renewable Fuels Standard."

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Iowa Renewable Fuels Summit**  
**January 27, 2009**  
**Polk County Convention Complex**

**Free – Open to the Public**  
**Registration Deadline: January 22, 2009**  
**Register online: [www.IowaRFA.org](http://www.IowaRFA.org)**

## Another Banner Crop Year

Iowa remained the top corn-producing state in 2008, according to the final crop estimates reported by the **U.S. Department of Agriculture**. For the 2008 crop year, Iowa produced 2.189 billion bushels of corn despite devastating floods and a late harvest.

Nationally, the second largest corn crop in history produced 12.1 billion bushels. Of this production, 21% went to satisfying the demand for ethanol.

The 2008 U.S. soybean crop was the fourth highest in history at 2.96 billion bushels. Approximately 3.1 billion pounds of soy oil was used in the processing of biodiesel, up from an estimated 2.99 billion pounds in 2007-08.

The USDA projects a 2 billion bushel carryover of corn after factoring in total use for feed, food and industrial use.

## U.S. Biodiesel Industry Ready & Able to Meet 2009 RFS Targets

The **National Biodiesel Board (NBB)** is confident the U.S. biodiesel industry has the ability to meet America's renewable fuels goals.



The existing **Renewable Fuels Standard (RFS1)** program establishes minimum targets for the use of renewable fuels in the marketplace. For 2009, 11 billion gallons of renewable fuel must be used in the nation's transportation fuel, with 500 million gallons of biodiesel as part of the requirement.

"The U.S. biodiesel industry's contribution to the nation's fuel supply will help ensure that the RFS targets for 2009 will be met," said **Manning Feraci, NBB's Vice President of Federal Affairs**. "In 2008 alone, the U.S. biodiesel industry produced nearly 700 million gallons of biodiesel, which equates to 1.05 billion ethanol equivalent gallons for purposes of the RFS."