

[www.manhattan.coop](http://www.manhattan.coop)

## **BOARD MEMBERS**

Hal Mayer - Chairperson  
Eugene Berges - Vice Chair  
Allan Wegner - Secretary  
Tony Akin  
David Cederberg  
Tom Ebert  
Allan Holiday  
Mark Scott  
Glen Swartz

## **GENERAL MANAGER**

Darin Marti

## **AGRONOMY**

Ken Diehl

## **CFO**

Tony Hieger

## **ENERGY**

Jerry Fenske

## **FEED**

Rod Bohn

## **FEEDMILL**

Rob Ashburn

## **GRAIN**

Doug Biswell

## **SEED**

Dave Stover

## **Location Managers**

Alta Vista - Rick Lucas

Onaga - Brent Beck

Ampride - Jerry Fenske

Westmoreland - Jeff Overbey

## **Our Mission:**

To be your business of choice,  
anticipating customer needs,  
and growing a progressive  
company.

**"In Business For  
Your Business"**

## **Management Notes**

**By Darin Marti**

One of the larger events in the history of this Coop is the merger vote that takes place on March 6th. By the time some of you read this newsletter, the vote will have taken place and we will know the outcome. If you are reading this before the vote, I certainly would encourage you to attend the special meeting on March 6th and cast your ballot.

I think one of the most heard comments in opposition to a merger is, "We will not have control." Now that comment probably means something different for each individual. But the interesting thing to me is that "control" is a concern but yet only about 10% of our voting members attend the annual meeting to vote for directors, bylaw changes, etc. My guess is that there will be better attendance at this vote meeting.

The entire board and employee group are in agreement that this merger is the right direction. I appreciate each of you keeping an open mind and educating yourself with the facts before making a decision. And I would certainly think that the promise of cash equity payout and 100% equity preservation would be of some influence on your decision.

Several members have asked what changes will be implemented and specifically what assets will be improved if the merger passes. It is difficult to specifically identify and probably not wise to promise specifics today. It is not to avoid the question but making a promise of something that may not happen immediately is risky because too many variables exist that could

change that decision. Even without merger, we are pretty careful making promises until we start to see it happen.

Thank you again for your support and it certainly is our wish that the merger passes. We truly believe that the long term benefits will be great!

## **Grain Comments**

**By Doug Biswell**

It's March already, hopefully that means spring is right around the corner. For those of you that have grain stored on the farm, it is a good idea to check on the condition of that grain as we warm up. If you think you are beginning to have problems let's get it moved. I have trucks available to haul off the farm and places to move the grain so please check with me and I will get you a delivered bid to a terminal or end user or a picked up the farm bid, or both. Spring is an especially busy time of the year in your line of work, so the coop having our own truck allows flexibility when it comes to arranging grain pick up times.

The bean market has been crazy and one has to figure the craziness stops at some point. For those of you that are still making planting decisions and are thinking about planting more beans based on the price it would probably be a wise business decision to sell some new beans. If you are thinking about planting more due to the price structure you can bet you are not alone. As always if you have any questions or comments feel free to give me a call. Thank you for your continued business.



## Annual Meeting and Patron Access By Tony Hieger

March is upon us and your Cooperative's annual meeting is fast approaching. The invitations will be sent next week. It will be the same as previous years to bring your invitation in to get your tickets. We do have to turn in a head count to the caterers a

week before the meeting to let them know how many are attending. We appreciate your cooperation in getting your tickets as soon as you can.

A tool that everyone may use in their operation is Patron Access. There are many people that find it helpful in their operation. If you go to our web site [www.manhattan.coop](http://www.manhattan.coop) and at the upper left hand side select

account login. This will get you to the login screen either to log in or sign up for an account. After you log in you may look at your account balance, purchase tickets, grain tickets, grain balances, and prepay balances. If you have any trouble looking anything up or logging in please feel free to contact us at the business office.

### Cattle Mineral Sale Sale runs March 15 through May 15, 2014

- Receive \$.50 per bag discount (\$20/ton) on qualified cattle minerals.
- **Purchase 1 ton or more and receive an additional \$20/ton volume discount.**
- Qualifying minerals include Purina Wind & Rain, LOL Pro Phos, and local mixed Cattle Minerals.  
Custom minerals do not qualify.
- Delivery cost is added to the following prices.
- Some example prices of our best sellers are:

	Regular price per bag	Promotion price per bag	1 ton + price per bag
Wind & Rain Hi Mag 4% Phos	\$18.40	\$17.90	\$17.40
Wind & Rain 7% Phos With CTC 2800G/IGR Fly Control	\$25.60	\$25.10	\$24.60
All Other Purina Wind & Rain minerals qualify for discounts			
Pro Phos 8% Phos AU 5600	\$21.70	\$21.20	\$20.70
Pro Phos 12% Phos AU 3500	\$23.90	\$23.40	\$22.90
All other LOL Pro Phos minerals qualify for discounts			
Cattle Mineral 8% Phos AU5600	\$19.50	\$19.00	\$18.50
Cattle Mineral 8% Phos AU3500	\$18.05	\$17.55	\$17.05
Cattle Mineral 12% Phos AU3500	\$21.30	\$20.80	\$20.30

Some other local mix Cattle Minerals qualify for discounts