



Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

This is a short newsletter, be sure to check out the two action items.

While Veterans Day fell on Saturday, it was celebrated as a holiday either on Friday or today. (Today is the holiday in Rhode Island.) From a personal perspective, it's a day that reminds me of my Dad. He was a radar operator on the [James E. Craig](#) (DE 201) in the Pacific during World War II. Thanks Dad! And thanks to all of you who are veterans or have veterans in the family.

“One flag, one land, one heart, one hand, one Nation, evermore!” — Oliver Wendell Holmes (1862) in the poem *Voyage of the Good Ship Union* (January 23, 1862, manuscript held in the Houghton Library of Harvard University).

Action items:

- NERA will be holding its virtual quarterly business meeting on December 7, 2023, at 8:00-9:30 AM. A meeting agenda is [posted on the NERA website](#).
- agInnovation's Diversity Catalyst Committee is hosting a webinar on November 16 at 4:00 PM ET titled **A Lived Experience: Tribal Relations and Natural Resource Stewardship**. The webinar will be presented by [Jennifer Ballinger](#), a Tribal Relations Specialist with the Forest Service. [Registration](#) is free and all are invited!

Reminders/Updates:

- For an interesting take on Thanksgiving news, check out [Everything You Never Knew About Squash and Pumpkins](#), a profile of the work of UNH scientist Chris Hernandez shared by Anton Bekkerman. This was a segment that appeared on [Science Friday](#), brain fun for curious people.
- For those travelling to the [APLU Annual Meeting](#), best wishes! Your office of the Executive Director will not be attending this year. We'll be interested to hear your reflections.
- We forwarded by email the proposed agInnovation budget for calendar year 2024. We also provide a link here to the [CY 2024 budget explanation and budget](#). Please look this over. Each of our NERA stations will have an opportunity to ring in on the agInnovation assessment and budget during the week November 27.
- agInnovation (formerly known as the Experiment Station Section) will be holding a virtual business meeting on December 12, 2023, from 4:00-5:00 PM ET. Among other agenda items, the results of the assessment referendum and budget proposal will be announced.

Informational items:

- The University of Connecticut's Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture is seeking an [Assistant Professor in Controlled Environment Agriculture](#). This is a 9-month, tenure track position.

- The [Specialty Crop Research Initiative](#) (SCRI) [Request for Pre-Applications](#) is out. The closing date for the program is December 8, 2023, and there is \$75,440,000 in estimated funding.
- The National Science Foundation is hosting their [Virtual Grants Conference](#) December 4-7, 2023. Registration is free and opens on Wednesday November 8 at 12 PM ET. (As a heads up, there's a link on the conference website to get notified when the registration goes live.)
- The Northeast Climate Hub is seeking a [USFS Tribal Climate Equity Fellow](#). Applications are due on January 5, 2024.
- *The continuing ask:* We've added a photo at the end of the newsletter that either captures "local flavor" or is indicative of current events. If you have a picture that you'd like to share with the NERA News followers, please send those to us with a caption and photographer acknowledgement.



Sailors lower the ensign (Celestial Images, March 25, 2015).



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NERA and its member institutions are committed to the principles of affirmative action, diversity, and inclusion.

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