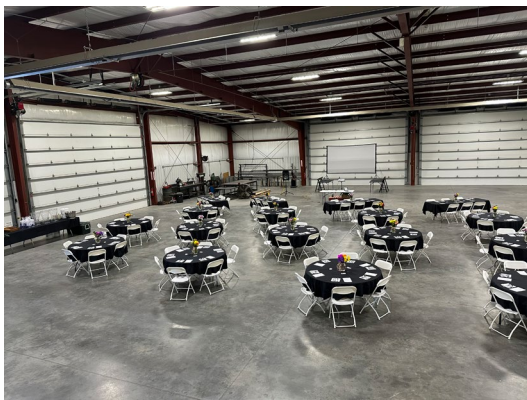


Prepping for Planting Season

The first quarter of the year kicked off to a busy start! The first couple of months of 2024 were full of travel and preparation for the upcoming planting season. Our H2A workers arrived in the middle of March, and we are very excited to have them back with us. We intend to start planting corn towards the beginning of April, depending on weather conditions at that time.

Our 18th Annual Landlord Appreciation Dinner



We recently held our 18th Annual Landlord Appreciation Dinner in March, and with approximately 100 people in attendance, it was a wonderful turnout! Savannah spoke about her journey coming back to the farm and expressed her gratitude towards our business partners for enabling the eighth generation to come back to the family farm.

Adventures of Grayson

Grayson celebrated his 24th birthday in March. The festivities continued as Reggie, Laura, and Grayson took a trip to Grayson's favorite place on Earth, Disney World, to celebrate his upcoming college graduation. He will graduate this coming May with a degree in accounting. There will be more to come with his future plans and pictures from the big day!



First Quarter Travels!

UnCommon Farms 2024 Winter Conference in Florida



Reggie and Savannah in Florida. Reggie was a speaker at the first general session of the conference.

Earlier this year, Reggie, Garrett, and Savannah traveled to St. Pete Beach, Florida, for the UnCommon Farms Winter Conference. UnCommon Farms is an agricultural consulting company that we have been a member of for a decade now. Reggie was also a speaker at the conference. He spoke about the United Soybean Board (USB) and the U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC) and explained the need to get involved. We heard from wonderful speakers including Al Tank, Kevin Polky, Ron Rabou, and Dr. Dave Kohl, who were also personal favorites from the week, and met amazing people from across the U.S. and Canada.

We learned about upcoming innovations within the agriculture industry, what and how current political changes along with those on the horizon will affect ag, and how we can care for our businesses, internally with our people and our land. This was also Savannah's first UnCommon Farms conference since coming back to the farm. She was able to get to know several other members and have conversations about life on and off the farm that she hopes will lead to continued friendships.

USSEC Meeting and Commodity Classic in Texas

At the beginning of March, prior to heading to Commodity Classic, Reggie attended a Board of Directors meeting for USSEC. They met Monday through Wednesday before the event in Houston, Texas. He heard from regional directors from across the globe regarding trade successes and concerns for 2024.

Reggie and Savannah then attended the 2024 Commodity Classic. This event is the largest farmer-led agricultural and educational experience in the country. The theme of this year's event was new frontiers in agriculture, and keeping with that theme, attendees heard from several USDA leaders about the prospective new farm bill, learned about new technologies, how the soybean industry is evolving and thriving, and more.

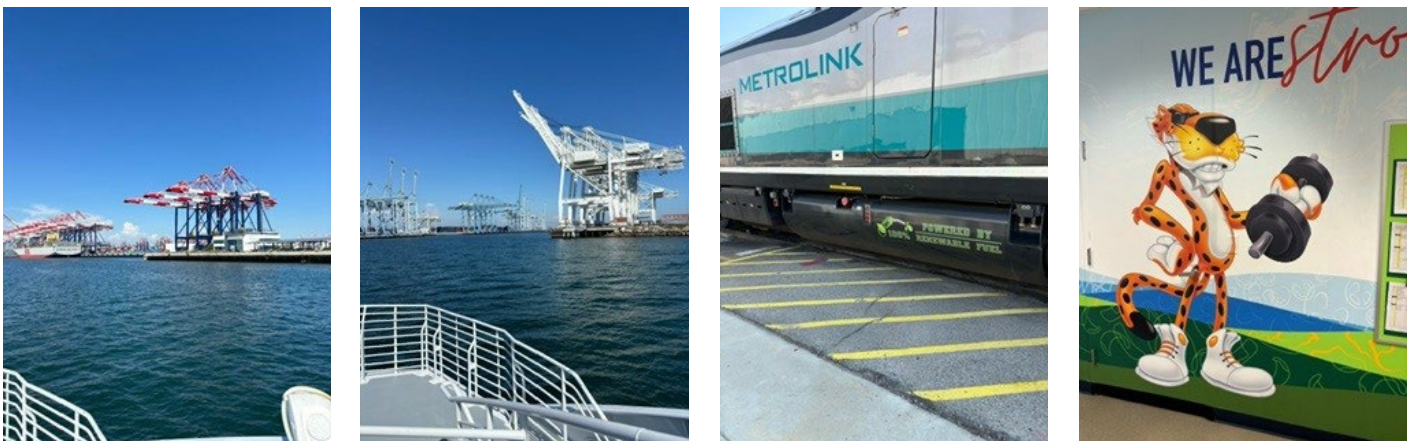


Pictures from a busy week in Texas at the USSEC board meeting and Commodity Classic.

Trip to California for Clean Fuels

Reggie's latest trip took him to Los Angeles, California, for the 2024 Golden State Biomass "Onward and Upward" Tour hosted by Clean Fuels Alliance America. This national trade association represents the biodiesel, renewable diesel, and sustainable aviation fuel industries. They work to create sustainable industry growth through education, communication, governmental affairs, and technical and quality assurance programs, like this recent tour in California. The Golden State, like the current administration, is 100 percent committed to electric vehicles. As we all know and see, California and most of the country cannot supply electricity for the current population and are not prepared for total electric vehicles. However, biofuels are readily available today and could be implemented as a solution to carbon emissions and cleaner air.

A highlight of the week was the tour of the Metrolink Central Maintenance Facility. Metrolink is the first railroad in the U.S. to use 100 percent renewable diesel and has been fueling its 60 locomotives since February 2022. The company's story is almost too good to be true, but it is. The trip was a very interesting experience for Reggie, and he was able to return home in time for some final preparations before planting season starts in full swing.



Pictures from an eventful week in California. The week was full of tours including a tour of the Metrolink Central Maintenance Facility (middle right).

Strickland Farming is on social media! Follow us to see more photos, videos, and updates from around the farm. See something cool we posted? Give it a like and a share! Don't forget to check out our website www.sfgnc.net.



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