



Contact:

Eric Davis, 612-424-7545, eric@filmharvest.com

Mushroom Council® Announces Newly Elected Officers

Redwood Shores, CA (March 17, 2020) – At the February 20 Council meeting in Phoenix, the Mushroom Council® elected new officers for 2020.

- **Chairperson:** Curtis Jurgensmeyer, CEO, J-M Farms, Miami, OK.
- **Vice-Chairperson:** Sonya Beltran, Director of Operations, Masda Mushrooms/First Generation Farms, Toughkenamon, PA.
- **Secretary:** Emily Bettencourt, Director of Quality Assurance and Safety, Global Mushrooms, Gilroy, CA.
- **Treasurer:** Ed Wuensch, Chief Operating Officer, Kitchen Pride Mushroom Farms, Gonzalez, TX.

The Council also welcomed new members for the 2020-2022 term:

- Mark Moran, Kaolin Mushrooms/South Mill Champs, Kennett Square, PA.
- Fletcher Street, Ostrom Mushroom Farms, Sunnyside, WA.
- Ed Wuensch, Kitchen Pride Mushroom Farms, Gonzales, TX.

In addition, the Council celebrated the following outgoing members:

- Robert Murphy, previously Premier Mushrooms, currently Kaolin Mushrooms/South Mill Champs, who served two 3-year terms.
- Michael Stephan, Monterey Mushrooms, who also served two 3-year terms.

The nine-member Council is comprised of eight domestic growers and one importer representing four regions. The program's purpose is to maintain and expand existing mushroom markets and uses.

The officers' responsibilities include ensuring the Council develops and implements an annual research, marketing and promotions plan, and ensuring the Council manages and follows its annual budget.

Mushroom Council Calls for Nominations — 2021-2023 Term

A call for nominations for 3-year terms beginning January 1, 2021 is now open. Completed nomination forms must be emailed or postmarked no later than May 1, 2020. The regions with positions available are:

- Region 1 (All states except CA and PA) – one open position
- Region 2 (PA) – one open position
- Region 4 (Importers) – one open position



Mushroom growers have ideas, skills, experiences and perspectives that would benefit the industry; be a voice for your industry by becoming part of the Council. The U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Mushroom Council encourage all eligible producers, including women, minorities and individuals with disabilities to participate and seek nomination.

For more information on submitting nominations, contact cheryl@mushroomcouncil.org.

About the Mushroom Council:

The Mushroom Council is composed of fresh market producers and importers who average more than 500,000 pounds of mushrooms produced or imported annually. The mushroom program is authorized by the Mushroom Promotion, Research and Consumer Information Act of 1990 and is administered by the Mushroom Council under the supervision of the Agricultural Marketing Service. Research and promotion programs help to expand, maintain and develop markets for individual agricultural commodities in the United States and abroad. These industry self-help programs are requested and funded by the industry groups that they serve. For more information, visit mushroomcouncil.com.

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