

AAM Senter On The Hill 12-27-2019

As 2019 heads to the finish line, there are many that are more than ready to close the books on this year. We received a tremendous response to our last column with several requests that I continue the story of AAM which I will do during 2020. In August 1979, AAM State Delegates voted to file the paperwork to turn AAM from a Movement into a National Farm Organization. In January 1980 the American Agriculture Movement Inc. opened a full time Washington Office in the Methodist Building and I was hired as the first employee as National Director of the newly formed AAM. My first job was putting together AAM's first National Convention which was held at the Commerce Department's Auditorium in Washington, D.C. in January 1980. AAM members from around the country were in D.C. and had driven trucks, pickups and cars to Washington, D.C. fueled by alcohol or gasohol as we called it. This event was to prove to Congress that renewable fuel was real, and we could make it on the farm. AAM even setup a Still on the mall and made moonshine and used the distilled grain to make cookies and delivered them to every congressional office. Let's just say we didn't have trouble keeping warm on the Mall. As a result, the first legislation supporting ethanol was passed by Congress and signed by the President.

I hope you have made plans to attend AAM's 40<sup>th</sup> annual meeting in Lubbock, Texas January 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> as AAM's story continues. If you want more details about the meeting you can go to AAM's website [aaminc.org](http://aaminc.org)

On a sad note, I want to report that Wayne Meyer's mother, Betty Meyer of Sutter California passed away December 12. Throughout the years, Betty's home was always open to AAMer's working in California. She always had a smile and supported Wayne as he fought for family farmers. Wayne Meyer is a longtime AAM Member and supporter. Our love and support go out to Wayne and his family.

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