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I currently serve as an outside director of the McCook National Bank in McCook, Nebraska and have served in that capacity for the last 31 years. Last November, I along with three of my outside director colleagues from MNB, had the opportunity to attend the 2015 Western States Director Education Foundation's Symposium for Community Bank Directors in Phoenix, Arizona.

This was the first time I was able to attend this annual director education event and came away very impressed with the symposium. The topics were very appropriate for community bank directors and the speakers were exceptional. As an outside director, it is important that my bank continuing education not only be relevant, but also comprehensible since we are not involved in the day-to-day management of the institution. I think the symposium was all of this and more. I not only came away with beneficial information to enhance my effectiveness as an outside bank director, but I was greatly uplifted by the symposium's final address from Neil Dempster.

I am planning to attend the symposium again this year and would encourage any community bank directors to consider attending the 2016 symposium as well. I think it is especially beneficial to have the entire bank board in attendance as the discussions during and following the conference bear fruit for our institutions.

Sincerely



Stanley C. Goodwin