

Three Noted Speakers to Address '95 Conference

Dr. Michael Coffman • Francie Dalton • Tim Penny

By Ralph Turtinen

(Ed. Note: Following are profiles of three of the featured speakers at the 1995 Conference:

Michael S. Coffman, Ph.D., a respected scientist and ecologist who has been involved in ecosystem research for more than 20 years in both academia and industry, currently is president of Environmental Perspectives, Inc.

Francie Dalton, known for her ability to blend technical expertise with interpersonal skills, is the founder and president of Dalton Alliances, Inc., a premier business consulting firm.

Timothy J. (Tim) Penny, the first Democrat in this century to be elected from Minnesota's First Congressional District, represented southeastern Minnesota in the United States Congress from 1982-94 before voluntarily retiring. Among other activities, he works at the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute and the Center of International Food and Agriculture Policy.

MICHAEL S. COFFMAN, Ph.D.

Dr. Michael S. Coffman received his BS in Forestry and MS in Biology at Northern Arizona University at Flagstaff, and his Ph.D. in Forest Science at the University of Idaho at Moscow in 1966, 1967 and 1970 respectively. Since then he has become a respected scientist and ecologist who has been involved in ecosystem research for over twenty years in both academia and industry. He taught courses and conducted research in forest ecology and forest community dynamics for ten years at Michigan Technological University — a leading forestry school in the Midwest. While there, he published a book on forest ecosystem classification in Upper Michigan and Northern Wisconsin, which has become the standard for classification in the region. He also assisted the U.S. Forest Service in developing an Ecological Land Classification System for each of the national forests in Region-9.

Until recently Dr. Coffman was a manager for Champion International, a leading forest and paper products company in the United States. During his tenure with Champion, he became chairman of the Forest Health Group within NCASI (national Council for the Paper Industry for Air and Stream Improvement), a respected scientific research group for the paper industry. In this, and other related responsibilities, he became intimately involved in such national and international issues as acid rain, global climate change, wetlands, cumulative effects and biological diversity. He has given testimony before the Forestry 2000 Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, and has been a spokesperson for the Paper Industry for the Media.

Dr. Coffman is currently President of Environmental



Francie Dalton

Perspectives, Inc., where he provides professional guidance and training in defining environmental problems and conflicts, and developing solutions to specific issues. He played a key role in stopping the ratification of the Convention on Biological Diversity (Biodiversity Treaty) in the U.S. Senate by anticipating and exposing the unbelievable agenda behind the treaty. He has recently written two books exposing the environmentalist phenomenon: *Saviors of the Earth? The Politics and Religion of Environmentalism*, and *Environmentalism! the Dawn of Aquarius or the Twilight of a New Dark Age?*

FRANCES M. DALTON

Francie Dalton is founder and president of Dalton Alliances, Inc., a premier business consulting firm providing a full range of consulting services in the communication, management and behavioral sciences.

A veteran of the Vietnam Era, Francie was trained as a German linguist, spending four and one-half years with the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Service. She then took her Masters in Business from Johns Hopkins University, while completing a five-year tenure with Maryland-based Tate Access Floors as their Director of U.S. Marketing.

Francie's works have appeared in a variety of technical and industry magazines and journals, both domestically and abroad. She has spoken by invitation in England, Europe and in South America, and is a frequent speaker for corporations and associations throughout the U.S.

Unique in her ability to blend technical expertise with interpersonal skills, Francie has the professional versatility to deliver significant value and utility to any industry. The unconditional guarantee of satisfaction she provides

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to each and every client offers further evidence of her total commitment to quality and customer service.

Perpetually raising the standard of excellence in consulting, Dalton Alliances, Inc. tailors a broad and varied array of services to individual organizational needs, in such industries as Banking & Finance, Pharmaceuticals, Government, Manufacturing, and Botechnology. Clients include CIGNA, Dean Witter, GTE, AT&T, Bethlehem Steel, The Smithsonian Institution, Pepsi-Cola, AKZO and many others.

TIMOTHY J. PENNY

Born on his family's crop, hog and dairy farm in Freeborn County, Tim Penny attended country grade school in Mansfield Township. A 1969 graduate of Kiester High School, he went on to obtain a Bachelor's degree in political science from Winona State University.

Elected to the Minnesota state senate in 1976, Penny became the first Democrat in over 50 years to represent the Waseca, Freeborn and Faribault county district. During his six-year tenure in the Minnesota legislature, he served as vice-chair of the Transportation Committee and chair of the Railroad Sub-committee. He later chaired the Legislative Commission to review Administrative Rules. In addition, he was vice-chairman of the Finance Committee. His areas of accomplishment include student financial aid, rural transportation and regulatory reform.

The first Democrat in this century to be elected from Minnesota's First Congressional District, Penny represented southeastern Minnesota in the United States Congress from 1982-94. He averaged better than 70 percent of the vote in his last five elections. At age 42, he voluntarily retired from Congress citing a desire to return home to Minnesota and to devote more time to family. His years in Congress saw service on the Education and Labor, Agriculture, and Veterans' Affairs committees. He chaired the Veterans' Education and Training Subcommittee and the Subcommittee on Foreign Agriculture and Hunger.

Penny established himself as a budget watchdog, receiving many awards for his deficit reduction efforts from groups such as the Concord Coalition, the National Taxpayers' Union, Citizens Against Government Waste, Citizens' for a Sound Economy and Watchdogs of the Treasury. Penny served as Co-chair of the Democratic Budget Group, the Porkbusters Coalition and the Truth in Budgeting Taskforce.

Since returning to Minnesota, Penny continues his involvement in public policy through his work at the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute and the Center for International Food and Agriculture Policy. In addition, he serves on the board of directors for the Concord Coalition and is presently Chair of the Minnesota chapter of the Democratic Leadership Council. He is also a board member for Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance and the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget.



Tim Penny

Penny is a Senior Counsel to the Minnesota-based public relations for Himle-Horner. His book *COMMON CENTS* (with co-author Major Garrett) was released by Little-Brown in April.

Penny and his wife, Barb, have four children: Jamison (16), Joseph (15), Molly (13) and Marcus (9). They make their home in Waseca, Minnesota.



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