# Director Candidates: Region 3 – Ill. (4-year term), Candidate 2 of 2

**Daniel Scheider**
46 years old
1730 W Buckeye Rd Freeport, Ill.
Farm Credit Member since: 2001

**Family:** Wife Sarah, daughter Ella (16), son Wyatt (13).

**Brief description of agricultural operation and employment/business experience for the past five years:** My family, parents, and a dedicated team operate our fifth-generation dairy farm in Stephenson County, Illinois. I serve as the General Manager and President of Scheidairy Farms. I am indebted to mentors who have lived and taught me the servant leadership philosophy. I am grateful and humbled to daily lead our employee team as we carry out our farm's mission. In addition to the dairy herd, we raise corn and alfalfa to meet our forage feed needs. We reclaim our sand bedding for reuse and utilize contour strip cropping. For nearly 20 years, we have hosted second year medical students annually for a farm health and safety tour.

**Boards or committees you currently serve on and boards or committees you have served on in the past 5 years (please include the principal business of any board listed, e.g., "local school board" or "agricultural supply co-op" etc.):** I currently serve as the Vice Chair of the Compeer Audit and Finance Committee. I also am the Vice Chair of the YBS (Young, Beginning, and Small Farmers) committee. I have served as the Compeer PAC Chair. I am also seated on the Compeer Giving Board of Trustees.

In addition, I serve on the board of Buckeye Mutual, which is a 160-year-old local mutual insurance company. I previously have served on the PDPW board (Dairy's Professional Development Organization) and the Stephenson County Farm Bureau Board.

**Community involvement/government service:** My family and I are active at our church - St. Thomas Aquinas in Freeport. I currently serve on the Parish Council. I served on our county's Board of Health for 14 years.

**Education:** I graduated with an Associate of Science Degree in Agriculture from Highland Community College and transferred to The University of Wisconsin-Platteville. I obtained a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Business Management and began my career in the financial services industry in North Central Wisconsin. I worked in credit underwriting and loan documentation. During the final part of my banking career, I helped farm and small business customers with their loan, deposit, and financial service needs.

I am working to complete the Farm Credit Council Services Premier Governance Series. I have completed focused trainings in Strategy, Human Resources, and Cybersecurity.

**What is your vision for the future of agriculture?** My vision for agriculture's future is a diverse and resilient network. A sector that offers growing opportunities for farm and non-farm entrants through successful generational transitions. One that includes crop and livestock operations of varied type and scale. Compeer's role as a relationship-based lender will aid in working to achieve this vision that will be lived in our communities by carrying forth the values that define them.

**What do you believe are the primary issues facing agriculture and Compeer Financial?** The global nature of agriculture creates vast opportunities that come with risks. The significance and velocity of these cycles are currently being experienced in our communities. Compeer plays a role in helping producers execute risk management strategies with financial tools and education. This is important to an industry that has a focus on generation-to-generation success.

In addition, the smaller representation that the farmer currently has with consumers in society and the political system creates challenges. Strong cooperation among agricultural sectors and organizations is a key to overcoming this hurdle. As a cooperative, Compeer is well positioned to provide meaning influence with state and federal lawmakers.

**Why do you want to serve on the Board of Directors at Compeer Financial?** Our rural communities and families depend on a vibrant agricultural sector, and Compeer can be a catalyst in making this happen. The ability to continually improve and evolve is paramount. Compeer is uniquely positioned to leverage world class financial services on a very local and personal level which remains a key to success. I want to continue serving our cooperative on this journey.

I feel my Farm Credit training and experiences, early banking career, and leadership of our family's dairy farm qualify me to be a sound voice for the shareholder. All the while helping Compeer carry out its mission and ensuring a stable cooperative business partner for clients who receive a fair patronage for their investment.

It would be my honor to earn a second term to represent you and your rural communities while continuing to build upon Compeer Financial's legacy, returns, and local impacts.