

From: [Carnahan, Jeff \(AMS\)](#)
To: ["samuel@betances.com"](mailto:samuel@betances.com)
Subject: Reading list
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Dear Dr. Betances,

I thoroughly enjoyed your presentation to the employees of the Cotton and Tobacco Program today in Memphis. I wasn't sure what to expect going into the event except another dry, USDA-sponsored training session, but I assure you it was anything but dull. I learned some very interesting things about the organization, and things within myself, and I hope to be part of the solution as I/we move forward professionally and personally.

I have long since ceased to be totally amazed by how small the world can be once you get out and start moving around in it: Besides the Micronesian connection, I think you might be interested to learn that my wife is from Venezuela, and we met and got married while I was working on a project in Anzoategui.

I stopped reading Tom Clancy novels years ago to devote my reading time to non-fiction, especially biographies and history. The reading list you suggested at the seminar will keep me busy for a while, but I look forward to seeing what else you recommend.

Finally, I like the idea of having my kids tutor other kids. As I mentioned, our two sons are avid readers. Sometimes their reading gets in the way of their homework, but only because they think they still have to reserved time for their XBOX 360, too. I think a reading program to tutor non-readers would be very much in order.

Thank you for a very rewarding experience.

Sincerely,

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