

Green Lake County Farm Bureau

PO Box 5550 Madison, WI 53705

Address Service Requested

Non Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Platteville, WI 53818
Permit No. 124





For information about home or auto insurance, contact your local Rural Mutual agent.

Rural Mutual Agents in Green Lake County:

Gale Wiersma
(920) 398-3706

Tom Gustafson, District Manager - (920) 420-1106

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

We Need Your Help at the Green Lake County Fair

By Yolanda Woloszyn, Green Lake County Event's Coordinator



The Farm Bureau needs your help at the food stand at the Green Lake County Fair on **August 4-7**.

This past year the Green Lake County Farm Bureau made Ag in the Classroom presentations to more than 200 students and 11 teachers in Green Lake County. It is a great opportunity for the students and teachers to learn about agriculture in Wisconsin.

Expenses are increasing and working at the county fair helps fund many programs including the essay contest, Ag in the Classroom, FFA Farm Forum, YFA, high school scholarships, Ag Day at the Capitol, Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit, county policy development, annual meetings and Green Lake County Farm Bureau events.

The Green Lake County Farm Bureau is asking for help from you, our members, from your children or grandchildren who have benefited from any of these programs. Also, from non-profit groups, such as churches, schools and service clubs, interested in working at the 2016 Green Lake County Fair.

Please call Yolanda Woloszyn at 920.748.7303 or Jen Digman at 608.732.3223 to help at the Green Lake County Farm Bureau Food Stand. You also may fill out the form below and send in your hours to Yolanda Woloszyn, N6527 Searle Road, Ripon, WI 54971; Shifts are 8-11 a.m.; 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; 2-5 p.m.; 5-8 p.m.; 8-11 p.m.; and clean-up.

Name _____ Phone number _____

Thursday _____ Friday _____ Saturday _____ Sunday _____

Or volunteer any time that works for you. Thank you and see you at the Food Stand!

County Conducts Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest



Wilson Chall. All of the county fourth and fifth grade teachers received a copy of the book.

The book invites children to share in the pleasure of making maple syrup, a process that is the same today as it was 200 years ago.

WFBF received more than 2,300 essays. Green

The 2016 Essay Contest was open to fourth and fifth grade students and the topic was 'Tell us about producing maple syrup in Wisconsin.'

The 2016 Book of the Year was *Sugarbush Spring* by Marsha

Lake County Farm Bureau received 54 from two schools.

The essays were from Markesan Elementary School and Princeton Elementary School:

- First place receiving \$20, Mathew Orto, fifth grade student at Princeton Elementary School.
- Second place receiving \$15, Hope Pelland, fifth grade student at Princeton Elementary School.
- Third place receiving \$10, Brock Harvey, fifth grade student at Markesan Elementary School.

Congratulations to the winners! Participants received a certificate and a Culver's \$3 gift card.



Plan to Attend County Focus on the Farm Breakfast



The Green Lake County Focus on the Farm breakfast is from 7 a.m. to 12 noon on **Saturday, June 25**, at Hilltop Dairy, N308 County Road Q, in Markesan.

Cost: \$7

Hope to see you there!





COUNTYnews

GREEN LAKE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Ag Women's Summit Inspires Members

The Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit was on March 4-5 at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton.

It was presented by Badgerland Financial, Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation and UW-Extension.

Attending from Green Lake County included: Jennifer Digman, Irene Kutz, Beth MacGowan, Linda Swanke, Abbie Swanke, Elizabeth Taylor and Yolanda Woloszyn.

The keynote speakers included: Amy Pflugshaupt, anchor and reporter, NBC 15 Madison, presented 'Where we've been and where we're heading.'

Closing keynote speaker was Jerry Apps, author and professor emeritus at UW-Madison, presented 'The importance of writing Your Own Story.'



Women from Green Lake County Farm Bureau attended the Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit on March 4-5 in Middleton.

Ag in the Classroom Update!

During April and May, Ag in the Classroom presentations were conducted in six area schools including: Princeton Elementary School, St. John the Baptist Catholic School, Green Lake Elementary School, Peace Lutheran School, Clay Lamberton Elementary School and Faith Lutheran Church and School.

More than 200 students and 11 teachers saw the presentation. This year Mike Starshak, president and a charter board member of the Wisconsin Hickory Association came and talked to the students about hickory and maple syrup and explained how the process works in making syrup.

Students made pancakes and tasted the hickory and maple syrup and enjoyed some milk with their pancakes. Activities at the schools included making circle of the earth bracelets to celebrate Earth Day.

The students guessed how many ounces of maple syrup were in a jar and used a worksheet to record the differences and likenesses between maple and hickory syrup.

Members Attend Ag Day at the Capitol

Members of Green Lake County Farm Bureau along with nearly 400 other farmers and members from various farm and commodity groups throughout Wisconsin attended Ag Day at the Capitol on January 27 at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison.



Ag Day at the Capitol is the largest gathering of farmers from across the state convening to learn more about issues in agriculture as well as meeting with their state representatives.

Green Lake County Farm Bureau members met with Representative Joan Ballweg during Ag Day at the Capitol: (L-R) Nate Zimdars, Dave Gneiser, Jim Hebbe, Al Weckwerth, Rep. Joan Ballweg, Darwin Kelm, Joe Wollinger and Dave Wilke.

Green Lake County Awards Scholarships

Each year the Green Lake County Farm Bureau offers scholarships to high school seniors who plan to continue their education with a two- or four-year course of study. Students applying for the scholarship who are attending college in an ag-related field of study will receive first priority.



The 2016 Green Lake County Farm Bureau \$500 Scholarship winners were judged during the May women's committee meeting and the winners were Brian Jones of Green Lake and Augie Swanke of Montello. **Congratulations!**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

2 President's Report

Director's Report

FFA Farm Forum

YFA Picnic and Canoeing

3 Promotion and Education Update

Upcoming Events

Discussion Meet

Annual Meeting Date

Board Contacts

The students received a bag with a *Wisconsin Dairy Fun Book* or *Amazing Corn* activity book, pencil and eraser.

Ag in the Classroom volunteers were Jen Digman, Linda Swanke, Abbie Swanke, Beth MacGowan and Yolanda Woloszyn.



Mike Starshak, president of the Wisconsin Hickory Association talked to area students about syrup production.

President's Report



Greetings Farm Bureau members! Summer is here, the crops are in and growing and we had some good rains that have helped everything get a great start.

The Green Lake County Farm Bureau was involved in several activities since our last newsletter.

On January 27, seven members attended Ag Day at the Capitol and met with Representative Joan Ballweg and Senator Luther Olsen. One issue that we discussed was updating the Wisconsin Fence Law. This will be one of the main topics discussed at our fall resolutions and policy development meetings. I encourage you to talk to one of the board of directors and let them know your thoughts about this law and how it

should be changed or updated. Farm Bureau is a grassroots organization. I encourage you to get involved in the policy development process.

Other activities during the past months included sponsoring students to attend the FFA Farm Forum, sending members to the Ag Women's Summit and awarding scholarships to students. More information on these activities are highlighted in the newsletter.

The county also has active Ag in the Classroom and promotion and education committees that are busy conducting ag promotion activities throughout the county. As always, I strongly encourage you to attend the Green Lake County Fair on **August 4-7**, and make sure to stop at the Farm Bureau Rest Haven food stand.

The fair food stand is our largest fundraiser, which helps fund

our programs throughout the year. Also, we are always looking for volunteers. Please consider volunteering even if it's for an hour or two. Many people working together will help us ensure a successful fair food stand.

The Green Lake County Farm Bureau teamed up with the Waushara, Winnebago, Fond du Lac and Outagamie County Farm Bureaus to sponsor a booth at the WPS Farm Show. We appreciated everyone who stopped and enjoyed talking to members. There was a drawing for a cordless drill and longtime Green Lake County Farm Bureau member Jim Prochnow was the winner of this year's prize. Congratulations!

Wishing you and your family a safe and healthy rest of the summer and I hope to see many of you at the fair.

Dave Wilke
Green Lake County Farm Bureau President

District Director's Report



We are moving into a very important presidential cycle.

The U.S. has major issues that need to be addressed in the coming years. An overreaching EPA, a vacant Supreme Court Judge seat, border security and two major trade deals.

Producing food requires natural resources. We must protect our soil, air and water qualities. The EPA is moving in a direction trying to control much more land every time it rains. Farmers have been tilling the soil and applying nutrients for hundreds of years.

During those years, farmers continue to lower their carbon footprint per pound of protein and per pound of energy produced. Timing of farming practices are critical and we must

have an EPA that will not require a permit for everything that a farmer does. There are much more realistic approaches of protecting our vital resources.

Immigration also is an important part of U.S. history. Many of our descendants came to America looking for a better life for their family. They were hard-working people with many talents. They helped build and protect America. The next administration must protect our borders from the many threats. It also is important to build a comprehensive immigration system that works for this country.

The next President also must address the ability and the profitability of moving products around the world. Trade is a major source of income for farmers, and the U.S. has a reputation of quality and consistent products. There has been discussion of candidates wiping out trade deals when they get into office. Neglecting a current trade deal will take us out of any future negotiations.

If we look at potential income, we must look at projected population growth. China eliminated their one-child rule. Asia has a projected population of five billion and Africa, four billion in the next 40 years. While America and Europe are considered aging markets. Another major trade deal is on the horizon. The countries involved in the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) represents 11 percent of the global population and 38 percent of the global gross domestic product. Having global countries buy U.S. products is a major way to improve our economy.

This presidential campaign is important in many ways. The next administration could affect us many years past their office. It is critical that we vote for a candidate who is visionary and will give us the ability to guide America into the future. We have a very interesting road ahead. God bless and have a safe growing season!

Kevin Krentz
WFBF District 5 Board Director

Students Attend Farm Bureau's FFA Farm Forum



Members of the Berlin chapter who attended the FFA Farm Forum included: (L-R) Mason Luker and Clinton Ottman who were sponsored by the Green Lake County Farm Bureau.

post-high school agricultural opportunities, social media, agriculture advocacy and leadership.

Joining Holte as keynote speakers at the event were Jonathan Eckelberg, digital content specialist at the Wisconsin Department of Tourism and Ethan Giebel, director of education at Cooperative Network.

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation sponsors the FFA Farm Forum in cooperation with the Wisconsin Association of FFA. This year's FFA Farm Forum marks the 44th year that the Farm Bureau family of affiliates has sponsored the event for Wisconsin youth.

Berlin FFA members were among the nearly 200 high school students who attended the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's FFA Farm Forum in Wisconsin Rapids on February 19-20.

"The Wisconsin Farm Bureau is proud to host this event with the FFA to help grow the next crop of agricultural leaders in Wisconsin," said Jim Holte, Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation President.

During the two-day event at Hotel Mead, FFA members attended workshops that covered topics including

District 5 YFA Picnic and Canoeing

Attention YFA members!

When: Sunday, August 28

Time: Noon picnic lunch with canoeing to follow

Where: Mekan River Outfitters, W720 State Road 23, Princeton, WI 54968



Plan to attend. This will be a great opportunity to learn more about opportunities in Farm Bureau, network with other YFA members and have some summer fun!

For more information, please contact District Coordinator Becky Hibicki at 920.517.2445 or bhibicki@wfbf.com.

There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

- Auto**
- General Motors Discount
- Health**
- ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
 - LifeLine
- Supplies and Products**
- Case IH
 - Caterpillar
 - FS-GROWMARK Patronage
 - Grainger
 - Polaris
 - Office Depot

- Communication**
- AgriVisor
 - The Country Today
- Insurance**
- Rural Mutual Insurance Company
 - Farm Bureau Financial Services
- Travel**
- AAA
 - AVIS Car Rental Discount Program
 - Choice Hotels International, Inc.
 - Wyndham Hotel Group

- Financial**
- AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program
 - Farm Bureau Bank
- Protection**
- \$500 Reward Protection Program
 - Accidental Death Policy

For complete details visit wfbf.com/benefits-membership.

County Promotion and Education Committee Update

Members of the Green Lake County promotion and education committee continue to conduct a variety of agricultural promotional activities throughout the county, including:

February 6: Presented a crayon and candle making workshop at the Green Lake County 4-H Super Saturday.

March 30: Promotion and education committee members Matt Graff and Terri Wilke spent time with approximately 50 second grade students at Markesan Elementary School. Matt showed how to make crayons with soy wax and explained and showed photos of how soybeans are planted and the stages of growth. Every student received a soybean coloring book and a box of crayons.

April 30: Karen Doster from the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board presented information to the kindergarten, first, second and fourth grade students at the Princeton Elementary School.

May 21: Beef promotion activity at J and T Family Foods in Berlin.

May 25: During Princeton Elementary Schools K-5 Career On Wheels Day, Matt Graff showed the students the milk truck that he drives.

For more information or if you want to get involved in the promotion and education committee, please contact chair Alena Graff at 920.219.1989.



Upcoming Events

August

4-7 Green Lake County Fair, Green Lake
29 District 5 Discussion Meet, Christianos Pizza, Green Lake

September

12 County Resolutions Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

October

4 County Annual Meeting, 7:30 p.m., City Inn Bar and Grill, Berlin

Plan to Attend the District 5 YFA Discussion Meet

The District 5 Discussion Meet will be held at 7 p.m. on **Monday, August 29**, at Christianos Pizza in Green Lake. The cost for the meal is \$12.

For more information, please contact District YFA Representative Amanda Knoch at 608.369.1091. *Please Note: All 2016 District Discussion Meet contests will discuss Topic Question #5.*

5. Today's food companies employ many tactics to gain a marketing edge. What is the purpose of food labels? How can Farm Bureau work to ensure that consumers understand the labels and have confidence in the safety and quality of their food?

Green Lake County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, David Wilke 920.748.3580
Vice President, Joe Wollinger 920.296.9291
Secretary/Treasurer, Arden Patchett 920.294.3149
YFA Chair, Kim Dehn 608.558.8483
Women's Chair, Jen Digman 608.732.3223
Promotion & Education, Alena Graff 920.324.4617

Director, Pete Badtke 920.748.9506
Director, Dave Gneiser 920.369.6314
Director, Matt Graff
Director, Jim Hebbe 920.229.5602
Director, Darwin Kelm 920.398.3358
Director, Steve Kutz 920.295.6737
Director, Allan Weckwerth 920.295.4057

Green Lake County Farm Bureau 888.644.8366
RMIC District Manager, Tom Gustafson 920.420.1106

WFBF Board Director, Kevin Krentz 920.361.7380
District 5 Coordinator, Becky Hibicki 866.355.2029

Save the Dates: Important Meetings

The Green Lake County Farm Bureau resolutions meeting will be on **Monday, September 12**, and the annual meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, October 4**, at the City Inn Bar and Grill in Berlin.



Please watch your mail for more information.

Visit Green Lake County Farm Bureau on Facebook

Visit the Green Lake County Farm Bureau on Facebook and 'like' the page to stay up-to-date on county events and activities.



June Dairy Month Window Contest

This year the June Dairy Month window contest theme was 'Hats off to Agriculture.' There were eight 4-H clubs that competed in the contest and they did a wonderful job.



Their time and talent is appreciated.

B - I - N - G - O !

Members of the Green Lake County Farm Bureau women's committee played BINGO with residents at the Markesan Resident Home on March 18. More than 20 residents participated and everyone won a treat or two. The committee also gave ice cream bars to everyone.

Committee members included: Jen Digman, Yolanda Woloszyn, Elizabeth Taylor, Linda Swanke and Irene Kutz.



Members of the Green Lake County women's committee played BINGO with residents of the Markesan Residents Home.