



Green County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

District 2 Promotion and Education Annual Recap

Summit 2017
Save the Date!
March 10-11, 2017
Madison Marriott West, Middleton

WISCONSIN
Ag Women's
SUMMIT

#WWS17
WiAgWomensSummit.com

As you may recall, during the WFBF Annual Meeting last December delegates voted unanimously to change the state Women's Committee and program to the state Promotion and Education Committee. With that change, our committee went to work. We had challenging discussions and brainstorming sessions on what we wanted the new program to look like.

As a committee we knew we wanted to hear from you, our members. We held listening and idea sharing sessions throughout the state and introduced the concept of gathering Farm Bureau activities, events and programs into a working document called the 'Playbook.'

Throughout the spring and summer, I worked with many of you to submit 'plays' for the awe-

some programs that you are doing within your counties and throughout the district.

I am very excited to share that on September 15 our first round of the 'Playbook' rolled out with more than 150 'plays' to our membership to gain insight and generate new ideas to try something different in their county or district. Please keep in mind, this is a working document and I will continue to request 'plays' and encourage you to share your programs.

This year so many amazing events were held that made an impact in the agriculture community, built solid relationships and grew membership. To share a few, we built on the accomplishment of previous years by hosting a successful Youth Ag Summit that introduced high school students to

a variety of agriculture careers. The 'Farm Bureau 5K Run/Walk' took to the ground running holding the fourth annual event at a member's farm in Rock County. And new this year the Promotion and Education Committee educated thousands of Wisconsin State Fair attendees by sharing Wisconsin's dairy story and helping people understand the important role that this industry plays in our state and our lives.

As I reflect on the year, I am proud of where we are and I am even more excited for where we are going. I look forward to working with you to build on educating and promoting Wisconsin agriculture and Farm Bureau.

Andrea Brossard
District 2 Promotion & Education Representative

District 2 Promotion and Education Tour Announced

Join us for a district-wide Promotion and Education event including two tour stops, idea sharing and much more.

- Second Harvest Presentation
- Activities 'Playbook' details
- Maple Leaf Alpaca Farm Tour

Date: Saturday, November 12

Time: 11:30 a.m.

Location: Beaver Dam area

For more information or to RSVP, please contact District 2 Promotion and Education Representative Andrea Brossard at

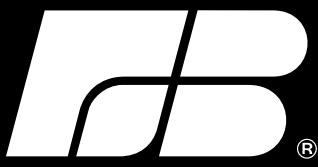
brossard_andrea@uwalumni.com or 920.296.2382 or District 2 Coordinator Amy Blakeney at 262.689.2000 or ablakeney@wfbf.com.



Tree Planted in Honor of Dan Karlen



Green County Farm Bureau planted a tree at the fairgrounds in memory of long-time member Dan Karlen. At last year's annual meeting, Green County Farm Bureau recognized Dan Karlen and his family for service to the organization. We lost Dan way too soon in summer of 2015 to cancer. We thanked his wife Nancy and daughter Dana, for accepting the award at the 2015 Green County Farm Bureau annual meeting.



NOVEMBER 2016

COUNTYnews

GREEN COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



Green County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting = SUCCESS



Members enjoyed great food and company at the Green County Farm Bureau annual meeting.

The turnout was fantastic with more than 100 members in attendance. This was a fun-filled evening packed with good food, good company, great conversation and tremendous generosity.

The evening was capped off with a sentimental yet hilarious roasting of retiring board member and president Jeff Ditzengerger by the one and only Fabulous Farm Babe Pam Jahnke, as well as, several local and state farm bureau members whom Jeff influenced during his 13-year career. As shown that night, Jeff has had a positive impression on many people involved in agriculture. We thanked him for his time and dedication these past 13 years.

Green County Farm Bureau also honored several distinguished members for their dedication and service to agriculture. Ken Schlapbach and John Dieckhoff were recognized as retiring board members, and the annual Friend of Agriculture Award was presented to Scott and Ben Thompson and the stations of Big Radio. Thank you for your leadership and enthusiasm in promoting agriculture in Green County.

During the business session, we passed several bylaw changes to

On September 27, Green County Farm Bureau hosted their annual meeting at the PepperCorn Banquets and Catering in Monroe.

clean up language, but also to allow for a more seamless operation of Green County Farm Bureau. The voting members also passed four resolutions related to ag chemical regulations, animal welfare, energy and telecommunications and the Wisconsin fence law.

For more details on issue backgrounder or the specific resolutions, please contact policy development committee chair Justin Monson, or any Green County Farm Bureau board member.

Also, during the business session, the members elected three new people to the Green County Farm Bureau board. Please welcome new members Jerry Daniels, Scott Timm and Josh Schenk, as well as returning board member Alissa Grenawalt. Afterwards, officer elections were held and Ben Huber was elected president, Carmen Montgomery was elected vice president and Alissa Grenawalt was elected secretary-treasurer.

During the meeting, members could network and bid on silent auction items. With such a fantastic turnout, more than \$1,300 was raised to further support Green County Farm Bureau programs and agriculture education pieces to be used in Green County during the next year.

Finally, thank you to those who attended the Green County Farm Bureau annual meeting. Any grassroots organization is only as strong as its membership, and the Green County Farm Bureau has never been better.

If you want to see the meeting minutes, please visit wfbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/green.



Thank you to PepperCorn Banquets and Catering for hosting the annual meeting and for preparing an exquisite buffet.



Pam Jahnke called on WFBF Chief Administrative Officer Dale Beaty to say a few words about Jeff Ditzengerger.



Board members presented outgoing President Jeff Ditzengerger with a plaque for his years of service.



President Jeff Ditzengerger presented the Friend of Agriculture Award to Scott and Ben Thompson and the stations of Big Radio.



Outgoing President Jeff Ditzengerger hands over the gavel to the newly elected President Ben Huber.

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A Message from the President...



Hello, Green County Farm Bureau members! I am Ben Huber, newly elected president of the Green County Farm Bureau.

Being new to this chair, I thought my first address to you should tell you about me and my family.

I grew up on a small farm in northern Illinois right along the Wisconsin border. I went to college at UW-Platteville and studied ag education. While at UW-Platteville, I met my wife Stephanie. We have been married for 8 years and we have two children Tessa (5) and Jace (2).

We live in rural Green County, west of Monroe. Agriculture

has been a part of our family's life. We are actively involved in my in-laws' cash crop corn and soybean farm in northern Illinois. Stephanie and I have been involved in Farm Bureau in Illinois and Wisconsin and we are raising our children around agriculture much like we were.

I have spent the past 10 years working in Wisconsin in agronomy and management roles with Insight FS. I have developed relationships with many local growers, as well as, several local and national agriculture organizations that will be helpful in navigating the agriculture climate we are facing today.

I also want to take an opportunity to thank retiring board members Jeff Ditzengerger, John Dieckhoff and Ken Schlapbach. These individuals served the Farm Bureau organization at a local, state and national level with passion and

dedication for many years. Thank you for being such an advocate for agriculture and working hard to put Green County Farm Bureau on the map.

Finally, I want to wish a warm welcome to Jerry Daniels, Scott Timm and Josh Schenk. These individuals are actively involved in agriculture in Green County, and will be tremendous promoters for Green County agriculture.

Thank you for your involvement in Green County Farm Bureau, and I look forward to working with you and advocating for all things agriculture during the next year. Our industry is strong and the future is bright.

Ben Huber

Green County Farm Bureau President

If You Want to Make a Difference, Be the Difference

A farewell from Outgoing President Jeff Ditzengerger



It's been barely a week since the Green County Farm Bureau annual meeting and my last one as president, being on the board and I've done some reflecting.

But before we get to that, I invited a young 'fella' from Ohio who is here as a research and development guy testing out a John Deere prototype baler, to the annual meeting. The next day, I sent him a text asking him what he thought and he said he enjoyed it, but he didn't know he was going to a roast. I replied, "Well neither did I."

If you read my last president's report, you read how I wanted to make the most of this experience as I could. I've never really had an opportunity to do so...or had I? And better yet, maybe we all have.

Each year, I'd hear people say that the reason I'd get re-elected is because nobody wanted the job. We'd laugh...but in my heart I didn't agree because I did want the job. I wanted it and I wanted to do the best I could and help anyone along the way. And I really wondered if I had, and you don't know how good the people that support you make you look until you see it in a five-minute slide-show while the New Radicals play in the background, 'You get what you give.' (If you haven't heard it, please Google it.) and also listen to Pam Jahnke and some of the most important people in your life talk about what and who you are.

I've always joked about how hearing the train whistle during the night I was elected president and being 'railroaded' into this. But I have also loved this train

ride and even though I'm no longer the conductor, I'm still going to sit in a passenger car and enjoy the ride.

This organization is strong ... it's not full of dreamers ... it's full of visionaries. These people, including the three new ones, will continue to cover mile after mile of track ... they will stop at terminals and pick up more passengers and they will push forward at full speed. I know this because I've watched them during the past decade plus.

As I depart from the leadership role, I want to make something clear ... in life, if people tell you nobody wants it ... then be nobody. Nobody is still somebody. If you want to make a difference, then be the difference. If people underestimate you ... then surprise them and surpass their **and** your own expectations. Don't be afraid of failing. The difference between the words 'fail' and 'fall' is one letter and the letter, is 'I.'

I cannot begin to thank you enough, this organization, this board and this county for the opportunities you gave this nobody, and to help make me a somebody. Thank you for your support, your encouraging words and your family atmosphere. You are amazing and I am forever grateful to you.

Stand by, Green County. This train is gaining speed and the future is bright for consumers and agriculture alike. God Bless you and I will see you around, I'm quite sure.

Thank you again. Ditz.



Meet: Jerry Daniels, Josh Schenk and Scott Timm



Jerry Daniels and his wife Barb farm in Juda. They are proud and excited 'no tillers' of soybeans, corn, wheat and cover crops. They strongly believe in growing our soil for future generations.

Jerry and Barb have been married for 33 years, have four children and four grandchildren. Agriculture runs strong in their family and in one way shape or form, their family is associated with the land.

Originally from Kenosha County, they moved their farm a little at a time to Juda beginning in 2005 with their first land purchase. They farmed in both counties, driving equipment back and forth for planting and harvesting until 2010 when they became full-time Juda residents.

Daniels believes this is an exciting time for agriculture. Not all is good excitement, but there are good things happening.

"We need to be aware and participate in the learning and exploring process so we have the opportunity to plan, and engage in the discussion," said Daniels.



Josh Schenk was raised on a dairy farm near Brodhead along with his brother Matt. His parents David and Deborah sold the herd in 2007 and now crop farm 500 acres of corn and soybeans. Schenk attended UW-Platteville and earned a bachelor's degree in ag business with emphasis in commodity marketing. He worked as a grain buyer in southern Wisconsin and is a location manager and grain buyer for Farm City Elevator, Inc., in Brodhead.

Schenk and his wife Sarah live on a small farm near Brownstown that was previously owned by Sarah's grandparents. Sarah works as a marketing manager for SCR Dairy.

Together they farm alongside Sarah's parents on a 100-cow dairy near Monroe and enjoy spending nights and weekends working together on the farm.

Schenk enjoys discussing agriculture policy with farmers and those who want to learn about farming. Last year he competed in the state Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) Discussion Meet, making it to the final four. Schenk is competing again this year and welcomes farmers to share their opinions on agriculture legislation.

As a county Farm Bureau board member, he looks forward to listening to farmers' experiences and concerns and to help inform the community that is part of our local and national agriculture economy.



Scott Timm is from Monroe and grew up on a small dairy farm and crop farmed corn, soybeans, alfalfa and wheat.

He participated in 4-H throughout high school and then attended UW-Platteville. Timm was an active member of the Dairy Club and served as an officer in Alpha Gamma Rho. He completed internships while in college that drove his passion for agriculture and ag business.

After earning his degree, he started GC Seeds and Service LLC and moved back to Monroe. He also works on the family farm with his two brothers, father and step-mother.

Timm also plays a major role in crop planning, planting and harvest while continuing to grow his business by building a commercial warehouse south of Monroe.

He wants to be active in Green County and to help communicate what is best for farmers while being a steward of the land.

"I also want to help educate the public on how production agriculture works while keeping a positive image," added Timm.

Green County Farm Bureau Hosts Family Farm Adventure

By Alissa Grenawalt



casing the rich agriculture heritage displayed in Green County as well as in Wisconsin.

The Family Farm Adventure, sponsored by Green County Farm Bureau, had many educational and hands-on stations that allowed festival goers a chance to see how they measured up to farm animals, learned about breeds of dairy cattle and what they eat, tested their dairy knowledge and won some fabulous prizes.



District 2 Young Farmer and Agriculturist Annual Recap

By Alison Kepner, District 2 YFA Representative

I serve as your District 2 State Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) Committee Representative for the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation covering Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Green, Rock and Sauk counties.

This was the first of my three-year term serving as the District 2 YFA Representative so I am still getting my feet wet in regards to planning activities but would love to hear from you about fun ideas you may have on a county or district level.

The YFA contests recognize individuals and couples on their accomplishments in the agriculture industry. Congratulations to Andrea Brossard and Mason Rens for being named a finalist for the Ag Achievement Award.

The District 2 Discussion Meet was on August 25 at Badgerland Financial in Sun Prairie. There were a total of four contestants who participated: Jayne Dalton, Columbia County Farm Bureau; Julie Sweeney, Dodge County Farm Bureau; Josh Schenk, Green County Farm Bureau; and Becky Wellnitz,



(L-R)Julie Sweeney, Becky Wellnitz, Josh Schenk and Jayne Dalton dissect the Discussion Meet topic.



Rochelle Schnadt gave a brief overview of Farm Credit celebrating their 100-year anniversary.

Green County Farm Bureau was awarded grant money from the 2007 Green County Farm Technology Days event to help make the Family Farm Adventure a mobile educational display that can be used at future agriculture based events and for years to come.

The Family Farm Adventure was open during the following times during Cheese Days. Friday: 2 to 8 p.m., Saturday: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday: 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; and from 3 to 5 p.m. after the Cheese Days parade.

For more information, please contact Jeff Ditzenger at 608.214.9137; or Alissa Grenawalt at agrenawalt@wisc.edu or visit www.cheesedays.com.



Green County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Ben Huber	608.323.0061
Vice President, Carmen Montgomery	608.293.2905
Secretary/Treasurer, Alissa Grenawalt	608.921.1847
Co-YFA Chair, Justin Monson	608.558.3807
Co-YFA Chair, Sarah Sacker	608.214.1650

Director, Jerome Daniels	608.210.0879
Director, Devan Klopfenstein	608.558.2646
Director, Kelsi Mayer	608.290.5855
Director, Joshua Schenk	608.558.4292
Director, Scott Timm	608.214.4524
Director, Cal Wasserstrass	608.293.1346
Director, Dustin Williams	608.391.0238

Green County Farm Bureau	877.483.5481
WFBF Board Director, Arch Morton, Jr.	608.931.0558
District 2 Coordinator, Amy Blakeney	866.355.7342
RMIC District Manager, Kurt Johnson	608.828.5734

Welcome Farm Bureau Members

Trevor Aeby, Lauren Christen, Jonathan Cull, Anita Dean, Carol Flick, Della Hathaway, Mark Hellenbrand, Jeffrey Hemmersbach, Alan Holverson, Randy Johnson, Ray Johnson, Michael Mayer, Chris McCullough, Jeffrey Opie, Carrie Ritschard, Brittany Sandlin, Justin Sandlin, Kathleen Schlittler, Kipp Schneider, Skyler Stingley, Lisa Tesch and David Webster.

Welcome
to Farm
Bureau

District 2 Director Report



Hello District 2 Farm Bureau members. I hope you are having a nice fall.

I was happy to see many of you at your county Farm Bureau annual meetings. All six of them (Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Green, Rock and Sauk) were held in September. It was my pleasure to attend each of them.

Although they were all a little different in their own way, that is how it should be in a 'grassroots' organization, there were many things that all six had in common.

Each was planned and carried out very professionally. They all had awesome speakers and presentations. The members were informed about what the county Farm Bureaus are involved in. Also, members voted on resolutions and elected directors and delegates. Each one had fantastic food and interesting conversation. I look at county Farm Bureau annual meetings as an incredible business and social event. Hats off to all of you on a job well done.

Coming up on December 2-5 is the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells. The YFA Conference is held Friday, December 2, through Sunday, December 4. The WFBF Annual Meeting runs Saturday, December 3 through Monday, December 5. I hope many of you have a chance to participate in this tremendous experience. It's my favorite weekend of the year, reuniting with friends and making new ones.

I hope you are having a safe and prosperous harvest. See you soon at many Farm Bureau events.

Arch Morton, Jr.
WFBF District 2 Director