



# Kenosha 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 our farm safety campaign, contact your local Rural Mutual agent.

### Rural Mutual Agents in Kenosha County:

**Nathan Leonardelli**  
(262) 654-0427

**Tim Cox**  
(262) 764-9373

**Michael Leonardelli**  
(262) 654-0427

**Linda Schopen, District Manager**  
(262) 522-8620

### Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation



The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation invites you to attend

## AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL

January 27, 2016

Monona Terrace Convention Center • Madison, WI

### Early Registration Deadline: January 22

**Cost: \$25** per person by registration deadline.

**\$30** after deadline and at the door.

### Schedule of Events:

- 11:00 a.m. Registration
- 11:30 a.m. Opening Program
- 11:45 a.m. Lunch
- 12:45 p.m. Legislative Briefing
- 3:00 p.m. Leave for Capitol Visits

Presented by: Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Thank You to Our Sponsors:



## Raise Your Voice; Attend Ag Day at the Capitol

Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, January 27**, and plan to attend Ag Day at the Capitol.

It's important for all of us to raise our voice on issues. Take a few minutes to be familiar with an issue that is affecting you and call your legislators.

Inform them about how important agriculture is in Kenosha County and share your views on issues and how they affect your farm.

Remember when you talk to your legislators to be respectful and thank them for their support.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Patti Roden at 262.689.1838 or [proden@wfbf.com](mailto:proden@wfbf.com).





# COUNTYnews

KENOSHA COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

## County Annual Meeting Celebrates A Successful Year



Connie Meier

The Kenosha County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting was held on September 22 at Birchwood Grill in Kenosha.

Following dinner, members approved bylaw changes, passed resolutions, elected directors and voted on delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting.

Wilfred Meier was elected as a board of director for a three-year term.

Those elected as women's chair and Young Farmer and Agriculturist chair will serve a one-year term:

- Women's chair – Connie Meier
- YFA chair – Dan Kirchner

Delegates were elected for the WFBF Annual Meeting. Those who will represent Kenosha County at the WFBF Annual Meeting include Kevin Muhlenbeck, Wilfred Meier and Betty Muhlenbeck. First alternate is Kim Muhlenbeck.



Kenosha County board members, front row (L-R): Wilfred Meier and Connie Meier; back row (L-R): Scott Thompson, Dan Kirchner, Kevin Muhlenbeck and Dan Kevek.



Dave Daniels



Mark Edquist



Kevin Muhlenbeck



Carl Daniels



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 2 District 1 Success
- Important Date
- Meet Dan Kirchner
- Essay Topic
- Sign a New Member

- 3 Approved Policies
- Wisconsin Ag Open
- District 1 News
- Summer Bus Tour
- Wanted: Board Member

## Family Farm Weekend Held in September



Zoo attendees learned about agriculture through interactive games.

By volunteering for two hours to talk to the public about what we do as farmers, your whole family will get in for free.

Lions and tigers and bears. Oh my. Take a ride on the train, it goes around the zoo, cost is \$5 per adult and all will enjoy when the whistle toots.

Bring a picnic lunch or enjoy one of their many cafés; they have a farmers market too, fresh root beer, honey and produce, along

Family farm weekend was September 12-13 at the Milwaukee County Zoo.

If you have ever wanted to take the family to the zoo, this is a great opportunity.

with hot kettle corn makes for a great snack. Clear blue skies and mild temperatures make for a great time.

Fewer crowds allowed us to talk more one-on-one with families that are trying to decide what's best for them in the grocery aisle and which restaurant to select.

Whether social media, our local news channels or other media, we need to get our faces and our families out into the spotlight. No longer is it just our story, but we are required by our customers to build a more personal relationship with our consumers. Family farm weekend is a great way to start meeting some of our best every day customers that keep us in business.



## District 1 Success

By Patti Roden, District 1 Coordinator



County annual meetings are my favorite time of year and now that they are over, it's a great time to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, and set new goals for the next year.

I truly enjoy working with all eight counties in District 1. District 1 is one of nine Farm Bureau districts in the state. Our district includes the counties of Jefferson, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Walworth, Washington and Waukesha. Each county is unique and the strengths of all the counties makes District 1 successful.

Many of the successes include:

- One member is part of the 2014 WFBF leadership Institute program.
- Thirty-five members attended the annual Ag Day at the Capitol.
- Twenty-three members from the district attended the first leaders training meeting held in March.
- Three out of eight District 1 counties achieved their new voting goal by the April 30 early-bird incentive deadline (Milwaukee, Walworth and Washington).

- Thirty-two members attended the district policy development meeting held in August.
- One YFA member competed in the YFA Achievement Award contest.
- One YFA member competed in the YFA Excellence in Agriculture contest.
- Three YFA members competed in the district YFA Discussion Meet. Finalists are Bob Nash (Ozaukee), Scott Davel (Racine) and Sean Beres (Waukesha). They will compete at the YFA Conference in December.
- Eight members have signed at least five new members and will be recognized as producer club members at the WFBF Annual Meeting.
- Sixty-eight new members have been signed by 20 membership volunteers.
- Four out of eight District 1 counties achieved a gain in total membership (Jefferson, Milwaukee, Washington and Waukesha).
- Two out of eight District 1 counties achieved a gain in voting membership (Jefferson and Milwaukee).

Thank you for being a Farm Bureau member. I encourage you to take advantage of every opportunity to tell your story and invite someone to join the organization.

## Hey Farmers, November 1 was an Important Date. Here's Why.



When Governor Scott Walker signed 2013 Wisconsin Act 377 and 2015 Wisconsin Act 15 into law, this was the most comprehensive rewrite of implements of husbandry (IOH) law in decades.

It helped address how farmers could legally and safely operate and transport farm machinery on roadways throughout the state.

What was so special about November 1? One of the main provisions in the law deals with what are statutorily defined as 'wide' IOH. If not already installed on original equipment, additional lighting and marking features will be required for IOH that exceed 15 feet in width or operate over the centerline of a roadway when traveling.

The legislature gave farmers 18 months after Act 377 was signed to come into compliance. That 18-month period ended November 1.

Here is a brief overview of what the additional lighting and marking requirements are:

- For self-propelled IOH, including farm tractors, in excess of 12 feet they must be equipped with a 360-degree yellow or amber rotating strobe or beacon mounted at the highest practicable point, or two flashing amber lights visible to the front and rear.
- All 'wide' IOH must have: 1. at least two amber flashing lights, visible from both the front and rear, mounted to mark the lateral

extremities; 2. red retroreflective material, visible to the rear, placed to mark the lateral extremities; 3. yellow retroreflective material, visible to the front, placed to mark the lateral extremities; 4. at least two red tail lamps mounted to the rear (hardwiring is not required) and; 5. one slow moving vehicle (SMV) sign. At times other than hours of darkness, a wide IOH may be operated without additional lighting and marking if it has an escort vehicle with hazard lights activated and has two orange or red flags at the rear to mark the lateral extremities.

- All IOH wider than 22 feet must meet the wide IOH lighting and marking requirements, in addition to having at least one escort vehicle with the hazard lights activated when traveling distances more than a half mile.
- During hours of darkness each vehicle in an agricultural train (three-vehicle IOH combination) must have at least one red or amber light or one red or amber reflector on each side, and the rearmost vehicle should have an SMV sign.
- An IOH of any width can be transported via a trailer or semitrailer during hours other than hours of darkness from farm-to-field, farm-to-farm or field-to-field. During hours of darkness the width is limited to 8.5 feet. An IOH that is being trailered must comply with the same lighting and marking requirements as if it were being operated on the road (excluding headlamps). Self-propelled IOH and farm tractors exceeding 12 feet also must have the beacon-strobe light or the flashing amber warning lights activated.

This is a brief overview. For more information, visit the Department of Transportation website at [www.agvehicles.dot.wi.gov](http://www.agvehicles.dot.wi.gov) or the WFBF website at [wfbf.com/governmentrelations/ioh](http://wfbf.com/governmentrelations/ioh) or contact Rob Richard, WFBF Senior Director of Governmental Relations, at [rRichard@wfbf.com](mailto:rRichard@wfbf.com) or 608.828.5703.

## Meet: Dan Kirchner, the New YFA Chair

Hello, I am Dan Kirchner. I am 24 years old and I live in Somers. I grew up on a 450-acre dairy farm. We milk 50 cows.

I have always had a passion for agriculture and this led me to earn a bachelor's degree in crop and soil science and ag engineering from the UW-Platteville.

Since graduation, I am employed by CNH Industrial in Sturtevant as a manufacturing engineer.

I still help on my family's farm after work and on weekends and am slowly working my way into production agriculture. During my free time I enjoy working on farm equipment and tractor pulling. I look forward to being more involved in Farm Bureau and serving as the new YFA chair for Kenosha County.

## Essay Topic Announced

Each year Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom offers an essay contest for fourth and fifth grade students in all public, private and home schools, including 4-H clubs, Farm Bureau families and other organizations.

The 2015-2016 topic is 'Tell us about making maple syrup in Wisconsin.'

Kenosha County contest entries are due by **April 1, 2016**.

For more information, please contact Scott Thompson at 262.237.4777 or [tsfthompson@gmail.com](mailto:tsfthompson@gmail.com) or visit the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom website at [www.wisagclassroom.org](http://www.wisagclassroom.org).

## Sign a NEW Member, Get \$20

County Farm Bureau volunteers will receive \$20 for every new voting or associate member who they sign between **October 1 and September 30, 2016**. Qualifying new members must (a) have no previous Farm Bureau membership or (b) be more than 25 months past their due date.

Farm Bureau volunteers qualify as members of the Farm Bureau Proud Club by signing five or more new Farm Bureau members during the membership year. Members of the 2016 Farm Bureau Proud Club and their spouse or guest will receive exclusive recognition at the December 2016 WFBF Annual Meeting. Farm Bureau Proud Club members also receive a commemorative pin and a special gift in recognition of their efforts.

County Farm Bureaus will receive \$1,000 cash award if the county Farm Bureau reaches its new voting goal by the March 31, 2016 month-end cut-off.

Volunteer membership workers who sign up five or more new members by May 5 will be awarded a Farm Bureau Proud jacket that will be presented at their county annual meeting.

For membership applications or more information, please contact District 1 Coordinator Patti Roden at [proden@wfbf.com](mailto:proden@wfbf.com) or 262.689.1838.



## There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

### Auto

- General Motors Discount

### Health

- ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
- Stroke Detection Plus

### Supplies and Products

- Caterpillar (NEW)
- Case IH
- 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](http://wfbf.com/benefits-membership).

## Policies Approved at Annual Meeting

Kenosha County Farm Bureau voting members were presented the following policies at the annual meeting. The state resolutions were passed on to the Policy Development Committee for potential consideration at the state delegate floor.

### National

1. Whereas there is a continuing tendency to overspend in the national budget, thereby increasing the nation debt.

Be it resolved that Farm Bureau continue our support for a balanced budget.

2. Whereas Ag. Trade is an important part of U.S. trade internationally and currently the U.S. has a large foreign trade deficit.

Be it resolved that AFBF continue the drive to reduce this deficit by marketing more of our agricultural products abroad, support U.S. trade delegations and support free trade of America's wherever possible, however, recognizing some products are more sensitive than others.

### State

1. Be it resolved that WFBF support the education of our young drivers as to the recognition of and reaction to agricultural signage for the safety of all drivers, whether that class is sponsored by a school, state program or private driving school. And be it resolved that all driver's education programs be monitored by the Department of Transportation, and kept to the same standards.

2. We support state legislation to ban the use of cell phones while driving, unless using a hands-free device.
3. We support a nutrient management planning that has a two tiered plan for smaller and larger acres to be compliant with the farmland preservation program.

4. We propose that when engineering a road the state and local level of governments should install culverts to assist in transporting manure to reduce traffic on roads.

5. We support the ability for immigrant workers to obtain a valid drivers license providing they meet the criteria of the current state driving requirements.

### Local

1. Whereas current statute states a governmental body shall post public notice of a meeting or hearing in a newspaper and post a copy of such notice in a town or village hall. And whereas many landowners are not notified when issues are publicly discussed concerning their property.

Be it therefore resolved that when governmental bodies are deciding zoning, changes in zoning, special assessments or other actions affecting the value of private property, that the landowners of this property and adjoining neighbors, be notified in writing prior to the scheduled date of these meetings or hearings,

2. We support the continuation of the 4-H program through UW-Extension in Kenosha County.

## Wisconsin Ag Open Held in September

By Dave Daniels



Carl Daniels placed his ticket in the raffle bucket.

On September 14, Kenosha County was well represented at the Wisconsin Ag Open at the Christmas Mountain Village golf course in Wisconsin Dells.

Carl and I were sponsored by the WFBF Board with a donation to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation. The Foundation, as you may know, helps support Ag in the Classroom, the Farm Bureau Institute and various other programs that Farm Bureau promotes.

We were paired with two Rural Mutual Insurance agents and the day went by way too quickly.

We didn't necessarily burn up the course but it was a very enjoyable day, supporting the Foundation.

If any other members enjoy golf, please let me or any of the board members know and you can be put on the list for next year.

Next year's Wisconsin Ag Open will be held on Monday, September 12, at Christmas Mountain Village in Wisconsin Dells.



## Kenosha County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Kevin Muhlenbeck 262.859.1824  
 Vice President, Scott Thompson 262.237.4777  
 Secretary-Treasurer, Daniel Kevek 262.308.6058  
 Women's Chair, Connie Meier 262.857.7202  
 YFA Chair, Dan Kirchner 262.770.2335

Director, Wilfred Meier 262.857.7202

Kenosha County Farm Bureau 877.432.9489  
 District 1 Coordinator, Patti Roden 866.355.7341  
 WFBF Board Director, Dave Daniels 262.878.5035  
 RMIC District Manager, Linda Schopen 262.522.8620

## District 1 News



As another successful year comes to a close, let's celebrate a membership gain. It is the driver for this organization and is what keeps Farm Bureau growing. Looking forward to next year, both Patti and I have signed the pledge to get two new members each for the new membership year.

We are accepting pledges from all counties to get those two memberships before **March 31, 2016**. By accepting and delivering that pledge, we will put our organization on the right path for another membership gain. Join us in the 'I'll Get 2' campaign!

As we close another year of annual meetings, I hope you are thinking about attending the WFBF Annual Meeting on December 5-7 at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells.

We have been able to expand attendance at this event and it has become a showcase for our organization. It highlights what we are doing and what we can do in the future for our state and nation as a farmer-led grassroots organization.

**45,665 strong!**

### Dave Daniels

WFBF District 1 Director

## Women's Summer Bus Tour



A group of 22 people attended the District 1 women's bus tour hosted by Ozaukee and Washington County.

Women enjoyed a bus tour around Ozaukee and Washington counties, visiting a few locations including: Cedar Creek Winery (Cedarburg); Roden Barnyard Adventures LLC (West Bend); Lizard Mound County Park and Cedar Valley Cheese, Inc.

## Board Member Wanted

If you are interested in being more involved with the Kenosha County Farm Bureau, please contact any of the board members.

Additionally, if you are interested in serving on the board, please contact a board member.



The board meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month.