

Marinette County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

March 4-5

Madison Marriott West, Middleton



Women from the Wisconsin agriculture community are encouraged to attend the Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit presented by Badgerland Financial, Wisconsin Farm Bureau and University of Wisconsin-Extension.

Agenda Highlights

Friday, March 4

- 9-10 a.m. Registration
- 10-10:30 a.m. AgVocate of the Year Award Presentation
- 10:30-11:30 a.m. Keynote Panel: Women In Ag: Understanding Where We've Been and Where We're Heading;
Moderator: Amy Pflugshaupt, Anchor and Reporter, NBC 15 Madison
- 1-4:30 Breakout Sessions
- 7:30-10 p.m. Casino Night

Saturday, March 5

- 6:30-7:30 a.m. Workout: Water aerobics or boxing and cardio
- 8:30-9 a.m. Meet the 2016 AgVocate of the Year
- 9-10 a.m. Breakout Sessions
- 10:15-11 a.m. Brunch
- 11 a.m. Closing Keynote by Jerry Apps: The Importance of Writing Your Own Story
- 12:15 p.m. Adjourn

Register by **February 3**: \$125; after February 3: \$150; one-day only registration: \$110; final registration by **February 26**. For more information, visit wiagwomensummit.com.

Membership Incentives Announced

Do you know a friend who might be interested in joining Farm Bureau?

The 'I'll Get Two' campaign is designed to encourage members to make a commitment to sign up at least two new Farm Bureau members by **March 31** by making a pledge.

Goals of the campaign are:

1. Double the number of volunteers who signed up at least one new member.
2. Double the number of new members signed by volunteers.
3. Forty-five county Farm Bureaus reach the Early Bird goal by March 31.
4. Engage 100 percent of the WFBF board members, staff, state YFA Committee members, state Women's Committee members and Institute participants to make the pledge.
5. Engage 100 percent of the Producer Club members to make the pledge.
6. Engage 50 percent of county Farm Bureau board members to make the pledge.





COUNTYnews

MARINETTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Marinette County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting



President Ryan Staidl led the Marinette County Farm Bureau annual meeting.

The annual meeting was held at Trade Winds Restaurant in Marinette on October 12 with 23 members and guests attending.

An affiliate company report was given by Tom Gustafson of Rural Mutual Insurance.

Katelin Haglund, District 7 WFBF Women's Com-

mittee Representative from Outagamie County addressed the proposed bylaw change that would change the WFBF Women's Committee to the WFBF Promotion and Education Committee.

Marinette County Farm Bureau president Ryan Staidl led the meeting except Marinette County Farm Bureau policy development committee chair Corey Kuchta conducted the policy development session. The resolutions that were adopted were:

1. We support raising the state gas tax by \$0.05 per gallon.
2. Definition of milk: FDA should enforce a rule stating that the word 'milk' should not be used for secretions from plants.
3. We support the concept of farmer-led water quality efforts.
4. We encourage collaboration between point source industry and municipalities with agriculture.
5. We support Farm Bureau's involvement in third-party audits assuring responsible practices for animal husbandry and food handling.

6. We support and indemnity fund to cover bonding that would be funded by producers through sales receipts if required.
7. Whereas the technology involving drones is moving at breakneck speed we support guidelines for their use and penalties for their abuse. Some guidelines would be as follows:

- Drones can be flown only on one's own property unless they have permission from another property owner.
- Property lines shall extend vertically to the maximum height allowed which is 600 feet.
- Failure to obtain permission for a flyover will be subject to fines starting at \$2,000 and/or confinement with repeated abuse.
- Businesses such as agriculture, forestry and road construction are not exempt.
- Law enforcement must have legal precedent to fly drones over private property.

8. Strike the wording on page 13 lines 17-18 of the 2014 WFBF Policy Book and replace them with: We support the agricultural chemical clean-up fund through DATCP. Clean up of approved sites should be completed. No funds collected should be used for any other programs.
9. WFBF bylaws should change the name of the WFBF Women's Committee to the WFBF Promotion and Education Committee.

Directors elected were: Dan Klimek, Jerry Rogge, Amanda Staidl, Ryan Staidl, Wayne Staidl, Karl Stibbe, Cindi Wautier and Trevor Vandrisse.

Delegates elected to represent Marinette County Farm Bureau at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December were: Corey Kuchta, Ryan Staidl and Cindi Wautier.

Finishing up the evening was state Senator Tom Tiffany. He enlightened those in attendance with a light hearted discussion of the issues that face the legislature and Wisconsin's agriculture industry.

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Corey Kuchta led the discussion of proposed resolutions during the Marinette County Farm Bureau annual meeting.



District 7 WFBF Women's Committee Representative Katelin Haglund from Outagamie County reviewed the proposed bylaw change.



Senator Tom Tiffany addressed the group.

District 7 Board Report



Happy New Year! Hope the weather has improved by the time you are reading this.

I hope you had the opportunity to attend the WFBF Annual Meeting. I think it was one of the best we have ever had. If you were unable to attend, Mike Austin, who has covered ag news and events in TV and radio for more than 30 years

in our broadcasting area received the 'Distinguished Service to Wisconsin Agriculture Award.' He gave an interesting and humorous acceptance speech.

Senator Ron Johnson also attended our Annual Meeting. He gave a very interesting speech. He spoke of finding common ground and a need to work across party lines.

There are several important events coming up. The Council of Presidents is January 26 and 27. It is an important opportunity to express your viewpoints and concerns. The next important event is Ag Day at the Capitol. We need good attendance

to keep our legislators informed of the ag issues and our concerns. The Wisconsin Ag Woman's Summit will be coming next. Ladies, try to attend this informative and fun event.

Following our strategic plan, the WFBF Board of Directors is working with other organizations to form alliances where we have common ground and concerns. We have found that we have many similarities in our discussions. When organizations work together, we have a much greater impact.

Wayne Staidl
District 7 State Board Representative

96th WFBF Annual Meeting Highlights

The WFBF held its 96th Annual Meeting on December 5-7 in Wisconsin Dells. Marinette County Farm Bureau's delegates were Corey Kuchta, Ryan Staidl and Cindi Wautier.

On Saturday, The Peterson Farm Brothers of Youtube music parody fame were a hit with their keynote address and breakout sessions.

Then on Sunday morning, the keynote speaker was Lowell Catlett, a regent's professor in agricultural economics at New Mexico State University. He made comparisons between 1970 and the present, and the many opportunities that agricultural producers could take advantage of.

During the afternoon there were workshops including one on transition planning and a viewing of *Farmland*. During the awards' banquet on Sunday evening, the Leopold Conservation Award was presented to David and Leslie Meuer.

On Monday morning, the business meetings of WFBF and Rural Mutual Insurance were held. Farm Bureau delegates adopted the policies that will guide the legislative agenda for the state's largest general farm organization in 2016. Resolutions were submitted by delegates as part of a grassroots policy development process.

Recognizing the need to increase funds to provide adequate roads and bridges in rural Wisconsin, delegates voted to consider a combination of gasoline taxes, vehicles registration fees, farm truck registration fees and environmental fees, as well as the

establishment of local sales taxes, tolling and new vehicle taxes.

Delegates supported the continuation of the state fuel tax exemption for agricultural purposes.

Other resolutions passed supported the use and regulations of drones and supported Wisconsin DATCP procedures for testing and licensing pesticide applicators. Opposing towns and counties are imposing stricter requirements for nutrient management than state standards.

Delegates approved a bylaw change to replace the state Women's Committee with a Promotion and Education Committee. Rosalie Geiger was elected the chair.

Jim Holte of Dunn County was reelected President of WFBF and Richard Gorder of Mineral Point was reelected Vice President.



The Peterson Farm Brothers of Youtube music video parody fame autographed photos for their fans during the YFA Conference.

Badger Blankets Collection for the Homeless By Darlene Eckerman

UW Madison Badger Blankets is officially up and running. The newest club, sanctioned December 1, 2015, Badger Blankets was started by Langlade County native Chris Eckerman and colleagues from food science and theater majors.

Collecting warm blankets and tying fleece blankets the club distributed their first donations to the homeless in Madison and the YMCA prior to semester break.

Badger Blankets will take donations of blankets and fleece so that it can make tie blankets. 4-H clubs and other organizations are encouraged to make the fleece tie blankets for distribution as well. In Antigo, collection boxes are at Insight FS on North Clermont, Schulz Heating & Cooling on Highway 64 and 45 and D. Eckerman Tax Services on South Rollwood Road.

For more information, please contact Chris Eckerman at 725.610.5454.

Members of the Langlade County Farm Bureau challenges other counties to donate and help support these young people in humanitarian efforts.



Blanket donations are now being accepted by Badger Blankets.

Policy Development Committee Report By Jon Bauer

Late last winter our District 7 Director Wayne Staidl asked me if I would serve on the state Policy Development Committee. Being a past delegate and doing our county resolutions, I somewhat knew the process, so I agreed.

In the spring, the committee consisting of about a dozen farmers from across the state, met in Madison to discuss background issues. In November, after the county meetings were complete and all the resolutions were compiled, we met for a day and a half to discuss more than 500 resolutions. A lot were on the same issues but had different wordings. I was impressed how the committee members went through them thoughtfully to come up with resolutions that were relevant.

This is a two-year term so I look forward to doing it again next year. WFBF Vice President, Dick Gorder, chairs the committee and, along with the WFBF staff, does a great job of informing us of issues and compiling the input we give him.



The WFBF Policy Development Committee addressed the resolutions before the delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting.

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- Protection**
- \$500 Reward Protection Program
 - Accidental Death Policy

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

Marinette County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Ryan Staidl	715.582.0928
Vice President, Wayne Staidl	715.582.3671
Secretary/Treasurer, Cindi Wautier	920.495.1389
Women's Chair, Amanda Staidl	715.582.0928
YFA Chair, Trevor Van Drisse	715.789.2576
Director, Dan Klimek	715.923.8875
Director, Gerald Rogge	920.897.3297
Director, Karl Stibbe	715.582.3671

RMIC District Manager, Tom Gustafson 920.420.1106
The board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Pound Village Hall.

District 7's Christa Hoffman Wins WFBF Discussion Meet

Congratulations to Christa Hoffman, a Shawano County Farm Bureau and YFA member, for winning the 2015 Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer and Agriculturalist Discussion Meet at the WFBF Annual Meeting held in Wisconsin Dells on December 6.

The Discussion Meet consists of a discussion panel where Farm Bureau members between the ages of 18 and 35 are judged on their ability to express their ideas and opinions to reach a solution on current agricultural issues. Hoffman was awarded a chainsaw from Midwest Stihl and a free financial plan provided by Rural Mutual Insurance.

Hoffman represented Wisconsin and competed in the national Discussion Meet at the American Farm Bureau Federation's 97th Annual Convention in January in Orlando, Florida.

When asked prior to the convention what she is most looking forward to, Hoffman said, "I'm most looking forward to

meeting other young farmers and ranchers from across the U.S. and seeing their perspectives of agriculture."

In 2016, Hoffman also qualifies for the YFA trip to Washington, D.C., she will be a guest of the YFA Conference and a special guest at the annual meeting of GROWMARK, Inc., in Chicago in August.



WFBF President Jim Holte presented Christa Hoffman with a Stihl chain saw.

Congratulations Christa on a job well done!

Promotion and Education Committee Report By Katelin Haglund



Happy New Year! As we start 2016, we have a new committee at the state level.

During the WFBF Annual Meeting in December, the delegate body approved a change to the bylaws to change the state Women's Committee to the Promotion and Education Committee. In January, the members of the Promotion and Education Committee will meet and discuss the new structure for the committee. We are looking forward to this opportunity.

The change of the committee occurred after a task force was created in late 2014 after concerns about the Women's Committee's future were expressed at strategic listening sessions

heard throughout the state in 2014. The task force recommended the change to the board and the board accepted the change in spring 2015.

The new Promotion and Education Committee will be open to women and men. While Wisconsin loses the opportunity to have a representative run for the AFBF Women's Committee, we hope to have a representative on the recently formed AFBF Promotion and Education Committee.

This bylaw change was only at the state level, counties are not required to follow the state committee structure. The members of the Promotion and Education Committee are very excited for the next year.

For information, contact me at katelinhaglund@gmail.com.

Humor Corner By Wes Raddatz, District 7 Coordinator

What one word includes 26 letters in it?

Alphabet.

Why is an empty coin purse always the same?

Because there's no change in it.

Farmer's son: Dad, I'm having trouble with the tractor. I think there's water in the fuel.

Farmer: Ok, let's go check it out. Where is it?

Farmer's son: In the pond.

How can playing with your grandkids keep you feeling young, when trying to keep up with them makes you feel old?



District 7 YFA Report By Brian Preder



Hello District 7 YFA members! I'm Brian Preder from Waupaca County and I will be representing District 7 on the state YFA Committee.

Being raised in the dairy industry, I share the same passion for agriculture as you do. As a YFA member, I can't be more excited and inspired to see young industry leaders' passion for agriculture.

Your passion was easily seen in December at the annual YFA Conference held at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells. We had an outstanding attendance of more than 500 YFA members!

This year members heard the Peterson Farm Brothers' story about their ag advocacy through YouTube music video parodies. We also had plenty of time for some photos with them.

YFA members also developed leadership skills through the YFA contests: Achievement Award, Excellence in Ag and Discussion Meet.

Congratulations to Christa Hoffman from Shawano County on winning the Discussion Meet. In January, she represented Wisconsin Farm Bureau at the national Discussion Meet during the American Farm Bureau Annual Convention in sunny Orlando, Florida. Good job Christa!

Be sure to watch for upcoming District YFA events. If there are specific events that you want to see scheduled, please contact me. Also, if you are looking for resources to assist with your county YFA events, please contact me.

Finally, I want to thank Kristi and Brian Fiedler for their commitment and dedication representing District 7 on the state YFA Committee during the past three years.

I can't wait to see where being Farm Bureau Proud leads!

