



# Marquette County Farm Bureau

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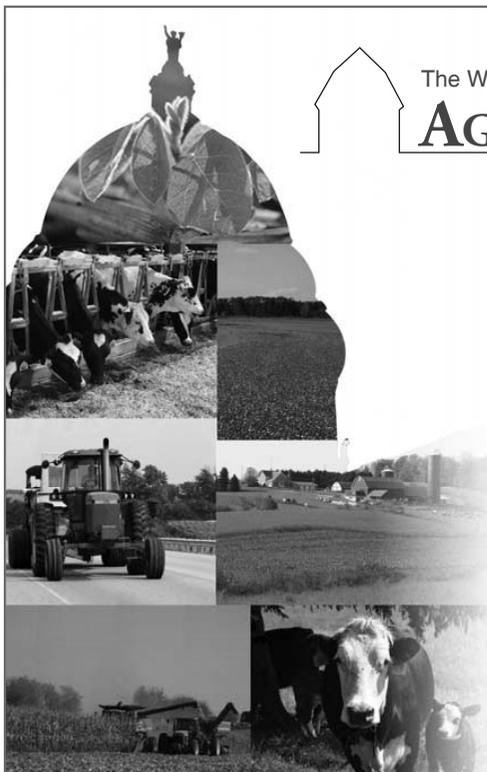

For information about crop hail insurance, contact your local Rural Mutual agent.

**Rural Mutual Agents in Marquette County:**

<b>Jeanne Gaudet</b> (608) 297-2120	<b>Tim Retzlaff</b> (608) 297-2120
<b>Kurt Johnson - District Manager</b> (608) 828-5734	

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

## Register Now for Ag Day at the Capitol



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: 

Thank You to Our Sponsors:





For more information, please contact Becky Hibicki at  
866.355.2029 or [bhibicki@wfbf.com](mailto:bhibicki@wfbf.com).

## Klapoetke, Knoch Recognized as Producer Club Member Workers



Marquette County president Al Klapoetke (left) with WFBF President Jim Holte at the WFBF Annual Meeting. Klapoetke was recognized as a top 10 membership worker for signing 10 new voting members this year.

Marquette County members Josh Knoch and Al Klapoetke were recognized at the Producer Club membership luncheon for signing at least five new voting members.

Marquette County reached voting and total membership gain this year.



# COUNTYnews

MARQUETTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

## WFBF Young Farmer and Agriculturist Conference a Success!



More than 25 YFA members from Marquette County attended the WFBF YFA Conference held December 4-6.

More than 520 YFA members attended the YFA Conference held December 4-6 at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells.

The following Marquette County YFA members attended this year's event Jordan and Kaycee Bittelman, Kalie and Zach Christensen, Heather Deery, Erica Hamilton, Tom Hell, Zac Holsted, AJ Klapoeke, Alex Klapoetke, Amanda and Josh Knoch, Corrina Knoch, Brad Kolpin, Josh Kuchar, William and Jessica Mann, Matt Mateske, Chris Smith, Robin Smith, Victoria Smith, Amy Van Natta, Abbey Weishaar, Emily Weishaar, Jonathan Weishaar, Justin Weishaar, Krystall Weishaar, Amanda Zuehls and Lyncee Zuehls.

This year, Marquette County Farm Bureau provided sponsorship

for Amanda Zuehls and Victoria Smith to attend the conference.

William and Jessica Mann, Justin and Amy Weishaar, Corrina Knoch and Kalie and Zach Christensen attend the conference.



Marquette County YFA member Brad Kolpin was recognized as a top four finalist in the YFA Achievement Award competition.



Josh and Amanda Knoch (center) with the WFBF YFA Committee at the YFA Conference. Josh and Amanda are serving a three-year term as the District 5 YFA representatives on the WFBF YFA Committee.

## Marquette County Farm Bureau Hosts Ag in the Classroom Farm Tour

On October 2, the Marquette County Farm Bureau women's committee hosted the annual Ag in the Classroom farm tour for the fourth graders in Marquette County.

More than 130 students attended the event. Thank you to the students who came to the Ken and Cheri Borzick farm and to the Montello FFA and Westfield FFA for sending members who served as tour guides.

Thank you to the Borzick family for hosting the event!



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## President's Message



As we start 2016, it's a great time to reflect on the accomplishments of the Marquette County Farm Bureau.

As your county president, it has been rewarding to see the Farm Bureau members active in many activities in the county and promoting the agricultural industry.

Some of the highlights of the year included:

- The county Farm Bureau hosted an informational meeting on high capacity wells in February with more than 110 people attending.
- Several members attended Ag Day at the Capitol in March and met with Representative Joan Ballweg and Senator Luther Olsen.
- More than 2,000 people attended the annual June dairy breakfast held at the Slowey Farms.
- The Farm Bureau operated the food stand at the Marquette County fair in July.
- In October, more than 130 fourth grade students attended the Ag in the Classroom farm tour held at the Borzick family farm.
- John Knoch was recognized as the Marquette County Distinguished Service to Agriculture recipient at the county annual meeting.
- In December, more than 25 YFA members attended the YFA Conference at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells.
- Marquette County Farm Bureau board member Brad Kolpin was named a top four finalist

for the YFA Achievement Award.

- Two new board members were elected to serve on the county Farm Bureau board: Kalie Christensen was elected as the new YFA chair. She works at United Cooperative in Westfield in the agronomy department. Kalie and her husband Zach have a beef and grain farm; Brooks Buchholz was elected to the board. Brooks works on his family's dairy farm, So-Fine Bovines, near Westfield. Brooks is married to Molly and they have a daughter.
- Long-time board member Keith Vande Velde and YFA chair Amanda Knoch left the board this year. I want to thank them for their service to the Marquette County Farm Bureau.



Marquette County president Al Klapoetke (right) presented the Marquette County Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award to John and Joanne Knoch.

As always, I thank you for your continued support of the Marquette County Farm Bureau. I look forward to another successful year of serving as your president in 2016!

**Al Klapoetke**

Marquette County Farm Bureau President

## Klapoetke, Knoch Served as Marquette County Delegates



Pictured (L-R) Amanda Knoch and Almon Klapoetke served as delegates from Marquette County.

Delegates at the WFBF 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells established policy directives for the organization on December 7.

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, vehicle registration fees, farm truck registration fees and environmental fees, as well as the establishment of local sales taxes, tolling and new vehicle taxes. Delegates support the continuation of the state fuel tax exemption for agricultural purposes.

Delegates supported certified third-party audits of farms for animal care practices and land conservation practices to ensure market access and instill consumer confidence. Delegates emphasized that third-party audit information collected becomes the sole proprietary property of the farmer and audit information should be released only as aggregated data.



District 5 board member Kevin Krentz led the district caucus session.

In regards to labeling, delegates advised that the term 'milk' should not be used to label and describe food products that are derived from vegetative plants and trees.

Recognizing the importance of natural resources and the environment, delegates support farmer-led soil and water quality initiatives.



Marquette County Farm Bureau member Brad Kolpin (far right) attended the delegate session. He serves on the WFBF Policy Development Committee.

Delegates from the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's 61 county Farm Bureaus also voted to:

- Support classifying skid steers as agricultural equipment, as well as construction. We also support training and safety programs-certification for youth similar to All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) and Utility-Terrain Vehicle (UTV) Certification and Wisconsin Safe Operation of Tractor and Machinery Certification programs.
- Support maintaining the necropsy services and employing a state licensed veterinarian in the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Barron.
- Support using technology (i.e., UAVs and electronic trap monitors) in order to monitor wildlife abatement traps and to assess crop damage.
- Support the state's adverse possession law as it has historically existed.
- Oppose towns and counties imposing stricter requirements for nutrient management regulations than state standards without relevant scientific research.
- 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.
- Support the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's procedures for testing and license renewal of the pesticide certification and training program.

## District Coordinator's Report



As I write this, it's less than 24 hours since I've returned from the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference, which was held December

4-7 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells.

As a District Coordinator, this is always a highlight of my Farm Bureau year. It's a great opportunity to connect with old Farm Bureau friends I see only once a year, a time to meet new Farm Bureau members and a chance to see many dedicated county Farm Bureau members from the district being recognized for their service to our organization!

I'd like to take the opportunity to share a few of these highlights with you:

- More than 95 of the 520 YFA members who attended the YFA Conference were from District 5.
- Fond du Lac County was recognized as the Top County YFA program in the state for the second year in a row.
- YFA members Michael Leahy, Lynn Dickman and Nate Zimdars competed in the YFA Discussion Meet.
- Nate Zimdars was named a Top Four Finalist in the Discussion Meet.
- Fond du Lac YFA members Chris and Kelly Pollack won the YFA Achievement Award.
- Marquette County YFA member Brad Kolpin was a Top Four Finalist in the Achievement Award.
- Ten members were recognized as part

of the Producer

Club, which recognizes members who sign at least five new members.

- Long-time membership worker Trayton Greenfield was recognized as the state's top membership worker; he signed 54 new members!
- Marquette County president Al Klapoetke was also recognized as a Top 10 membership worker.

As a District Coordinator I have the unique opportunity to work with members from the seven counties in District 5 (Adams, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Juneau, Marquette, Waushara and Winnebago). It's very rewarding to see so many members in our district get recognized on a state level. As 2015 ended and we ring in 2016, it's a great opportunity to not only reflect on these accomplishments, but also begin looking at what the district will accomplish in 2016!

Farm Bureau offers a variety of activities for members to promote agriculture within their county, whether it's through Ag in the Classroom, a beef promotion event, helping at the fair booth, a variety of YFA activities, attending Ag Day at the Capitol and getting involved in the legislative activities or our organization or attending the county annual meeting. The dedication from our members is what has allowed the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation to become the largest and most effective farm organization in the state!

Thank you for your support of our organization!

**Becky Hibicki**

WFBF District 5 Coordinator  
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
  - Stroke Detection Plus
- Supplies and Products** .....
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  - Caterpillar (NEW)
  - FS-GROWMARK Patronage
  - Grainger
  - Polaris
  - Office Depot

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  - The Country Today
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  - Farm Bureau Financial Services
- Travel** .....
- AAA
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  - Choice Hotels International, Inc.
  - Wyndham Hotel Group

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  - Farm Bureau Bank
- Protection** .....
- \$500 Reward Protection Program
  - Accidental Death Policy

For complete details visit [wfbf.com/benefits-membership](http://wfbf.com/benefits-membership).

## Registration Open for 2016 Ag Women's Summit



The sixth annual Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit is set for **March 4-5** at the Madison Marriot West in Middleton.

Registration for the premier women's event is now open and available online. Register by the **February 3** early bird deadline to save \$25 on the conference fee. The final registration deadline is **February 26**.

The summit will kick off with the announcement of the 2016 AgVocate of the Year. The award recognizes a Wisconsin ag woman who has gone above and beyond to tell the story of Wisconsin agriculture with those around her. Sponsoring the award is Wisconsin agriculture broadcaster Pam Jahnke, the Fabulous Farm Babe.

The event's opening session will include a multi-generation panel of women discussing important topics to women and the agriculture community, moderated by NBC15 news reporter, Amy Pflugshaupt.

Closing keynote speaker Jerry Apps will engage attendees through his story telling and share tips on how to capture personal farm family stories.

The Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit is an event planned by Badgerland Financial, Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation and the UW-Extension.

The agenda, registration details and hotel information are available at [www.wiagwomenssummit.com](http://www.wiagwomenssummit.com).

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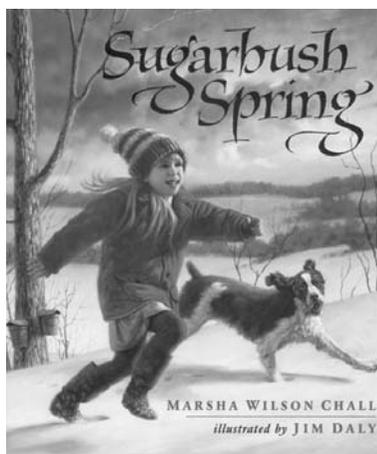
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## Marquette County Offers in Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom offers an annual essay contest for fourth and fifth grade students.

Each year the topic has specific lesson plans, activities and resources that teachers and home school parents can use to teach about Wisconsin agriculture.

The 2015-2016 topic is 'Tell us about making maple syrup in Wisconsin.' The contest is sponsored by InSight FS, We Energies and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation.



### Contest Rules:

- The essay contest is open to fourth and fifth grade students in public, private and home school programs. Students involved in 4-H, PALS and after school programs also are encouraged to participate.
- Essays must be handwritten in ink or be computer generated. They must be single-sided and fit on one sheet of paper.
- The essay must be between 100- to 300-words in length.
- Essays will be judged on content (25 points), grammar and spelling (15 points) and neatness (10 points).
- Essays must include: student's name, grade level, parents' names, teacher's name and email address, school name, address and phone number and county on the back of the essay. Please do not identify the student on the front side.

**Entry deadline: Postmarked by April 1, 2016 and sent to:**

Amanda Zuehls  
N5717 17<sup>th</sup> Court  
Montello, WI 53949-8337

For more information, please contact Amanda at 608.369.1366 or [azuehls@hotmail.com](mailto:azuehls@hotmail.com).

## Marquette County Farm Bureau Contacts:

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Women's Co-Chair, Amanda Zuehls 608.369.1366  
Women's Co-Chair, Ashley Henke 608.369.0261

Director, Jordan Bittelman 608.296.2262  
Director, Bob Blum 608.369.1436  
Director, Brooks Buchholz 608.369.0366  
Director, Tom Hell 608.617.7174  
Director, Josh Knoch 608.369.1321  
Director, Brad Kolpin, Jr. 608.369.0920

Marquette County Farm Bureau 888.644.8366  
WFBF Board Director, Kevin Krentz 920.361.7380  
District 5 Coordinator, Becky Hibicki 866.355.2029  
RMIC District Manager, Kurt Johnson 608.828.5734

## Marquette County Farm Bureau YFA is on Facebook



The Marquette County Farm Bureau YFA is on Facebook. Be sure to 'like' our page to get the latest updates on what is happening in the Marquette County Farm Bureau.

## Upcoming Events

### January

- 25-27 Midwest Forage Association Symposium
- 27 Ag Day at the Capitol
- 27 Pork Quality Assurance Certification, Marquette County UW Extension

### February

- 4-5 Pork/Corn/Soy Expo, Wisconsin Dells
- 10 Marquette County Pesticide Applicator Certification
- 12-14 Farm Succession Planning Seminars, Stevens Point and Westfield
- 12-14 Wisconsin Garden Expo

### March

- 4-5 Ag Women's Summit, Middleton
- 11 Wisconsin Dairy and Beef Well Being Conference

### April

- 1 Deadline for Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest