



Outagamie County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Shawano's Kristi Fiedler wins WFBF Discussion Meet

Congratulations to Kristi Fiedler, a Shawano County Farm Bureau YFA member, winner of the 2016 WFBF Young Farmer and Agriculturalist Discussion Meet at the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference on December 2-5 in Wisconsin Dells.

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 ideas and opinions to reach a solution on agricultural issues.

Kristi is associate vice president of U.S. Technical Services for Genex. She earned a bachelor's degree in animal science from UW-Platteville and a master's degree in management from the University of Phoenix. She served on the YFA Committee from 2013 to 2015 with her husband Brian.

Kristi received a chain saw from Midwest Stihl and a free financial plan, provided by Rural Mutual Insurance.

In January, Kristi represented Wisconsin and competing in the national Discussion Meet at the American Farm Bureau Federation's 98th Annual Conference in Phoenix, Arizona.

She also qualifies for the YFA trip to Washington, D.C., in 2018; as a guest of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation during the 2017 WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference and in August of 2017, as a special guest at the annual meeting of GROWMARK, Inc. in Chicago.



WFBF President Jim Holte, Kevin Malchine from Growmark and Peter Pelizza from Rural Mutual Insurance presented Kristi Fiedler with a Stihl chain saw and other prizes as winner of the 2016 WFBF YFA Discussion Meet.

Plan to Attend Ag Day at the Capitol By Bernie Vander Heiden

Join us for Ag Day at the Capitol on **March 8** at the Monona Terrace Conference Center in Madison. Get out and support agriculture with your legislators. Be the voice that makes a difference.

The Outagamie County Farm Bureau will cover your cost to attend this one-day event. The schedule for the day is:

- 11 a.m. - Registration
- 11:30 a.m. - Opening program
- 11:45 a.m. - Lunch
- 12:45 p.m. - Legislative briefings
- 3 p.m. - Leave for Capitol visits

For more information or to register by **March 3**, please contact Mike Salter at 920.739.0403 or mikehalter@aol.com. We will arrange to car pool to the event.



Family Fun Day By Kelly Oudenhoven

On October 8, Outagamie County Farm Bureau Members and their families went to Porter's Patch to enjoy a beautiful fall day.

A total of 36 people enjoyed games, the corn maze, pumpkin picking and wagon rides. The weather was beautiful and fun was had by all.



Outagamie Farm Bureau members had a great selection of pumpkins to pick from at Porter's Patch last fall.



COUNTYnews

OUTAGAMIE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Outagamie County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting Highlights



Outagamie County Farm Bureau president Mike Salter and 25-year membership anniversary members Donald and Charles Marcks and Ervin Van Camp.



Keynote speaker attorney Robert Lorge talked about bee-keeping and honey production.

The members elected members to the board of directors and delegates to represent Outagamie County Farm Bureau at the WFBF Annual Meeting, approved resolutions to propose to the Policy Development Committee and approved a bylaw change that changes the women's committee to the promotion and education committee.

- Directors elected to two-year terms from District 2 were: Harvey Albert III, Mike Salter, Aaron Burmeister and Dale Verhasselt.
- Directors elected to two-year terms from District 4 were: Bernie Vander Heiden, Marvin Fox, Robert Fox and Leroy Van Asten.
- Elected as a director-at-large to a two-year term was Dan Knutzen.
- Elected as promotion and education committee chair was Katelin Haglund.
- Elected as Young Farmer and Agriculturist committee chair was Kelly Oudenhoven.
- Delegates elected were: Mike Salter, Kristy Erickson, Katelin Haglund and Bernie Vander Heiden. Dave Daniels will serve as an alternate.

The resolutions that passed were:

1. We oppose mandates or bans on specific management practices unless farmers are appropriately compensated for the ensuing

increase in costs or loss of revenue created by them.

2. The current fence law should be modified to require livestock farmers to be responsible for maintaining fences to contain their livestock. We oppose any general requirement that streams or lakes must be fenced.
3. Government should not restrict family labor on farms.
4. Ag labor: We support policies and programs to maintain an adequately skilled workforce for the agriculture industry.
5. Replace line 17 with: broadband internet-telecommunication services should be available to all rural areas.
6. We support requiring DATCP to re-evaluate atrazine prohibition areas every 5 years to determine if they are still needed.
7. Add: wheel tax (to the types of tax collections we will support to maintain roads.)

Reports were presented by the Outagamie County Farm Bureau committee chairs about the promotional, educational and social events this past year.

Rural Mutual Insurance District Manager Tom Gustafson reviewed Rural Mutual Insurance's strong relationship with Farm Bureau and solid position in the market place.



President Mike Salter (center) and 50-year membership anniversary members Delores Flunker and Marvin Fox.



Rural Health Initiative nurse Alissa Mueller demonstrated how much sugar there is in soft drinks and explained why too much sugar intake can be detrimental to our health.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 2 President's Report
Milk and Cookies with Santa
Ladies Night Out
YFA Conference
Octoberfest Cream Puffs

- 3 District 7 YFA Report
Fairest of the Fair
Packer Tailgate Party
'Playbook' Resource
Board Contacts

Meet Adam Kuczer, the New District 7 Board Director

Adam Kuczer and his wife Becky have five children, Nicholas, 11; Sawyer, 9; Clara, 6; Cadence, 6; and Andrew, 3. The family custom raises 270 heifers and crops on 900 acres in Shawano County near Pulaski. The crops include corn, soybeans, wheat and alfalfa.

Adam has served on a number of WFBF committee's, including the YFA Committee, Policy Development Committee and Transportation Task Force. He is a graduate of the WFBF Leadership Institute and is serving as the Shawano County Farm Bureau vice president.

He was elected to a three-year term on the WFBF Board of Directors representing District 7 (Langlade, Marinette, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano and Waupaca counties).

Adam succeeds Wayne Staidl of Peshtigo in Marinette County, who retired from the board in December after 17 years of service on the WFBF Board of Directors.



Presidents Report



Putting this report together is a lot like planning next year's farming operations.

Many things are changing and happening that we have little control over.

We will be settling into a new government and by now we should know if it's favorable for farming.

With the new government, we will find out how our trade deals are going, for farmers have been over-producing crops and we need to have export trade. America produces food for the world.

Outagamie County Farm Bureau is working with the fair association to sponsor centennial farms. If you know of someone that has a centennial farm that was

not honored yet, please ask them to contact me. I can help them get the forms and they will be honored on Sunday afternoon at the Outagamie County Fair.

Mike Salter

Outagamie County Farm Bureau president

Milk and Cookies with Santa By Kelly Oudenhoven



Santa's sleigh was parked in the barn for some more great photo opportunities.

On December 13, the Outagamie County Farm Bureau teamed up with the Outagamie County Dairy Promotion and Milk Source to host the second annual Milk and



Santa and his helpers made for some great memories and family photos.



Santa's reindeer found a comfy stall while they waited to take him home. Visitors toured the MilkSource Genetics barn.

Cookies with Santa at the Milk Source Genetics Barn.

Families came to see Santa along with some beautiful cows. A special appearance by Alice in Dairyland and Santa's reindeer were a big hit.

There were more than 450 people who attended and each child received a cookie, milk and a goody-bag filled with lots of wonderful ag promotional things.

Thanks to additional sponsors this year, for every child that sat on Santa's lap, a \$10 donation was made to the Freedom Food Pantry for a total of \$1,750.



Alice in Dairyland Ann O'Leary visited and answered their dairy questions.



Visitors received cookies, bags of fun dairy promotional items and milk. Outagamie County Farm Bureau supplied cow-shaped cookies.

Ladies Night Out By Katelin Haglund

We had another successful Ladies Night Out at Kerrigan Brothers Winery.

Those in attendance were treated to wine tasting while Troy explained his wine making process.

It was a fun and educational night.



Outagamie County Farm Bureau member Troy Landwehr of Kerrigan Brother's Winery gave everyone a taste at the Promotion and Education committee's ladies night out event.

YFA Conference Highlights By Kristy Erickson

This year was a new experience for me at the YFA Conference, I participated in the Discussion Meet.

I was asked to participate at the district level and thought I would give it a try. It turns out that experience was what I needed to get myself to the semi-finals. This experience really allowed me to prioritize researching and understanding hot topics in agriculture that may affect our future as farmers.

The topics discussed were about immigration,



Kristy Erickson (left) competed in the YFA Discussion Meet at the YFA Conference at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells.

food labels, intellectual property such as big data, undercover videos and drones and finally keeping local control and regulation.

I was fortunate enough to compete with the overall winner Kristi Fiedler from Shawano County twice. The first time was at the District level and then again in the semi-final round.

District 7 has a strong streak of state winners, maybe next year it will be me or you? You never know how you will do unless you try.



Kristy Erickson and others in the class, graduated from the WFBF Leadership Institute at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December.

Octoberfest Cream Puffs By Bernie Vander Heiden

On September 24, we sold cream puffs and coffee at Octoberfest for a \$2,241 profit.

These funds will be used to support 4-H, FFA, Rural Health Initiative, Ag in the Classroom, and other Farm Bureau programs in 2017.

Linda and I want to thank those who helped in the booth and made this a successful fundraiser.

We also want to thank those who bought one of the 1,800 cream puffs.



Folks attending Octoberfest were willing to wait in line for a wonderful Farm Bureau cream puff.



The cream whipping and pastry stuffing stations kept a steady pace to keep up with the cream puff sale counter throughout the day.



District 7 YFA Report By Brian Preder



Outagamie County YFA members who attended the YFA Conference were: (L-R) Kevin and Angie Oudenhoven, Kelsey Ham, Brittney Muenster, Kelly and Keith Oudenhoven and Kristy Erickson.

Hello District 7 YFA members. As we start the new year, I hope that you had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

It was another great year of Farm Bureau tradition. In December, that tradition was easy to see during the YFA Conference at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells.

More than 450 YFA members attended the conference and listened to a great keynote speaker Vance Crowe, who shared his experience as the director of millennial engagement for Monsanto. He encouraged us to tell our story of tradition.



Outagamie County YFA Chair Kelly Oudenhoven lined up a shot at the Skee Ball ramp during the District 7 meeting 'ice breaker' at the YFA Conference.

Attendees built on their knowledge during breakout sessions ranging from how to get the most out of Farm Bureau to getting hands-on exposure to some of the newest apps for agriculture. Attendees also networked and met YFA members from around the state.

Thank you to Kristi Fielder from Shawano County, Kristy Erickson from Outagamie County and Kyle Much from Waupaca County for representing District 7 YFA in the Discussion Meet. Kristi Fielder and Kristy Erickson advanced to the Elite 8 round.

For the second year in a row, District 7 had a YFA member advance and win the Final 4 round. Congratulations to Kristi Fielder on winning the coveted STHIL chain saw. In January, Kristi represented Wisconsin at the AFBF Annual Convention in Phoenix, Arizona.

Our first District 7 YFA event is **February 18**. We scheduled the annual Green Bay Gambler's hockey game as a joint event with District 6. After the hockey game, we will enjoy pizza and soda in the Indoor Patio at Green Bay Distillery. It is a great opportunity to meet fellow YFA members.



Green Bay Gamblers versus the Sioux City Musketeers on Saturday, February 18; game time 7:05 p.m. at the Resch Center, 1901 S. Oneida Street, Green Bay.

As always, if you have ideas for events or want to help with a county event, please let me know. Stay warm and keep the Farm Bureau tradition alive.

Outagamie County Farm Bureau Contacts:

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 Promotion & Education Chair, Katelin Haglund 715.210.5384

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 WFBF Board Director, Adam Kuczer 920.609.0718
 District 7 Coordinator, Wes Raddatz 866.355.7346
 RMIC District Manager, Tom Gustafson 920.420.1106

'Playbook' is a Great Resource

By Katelin Haglund

Are you looking for an idea for an activity and not sure where to start? Check out the Promotion and Education Committee's 'Playbook.'

The 'Playbook' contains activities and events that other counties have held around the state for Ag in the Classroom, consumer outreach, education and ag promotion, fundraising, member development and policy and development implementation.

The Playbook was created as a resource for members to share ideas. Look for the 'Playbook' link on the WFBF home page.

Do you have a successful event or activity (or even not-so successful)? The Promotion and Education Committee wants you to share your knowledge and submit your 'play' to the 'Playbook.'

We want to keep the ideas flowing and will update the 'Playbook' quarterly so the next update will be **March 15**. Adding a play to the 'Playbook' is simple.

1. Visit www.wfbf.com.
2. Click on the 'Playbook' icon.
3. Download the 'play' submission page.
4. Fill out.
5. Email to Deb Raemisch at draemisch@wfbf.com.

If you have questions or want help, please contact me at 715.210.5384 or katelinhaglund@gmail.com.

Fairest of the Fair Applications Available

By Katelin Haglund

Do you know someone who loves the Outagamie County Fair and who you think would make a good ambassador for the fair?

If you do, please encourage them to apply to be the 2017 Outagamie County Fairest of the Fair. The Fairest of the Fair serves as an ambassador for the Outagamie County Fair in July, competes for the chance to be the State Fairest of the Fairs and will receive a \$500 scholarship.

The Fairest of the Fair must be 18 years old and have a valid driver's license. Applications will be available soon. If you have questions, please contact Kelly Oudenhoven or Katelin Haglund.



YFA Planned Events By Kelly Oudenhoven

February-March

District 7 Gambler Game

March-April

Educational Tour

June

Breakfast on the Farm

July

Outagamie County Fair Get Together

August

Outdoor Movie Theater, Family Night

Timber Rattler Game, Family Night

September

Family Fun Day at Porter's Patch

October

Packer Tailgate Party

November

Winery-Brewery Tour

December

YFA Conference



Members Enjoy YFA Packer Tailgate Party By Kristy Erickson

The Outagamie County and Waupaca County Young Farmer and Agriculturist members enjoyed Packer tailgating as their October gathering. It was a sunny, beautiful day filled with brats, burgers and beverages, but most importantly networking.

It was great to take some time to relax and get to know YFA members from Waupaca County and catch up on things with friends as well.

Also, it was great to see some of the non-YFA Outagamie County Farm Bureau members stop to say hi on their way to the game.

About 30 attended, and fun was had by all. We hope to make this an annual event.



Humor Corner By LeRoy Van Asten

No one has more driving ambition than a teenager who wants to buy a car.

Do NOT read the fine print . . . there's no way you're going to like it.

Did you ever notice that people leave cars worth thousands of dollars sitting in the driveway because they've filled their garage with useless junk?

