

Outagamie County Farm Bureau

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Tom Gustafson - District Manager (920) 420-1106		

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 wiagwomenssummit.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.

Some of the 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.



Spring Fruit Sale Update

The Florida Farm Bureau will **not** be offering the 2016 state-wide spring sale to the Wisconsin County Farm Bureaus.

The record breaking heat and devastating tree killing citrus disease 'greening' has diminished the Florida citrus crop to the point that they are opting out of shipping citrus this spring.

For more information, please contact Mike Salter at 920.739.0403.



COUNTYnews

OUTAGAMIE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

WFBF Annual Meeting Highlights By Mike Salter



Kristy and Adam Ericson (left) and Bernie Vander Heiden (center) teamed up with some Waupaca Farm Bureau members to form a Fun'd the Foundation trivia team.



Keith and Kelly Oudenhoven (left) stood with District 7 Coordinator Wes Raddatz at the Producer Club luncheon. Kelly was honored for signing up 10 new members.

The WFBF Annual Meeting was held December 5-7 at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells.

On Saturday afternoon there were educational and entertaining breakout sessions. Sunday started with a church service followed by brunch with reports from Rural Mutual Insurance and

Farm Bureau and the YFA contests award presentation, followed with more breakout sessions.

The evening program included a presentation of the Distinguished Service to Farm Bureau Award, Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award, the top volunteer membership workers and many more. Congratulations to Kelly Oudenhoven for being hon-

ored as one of the top membership volunteers in the state.

Monday started with a report from Chief Administrative Officer Dale Beaty followed by district caucus sessions. Then we started with the resolutions. The first action of business was the bylaw change to change the WFBF Women's Committee to the WFBF Promotion and Education Committee, which passed.

Some interesting resolutions included efforts to reinstitute the law allowing passing a slow moving vehicle on yellow lined road curves, which failed. There also was discussion on gas tax for repair of the roads, as many roads need upgrading.

A new area that Farm Bureau did not have a policy on was what is known as the 20-year rule for the fence line law. With the new surveying methods there are a lot of lines that are not in the proper place and the policy was to keep it the way it is and not to go with the new surveying maps.

The delegate session was about two hours longer than the last couple of years, but it was very productive and a lot was accomplished.



Kristy Erickson joined magician Rick Wilcox on stage during the Saturday Night Extravaganza.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 2** President's Report
- Milk and Cookies with Santa
- District 7 Board Report
- Policy Development

- 3** Discussion Meet Winner
- New Committee Report
- District 7 YFA Report
- Member Benefits
- Board Contacts

WFBF YFA Conference Recap By Kristy Erickson

This year, my husband Adam and I were honored to be sponsored by Rural Mutual Insurance to attend the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference in Wisconsin Dells on December 5-7.

As first timers, we heard great things about the conference, but weren't sure what to expect. We were pleasantly surprised at the different activities we could be involved in. We spent the weekend



Members of the Outagamie County Farm Bureau YFA participated in the District 7 YFA meeting.

attending the Discussion Meet, participating in breakout sessions, seeing the Peterson Farm Brothers, racking our brains with trivia, listening to great speakers and networking

with people who share our passion for agriculture!

It was a great experience and I would recommend the experience to YFA members.

We were able to enjoy this experience free of charge thanks to the funding of Rural Mutual Insurance and the help of Kelly Oudenhoven for recommending us.

Make next year your first year!



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

President's Report



Our December board of directors meeting was a Christmas outing with a friend or spouse in addition to the business meeting. The best part was tasting everybody's great pot luck Christmas desserts.

I spent two days at the Wisconsin Farm Bureau office in Madison for president's training. The first day, the different divisions explained their duties and let us know that if we have questions to please call them.

The second day we reviewed how to organize a meeting with parliamentary procedure with the emphasis on what to do and not do during a meeting.

We also covered what committees should do, how active they should be and reviewed the Ag in the Classroom program.

Mike Salter
Outagamie County Farm Bureau President

Milk and Cookies with Santa By Kelly Oudenhoven

December 17 was a special day for children in Outagamie County. Santa made the trip from the North Pole to MilkSource Genetics for children to come and say hello and tell him what they had on their list. He reminded them of the importance to stay on the 'nice' list as well as spreading the holiday cheer.

After sitting on Santa's lap, the children got to see and take pictures with the cows at MilkSource Genetics. Each child received a cow cookie, milk and a bag filled with goodies including coloring books, crayons, cow bracelets and more. With more than 350 attendees, this was a successful first-year event. A great time was had by all.



Kelly Oudenhoven checked on the cookie supply, which was provided by the Outagamie County Farm Bureau.



Santa wasn't the only one that kids could get their picture taken with. Everyone toured the MilkSource Genetics barn.



Helpers prepared Santa's seat of hay.



Santa listened intently to everyone's wish list.



A waiting line was a small price to pay for some 'face time' with Santa, milk, cookies and cows.



Visitors toured the barn and saw cows up close.

District 7 Board Report



Happy New Year! I hope that the weather has improved by the time that you are reading this.

I hope that you attended the WFBF Annual Meeting because I think it was one of the best that 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 the WFBF Annual Meeting. He gave an interesting speech and

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 -27**. It is an important opportunity to express your viewpoints and concerns. The next important event is Ag Day at the Capitol on **January 27**. This keeps our legislators informed of the ag issues and our concerns. The Wisconsin Ag Woman's Summit will be **March 4-5**. 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 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

Policy Development Committee Report By Jon Bauer

Last winter, District 7 Director Wayne Staidl asked if I would serve on the state Policy Development Committee. Being a past delegate and working on our county resolutions, I 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 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 at 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. 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.

There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

- Auto**
- General Motors Discount
- Health**
- ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
 - Stroke Detection Plus
- Supplies and Products**
- Case IH
 - Caterpillar (NEW)
 - 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.

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 LeRoy Van Asten

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?

Outagamie County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Michael Salter 920.739.0403
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Director, Marvin Fox 920.766.3242
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Director, Chris Volkman 920.427.6580

Outagamie County Farm Bureau 888.377.0294
WFBF Director, Wayne Staidl 715.582.3671
District 7 Coordinator, Wes Raddatz 866.355.7346
RMIC District Manager, Tom Gustafson 920.420.1106

District 7 YFA Report By Brian Preder



Hello District 7 YFA members! I'm Brian Preder from Waupaca County and will be representing District 7 on the state YFA Committee. Being raised in the dairy industry I share the same passion for agriculture as all of you. 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 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. Members also had the opportunity to develop their 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. She represented Wisconsin Farm Bureau at the national Discussion Meet during the American Farm Bureau Annual Convention in sunny Orlando, FL in January. GOOD JOB Christa!

Be sure to watch for upcoming District YFA events. If there are any specific events you would like to see happen contact me with your ideas. Also if you are looking for resources in assisting with any of your county YFA events feel free to contact me.

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

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

