

Pierce | St. Croix County Farm Bureaus

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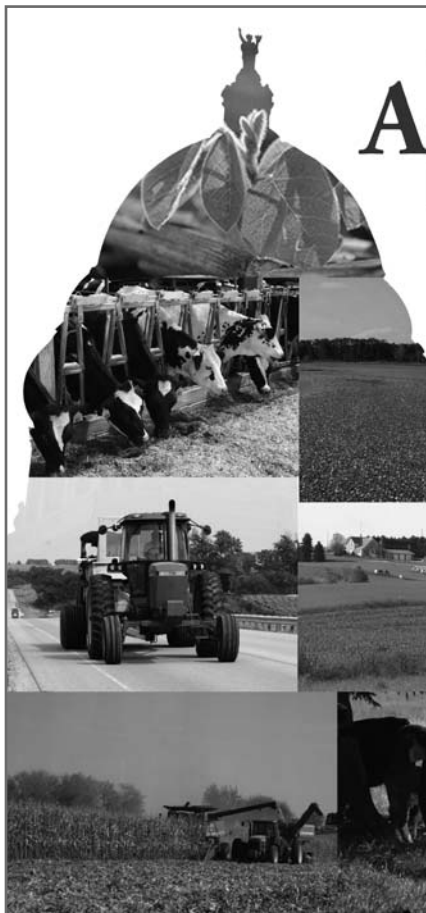
Rural Mutual Agents in Pierce & St. Croix County:

Pam Singerhouse (715) 796-2207
Leah Close, Steve Jenkins (715) 425-8121
Nick Jenkins, Tom Jenkins (715) 796-2207

Ken Truax - District Manager

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Mark Your Calendars for Ag Day at the Capitol



The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation invites you to attend

AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL


March 11, 2015
Monona Terrace Convention Center • Madison, WI

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

Early Registration Deadline: March 5

Cost: \$25 per person by registration deadline.
\$30 after deadline and at the door.

Presented by: 

Thank You to Our Sponsors:



Ride the bus to Ag Day at the Capitol

Ag Day at the Capitol will be held on Wednesday, March 11, in Madison. A bus from Northwest Wisconsin has been organized and will be making various stops including Baldwin, Menomonie, Eau Claire, Osseo, Hixton and Tomah.

The cost of the bus trip is \$30.

Note: The registration fee for the Ag Day at the Capitol program is separate.

To reserve your seat, contact **Katie Mattison** at 715.418.0975. Please indicate the county you are from and which location you would like to be picked up at.

Registrations are limited so reserve your seat today!

Thank you to Frontier Ag and Turf and AgStar for their support of the bus and refreshments!



JANUARY 2015

COUNTYnews

PIERCE COUNTY FARM BUREAU | ST. CROIX COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Highlights from the WFBF Annual Meeting

More than 1,100 farmers and agriculturists attended the WFBF Annual Meeting and about 475 Young Farmer and Agriculturist members attended the YFA Conference. Some of the best and brightest competed in a variety of contests and awards, and member delegates set policy directing our organization. Attendees were challenged by several excellent speakers including J. Scott Vernon, Ph. D, who spoke about becoming an AGvocate for agriculture, and Chad Hymas, motivational speaker, captivated the audience when he shared "Who needs Legs, when you have Wings." The Farm Bureau Extravaganza took place on Saturday night with comedian Roger Radley.



(L to R) Ethan Giebel (Juneau County), Jamie Propson (Manitowoc County), Peter Kimball (Pierce County) and Adam Wehling (Buffalo County) competed in the Final Four of the YFA Discussion Meet.

Of the 1,100 members, more than 100 members were from District 9 including members from the Collegiate Farm Bureau chapter at UW-River Falls. Congratulations to everyone who was recognized throughout the weekend! Here is a list of the District 9 highlights:

- WFBF District 9 Director Jim Holte was re-elected WFBF President
- YFA Discussion Meet participants: Peter Kimball (Pierce County), Kirsten Konder (St. Croix County) and Julie Wadzinski (Barron County)
- YFA Discussion Meet Final Four - Peter Kimball (Pierce County)
- Collegiate Farm Bureau Discussion Meet Finals: Kaylin Spaeth (St. Croix County)
- WFBF Top 10 Membership Workers – Karyn Schauf (Barron County) signed 11 and Jim Meng (Rusk) signed 15!
- WFBF Women's Committee: Mary Prestrud retired from the WFBF Women's Committee. Amber Cordes of Barron County has been appointed to take her place
- Dan Ripplinger (Barron County) and Lori Gardow (Chippewa County) graduated from the leadership Institute Class VIII



(L to R) Mary Prestrud and Geri Wolfe (Dunn County), Brenda Sikorski (Chippewa County), Greg Zwald (St. Croix County), Dean Bergseng (Pierce County) and Jim Meng (Rusk County) were recognized as part of the Producer Club for signing at least five new members during the year.



St. Croix County Farm Bureau members who attended the WFBF Annual Meeting were (L to R): Dave Kruschke, Jenny Mueller, Dean Mueller, Irma Zwald, Greg Zwald, Amy Schaefer and Josh Schaefer with children Cora, Toby and Milo.



Pierce County Annual Meeting attendees were (front L to R): Dean Bergseng, Monica Krings, John Krings, (back L to R): Cole Hanson, Keith Bennet and Peter Kimball.



More than 40 YFA members from District 9 attended the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference.

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Ag Women's Summit

Pierce County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Dean Bergseng 715.307.4976
Vice President, John Krings 715.495.6285
Secretary, Laura Benitz 715.220.8962
Treasurer, Roy Swanson 715.273.3268
YFA Chair, Peter Kimball 715.307.3726
Women's Chair, Monica Krings 715.495.6286

Director, Mary Brand 715.307.0903
Director, Eric Turner 715.307.7262
Pierce County Farm Bureau 866.795.4792

We are here for you. Call with questions or if you are interested in getting more involved in Farm Bureau!

Pierce County President's Message



Happy New Year to all Pierce and St. Croix Farm Bureau members!

2014 was a year of many weather extremes and records. We had a temperature of -4 on Thanksgiving followed by 30 on Christmas.

The WFBF annual meeting at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells went well with about 475 YFA members attending - a new record! We are very proud of Pierce County's Peter Kimball as he made it to the final four of the Young Farmer and Agriculturist Discussion Meet. Pierce County also sponsored Cole Hanson and Keith Bennett to attend the YFA Conference. They both enjoyed participating in many activities.

Hopefully, we will sponsor two individuals again next year. Carl Casper from Dunn County attended his 50th consecutive WFBF Annual Meeting. I hope in 2015 more will be done at the state and local levels to recognize 50+ year members.

The annual FFA Farm Forum will be held February 20-21 in Wisconsin Rapids. This activity is open to high school juniors. Please contact a county Farm Bureau board member if you know of someone who would like to participate.

Ag Day at the Capitol is March 11. A bus will leave Baldwin at 5:15 a.m. Contact a board member if you would like to attend as we are hoping to send 6-10 members from our county.

Dean Bergseng
Pierce County Farm Bureau President

Special Events Recycling Bin Program

Submitted by Darlene Dailey, Pierce County Solid Waste

HAVE YOU HEARD?



—GRADUATION PARTIES
—WEDDING RECEPTIONS
—FAMILY REUNIONS

Special Events Recycling Bins Program (Indoor or Outdoor Events)

Offered by the Recycling Center
FOR DETAILED INFORMATION:

•CALL (715/273-3092)

•EMAIL RECYCLE@CO.PIERCE.WI.US

•WEB SITE WWW.CO.PIERCE.WI.US

•2014 RECYCLING GUIDE PAGE (8)



2015 Pesticide Applicators Training Sessions Scheduled for Pierce County and St. Croix County

By Ryan Sterry, UW-Extension - St. Croix County, Ag Agent and Amy VanDeBrake, UW-Extension- Pierce County, Ag Educator

ATTENTION: You may have received a direct letter from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (WDATCP) identifying your certification card expiration date. As a Private Applicator you must receive training and certification to buy and apply Restricted Use Pesticides (RUP) for 2015. If you are a person who wishes to become certified for the first time, 2015 is an especially important year to get this accomplished. UW-Extension Pierce County and UW-Extension St. Croix County are offering three Pesticide Applicator Trainings during the early months of 2015.

Pre-Registration Sites:

Pierce County Extension Office
412 W. Kinne Street
Ellsworth, WI 54011
Phone: 715.273.6781

St. Croix County Extension Office
1960 8th Avenue, Suite 140
Baldwin, WI 54002
Phone: 715.531.1930

Each session begins at 10 a.m. and most will complete the exam prior to 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 29 - Baldwin Ag Center
1960 8th Avenue
Baldwin, WI 54002

Wednesday, February 11 - Seyforth Building
Pierce County Fairgrounds
364 North Maple Street
Ellsworth, WI 54011

Friday, March 6 - Dairy Learning Center
UWRF Mann Valley Farm
129 South Glover Road
River Falls, WI 54022

Registration Fee for Materials: \$35 per person. This fee covers a certification period of five years and the certification fee is forwarded to WDATCP. At the time you pre-register, you will receive your training materials and be assured a place at the session.

UW-River Falls Collegiate Farm Bureau Update

By Jennifer Kuffel, UWRF Collegiate Farm Bureau President

The Collegiate Farm Bureau Chapter at UW-River Falls is off to another great start! With nearly 70 people attending the first meeting of the school year, we have been able to plan and implement a variety of activities.

During September, we assisted White Pine Berry Farm with their Family Fun Day. Members helped with pumpkin painting, a petting zoo and a variety of other activities held that day. During the evening, our chapter hosted a barn dance and cookout for all students from the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES).

This was followed by our Collegiate Discussion Meet in which we had four contestants. Kaylin Spaeth and Aaron Zimmerman represented our chapter at the state meet that was held in conjunction with the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference. UW-River Falls was well represented during the state event as 27 members participated in workshops, listened to speakers and had a booth at the trade show. A big thank you goes to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation and Rural Mutual Insurance Company which provided support for our members to attend this event.

Second semester will commence on January 26 and our biggest event of the year, Ag Day on Campus, will take place on Tuesday, April 21. Members have been working diligently planning the day's events, gathering donations and promoting on campus. Our theme this year will be Slow Moving agVenture (SMV) with hopes of educating the campus and community on farm safety. We already have one of the Peterson Brothers in line to speak at our Ag Day on Campus event. It is a great opportunity for us to tell our agricultural stories and be a part of the conversation. Throughout second semester we are also planning a few other activities including a showing of the movie Farmland, snow tubing and an end of the year picnic.



The Collegiate Farm Bureau at UW-River Falls had 27 members attend the YFA Conference. Members listened to keynote speakers, participated in a variety of workshops and networked with other Farm Bureau members.

Thank you to all Farm Bureau members for your support of Collegiate Farm Bureau! We look forward to continued success!

St. Croix County President’s Message



Hello St. Croix and Pierce County Farm Bureaus!

This newsletter is an attempt at a joint newsletter with Pierce County. We are going to try and save some setup cost while promoting many of the same events and reports.

The biggest and one of the most important events to Farm Bureau is Ag Day at the Capitol. We are again sponsoring a bus from Northwest Wisconsin and we would like you to consider joining us and talking with your legislators regarding the issues that affect your farms.

In St. Croix County we are excited to have Mikayla

Doornink as our new Young Farmer and Agriculturist chair. She will be working in the county to get our younger members active and engaged.

Other events that are a ways off but planning is already underway and we look forward to this year, are the St. Croix County Fair which will be held July 15-19 and Farm City Day which will be held at the Roger Neuman and family farm near Cedar Lake in August. Besides the regular farm city events, the Neumans have probably one of the largest International tractor collections in the area. There will be more on these events in our summer letter.

Wishing you all a very happy new year!

Dave Kruschke
St. Croix County Farm Bureau President

Winter Classes Offered by St. Croix County UW-Extension

By Heidi Doering, Horticulture Educator, St. Croix County UW-Extension

Join me for my Small Farm Series - ‘Evenings of Exploration’ Thursday night educational classes, where we’ll dive into a specific small farm-related topic in more detail to prepare farmers for the 2015 season. **Registration for each of these classes is \$5.** Call 715.531.1930 or email Heidi.doering@ces.uwex.edu to register.

• Telling Your Farm Story on Social Media

Thursday, February 5, 6-8 p.m.
Hudson Government Center, Room 1216

Are you maximizing the value in telling your farm story to generate sales and promote your products? People relate to stories, so come and learn from Dennis Dreery of Irish Rose Consulting how creating and telling YOUR farm’s story not only serves to generate interest in your business but also drive sales and traffic to your website, social media pages and farm!

• Cover Crop Management for Small Farms

Thursday, February 19, 6-8 p.m.
Baldwin Ag Center

Cover crops are an essential component of a diversified vegetable farm, and one that is often confusing and not fully understood. Join Mike Racette, co-owner of Spring Hill Community Farm in Prairie Farm as he shares his expertise on how cover crop planting and management can serve to add organic matter, prevent erosion, build nutrients and increase the water holding capacity of soils for small, one to 10 acre vegetable farms.

District Coordinator’s Message



Happy New Year Farm Bureau members!

This is the first newsletter of 2015 and I hope that it finds you well. District 9 has many accomplishments to be proud of this past year. I would like to thank all of those who devoted their time and talents to creating a positive impact in their county Farm Bureau.

I have only been employed with WFBF since last May and I have been extremely impressed with all that you have done in the short time that I have been here. I look forward to many years of working alongside you all. It is your dedication to agriculture and this organization that makes you shine. Agriculture is my passion and it is very evident that it is yours as well. Communities are better places across our area because of your efforts in activities such as dairy breakfasts, 4-H and FFA support, county fairs, Women’s programs and YFA events.

Thank you for your participation this past year and for making my first year a very memorable one. This new year brings challenges but with those challenges come opportunities to improve and exceed everyone’s expectations. I look forward to working with you throughout the year as we continue to work together to promote and improve the agriculture community in Wisconsin. Please feel free to contact me with comments, questions or concerns at 715.418.0975 or kmattison@wfbf.com.

Katie Mattison
District 9 Coordinator

New Pierce County Members

Spencer Anderson*, Keith Bennett*, Eric Bjork, Caleb Cobian*, Timothy Huppert, David Johnson, Travis Johnson, Lonnie Larson, Larry Swanson*, Brent Tangen, James Watters, Pepin Mini Storage and Pickle Factory LLC.

New St. Croix County Members

Jason Barrick, Mark Bates*, Dale Berends, Kip Bonke, Sami Capp, Mark Colbeth, Issac Curtis, Dean Deyo, Joshua Drinken, Raymond Francis, Brian Frey, Mary Hovde, Benjamin Lamb*, Quinten Liddle, Ronald Meyer*, Todd Nehlich, Denise Poidinger, John Schmidt, Dan Schultz, Johnny Thor and Brandon Wallin.

*Denote Voting Membership

Welcome
to Farm
Bureau

St. Croix County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, David Kruschke	715.246.6461
Vice President, Randy Roquette	715.684.3303
Secretary/Treasurer, Jenny Mueller	715.749.3583
Women’s Chair, Melanie Peterson	715.665.2142
YFA Chair, Eric Hoffman	715.265.4168

Director, Fritz Anding	715.425.5058
Director, Tim Bazille	715.698.2328
Director, Lynn Brosi	715.425.5575
Director, James Lund	715.684.3936
Director, Dean Mueller	715.760.1501
Director, Carl Oehlke	715.796.2712
Director, Gary Peterson	715.665.2142
Director, Greg Zwald	715.222.4349
St. Croix County Farm Bureau	888.830.2574

District 9 Contacts

WFBF Board Director, Jim Holte	715.835.6708
District 9 YFA Chair, Cindy Bourget	715.505.7676
District 9 Women’s Chair, Amber Cordes	715.357.3444
District 9 Coordinator, Katie Mattison	866.355.7349
RMIC District Manager, Ken Truax	715.514.4477

Upcoming St. Croix County UW-Extension Events

By Ryan Sterry, UW-Extension
- St. Croix County, Ag Agent

• Implements of Husbandry – New Rules for the Road.

February 11, time TBD, Ag Center in Baldwin

• Dairy Genetics and Feed Efficiency workshop.

February 25, 1:30 p.m., Ag Center in Baldwin

• QuickBooks Recordkeeping for Farmers.

March 20, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Davee Library, UW-River Falls

For questions or to register for these events call St. Croix County UW-Extension at 715.531.1930.

Pierce/St Croix Cattle Feeders Clinic

By Amy VanDeBrake, UW Extension- Pierce County, Ag Educator

A Cattle Feeders Clinic will be held on **Thursday, February 12 at the American Legion Hall, 410 Maple St, Baldwin from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.** Topics to be covered at the Cattle Feeders Clinic:

- 2015 Livestock Market Outlook and Risk Management Tools
Presenter: Dr. Brenda Boetel, UW Extension Livestock Economist
- Health Management in the Feedlot
Presenter: Dr. Larry Baumann, UW Extension Veterinarian
- Decision Criteria for Marketing Fed Cattle
Presenter: Mitch Schaefer, UW Madison

Cost: \$6

Pre-registration requested by February 9.

For questions or to register for this event call St. Croix County UW-Extension at 715.531.1930 or Pierce County UW-Extension at 715.273.6781.

Register for the Ag Women’s Summit

Now is the time to make plans to attend the 2015 Wisconsin Ag Women’s Summit. Presented by Badgerland Financial, Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation and University of Wisconsin-Extension, the forum will take place March 13-14 at the Madison Marriott West. The early registration deadline (to receive \$25 off) is February 13. To register go to www.wiagwomenssummit.com. Questions may be directed to Deb Raemisch at 608.828.5712.