

Rusk | Sawyer County Farm Bureaus

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Membership, Membership, Membership



Farm Bureau is a membership driven organization, which means your membership is what drives Farm Bureau.

Members like you want to see local businesses and rural communities prosper. You want to be heard when

decisions that affect your farms, families and futures are made by elected officials. This is why you join Farm Bureau!

Each year, county Farm Bureaus have goals to increase their membership. Congratulations to Rusk County Farm Bureau for reaching their membership goals for the year!



Sign a new member, get \$20! You can get involved too. County Farm Bureau volunteers will receive \$20 for every new member who they sign between October 1, 2016, and September 30, 2017.

For membership year 2016-2017, volunteers are asked to help Farm Bureau grow it's membership by pledging to sign two members by April 1, 2017 (2x4 campaign). Will you help by Building Farm Bureau ... one member at a time?

For more information, please contact District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at kmattison@wfbf.com or 866.355.7349.

Watch for Ag Transportation Tidbits from WFBF

Now that the implements of husbandry (IOH) trilogy is complete, but yet so many questions still remain, there has been discussion of creating a Wisconsin agriculture transportation guide book.

This book will encompass all aspects of operating or transporting ag-related equipment and supplies within Wisconsin, both state and federal laws.

WFBF Senior Director of Governmental Relations Rob Richard and Cheryl Skjolaas of UW Extension are working with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation to write this guide book.

In preparation for the guide book, WFBF has been rolling out 'Today's Ag Transportation Tidbit' on social media. These posts are simple, yet important, transportation laws or rules that apply to ag-related equipment and its operation or transport on Wisconsin roads.

Even though many of you will know these laws, it's our hope that you will share them via social media to reach and



educate a much wider audience. More importantly, any feedback you provide will help us prioritize specific issues for the guide book.

To see other tidbits from WFBF 'Today's Ag Transportation Tidbit' go to our Facebook page at [facebook.com/WIFarmBureau](https://www.facebook.com/WIFarmBureau). To read more about the transportation tidbit initiative, visit <http://bit.ly/TransportationTidbit>.

Show Your Farm Bureau Pride



Adult shirt available in heather red - \$15

Youth shirt available in red - \$12

Details and order form can be found at: <http://bit.ly/FBShirt!>

Order yours today!

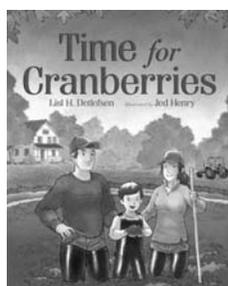




COUNTYnews

RUSK | SAWYER COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Ag in the Classroom Program Announces Essay Topic and Book of the Year



Time for Cranberries is the 2017 book of the year and 'Tell us about cranberry production in Wisconsin during one of the four seasons' is the topic for the annual essay contest.

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.

Essay submissions must be 100- to 300-words in length and will be judged on content, grammar, spelling and neatness. Contest rules, lesson plans and sample classroom activities are available at wisagclassroom.org or by contacting WFBF Ag in the Classroom at 800.261.3276 or aic@wfbf.com.

Participating students and schools need to submit essays by **April 1** to their county Farm Bureau essay coordinator. A list of coordinators is available at wisagclassroom.org.

- **Rusk County Ag in the Classroom essay coordinator:**
Betsy DuSell
- **Sawyer County Ag in the Classroom essay coordinator:**
Dale Beissel

A state winner will be selected from nine district winners in May by the WFBF Promotion and Education Committee. Each district winner will receive a classroom presentation in May. The contest is sponsored by Insight FS, We Energies and the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation.

Last year, more than 3,000 students participated in the contest. In this year's book of the year selection, *Time for Cranberries*, introduces young readers to cranberries, from the bog to the Thanksgiving table. The hardcover books come with an activity-lesson plan packet that teachers, students and home school parents can use to enhance the reading experience. Book order forms are available at www.wisagclassroom.org under order resources, order forms.

Just around the Corner ...



• Ag Day at the Capitol, March 8, 2017

Ag Day at the Capitol will be on **Wednesday March 8, 2017**, in Madison. A bus from northwest Wisconsin is being planned again for 2017.

This is a great opportunity to make contact with local representatives and network with other Farm Bureau members.

Watch for more information to come soon.

To reserve your spot early, please contact District 9 Coordinator Katie Mattison at 866.355.7349 or kmattison@wfbf.com.

• Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit – March 10-11

The Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit is a joint effort of Badgerland Financial, the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation and UW-Extension. It is our mission to support women in agriculture by providing a meeting place to learn, network and build friendships through peer-to-peer interaction.

During the past six years, we have learned a lot and grown together, personally and professionally.

Join us for another top-notch program and event as we continue this journey, together.

For more information, visit wiagwomenssummit.com.



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District 9 Discussion Meet Contestants Shine



The District 9 YFA Discussion Meet was held in conjunction with the District 9 Policy Development meeting on August 4 at the Stout Ale House in Menomonie.

About 20 people attended the event with five YFA members competing in the Discussion Meet.

District 9 had a great showing from across the district. Competitors were: Julie

Wadzinski, Barron County; Isaac Christenson, Polk County; Nate Kringle, Sawyer County; Laura Benitz, Pierce County; and Kirsten Konder, St. Croix County. Isaac Christenson, Laura Benitz and Kirsten Konder will represent District 9 at the YFA Conference in the Wisconsin Dells on December 2-4.

Congratulations to the competitors on an awesome competition!

Rusk County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Terry DuSell 715.828.1617
Vice President, Amber DuSell 715.418.2138
Secretary-Treasurer, Eva Curtis 715.736.2498
Promotion & Education Chair,
Betsy DuSell 715.415.0124
YFA Chair, Edwin Heath 715.415.5032

Director, Tim Bandli 715.532.3674
Director, Paul Hetke 715.532.7707
Director, Bruce Nelson 715.532.3819
Director, Aaron Nicholson 715.314.0414

WFBF Board Director, Jim Holte 715.835.6708
District 9 YFA Chair, Cindy Bourget 866.355.7349
District 9 Coordinator, Katie Mattison 715.505.7676
RMIC District Manager, Ken Truax 715.514.4477



Like us on Facebook: Rusk County Farm Bureau and Sawyer County Farm Bureau Young Farmer & Agriculturist Program.

Meet New Board Member: Aaron Nicholson



Aaron Nicholson and his wife Amanda and two children Alex, and Ashley own a dairy farm and raise dairy steers in Sheldon. Aaron also is a supporter of the Flambeau FFA, which his children are involved in.

Why is it important to be a part of the agriculture industry? The agriculture industry has a huge impact on the economy as well as the safety and health of our citizens.

Why did you become involved in Farm Bureau?

I am very interested in the direction the agriculture industry is taking.

What do you think are the greatest benefits of being a member of Farm Bureau?

The greatest benefit is being able to network with and learn from other farmers.

Farm Facts Brochure is Available



Did you know that agriculture contributes 413,000 jobs to Wisconsin's economy or 11.9 percent of total employment?

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom is proud to introduce the newly-revised 2016 Wisconsin Farm Facts brochure. The brochure highlights Wisconsin's diverse agriculture industry and it's interactive.

To order the brochure, visit wisagclassroom.org and use the resource form.

Welcome New Members: Rusk

Eric Bauer*, Christophe Beebe*, Bruce Burch*, Timothy Christopherson, Jacob Ewer*, Wayne Hajdasz*, Dennis McElroy*, Kenneth Meisegeier*, Brianne Meyer*, Paul Mikolon*, David Nelson*, Jack Noel*, David Prasnicky* and Caroline Yeske*.

*Denotes voting member.

Rusk County Annual Meeting Held



The Rusk County Farm Bureau board of directors: (L-R) Edwin Heath, Amber DuSell, Terry DuSell, Betsy DuSell, Aaron Nicholson, Eva Curtis and Bruce Nelson. Missing from photo: Tim Bandli and Paul Hetke.

Members of the Rusk County Farm Bureau held their annual meeting on September 22 at the Rusk Senior and Youth Center in Ladysmith.

We welcomed Aaron Nicholson of Sheldon, Paul Hetke of Ladysmith and Betsy DuSell of Ladysmith to the Rusk County Farm Bureau board of directors. Delegates elected to represent Rusk County at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December are: Terry DuSell, Paul Hetke and Amber DuSell. Attendees to the Rusk County Farm Bureau annual meeting also learned more about the outlook of the agriculture industry from Roger Swigart.

In addition to the regular business at the Rusk County Farm Bureau annual meeting, members also voted to change the women's committee to the promotion and education committee.

As a grassroots organization, it is Farm Bureau's members on the county level who create and set the policy goals of the state's leading farm organization. The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation is often asked to get involved in issues affecting production agriculture and rural Wisconsin in Madison and Washington, D.C.

During the meeting, members discussed a wide range of issues including transportation funding, wildlife abatement and rural broadband. The following resolutions passed and will be forwarded on for consideration to be presented to the delegates at the WFBF Annual Meeting:

1. We are in favor of streamlining the development costs of state funded road projects and putting measures in place to insure accountability that projects are completed efficiently.
2. We support better access to affordable and reliable broadband across the entire state to keep up with today's technology.
3. We are opposed to the purchase of farmland by foreign investors and/or their formed entities.
4. We are opposed to government subsidies to bring in foreign labor to work.
5. We are in favor of the removal of the public hunting requirement associated with the wildlife abatement program.
6. We want to see consistency between counties when it comes to wildlife abatement.
7. We are in favor of requiring electronic monitors on every bear trap at the DNR's expense.

For more information on the Rusk County Farm Bureau, please visit wfbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/rusk or contact 888.393.3253.

4-H Members Receive Key Award

Megan Rosolowski, Kyle Girard and Andy Fijalkiewicz were the recipients of the 2016 4-H Key Award. The award was presented by Rusk County Farm Bureau vice president Amber DuSell.

For the 41st consecutive year, the awards are being sponsored by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation and Rural Mutual Insurance Companies.

The Key Award, the highest award given to 4-H members, recognizes those who have shown consistent growth in their 4-H program, who have developed their citizenship and leadership abilities and who have been helpful members in their club and community.

Although it is a state award, Key Award recipients are determined by the county 4-H leader's organization, which evaluates a member's total record in making its decision.



Vice-President Amber DuSell presented Megan Rosolowski, Kyle Girard and Andy Fijalkiewicz the 4-H Key Award.

District Coordinator Message



Thank you! Two simple words that do not get said enough. Thank you for all that you do for Farm Bureau and agriculture in Wisconsin.

I am grateful for each and every one of you; for all that you do for agriculture, your communities and for Farm Bureau. Thank you for your passion for agriculture and your commitment to Farm Bureau.

The future of agriculture looks great because of **you!** Farm Bureau is successful because of **you!** Thank you for being a member of a 45,000 plus member-strong organization.

Your membership matters and helps make a difference in agriculture across Wisconsin and the U.S. I thank you for being a Farm Bureau member. I thank you for your commitment to your County and Wisconsin Farm Bureau.

Thank you for your time, your involvement and your dedication. I am amazed by the accomplishments of our members and am very grateful to be a part of the Farm Bureau family. It is because of the hard work and dedication of all of you, our Farm Bureau members, that Farm Bureau is able to thrive and the future of agriculture looks so great.

I am committed to working alongside you for many years to come to make Farm Bureau and Wisconsin agriculture amazing.

If you have questions or comments throughout the year, please contact me. I would love to hear from you.

Katie Mattison
District 9 Coordinator

Sawyer County Farm Bureau Holds Annual Meeting



The 2016-2017 board of directors are: (L-R) Mike Robers, Sherrie Mataczynski, Dale Beissel, Jon Winiarczyk, Marty Ewert and Andrew Winiarczyk; missing from the photo are Nathan Kringle and Ted Mataczynski.

The Sawyer County Farm Bureau annual meeting was held on September 13 at the Stone Lake Fire Hall in Stone Lake. Wisconsin DNR wildlife damage biologist Brad Koele was the guest speaker. Members enjoyed a buffet dinner catered by Gordy's County Market and then voted on policy and board of directors. Sawyer County welcomes new board member Andrew Winiarczyk.

Sawyer County Farm Bureau 2016 resolutions are:

1. Amend page 7, line 48 to: We require using technology (i.e., UAVs, electronic trap monitors) to monitor wildlife abatement traps and to access crop damage. We also believe that this technology should be at the DNR's expense.
2. We would like to see consistency between counties when it comes to wildlife abatement.
3. We are in favor of the removal of the public hunting requirement associated with the wildlife abatement program.
4. We are in favor of streamlining the development costs of state funded road projects.
5. We are in favor of property owners being compensated for wildlife damage to farm property (including fences, feed storage areas, etc.).

For more information about Sawyer County Farm Bureau, please visit wfbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/sawyer or contact 866.355.7347.

Another Successful Dairy Breakfast

The 2016 Sawyer County Dairy Breakfast was on June 18 at the Sawyer County Fairgrounds in Hayward. More than 1,400 people were served pancakes with the option of blueberries, sausage, ice cream, strawberries or whipped cream, milk, cranberry juice and coffee. Sawyer County Farm Bureau, in sponsorship with the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board, hosted the event.

Throughout the morning, visitors were entertained with music by Larry's Drifters, sampled products from Meadowbrook Cranberry Co., LLC, visited animals in the petting zoo and had the opportunity to visit many informational booths.

Proceeds from the event are used throughout the year to support the local 4-H clubs and other events at the Sawyer County Fair, Dairy Promotion activities throughout the county, Ag in the Classroom activities, Young Farmer and Agriculturist Activities and many other agriculture events throughout the year.

A special thank you goes out to the many volunteers who helped to serve food including Sawyer County 4-H members and leaders and the Sawyer County Farm Bureau Board of Directors and members. An event like this could not happen without the help of all of our great volunteers!



It wouldn't be a dairy breakfast without a big ice cream cone!



Sherrie Mataczynski served up sausages with a smile.



Attendees of all ages enjoyed the petting zoo.



Rural Mutual Insurance agent Al Scheifelbein cooked pancakes.

District Director Message



I'm sure you've heard the phrase 'decisions are made by those who show up' before. No one knows this better than active Farm Bureau members like you.

In our high-tech, fast-paced world, it may seem a little old fashioned but your county Farm Bureau annual meeting still stands for what is right about a grassroots organization.

It is those of you who show up that determines the directions of our 61 county Farm Bureaus, and the legislative priorities that our state organization will work on in Madison and Washington, D.C. There is no shortage of challenges and opportunities facing Wisconsin agriculture these days.

For more than 90 years, Farm Bureau members have got the job done by rolling up their sleeves, looking for solutions and staying positive. My challenge to you is that you get involved in our policy development process.

Technology is great, but its power pales in comparison to what can happen when a group of passionate agriculturists get together to share a meal and talk issues.

This year, items up for discussion include: rural broadband, animal husbandry, Wisconsin's fence law and atrazine and ATCP 30.

Farm Bureau is the best vehicle to ensure that your local, state and national concerns are heard. That's why your Farm Bureau membership remains a tool to ensure agriculture's future success.

Those of you who show up at Farm Bureau meetings are the ones who have played the largest role in making this an honorable organization. Rest assured that other committed individuals like you are striving to make it even better.

Thank you for being a Farm Bureau member. Thank you for continuing to make Wisconsin agriculture stronger. Thank you for showing up.

Jim Holte

Dunn County crop and beef farmer
Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation President

Sawyer County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Dale Beissel	715.266.3414
Vice President, Mike Robers	715.943.2645
Secretary-Treasurer, Sherrie Mataczynski	715.943.2353
YFA Chair, Nathan Kringle	715.418.0536
Director, Marty Ewert	715.558.3524
Director, Ted Mataczynski	715.943.2353
Director, Andrew Winiarczyk	715.558.2562
Director, Jon Winiarczyk	715.415.2830
WFBF Board Director, Jim Holte	715.835.6708
YFA Chair, Cindy Bourget	715.505.7676
District 9 Coordinator, Katie Mattison RMIC	866.355.7349
District Manager, Ken Truax	715.514.4477

Meet New Board Member: Andrew Winiarczyk



Andrew Winiarczyk works as an MVAC/R tech machinist and also has a beef farm with his father and brother.

Andrew, his wife Nicole and son Jacob recently moved back to Wisconsin from Colorado.

Why is it important to be a part of the agriculture industry? The future

of our country has always and will always come down to the strength of our farms. Any voice added is going to improve agriculture.

Why did you become involved in Farm Bureau?

I wanted to be involved on active issues in agriculture. Having an active voice on current farming issues and resolutions is important.

Farmland Preservation Plan

Sawyer County has been working on an updated Farmland Preservation Plan. Surveys were sent out to A-1 zoned property owners with local addresses for input on the program and other agricultural practices offered. Farmers meeting the state requirements would be eligible for a \$7.50 per acre tax credit under the new program. The Zoning Ordinance regarding the A-1 zone district permitted uses was recently updated to meet these state requirements.

Several town boards denied the proposed changes (Couderay, Radisson and Round Lake). Any potential changes will be ratified at the October county board meeting. Watch for upcoming information regarding tax credit availability in Sawyer County.

For more information or questions, please contact Dale Olson, Sawyer County zoning and conservation administrator at 715.634.6463 or dale.olson@sawyercounty.gov.

Welcome New Members: Sawyer

Sherry Buttron, Russ Dentz, Michael Dietz, Brenda Eytcheson, Chris Hausman*, Elizabeth Kevan, Lowell Laronge, Beverly Lemke, Duff Melhus, Brenda Thompson, Ward Williamson and Andrew Winiarczyk*.

*Denotes voting member.