

GET READY FOR THE 2017 AMERICAN FARM BUREAU ANNUAL CONVENTION!



The 98th Annual Convention of the American Farm Bureau Federation will be held January 6-11, 2017 in Phoenix, Arizona. You are invited to join the Wisconsin delegation as we travel to the *Valley of the Sun* for this exciting event. Enclosed you will find registration forms and information regarding the convention program.

Transportation: Transportation arrangements to Phoenix are the responsibility of the individual(s) attending. WFBF will arrange air transportation for YFA award winners and delegates.

Hotel: The Wisconsin delegation will be staying at the convention's headquarters hotel, the Sheraton Grand Phoenix. The address is 340 North 3rd St., Phoenix, AZ 85004; Phone: (602) 262-2500. Room rates are \$215. per night plus tax. The hotel is a short walk (0.1 mi.) from the Phoenix Convention Center, site of the AFBF Annual Convention. More hotel information is available at <http://www.sheratonphoenixdowntown.com>.

Airport Transportation: The Sheraton Grand Phoenix is located approximately four miles from Sky Harbor International Airport. Super Shuttle provides transportation between the airport and convention hotels for an approximate cost of \$13 per person one way. Taxi service is available from the ground transportation level of the airport terminals. Approximate taxi fare from the airport to the hotel is \$22 one way.

Registration Fee: The AFBF \$100 per person registration fee covers entrance to all general sessions, issue conferences, and the AFBF IDEAg Trade Show.

Wisconsin Delegation Reception & Dinner: The traditional WFBF Delegation Reception/Dinner (\$50 per person) will be at 7:00 pm on Saturday, January 7 at The Arrogant Butcher, located at 2 East Jefferson St., a short walk (five blocks) from the hotel. This function will provide a great opportunity to meet with other members of our delegation and receive an update on the convention and related activities.

Optional Ag Tours: Arizona Farm Bureau will offer a number of exciting agricultural tours on Saturday, January 7th and Tuesday, January 11th. A complete listing of tours, schedules, and registration instructions can be found online at <http://annualconvention.fb.org/arizona-ag-tours>.

Do not submit tour registrations or payment to WFBF.

AFB Foundation Flapjack Breakfast - On Sunday morning, January 8th, the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture will sponsor a flapjack breakfast beginning at 7:45 a.m. *The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation will purchase tickets for this event for the entire Wisconsin delegation.* If you plan to attend, please indicate by checking the appropriate box on the registration form.

(over)

Leadership Luncheon – The Farm Bureau Leadership Luncheon will take place on Sunday at noon and is open to all annual meeting participants. Ticket cost is \$45 per person. If you plan to attend, please indicate by checking the appropriate box on the registration form.

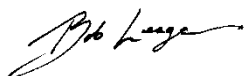
AFB Foundation Night Out – The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture is organizing a special event on Monday evening, January 9th beginning at 7:30 pm, featuring music by the Texas Tenors, followed by a live auction and then dancing to music provided by DJ Splyce. Light fare and a cash bar will be available. Ticket cost is \$65 per person. If you plan to attend, please indicate by checking the appropriate box on the registration form.

To register:

- 1) **Please complete the enclosed registration form. Be sure to indicate your arrival and departure dates.**
- 2) **Indicate how many AFBF registration badges you will need. If you elect to participate in the Wisconsin delegation dinner, Leadership Luncheon, Foundation Night Out, or AFB Foundation Flapjack Breakfast, please indicate so by checking the box on the form.**
- 3) **Enclose payment for the AFBF registration fee, as well as the Wisconsin delegation dinner, Leadership Luncheon, or Foundation Night Out when you send in your registration. You will pay for your hotel room and any incidentals when you check out of your room.**
- 4) **Reservations are due to WFBF by November 18. A confirmation letter will be sent prior to the meeting. Name badges, programs and event tickets will be distributed when you check in at the convention registration desk.**

I look forward to your participation in the 2017 AFBF Annual Convention!

Sincerely,



Bob Leege
Executive Director, Member Relations

Enclosures: Annual Convention reservation form
Tentative agenda

RESERVATION FORM FOR 2017 AFBF ANNUAL CONVENTION

AFBF Annual Convention –Phoenix, Arizona - January 6-11, 2017

*\$215. plus tax per night at the Phoenix Grand Sheraton Hotel
 \$100 per person for AFBF Registration
 \$50 per person for WFBF Delegation Reception & Dinner
 \$45 per person for Farm Bureau Leadership Luncheon
 \$65 per person for Foundation Night Out
 Optional Tours - various prices per person*

Name _____

Rooming with _____

Address _____

County _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Arrival Date _____ Departure Date _____

Room Preference: King / Double (Please circle)

Please indicate below how many people you are registering for each option, the amount enclosed for each option, and the total amount enclosed.

AFBF Registration	_____ @ \$100 per person	= _____
Wisconsin Delegation Reception & Dinner	_____ @ \$50 per person	= _____
Farm Bureau Leadership Luncheon	_____ @ \$45 per person	= _____
Foundation Night Out event	_____ @ \$65 per person	= _____
AFB Foundation Flapjack Breakfast	_____ @ (complimentary)	= <u>0.00</u>

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Please remit payment for AFBF Registration, Wisconsin delegation dinner, Farm Bureau Leadership Luncheon, and Foundation Night Out when sending in reservation. Registration forms are due by November 18, 2016 - Mail to: Darci Meili, P.O. Box 5550, Madison, WI 53705.

****** Make checks payable to Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation ******

TENTATIVE AGENDA
98th AFBF Annual Convention • January 6 – 11, 2017 • Phoenix, AZ

Friday, January 6, 2017

- 7:00 a.m. Convention Registration
- 9:00 a.m. Farm Bureau Gives Back – AFBF and State Farm Bureau Staff
- 4:00 p.m. State Presidents' Dinner
YF&R Competitor Networking Reception

Saturday, January 7, 2017

- 6:30 a.m. Convention Registration
- 7:00 a.m. 5K Family Fun Run/Walk Shotgun Start
- 8:00 a.m. YF&R Achievement Award Learning Session
YF&R Excellence in Ag Competitor Orientation
Women's Leadership Networking and Regional Caucuses
- 8:45 a.m. Ag Tours
- 9:00 a.m. Foundation Golf Classic Shotgun Start
YF&R Excellence in Ag Presentations
YF&R Discussion Meet Competitor & Judges Orientation
- 10:30 a.m. Annual Meeting of the American Farm Bureau Women
- 11:00 a.m. YF&R Discussion Meet Round 1
- 1:00 p.m. Communicate, Collaborate & Influence (CCI)
YF&R Excellence in Ag Presentations
- 2:30 p.m. YF&R Discussion Meet Round 2
- 4:00 p.m. Celebration of Grassroots Reception - IDEAg Trade Show
YF&R Discussion Meet Sweet 16 & Achievement Award Top 10

Sunday, January 8, 2017

- 6:30 a.m. Convention Registration
- 7:00 a.m. Sunrise Service
- 7:45 a.m. Foundation Flapjack Fundraiser (ticketed event, all welcome)
- 9:30 a.m. Opening General Session
- 10:45 a.m. IDEAg Trade Show Opens
YF&R Achievement Award Interviews
- 11:00 a.m. Rural Entrepreneurship Challenge
- 12:00 p.m. Leadership Luncheon (ticketed event, all welcome)
- 1:15 p.m. Featured Workshop(s)
YF&R Discussion Meet Sweet 16
- 2:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops
- 3:30 p.m. Concurrent Workshops
- 4:30 p.m. Town Hall – IDEAg Trade Show
YF&R Discussion Meet Final 4 & Excellence in Ag Top 10
- 5:30 p.m. IDEAg Trade Show Closes
- 6:00 p.m. FB STARS (**ST**aff **A**ppreciation **R**eception)

Monday, January 9, 2017

- 7:00 a.m. Convention Registration
- 8:00 a.m. Featured Workshop(s)
- 8:30 a.m. IDEAg Trade Show Opens
- 9:00 a.m. YF&R Discussion Meet Final 4 – IDEAg Trade Show
- 9:15 a.m. Concurrent Workshops
- 10:15 a.m. Concurrent Workshops
- 11:15 a.m. Closing General Session
- 1:00 p.m. Taste of America – IDEAg Trade Show
- 4:00 p.m. IDEAg Trade Show Closes
- 7:30 p.m. Foundation Night Out (ticketed event, all welcome)

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

7:00 a.m. Post-convention Ag Tours
8:00 a.m. Voting Delegate Session
Amendment Processing
Spouses Event – *Invitation Only*
12:00 p.m. Voting Delegate Luncheon
1:00 p.m. Regional Caucuses
2:00 p.m. Voting Delegate Session

Wednesday January 11, 2017

7:00 a.m. AFBF Board of Directors' Breakfast
8:00 a.m. AFBF Board of Directors' Meeting