

Adams County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Adams and Juneau County YFA Bowling and Pizza Event a Success!

The Adams and Juneau County YFA committees hosted a joint county bowling and pizza event on January 8 at Anjero's Sports Bar in Mauston. Twenty-seven Young Farmer and Agriculturist members attended.

Both counties are planning a tour of J. Henry and Sons farm near Dane. YFA members please watch your mail for more information on this upcoming tour in March.



Membership Incentives Announced

Do you know a friend who might be interested in joining Farm Bureau? Feel good about helping your organization grow and get a chance to win some great prizes, too.

Engage as many volunteers as possible in WFBF's 2016 membership recruitment efforts by asking them to pledge to personally contact two people they know and sign them up as new Farm Bureau members by **March 31**.



'Picture This' in Adams County

Do you have a great photo that you have taken around your farm or somewhere in the county? We want to see them!

Submit your photos to District 5 Coordinator Becky Hibicki at bhibicki@wfbf.com.



Your photo could be featured in the next edition of the Adams County Farm Bureau newsletter...or maybe even the *Rural Route!*



COUNTYnews

ADAMS COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

Adams County Ag in the Classroom Program Update

Adams County Farm Bureau volunteers have been busy conducting several Ag in the Classroom presentations to area elementary schools. The county Ag in the Classroom committee also organized a bus tour for students to attend World Dairy Expo in October.



Thank you to MilkSource for their sponsorship.



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President's Message



Greetings! Looking back we had a very good 2015 for Adams County Farm Bureau. We met our membership goals, held events for our YFA members, had a great annual meeting at the county and state levels, a successful ice cream stand at the fair and our Ag in the Classroom program kept us very busy.

If you want to see the Ag in the Classroom events we host, visit our Facebook page. Pictures are posted after each event. You also can see some photos in this newsletter. We also have other activities and news from your Farm Bureau posted on the Facebook page.

During this time of year many of us take vacations or as some call them our 'snowbirds' head south. We should keep in mind that we should check on the security of our neighbors who are traveling. Our Farm Bureau members have protection with the \$500 Reward Program. What this means is that the person who helps convict those who commit criminal behavior or do vandalism on someone's property will receive \$500 when the person is convicted in a court of law. Any suspicious behavior should be reported to the proper authorities. Let's do our part to keep our neighborhoods places safe.

If you are planning a trip, please remember to use your Farm Bureau member benefits. I carry my benefit list in my vehicle so that I can refer to it and get great deals at hotels. We have many

hotels to choose from so try them out. Who doesn't like a savings and this one is so easy. We also have many other great benefits so make sure to check them out.

I encourage everyone one of you to help with membership. We want to meet our new goal that the state set for us by **March 31**. I want to challenge each of you to sign one new member. This is an easy way to receive \$20. Yes, I said you can receive \$20 by signing a new member, and you will get \$20 for each member that you sign. That is easy money, wouldn't you agree?

I give that \$20 back to the member that I sign. The membership dues for Adams County is \$50, which I ask them to write a check and then I give them \$20 in return, knowing that at the end of the quarter, WFBF will be sending me my money.

If you have some free time, we could use help with our Ag in the Classroom program and other events. If you are interested, please contact me at kolsonmartz@gmail.com or 608.572.1429. Thank you for being a member of Adams County Farm Bureau and if you can think of anyone who has a vested interest in agriculture, let's sign them up.

Wishing you many blessings for 2016.

Kay Olson-Martz
Adams County Farm Bureau President

Members Serve as Adams County Delegates at WFBF Annual Meeting



Adams County Farm Bureau members who served as delegates were: (L-R) Nathan Bula, Kay Olson-Martz and Jim Bays II.

adopted the policies that will guide the legislative agenda for the state's largest general farm organization. Resolutions were submitted by delegates as part of a grassroots policy development process.

Recognizing the need to increase funds to provide adequate roads and bridges in rural Wisconsin, delegates voted to consider a combination of gasoline taxes, vehicle registration fees, farm truck registration fees and environmental fees, as well as the establishment of local sales taxes, tolling and new vehicle taxes. Delegates support the continuation of the state fuel tax exemption for agricultural purposes.



District 5 board member Kevin Krentz led the District 5 caucus session.

In regards to labeling, delegates advised that the term 'milk' should not be used to label and describe food products that are derived from vegetative plants and trees.

Delegates at the 96th WFBF Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells established new policy directives for the organization on December 7.

Farm Bureau delegates

Delegates supported certified third-party audits of farms for animal care practices and land conservation practices to ensure market access and instill consumer confidence. Delegates emphasized that third-party audit information collected becomes the sole proprietary property of the farmer and audit information should be

Recognizing the importance of natural resources and the environment, delegates support farmer-led soil and water quality initiatives.

Delegates from the Wisconsin Farm Bureau's 61 county Farm Bureaus also voted to:

- Support classifying skid steers as agricultural equipment, as well as construction. We also support training and safety programs/certification for youth similar to All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) and Utility-Terrain Vehicle (UTV) Certification and Wisconsin Safe Operation of Tractor and Machinery Certification programs.
- Support maintaining the necropsy services and employing a state licensed veterinarian in the Wisconsin Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory in Barron.
- Support using technology (i.e., UAVs and electronic trap monitors) in order to monitor wildlife abatement traps and to assess crop damage.
- Support the state's adverse possession law as it has historically existed.
- Oppose towns and counties imposing stricter requirements for nutrient management regulations than state standards without relevant scientific research.
- Propose that when engineering a road the state and local level of governments should install culverts to assist in transporting manure to reduce traffic on roads.
- Support the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection's procedures for testing and license renewal of the pesticide certification and training program.

On the federal level, delegates oppose the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed rule to shorten the permit certification timeline for pesticide applicator licensing and increase testing standards to make it more difficult for a farmer to obtain a pesticide applicator license. This resolution was forwarded to the American Farm Bureau Federation for consideration during its annual meeting.



President Kay Olson-Martz addressed delegates during the resolutions meeting.

WFBF YFA Conference Is a Success!



Michelle Bula contemplated her next move for giant Jenga.

More than 520 YFA members attended the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference held on December 4-6 at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells.

The following Adams County YFA members attended: Jeff Huber, Ethan Olson, Zach Olson, Michelle Bula, Nathan Bula, Eric Wallendal, Megan Wallendal and Brenna Bays.



Adams County YFA members who attended the District 5 YFA meeting were: (L-R) Nathan Bula, Eric Wallendal, Ethan Olson, Zach Olson, Jeff Huber and Michelle Bula.



Adams County members at the WFBF Annual Meeting held on December 4-7 were: front row (L-R) Michelle Bula, Brenna Bays, Zach Olson and Kay Olson-Martz; back row (L-R) Jeff Huber, Earl Martz, Nathan Bula, Jim Bays and Ethan Olson.

There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

Auto

- General Motors Discount

Communication

- AgriVisor
- The Country Today

Financial

- AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program
- Farm Bureau Bank

Health

- ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
- Stroke Detection Plus

Insurance

- Rural Mutual Insurance Company
- Farm Bureau Financial Services

Protection

- \$500 Reward Protection Program

- Accidental Death Policy

Supplies and Products

- Case IH
- Caterpillar (NEW)
- FS-Growmark Patronage

- Grainger

- Office Depot

- Polaris

Travel

- AAA
- AVIS Car Rental Discount Program
- Choice Hotels International, Inc.
- Wyndham Hotel Group

For complete details visit wfbf.com/benefits-membership.

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District Coordinator's Report



As I write this, it's less than 24 hours since I returned from the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference, which was held December 4-7 at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells.

As a District Coordinator, this is always a highlight of my Farm Bureau year. It's a great opportunity to connect with old Farm Bureau friends I see only once a year, a time to meet new Farm Bureau members and a chance to see many dedicated county Farm Bureau members from the district being recognized for their service.

I'd like to take the opportunity to share a few of these highlights with you:

- More than 95 of the 520 YFA members attending the YFA Conference were from District 5.
- Fond du Lac County was recognized as the Top County YFA program in the state for the second year in a row.
- YFA members Michael Leahy, Lynn Dickman and Nate Zimdars competed in the YFA Discussion Meet.
- Nate Zimdars was named a Top Four Finalist in the Discussion Meet.
- Fond du Lac YFA members Chris and Kelly Pollock won the YFA Achievement Award.
- Marquette County YFA member Brad Kolpin was a Top Four Finalist in the Achievement Award.
- Ten members were recognized as part of the Producer Club, which recognizes members who sign

at least five new members.

- Long-time membership worker Trayton Greenfield was recognized as the state's top membership worker; he signed 54 new members!
- Marquette County president Al Klapoetke was also recognized as a Top 10 membership worker.

As a District Coordinator I have the opportunity to work all year long with members from the seven counties in District 5 (Adams, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Juneau, Marquette, Waushara and Winnebago). It's very rewarding to see so many members in our district get recognized on a state level.

With the start of 2016, it's a great opportunity to not only reflect on these accomplishments, but also begin looking at what the district will accomplish.

Farm Bureau offers activities for members to promote agriculture within their county, whether it's through Ag in the Classroom, a beef promotion event, helping at the fair booth, a variety of YFA activities, attending Ag Day at the Capitol and getting involved in the legislative activities or our organization or attending the county annual meeting.

The dedication from our members is what has allowed the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation to become the largest and most effective farm organization in the state! Thank you for your support!

Becky Hibicki

WFBF District 5 Coordinator
920.517.2445 or [bhicki@wfbf.com](mailto:bhibicki@wfbf.com)

Member Benefit: Caterpillar, Inc.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau and Caterpillar, Inc., announced a partnership that will provide members up to \$2,000 in purchase incentives on Cat machines. In addition, Caterpillar plans to support Farm Bureau programs and coordinate with Farm Bureau on other efforts.

Eligible equipment includes Cat skid steer loaders, compact and multi-terrain loaders, wheel loaders, telehandlers, backhoe loaders, hydraulic excavators and track-type tractors.

The Farm Bureau Member benefit discount on

Cat machines can be combined with any retail discounts, promotions, rebates or offers available through Caterpillar or its dealers, with the exception of other membership purchase incentives.

Discounts cannot be applied to past purchases. Members must provide a valid member verification certificate to the Cat dealer at the time of purchase to receive the discount. Download certificates at www.fbadvantage.com/cat.

For more information, call Farm Bureau at 800.261.3276.

We're on Facebook!



The Adams County Farm Bureau is on Facebook. Be sure to 'like' our page to get the latest updates on what is happening in the Adams County Farm Bureau!

Adams County Farm Bureau Offers Scholarship

Scholarship available! Once again the Adams County Farm Bureau will be offering a \$100 scholarships to graduating high school seniors.



For more information on the scholarship program or to request an application, please contact Kay Olson-Martz at 608.572.1429.

Register for 2016 Ag Women's Summit

The sixth annual Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit is set for **March 4-5** at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton. Registration for the premier women's event is now open and available online. Register by the **February 3** early bird deadline to save \$25 on the conference fee. The final registration deadline is **February 26**.

The summit will kick off with the announcement of the 2016 AgVocate of the Year. The award recognizes a Wisconsin ag woman who has gone above and beyond to tell the story of Wisconsin agriculture with those around her. Sponsoring the award is Wisconsin agriculture broadcaster Pam Jahnke, the Fabulous Farm Babe.

The event's opening session will include a multi-generation panel of women discussing important topics to women and the agriculture community, moderated by NBC15 news reporter, Amy Pflugshaupt. Closing keynote speaker Jerry Apps will engage attendees and share tips on how to capture farm family stories.

For more information, please visit www.wiagwomenssummit.com.

