



Adams County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Dickman Wins Farm Bureau's Excellence in Agriculture Award



Waushara County Farm Bureau YFA Chair Lynn Dickman was named the YFA Excellence in Agriculture contest winner during the WFBF YFA Conference held in December.

Lynn Dickman was selected the winner of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's Young Farmer and Agriculturist Excellence in Agriculture Award at the 98th WFBF Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells on December 3.

Dickman is the research agronomist at Heartland Farms, Inc., an 8,000-acre potato farm in Hancock in central Wisconsin.

The Excellence in Agriculture Award goes to a

Farm Bureau member between the ages of 18 and 35 who is actively engaged in agriculture, but does not assume the majority of farm risk. The winner is selected based on their knowledge of agriculture, leadership in Farm Bureau and other civic organizations.

Dickman grew up on a 77-cow dairy farm in Argyle and was active in 4-H and FFA. She earned a bachelor's degree in dairy science and a master's degree in horticulture from UW-Madison.

She is the District 5 representative on WFBF's Promotion and Education Committee and the Waushara County Farm Bureau YFA chair. She was a member of WFBF Leadership Institute Class VIII. Outside of Farm Bureau, she is president of the Tri-County FFA Alumni, a member of the Stevens Point Curling Club and City Band and a Meals on Wheels board member in Stevens Point.

Dickman competed at the AFBF Annual Convention in Nashville, Tennessee.

In addition, Rural Mutual Insurance Company provides a free financial plan and GROWMARK, Inc., invites the winner to be a guest at their annual meeting in August and provides a \$250 FAST STOP gift card.

AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL

January 24, 2018

Monona Terrace Convention Center • Madison, WI

Early Registration Deadline: January 18

Cost: \$25 per person by registration deadline.

\$30 after deadline and at the door.

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

Presented by: Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

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COUNTYnews

ADAMS COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



Wisconsin Farm Bureau Delegates Set Policy for 2018

On December 4, 250 delegates attended the 98th WFBF Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells and established new policy directives for the organization. Farm Bureau delegates adopted the policies that will guide the legislative agenda for the state's largest general farm organization in 2018. Resolutions were submitted by delegates as part of a grassroots policy development process.

Delegates held discussion on various dairy policy items. They supported milk processors giving farms 60 days' notice before any changes to premium structure or required fees and giving 90 days' notice before termination of service. They also supported Wisconsin's Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to define clear and concise rules and regulations for automated milking installations and programs that emphasize manufacturing and marketing strategies.

Delegates supported a \$0.05/gallon tax on agricultural dyed fuel to be used only for town road improvements and maintenance.

Regarding nutrient management, they supported increased nitrogen levels for nutrient management planning due to higher yields and the ability of hybrids to better utilize these nutrients and efforts to assist agriculture to understand its role regarding nutrient management for surface water and groundwater. They supported the need to continue the reasonable scientifically-based best management practices for the protection of groundwater resources in high risk areas such as Karst areas.

Delegates supported increased trade deals that benefit Wisconsin and U.S. Agriculture.

Regarding marketing initiatives, delegates opposed using mislead-

ing food labels for a marketing campaign. They supported changing fat percentage labelling on bottled milk from '2% Fat' to '98% Fat Free', '1% Fat to 99% Fat Free', etc., and use of the non-GMO label only on products that have a GMO alternative.

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

- Legislation that allows wineries and craft brewers to have equivalent operating hours as taverns and restaurants.
- Allowing tasting rooms to sample wines and ciders made by other producers.
- Managed grazing as an approved method of stream bank management and managed wetland areas.
- In a time of disaster or emergency, any fees, permits or hold times should be waived to aid people with bridges and creek crossings.
- Allowing stream bank damage following a storm to be returned to pre-storm locations.
- Controlling predatory wildlife populations.
- A tax incentive for selling and renting land to beginning/young farmers.
- Mandatory rural traffic safety curriculum in driver's education classes.

On the federal level, delegates supported:

- Fair regional pricing within the Price Loss Coverage and Agriculture Risk Coverage program.
- Over the road truckers should be exempt from e-logging requirements when transporting livestock or perishable agricultural products.

The federal resolutions were forwarded to the American Farm Bureau Federation for consideration at its annual convention.

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(from left) Earl Martz, Kay Olson-Martz and Jeff Huber served as Adams County delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting held on December 2-4 at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells.



Adams County president Kay Olson-Martz addressed delegates during the resolutions portion of the WFBF Annual Meeting.



Adams County Farm Bureau members at the WFBF Annual Meeting (from left) Jim Bays, Ben Babcock, Brenna Bays, Earl Martz, Kay Olson-Martz, Michelle Bula, Nate Bula, Emma Huber and Jeff Huber.

Plan to Participate in the Wisconsin Ag Open Golf

Hosted by the WFB Foundation, the 2018 Wisconsin Ag Open will be held on **Monday, September 10**, at Christmas Mountain Village in Wisconsin Dells. All proceeds from the golf outing will support the WFB Foundation education and leadership programs such as Ag in the Classroom, 4-H, FFA, WFBF Leadership Institute and Young Farmer and Agriculturist activities.

Registration is \$125 and includes 18 holes of golf with cart, box lunch, appetizers, contests and door prizes. Sponsorships are available ranging from \$50 to \$1,500.

For information, please contact Darlene Arneson at 608.828.5644 or darneson@wfbf.com.

District Director Report



Lead the farm and rural community through legislative representation, education, public relations, leadership development and providing services and benefits to members.

Our mission statement helps define who we are and what we do. From time to time reflection of ourselves and our organization helps us continue

to meet the needs of our members.

A person or an organization should never be afraid to ask why. Just because something has always been done doesn't mean it should continue. History is important in any organization but new leaders will need to make decisions on an ever changing political environment.

Some challenges ahead for local Farm Bureaus may include:

1. The state administration continues to handcuff local municipalities on funding sources. The local governments find it easy to blame farmers for road deterioration when lack of proper maintenance over the past 10 plus years have led to major problems. We need to continue to advocate for a solid local infrastructure in order to move crops, cattle, machinery and fertilizer.
2. Public perception sees agriculture using more water, yet farmers continue to use less land and less water per bushel produced than any time in history. Technology advancements have allowed applying water in the correct amount at the correct time while excess infiltrating back into the soil. Where municipal water is dumped into rivers and leaves our communities quickly. Researchers need to be held accountable to present all evidence to the public. And Farmers need to continue to be involved in discussions of water.
3. Manure is the other ag topic getting pressure at the local level. Manure is a vital, organic nutrient for crops. Land conservation departments and the DNR have the engineer-

ing experience to be regulator authority of this nutrient. Local units of government do not have this expertise yet they continue to push for the authority. We need to push for science based regulations, based on soils not on town lines.

Farmers face many challenges this year because of low commodity prices. Farm Bureau leaders at all levels need to be the voice for our fellow farmers. But I want to call out members that are not active. It's easy to say, "I'm too busy," but getting active is the only way to control your future. I accept some of this is difficult for a county Farm Bureau to take on alone. That is one reason why WFBF developed a local affairs position as a resource.

With the help of new and experienced leaders, and leader development programs, we will make the dynamic decisions to lead the farm and rural communities into the future.

God bless and happy New Year.

Kevin Krentz
WFBF District 5 Director

District 5 YFA Update



Hi, my name is Sally Turpin and I am serving as your District 5 YFA Committee representative. I grew up on my family's 100-cow dairy farm near Hillsboro. I earned a bachelor's degree in agronomy and animal science from the UW-Madison. After college, I worked as an agronomist, but now I am a dairy consultant for Star Blends, an independent feed mill in Sparta.

I have served as the Juneau County YFA chair since 2014 and I am a graduate of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Leadership Institute, Class VI. I also have competed in the Discussion Meet.

I enjoy many outdoor activities like hunting, fishing, kayaking, camping, hiking and running, as well as traveling. I have really enjoyed my time in Farm Bureau and look forward to serving you on the State Committee.

WFBF YFA Conference Was a Success

We had approximately 60 members from District 5 at the 2017 YFA Conference and more than 550 total YFA members in attendance. Members from our district competed in Discussion Meet and Excellence in Ag, with Lynn Dickman winning the Excellence in Ag competition and Jenny Leahy making it to the Discussion Meet Finals.

There also were many workshops and speakers like Michelle Payne addressing ag advocacy and Chris Koch giving an inspirational talk 'If I can ...' about not letting his physical limitations get in the way of achieving his goals.

If you have never attended the YFA Conference, please talk to me or your county YFA chair about the Rural Mutual Insurance sponsorship. Rural Mutual generously covers the registration and hotel for individuals or couples who are first time attendees of the conference.

If you have any ideas for District 5 events, please contact me at 608.462.3387 or sally.turpin@gmail.com. I love to hear what members want to see for educational or social opportunities.

Sally Turpin
District 5 YFA Representative

District 5 Promotion and Education Report



Happy winter! I hope that everyone who loves snow and the winter season is enjoying it. For those who aren't the biggest fans of winter, enjoy some hot chocolate. Spring will be here before we know it.

2017 was a great year for the Promotion and

Education Committee. We continued to promote the 'Playbook' that we introduced at the end of 2016. The 'Playbook' is a resource that contains events, programs, and activities that happen throughout the state on a local level.

If you are looking for something to do, visit www.wfbf.com. Updates are made quarterly to the 'Playbook.' If you want an event or activity from your county added, please contact me.

We held our first leadership training series boot camp in District 5 at Heartland Farms on November 11. WFBF governmental relations staff Steve Boe and Rob Richards served as guest speakers.

They covered topics and answered questions relating to policy development, contacting and connecting with your legislators, staying informed on critical issues and raising your voice and speaking up for agriculture.

Farm Bureau members Laura Daniels, Brian Preder and Julie Wadzinski served as panel members for the discussion about

the grassroots process of crafting policies to benefit members.

We look forward to hosting another boot camp in 2018 with a different topic and in a different location. We hope to see you there.

The Promotion and Education Committee will be assisting with the essay contest for fourth and fifth grader students offered by the Ag in the Classroom program again this year.

This year's topic is 'Inventions that have made agriculture great.' We encourage each county promotion and education committee to work with the elementary schools to help teachers engage the students in this essay contest as it will be a valuable agricultural learning experience.

2018 looks to be an exciting year. We look forward to working with Megan Rebut as our new WFBF committee advisor who has filled Deb Raemisch's position upon her retirement.

If you have questions or want help with promotion and education events, do not hesitate to contact me at ldickman87@gmail.com or 608.558.9713.

All the best District 5,

Lynn Dickman
District 5 Promotion and Education
Representative

Plan to Attend: IGNITE Conference

Plan to attend the 2018 IGNITE Conference at the Holiday Inn Conference Center in Stevens Point on **April 5-6, 2018**. Innovate, Grow, Network, Inform, Train, Engage or IGNITE is a information, training and fun-filled member engagement meeting for county Farm Bureau members.

The purpose is the strengthen leaders and Farm Bureaus by providing programs, resources and skills to carry out the mission of county Farm Bureaus. More than 20 workshops following training tracks including: governance and organization, building Farm Bureau, communicating for agriculture and Farm Bureau and policy, issues and advocacy.



Adams County Ag in the Classroom Program Update

The Adams County Ag in the Classroom committee continues to be extremely active with giving agricultural presentations to area schools. This year the committee is focused on teaching about bees. Committee members made lip balm using bee wax in many area classrooms.

The committee also taught about conifers during the Christmas season and made Christmas wreaths and swags in area classrooms, as well as with local 4-H clubs Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.



More Than 60 District 5 YFA Members Attend YFA Conference



More than 60 YFA members from District 5 attended the YFA Conference held on December 1-3 at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells.



Adams County YFA members attended the YFA Conference: front row (from left) Emma Huber, Brenna Bays and Michelle Bula; back row (from left) Jeff Huber, Ben Babcock and Nate Bula.

On Friday, YFA Conference attendees had the chance to participate in a casino night. Thank you to Fabulous Farm Babe Pam Jahnke for sponsoring.

On Saturday, Michele Payn with Cause Matters Corp., shared with YFA Conference attendees why it is so important to be a champion for agriculture and lead the conversation around food and farming



Adams County YFA member and UW-Platteville Collegiate member Brenna Bays was named first runner up in the WFBF Collegiate Discussion Meet Contest. Brenna pictured with her father, and long-time Farm Bureau member, Jim Bays.

At the Saturday night Extravaganza banquet, comedian Scott Novotny entertained attendees. Thank you to the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board for sponsoring Scott.

On Sunday, a very inspirational keynote speech was given from Chris Koch. He reminded attendees to find the good in each day, laugh a little more and work toward your goals until you reach them.

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Huber Selected for WFBF Leadership Institute



Jeff Huber was selected to participate in the WFBF Leadership Institute.

Adams County Farm Bureau member, Jeff Huber, is one of 15 emerging agricultural leaders that have been selected to participate in the WFBF Leadership Institute.

The year-long training program's mission is to develop strong and effective agricultural leaders.

"Farmers and agriculturists must take the lead to be advocates for their farms and agribusinesses. The Institute gives participants the skills and confidence necessary to lead the future of farming and agriculture in their county Farm Bureau, local community and beyond," said Wendy Kannel, Director of Training and Leadership Development for Wisconsin Farm Bureau.

Other members of the 2018 Farm

Bureau Leadership Institute class are: Savannah Brown, Black River Falls; Neil Christianson, Shawano; Andrew Dal Santo, Platteville; Pam Debele, Brookfield; Scott Eastwood, Sun Prairie; Rob Klussendorf, Medford; Corey Kuchta, Coleman; Jamie Marx, Wausau; Erica Olson, Black River Falls; Kayla Pagenkopf, Elk Mound; Jennifer Riederer, Reedsville; Amanda Sandmire, Omro; Nate Zimdars, Ripon; and Amanda Zuehls-Kuchar, Montello.

The Leadership Institute consists of five multi-day sessions that provide hands-on learning on agriculture issues, leadership development and speaking skills, interaction with Farm Bureau and government leaders and staff at the state and national levels and networking with other participants. The class capstone event will be a trip, with the WFBF Board of Directors, to Washington, D.C., in June 2019.

Farm Bureau members interested in applying for the WFBF Leadership Institute class may contact Wendy Kannel at 608.828.5719 or wkannel@wfbf.com.

Upcoming Events

January

24 Ag Day at the Capitol, Madison

March

19 Adams County Ag in the Classroom essay contest deadline

February

3 Stompin' at the Shed Event, Oshkosh

April

5-6 IGNITE Conference, member engagement, Stevens Point