



Langlade County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation



The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation invites you to attend

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: 

Thank You to Our Sponsors:



Plan to Attend: Ag Day at the Capitol

Join us for ag day at the Capitol January 24th 2018 at the Monona Terrace Conference Center in Madison. Get out and support agriculture to your legislators! Be the voice that makes a difference!

The Langlade County Farm Bureau will cover your cost to attend this one day event.

For more information and to register, please contact Tom Houdek at 715.627.2156 or tomhoud@msn.com.

We will try to arrange for people to car pool to the event.





COUNTYnews

LANGLADE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



Langlade County Members Attend WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference

By Joe Markgraf



The YFA Conference provided many workshop choices, one popular workshop was about succession planning.

Jake Bula and I attended the YFA Conference in Wisconsin Dells and networked with multiple young farmers from throughout Wisconsin.

There were a number of workshops that were held, but one that seemed to be the most interesting for us was one about farm succes-

sion planning. In that workshop there were several young farmers who have gone through a transition of ownership of their family farm.

Each young farmer had a different transition process to accommodate the situation with their family. What we took away from that workshop is that no matter the situation there are people out there at the FSA office and in Farm Bureau who can answer questions and point you in the right direction of how to get things set up for transition before a family is forced to make changes when say a family member passes away.

Also at the convention, there were a number of motivational speakers and a comedian. Each speech was very influential to today's farmers. Today, with the way farming is and how hard it is for young people to get involved in a farm, the more help or motivation a young person can get to keep pursuing the dream of farming, is a huge benefit.

In summary, this was the first time I attended the YFA Conference and I took home some valuable information and some motivation I can pass on to individuals in our community.

Langlade County Farm Bureau Celebrates Successes during Annual Meeting



President Tom Houdek welcomed everyone to the Langlade County Farm Bureau annual meeting.



Members from Langlade County 4-H; Nick Wild and Masha Anderson talked about their experiences.



Land Conservation Department administrator Molly McKay introduced herself and talked about her new role.

The 2017 Langlade County Farm Bureau annual meeting was held on October 18 at the Fairgrounds Clover Room in Antigo. There was an excellent turnout with 41 members and guests attending. The meeting started with a delicious chicken dinner provided by Insight FS and prepared at FS Fast Stop.

Other guest speakers included members of the Langlade County 4-H; Nick Wild and Masha Anderson; as well as Land Conservation Department administrator Molly McKay.

Elections were held for Langlade County Farm Bureau directors. Directors elected were: Dick Bolen and Jim Jansen. Elected as Promotion and Education committee chair was Bev Brecklin. Elected as Young Farmer and Agriculturist committee chair was Joe Markgraf.

Elected as delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting were Dick Bolen, Tom Houdek and Joe Markgraf.

Tom Houdek presented the resolutions from the Langlade County Farm Bureau Policy Development committee meeting. The resolution that passed was: FDA should be the government agency to set all product standards in order to ensure consistency for safety, uniformity and quality.

The next Langlade County Farm Bureau annual meeting is already being planned for October 10, so please plan to join us for another enjoyable and informative evening.

Tom Houdek
Langlade County Farm Bureau president

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President's Report



The delegates elected at the Langlade County Farm Bureau annual meeting last October traveled to Wisconsin Dells in early December to represent Langlade County at the 98th WFBF Annual Meeting.

Attending and voting on Farm Bureau policy for 2018 were Joe Markgraf, Dick Bolen and Tom Houdek.

Jake Bula and Joe attended the Young Farmers and

Agriculturist Conference earlier in the week.

This year's policy, which guides Farm Bureau's legislative agenda, can be viewed at wfbf.com.

Jim Holte was re-elected president of Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation and Rural Mutual Insurance Company for his sixth, one-year term. Jim raises beef cattle and grows corn, soybeans and alfalfa on 460 acres of land near Elk Mound. Don Radtke of Merrill was re-elected to a one-year term

as vice president. Brian Preder of Weyewega was elected to a one-year term as chair of the Young Farmer and Agriculturist Committee and will be the YFA representative on the board.

Our representative on the board, Adam Kuczer from Pulaski, was not up for election this year.

Tom Houdek
Langlade County Farm Bureau President

District 7 Director's Report



The WFBF Annual Meeting went very well. It was great to see the quality of contestants from District 7 in Excellences of Ag and Discussion Meet.

The silent auction went over well and thank you to everyone who donated and bid on items. The leaders challenge fundraiser is being supported very well.

It was great to see a quality group of people graduate from the WFBF Leadership Institute and to hear the names of the new class. I'm looking forward to meeting all of you and to watch you grow with Farm Bureau.

As we begin 2018, I look forward to the events that we have coming up with Council of Presidents, Ag Day at the Capitol and the IGNITE Conference.

Everyone is invited to participate in Ag Day at the Capitol, which will be held Wednesday, January 24, at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center in Madison.

District 7 County Farm Bureaus cover the cost for members to attend this important legislative event.

For more information and possible carpooling to the event, please contact your county board members.

The same holds true for the IGNITE Conference, which will be held in Stevens Point on April 5-6. Please take advantage of this great opportunity for self-improvement.

I hope that the progress on hemp keeps moving forward swiftly. This will bring another viable industry to Wisconsin and give farmers another cash crop.

Adam Kuczer
District 7 Board of Director

District 7 YFA Report



District 7 YFA members teamed up for a game of 'Google Feud' at the district meeting during the YFA Conference. Jake Bula and Joe Markgraf (right) were part of the team 'Hat Men.'

Hello District 7 YFA members, What better way to end another great year than at the Kalahari Resorts for the YFA Conference. This year, we had more than 500 members from around the state attend. Members had the chance to win it big at casino night and helped raise an astounding \$1,111 for the WFB Foundation through the 50/50 raffle. That means one lucky YFA member also won \$1,111.

Members got to hear the story of Chris Koch, a man born with no legs or arms who learned how to farm.

District 7 YFA was well represented in contests. Congratulations to Kelly Oudenhoven and Kristi Fiedler for being selected as finalists for the Excellence in Ag Contest. Brian Feidler, Kyle Much and Jake Hoewisch did a great job representing District 7 in the Discussion Meet.

Be sure to attend the District YFA Green Bay Gamblers hockey game event. We will join District 6 on February 24 at 7:05 p.m. for hockey and the chance to meet new friends from around northeast Wisconsin.

Discounted tickets are \$16 each. In order to access this special offer, please visit www.ticketstaronline.com and enter code 'WFBF' in the promo code box. From there you will be able to select the game and then select your seat. The promo code will expire on February 17.

After the game, join us for free pizza and soda at the D2 Sports Pub Stadium District.

Brian Preder
District 7 YFA Chair

Promotion and Education Report

When you will be reading this, we will be starting a new year, 2018. We will be thinking about how we can make the new year a better one, doing our income tax prep, and then planning for another spring growing season.

We can be thinking about Farm Bureau as well during the winter months when things aren't so hectic. The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation is the largest farm organization representing farms of all sizes, commodities and management types

The Farm Bureau vision is to lead a growing and dynamic agriculture. Farm Bureau's mission is to lead the farming community through legislative representation, education, public relations, leadership development and provide its members with benefits and services.

With that said, the average age of a farmer is 59, and it is a good sign to see young people interested in farming and other ag-related fields. While today's farmers are more efficient than ever, we still need more young people to get into farming to feed our ever-growing world.

You need a lot of capital and a lot of brains to make it in farming, but it can be done. Even if you start out small, that counts. I am a big promoter of family farms. We also need more people to get involved on boards and in our

community. Sure, everyone is busy these days, but we must make time to be proactive or our voice won't be heard. There are still many people who take their food and fiber for granted.

While the U.S. suffered big losses from the hurricanes, wildfires, floods and even drought, we can be thankful in Wisconsin that our weather isn't the worst. We have tornadoes here that do some major damage, and to me it is far worse when it takes out farm buildings, livestock and crops.

Our Langlade County Farm Bureau's mission statement is to preserve and protect agriculture. We all should have a stake in this because our lives depend on it.

As we begin 2018, let's look forward and hope for the best. Be optimistic, but proceed with caution. With nuclear bombs, severe weather, terrorism and all the bad that can happen, tomorrow is not promised. May all of you have a happy, healthy and prosperous 2018. Get involved, too.

Until next time,

Bev Brecklin
Promotion and Education Committee chair

Leadership Boot Camp Series

By Katelin Steege

The WFBF Promotion and Education Committee hosted the first Leadership Boot Camp Series on November 11 at Heartland Farms in Hancock.

The boot camp focused on the very timely topic of policy development. District 7 was well represented with five members present from three different counties.

WFBF Director of Local Affairs Steve Boe led the morning program of 'Having an Influence, Making an Impact,' which focused on how to convey your message to elected officials and their staffers.

During the afternoon, Senior Director of Governmental Relations Rob Richard walked everyone through the resolution process from inception at a county meeting to being adopted as policy.

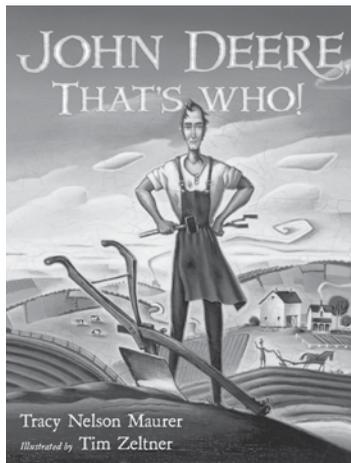
A panel of Farm Bureau leaders including Brian Preder from Waupaca County shared their experience with crafting resolutions and the policy development process at the county and state level.



Rob Richards (standing) led the policy development panel at the Promotion and Education Leadership Boot Camp.

The Promotion and Education Committee plans to continue the Leadership Boot Camp Series and move the location around the state. Some other potential topics are social media training and public speaking.

Ag in the Classroom Report By Christy Sveda-Schreiber



Happy holidays! I hope this year was a successful one. I want to give an update on the Ag in the Classroom events.

There is an essay contest based on the book, "John Deere, That's Who!" available for fourth and fifth grade students. It is about a young blacksmith from Vermont who moved to Illinois and perfected the steel plow. This helped the farmers turn over the thick, rich prairie ground.

As of now the materials are waiting on the school district's approval and hopefully by the new year, the materials will be making their way to students.

Also, we are working with Mrs. Domke, our new agriculture teacher. She is looking forward to involving her FFA students in the Feeding America day on the farm. This event will take place sometime in the spring. If you or any one you may know are interested in volunteering at this event, please contact Mrs. Domke or me.

Thank you for taking the time to read and I will keep you up to date on the many exciting ideas and projects we hope to start in the upcoming year.

Have a wonderful winter season.

Do You Know Someone Who Should Be a Farm Bureau Member?



To the right is a membership application for Wisconsin Farm Bureau. The dues in Langlade County are \$50 per membership. Below are a couple of hints for you as you go through the membership application.

1. Can my spouse and I share a membership? Yes! Each membership is one vote for the County Farm Bureau. If you and your spouse feel you can have a shared opinion on county happenings, then you can have a shared membership. If you'd rather have two votes, you would each have to buy a membership.
2. Why do you need my date of birth? Your birthday is used for the accidental death benefit that comes along with your county Farm Bureau membership. It also helps us target our Young Farmer and Agriculturalist members so that we can be sure to include them in activities that are specific to them. We won't sell it to anyone, it just helps us.
3. What is the Ag Newswire? The Ag Newswire is produced by Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation each Friday and it is a summary of agriculture news for the past week.
4. How do I know what my membership type is? A voting member is someone engaged in agricultural purposes, actively engaged in the business of producing agricultural products, owners of property where such business is conducted, or providing services to agriculture. An associate member is other persons, partnerships, unincorporated associations and corporations interested in the philosophy and objectives of this association. They can be a member and participate in the member benefits, but without the right to vote or serve as a director. Typically, Associate members are those without direct ties to agriculture, but carry a Rural Mutual Insurance policy.
5. Who is the membership worker? At Farm Bureau, we like to reward those who help us grow our membership. So, if you are giving this membership newsletter to someone in hopes that they also will join, please write your name in the membership worker blank. We'll send you \$20 for each new member that you sign up. It's a great way to be rewarded for taking time out of your day to make the visits and help us grow our membership.
6. Where do I mail my application? You can drop it in the mail to WFBF, P.O. Box 5550, Madison, WI 53705 or you can drop it off at a board member's home.
7. When should I send in my payment, when is it due? Your membership starts on the day we receive your membership application and that will remain your renewal date. So, if

you know that your cash is a little tight in the summer, but you could manage the renewal in September, send it in September. We'd be glad to have your membership anytime.



Welcome to the Farm Bureau Family

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Would you like to receive WFBF's weekly email newsletter, Ag Newswire? Yes

Would you like a Rural Mutual Insurance agent to contact you? Yes

Membership Type: Associate Voting

County of Membership: _____

Membership Worker: _____

Make checks payable to
Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation



A Voice for Farmers.
A Vision for Agriculture.®

Langlade County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Tom Houdek	715.627.2156
Vice President, Robert Fronck	715.623.2416
Secretary/Treasurer, Christy Sveda-Schreiber	715.623.7097
Promotion and Education Chair Beverly Brecklin	715.623.4153
YFA Chair, Joe Markgraf	715.216.3868
Director, Richard Bolen	715.623.6974
Director, Jake Bula	715.623.6779
Director, Darlene Eckerman	715.623.2520
Director, Mary Fronck	715.623.2416
Director, James Jansen	715.623.6261
WFBF Board Director, Adam Kuczer	920.609.0718
WFBF Promotion and Education Chair, Katelin Steege	715.2105384
WFBF YFA Chair, Brian Preder	920.851.5776
District 7 Coordinator, Wes Raddatz	866.355.7346
RMIC District Manager, Dave Meihak	715.630.4801

Langlade County Farm Bureau Is Now on Facebook

Search for 'Langlade County Farm Bureau' on Facebook and you will find the latest information and notices about events going on in Langlade County Farm Bureau.



Please 'Like' us!

Did You Know ...

In Langlade County, agriculture accounts for \$257 million in economic activity.

Humor Corner

By Wes Raddatz, District 7 Coordinator

It's great to do nothing, and then rest afterward.

Sven and Ole were out in a boat quietly fishing when suddenly Ole says, "I tink ahm gonna divorce Lena ... she ain't spoke to me in over two months."

Sven slowly scratched his chin and says, "Ya better tink it over Ole...women like dat are hard to find."

Wife: What are you doing today?
Husband: Nothing
Wife: You did that yesterday.
Husband: I'm not finished yet.

When the fortune teller broke out of prison, a news bulletin warned the public to watch out for a small medium at large.

