

# **Marinette County Farm Bureau**

PO Box 5550 Madison, WI 53705

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For information about our farm safety campaign, contact your local Rural Mutual agent.

### Rural Mutual Agents in Marinette County:

<b>Casey Boye</b> (715) 923-7708	<b>James Pickett</b> (715) 927-2122
<b>Melvin Gross</b> (920) 897-4524	<b>Chuck Reitz III -</b> District Manager

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

## Save the Date – Ag Day at the Capitol

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation invites you to attend  
**AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL**  
March 11, 2015  
Monona Terrace Convention Center • Madison, WI

<b>Schedule of Events:</b>	<b>Early Registration Deadline: March 5</b>
11:00 a.m. Registration	<b>Cost: \$25</b> per person by registration deadline.
11:30 a.m. Opening Program	<b>\$30</b> after deadline and at the door.
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:



Farm Bureau members discussed ag issues with Assemblyman Jeff Mursau (center) at a previous Ag Day at the Capitol.





# COUNTYnews

MARINETTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

## Marinette County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting By Cindi Wautier



Corey Kuchta leads the discussion of proposed resolutions at the MCFB 2014 annual meeting.



Wisconsin Secretary of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Ben Brancel was the MCFB 2014 annual meeting key note speaker.

The annual meeting held at Trade Winds Restaurant in Marinette was a success with 34 members and guests attending. The dinner was excellent and included a choice of shrimp, chicken or steak.

Affiliate Company reports were given by Chuck Reitz III of Rural Mutual Insurance and Dan Wickersheim of Frontier-Servco FS. Wayne Staidl served as emcee and Corey Kuchta conducted the policy development session of the meeting. The resolutions that were adopted were:

1. A master's degree should not be a requirement for hiring a UW Extension agent.
2. Farmer's data should be shared only with the farmer's approval, including images taken by drones.
3. Accepted industry farming practice standards should be

- approved and recognized nationwide.
4. EPA regulation should be limited to navigable waterways not "all waters of the U.S."
5. Propane exports should be contingent on supplies across the U.S.

Directors elected for this year were Tom Boehmke, Dan Klimek, Jerry Rogge, Amanda Staidl, Ryan Staidl, Wayne Staidl, Karl Stibbe and myself.

Wisconsin Secretary of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Ben Brancel concluded the evening as the keynote speaker. He shared news from DATCP and provided a light hearted discussion of the issues that face Wisconsin agriculture.

## Fall Ag in the Classroom Visits

By Amanda Staidl

In October, I visited the first and second grade students at Saint Thomas Aquinas Academy for the Marinette County Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom (AITC) program. I read one of our AITC resource library books *How Did That Get in My Lunchbox?*

After listening to the story, the students did an activity called "Taste of Wisconsin," where I provided different samples of food made using products grown or produced in Wisconsin, i.e., corn flakes, cranberries and chocolate milk.

I talked about healthy eating and explained the food pyramid and My Plate dietary guidelines. I also did another activity using beads in different colors for different food groups and how many of each should be eaten each day. The students had a lot of fun and invited me to come back in the spring and do some more fun and educational projects.



Amanda Staidl and some of the students from Saint Thomas Aquinas Academy showing their My Plate bead bracelets.

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## President's Report



Marinette County Farm Bureau held its annual meeting in October. Many attended and there were good discussions about the resolutions brought up during the meeting.

In December, the WFBF Annual Meeting was held at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells. We had an excellent turnout this year for the Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) Convention and Annual Meeting.

Corey Kutcha, Dan Klimek and I represented Marinette County as delegates at this year's WFBF Annual Meeting.

Remember that Wednesday, **March 11**, is Ag Day at the Capitol. A legislative briefing and luncheon are held at the Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison prior to attendees visiting our local legislators in their Capitol offices.

MCFB will cover the cost of the event. If you are interested in attending, please contact me at 715.582.0928.

**Ryan Staidl**  
Marinette County Farm Bureau President

## 5 for Farming's Future

Five dollars cannot buy much anymore.

That is, unless we're talking about the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation; then \$5 can make a huge impact.

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation provides the funding for the Ag in the Classroom program, collegiate Farm Bureau chapters at three Wisconsin universities, Farm Bureau's leadership Institute, as well as the Women's and Young Farmer and Agriculturist programs.

Keeping these programs financially viable is critical to growing future farm leaders and educating consumers about agriculture. To help fund the Foundation, in 2015 you will notice a \$5 voluntary contribution line-item for the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation on your Farm Bureau dues renewal statement or Rural Mutual Insurance bill. We hope you'll view this as an investment in farming's future and choose to make a contribution.

### Why is this necessary?

Aside from contributions from generous supporters, the Foundation has traditionally relied on two

annual fundraisers: the Wisconsin Ag Open golf outing and a silent auction at the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting. Programs like Ag in the Classroom and the Young Farmer and Agriculturist Program were moved under the Foundation's umbrella a few years ago.

While this has provided a tremendous cost savings to our bottom line, it also means that additional funds are needed to keep these programs sustainable.

We in the agricultural community have always seen the importance of growing our future.

Moving forward, we want young students to know that farmers grow their food. We want college students from all backgrounds to see agriculture's opportunities. We need to help grow the next crop of agricultural leaders and help Farm Bureau members find their voice. The Foundation and this \$5 contribution is our vehicle to make these things happen.

### In closing, we are asking you to:

**GIVE** to a way of life you love.

**ENRICH** the education of young people through agricultural education.

**PLEDGE** to get young people started in agriculture.

**COMMIT** to tomorrow's leaders.

**INVEST** in the future of farming.

## Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit March 13-14



Women from the Wisconsin agriculture community are encouraged to attend the annual Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit at the Madison Marriott West in Middleton. The Wisconsin

Ag Women's Summit is presented by Badgerland Financial, Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation and University of Wisconsin-Extension. The purpose of the Wisconsin Ag Women's Summit is to connect women involved in all areas of Wisconsin's diverse agriculture community.

Go to [wfbf.com/programsevents/womens-program/wisconsin-ag-womens-summit](http://wfbf.com/programsevents/womens-program/wisconsin-ag-womens-summit) for the full schedule of events

Register online by going to [wiagwomenssummit.wordpress.com/register](http://wiagwomenssummit.wordpress.com/register).

## Ag Adventures By Cindi Wautier

This Spring will be the first Ag Adventures event in Coleman with all of the local schools touring our Ag Adventures in the school forest. There will be a petting zoo and several hands on activities teaching students about agriculture's importance to our daily lives.

More details and the date of the event are in the planning stage, so please watch for more information.

The Ag Adventures event will be a cooperative effort of the Coleman FFA and the Marinette County Farm Bureau. We welcome all ages and ag backgrounds to help at the activity stations and also to help guide the flow of students through the stations throughout the day. If you are interested in helping, please contact me at [wautier@coleman.k12.wi.us](mailto:wautier@coleman.k12.wi.us) or Farm Bureau District Coordinator, Wes Raddatz at 866.355.7346.

I'm excited to bring the adventures of agriculture to all local students.

## What is Farm Bureau?



Farm Bureau is NOT an "end" in itself. Farm Bureau IS the "means" by which you may be able to achieve the "end" that you have in mind.

Farm Bureau is the vehicle that can empower you through its resources to achieve the ideas that you wouldn't be able to or would find it much harder to accomplish on your own.

Farm Bureau's "Voice of Agriculture" slogan really means YOUR voice amplified by more than 24,000 other farmer and agriculturist member's voices statewide and by more than 5.5 million members nationwide.

There is an old ag policy saying, "Put 10 farmers in a room together and they'll never agree on anything." There may be some truth in that, but Farm Bureau provides the means through which farmers and agriculturists can find the common ground that they need (no pun intended) to be able to make things better for their farms and agri-businesses in the nation, this state, this county and their local area.

The keynote speaker during the WFBF Annual Meeting was Chad Hymas, who at 27 years of age was injured when a large square bale of hay fell on him breaking his neck. His address was entitled, "Who needs legs, when you have wings." Many of you reading this have the use of your arms and legs, and by becoming actively involved in Farm Bureau you also can have "wings."

New people, new ideas and new challenges are welcome in Farm Bureau. Farm Bureau's published vision statement is to "lead a growing and dynamic agriculture." As a member of Farm Bureau, you can help us do that!

### Wes Raddatz

WFBF District 7 Coordinator

## Rural Mutual Insurance Company Launches Farm Safety Campaign

Farming traditions run deep in the state of Wisconsin. Rural Mutual has been protecting farms across the state for more than 80 years. We also believe in protecting the families and children in our farming communities. Together we can keep Wisconsin strong and safe.

To learn more visit [www.ruralins.com/farmsafety](http://www.ruralins.com/farmsafety).

## There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

### Auto

- General Motors Discount

### Health

- ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
- Stroke Detection Plus

### Supplies and Products

- Case IH
- FS-GROWMARK Patronage
- Grainger
- Polaris
- Office Depot

### Communication

- AgriVisor
- The Country Today

### Insurance

- Rural Mutual Insurance Company
- Farm Bureau Financial Services

### Travel

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

### Financial

- AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program
- Farm Bureau Bank

### Protection

- \$500 Reward Protection Program
- Accidental Death Policy

For complete details visit [wfbf.com/benefits-membership](http://wfbf.com/benefits-membership).

## Marinette County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Ryan Staidl 715.582.0928  
 Vice President, Gerald Rogge 920.897.3788  
 Secretary/Treasurer, Tom Boehmke 715.789.2878  
 Women's Chair, Amanda Staidl 715.582.0928  
 YFA Chair, Ryan Staidl 715.582.0928

Director, Dan Klimek 715.923.8875  
 Director, Wayne Staidl 715.582.3671  
 Director, Karl Stibbe 715.923.2820  
 Director, Cindi Wautier 920.495.1389

RMIC District Manager, Chuck Reitz III 920.921.6402

The board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Pound Village Hall.

## District 7 YFA Report

2014 was another great year for the Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) program! Once again we had nearly 500 attendees at the YFA Conference at the Kalahari Resorts and Conventions in Wisconsin Dells. District 7 had 37 members attend so our goal for 2015 is to get 50 attendees. New this year was a corn hole (bean bag toss) tournament and for entertainment, the Mantz Brothers Band performed. Both were a big hit. If you know someone who is involved in the agriculture industry and is interested in Farm Bureau, encourage them to become members. Remember that if they want to attend the YFA Conference and if they have not attended before, they can apply for a Rural Mutual Insurance sponsorship for the event. This year it will be held December 4-6 at the Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells.



Tickets are on sale for the YFA Gambler Hockey Game in Green Bay on Saturday, February 28 at 7:05 p.m. Cost is \$15 per ticket. It is the Green Bay Gambler's Dairy Night so please wear your Farm Bureau or dairy shirts to help promote dairy. **Please RSVP to [kfiedler@crinet.com](mailto:kfiedler@crinet.com) or text 920.737.7640 by**

**February 14;** make checks payable to Wisconsin Farm Bureau and send to the state office.

After the hockey game, we will be going to Gallagher's Pizza, 2655 W. Mason Street, Green Bay. Food and beverages are at your cost.

Have a wonderful 2015!

**Brian and Kristi Fiedler**  
 District 7 YFA Representatives

## YFA Report

By Ryan Staidl

This winter I would like to set up a sledding and snowmobiling event and pizza party for county young farmers and agriculturists. The details of the event are not all worked out yet, so please contact me for more information if you would like to get together for some fun and networking opportunities.

Anyone who is interested in becoming the Marinette County Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Agriculturist Committee chair or has ideas for other YFA events or projects, please contact me at 715.582.0928.

## Women's Committee Report

By Amanda Staidl

The Marinette County Farm Bureau Women's Committee adopted a family for Christmas from the Marinette Salvation Army. It was a family with a mom and three children. The MCFB Women's Committee bought gifts for each family member according to their lists of needs and wants and made sure that there were presents under the tree.

## Meet Cindi Wautier



Hello all, I'm new to the Marinette County Farm Bureau Board of Directors and Ag in the Classroom - my name is Cindi Wautier. I am the Agriculture Education teacher at the only district in Marinette to have an active FFA and Ag Department, Coleman.

I grew up in Brussels surrounded by agriculture with grandparents who were sheep and dairy farmers. I was inspired through FFA in High School under the direction of Trisha Follen and have made Agriculture Education my life-long passion. "Living to serve" is my motto and now I'm ready to serve the local communities and spread the word and knowledge of agriculture.

## District 7 Board Report



My best wishes to you for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

It's a new year and with it comes a new set of challenges. Mother Nature hasn't been very kind this past year. 2014 provided many small windows of time to empty the pits, spread the fertilizer and plant the crops in between rain showers. With a cool wet fall,

harvesting was very challenging. Hopefully, 2015 will be a better year for everyone.

Ag Day at the Capitol will be held on Wednesday, March 11. It's important that farmers whether dairy, corn, beans, cranberries, beef, poultry and all others involved in agriculture, let our views be known to our assemblymen and senators. This one day carries a lot of weight throughout the year. I hope to see you there.

The Wisconsin Ag Woman's Summit is another important event that will be held March 13-14 at the Madison Marriott West. Scott Zimmer of Bridgeworks Communications will provide insight about how to communicate across generational barriers and Wisconsin dairy farmer and professional speaker, Laura Daniels will share how common items on the farm can help you get the most out of challenging days in her address, "Using Baler Twine and Barn Lime to Live a Life with Purpose."

Hope to see you at your county board meetings.

**Wayne Staidl**  
 WFBF District 7 Director

## Humor Corner

By Wes Raddatz

**In the winter the dog wears his coat.  
 In the summer he wears his coat and pants.**

**Opportunity knocks but once.  
 Temptation leans on your door bell incessantly until you answer.**

**Two blondes were going to Disneyland. They were driving on the Interstate when they saw**

**a sign that said DISNEYLAND LEFT. They started crying and went home.**

**A blonde was playing Trivial Pursuit one night. During her turn she rolled the dice and landed on Science and Nature. Her question was, "If you are in a vacuum and someone calls your name, can you hear it?" She thought for a time and then asked, "Is it on or off?"**

