



Marinette County Farm Bureau

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Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Marinette County Farm Bureau Celebrates Successes during Annual Meeting



Corey Kuchta leads the discussion of proposed resolutions at the Marinette County Farm Bureau annual meeting.

The Marinette County Farm Bureau annual meeting was held at Peppino's Restaurant in Peshtigo on October 10 with 32 members and guests attending.

The guest speaker was NBC TV 26 meteorologist Cameron Moreland, who had a bit of fun with facts about Wisconsin's special weather. Affiliate company reports were given by Tom Gustafson of Rural Mutual Insurance Company and Dan Wickersheim of Insight FS.

WFBB Board of Director Adam Kuczer discussed the upcoming Farm Bill, and WFBB Promotion and Education Committee representative, Katelin Steege, promoted the Leadership Boot Camp and the IGNITE Conference.

Marinette County Farm Bureau president Ryan Staidl conducted the meeting except Marinette County Farm Bureau Policy Development committee chair Corey Kuchta conducted the Policy Development session of the meeting.

The resolutions that were adopted were:

1. We support raising the fuel tax \$0.05/gallon if an increased percentage comes back to maintain local roads.
2. Any new regulations for water quality should pertain only to the specific areas affected by the issues that prompted the regulations.

3. We recommend setting standards for determining consistent quality for all products, i.e., organic, natural, GMO, etc.
4. We recommend using modern technologies to collect data and for acreage reporting.
5. We support legislation to change the status of wolves in the Midwest to "protected" rather than "endangered."

Directors elected for this year were: Dan Klimek, Jesse Meyer, Rhiley Peterson, Jerry Rogge, Monica Schwittay, Amanda Staidl, Ryan Staidl, Wayne Staidl, Karl Stibbe and Cindi Wautier.

Delegates elected to represent Marinette County Farm Bureau at the WFBB Annual Meeting were: Corey Kuchta, Ryan Staidl and Wayne Staidl. Cindi Wautier was elected as an alternate delegate.



President Ryan Staidl welcomed everyone to the Marinette County Farm Bureau annual meeting.



Dan Wickersheim from Insight FS updated everyone about FS products and services.



Meteorologist Cameron Moreland showed how special Wisconsin's weather is.



COUNTYnews

MARINETTE COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION



WFBF Annual Meeting Highlights By Corey Kuchta



District 7 delegates met prior to the resolutions meeting during the WFBF Annual Meeting.

On the first weekend of December, my family and I attended the 98th WFBF Annual Meeting at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells. I have attended this meeting in the past and looked forward to it again for many reasons.

Highlights always include good speakers, great awards given to many deserving people, excellent food and waterpark fun for the kids. This year was no different. First on my agenda was to be a judge for the Young Farmer and Agriculturist Discussion Meet. As a former contestant in the Discussion Meet and Excellence in Ag contests, I am always amazed at the number of great things young farmers and agriculturists are doing in the communities they live in. To learn more, visit wbf.com/programsevents/young-farmer-and-agriculturist-program. Congratulations to all of this year's winners.

The WFBF Annual Meeting kicks off on Saturday night with an Extravaganza and it's just that; great food, great networking with others, a good comedian and a cornhole tournament.

Sunday started with a great Farm Bureau led church service at the Kalahari Resorts. Then listening to the final four Discussion Meets at the collegiate and YFA levels, which always brings in a packed house and features great discussions on important agriculture topics. The Sunday brunch included Chris Koch, a great motivational speaker who was born with no arms and legs. His message was, "If I can..."

The afternoon included many breakout informational workshops including one that I found really interesting. It was on the legalization of growing hemp in Wisconsin. This was another important piece of legislation that would not have happened without the help of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau.

For more information to see if growing hemp on your farm can be profitable, visit www.legacyhemp.com.

Sunday night concluded with a great silent auction to benefit the WFB Foundation, a great meal and awards program to recognize many who are making a difference, including Bill Bruins, former WFBF President winning the Distinguished Service to Wisconsin Agriculture Award and Brown County Farmer Dan Brick from Brickstead Dairy named the 2017 Wisconsin Leopold Conservation Award Recipient.

Monday's meeting and discussion focused on 250 county Farm Bureau delegates getting together to adopt the policies that will guide the legislative agenda for the WFBF in 2018. For more information, visit wbf.com/governmentrelations/policydevelopment.

Of course, the highlight for my kids is to enjoy time in the waterpark while I am away at meetings or talking farming with other Farm Bureau members.

It is a great opportunity to see the great things that Farm Bureau is doing for supporting Wisconsin farmers and their members. It is a great opportunity to network with many people who have a passion for farming and are optimistic about what the future holds.

For more information on the WFBF Annual Meeting or what Farm Bureau can do for you, please contact me at cjkuchta@wisconsinpublicservice.com.

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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 Govern-

mental 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.

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.



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

President's Report



This year was an average at the fair, which was good considering the cold rain Saturday and Sunday. We held the fair workers banquet and Christmas party on December 10, ate pizza and then played games.

We had a good turn out this year at the

Marinette County Farm Bureau annual meeting. Cameron Moreland was our guest speaker; he spoke about weather in Wisconsin and the Midwest.

Jesse Meyer and Rhiley Peterson attended and they agreed to become co-chairs of the

YFA committee. Wayne Staidl, Corey Kutcha and Cindi Wautier represented Marinette County at the WFBF Annual Meeting.

Ryan Staidl
Marinette County Farm Bureau president



Fair stand workers appreciation party.

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 YFA Report



District 7 YFA members teamed up for a game of "Google Feud" as an ice breaker at the district meeting the first night of the conference.

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

YFA Report

By Jesse Meyer and Rhiley Peterson

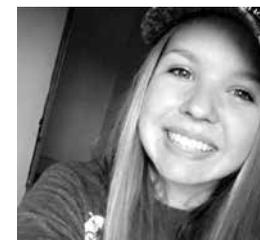


Rhiley Peterson: Co-vice president of the Coleman FFA Chapter and co-chair for YFA.

I'm 17 and a junior in high school. In my spare time I like to:

spend time with my cats, work on FFA stuff and help on my mom's boyfriend's family farm.

Things I hope to help and accomplish with YFA are: Getting more young farmers involved, hopefully setting up some successful activities for members, and helping inform people about what Farm Bureau is and what we do.



Jesse Meyer: Co-vice president of the Coleman FFA Chapter and co-chair for the YFA.

I'm 16 years old and a junior in high school. In my

spare time I like to: Work on my family's dairy farm and participate in planning and executing FFA activities.

Things I hope to accomplish with YFA are: Making an activity for the community to get more young farmers involved, such as a cookout this summer or a snowmobile party this winter.

Succession Planning Workshop Hosted

On November 8, the Oconto County and Marinette County Farm Bureaus and Rural Mutual Insurance agents Casey Boye and Jim Pickett hosted a farm succession planning workshop at Romy's Holiday Inn in Kelly Lake.

The 21 members in attendance heard from estate attorney Richard Bollenbeck, financial advisor David McNurlen and Oconto UW

Extension agent Sarah Mills-Lloyd about how to successfully transfer their farms to the next generation.

If you weren't able to attend but want information on the subject, please contact Casey Boye at 920.835.2161 or cboye@ruralins.com or Jim Pickett at 715.927.2122 or jpickett@ruralins.com.



Attorney Richard Bollenbeck explained what to be aware of when doing estate planning.



David McNurlen, Farm Bureau Financial Services regional financial consultant, gave examples of ways to transfer an estate equitably while preserving the family farm.



Oconto UW Extension agent Sarah Mills-Lloyd offered suggestions for how to initiate the planning necessary to successfully transfer the farm to the next generation.

Ag in the Classroom Report

By Cindi Wautier

This year, Ag Venture Day will take place again at Coleman School on May 9 with the help of Coleman FFA students. Last year the event reached more than 320 pre-kindergarten through fifth grade students.

In keeping with the theme of the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom book of the year, "John Deere, That's Who!," the focus of the Ag Venture Day will be advancements to the ag industry with the help of inventions. So, we will focus on changes in tractor and plow technology over the years, irrigation systems, farrier equipment, etc. The topics will be horticulture, tractor and plow advancements, specialty animal care procedures: Shearing and hoof clipping and a petting zoo.

If you want to volunteer at this amazing event, contact me at wautier@coleman.k12.wi.us.



Coleman Elementary School students watched a demonstration about cranberry harvesting at last year's Ag Venture Day.

There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

Financial

- AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program
- Farm Bureau Bank

Supplies and Products

- John Deere's GreenFleet™ Loyalty Rewards Program (NEW)
- Case IH
- Caterpillar
- FS-GROWMARK Patronage
- Grainger
- Office Depot

Communication

- AgriVisor
- The Country Today

Insurance

- Rural Mutual Insurance Company
- Farm Bureau Financial Services

Protection

- \$500 Reward Protection Program
- Accidental Death Policy

Health

- ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card
- Life Line (NEW)

Travel

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

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

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 Marinette 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.®

Marinette County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Ryan Staidl 715.582.0928
Vice President, Wayne Staidl 715.582.3671
Secretary/Treasurer, Cindi Wautier 920.495.1389
Promotion & Education Chair,
Amanda Staidl 715.582.0928
YFA Co-Chairs
Jesse Meyer 920.373.5526
Rhiley Peterson 715.923.4156

Director, Dan Klimek 715.923.8875
Director, Gerald Rogge 920.897.3297
Director, Monica Schwittay 715.582.3211
Director, Karl Stibbe 715.923.2820

Marinette County Farm Bureau 888.377.0380
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,
Chuck McDaniel 920.572.9122

Plan to Attend: IGNITE Conference

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

The purpose is to strengthen county leaders and Farm Bureaus by providing programs, resources and skills to carry out the mission of county Farm Bureaus.

More than 20 workshops will be offered following four training tracks including: governance and organization, building Farm Bureau, communicating for agriculture and Farm Bureau and policy, issues and advocacy.

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.

