



# Barron County Farm Bureau

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## Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

# Barron County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

**Date:** Saturday, September 22

**Time:** 11:30 a.m. - Farm Tour and Registration  
Noon - Meal

1 p.m. - Business Meeting

**Location:** Broker Farms, 1747 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Rice Lake

**Cost:** FREE

It's time, once again, for our Barron County Farm Bureau annual meeting. We thank Broker Farms for hosting our 2018 Barron County annual meeting this year. A picnic lunch will be served beginning at noon with the annual meeting at 1 p.m.

Fred and Kathy, and Mike and Cindy Broker milk 150 cows twice a day and have recently updated their facilities going from a double six to a swing-12 parlor. They also added a heifer shed as well as transition pens to their freestall. If you want to tour the recent work, you may arrive at 11:30 a.m., entering the east driveway at 1747 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Rice Lake (parents will need to be responsible for their children).

As always, the focus of the annual meeting will be passage of county resolutions for consideration at the WFBF Annual Meeting and electing board members as well as delegates to the WFBF Annual Meeting in December.

To adequately plan enough food, we request that you RSVP by **September 15** to Karyn's cell at 715.790.7203, call or text. The meeting should conclude by 3 p.m. ... in fact, Fred says anyone still around at 4 p.m. will be given a job.

See you at the Broker's farm on **Saturday, September 22**, rain or shine. We will be under a tent, so dress accordingly.



## Another Watershed Moment

The Farmers of the Barron County Watersheds want to make you aware of an educational opportunity regarding water and soil quality.

Barron County Natural Resources Conservation Service is hosting a field day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on **Thursday, September 13**, at the Richard Busch farm, 2416 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Chetek. **Directions:** From Cameron: Go east on Highway 8, then south on 23<sup>rd</sup> Street and follow the signs. From Chetek: Go north on Highway M, then west on 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue and follow the signs.

Kevin Masarik, a groundwater specialist with UW-Stevens Point will present the basic facts on groundwater aquifers, groundwater discharge and recharge and the sustainability of Wisconsin's groundwater.

Richard Busch will demonstrate his irrigation system

Pat Richter will discuss programs designed to protect groundwater.

Farmers of the Barron County Watersheds have recently applied to DATCP for the 2019 watershed grants.



## Welcome New Barron County Members

Andre Abraham, Nichole Amborn, Robert Begley, James Koepke\*, Nicky Repka, Midge Rust, Alex Sweeney, Brenda Trisler, Town of Clinton\* and Loren Wiesner\*.

\*Denotes voting membership.



# COUNTYnews

BARRON COUNTY FARM BUREAU EDITION

## Policy Development: Grassroots Work at Its Best

Members from across northwestern Wisconsin came together for their voices to be heard on policy decisions at the District 9 Policy Development Meeting held in Menomonie at the Stout Ale House on August 1.

The purpose of the meeting was to develop resolutions that will be discussed and possibly proposed within each county Farm Bureau. WFBF President and District 9 Director Jim Holte as well as WFBF Executive Director of Government Relations Paul Zimmerman were on hand to assist with the discussion.

Nearly 70 members from Barron, Dunn, Pierce, Polk, Rusk, Sawyer and St. Croix counties were in attendance.

Some of the topics that were included in policy discussion were dairy, UW-Extension, wildlife, fuel tax, CAFO permitting, agriculture markets, advocating for agriculture and food security.

As a grassroots organization, it is Farm Bureau's members on the county level who create and set the policy goals of the state's leading farm organization.

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau is often asked to get involved in issues affecting production agriculture and rural Wisconsin both in Madison and Washington, D.C.

This fall, Farm Bureau members across the state will be voting on resolutions that cover issues at county Annual Meetings and forwarding them on to be discussed at the WFBF Annual Meeting in December.

**Do you have a topic that you would like brought up? Either contact one of your Barron County Farm Bureau board members or attend the Barron County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 22.**



Farm Bureau members came together to discuss issues important to farmers and agriculturists in northwestern Wisconsin.

## Thank You for Helping Make the Farm Bureau Food Stand a Success

Barron County Farm Bureau's largest revenue comes from the food stand at the Barron County Fair.

It enables us to fund Ag in the Classroom activities, send FFA members to leadership conferences, provide scholarships to youth and do the many consumer education activities we undertake throughout the year.

thank  
you!

The Farm Bureau food stand at the Barron County Fair is the financial source for all we can accomplish throughout the year, and it would not be possible without members volunteering to work. It was our best year to date selling out of curds, potatoes and BBQ bison.

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers for making the food stand a success:

An extra thank you to the Witscher boys for wrapping the potatoes.

I'm sure all will agree, it really is a great time to connect with old and make new friends while promoting the great agriculture products Barron County has to offer.

We hope you had fun at the Barron County Fair and we look forward to seeing you next year.

## Thank You Farm Bureau Food Stand Volunteers

Cindy Broker	Craig Hamernik	Beth Thompson	Ryan Zervian
Kaitlin Hanson	Stacey Witscher	Nate Kringle	Jacob Pintens
Sara Matthison	Jamie Riebe	Dan Rippliner	Bruce Hanson
Logan Dwyer	Amber Dwyer	Jim Ruel	Phil Henkel
Mike Gargulak	Paul Millerman	Josh Millerman	George and Jane Busse
Sam Olson	Brittany Olson	Joe Braml	Jack Braml
Roberta Braml	Ginger James	Julie Wadzinski	Brad Nevin
Cindy Nevin	Trevor Kodesh	Kathy Splett	Cathy Solum
Katie Mattison	Rural Mutual agents: Eva Curtis and Greg Hayes		



It takes a lot of volunteer help to make the food stand at the Barron County Fair a success. Farm Bureau members Joe Braml, Ginger James (soon to be Braml), Sam Olso, Brittany Olson, Julie and Brian Wadzinski and Karyn Schauf posed for a photo while volunteering at the food stand during the Barron County Fair.

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## President's Message



Greetings!

I hope you receive this in time to mark **Saturday, September 22** on your calendar. It's an important day in our organization, our annual meeting, one of the real opportunities for you to affect your future by bringing and sending forward resolutions regarding the issues facing us.

I can't stress enough how important I think this is to each of you especially in this time when it is so financially difficult for many of our members. So, please, plan to attend. Speak up and get involved.

Many of our members have spent this spring and summer attending meetings, traveling to as well as taking part via the internet trying to learn all we can about the current issues.

It takes that serious, intentional investment of thought and time to converse, share and learn from each other to develop the best solution and I appreciate all who have put forth the effort. AND may I say, we need to work together.

There were several Farm Bureau members who attended the Farmers Union picnic on August 5

with Ken Heiman of Nasonville Dairy speaking on adding value to your milk. It was very interesting.

So, September 22. Mark that important day on your calendar and take part in the annual meeting. Hope to see you at Brokers! Maybe I'll share my birthday cake as dessert.

**Karyn Schauf**  
Barron County Farm Bureau president

## For the Good of the Cause: Washington, D.C., Fly-In

By Julie Wadzinski, Barron County Farm Bureau Member and District 9 YFA Chair



On June 4-8, Farm Bureau young farmer leaders traveled to Washington, D.C. Julie Wadzinski, Barron County, and Andrew Winiarczyk, Sawyer County, were among the attendees.

My county Farm Bureau president, Karyn Schauf, said at a county annual meeting several years ago, "We all need to take our turn."

That simple sentence has resonated with me. Certain things, like talking to representatives and legislators, can be uncomfortable. For some of us, it is a new experience and that can be scary. For some, we might be intimidated by their titles. I know that without my Farm Bureau training and the organizing efforts of the Farm Bureau staff, I would be hard pressed to

work up the courage to talk to them about issues near and dear to my heart.

This past June, I traveled with other Farm Bureau members to D.C. The trip was phenomenal. We were briefed on Federal issues, had appointments with our representatives and met with Senators as a group, toured and were briefed by USDA officials and learned the importance of trade at the New Zealand Embassy.

When it came time to meet with Representative Sean Duffy, I was a nervous rambling wreck. President Jim Holte soothed nerves with a humorous balm, "Remember, they put their pants on in the morning the same way that you do, one leg at a time."

When the moment of truth came, Representative Duffy and I shared a laugh over the circumstances behind my knee injury. A dancing accident as it were. After the initial laugh, talking about tough topics like NAFTA, immigration, Farm Bill and the wolf status on the Endangered Species list was much like talking with a friend over coffee.

After the important work was done we did a night tour of the monuments with stirring stories shared by our tour guide Steve



Kline, something struck me as I looked at the faces of Vietnam Women's Memorial. We all need to take our turn, be uncomfortable and do the work for the good of the cause.

Washington, D.C., has immortalized great leaders and common folks who sacrificed, for the good of the cause.

They took their turn, and I challenge you to take yours.

## Outstanding Young Farmer and Agriculturist Discussion Meet Held

The District 9 Young Farmer and Agriculturist Discussion Meet was held on August 1 at the Stout Ale House in Menomonie in conjunction with the District Policy Development Meet.

The question that participants discussed was: **As the Voice of Agriculture, how can Farm Bureau be more inclusive of all agriculture and production practices? This includes, but is not limited to, women in agriculture, organic production, fresh produce, forestry and aquaculture.**

Farm Bureau's strength depends on its members' ability to analyze agricultural issues and decide on solutions that best meet their needs. The Discussion Meet is an activity designed to build these crucial skills in young farmers and agriculturists.

By participating, members build basic discussion skills, develop a keen understanding of important agricultural issues and explore how groups can pool knowledge to reach consensus and solve problems.

The YFA Discussion Meet gives young members a chance to demonstrate their speaking skills on agricultural-related topics. Contestants are judged on their problem-solving skills as they discuss timely topics with their colleagues.

Each of WFBF's nine districts holds a district meet competition late summer or fall.

Three contestants from each district move on to the state competition at the YFA Conference in the Wisconsin Dells in December.



Congratulations to Isaac Christenson, Laura Benitz and Nathan Kringle who will represent District 9 in December.



Contestants for the District 9 Discussion Meet including: (from left) Jenna Behrends, Rusk County; Isaac Christianson, Polk County; Kirsten Konder, St. Croix County; Nathan Kringle, Barron County; Lauren McCann, Barron County; Lexi DuSell, Barron County; and Laura Benitz, Pierce County.

## Farm Bureau Announces New Benefit with Six Flags®

Wisconsin Farm Bureau members can now take advantage of discounted tickets at Six Flags® Great America, an amusement park in Gurnee, Illinois.

Members will save nearly 40 percent off a regular admission ticket during the 2018 regular season. The discounted tickets are an added value of a Farm Bureau membership.

"We are excited to add this family-fun benefit to the line up of discounts and offers already available to our members," Wisconsin Farm Bureau President Jim Holte said.

To learn more about the amusement park visit [sixflags.com/greatamerica](http://sixflags.com/greatamerica).

Member can get more information about the new benefit or learn more about other discounts and incentives by visiting [wfbf.com/membership/member-benefits](http://wfbf.com/membership/member-benefits).



## There are Benefits to Your Farm Bureau Membership:

<b>Financial</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AgriPlan Medical Reimbursement Program</li> <li>• Farm Bureau Bank</li> </ul>	<b>Communication</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AgriVisor</li> <li>• The Country Today</li> </ul>	<b>Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ScriptSave® Prescription Drug Savings Card</li> <li>• Life Line</li> </ul>
<b>Supplies and Products</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Deere's GreenFleet™ Loyalty Rewards Program</li> <li>• Case IH</li> <li>• Caterpillar</li> <li>• FS-GROWMARK Patronage</li> <li>• Grainger</li> <li>• Office Depot</li> </ul>	<b>Insurance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rural Mutual Insurance Company</li> <li>• Farm Bureau Financial Services</li> </ul>	<b>Travel</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AAA</li> <li>• AVIS Car Rental Discount Program</li> <li>• Budget</li> <li>• Choice Hotels International, Inc.</li> <li>• Wyndham Hotel Group</li> </ul>
	<b>Protection</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$500 Reward Protection Program</li> <li>• Accidental Death Policy</li> </ul>	

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

## New Ag Promotion and Education Conference Slated for March 2019

# SAVE THE DATE

New in 2019  
Ag LEAD Summit

Hosted by

## March 8-9, 2019

Appleton, Wisconsin

Ag LEAD

summit

LEADERSHIP • ENGAGEMENT • ADVOCACY • DEVELOPMENT

On March 8-9, 2019, Wisconsin Farm Bureau will host a new agricultural promotion and education summit in Appleton. The Ag LEAD Summit will give attendees the opportunity to learn more about tools, resources, ideas and best practices when advocating for agriculture and conducting promotional events. The summit is being coordinated by WFBF's Promotion and Education Committee whose mission is to build awareness and understanding of agriculture and provide leadership development for the agricultural community.

"The Ag LEAD Summit is the first of its kind hosted by our committee," WFBF Promotion and Education Committee chair Andrea Brossard said. "This event will be open to Farm Bureau members and non-members. We want everyone to come together with the goal of engaging with consumers."

The conference will be broken into four tracks: Leading Your Own Self Development, Engaging Consumers, Advocating for Agriculture and Developing Agribusinesses. Registration for this event is open to current Farm Bureau members and non-members. Registration information, hotel accommodations and a tentative agenda for the conference will be available in November. Watch [www.wfbf.com](http://www.wfbf.com) for updates.

Rural Mutual Insurance Company is a co-sponsor of the Ag LEAD Summit. The summit is scheduled to take place on a biennial basis.

## Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Requests Centennial Stories

In 2019, Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation will be celebrating 100 years as a grassroots organization. As part of the celebration, which will officially kick off in December at the 2018 WFBF Annual Meeting, the Centennial Committee is collecting stories.

Whether you met your spouse through Farm Bureau or recently joined and attended a Young Farmer and Agriculturist event, all stories are welcomed.

After stories are submitted a committee member will follow up to select how the story might be highlighted or used in the celebration.

Farm Bureau members past and present can submit their stories via a Google form found at <http://bit.ly/SubmitAFarmBureauStory>. You can email your story to: [wfbf100@wfbf.com](mailto:wfbf100@wfbf.com) or mail items to Attn.: Centennial Committee, P.O. Box 5550, Madison, WI 53705.

The goal of the WFBF Centennial Committee is to share at least 100 Farm Bureau stories during the centennial year.



## Barron County Farm Bureau Contacts:

President, Karyn Schauf	715.790.7203
Vice President, Trevor Kodesh	715.931.7490
Secretary/Treasurer, Teresa Marker	715.829.5584
YFA Chair, Joe Braml	715.495.5706
Director, Craig Hamernik	715.418.0053
Director, Nate Kringle	715.418.0536
Director, Samuel Olson	715.837.1861
Director, Dan Ripplinger	715.296.4176
Barron County Farm Bureau	877.483.5447
WFBF Board Director, Jim Holte	715.835.6708
District 9 YFA Chair, Julie Wadzinski	715.432.8740
District 9 Promotion and Education Chair, Kay Gilbertson	715.271.8141
District 9 Coordinator, Katie Mattison	866.355.7349
RMIC District Manager, Laurie Peterson	608.347.0383

'Like' Barron County Farm Bureau on Facebook.



## SAVE THE DATE!

conference

Milwaukee 2019

Brought to you by American Farm Bureau

March 15-18

Wisconsin Center

Engaging Speakers

Network with Farm Bureau members from across the U.S.

Tours

Hands-on Learning Sessions

Entertainment & Fun!

### Details:

- The conference will bring together volunteers from Promotion & Education, Women's Leadership & Young Farmers & Ranchers
- Early registration will be \$285/person
- Rooms will be available at the Hilton Milwaukee Center (\$145/night) and the Hyatt Regency Milwaukee (\$142/night)

### Sponsorships:

- The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation will provide sponsorship for registration fees (\$285) for members to attend. Sponsorship applications are due on December 10, 2018. The number of sponsorships available will be based upon funds raised from the 50/50 raffle at the 2018 WFBF YFA Conference and Annual Meeting.

Apply today at <http://bit.ly/fusionsponsorship>

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Free, Confidential Assistance  
Hours: 7:45 am - 4:30 pm | Monday - Friday

### NEED TO TALK?

Are you struggling with making payments, feeling stressed or just worried you have no one to turn to for help?

CALL: 1-800-942-2474  
EMAIL: [FARMCENTER@WISCONSIN.GOV](mailto:FARMCENTER@WISCONSIN.GOV)

