

Grassroots

District 6 News

District 6 Director Report



Rosie Lisowe

WFBF District 6 Director

Writing this article was challenging, just like farming. It's difficult to find a topic that isn't beat up, muddy, or now, covered in snow.

Farmers and agriculturists are strong and passionate about what we do. I see this time and again with our members.

Recently, when a group of Farm Bureau members traveled to Washington, D.C., to advocate for Wisconsin farmers they met with Wisconsin's congressional delegation to encourage swift approval of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada agreement and emphasize the overall importance of trade for agriculture.

Our members were confident when voicing their ideas, they were engaged, and when the congressional delegation had questions, our members replied with solid answers and shared their farm stories.

In addition to trade, members talked about the need for labor reform, challenges with gray wolf population management, rural broadband coverage, the repeal of the Waters of the United States rule and the need to fund infrastructure improvements to locks and dams on the Mississippi River.

It's important for Farm Bureau members to see firsthand the strength of our organization at the national level and the impact Farm Bureau makes in federal policies.

Recent economic reports are encouraging and predict that 2020 will be a recovery year for the dairy industry after years of low prices.

An agriculture economist at UW-Madison adds that prices could reach \$19 per hundred weight in November during the always-busy holiday season. He expects prices will remain strong in 2020.

This is good news for the dairy industry and the agriculture industry, but we must keep looking for ways to be innovative, to be diligent and advocate for agriculture and continue to tell our stories to impact policies and to strengthen consumer confidence.

Thank you for your continued support of Farm Bureau and your passion for agriculture.

District 6 YFA Competition Finalists

This year, District 6 had an impressive showing for the YFA contests. Our district Discussion Meet was held in August at Pagel's Ponderosa in Kewaunee. Moving on to represent District 6 are Lauren Kostello from Manitowoc County, Erin O'Toole and Rachel Harmann from Kewaunee County.

Also, District 6 has two of the four finalists for Excellence in Agriculture. In December, Stephanie Abts from Manitowoc County and Tiffany Schneider from Calumet County will present for the judges at the Kalahari Resorts at the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference. Josh Claussen, a dairy farmer from Brown County will represent District 6 in the Achievement Award. Josh farms with his children in Denmark.

If you are interested in learning more about Discussion Meet or Excellence in Ag contests, visit wfbf.com/programs/young-farmer-and-agriculturist-program/yfa-contests or contact District 6 Coordinator Becky Salm at 920.253.5303 or bsalm@wfbf.com.



Lauren Kostello



Erin O'Toole



Rachel Harmann



Tiffany Schneider



Keith and Stephanie Abts



Josh Claussen and his children front row (from left): Isaiah and Avaiah; middle row (from left): Josiah and Isaiah.

Young Farmers and Agriculturists District Events

District 6 and 7 YFA members want to welcome you on **Friday, February 7, 2020**, for a Green Bay Gamblers hockey game vs. the Chicago Steel. Dairy night discounted tickets are available. In order to access the special offer, visit <https://fevo.me/33aQU94> and use promo code: WFB20. This offer is available until **January 31, 2020**.

After the game, join YFA members for pizza.

Promotion and Education Update



Kathy Duescher

District 6 Promotion and Education Committee Representative

It's fall, and the leaves are having a last hooray with the beautiful colors. Many growers are harvesting fruits, vegetables and grain hoping to say hooray, the harvest season is finished.

This fall, I visited six county annual meetings. Thank you to the county Promotion and Education or women's committees that work hard to share the message of where your food comes from. This year, counties provided amazing programming

through events and Ag in the Classroom activities.

The WFBF Promotion and Education Committee will host a couple of events before the end of the year.

November 16: Leadership Boot Camp at Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center in Manitowoc. Farm Bureau members from across the state gained confidence in their skills and abilities to work with the media and increased their engagement in advocating for agriculture through traditional and social media outlets.

Help us celebrate the WFBF centennial and give to those in need. We are having a food and supply drive. The goal is 10,000 items. Please consider bringing an item or sending yours with someone attending the WFBF Annual Meeting.

I will bring food drive items to Feeding America of Eastern Wisconsin. The Appleton location works with more than 200 member food pantries, shelters and meal programs throughout 27 counties in northeast Wisconsin. I hope you have a safe harvest.



Help celebrate the WFBF Centennial while giving back to those in need

Our Goal:

10,000 items

100 items for every year of Farm Bureau!

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

FOOD

- Peanut Butter
- Canned Fruit or Vegetables
- Canned Tuna
- Dry or Canned Beans

NO GLASS JARS

NON FOOD

- Diapers and Wipes
- Laundry Detergent
- Deodorant
- Toothbrushes and Toothpaste

Bring non perishable food and supply items to the WFBF Annual Meeting on Dec. 7 - 8 at the Kalahari Resorts and Convention Center in Wisconsin Dells. Donations will be collected in the Trade Show area (Africa East Ballroom).

Ag in the Classroom Book of the Year

Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom is starting the 2019-2020 school year by announcing the Book of the Year "Right This Very Minute," written by Lisl Detlefson of Wisconsin.

Each year, the Ag in the Classroom program holds an essay contest in conjunction with the book of the year for fourth- and fifth-grade students throughout the state. This year's essay contest topic is, 'How has Wisconsin agriculture affected your life today?'

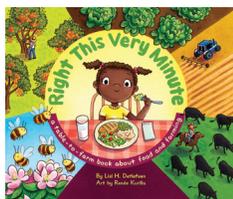
Detlefson's book also is the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture's Book of the Year and has an educator's guide developed for it. Accompanying lessons aligned to educational standards and Wisconsin educational resources are available online for teachers, students and volunteers to use in promoting and preparing essays.

"We are thrilled to have our book be written by a Wisconsin author who lives agriculture each day," said Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Coordinator Darlene Arneson. "The book looks at how agriculture affects a young child during various parts of the day. It offers ideas for students to think about their day and how agriculture affects them during mealtime, impacts the clothes they wear and the jobs around them."

Essay submissions must be 100- to 300-words in length and will be judged on content, grammar, spelling and neatness. For essay contest rules, lesson plans and sample classroom activities, visit www.wisagclassroom.org/events-activities/essay-contest. Essays are due **April 1, 2020**. The contest is sponsored by We Energies and WFB Foundation.

Nine district winners will be selected with one being chosen as the state winner in May by the WFBF Promotion and Education Committee. Each district winner will receive a classroom presentation for his or her class. Last year, more than 2,000 students participated in the contest.

If you have questions about the book or essay contest, please contact Ag in the Classroom Coordinator Darlene Arneson at darneson@wfbf.com.



District 6 Coordinator Report



Becky Salm

District 6 Coordinator

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart. -Elizabeth Andrew

At the heart of Farm Bureau is its volunteers. Board members, state and county committee members, fair food stand help, Ag in the Classroom coordinators, it takes a lot of volunteers to make our organization run

smoothly.

Volunteers give their talents not because they have the time but because they have the heart and want to contribute to something they believe in, to be a voice for farmers.

As a volunteer for Farm Bureau, the state's largest and most influential farm organization, you are a part of an organization that makes a difference in the future of agriculture. Our member volunteers do this by taking part in the policy development process that empowers our members into positive action. In addition, programs like Young Farmers and Agriculturists, Promotion and Education Committee and Ag in the Classroom provide opportunities to connect and share their stories with consumers, young and old.

Thank you for being a Farm Bureau volunteer, doing what you can for the future of agriculture and for participating in your county annual meeting and other events.

I am amazed by the accomplishments of our members. I love working alongside our amazing volunteers and I am pleased to be a part of the Farm Bureau team. Farm Bureau is the strong organization that it is because of how much you do.

Agriculture is abundant here and together we will continue to be A Voice for Farmers and A Vision for Agriculture.

Kind regards.

District Farm Bureau Members Visit Capitol Hill

Farm Bureau leaders traveled to Washington, D.C., on September 11-13, to meet with Wisconsin's congressional delegation to encourage swift approval of the U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement and emphasize the overall importance of trade for agriculture.

Each of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's nine district directors brought two members from their part of the state as part of the WFBF Leaders Fly-In. District 6 representatives include Aaron Augustine from Kewaunee County and Angie Feider from Calumet County.

"The value of the trip to Washington, D.C., was twofold; first we could witness firsthand the strength of our organization at the national level and secondly the impressive impact we make in federal government policies," said Calumet County Farm Bureau member Angie Feider.

In addition to trade, members talked about the need for labor reform, challenges with gray wolf population management, rural broadband coverage, the repeal of the Waters of the United States rule and the need to fund infrastructure improvements to locks and dams on the Mississippi River.

WFBF board directors on the trip included:



Jim Holte, Elk Mound; Dave Daniels, Union Grove; Arch Morton Jr., Janesville; Robert Nigh, Viroqua; Joe Bragger, Independence; Kevin Krentz, Berlin; Rosie Lisowe, Chilton; and Don Radtke, Merrill.

Member leaders joining the board members included: Mark Mayer, Belgium; Judy Uhlenhanke, Burlington; Galen Alwin, Prairie du Sac; Ralph Levzow, Rio; Travis Klinkner, Genoa; Laura Daniels, Cobb; Clint Sampson, Melrose; Matt Krenz, Fall Creek; Adam Jones, Wautoma; Joe Wollinger, Markesan; Aaron

Augustian, Kewaunee; Angie Feider, New Holstein; Bob Fox, Kaukauna; John Herman, Stevens Point; Carl Lippert, Pittsville; Brittany Olson, Chetek; and Dean Berseng, River Falls.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau members also met with officials from the U.S. Trade Representative's office, the Senate Agriculture Committee and the Australian Embassy.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation is the state's largest general farm organization representing farms of all sizes, types and management styles.

Save the Date



Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's

March 27-28

Marriott Madison West, Madison

Registration

Early Bird Registration through March 4, 2020: \$140

After March 4, 2020: \$175

A hotel room is not included with the registration fee, please make your reservation at:

Hotel Information

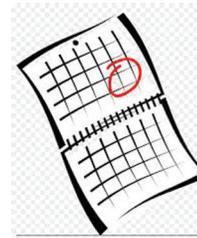
Marriott Madison West
1313 John Q. Hammons Drive
Middleton, WI 53562

Hotel Room Rate: \$139 + tax. Request the WFBF room block by March 4, 2020, to receive this rate.

Presented by:



Mark Your Calendar...



Upcoming Events

December

- 6-9 WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference, Wisconsin Dells
- 18-19 Presidents Training Seminar, Madison

January

- 17-21 AFBF Annual Convention, Austin, Texas
- 17 FFA Farm Forum early registration deadline

February

- 4 Ag Day at the Capitol
- 5 WFBF Council of Presidents Meeting
- 7 FFA Farm Forum final registration deadline
- 21-22 FFA Farm Forum, Wisconsin Rapids

March

- 1 Ag in the Classroom Matching Grant applications due
- 13-16 AFBF YF&R Conference, Louisville, Kentucky
- 27-28 WFBF IGNITE Conference, Madison
- 31 County Early Bird Bonanza membership cut-off

April

- 1 Ag in the Classroom essays due to county essay coordinators
- 4 YFA Excellence in Ag and Achievement Applications due

District 6 News

This fall was particularly hard for Manitowoc County and Sheboygan County Farm Bureaus.

The county lost long-time board members with tremendous passion for Farm Bureau. Don and Randy's commitment to the agriculture industry will be felt for years to come.



Donald Fenner

Born on August 14, 1934, in Sheboygan, Donald or Donny, as his friends called him, was the son of William and Leona (TerMaat) Fenner.

He attended Sheboygan Falls High School and then served his country in the U.S. Army from 1953 to

1956. He was stationed in Greenland and worked as a track vehicle mechanic.

After his honorable discharge, he attended Lakeshore Technical College and earned a diploma in Tool and Die Making. He worked at Polar Ware, where he also served as a union steward for many years and farmed with his father until taking over the farm in 1969.

On January 6, 1962, Donny married Marcia Melius, the love of his life. They met through 4-H at the Sheboygan Country Fair. Together they raised six children and continued to grow their herd of registered Holstein cattle.

The farm, known as Fenview Farm, was awarded the Century Farm designation while Don and Marcia lived there. Now, the farm has been in the Fenner family for 113 years, and the tradition continues with their son Dan helping with the care of the BueLingo beef herd.

Donald's passion for farming kept him active in the farm community. As a long-time member of the national, state and county Holstein Breeders Associations he served on the county board and received the National Progressive Breeders Award.

For 20 years he served on the Sheboygan County Farm Bureau board of directors and was a member of the Eastern Wisconsin Beef Promoters and Breeders Association and the BueLingo Beef Association.

He also opened his farm to the community for events such as breakfast on the farm and the Sheboygan County Twilight Meeting, featuring national farm broadcaster Orion Samuelson.

Donald will be greatly missed by everyone who knew him.

We will never forget his smile, his laugh, his pranks and his sense of humor.

Randy Geiger

Randall Andrew Geiger, age 69, of rural Reedsville, went home to our Lord after passing away on September 9 at Aurora St. Luke's Medical Center in Milwaukee.

He was surrounded by his wife of 50 years, his two children and their spouses following an 18-day hospital stay due to complications of a heart attack.

The lifelong dairyman began that final journey from earth to heaven side-raking hay on the family's 152-year-old farm. A true farmer, he left this earth with his farm boots on. A fully committed volunteer, Randy worked in the Manitowoc County Farm Bureau's food stand at the county fair just two days before Flight for Life took him to the Milwaukee hospital.

He entered this world on January 24, 1950, in Green Bay, the fifth of 13 children born to Monica (Kopidlansky) and Norbert Geiger Sr.

For two years, he attended Sacred Heart Seminary in Oneida and later graduated from Brillion High School. He earned accreditations from the Badger Business School and Fox Valley Technical Institute.

On August 1, 1969, Randy married Rosalie Pritzl at St. Mary's Church in Reedsville.

Dairyman, servant leader, mentor, family man and devout Christian described Randy's life mission.

Following his father's untimely death in 1966, Randy began a 50-year career dairy farming as he and his wife, Rosalie, bred and developed a prized herd of registered Holsteins.

In 1994, Ran-Rose Cream Spirit amassed lifetime production of 342,000 pounds or 40,700 gallons of milk and then earned the title of Wisconsin's lifetime milk production leader. Together, Spirit and her three direct maternal descendants made 1.3 million pounds or 155,000 gallons of milk. That achievement

stands in rare company in global dairy cattle breeding circles.

Following the bankruptcy of rural Brillion's Kasson Cheese plant in 1989, Randy began a crusade to find some way to help the 170 farmers who collectively lost \$2.1 million in milk check money.

After writing more than 250 letters and making phone calls to elected officials, Governor Tommy Thompson signed a bill into law in April 1991 to restore half of the money following potential state negligence in a bonding issue regarding the Kasson plant.

"If nobody says anything, nobody does anything," said Randy in a news interview after standing directly behind the Governor at the bill signing. With that foundation, Randy went on to become a visible and effective voice in local, state and national public policy, lobbying elected officials at all levels on behalf of farmers and rural residents.

Nationally, Randy lent leadership to the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board for six years and served on the Wisconsin Beef Council and Eastern Wisconsin Dairy Herd Cooperative boards until his death.

From 2008 to 2013, Randy was on the board of directors of the National Milk Producers Federation and helped guide its Environmental and Milk Marketing Committees, routinely advocating in Washington, D.C.

He also served as a director for World Dairy Expo and gave tours to school children during the international event. Randy gave guidance to the Wisconsin Dairy 2020 Task Force following an appointment by Governor Thompson.

He also served on the executive committee for the Wisconsin Agri-Business Council; was president of the Manitowoc County Holstein Breeders; was a delegate to the Cooperative Network; and its predecessor, the Wisconsin

Federation of Cooperatives; and was a board member of Lakeshore Federated Cooperative.

He served as a delegate to Equity Livestock Cooperative, AgSource Cooperative, Genex Cooperative and Northstar Select Sires.

Randy was active in the Manitowoc County and Wisconsin Farm Bureau, serving as a delegate for both and as a member of the Farm Bureau's Dairy Committee.

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Brown County Annual Meeting

There were about 55 members and guests who attended the 75th annual meeting that included elections for board of directors and WFBF Annual Meeting delegates, grassroots policy development discussion and other business items.

To celebrate the 75th annual meeting, special guests were invited. Pam Jahnke, the Farm Babe, was the master of ceremonies and Troy Streckenbach, county executive, gave a presentation of county citation.

Also present was Alice in Dairyland Abigail Martin, WFBF Vice President Kevin Krentz and WFBF Chief Executive Officer Dale Beaty.

A by-law change was passed to have the Promotion and Education chair and the YFA committee chair be appointed positions rather than elected positions.

Stan Kaczmarek was re-elected as president at the re-organization meeting following the annual meeting. Vice president is Ray Diederich, secretary/treasurer is Kim VandenAvond and Phil Ulmer was elected to make up the executive committee.

The county passed 11 state resolutions and two federal resolutions that will move on to the WFBF Policy Development Committee for consideration.

State

1. We oppose a supply management system.
2. We support revising the Federal Milk Marketing orders to include an export class of milk.
3. We support providing funding for voluntary rollover protection.
4. We recognize the need to increase transportation funds to ensure we have an adequate transportation infrastructure. A significant portion of the new funding needs to be allocated to local roads and bridges. Thus, we support any of the following revenue generators: Raising: *Fuel tax
5. We support extending weight limits that exist for milk haulers to vehicles transporting maple sap or syrup from the point of collection to production or storage. **(Transportation, Vehicle Weight)**



(from left): Ray Diederich, Kim VandenAvond, Josh Claussen, Ray Tauscher, Nicole Nohl, Abigail Martin, Stan Kaczmarek, Nicki VanDuerzen, Don VanDuerzen and Phil Ulmer.

6. We support promotion and enforcement of rural traffic laws regarding intersections. **(Transportation, Safety)**
7. We support capping the acreage for the Stewardship program. **(Land Use, Stewardship Program)**
8. We support state funding for planting of cover crops in corn silage acres in the fall.
9. We oppose municipalities special assessments for road improvements including sewer and water. **(Taxation, Special Assessments)**
10. We support increased agricultural career education through programs for school counselors/administrators. **(Education, Ag in the Classroom)**
11. We support the WFBF Board of Directors should be responsible for choosing the delegates to the AFBF Annual Meeting.

Federal

1. Crop insurance: Bring back harvest price on prevent plant.
2. We oppose the Green New Deal.

Conservation Award Presented

The 2019 Brown County Farm Bureau Conservation Award was given to Plum Pride Holsteins.

Accepting the award was Marv Biese. Marv, his wife and three kids own Plum Pride Holsteins as second generation farmers.

They milk about 500 cows and grow crops on 1,100 acres with the help of 10 full- and part-time employees.

They have invested in multiple conservation practices starting more than eight years ago including side nitrate testing, low drift nozzles, grass waterways and buffers along Plum Creek.

This year, they started some rotational grazing. Marv hasn't moldboard plowed in 30 years, he incorporates no-till and cover crops as much as possible.



Owner of Plum Pride Holsteins, Marv Biese accepted the Brown County Farm Bureau Conservation Award at the Brown County annual meeting.

Princess and Zooperhero Day Sponsored

In July, the Brown County Farm Bureau YFA committee worked with the NEW Zoo to put on the Princess and Zooperhero Day.

We celebrated National Ice Cream day by providing free ice cream to the first 1,000 visitors.

Children made their favorite princess or superhero bracelet, got temporary tattoos, posed for photos or made marshmallow shooters to take home.



A little girl enjoyed the ice cream compliments of Brown County Farm Bureau.



Children lined up to make superhero or princess bracelets and play games.

Calumet County Annual Meeting

There were about 65 members and guests who attended the county annual meeting to vote on policy to send on to the state.

Sean VanderHeiden was re-elected as president at the re-organization meeting following the county annual meeting. The vice president is Carley Blado and secretary/treasurer is Tiffany Schneider.

The county passed nine state resolutions that will move on to the WFBF Policy Development Committee for consideration.

State

1. We oppose are willing to consider a flexible supply management system. **(Dairy, Milk Production and Supply)**



(from left): Dan Kolbe, Ben Dietzen, Simon Regan, Kristin Birschbach, Tommy Kesler, Clara Hedrich, Alison Pingel, Gloria Regan, Carley Blado, Deb Calaway, Sean VanderHeiden and Tiffany Schneider.

2. We support allowing only cheese made with Wisconsin milk manufacturing in Wisconsin be labeled as "Wisconsin Cheese." **(Dairy, Labeling)**
3. We support all restaurant facilities to offer milk on their menu.
4. We support the enforcement of the law in the use of the term milk.
5. We support the enforcement of the law in the use of the term milk.
6. We support separation of the dairy based milk and plant-based drinks in the grocery coolers.
7. We support requiring all gasoline to contain 15 percent ethanol. **(Energy, Alternative Sources)**
8. We support the use of ethanol, E-85, or bio-diesel in all school buses, and all other taxpayer-supported vehicles. **(Energy, Alternative Sources)**
9. We support the ability for a legal immigrant worker to obtain a valid driver's license provided he or she meet the criteria for state driving requirements. **(Transportation, License)**



The Calumet County Farm Bureau Princess addressed the crowd at the county annual meeting.

Local

1. We support the Calumet County Ag Stewardship Alliance.

Skid Steer Olympics

This year, the Calumet County Farm Bureau YFA committee started a new program during the county fair, Skid Steer Olympics.

Participants completed a series of tasks using their operating skills of a skid steer. Several variations of skid steers were available for use as well as test driving prior to start of event courtesy of our sponsors D&D Equipment, Miller Implements and Gruetts.

Prizes were given for first, second and third place in divisions based on skid steer experience.

Watch for more information in future newsletters for next year's information.



Farm Bureau Princess Crowned

Allison Pingel was crowned the Calumet County Farm Bureau Princess at the county annual meeting.

Daughter of Tim and Dawn Pingel from Chilton, she is a freshman at Chilton High School.

Allison is active in FBLA and FFA and wants to be involved in promoting agriculture in her community.



Gloria Regan crowned the Calumet County Farm Bureau Princess as part of the county annual meeting.

Food Stand Highlights WFBF Centennial

Thank you to Betty Engel for her beautiful paintings celebrating the past, present and future of Wisconsin agriculture.

These photos were on display at the Farm Bureau food stand at the Calumet County Fair to honor Wisconsin Farm Bureau's centennial.

The fair food stand was a success. Thank you to the amazing workers who helped during Labor Day weekend. Proceeds from the fair food stand help provide for scholarships and Ag in the Classroom funds.



Year in Review

By Sean VanderHeiden, Calumet County Farm Bureau president

Last December, three delegates and other members attended the WFBF Annual Meeting at the Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells. The WFBF Annual Meeting is held with the YFA Conference.

The weekend starts with the YFA Conference where we hold the Discussion Meet. The contests are open for anyone to watch. There are seminars we attended on new products coming to the Wisconsin market.

The delegates attended the district caucus and the WFBF Policy Development Committee meeting. During these meetings, we discussed and voted on policy that we wanted to see lobbied for in our state and federal legislatures.

These meetings are extremely important because it gives the delegates a chance to see what other members within our district are thinking and for us to discuss the issues.

In March, Carley Blado and I attended the Council of Presidents. We discussed affairs affecting us in Wisconsin. Brad Pfaff introduced himself and spoke about the state of agriculture in Wisconsin. He told us his story of being raised on a small farm in rural western Wisconsin.

Our policy development meeting was held in July at the Altona in New Holstein. We had a lot of great discussions and brought forth a lot of great resolutions. The issue will be the milk quota debate that is going on. There is a lot of debate on this issue.

The decisions made about a quota system could mean the future of dairy in our state and we need to hear from everyone about it.

A resolution was put forth to oppose a quota system as discussed at our Policy Development meeting. We want to hear your opinions on this matter that is important to all of us.

We are always looking for new ideas and new people. If you or anyone you know want to attend board meetings, please contact us. Our meetings are open to any member who wants to come and participate.

If you have questions, please contact me. I am here to help you and look forward to the next year with Farm Bureau.

Thank you.

Tri-City Nights Is a Success

Calumet County Farm Bureau pulled out the stops: Petting Zoo, tractors, FREE cheese samples and more.

Calumet County worked hard to have a great night for Tri-City nights on August 2.



Door County

Door County Annual Meeting

There were about 20 members and guests who attended the county annual meeting that included elections for board of directors and delegates for the WFBF Annual Meeting, grassroots policy development discussion and other business items.

Dan Vandertie was elected as president at the re-organization meeting following the county annual meeting. The vice president is Mike Haberli, secretary is Julie Zilmer and treasurer is Nick Weldon.

The county passed one state resolution that will move on to the WFBF Policy Development Committee for consideration.

State

1. We support are willing to consider a flexible supply management system. (Dairy, Milk Production and Supply)

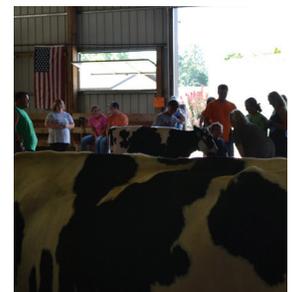
Door County Fair

Thank you to those who helped at the Door County Farm Bureau Fair food stand. The nice weather helped to make it successful.

The funds from the fair food stand are used to support the Ag in the Classroom program, high school scholarships and sponsorships throughout the county.

We are looking for new volunteers so the stand can continue to be successful. Are you part of an organization that needs donations?

If you can provide people to fill a shift, the Door County Farm Bureau will provide a donation to your organization. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Steve Baxter, fair food stand manager.



The Door County Farm Bureau sponsored the trophies for the Little Britches cattle show on Sunday afternoon.

President's Message



Brent Sinkula

Manitowoc County Farm Bureau president

With the county annual meeting completed, another year for the Manitowoc County Farm Bureau ends.

A few highlights are:

- Kelly Wilfert won the WFBF Discussion Meet and placed third at the AFBF competition
- A gain in voting membership.

- A nice year at the fair food stand (good weather and great people always help).
- Another successful breakfast on the farm, thanks especially to the Haelfrisch family for all that they did.
- A growing Kiddie Showmanship program.
- Activities that the Promotion and Education committee continue to do.

Now as we look forward, a major event is the WFBF centennial celebration during the WFBF Annual Meeting. This should prove to be a great event.

But amongst the celebration we still have the business portion on Monday. A hot button issue at the resolution meeting will be dairy supply management/growth. We as a county have had numerous discussions on the issue, yet still cannot come to a consensus. So, if any members have input, please contact a board member. We are looking for direction from our membership.

Finally, as you may have noticed, there is a change to the leadership of the organization. I want to congratulate Dan Meyer on his service as president. For those who don't know me, I have a 450-dairy cow farm in Two Creeks. I have been on the board since 1996 and yes, long-time President Roger Sinkula is my brother. He is the one who encouraged me to become a director, and I am grateful for that direction. I hope to serve you and this county well and will always listen to input of the members.

YFA Chair Update

By Stephanie Abts

Autumn greetings. This fall certainly has been a challenge if you farm, but brighter days are ahead. Once the holidays come and things slow down, be sure to count your blessings and enjoy time with family.

Since June, the YFA members have been busy with events. In June, we gathered and picked strawberries at Wilfert Farms in Two Rivers. The berries were late, but they were plentiful and abundant.

With the warm summer weather came the Manitowoc County Fair. Many YFA members served concessions in the food stand and helped in the show ring for Kiddie Showmanship.

Kiddie Showmanship had 42 participants. Thanks to those who showed and helped. We hope that the younger generation enjoys this event.

In fall, is our yearly annual meeting and get-together at the Herrmann Farm. Thank you to the Herrmann family for being generous hosts and allowing us to use their machine shed.

We enjoyed broasted chicken, potatoes, side dishes and desserts along with a bonfire and bean bag toss.

Coming up is our annual wreath sale. The wreaths are made locally by board member Kevin Sprang and his workers in Two Rivers.

The wreaths are vibrant and full and are a great way to celebrate the

Christmas season and winter. Included in this newsletter is a link to the order form. Please consider ordering one to support the YFA fundraiser.

This is our only fundraiser for the year. Orders are due by **November 30** and are delivered the second week in December. Thank you for your support.

In a few short weeks, we will travel to the WFBF Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells to help set up policy, partake in the Discussion Meet and many other events. Lauren Kostello will represent Manitowoc County in the Discussion Meet. Best of luck, Lauren.

In closing, we lost a very near and dear supporter and friend of not only the YFAs but Farm Bureau.

Randy Geiger left this world and left big shoes to fill.

Randy could always be found at a YFA event and was a big encourager of youth to stay involved in Farm Bureau.

During his hospital stay at the end of August, he was still helping us from afar with the Kiddie Showmanship event; one of his favorite events.

One line of words that he recited about the event after speaking to him about it: "You have a nice group of young kids there, very promising."

We all live a life, but we all choose how to live it, and Randy lived his to the fullest, helping others and leaving a lasting impression on those he touched.

Meet: Ross Bender, New Board Member



Tell us a about yourself. My wife (Melissa) and I, and our kids Lucas (4), Leah (2) and Logan (1 month) live in rural Cleveland. I am native to the area and we farm with my parents, Randy and

Joan Bender. Collectively we farm about 300 acres of small grains, vegetables and forages. Being a good steward of the land is important to us. We've focused on better soil drainage, fertility and reducing soil erosion during our last five years. This foundation will be critical as we target enhanced yield and profit goals in the next decade. I've learned that you don't have to

run a large farm to be proud of the operation you have, and we are certainly proud of the farm we've built. In addition to our farm, I serve as a senior agronomist for Eastern North America at The Mosaic Company. My wife serves as the director of education and programming at Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center.

What other organizations or hobbies are you involved in? In addition to spending time with my family, I enjoy personal fitness, reading and volunteering at our church (St. Johns UCC-Schwartzwald), FFA Alumni (Kiel) and Farm Bureau (Manitowoc County). I enjoy personal and professional growth activities and my role with Mosaic challenges me to think about agriculture differently as I learn from retailers and growers from eastern North America.

What is the best reason for being a Farm

Bureau member? Agriculture is challenging. It requires a degree of interdependency that is unmatched by any other industry. As it relates to Farm Bureau, no two people join for the same reason. I find the organization valuable because I can learn from my neighbors, both down the road and across the country. Part of our civic duty is to serve others. As such, I experience great joy in sharing with others what I learn from members at the countless networking events Farm Bureau offers.

What is your favorite Farm Bureau event or activity? Manitowoc County Farm Bureau Food Stand. Why? People are hungry. We have awesome food. Instant gratification provided. Proceeds support the Farm Bureau organization. Everyone leaves happy. Let us know if you want to help next year.

Update From the Promotion and Education Committee

By Cheryl Duchow and Rosalie Geiger, Promotion and Education Committee co-chairs

The Manitowoc County Farm Bureau Promotion and Education committee has been active this spring, summer and fall.

In May, we did our beef promotion by giving consumers at Rob's Family Market, \$10 toward their beef purchases. We gave away five \$10 certificates. Coloring contests were sponsored by the committee with 126 entries in grades kindergarten through third grade. Winners were announced and prizes awarded.

Cheryl Duchow and Rosalie Geiger delivered agricultural-related books to Madison Elementary School for the library.

In June, we had gifts at each of the hospitals, for the first babies born in June.

On June 9, the Manitowoc County dairy breakfast was held at the Tom, Chris and T.J. Haelfrisch Farm near Brillion. It was a good day even though the weather was not cooperative. It was a great event with members serving 3,100

breakfasts and committee members also had a booth to promote Farm Bureau.

We selected our new Miss Farm Bureau, Allison Leschke who has done a great job at promoting Farm Bureau and agriculture throughout the county.

The Manitowoc County Fair was another event where Farm Bureau members were active.

The food stand was part of our focus on the 100th anniversary celebration of WFBF. The committee members not only worked in the booth, but we celebrated by asking customers questions about Farm Bureau. If you knew the answer, you could win a chocolate, strawberry or white milk. Members also wore their red centennial shirts while working and we had centennial signs displayed in the booth.

On October 10, the annual Farm Bureau County annual meeting was held at Meat's in St. Nazianz. We honored Michelle and Levi Bratt with a Friend of Farm Bureau award for their help with Manitowoc County Farm Bureau.

Roger Sinkula was honored for his many years of service to the Manitowoc County Farm Bureau board.

On October 17, we were notified that Manitowoc County was one of five counties selected for the Centennial Activity Award Program for our entry: Farm Bureau 100th Anniversary Trivia. In December, we will have a booth at the WFBF Annual Meeting showcasing our event and will receive \$500. Members of the committee and county will staff the booth. This is a great honor.

On November 16, several committee members attended the WFBF Leadership Boot Camp that was held at the Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center.

Wilma Rhebein is completing the Market Basket Reports for WFBF, and Alice Petermann continues to share Ag in the Classroom activities. If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact Becky Salm. We are happy to welcome you to our active committee.

Kiddie Showmanship

The 2019 Kiddie Showmanship was sponsored by the Manitowoc County Young Farmer and Agriculturist committee.

On August 25, 42 children participated.

The four classes included: Preschool, kindergarten, first grade and second grade.

Each child led a calf born between April 1 and August 15 to show his or her showmanship

skills and knowledge about showing cattle.

Judge Katelyn Allen did a great job of working with the children to increase their knowledge.



Preschool Kiddie Showmanship.



Kindergarten Kiddie Showmanship.



First Grade Kiddie Showmanship.



Second Grade Kiddie Showmanship.

Manitowoc County Annual Meeting

There were about 110 members and guests who attended the county annual meeting to hear guest speaker Discussion Meet winner Kelly Wilfert. Kelly shared her experience in competing at the AFBF Discussion Meet in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Brent Sinkula was elected president at the re-organization meeting after the county annual meeting. Vice president is Levi Bratt, secretary is Jenny Riederer, treasurer is Crystal Schleis and Delton Duchow is member-at-large to make up the executive committee.

The Friend of Farm Bureau award was presented to Levi and Michelle Bratt; Livestock Achievement award to the Haelfrisch family; Roger Sinkula received a plaque for service to Manitowoc County Farm Bureau.

The county passed four local and six state resolutions that will now move to the WFBF Policy Development committee for consideration.

Local

1. We commend Haelfrisch Dairy, Tom, Chris and TJ for hosting the 2019 Breakfast on the Farm.
2. We support enforcement of the state's noxious weed law, specifically in regard to road right of way.
3. We commend Roger Sinkula for his service of 28 years on the Manitowoc County Farm Bureau board of directors. In that time, he served 17 years as the president, the longest serving president in Manitowoc County history.
4. We commend Randy Geiger for his years of service on the Manitowoc

County Farm Bureau board of directors and his greater service to the agriculture industry.

State

1. We support legislation for a lemon law applicable to implements of husbandry. **(Transportation, Implements of Husbandry)**
2. We support inclusion of phragmites on the state's noxious weed list. **(Natural Resources, Noxious Weeds)**
3. We support requiring lending institutions and equipment dealers remove their filings from the uniform commercial code at the time the lien has been satisfied. **(Farm Finance, Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority)**
4. We support increasing truck weight limits to 98,000 pounds on six axles. **(Transportation, Vehicle Weight)**
5. We support **non-harvest** road weight limits of 23,000 **20,000** pounds per axle and 92,000 **80,000** pounds gross vehicle weight for IOH and Ag CMVs. **(Transportation, Vehicle Weight)**
6. We support the concept of credit trading and adaptive management between municipal and industrial dischargers and farmers to reduce phosphorus discharge into surface waters, provided farmers are not held liable for non-point sources out of their control. **We support existing farm conservation practices being eligible for credit trading.** **(Natural Resources, Environmental Regulations)**

Past President Article

By Dan Meyer

Thank you to those in the Farm Bureau family for making my time as Manitowoc County Farm Bureau president such a great experience. After three years in that role, I believe that it was important to step aside and encourage others to take the leadership role in our county Farm Bureau.

Congratulations to Brent Sinkula, the new board president and Levi Bratt, the new vice president.

Farm Bureau has done so much for me. I hope they are given as many great opportunities as I have had. I look forward to remaining active in Farm Bureau. Yours in Farm Bureau.

YFA Wreath Sale, Order by November 30

All proceeds go to the Manitowoc County Young Farmers and Agriculturist program and will help support the events that they participate in during the next year. All wreaths are locally made in Two Rivers by Sprang's Wreaths.

Wreaths vary in sizes from 18 to 84 inches. Also, available in cross, candy cane or roping. Orders need to be placed by **November 30**. All orders will be delivered to your home or business. Please mail your order and payment to: Manitowoc County Farm Bureau, c/o Stephanie Abts, 6409 County Road K, New Franken, WI 54229.

Your support is appreciated. If you have questions, contact Stephanie Abts at 920.973.6547. For the order form, visit wfbf.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/2019-YFA-Wreath-Sale.pdf.

Sheboygan County

Women's Committee Report

By Marcia Fenner, Sheboygan Women's Committee chair

Our women's committee received a check from the Elenore and Harold Herwig family.

After much thought our committee decided to purchase a beehive, worm garden and compost mixer for Bookworm Gardens in Sheboygan.

Each year, thousands of visitors stroll through Bookworm Gardens and will enjoy the gift from the Herwig family. A sign will indicate their donation.

The family donation also will restore the corn

crib at the Sheboygan County Historical Museum.

The Sheboygan County Farm Bureau will send another \$800 to complete the restoration job of the corn crib.

Each year, the Sheboygan County Historical Museum is visited by thousands of school children as well as general public.

Soon, we will work on 2020 Classroom on the Farm. It will be held at a farm according to the wishes of many of the schools that attend.

If you have suggestions for the committee, please let us know.



Sheboygan County Annual Meeting

There were about 50 members and guests who attended the county annual meeting to hear guest speaker Corey Geiger.

Corey shared insight into China's market for dairy and export information.

Lloyd DeRuyter was re-elected as president at the re-organization meeting after the county annual meeting. Vice president is Mark Ramel, secretary/treasurer is Mark Schleicher and John Fischer and Kathy Zimbal were elected to make up the executive committee.

Max Prange was voted to a one-year term to finish Fritz Johannig's term and Luke Gartman was voted to a one-year term to finish Don Fenner's term.

A by-law change was passed changing the board of director's terms to three years.

The county passed five state resolutions and two federal resolutions that will move on to the WFBF Policy Development committee for consideration.

State

1. We support a 1% dyed fuel tax only to be used for local roads. **(Taxation, Fuel Tax)**
2. We oppose the ability for undocumented workers to obtain a valid driver's license. **(Transportation, License)**
3. We oppose a mandatory ROP state funded grant program. **(Transportation, Safety)**
4. We ~~oppose~~ are willing to consider a supply management program. **(Dairy, Milk Production and Supply)**
5. We oppose use of "Anti-biotic free" on food labels. **(Marketing, Labeling)**

Federal

1. Any crop harvested to be fed to livestock should be included in the Market Facilitation Program, i.e., timothy grass mixed with alfalfa.
2. We support the enforcement of the law in the use of the term milk.

President's Message



Lloyd DeRuyter

Sheboygan County Farm Bureau president

Sheboygan County Farm Bureau had another successful year. We started the year at the county annual meeting with policy resolutions for WFBF and a bylaw change that reduced the size of the board. We now have nine at-large board members plus a representative of

the women's committee and the Young Farmer and Agriculture committee. As a result, we need to change our bylaws to have three-year terms and three board members elected each year.

In the spring, we had several members who traveled to Madison for Ag Day at the Capital. If you have never gone, I encourage you to attend. It is an interesting day starting with lunch and an informational meeting from WFBF and other farm organizations. Then you walk to the Capitol to meet with your state representative and state senator. We always get attention from our legislators when we meet in their offices to talk issues with them.

In April, we had a Tri-County Meeting with Manitowoc County and Calumet County. The topic was crisis management. We had speakers on working with media if there was a disaster on your farm, i.e., a manure or chemical spill. Also, there was information on hiring workers.

This year for our Ag Day on the Farm we did something different. We paid for the students from the schools that participated to go to Farm Wisconsin Discovery Center, the farm exhibition near Newton; however, the consensus of the teachers was that they prefer it on the farm as we did in the past.

In August, we wanted to acknowledge the dairy farmers in the county who are having a tough time for the last few years but are still hanging in there and milking cows.

In appreciation for their work, Sheboygan County Farm Bureau gave them a pair of Farm Bureau gloves and a dessert at the food stand. I want to thank those who worked at the food stand. This is our major fundraiser and allows us to give several scholarships and do our programs throughout the year.

Meet New Board Member Luke Gartman

Tell us about yourself. Currently, I am farming on our family dairy farm. We milk 120 cows and grow crops on 600 acres. My wife, Liz, is an ag instructor at Lakeshore Technical College and we have three children, Alison, Leo and Brianna. We also have a beef herd and the kids are involved in the beef, dairy and poultry projects through Sheboygan County 4-H.

What other organizations or hobbies are you involved in? I enjoy raising and showing beef and dairy cattle with our kids through 4-H, I'm a member of the Sheboygan County Fair Board, past president of the Sheboygan County Holstein Association. In my spare time, I like to work on old tractors and small engines, and I enjoy woodworking.

What is the best reason for being a Farm Bureau member? I always enjoy networking and learning from other Farm Bureau members, and the insight I gain about the agriculture industry has been eye opening for me.

What is your favorite Farm Bureau event or activity? In my younger days, I always enjoyed the YFA activities we participated in state-wide as well as attending the WFBF Annual Meeting.



County Fair Food Stand Is a Success

The 2019 County Fair food stand was a success with some great weather during the weekend.

Thank you to those who helped at the food stand and those who stopped to patronize the stand.

This fundraiser allows the Farm Bureau to sponsor students to the FFA Farm Forum, sponsor 1,000 students to see a farm as part of the Classroom on the Farm program, provides scholarships to area high school students and so much more.



The Zimbal family posed with their Swiss foreign exchange student, Ceiale, who worked with her host family and filled cream puffs during the Sheboygan County Fair.

**This Issue Contains
Highlights for:**

Brown County

Calumet County

Door County

Manitowoc County

Sheboygan County

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