



Grassroots

District 1 News

COVID Doesn't Discriminate

Patti Wilhelme

WFBF District 1 Coordinator

Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would miss the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference because of COVID. Just days prior to the meeting both my husband and I tested positive, meaning that we would be on quarantine through the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference, and nearly until my family's Christmas that was celebrated on Dec. 19.

I want to thank everyone from District 1 who attended the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference. I thank you for sending me photos and newsletter articles, and for keeping me updated throughout the weekend making me feel like I was there. Based on the photos and from

those who I have talked to, it was a huge success.

Because of not having an in-person meeting last year, I was really looking forward to seeing everyone's smiling faces and catching up with you, our members. It seems like it has been forever since I have seen everyone, so the countdown has begun until I get to see you at next year's meeting, if not before at county events or your county annual meeting.

During my quarantine I've had a lot of time to think, as you can imagine. One thing I've realized is unfortunately, COVID doesn't discriminate. The virus doesn't care if you are vaccinated or not. It doesn't care if you are young or old, male or female. At first when COVID started, I didn't know many people who had it. As time has gone on, it seems that so many more people that I know have gotten COVID or are thankfully recovering from COVID.

I hope you stay healthy and remember ... test negative, stay positive.



The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation invites you to attend

AG DAY AT THE CAPITOL

Wednesday, January 26, 2022

Monona Terrace Convention Center • Madison, WI

Early Registration Deadline: January 19

Cost: \$30 per person by registration deadline.

\$60 after deadline and at the door.

Tentative Schedule of Events:

- 11:00 a.m. Registration
- 11:30 a.m. Opening Program
- 12:15 a.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Legislative Briefing
- 3:00 p.m. Leave for Capitol Visits

If you are interested in attending, RSVP by Jan. 19 to District 1 Coordinator Patti Wilhelme at pwilhelme@wfbf.com or 262.689.1838.

The 3 p.m. meetings at the Capitol have been scheduled for each county.

Ozaukee/Washington counties: Room 328NW

Racine/Kenosha counties: Room 300NE

Jefferson, Walworth and Waukesha counties: Room 225NW

Presented by: Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation

Thank You to Our Sponsors:



Due to Dane County ordinances for COVID-19 mitigation, masks and other provisions may be required for this event and details are subject to change.

Members Gathered at the Kalahari



Dave Daniels

WFBF District 1 Director and Vice President

Hello, District 1 Farm Bureau members, It happened. We had an in-person annual meeting at the Kalahari Resorts and Convention Center in Wisconsin Dells. We had a very good turn out and completed the business and policy meetings. If you weren't a delegate to this year's meeting, you missed using new technology for

voting. It was a little slow at first but it continued to improve throughout the day. The policy discussion was deliberate, and we have a new policy book to work off of in the coming year.

I've been re-elected Vice-President to work alongside and with President Kevin Krentz. We'll continue to work off our Strategic Plan that we started last year. We will also look at prioritizing what subjects and policies we will focus on for 2022.

I attended the AFBF Annual Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, from

Jan. 8-12. There were discussions on several policies such as dairy, carbon credits, EPA and the new WOTUS rule to name a few.

As we look forward to 2022, Ag Day at the Capitol is early in the year. The date is January 26. This is a great opportunity to have a conversation with your representative about all things agriculture.

We've always heard the legislators would rather hear from constituents than a lobbyist about issues. I hope we can bring carloads of members to this event.

We are three months into the new membership year. There were several members in District 1 who were members of the Farm Bureau Proud Club. They were treated to a nice dinner and entertainment at this year's WFBF Annual Meeting for signing five new members. Will you be a new Farm Bureau Proud Club member next December and sign five new members? The membership year is Oct. 1-Sept. 30, so don't delay in signing new members.

I wish you a happy and healthy new year and keep warm through the winter season. Maybe we'll be lucky, and it will be a short winter.

Warm regards.

YFA Conference, A Success



Bob Nash

WFBF YFA Committee Chair

Wow. It's been a wild few months and I wouldn't trade it for anything. Between finishing harvest, three trips to Wisconsin Dells for meetings and finally getting back in-person at the YFA Conference at the Kalahari

Resorts and Conventions the first weekend of December.

First, I want to thank those who attended the YFA Conference. I had a blast and I hope everyone else had as much fun as I did. Our Friday night theme was 90s country, where we encouraged everyone to dress like their favorite country singer. We had a great night with Pam Jahnke, the Fabulous Farm Babe.

On Saturday, we had a great day of workshops, from TikTok's to sustainability. Sunday morning we announced the winners of the YFA contests. Sunday ended my year as chair-elect of the YFA Committee. It was a great year. Part of my duties as chair-elect was being a part of the WFBF Policy Development Committee. I had a great year working with the YFA Committee and am looking forward to the coming year.

As of Dec. 6, 2021, I accepted my nomination as chair of the state YFA Committee and my seat on the WFBF Board of Directors. I'm extremely excited for the opportunity to not only lead the YFA Committee but to learn from the Board of Directors. I'm excited to bring some new ideas and events to the members this year.

Save the date. We are bringing the District 1 YFA Spring Fling back this year. It will be held on Saturday, March 19, at Turner Hall in Fillmore. I hope that you can join me for a night of fun, socializing and dancing.

I'm looking forward to a great year and if you have questions or concerns, please contact me at 262.617.7170.

YFA Spring Fling

By Bob Nash, WFBF YFA Committee Chair

We hope you will attend the District 1 YFA Spring Fling, featuring the band, Whiskey Throttle.

Time and Date: Doors open at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 19; band starts at 7 p.m.

Location: Fillmore Turner Hall, 523 County H, Fredonia

Cost: \$15 per person

For more information, please watch your local county Facebook pages.

District 1 Discussion Meet Participants



Whitney Rathke, Ozaukee County. Whitney is an agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at Random Lake School. She combined her love of teaching and traveling, and this summer will take students to Italy, Scotland and Ireland. Whitney enjoys participating in the Young Farmer and Agriculturist Discussion Meet.



Jim Waldron, Racine County. Jim owns a sales business selling seed and precision planter equipment near Franksville. He is a graduate of the UW-Madison Farm & Industry Short Course and owns a small beef herd. Jim was injured in a farming accident that left him paralyzed from the waist down. Jim is involved in the Racine County Farm Bureau on the board of directors.



Darren Riskedal, Jefferson County. Darren is a precision equipment specialist at Insight FS, selling and servicing ag technology on planters, sprayers and combines near Johnson Creek. He grew up on his family's farm raising corn, soybeans and beef cattle before pursuing a degree in technical systems management at the University of Illinois.

Delegates Set Policy

Delegates from District 1 and the other nine districts throughout Wisconsin gathered on Dec. 6 at the 102nd WFBF Annual Meeting to set the policy for the organization.

The policies that were discussed came directly from the members who propose and vote on resolutions at county Farm Bureau annual meetings.

Thank you to those who were delegates from the District 1 counties. The number of delegates that each county receives is based on the number of voting members the county has by the end of the membership year, Sept. 30.

- **Jefferson County:** Dawn and Steve Jones, Eugene and Mary Mess, Randy Mitchell, Tony and Karen Schadt.
- **Kenosha County:** Kevin Muhlenbeck and Tim Edquist.



Jefferson County Farm Bureau delegates included (from left): Randy Mitchell, Tony and Karen Schadt, Mary and Eugene Mess and Dawn and Steve Jones.



- **Racine County:** Kallie Jo Coates, Tim Schmidt and Judy Uhlenhake.
- **Washington County:** Ken Falk, Barbara Schulz Kluever, Peter Muth, Randy Thull and Carl Wolf.
- **Waukesha County:** Ryan Brueggemann, Jane Craig, Tom Oberhaus and Jim Renn.

In addition, thank you to District 1 Director and WFBF Vice President Dave Daniels for running a smooth policy session. Also, Renee Schaal and Bob Nash were on the WFBF Policy Development Committee.



The Racine County Farm Bureau delegates included (from left): Kallie Jo Coates, Judy Uhlenhake and Tim Schmidt.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation's
2022 Ignite
Innovate. Grow. Network. Inform. Train. Engage.

March 25-26, 2022
Holiday Inn, Stevens Point

Registration Details

What
A statewide information, training, and fun-filled member engagement meeting for county Farm Bureau leaders conducted by WFBF staff with assistance from AFBF staff and various outside speakers/presenters.

Purpose
Strengthen county leaders and Farm Bureaus by providing them with program ideas, resources and new skills to carry out the mission of their county Farm Bureau.

Save the Dates
Mark your calendars for **March 25-26, 2022**. Now, following the steps below to register and book your hotel.

Register
Registration will be available early 2022.
Registration Fee: \$140 early bird \$175 after March 4

Book a Hotel Room
by **March 4, 2022**
Because a hotel room is not included with the registration fee, please make your reservations at:
Holiday Inn Stevens Point
1001 Amber Ave
Stevens Point, WI 54482
For reservations, call 715.344.0200, press 3.
Hotel Room Rate: \$119.99 + tax
Request the "WI Farm Bureau Federation" room block by **February 20, 2022** to receive this rate.

Presented by:
Farm Bureau **Rural Mutual**
Insurance Company

get conference updates

 WIFarmBureau

Breakout Session Tracks

Governance and Organization

1. **Bridging Generations**
Jordan Henry, AFBF
2. **How to Say Anything to Anyone**
Wendy Kannel, WFBF
3. **Committees with Commitment**
WFBF District Coordinators
4. **Evaluating your County Program of Work**
Jordan Henry, AFBF

Issues, Legislation & Farm Bureau Policy

1. **Wisconsin Political Landscape 2022**
WFBF Governmental Relations Team
2. **Creating a Working Relationship with Local Leaders**
WFBF Governmental Relations Team
3. **Policy Development 101**
WFBF Governmental Relations Team
4. **Local Candidate Endorsements**
WFBF Governmental Relations Team

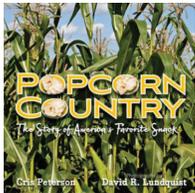
Building Farm Bureau

1. **Connecting with Ag in the Classroom**
Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Program
2. **IGNITE a Spark in your county YFA program**
WFBF YFA Committee Members
3. **Plant a Seed and Watch your P&E Program Grow**
WFBF Promotion and Education Committee
4. **Don't Be Afraid of the "M" Word**
WFBF District Coordinators
5. **How Do We Get Members Involved in our County?**
Panel Discussion

Communicating for Agriculture and Farm Bureau

1. **Media Interview Boot Camp**
Johnna Miller, American Farm Bureau
2. **What can PR do for you?**
WFBF Public Relations Team
3. **Getting the Best Out of Your Social Media Presence**
Cassie Sontentag, WFBF
4. **Developing Your Sustainability Message**
Rachel Gerbitz, WFBF

Essay Contest Due April 1



Encourage your fourth- and fifth-grade students to participate in this year's essay contest! The essay contest is open to students in public schools, private schools and home school programs. Students involved in 4-H, PALS and after school programs also are encouraged to participate. Essays must be handwritten in ink or be computer generated,

single-sided and fit on one sheet of paper. The essay must be between 100- to 300-words in length. Essay will be judged on content (50 points), grammar and spelling (25 points) and originality and creativity (25 points). Essay entry deadline is postmarked by April 1.

Essays should be sent to the county contact listed below or on the website. Each county will have one winner that will move on to the district contest. Among the county winners, the District 1 Promotion and Education chair will select one district winner that will be forwarded to the state contest. Each district winner will receive a presentation from Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom in May. The state winner that is selected also will receive a special presentation and award.

This year's topic is 'What's Popping in Wisconsin? The value of corn to our economy!' The topic is based off of the Book of the Year "Popcorn Country: The Story of America's Favorite Snack" written by Wisconsin author and dairy farmer Cris Peterson.

Teachers: We have information for you. On the website we have a teacher's handbook, lessons and activities, along with the essay contest information sheet. In addition, many county Farm Bureau's provide your school with the book of the year. If you have not received the book and are interested, feel free to reach out to your county Farm Bureau or order the book online.

Volunteers: We have information for you, too. Check out the website for the volunteer handbook and any other information you may need.

For the most up-to-date list of essay contest information, visit the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom website at www.wisagclassroom.org.

Essay contest information can be found in the events and activities tab. Addresses for the county contacts listed below can be found on the website.

COUNTY CONTACTS

County	Contact name	Phone	Email
Jefferson	Lindsay Baneck	920.988.1428	lindsay.knoebel@gmail.com
Kenosha	Lori Edquist	262.859.3061	edqst5@gmail.com
Ozaukee	Lisa Gantner	414.412.6354	ljug83@hotmail.com
Racine	Mindy Crayton	262.210.6804	fofmin2000@gmail.com
Walworth	Kathy Papcke	262.723.2613	walcobf@charterinternet.com
Washington	Mariann Gundrum	262.483.5114	lmacres@charter.net
Waukesha	Ryan Brueggemann	414.429.5499	ryan.brueggemann@gmail.com

2021 WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference



A new fundraiser, Twenty Wars, raised more than \$4,000 for the WFB Foundation. \$20, \$50 and \$100 bills in the District 1 jar added to the total points; the \$1, \$5 and \$10 bills in other district jars subtracted to total points. District 2 raised the most money and was recognized during the Sunday evening awards banquet.



Members of Racine County who were part of the delegate session included three Racine County delegates, from left, Tim Schmidt, Judy Uhlenhake and Kallie Jo Coates. Also pictured is Racine County Farm Bureau member Renee Schaal, who represents District 1 on the WFBF Policy Development Committee.



Eugene and Mary Mess put money into the District 1 jar for the Twenty Wars fundraiser.



District 1 YFA Committee Member Bob Nash drew the lucky 50-50 raffle winner.



WFBF CAO Kim Pokorny gave her address.



Racine County members Kevin and Kelly Malchine enjoyed the trade show.



Rural Mutual Executive Vice President and CEO Dan Merk provided remarks on behalf of Rural Mutual.

Silent Auction Raises Money for WFB Foundation

Thank you for your generous donation to the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation's Silent Auction held in conjunction with the WFBF Annual Meeting in Wisconsin Dells.

It was great to be back in-person and to see so many of members, industry partners and friends.

There were 208 items and additional cash donations with fun items, great baskets, delicious Wisconsin products, packages, gift certificates, hand-made items and so many other wonderful donations. It was nice to be back in our old space again and to the traditional layout of the silent auction area.

Proceeds from the Silent Auction benefit programs funded by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation. They include Ag in the Classroom, Young Farmer and Agriculturist Program, Promotion and Education Committee, WFBF Leadership Institute and the Collegiate Farm Bureau Chapters at UW-Madison, UW-Platteville and UW-River Falls.

With the more than \$12,900 that was raised, WFBF will continue to support agriculture education and leadership development programs.



Washington County Farm Bureau donated three different cheese boxes. Two of the boxes raised \$50 for the WFB Foundation, the third raised \$70.



Jefferson County Farm Bureau donated a basket from Jelli's Market and it was purchased for \$35.



Jefferson County Farm Bureau received a donation from Mid-State Equipment for the silent auction. The 8RX 410 John Deere tractor was purchased for \$50.



Eighty-five dollars was raised for the WFB Foundation with the gift basket and blanket that Waukesha County Farm Bureau donated.



Racine County Farm Bureau received a donation from Nestle. This basket went for \$80 at the silent auction.



This Mars Cheese Castle cheese and sausage box and gift certificate was donated by Kenosha County Farm Bureau and raised \$40.



Racine County Farm Bureau donated an Andic Cattle Clippers that was bought from the silent auction for \$100.



District 1 News

2021 WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference



District 1 YFA Chair Bob Nash and WFBF YFA Chair-Elect (left), was ready for a fun night of 90s country.



Jefferson County member Darren Riskedal (right) competed in the Discussion Meet during the YFA Conference.



Ozaukee County member Whitney Rathke (right) competed in the Discussion Meet and made it to the semi-final round.



Racine County member Jim Waldron (right) competed in the Discussion Meet during the YFA Conference.



Members of the three collegiate Farm Bureau chapters competed in the Discussion Meet. Contestants included (from left): Serenity Hetke, Emma Buss, Josh Gerbitz, Ryan Erickson, Emma Statz and Olivia Spaight.



Kallie Jo Coates (center) spoke into the microphone while she was hypnotized.



YFA members networked during the Friday YFA meetings.



Racine County member Kallie Jo Coates (second from right) was on stage and hypnotized during the Saturday evening banquet.



WFBF President Krentz addressed the attendees at the Farm Bureau Proud Banquet on Saturday night.



District 1 YFA members Jim Waldron (left) and Mark Schaefer Jr. (right) got to know each other during the Friday evening District 1 meeting.



District 1 YFA members gathered at the District 1 meeting on Friday evening.



Darren Riskedal (right) provided his opening statement during the Discussion Meet.



Members packed the room and enjoyed a night of BINGO.



WFBF Vice President and District 1 Director Dave Daniels ran an excellent delegate session.



Washington County member Barbara Schul Kluever enjoyed making a pine cone bird feeder.

District 1 News



Brothers Tim and Ryan Edquist from Kenosha County enjoyed the YFA Conference.



Racine County Farm Bureau member Kevin Malchine represented GROWMARK and helped present awards to YFA contest award winners.



Darren, Kendall and Owen Riskedal enjoyed the YFA Conference. Darren competed in the Discussion Meet and was a workshop presenter.



Waukesha County member Jay Moore was recognized as a Top 10 membership worker during the Sunday banquet at the WFBF Annual Meeting (from left): WFBF President Kevin Krentz and Jay Moore.



WFBF Policy Development Committee led by WFBF Vice President and District 1 Director Dave Daniels was at the front of the room for the resolutions session. The Policy Development Committee is made up of one member per district, plus the YFA Chair-Elect and WFBF Promotion and Education Chair-Elect.



Jefferson County was well represented at the YFA Conference.



Jefferson County member Lindsay Knoebel Baneck was part of a panel discussion titled 'From Farm to Consumer: Direct Marketing Your Product.' Those on the panel included (from left): Amber McComish, Lindsay Knoebel Baneck, Natasha Paris and Leslie Svacina.



Members from District 1 enjoyed networking before the District 1 caucus began.



Dave Daniels was re-elected to another three-year term as District 1 Board of Director at the District 1 caucus.



Numerous attendees from Racine County enjoyed the YFA Conference.



Washington County members enjoyed the YFA Conference. Those pictured include (from left): Mark Schaefer Jr., Emily Faber, Tyler Hetebrueg, Tiffany Falk, John Falk, Leah Weninger and Matt Elbe.



Racine County YFA members watched Jim Waldron compete in the Discussion Meet. Members pictured (from left): Jim Waldron, Devin Coates, Kallie Jo Coates, Joe Mealy, Kevin Hagemann and Luke Kastenson.

Jefferson County

wfbf.com/about/counties/jefferson
 JeffersonCountyFarmBureau

Farm Family Photos Wanted

By Daphne Holterman, Agriculture Committee Member

Agriculture is a key part of Watertown's history but often not top-of-mind. This is going to change as Watertown's new and expanded Library Center will feature agriculture in the entrance area.

The library's Agriculture Committee is seeking photos of farm families and agricultural businesses 'then and now' to enhance this area of the library where all who visit will pass through.

"Agriculture's roots run deep in our community and we want to recognize farm families, agricultural and food businesses who have persevered and progressed in their endeavors through the years with an eye on the future," said Vicki Coughlin, member of the library's Agriculture Committee.

Livestock, grain, specialty crops/enterprises and farms of all sizes are

encouraged to submit photos.

'Generations of family pride' is the theme for this project located in the expanded library. The Agriculture Committee is asking Watertown area farm families and ag businesses to submit photo(s) on canvas, no larger than 11" by 14" with a short caption included on the canvas to identify the family/people and the location. Depending on the number of submissions, the canvas photos will remain on display for several months.

Submissions are requested by Feb. 1 but will be accepted throughout 2022.

Members of the Agriculture Committee include Erin O'Neill, Dave Frohling, Vicki Coughlin, Sally Schoenike and myself. Peg Checkai, library director, advises the committee.

For more information about the photo canvases, contact me at 920.988.6482 or daphne@rosylane.com.

Cream Puffs, Shakes, Sundaes and More

By Mary Mess, Fair Food Stand Committee Chair

Mark your calendars and plan to volunteer in the Jefferson County Farm Bureau stand at the Jefferson County Fair on July 13-17, where we serve cream puffs, milk, sundaes, cones and shakes.

The shift times will be 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 2-6 p.m., 6-10 p.m. daily. If you are only available to work a part shift, we can make that work.

Many hands make light work, so gather your friends and sign up for a shift.

The money raised in the stand is used for scholarships.

Watch the next newsletter for details on how you can sign up to volunteer.



Scholarships Accepted Until April 1

The Jefferson County Farm Bureau Scholarship program is now open. Scholarship applications will be accepted until April 1.

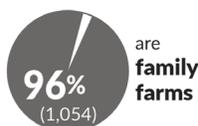
Scholarships will be awarded to graduating high school and current college/technical school students who are continuing their education in 2022-2023.

To be eligible, students must be a son or daughter of a Jefferson County Farm Bureau member. Applications will be available at local high schools or from the Jefferson County Farm Bureau webpage at www.wfbf.com/countyfarmbureaus/jefferson.



Agriculture Works Hard for Jefferson County

WHO OWNS THE FARMS?



HOW MUCH IS SOLD LOCALLY?



WHO TAKES CARE OF THE LAND?



Kenosha County

Up to \$500 Available in Scholarships

By Kim Muhlenbeck, Scholarship Committee Chair

The Kenosha County Farm Bureau will award two scholarships to worthy applicants. Applicants, or their parent(s) or legal guardian, must be a Kenosha County Farm Bureau member. Amount of the scholarship is based on the schooling attending.

- \$200 for technical college
- \$300 for UW-Madison Farm and Industry Short Course
- \$500 for four-year university or college

Scholarships are paid after notification that the recipient has completed one-year of post-secondary education.

The application can be found on the Kenosha County Farm Bureau website at wfbf.com/about/counties/kenosha. Applicants must submit the application, an essay, two letters of recommendation and a current photo.

Applications are due to me by May 6.



Kenosha County members who attended the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference included (from left): Dave and Kim Daniels, Tim Edquist, Kim and Kevin Muhlenbeck and Ryan Edquist.

Milwaukee County

Farm Bureau is Here to Help

By Henry Kiesow, Milwaukee County Vice President

The Milwaukee County Farm Bureau meets quarterly and wants to invite you to attend upcoming board meetings. The board of directors is willing to help you out.

Do you have thoughts on Farm Bureau policy? Or do you need help from the Farm Bureau at a Town board meeting? These are things your local Farm Bureau can help with.

If you need help from an agriculture organization, or want to be more involved, please contact me at 414.732.7242.

Key Award Presented to 4-H Members

Brian Schaal was honored to present the 4-H Key Award to members. Those who received the award included: Tucker LaRose, Shannon Roberts, Julia Schoepke and Mary Weisensel.

4-H provides youth a unique opportunity to develop leadership skills, which are important to success and achievement in every facet of life.

Farm Bureau commends 4-H members for their continued growth in citizenship, leadership and life skills development throughout their involvement with the 4-H program. The Key Award is the highest award given to 4-H members.



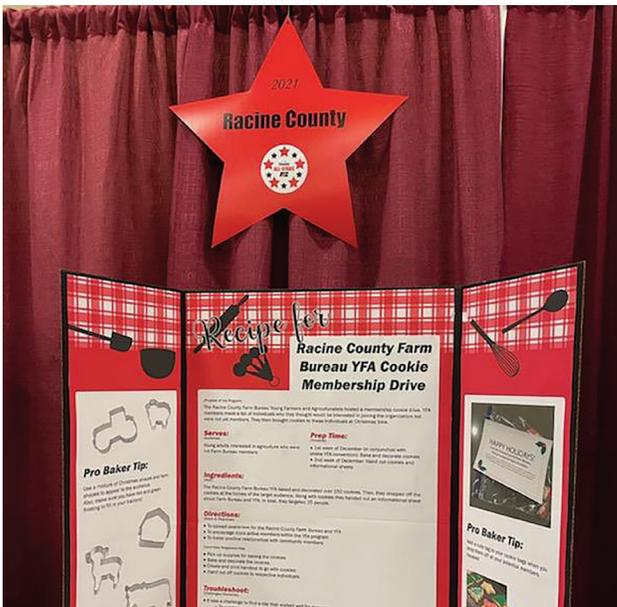
County Recognized as All Star

By Kallie Jo Coates, Farm Bureau Member

Racine County received a County All Star Award for the YFA Christmas Cookie Membership Drive.

The event was hosted last year in December in conjunction with the online YFA Conference. Members decorated cookies and delivered them to potential YFA members. Racine County YFA members created a display to showcase the event to other counties in order to encourage them to create a similar event.

In receiving this award, the YFA program is excited to use the monetary portion of the award to further develop YFA events in the future.



April 15 Deadline for Scholarships

By Julie Kastenson, Scholarship Committee Chair

Applications are now being accepted for \$1,000 scholarships. Up to four scholarships will be distributed with preference given to agriculture related majors.

The parent(s) or individual must be a member of the Racine County Farm Bureau for at least one year before applying. The scholarships are available for continuing education beyond high school in a four-year college, technical school or farm and industry short course. Previous winners of the Racine County Farm Bureau scholarship are not eligible to apply.

The application can be found on the Racine County Farm Bureau website at wfbf.com/about/counties/racine or in your high school guidance office. Submit your application, a recent photograph, a letter indicating why you wish to pursue the course indicated and two letters of recommendation by April 15.

If you have any questions, please contact me at kastenson6@aol.com.

Profits from the County Fair Cream Puff stand are a major source of the scholarship funding.

Bowling Night!

Bring the entire family out for a night of fun, pizza and bowling.

Date: Friday, Feb. 18

Time: Pizza and social at 7 p.m., bowling at 9 p.m.

Location: River City Lanes, 730 Cornerstone Crossing, Waterford

Cost: FREE bowling and FREE pizza

Questions? Contact Judy Uhlenhake at 262.949.1168.

Cream Puff Stand

By Jeff Rice, Racine County Farm Bureau Cream Puff Stand Chair

Volunteers are needed for the Racine County Fair Cream Puff Stand from Wednesday, July 27, to Sunday, July 31. The fair is a great time to connect with friends and neighbors and have a good time supporting the Racine County Farm Bureau. The stand is our major fundraiser and also promotes agriculture. Money raised goes for scholarships, library grants, promotion of agricultural products and other community support.

If you are interested in being more active with the committee, contact Jeff Rice at 262.210.4973.

YFA Conference

By Kallie Jo Coates, Farm Bureau Member

This year's YFA Conference was filled with great opportunities to network and learn.

From Friday night's bowling and games, to Saturday's Discussion Meets, we were able to grow not only in our Farm Bureau involvement but also in our leadership and understanding of the challenges the agriculture industry faces.

Racine County participants were eager to partake in sessions to further develop ideas on how to continue to increase involvement in the YFA program in the future.



Milk Donated to Youth Soccer Tournament

By Jeff Rice, Racine County Farm Bureau Board of Director

The Racine County Farm Bureau board of directors, along with the Racine County Dairy Promotion and Burlington Kiwanis, donated milk to the youth soccer tournament at Bushnell Park in Burlington on Oct. 23. Youth enjoyed the chocolate milk the most.



Did you know that chocolate milk is a sports recovery drink? Athletes drink low-fat chocolate milk post workout because it helps restore muscles quickly to their peak potential and replenish what the body loses during strenuous exercise – including fluids, important nutrients and electrolytes lost in sweat. Low-fat chocolate milk contains the right balance of carbs and proteins scientifically proven to help refuel exhausted muscles.

Ag Ambassador Update

By Abbie Hammer, 2021-2022 Agricultural Ambassador

Hello. So far my journey as the Agriculture Ambassador has been amazing, and the opportunities I have been provided through this position will forever be with me.

I am currently working on trying to get into some classrooms to talk to students about the importance of agriculture in our community.

I also continue to plan visits and attend events throughout Racine County. I am always open for ideas on places to go and things to do.

Feel free to reach out and let me know. Contact me at 262.895.2947 or amhammer2700@gmail.com.

Follow my journey and invite your friends to 'Like' and follow me on the Racine County Agriculture Ambassador Facebook Page @racinecountyag.



Washington County

Scholarship Applications Due in April

By Ken Falk, Washington County Farm Bureau Scholarship Committee Chair

Up to five \$750 scholarships will be available to students who will be furthering in higher or continued education to those who meet the qualifications listed below.



Recipients must also work a four-hour shift in the food stand during the Washington County Fair.

The application will be available on the Washington County Farm Bureau website at wfbf.com/about/counties/washington, no later than Feb. 21.

Completed application, essay and two reference letters are due to the scholarship committee by Friday, April 22.

Qualifications

- Scholarships will only be awarded to students of families who have Washington County Farm Bureau membership. Applicants 22 years of age or older must have their own membership.
- The scholarship may be used at any accredited technical school or university for continuing education in agriculture or an agricultural-related field. Considerations will be given to non-agricultural-field-related applications; however, preference will be given to those who are agriculturally related.
- The scholarship committee will base its selection on extracurricular activities, two letters of recommendation, transcript of high school grades (seniors) or higher or continued education grades (if applicable).
- Payment of scholarships will be made to the recipient(s) after fall semester grades are received showing a 2.5 (C+) grade point average or better.

Reminder, applications due to the scholarship committee by Friday, April 22.

2022 Membership Incentives

By Mike Kannenberg, Washington County Farm Bureau Membership Chair

The membership year is Oct. 1, 2021, through Sept. 30, 2022. Any Washington County Farm Bureau volunteer membership worker signing a new voting member will receive \$20 for each new voting member signed.

Also, if a Farm Bureau volunteer signs five new voting members, he or she will receive a one-night stay at the WFBF Annual Meeting along with the registration cost. Those who sign 10 or more new voting members receive a two-night stay at the WFBF Annual Meeting including the registration cost. If you are unable to attend the WFBF Annual Meeting, you will receive a \$100 VISA gift card.

The Rural Mutual Insurance agents who have office space in our building also will receive \$20 for every new voting member signed for Washington County Farm Bureau.

The membership dues are \$55 per year and membership applications can be found on the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation website at wfbf.com.

Thank you to the volunteers and Rural Mutual Insurance agents for their continued help in achieving our membership goals.

Mark Your Calendars for the Fair

By Mike Strupp, Washington County Farm Bureau Food Stand Co-Chair

2022 is here. Just an early reminder that the 2022 fair will be held from Tuesday, July 26, through Sunday, July 31. As in the past, we will need volunteers to help make the fair a success. Please mark your calendars and thank you to everyone for their time and dedication that you put in during the fair. More information about volunteering will be forthcoming. We look forward to seeing you at the fair in July.

WFBF Annual Meeting A Success

By Mike Strupp, Farm Bureau Proud Club Member

The 102nd WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference was held Dec. 3-6 at the Kalahari Resorts and Conventions in Wisconsin Dells.

All membership workers from the state who signed five or more members enjoyed a prime rib dinner during the Farm Bureau Proud Club banquet on Saturday evening. They were recognized for their work in signing up new members.

Blain's Farm and Fleet sponsored the event and attendees received a \$10 Gift Card from Blain's. There were 453 young farmers and 521 annual meeting members in attendance on Saturday evening.

Kevin Krentz gave his first president's speech. His emphasis was on sustainability in agriculture.

We enjoyed a hypnotist, Al Snyder, who was a veterinarian and is now a hypnotist. He had 25 audience members participate in his show. It was very entertaining and received good compliments.

Sunday morning's keynote speaker was Tom Thibodeau who is a professor at La Crosse and he stressed it was a privilege to speak to Farm Bureau because farmers are extraordinary – farmers are feeding America. Farmers are good people who do good work and we dream for our next generation.

Sunday morning the announcement of the Excellence in Ag, YFA Discussion Meet and Collegiate Discussion Meet winners was made.

Sunday evening was the awards banquet with awards going to the 2020 and 2021 Leopold Conservation Award along with Service to Ag and Top 10 membership workers.

The Twenty Wars fundraiser raised \$4,881 for the WFBF Foundation. District 2 raised the

most funds.

Monday morning was the Business Session and WFBF Vice President Dave Daniels led District 1 Caucus Session. WFBF Chief Administrative Officer Kim Pokorny spoke on the changes WFBF will be facing moving forward. Her mission statement was "The Board Governs" and "The Staff Team Manages."

Kim also thanked Jeff Fuller for his 34 years of service to the organization. Jeff retired at the end of December.

Rural Mutual Insurance Vice President and Chief Executive Officer Dan Merk mentioned \$12 million in dividends were refunded to policy holders in the last five years.

In 2021, Rural Mutual donated \$120,000 to local charities throughout the state. Rural Mutual is ranked in the top 10 insurance companies in the state and it continue to sponsor WIAA sport events the next three years.

Overall the WFBF Annual Meeting was a huge success and we were happy to be back in-person for this event.



Some Washington County members stopped for a photo. Those pictured include (from left): George Muth, Peter Muth, Ken Falk, Kathy Muth, Krista Wolf, Carl Wolf, Marian Strupp, Henry Kluever, Mike Strupp, Barbara Schulz Kluever and Randy Thull.

Waukesha County

wfbf.com/about/counties/waukesha
WaukeshaCountyFarmBureau

Scholarship Information Coming Soon

By Ken Rosenow, Scholarship Committee Chair

The Waukesha County Scholarship Committee would like to remind the 2021 winners previously announced, to get their fall semester grades submitted to the committee so we can get your checks out to you toward the beginning of the spring semester.



Your prompt attention will help us to get you your awards.

More information on the availability of 2022 scholarship will be in the next newsletter.

Once it's ready, the application will be available on the Waukesha County Farm Bureau website at wfbf.com/about/counties/waukesha.

Thank you for your interest.

Farm Bureau Proud Club

By Jay Moore, Top 10 Membership Volunteer

The Farm Bureau Proud Club Banquet was held Dec. 4 as part of the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference in the Africa Ballroom.

During the banquet, various members were recognized for their dedicated work of signing up the new members.

Tom Oberhaus and Lloyd Williams were recognized for signing up five new members, and I was recognized for signing up 13 new members in the 2020-2021 membership year.

After a wonderful meal, the entertainment for the evening was hypnotist Al Snyder. He did not disappoint. Watching our fellow Farm Bureau attendees get hypnotized was an absolute delight.

Everyone will remember Brad Paisley for years to come. I think we may stop laughing in time for next year's conference.

I'm glad that I got to be a part of the Farm Bureau Proud Club banquet and also recognized as a Top 10 membership worker in the state.





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