



Grassroots

District 6 News

District Director Reflects on Her Time of Service: It's Been a Great 12 Years



Rosie Lisowe
District 6 Board Director

I started serving on the WFBF Women's committee for seven years and was later elected as District 6 Director. Along the way there have been many opportunities and I have met so many great people.

Thank you to the district for giving me the opportunity to serve you as District 6 Director. I will sure miss the involvement at this level.

I have chosen to step back from this role to spend more time with my family. I have seen Farm Bureau grow and move forward with time and technology. Farm Bureau has always tried to stay on top of current events, and situations that affect agriculture.

In the past year, Wisconsin Farm Bureau worked with legislators on the state budget. We looked to help with funding for rural road improvements

and the Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom program, grants for meat and dairy processors, agriculture export promotion programs, and many other priorities.

We have been actively involved with advocating for the Farm Bill. We have a Farm Bill committee that put together priorities which would help Wisconsin farmers. They went to Washington, D.C. this spring to lobby on behalf of those farmers.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau hosted Leaders of the Land processing tours this year. They gave our members a perspective regarding environmental stewardship across Wisconsin while highlighting sustainability throughout the food supply chain.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau has been doing more great hiring like a Foundation Director, John Hromyak, new hires in our Governmental Relations department, and a new Communication Coordinator, Kylie Ver Kuilen. We continue to bring new ideas and designs but always remember where we started.

Farm Bureau and Rural Mutual Insurance will continue to be part of my life. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Young Farm Bureau Members Advocate for Agriculture in D.C.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmers and Agriculturist members met with Wisconsin's congressional delegation in Washington, D.C. to discuss issues impacting agriculture on September 13. Issues discussed included Waters of the U.S., Federal Milk Marketing Order reform and the upcoming farm bill.

The September 11-15 trip was available to Farm Bureau members active in the Young Farmer and Agriculturist Program. The program provides members between the ages of 18 and 35 with an opportunity to enhance their leadership skills while networking with their peers.

While in Washington, D.C., YFA members met officials from the American Farm Bureau Federation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture where they discussed issues pertaining WOTUS, FMMO and the farm bill.

"This trip allowed me to see our grassroots organization in action," said Iowa County Farm Bureau member Megan Yager. "Visiting with our lawmakers drove home the importance of our Farm Bureau membership and involvement."

A visit to the Brazilian Embassy on September 12 included an overview of the country's agricultural commodities, export markets and their focus on sustainability initiatives. They also met with other state Farm Bureaus for a presentation by the National Pork Producers Council.

The 21 young leaders met with Senator Tammy Baldwin, Senator Ron Johnson and their member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

"It was nice to see agriculture represented at the national level," said Wood County Farm Bureau member Jason Behrend. "It was impressive to see the power we have when we all come together as Farm Bureau

members."

Members who attended the D.C. trip were: Whitney Rathke, Ozaukee County; Michelle Stangler, Dodge County; Scott Timm, Green County; Brady and Kat Peper, Sauk County; Andrew Dal Santo, Grant County; Kent Jerrett, Grant County; Megan Yager, Iowa County; Heather Erdman, Eau Claire County; Jeff & Sara Huber, Adams County; Natasha Paris, Green Lake County; Sally Turpin, Juneau County; Eric and Rachel Harmann, Door County; Kelly Wilfert, Manitowoc County; Jason Behrend, Wood County; Julie Wadzinski and Eduardo Elenes-Mejia, Barron County; and Ben and Haily Sand, Dunn County.

For more information about Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Young Farmer and Agriculturist program, visit <http://bit.ly/WIYFA>.



District 6 Coordinator Report



Becky Salm
District 6 Coordinator

“There is no greater thing you can do with your life and your work than follow your passions – in a way that serves the world and you.” — Richard Branson

No one is more passionate than a farmer; passionate about their farm, animals and land. Being a Farm Bureau member enhances those passions and provides ways to harness them for the good of agriculture.

Passionate about policy and how Farm Bureau works with legislators? The Local Affairs, Farm Bill or Policy Development committees provide outlets for that passion.

Is your passion more about showing people where their food comes

from or how it is produced? The Promotion and Education committee is for you. Opportunities to share your passion as a farmer, person and volunteer are available through Farm Bureau, a network of farmers looking to make a difference in agriculture.

The enthusiasm is contagious when members see these opportunities and use their passion to run with them. As a member of 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.

Thank you for being a Farm Bureau member, giving what you can for the future of agriculture and for participating. I am amazed by the accomplishments of our members. I love working alongside our amazing volunteers and am very pleased to be a part of the Farm Bureau team.

Farm Bureau is the strong organization that it is because of how much you give and sharing your passion for agriculture.

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

District 6 Promotion and Education Report



Clara Hedrich
District 6 Promotion and Education Committee Member

This past year has found the State Promotion and Education committee redefining their activities as how to best reach the consumer regarding the food supply and agriculture in general. The committee’s main goal is to provide resources and training opportunities for Farm Bureau members to be able to effectively interact with today’s consumers.

The committee hosted the Ag LEAD Conference last March. The focus of the conference was to

provide leadership and advocacy training to county Farm Bureau members. The Center for Food Integrity hosted a panel giving attendees an insight into consumers’ purchasing decisions and information they are looking for.

On July 19, District 6 hosted a Progressive Farm to Table dinner organized by Becky Salm. It allowed consumers to experience an appetizer, main entrée and dessert at three different sites and meet the people behind their food. This will become an annual district event and will be moved to different sites each year within the district. The goal is to have counties host their own farm to table events.

The Promotion & Education committee will be hosting a workshop during the WFBF Annual Meeting in December.

If you haven’t already, please check out the Gather Wisconsin website, gatherwisconsin.com, hosted by Wisconsin Farm Bureau. This website is directed to the consumer. If you are looking for factual information to use for consumer education or a place to direct consumers for factual information, this is the main purpose of this website.

Please feel free to contact myself or your county Promotion and Education committee chair regarding consumer outreach.

Book of the Year

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation’s Agriculture in the Classroom Essay Contest is an opportunity for fourth and fifth grade students to explore Wisconsin history, geography and economics through the lens of Wisconsin agriculture.

An annual essay prompt challenges students to research and write an informative essay. The contest supports Wisconsin academic standards including English Language Arts and Social Studies. Top essays are recognized at the county, district and state levels. The generous support of sponsors and volunteers make this learning opportunity possible each year.

The essay contest gleans the annual theme from the 2024 Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Book of the Year, “I Love Strawberries!” by Shannon Anderson.

This year’s essay contest focuses on our state’s sweetest agriculture industry - fruit! Wisconsin is the number one producer of cranberries and is a leader in the production of cherries, apples, and strawberries. Our state’s history, communities and economy have been brought to fruit-ion through agriculture endeavors.

View the Contest Essay Guide for the full contest details, support materials including lessons, videos, and resources for the 2024 Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Essay Contest by going to www.wisagclassroom.org/events-activities/essay-contest/

Please contact Beth Schaefer, Wisconsin Ag in the Classroom Coordinator at bschaefer@wfbf.com, with any questions.

Thank you to our sponsors for providing support for the 2024 Essay Contest!



Upcoming Events

December

- 1-3 - WFBF YFA Conference –Wisconsin Dells
- 2-4 - WFBF Annual Conference –Wisconsin Dells

January

- 19-24 - AFBF Annual Meeting – Salt Lake City, Utah
- 30 - Council of Presidents – Madison
- 31 - Ag Day at the Capitol – Madison

February

- 15 - FFA Farm Forum – Rothschild

March

- 1 - IGNITE – Eau Claire
- 2 - IGNITE – Neenah

April

- 15 - AITC Essays due to county essay coordinators
- 30 - County Early Bird Bonanza membership cut-off

An Eventful Year for YFA



Luke and Ashley Lisowe

District 6 YFA Chairs

It's annual meeting time, which means the start of a new year for Farm Bureau.

Thank you to everyone for their support to the Farm Bureau this past year. If you helped at your local fair food stand, participated in membership, worked on a committee or attended an event, we appreciate your support.

This year has been an exciting year finishing up the previous District 6 term. We had two

successful district events, the first being the Green Bay Gamblers Hockey Game back in March that was co-hosted with District 7. The game was very exciting as they had a few overtimes and two shoot outs, the Gamblers were unable to take home the win. Afterwards, we enjoyed pizza at the Distillery.

In June, we teamed up with District 5 to try a new event and it was a success. There were 22 people that attended the Timber Rattlers Baseball Game. We tailgated beforehand and then watched the Timber Rattlers win during the Udder Tuggers themed night.

In addition to the events that are hosted in each district, we had the opportunity to travel to the FUSION conference in March held in Jacksonville, Fla. We had a blast as we met and networked with other young farmers from across the country. Several committee members also attended the D.C. Fly-in this September.

As a committee we had three productive meetings to plan the upcoming YFA Conference in December and helped coordinate the four YFA contests. We would like to thank all members that applied or competed in the contests and congratulate the finalists in each contest.

The District 6 Discussion Meet was held August 1 at Pagel's Ponderosa. We had a great turnout for attending along with five contestants competing. It was a very good discussion. Congratulations to Jessica Batterman, Sheboygan County; Gavin Sinkula, Manitowoc County; and Ann Glowacki, Door County for advancing to the state competition. Good luck in December!

Congratulations to the final four competing for this year's Farming for the Future Award: Jacob and Eliza Bobolz, Rock County; Sydney Flock, Columbia County; Brad Laack, Sheboygan County; and Victoria Wachholz, Marquette County.

District 6 YFA Hosts Green Bay Gambler's Game

Join us Friday, March 15 for the Green Bay Gamblers game versus the DeMoines Buccaneers. The puck drops at 7:05 p.m. Following the game, the counties will be hosting pizza nearby. Tickets can be purchased online at fevo.me/3zTpIxR until Monday, March 11. Watch county Farm Bureau Facebook pages for more information for future YFA events throughout the year.

Interested in more YFA events? Reach out to District 6 YFA chairs, or any county YFA chair.

District YFA Chair: Luke and Ashley Lisowe, 920.418.0987

Brown County: Samantha Van Duerzen, 920.362.3045

Calumet County: Gloria Regan, 920.284.2991 or Sean VanderHeiden, 920.418.4292

Door County: Holly LaPlant, 920.421.2266

Kewaunee County: Mikayla Gau, 920.255.1807

Manitowoc County: Stephanie Leonhard, 920.973.7054

Sheboygan County: Nicole Laack, 262.207.4324

Congratulations to the finalists competing for the Outstanding Agriculture Professional Award: Kaitlyn Riley-Kesler, Crawford County; Julie Sweney, Dodge County; Brooke Trustem, Rock County; and Tammy Wiedenbeck, Grant County.

The final winner for both awards will be announced at the conference in December. Good luck to all the finalists!

Last year was the inaugural year for the 35 Under 35 recognition program and it was a hit! Nearly 50 videos were submitted for review and 35 finalists were selected in five award categories again this year.

Of those finalists, we would like to congratulate the following District 6 members selected as finalists: Katie Reineking, Sheboygan County, for Sustainable Service category; Nicole Laack, Sheboygan County, and Whitney Barnes, Brown County for Sustainable Self category; Austin Vandertie, Door County, for Sustainable Future category; and Joanna Guza, Brown County for Sustainable Storytelling category.

These finalists will have an exclusive networking reception at the YFA Conference this December.

Please be thinking of young farmers and agriculturists that deserve to be nominated for 35 under 35 next year. The nominations are due at the end of May.

We are looking forward to seeing these finalists compete at the YFA Conference, as well as everything else that is in the works for planning.

This year's conference will be rocking with an 80s theme for Friday night! Bring your best 80s outfit for a chance to win one of four categories: biggest hair, best group/couple, best male and best female. Stick around Friday night for a night of classic rock with Union Road.

Saturday's workshops are also being revamped with interesting topics including farm safety, leadership, policy and marketing your commodities. We are excited to see you at the Kalahari for this year's YFA Conference!

We would like to thank all the District 6 counties for their continuing support of the YFA program and look forward to the next three years serving on the state committee.

If you have any questions or ideas on some fun events, please contact Luke, lukelisowe@gmail.com or 920-418-0987, or Ashley, ashley.oberreich@gmail.com or 920-838-2775.

Finalists Selected in WFBF's 35 Under 35 Program

Thirty-five individuals have been selected as Wisconsin Farm Bureau's 35 Under 35 Award finalists. The award is presented by WFBF's Young Farmer and Agriculturist program in partnership with Insight FS.

The 35 Under 35 program recognizes the creativity and innovation of young farmers and agriculturists who are preserving agriculture through leadership in environmental, social and economic activities.

In the second year of the program, 45 innovative and deserving YFA members submitted video applications. Applications were evaluated for their involvement in one of five categories – Sustainable Environment, Sustainable Future, Sustainable Self, Sustainable Service and Sustainable Storytelling

"The YFA Committee is ecstatic to see how many young farmers and agriculturalists were nominated for the 35 Under 35 program," said WFBF YFA Committee Chair Savannah Brown. "We look forward to recognizing and meeting these deserving individuals in December at the YFA Conference. Congratulations to all the finalists!"

District 6 Finalists Include:

The Sustainable Future category recognizes individuals who are preserving generational success on the farm: **Austin Vandertie**, Door County.

The Sustainable Self category recognizes individuals that are serving their community through leadership, mentorship and mental health advocacy: **Whitney Barnes**, Brown County; **Nicole Laack**, Sheboygan County.

The Sustainable Service category recognizes individuals who are serving agriculture through trade skills or advisory roles: **Katie Reineking**, Sheboygan County.

The Sustainable Storytelling category recognizes individuals who use their platform to share agriculture's sustainability successes: **Joanna Guza**, Brown County.

"The 35 Under 35 program has been a success again in 2023," said Insight FS General Manager Ben Huber. "It is refreshing to see the leadership qualities and sustainability initiatives being driven by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau and the YFA program, and Insight FS is proud to be a partner again in 2023. Congratulations to all the nominees and finalists; you are the best and brightest our industry has to offer!"

Each finalist will receive an embroidered vest sponsored by Insight FS. The top individual in each category will be announced during the WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference in December. The finalists are also invited to attend an exclusive networking reception during the conference.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau Names 2023 YFA Award Finalists

The finalists for Wisconsin Farm Bureau's Young Farmer and Agriculturist Farming for the Future Award have been named.

Four finalists will vie for the Farming for the Future Award this December. The award recognizes YFA members who excel in their farm involvement, future goals, leadership abilities and participation in Farm Bureau and other organizations. Applicants must derive a majority of their income from on-farm production.

"This year's finalists are some of the best and brightest young farmers in Wisconsin," said WFBF President Kevin Krentz.

This year's finalists include:

- **Jacob and Eliza Bobolz**, Rock County
- **Sydney Flick**, Columbia County
- **Brad Laack**, Sheboygan County
- **Victoria Wachholz**, Marquette County

Each finalist will conduct an interview with judges at the 2023 WFBF Annual Meeting and YFA Conference at Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells, December 1-3. The winner of each award will receive \$1,500 courtesy of GROWMARK, Inc., the opportunity to attend the 2024 American Farm Bureau Federation YF&R Conference in Omaha, NE., will be eligible to participate in the 2025 YFA Washington, D.C. Fly-In and be a guest of WFBF at the 2024 YFA Conference. The total value of the prize package is more than \$5,000.

The Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation co-sponsors these awards with GROWMARK Inc. and Rural Mutual Insurance Company. Information about all YFA contests can be found on wfbf.com.



District 6 YFA Discussion Meet Finalists

Five District 6 YFA members participated in the YFA Discussion Meet on August 1.

The top three qualifiers from this contest are moving on to the state contest held in conjunction with the WFBF YFA Conference, December 1-3 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells.

The question discussed was: "Production agriculture requires a lot of capital. Young farmers and ranchers face challenges gaining access to the capital they need to start or grow their operations. What tools are currently available, and what new programs could be introduced, to help young people access financial resources—and make sound financial decisions—to run their farms and ranches?"

Congratulations Jessica Batterman, Sheboygan County; Ann Glowacki, Door County; and Gavin Sinkula, Manitowoc County who will be representing District 6 at the competition in December!



Brown County Annual Meeting

More than 40 members and guests that attended this year's 79th Brown County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting at Suster's in Denmark, which included elections for board of directors and WFBF Annual Meeting delegates, a grassroots policy development discussion and other business items.

WFBF Executive Director of Governmental Relations Jason Mugnaini spoke sharing what is happening in the legislature.

The board reorganized at the October meeting with Stan Kaczmarek being re-elected as president, Ray Diederich as vice-president, Nicki VanDuerzen as Secretary/Treasurer and Sam Sipiorski as the member at large.

The county passed nine state resolutions and one federal resolution that will now move on to the WFBF Policy Development committee for consideration:

STATE

1. We support the mandatory advertising of lab grown food as lab grown. (**Marketing-Labeling**)
2. We support mandatory tractor safety training for ages 14 and up. (**Health and Safety-Safety**)

3. We support revising the Federal Milk Marketing Orders for the purpose of enhancing the producers milk income. (**Dairy-Milk Production and Supply**)
4. We oppose solar farms to be placed on agricultural land. (**Energy-Alternative Sources**)
5. We support all solar farms to be required to have an Agricultural Impact Statement. (**Energy-Alternative Sources**)
6. We oppose solar farms receiving land use value assessment. (**Energy-Alternative Sources**)
7. We support a clean up fund being created for the removal of solar infrastructure. (**Energy-Alternative Sources**)
8. We support funding for FFA Chapter affiliation fees. (**Education-Elementary and Secondary**)
9. We support non-depooling of milk in Federal order 30. (**Dairy-Milk Production and Supply**)

FEDERAL:

1. We support Class 5 milk in all federal orders for exports.



Conservation Award

Every year, Brown County Farm Bureau selects a farm who goes above and beyond to include conservation practices onto their farm.

Congratulations to Brightside Dairy, this year's recipient of the Brown County Farm Bureau Conservation Award, Conrad and Lisa Liebergen. Check out the full video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMH9UW4HN_g.



Welcome, New Members!

A special thanks to everyone who worked so hard on membership this year. Brown County Farm Bureau ended the year with a gain of two voting members ending at 323 voting members and 908 total members. Welcome new members!

YFA Day at the NEW Zoo

On Saturday, July 29, Brown County Farm Bureau YFA celebrated National Ice Cream Month at the NEW Zoo in Suamico. They handed out over 500 cups of ice cream and entertained children with lots of fun agricultural activities!



Bay Port FFA Special Drive

Friday August 18 Bay Port FFA officially hosted the first ever “Special Drive” at the Brown County Fair! We had 15 students with special needs from ages 8-18 join with 30 Brown County Fair livestock exhibitors to learn how to raise and show a pig. Kids learned how to feed, bathe, brush and walk a pig followed by a group meal.

The event was a huge success, and everyone had a blast while participating! We even brought tears of joy to parents’ eyes as they were so happy for their kids to have this rare opportunity.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered and signed up for this event making it possible, especially our sponsors: Brown County Fair Wisconsin, Brown County Farm Bureau, 2myles4autism, Scott’s Subs, All Abilities Photography, AgCountry Farm Credit Services, 4-H Youth Leaders, Elizabeth Lade, Johnsonville, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Shawano County DAIRY Promotions, University of Wisconsin-River Falls, and Wisconsin Pork Association. We hope to see you next year!



Calumet County Annual Meeting

Nearly 65 members and guests attended this year's annual meeting to vote on policy resolutions to send on to the state. Jeff Ditzberger spoke on farmer mental health and shared a powerful message with the group.

Calumet County Outstanding Farm Bureau Member was awarded to Hickory Hills Country Club for their continual support and hosting of the annual Golf Outing.

Simon Regan was elected as president at the reorganization meeting following the annual meeting. Vice-President is Carley Blado, Secretary/Treasurer is Macey Pingel.

The county passed seven state resolutions that will now move on to the WFBF Policy Development committee for consideration:

State:

1. We support the mandatory advertising of lab grown food as lab grown. **(Marketing-Labeling)**

2. We support education of the consumer beyond high school regarding agriculture and the food chain. **(Marketing-Promotion)**

3. We support funding a Wisconsin Office of Agricultural Tourism (WiOAgT) for support, research and growth of the agricultural tourism industry. **(General Government)**

4. We support funding for a Wisconsin Office of Agricultural Tourism to

train farmers to offer value added agricultural tourism experiences to their farms. **(General Government)**

5. We support a standardized rulebook for law enforcement regarding agricultural semi use including dyed fuel, licensing requirements, etc. **(Transportation-Implements of Husbandry)**

6. We support all solar and wind farms to be required to have an Agricultural Impact Study through the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection. **(Energy-Alternative Sources)**

7. We support state, county and local governments to lessen reduce restrictions on meat, fruit, vegetable, **specialty crop**, aquaponics, specialty animal, and dairy farms to **offer agricultural tourism experiences ***, build a retail center, and not to restrict the number of events held at private agricultural event venues that do not sell alcohol.

*with the understanding that agricultural tourism experiences are a permitted use on ag-zoned land. **(Land Use-Local Planning and Zoning, Line 24)**



Rural Open Golf Outing

The Rural Open was hosted on Saturday, August 19 at Hickory Hills Country Club. Monies raised go to the Calumet County Farm Bureau and the Calumet County Fair Association. Watch for more information next year to get your team involved.



Welcome, New Members!

Calumet County Farm Bureau had a great year this year. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to bring in new members. Twenty-two new voting members were signed this year bringing the voting total to 292 members with 593 members total. Welcome new members!

Door County Annual Meeting

There were 74 members and guests that attended this year's annual meeting which included elections for board of directors and WFBF Annual Meeting delegates, a grassroots policy development discussion, and other business items.

Adam Meinert was elected as president at the reorganization meeting following the annual meeting. Vice-President is Rachel Harmann, Secretary is Claire Olson and Treasurer is Marti Viste.

The county passed 11 state resolutions that will now move on to the WFBF Policy Development committee for consideration:

State:

1. We support mandatory tractor safety training for ages 12 and up. **(Health and Safety-Safety)**
2. We support elementary school age introduction to rural safety program. **(Health and Safety-Safety)**
3. We support the expansion of rural health care opportunities. **(Health and Safety-Health Care)**

4. We support the number of depredation permits granted being increased. **(Hunting and Wildlife-Hunting Seasons)**
5. We support increased access to translation services. **(Technology)**
6. We support dehorning for the safety for the producer, worker and the animal. **(Livestock-Animal Welfare)**
7. We oppose conditional use businesses being subjected to mandatory liquor licenses. **(Marketing-Direct Marketing)**
8. We support a standardized set of food labels. **(Marketing-Labeling)**
9. We support a step up basis. **(Taxation)**
10. We support a tractor sign by every operating farm. **(Transportation-Safety)**
11. We support increased accessibility to road safety signs. **(Transportation-Safety)**



From Your Door County President

Dan Vandertie

2022-2023 Door County Farm Bureau President

Here is where I get to summarize and tell you what "we" have done as the Door County Farm Bureau board this year. By "we", I mean all our board members.

First, I will start with our leadership opportunities:

•I would like to congratulate Rachel Harmann for winning the State YFA Discussion Meet and going on to place in the Sweet 16 at the American Farm Bureau Federation's Young Farmer and Rancher Discussion Meet in Puerto Rico.

•I took part in the 23rd WFBF Council of Presidents meeting and presented on our radio ad promotion with Rachel Harmann.

Next is our local affairs opportunities and events:

•YFA Chair Holly LaPlant successfully planned and carried out the 1st Annual Cornhole Tournament in January with 50 teams!

•We sponsored two \$500.00 scholarships to Door County high school seniors.

•Door County Farm Bureau again purchased books for the schools, library and daycares in the area to promote ag literacy. This year's book is "I Love Strawberries."

•Two of our board members, Holly LaPlant and Nicki Peterson, came to the board last year with the idea of a tractor safety course for the Door County youth. They networked with Northeast Wisconsin Technical College and this summer they implemented the second tractor safety course in Door County, which area youth attended.

•We sponsored the Little Britches Showmanship contest at the Door County Fair.

Our one fundraiser each year is the Food Stand at the Door County Fair. We don't do this alone – we have many super volunteers who help us out with this project. We had a successful year – a BIG thank you to all the volunteers, we couldn't do this without them!

One other yearlong activity is our agriculture radio ads we started running on WDOR. Each month we concentrate on a specific division of agriculture in Door County. We network with Door County Dairy Promotion Committee, Wisconsin Beef Council, Door County Cherry Growers, local beef producers and Renard's Cheese to promote agriculture. This is headed up by Denise Plassmeyer.

As you can see, we've had a busy year and are looking forward to building on and adding to these accomplishments. If you are interested in lending your time or talents, we have room on committees for anyone who is interested in helping out.

Door County Fair

It was another successful year at the Door County Fair. A special thank you to all the workers who helped keep the stand running so smoothly! We couldn't do it without you!



Welcome, New Members!

Door County Farm Bureau had an exceptional membership year this year. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to bring in new members. Twenty new voting members were signed this year bringing the voting total to 199 members with 318 members total. Welcome new members!

Manitowoc County

Manitowoc County Annual Meeting

There were about 126 members and guests that attended this year's annual meeting to hear guest speaker WFBF Senior Director of Governmental Relations Tim Fiocchi. Tim shared a legislative update from WFBF.

Brent Sinkula was re-elected as president at the reorganization meeting following the annual meeting. Vice-President is Levi Bratt, Secretary is Jenny Riederer, the Treasurer is Derek Sedlacek and Dan Meyer as the member at large to make up the executive committee.

The Friend of Farm Bureau award was given to Mike Luebke.

The Livestock Achievement Award was handed out to James Lepich and Twin Cities Vue Dairy.

The county passed two local and seven state resolutions that will now move on to the WFBF Policy Development committee for consideration:

LOCAL

1. We commend Twin Cities Vue for serving as the 2023 Manitowoc County Breakfast on the Farm.
2. We support proper management including spraying, mowing, etc. to control noxious weeds on land owned and maintained by the government including town, county and state road right-of-ways.

STATE

1. We support the sale of raw milk from farms that meet Grade A requirements and Raw Milk Institute standards. **(Dairy-Raw Milk Sales)**
2. We support artificial proteins being labeled as artificial. **(Marketing-Labels)**
3. We support automatic renewing contracts to be limited to a one-year extension. **(General Government)**
4. We oppose contracts where one party can increase costs above the level of inflation without consent. **(General Government)**
5. We support education of crop and livestock husbandry within culinary education. **(Education-Ag Education)**
6. We support the development of an on-line tractor safety program with a



Rosalie Geiger and Cheryl Duchow present the Friend of Farm Bureau award to Mike Luebke



- hands-on test. **(Health and Safety-Safety)**
7. We support information being presented during driver education classes on the uniqueness of implements of husbandry and large vehicles on roadways. **(Transportation-Safety)**

Kiddie Showmanship

On Sunday, August 27, the Manitowoc YFA program hosted Kiddie Showmanship for grades 4K-2. Forty-two children participated, working with judge Megan Salentine from Kewaunee County. All the participants walked away with a ribbon and a halter as a generous donation by Memorial Fund of William "Bill" Schroeder Family, the Schaller/Schroder Families.



Year in Review from the Promotion and Education Committee

Cheryl Duchow & Rosalie Geiger

Promotion and Education Committee Co-Chairs

The Manitowoc County Farm Bureau Promotion and Education Committee usually meets the third Thursday of each month at the Farm Bureau office in St. Nazianz at 8 p.m. On a few occasions throughout the year, we do meet elsewhere. The Board of Directors meets at the same time, but the meetings are held separately.

The main purpose of our committee is to promote agriculture, sponsor programs for youth involvement and help raise money to fund these programs.

Our new year begins by setting the budget for the year and election of officers. Our officers for the year were Rosalie Geiger and Cheryl Duchow serving as Co-Chairs, and Alice Petermann as our secretary. Along with these officers the rest of the committee consists of Terri Herrmann, Michelle Bratt, Ann Hutterer, Doreen Bessert and Jenniffer Zutz, who joined us this year.

October is also the month in which the County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting is held, which was October 13, 2022 at Meat's Opera Haus in St. Nazianz. After all reports were given and the business meeting was finished, our annual "Friend of Farm Bureau Award" was presented to Becky Salm. She has truly been a big supporter and promoter of Farm Bureau activities over the years.

In November, Rosalie Geiger and Cheryl Duchow attended Ag in the Classroom Volunteer Training and Leadership Boot Camp at Three Bears Resort in Warren, Wis.

In December the WFBF Annual Meeting was held at the Kalahari in Wisconsin Dells and attended by Michelle Bratt, Rosalie Geiger and Cheryl Duchow representing the committee. Our committee was very fortunate to win one of the County All-Star Recognition Awards affording us \$500 to use toward our activities. We submitted an entry under the category of Consumer Outreach for our project of donations of personal care items, paper products and infant and toddler supplies to The Crossing in Manitowoc.

Rosalie Geiger and Cheryl Duchow demonstrated how to recycle household

waste at the STEM Event at Farm Wisconsin the week after Christmas.

Alice Petermann, our Ag in the Classroom Coordinator, made the Soybean Science Kit available to schools to use upon request. A coloring contest is offered to kindergarten through third grade. Fourth and fifth grade students can enter the essay contest and the winning essay from each county is then sent on to be judged on the state level. We offered first, second and third place in each of the two age categories. Some of the winning coloring contest entries from this past year have been used for our annual meeting program cover.

Also, a set of ag books is given each year to an elementary school in the county. This year they were given to Franklin Elementary School in Manitowoc and presented by Doreen Bessert.

In honor of June Dairy Month, our committee presented an agriculture book and a gift certificate from Pine River Dairy to the first June baby born at our local hospital.

Our committee members helped at the Breakfast on the Farm, which was hosted by Twin Cities View farm, owned by Lepich's. The weather was not so great being cold, wet and windy, but we still had 3,400 in attendance for a great dairy breakfast. We crowned Miss Farm Bureau for 2023-2024 and presented a \$500 scholarship to Clarissa Ulness. We also set up a booth to do a household waste recycling activity with the youth.

Rosalie Geiger and Cheryl Duchow also demonstrated household waste recycling and erosion for four classes (approximately 60 students) at Valders Elementary Summer School.

In August we helped with the Farm Bureau fair food stand, which was a beautiful week, allowing for great attendance.

We have been busy preparing our entries for the County All-Star Recognition Program. We are happy to announce that we won both the Ag in the Classroom and Local Affairs categories.

We have had a very busy year. We want to thank all who helped or participated in any way. We are again looking forward to another exciting year with the Manitowoc County Farm Bureau Promotion and Education Committee.



Welcome, New Members!

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard on membership this year. Manitowoc County Farm Bureau reached their voting goal for 2023. We signed 41 new members for a gain bringing us to 645 voting members and 1,117 total members!

Sheboygan County Annual Meeting



There were over 45 members and guests that attended this year's annual meeting to hear guest speaker Ross Bender. Ross shared the story of how fertilizer is produced and sold around the world.

Mark Schleicher was elected President at the reorganization meeting following the annual meeting. Vice President is Luke Gartman, Secretary/Treasurer is John Fischer and Kathy Salm and Mark Ramel were elected to make up the executive committee. Board members elected to a three-year term were Luke Gartman, Jessica Batterman and David Wilterdink.

The county passed 12 state resolutions and two federal

resolutions that will now move on to the WFBF Policy Development committee for consideration:

State:

1. All new solar projects have to utilize 35% of brown fields, rooftops and degraded lands or low-yield, underutilized or marginalized farmland. **(Energy-Alternative Sources)**

2. All solar land taken from farmland must be returned to farmland at the previous rating. **(Energy-Alternative Sources)**

3. We oppose reclaimed solar land being turned into any non-ag development. **(Energy-Alternative Sources)**

4. We support all solar and wind farms to be required to have an Agricultural Impact Study through the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Trade and Consumer Protection. **(Energy-Alternative Sources)**

5. The governor's veto power should be restricted to whole words and entire numbers. **(General Government-Veto Authority)**

6. We support limiting the amount of land owned or controlled by a foreign entity in a municipality to no more than 300 acres total. **(Land Use- Farmland Preservation)**

7. We oppose a state capital gains tax on the sale of a farm and farm assets. **(Taxation-Capital Gains)**

8. We support increasing the registration fee on electric vehicles. **(Taxation-Fuel Tax)**

9. We support requiring a non-probationary driver's license to operate any UTV/ATV driven on the road. **(Transportation-Safety)**

10. We support all ATV/UTV's operating on the road to be required to carry liability insurance. **(Transportation-Safety)**

11. We support all ATV/UTV's operating on the road to have lights, brake lights and turn signals. **(Transportation-Safety)**

12. We support a standardized rulebook for law enforcement regarding agricultural semi use including dyed fuel, licensing requirements, etc.

(Transportation-Implements of Husbandry)

Federal:

1. We oppose the World Health Organization having complete control during any health emergency. **154 – Health and Health Insurance (7 Health) or 179 – National Security (3.6)**

2. We oppose carbon dioxide pipelines. **503 – Climate Change (3.18)**

Welcome, New Members!

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard on membership this year. Sheboygan County Farm Bureau reached their membership goal to end the year with 407 voting members and 898 total members. Welcome new members!

Promotion and Education Committee Growing

Are you passionate about agriculture and sharing the story of farmers and how food is produced? Volunteers are needed for the Promotion and Education Committee. The committee will continue to organize this year's Classroom on the Farm as well as have opportunities to come up with new and exciting programming.

The committee meets in Plymouth and the Farm Bureau office on the third Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact District Coordinator, Becky Salm at 920-253-5303 or bsalm@wfbf.com.

YFA Night with Road Trip

Join us for a casual night out on Friday, December 15! Award winning pop, rock and country band ROAD TRIP takes the stage at 8 p.m. hosted by Butch & Anne's Pine Grove. Drink tokens available for all YFA Members – find Nicole to claim yours!





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