



The Announcer

Summer 2017

Editor: Cheryl Steinbach
Wisconsin FFA Alumni, Executive Director

37th State Convention Another Success!

Sections 6 & 10 hosted the 37th Wisconsin FFA Alumni Convention in Green Lake this past February. This year's convention chair was BJ Chrisler from the Sauk Prairie FFA Alumni. Over 300 individuals from across Wisconsin and the nation traveled to Green Lake to participate in convention. The convention participants had the opportunity to tour "Vines and Rushes Winery" in Ripon and attend educational workshops designed to strengthen the local FFA Alumni Chapter and their leadership. The many successes and accomplishments of local FFA alumni chapters, members and businesses were also celebrated. In addition there were many opportunities to socialize and network by participating in auctions and evening entertainment, which was highlighted this year with "Dueling Pianos".

There are many awards given out at convention. The following individuals, local businesses and FFA Alumni Chapters were recognized for their outstanding contributions, achievements, and service:

- Reactivated Chapters: Unity Area, Laconia, De Soto, Badger, and Wrightstown
- Activated Chapters: Poynette, Hudson, and Lakeside Lutheran
- Early Bird Roster Drawing: Adams-Friendship and Cadott
- Website Award: Kiel (Overall Winner)
- Newsletter Award: Kiel (Overall Winner), Stoughton (Gold), Sauk Prairie (Gold)
- Scrapbook Award: 1st Place Small Book: Unity Area FFA Alumni, 1st Place Large Book: Thorp FFA Alumni
- Wisconsin Outstanding Chapter Award: 3rd Place: Kiel, 2nd Place: Sauk Prairie, 1st Place Large Chapter: Clinton
- National Outstanding Chapter Award: Stoughton and Marshfield
- Agriculture Instructor Recognition: Troy Talford – Sauk Prairie & Jamie Propson - Mishicot (Overall Winner)
- Outstanding Achievement Award: Bronze – Harley Stokstad of the Stoughton FFA Alumni and Gold – Kathy Hartmann – Breunig of the Sauk Prairie FFA Alumni
- Chapter Membership Award
- ◇ Bronze: Bay Port, Clinton, Edgerton, Lancaster, Markesan, Milton, Montello/Westfield, Oconto Falls, Palmyra, Sparta, and Tomah
- ◇ Silver: Jefferson, Marathon, New Holstein, Rosholt, and Sauk Prairie
- ◇ Gold: Amery, Blair, Campbellsport, Elkhart Lake – Glenbeulah, Juda, Lomira, New Richmond, Plymouth, Pulaski, Thorp, and Waupaca
- Dr. V.O. Martinson Award: Thorp FFA Alumni
- Ann Martinson Award: Bloomer FFA Alumni
- Eagle Award: New Richmond FFA Alumni
- Team Ag Ed – Distinguished Contributor Award:
 - ◇ Badgerland Financial
 - ◇ Tim Onsager
- Retiring Council Members: Greg Lincicum, Michael Lewien, and Janet Schneider
- Convention Chairman: BJ Chrisler

IN THIS ISSUE

17-18 State FFA Alumni Council
Page 2

2018 Alumni Convention
Page 2

WLC Scholarships
Page 3

Membership, Newsletters & Emails
Page 3

Alumni Grants & Training
Page 4

Dates to Remember
Page 4

We strive to be Wisconsin's premier Agriculture Education advocate with FFA Alumni support in every community. We envision our diverse, positive, community committed organization to provide resources to support youth development and leadership.

Meet Your 2017-18 Council Members



Section 1: Gwen Dado
Kim Scholz

Section 2: Brenda Franklin

Section 3: Bill Lien

Brian Buchholz

Section 5: Nick Lowe

Rudy Kaderly

Section 6: Matt Damm

Bobbi Jo Kunz

Section 7: Herman Seebandt

Amy Penterman

Section 8: Candie Lehto

Ken Natzke

Section 9: Ellen Cary

Terri Wilfert

Section 10: Tim Spoke

Amy Voigt

Vice President: Cari Sabel

President Elect: Mark Ladsten

President: Dan Follendorf

Past President: Julie Spoke

Executive Director: Cheryl Steinbach

We are still in need of representatives for section 2 and section 4. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the Wisconsin FFA Alumni and to serve the Alumni chapters in your area. Please contact Cheryl Steinbach at her email: execdir@wisconsinffaalumni.org for more information on how you may become a sectional rep. You may also contact any of the council members to attend your local events. Their contact information can be found at <http://wisconsinffaalumni.org/contact.php>.



38th Wisconsin FFA Alumni Convention

The 2018 Wisconsin FFA Alumni Convention planning committee is working hard to create a fun, uplifting and educational convention. It will be held February 9th & 10th at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton. Cari Sabel from the Chilton FFA Alumni is serving as the convention chair.

We are asking for FFA alumni members from sections 8 & 9 to participate in the planning process. There are many responsibilities of running a convention, and it takes a multitude of different hands working together to make the convention a success. There are many great opportunities for members to be involved before and during the convention.

If you would like to get involved in any way, great or small, please consider attending one of the planning meetings. The next meeting is Saturday, August 5, at 9 AM at Fox Valley Technical College. If you cannot attend, but would like to help please feel free to contact Cari Sabel through her email: csabel@wisconsinffaalumni.org.

Cari was also elected at the new Wisconsin FFA Alumni Vice President at this past year's state Alumni convention. Cari's daughter Abby served as the 2015-16 Wisconsin FFA Reporter and was Wisconsin's 2016 National Officer Candidate so she has a firsthand knowledge of the role that FFA Alumni plays at the local and state levels.



Washington Leadership Scholarship Recipients

The Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association is pleased to announce that we were able to award 20 WLC scholarships in the amount of \$ 450.00 each this year! Congratulations to the following recipients:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Section</u>
Parker Reindahl - Clear Lake	1
Deanna Meyer - Amery	1
Katie Gindt - Cadott	2
Alexis Keller -Tomah	3
Elizebeth McGuire - Brodhead	5
Samantha Hanner - Oregon	5
Kyle Paulson - Columbus	6
Collin Bays - Adams-Friendship	6
Mykayla Kuhn - Waupun	6
Bailey Krause - Colby	7
Erika Gillett - Thorp	7
Lauren Dykes - Weyauwega-Fremont	8
Faith Brooks - Omro	8
Holly Gildernick - West De Pere	9
Molly Thorne - Mishicot	9
Mackenzie Shiplett - Chilton	9
Braden Kundert - Badger	10
Colton Klecker - Lake Mills	10
Ava Schrauth - Lomira	10
Cheyenne Krell - Hartford	10

Sharing Our Mission

State Council members are spending time this summer to share our message across the state. We were recognized as a GOLD Convention Partner for the State FFA Convention held earlier in June at Madison. Not only did we provide financial assistance for the convention leadership events, but we also conducted 4 workshops and participated in the career show. This gave us a great opportunity to interact with FFA members, advisors, alumni and potential alumni members.

Our mission is: **We strive to be Wisconsin's premier Agriculture Education advocate with FFA Alumni support in every community. We envision our diverse, positive, community committed organization to provide resources to support youth development and leadership.**

We are looking for members to join our organization. Membership is open to everyone. You do not have had to have been in FFA to belong to the Alumni and we are encouraging more people to pursue involvement in our organization.

Council Members enjoyed talking with the youth at State FFA Convention. It gave us great ideas for the future. We are advocating for Agriculture Education and FFA!



Newsletter Changes, Going Electronic

Following in line with the National FFA Alumni and to reduce costs the Wisconsin FFA Alumni newsletter will no longer be mailed in the hard copy. It will be published on a regular basis and will be available through various means. It will be sent to all agriculture instructors that our currently on the AgED list serve and to all of the state FFA Alumni members who have provided a current and accurate email address. If you do not receive one it is likely that you have not updated your email account on www.ffa.org. If you have not ever logged in to create an account you are encouraged to do that and get registered as well. If you have questions or need help with this process, please contact Cheryl Steinbach at execdir@wisconsinffaalumni.org.

For those without an email, the newsletter will also be published on the Wisconsin FFA Alumni website at the following link: <http://wisconsinffaalumni.org/about/>. Look for the tab that says state newsletter.

The PDF form of the newsletter may also be printed and distributed at the local level by the chapter leaders for those members who do not have internet access. It is our hope that we will be able to reach all of the members with these various formats, while ensuring that they can be distributed in a more timely and cost efficient manner.

We strive to be Wisconsin's premier Agriculture Education advocate with FFA Alumni support in every community. We envision our diverse, positive, community committed organization to provide resources to support youth development and leadership.

Wisconsin FFA Alumni Provides Grant Opportunities

Did you know that there are two different grants available for FFA Alumni Chapters in Wisconsin? The applications are currently being revised and will be posted on the Alumni website very shortly. You may also contact any council member for information.

The first grant option is the New/Reactivated FFA Alumni Chapter Grant. The purpose of the New/Reactivated FFA Alumni Chapter Grant is to provide financial assistance to Wisconsin FFA Alumni chapters who have newly established/or reactivated within the last year. This grant will provide aid to the chapter for start-up or reactivation expenses so that the chapter can effectively support and/or promote agricultural education in their community. The applying chapter must provide an identifiable purpose for the grant that is in alignment with the purpose of an FFA Alumni. Grants will be in the amount of \$550 per FFA Alumni Chapter.

The applying FFA Alumni chapter must have been considered inactive for a minimum of 5 consecutive membership years in order to be eligible to apply for this grant. The grant is available during the first year of the applying chapter's chartering or re-chartering date.

The second Wisconsin FFA Alumni Chapter Support Grant is available for any FFA Alumni chapter. The purpose of the Chapter Support Grant is to provide financial assistance to established Wisconsin FFA Alumni affiliates. This grant will aid a struggling chapter in supporting and/or promoting agricultural education in its community. The applying chapter must provide an identifiable purpose for the grant that is in alignment with the purpose of an FFA Alumni. Grants will be in the amount of \$550 per chapter. In order to be eligible for a grant the chapter must provide a written statement showing it is suffering from a hardship in either membership or finances. FFA Alumni chapters cannot receive the New/Reactivated FFA Alumni Chapter Grant and the FFA Alumni Chapter Support Grant in the same year.

Applications will be available online soon at http://wisconsinffaalumni.org/awards_and_grants/.



Regional Development Leadership Conferences

The National FFA Alumni will once again be hosting Regional Development Conferences for FFA Alumni members throughout the nation. The theme this year is "Purpose to Action". These are weekend conferences beginning with Friday evening leader training and then featuring workshops and networking on Saturday. Workshops include topics of Purpose, Starting, Recharging, Finding & Utilizing Resources, Action and Solutions & Sharing. This is a great chance to learn more about your opportunities and roles as an FFA Alumni member. More information can be found at <http://www.ffa.org/support/alumni/events>.

Save the Date

The Wisconsin FFA Alumni will be working cooperatively this fall to provide leadership training for FFA Alumni members in conjunction with the state FFA Sectional Leadership Works throughout the state. Each fall each section hosts a fall Leadership training and chapter planning for FFA members throughout that section and our Alumni will be there to help local Alumni chapters with planning their year as well. There will be a special section at each workshop, from 6 to 7 PM for Alumni, so please make plans to send someone from your chapter. The Schedule is as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sept. 18	9	Luxemburg-Casco
Sept. 19	8	Waupaca
Sept. 20	7	Owen Withee
Sept. 25	3	Black River Falls
Sept. 26	2	Menomonie
Sept. 27	1	Amery
Oct. 2	10	Big Foot
Oct. 4	4	Mineral Point
Oct. 9	6	Lodi
Oct. 10	5	Oregon

Other Dates to Remember

- July 11-13 - Farm Technology Days @ Kewaunee County
- July 17 - Foundation Northwest Golf Outing @ Eau Claire
- July 18 - Foundation Northeast Golf Outing @ De Pere
- July 24 - Foundation South Golf Outing @ Middleton
- August 2 - 13 - Wisconsin State Fair @ West Allis
- August 10 - 13 - FFA Band and Choir Performs at State Fair
- October 25 - 28 - National FFA Convention @ Indianapolis
- October 27 - National FFA Alumni Convention @ Indianapolis