



**WISCONSIN FFA**  
**ALUMNI AND SUPPORTERS**

# The Announcer

June 2020

**Editor: Cheryl Steinbach**

**Wisconsin FFA Alumni, Executive Director**

## Wisconsin FFA Alumni and Supporters Dairy Fundraiser this Saturday

The Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters Association is gearing up to show support to Wisconsin's Dairy Farmers during this June Dairy Month. Thanks to the generous sponsorship from Land O'Lakes, Inc., the Alumni will be hosting a drive-thru fundraising event this Saturday, June 27, 2020.

The sale will begin at 10 AM and run while the supplies last. First come, first serve.

This parking lot event will be held simultaneously at two separate locations in the state. These locations include:

- Midwest Shooters Supply, located at 191 Church St. Lomira, WI 53048 and
- Blain's Farm and Fleet, located at 9438 State Hwy 16. Onalaska, WI 54650.

This fundraiser will feature the sale of 5-pound bags of Land O'Lakes frozen macaroni and cheese, as well as, bags that contain ten 3 oz. cheddar cheese dip cups. The cost of both items are \$ 10.00 each. The macaroni and cheese is ready to eat, all you have to do is heat it up, and the cheddar dip cups are also ready to eat and perfect for serving with appetizers, drizzled over nachos, or enjoyed as a snack by itself.

For questions about the event, you may call 414-416-9846 or 715-937-4838.

Other sponsors of this fundraiser are Martin's Milk Transit, Kwik Trip, Penske Truck Rental, Badger State Property Maintenance and Tim Neubauer Trucking

Proceeds from the event will be used to continue support of the local FFA Alumni chapter grants and FFA chapter member scholarships. Many local FFA Alumni chapters demonstrated outstanding leadership to promote the dairy industry during the pandemic so we want to continue to provide them the resources you need.



**Is your Chapter using the correct branding logo for FFA Alumni and Supporters? As reported in our last newsletter, the national FFA organization has eliminated the use of the shield for our logo. Each chapter in the state has their own individual logo just like ours at the top of this page, but your individual chapter name replaces Wisconsin. Please contact us at**

**[execdir@wisconsinffaalumni.org](mailto:execdir@wisconsinffaalumni.org) to get yours today!**

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## Wisconsin FFA State Convention to be held online, July 6 - 10

Most of you have likely heard that the state convention activities that were supposed to be held early this month in Madison were cancelled. It just didn't seem right for many people not to attend this annual event.

But we are excited to share with you that the final plans are being made and the online convention proves to be an exciting time to highlight FFA members and their accomplishments, all across the state.

The convention is scheduled to kick off at 9 AM Monday, July 6 and run through Friday, July 10. This is what the press release from the FFA center this week shared:

***“Monday, July, 6th kicks off with a welcome from National FFA Advisor, Dr. James Woodard, cheer on Wisconsin’s final membership number as chapter membership awards are announced, recognize chapters for their community service and see who wins the state Middle School Essay contest centered around the theme, “Rise Up. Stand Out”.***

***Then don’t miss out on Monday evening and join Facebook Live to be entertained by new country recording artist, Tenille Townes at 7:00 p.m.***

***Tuesday begins with the keynote address from National FFA President Kolesen McCoy followed throughout the day by video presentations of the state winning proficiency awards as their Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAE) are showcased. Help us salute our 2019-2020 sponsors who made these awards possible. Kolesen will also offer a live workshop at 7:00 p.m. Just make sure to sign up through the Wisconsin Association of FFA Facebook page.***

***Wednesday and Thursday, July, 8th-9th, watch the introduction of Wisconsin Star finalists in Agribusiness, Agriscience, Ag Placement and Farmers and their amazing programs.***

***Also on Wednesday 348 State Degrees recipients will be honored and the Wisconsin FFA Alumni will be offering a workshop.”***

The Alumni workshop will feature a panel of Alumni members that will share how to actively engage younger FFA Alumni members in your local chapter

and how to become more involved if you are an associate member.

***“Thursday will also highlight the National Chapter Awards and Three Star Leaders.***

***Take in the finale on Friday when the Agriscience Fair Award results are announced and four Stars Over Wisconsin are named. Pay tribute to the state officer parents, capture the year in review and hear Collin Weltzien’s retiring presidential address.***

***Finally meet the new 2020-2021 Wisconsin State Officer team. Keep an eye out during the entire week of July 6 as even more will be posted and announcements made in order to celebrate Wisconsin FFA.”***

Log on to the Wisconsin FFA Facebook page, Instagram and/or the Wisconsin FFA Website ([wisconsinaged.org](http://wisconsinaged.org)) to experience this event.



## National Grants Awarded to State Alumni Chapters

Congratulations to the following FFA Alumni and Supporters who have received national grants this year already.

Nutrien Ag Solutions, Give Back to Your Roots Grants went to:

Randolph Cambria-Friesland and Adams-Friendship in March and Waupaca in June.

The Tractor Supply Legacy Grants are awarded for partnerships between the FFA and Alumni & Supporters chapters. Weyauwega-Fremont received this grant in June.

There is still one more cycle of grants to be awarded at the national level and the deadline is the end of August.

Don't forget, Wisconsin also has some chapter support grants valued at \$ 550 each that can help you with various programs to assist your local FFA chapters. All grant applications can be found on the state website under the Alumni and Grants tab.

## National FFA Alumni Regional Development Conference Available online.

Because of the pandemic, national FFA staff is not traveling to conduct their usual Regional Development Conferences (RDC) around the nation, Instead they are holding the events online, so they are Remote Development Conferences,

There are two more conference upcoming. These are::

1. **July 6 -10**, 10:00 AM each day, one hour session and it will include time for questions and answers.

**Monday - Join Us**( Affiliation, Starting a Chapter, Alumni/Advisor Communication, Branding, Recruitment, Member Benefits)

**Tuesday - Get Involved** (Officer Teams, Conflict Management, Finances, Utilizing FFA.org, Running a Meeting, Volunteer Management, Mentoring and Networking, Supporting the FFA Vision, Goal Setting)

**Wednesday - Chapter Opportunities** (Utilizing Collegiate and Corporate Members, Grants, Fund-raising, Seeking Sponsorships, Awards, Celebrations)

**Thursday - Chapter Spotlights** (Best Practices in Chapter Operations and Supporting Premier Leadership, Personal Growth and Career Success)

**Friday - State Leader Training** (Local Chapter Development and Retention, Member Benefits, Advocacy, Team Ag Ed, Business Operations)

2. **August 15** - All day, 5 sessions as described above, at hour long intervals with time for questions.

**9:00 a.m. - State Leader Training**

**10:30 a.m. - Join Us**

**12:00 p.m. - Get Involved**

**1:30 p.m. - Chapter Opportunities**

**3:00 p.m. - Chapter Spotlights**

Sessions will be recorded, and accompanying documents and conference information will be located at [FFA.org/GoToRDC](https://www.ffa.org/GoToRDC)



## Membership Updates

With all of the cancellations this spring we were unable to host our many section meetings and banquets. We do not know what the fall will look like yet as schools are trying to decide how to safely open and operate. We are also unsure what the DPI mandates will be and how that will impact the FFA chapter activities.

What we are sure of is that we want to be sure that local chapters know we are here as a resource for you. Please feel free to contact your section representative with questions or concerns, or you may also contact the executive council members and executive director at any time.

As the new membership year begins on August 1, so does the membership affiliation process for all Alumni and Supporters Chapters in the nation. Local leaders will be sent the information once nationals releases the details this fall but the biggest change is that there will no longer be annual dues charged. Members may choose to be Lifetime Members and those fees are used as investments for leadership activities for years to come. The only other fee structure is that each chapter will pay a \$ 100 national affiliation fee and \$ 200 state fee, but this will allow each chapter to have an unlimited number of members.

Nationals has incorporated the change to help ensure that all volunteers, donors, mentors and advocates can have membership without being charged.

In order to incentivize our state chapters to get members on the roster early so they can receive all the individual benefits of membership all year long, Wisconsin will be offering a one-time discount of \$ 50 off the fee for any chapter that submits the roster and payment by October 1. Encourage your local leaders to get this taken care of early in the fall to not only save some money, but ensure that your chapter is in good standing and eligible for the many grants and scholarships offered.

If you are a chapter leader, please make sure we have your current email so we can send you all of the details this fall. If you have questions, please reach out to any of your council members. Their contact information is on the next page.

## 2021 Convention Planning

The planning committee for our next annual meeting and state convention is working hard to plan another fun and useful event for members.

The next meeting has been set for Saturday, July 18 from 9 AM to 11 AM. It will be held at the Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel & Convention Center at 1 North Main Street, Oshkosh, WI.

The meeting will be held in a large conference room, Lake Winnebago AB, and chairs will be set up for social distancing. You are able to wear a mask if you would like, by the convention center is not mandating them.

There will also be an opportunity to tour this facility as a potential site for the 2024 convention.

All interested volunteers are encouraged to attend. If you would like to help with the convention but can not attend the meeting, please contact one of the co-chairs, Cari Sabel or Nate Zimdars,



## Meet Your Council Members: Here to Serve Your Chapters!

### President

Rudy Kaderly, Juda  
(608) 312-9139

### President-Elect

Nate Zimdars, Ripon  
920-896-2511

### Vice President

Terri Wilfert  
(920) 323-7829

### Past President

Cari Sabel, Chilton  
(920) 418-0596

### Section 1

David Clausen  
(715) 268-7454  
Jerry Larsen  
(715) 553-0258

### Section 2

Brenda Franklin  
(715) 410-6842  
Caleb Green  
(715) 563-8536

### Section 3

Derek Trescher  
(608) 487-4269  
Chris Blank  
(262) 365-3289

### Section 4

Nick Huffman  
(608)574-0827

### Section 5

Nick Lowe  
(608) 358-2061  
Jack Ellickson  
(608) 719-9455

### Section 6

Matt Damm  
(920) 210-9065  
Bobbi Jo Kunz  
(920) 392-9366

### Section 7

Cindi Freidhof  
(715) 223-8212  
Gary Eibergen  
(715)533-0895

### Section 8

Bobbie Jo Montgomery  
(715) 281-4625  
Grant Staszak  
(920) 366-8078

### Section 9

Sara Bertram  
(920) 267-0433  
Sean VanderHeiden  
(920)418-4292

### Section 10

Gene Hetebrueg  
(414) 416-9846  
Amy Voigt  
(920) 210-1647

### Executive Director

Cheryl Steinbach  
715) 937-4838