

WALSAA EXPRESS

WISCONSIN AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FRIENDS



UW Madison • 240 Agricultural Hall • 1450 Linden Drive • Madison WI 53706 • PHONE (608) 262-5784 • FAX (608) 265-5905

Farm and Industry Short Course Reunion Set for Jan. 31

The annual Farm and Industry Short Course Alumni Reunion is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 31, at the Comfort Inn and Suites at 5025 County Highway V, DeForest, WI 53532. The DeForest Comfort Inn and Suites is located at Highway V and I-90/94.

The luncheon and program event will begin at 12:15 p.m. preceded by an 11:30 a.m. social hour. The post reunion social hour will include complimentary beer and soda.

During the program the Service to Agriculture Award and The Friend of Short Course Award will be presented.

The 10:30 a.m. pre-reunion seminar will feature Ted Halbach, newly appointed director of the Farm and Industry Short Course program. His program will focus on his goals for the future of the program.

Make plans now to spend Jan. 31 in DeForest. The cost for the reunion will be \$18 for alumni and friends and \$15 for current students. The lunch includes a buffet and dessert. Submit the luncheon and seminar reservation form inside this issue of the WALSAA Express to the Wisconsin Alumni Association office no later than Jan. 21.

For those wishing to stay overnight, the hotel is offering a special Short Course Alumni Reunion rate available on regular rooms. Mention the Short Course Reunion if you are calling to reserve rooms. The number for the Comfort Inn and Suites is 608-846-9100.

As in the past, there will be a variety of door prizes as part of the luncheon. Special recognition will be given to the classes of 1999, 1989 and 1979 as they celebrate special reunions. Also all alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago (1959 and earlier) will receive special recognition in this 124th Short Course anniversary year.



This newsletter is sponsored by:



Foremost
F A R M S • U S A



Badgerland[®]
F I N A N C I A L

Inside This Issue:

- President's Address . . . page 2
- Fire-Up Recap page 3
- FISC Reunion Form . . . page 4
- FISC Corner page 5
- Alumni Updates page 6
- Campus Happenings . . page 6
- Contributions page 7



Greetings WALSAA members and friends!



Change has been the theme around the country this year and WALSAA was no exception. It's hard to

believe that it has been a year since WALSAA and CALS embarked on our path to change. We had some successes and some situations that need improvement. I am pleased that we learned a great deal over this short period of time and we are truly grateful for the many WALSAA members and friends who contacted Dean Jahn, our board and me to make suggestions for improvement and voice what events and services are important to them.

Finally, we are ready to test a new model of governance and new methods of execution with a goal that we hope will satisfy you - our members - and make all involved feel good about their support of our organization and our college. Please continue to contact us (your board, Dean Jahn and me) to share your feedback. You will drive our efforts and define our future.

Since our last newsletter we participated in an entirely new graduation reception, had new activities around Farm Technology Days, participated in the all new UW-Madison Day at the Wisconsin State Fair and held our traditional fall tailgate and scholarship fundraising auction at the UW Field House. While we have always done many of these events, without exception, each was held in a different way and change has occurred in each event either in large or small ways but certainly in new ways.

One of the most notable chang-

es was with Fire-Up. Playing to a disappointing record, tickets to the UW Badger Sports events are no longer available, the Stock Pavilion is not a venue choice for us any longer and the Labor Day and Thanksgiving week football games did not appear to be good choices for our traditional event, we tried some new things this year.

While the turnout was low, support for the auction was terrific and we came very close to meeting our record-breaking fundraising of last year. The UW Foundation matches up to \$8,000 of 'new' money raised at this auction annually and with this year's auction clearing over \$10,000 we will get the maximum match. This will allow us to have sufficient money to cover the operating costs of our commitments: Outstanding Sophomore Scholarships, WALSAA Academic Advisor Recognition, Senior Activity Awards and WALSAA Student Travel Awards.

So, while we are changing some of the events WALSAA has always held and the way they are executed, we are working to maintain the things that WALSAA is known for and the events you have grown to expect and enjoy in your participation with WALSAA.

Please thank the donors and sponsors of our Fire-Up if you have any contact or opportunity to do so. The generous donations to our auction and the vigorous support of the small but zealous crowd that attended helped us successfully address the core funding issues we were dealing with.

A couple of additional changes of note at the Fire-Up: We ratified a by-laws change at our

annual meeting that changed the wording on how we connect with the Dean's office and the college and we approved an increase in the number of board members as we are moving toward more active working committees. We now have four board members up for re-election every year, each serving a three-year term.

Please visit the CALS website and check the revised by-laws out as well as contact information for our board members. There is also a listing of board contacts with new board member information included in this issue along with a list of Fire-Up donors and sponsors.

The weather was wild for the Farm Technology Days picnic and they actually closed the show down due to high winds and severe storms but our gracious host family persevered and the picnic was still held at the Natzke Farm. Again the group was smaller but intrepid.

CALS was well represented at the Wisconsin State Fair but WALSAA no longer has a booth at the fair. This disappointed several members who enjoyed volunteering at the WALSAA booth and making their annual trek to State Fair. The expense and challenge of manning a booth for 11 days were prohibitive but the new college wide representation was a welcome change and gave us all plenty to be proud of.

Your WALSAA board annual meeting resulted in my continuing as president for one more year, Merle Richter continuing as vice president and Bob Kaczmarek agreeing to continue as our treasurer. Dean Jahn has asked Dave Nelson to continue as our faculty representative and Michelle Brenner remains as our student representative for another



er year. We have five additional board members filling unfinished terms and starting new terms in the additional board seats. Each of them brings special talents and skills as well as dedication to this organization. I am grateful that we have such wonderful support throughout our membership, which brings me to a final point.

Last year we stopped charging 'dues' for membership. WALSAA lifetime members remain lifetime members and we are working on structuring our funding or garnering sponsorship of our newsletters and events to continue providing the primary services we receive as lifetime members.

Annual members have not been charged membership dues for over a year. We changed to a contributing member donation and hope that all current and future WALSAA annual members will consider making a tax deductible donation to WALSAA to cover the costs of serving members while supporting the many valuable activities WALSAA provides annually.

We are pleased to announce a new initiative, the Annual Student Council Leadership Retreat, which has proven to be a life changing experience. We are also vigorously investigating new ways of networking and gathering alumni together for fellowship, mentoring and belonging that are so important to WALSAA members. We are all undergoing change and our organization will continue to change but will do so in the very best way with your help, participation and guidance so please get involved and help us make WALSAA better everyday.

President Liz Henry

Bands Fire Up the 2008 Football Fire-Up

On Sept. 6, more than 350 CALS alumni and friends gathered at the UW Field House to cheer on the Badgers, support student scholarships and WALSAA activities.

Tailgators were treated to music by Dr. Kaufman's band and some members of UW Band stopped by as well.

More than \$4,500 was raised to support the new Wisconsin Rural Youth Scholarship Initiative - when combined with ongoing efforts underway our new total is over \$30,000. A remarkable figure considering we have just recently launched this new scholarship initiative.

In addition, WALSAA raised over \$10,000 with the annual silent auction and raffle, nearing last year's record high. The UW Foundation will match \$8,000 of that to provide operational funding for the many scholarships and awards distributed by WALSAA each year.

This was the second year WALSAA held the FireUp in the UW Field House, taking advantage of the great location adjacent to Camp Randall Stadium. However, several attendees have stated they prefer the West Madison location for the ease of parking and relaxed atmosphere. WALSAA will continue to review this event to decide how it will offer this alumni networking opportunity in the future.

Thank You Fire-Up Auction Donors

A big thank you to all individuals and companies that donated items to WALSAA's silent auction at Fire-Up.

AgSource Cooperative

Lou Arrington

Badgerland Financial

Botham Winery

Carl Dowse, Bruce Company

Sid Cook, Carr Valley Cheese

Case New Holland

Steve Diercks Family, Coloma Farms

Concourse Hotel

DoubleTree Hotel

Rick and Peggy Daluge

Andy Kurth

Flame Disk

Flemings Steakhouse

UW Forestry Club

Jimmy's Dell Bar

Joe and Liz Henry

John Deere, John Deere alumni

Dan and Nancy Horan

Lodi Sausage Company

Kay and Duane Mass

Madison Symphony Orchestra

Mike and Joyce Marr

Orion Samuelson

Scott Rasch Family

Mark Sherry

Birdie Schiller

UW Band

WALSAA

James Wilson Family

Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board

Wollersheim Winery

World Dairy Expo



Farm & Industry Short Course Reunion

Farm and Industry Short Course Alumni Reunion Luncheon and Seminar Reservation Form

January 31, 2009

Comfort Inn & Suites
5025 County Highway V
DeForest, WI 53532

608-846-9100 - www.northstarconference.com

The DeForest Comfort Inn and Suites is located at Hwy V and I90/94

Registration Form

Reservations: \$18 per person and \$15 for students

Reservation Deadline: January 21

Your reservation must be returned with a check or credit card information.

All reservations received after January 21 or day of event walk-ins are \$22. All reservations received after January 21 or day of event walk-ins may pay by check or credit card at the door.

Nametags, luncheon tickets and door prize tickets for reservations will need to be picked up at the Reunion Reservation Desk at the Comfort Inn and Suites.

A confirmation notice will be sent for your reservations before January 21, it will be mailed to the address below:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Name: _____ Year\’s Attended: _____

Name: _____ Year\’s Attended: _____

Name: _____ Year\’s Attended: _____

Use an additional sheet of paper for names or addresses different from your own. We will provide nametags and seat you and your guests by the year attended.

Payment Options

Check made payable to Wisconsin Alumni Association for _____ reservations @ \$18 or \$15

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Charge \$ _____ for _____ reservations at \$18 to _____ MasterCard _____ Visa

Card #: _____ Expiration date: _____

Name on card: _____

Register and Pay Online at: www.uwalumni.com/shortcourse09

Please mail Reservation Form and Payment to:

Wisconsin Alumni Association, Attn: Short Course Reunion, 650 N. Lake Street, Madison, WI 53706

Questions: Contact Andrea Brossard Martin at 920-296-2382 or e-mail amartin@wmmb.org

Farm & Industry Short Course - 124th Year Underway



FISC
Corner

By Andrea Brossard Martin
FISC Alumni President

Enrollment

This year's Farm and Industry Short Course session is well underway. Enrollment has increased from 120 students enrolled last year to 143 students enrolled this year. There are 85 first year students and 58 second year students. More than \$100,000 in scholarships were awarded to students attending the program this year.

FISC Ambassadors

For the first time in the history of FISC, six students are serving as FISC Ambassadors. These students are encouraging high school students to attend Short Course by sharing their experiences and helping them understand all that Short Course has to offer.

Short Course Dairy Judging Team

The Short Course Dairy Judging Team placed higher than ever at the World Dairy Expo and Louisville North American International Livestock Exposition Junior College dairy judging contests – coming in second at both. In addition, the team has a new coach, Chad Wethal of Stoughton. Chad will also be teaching a new dairy judging instruction class during the third term of the program.



FISC Dairy Judging Team

Left to Right: Coach Chad Wethal, Luke Lensmire, Cleveland; Mandy Pierick, Watertown; Paula Courtney, Mukwonago; and Steven Davis, Sharon.

Ted Halbach to Lead Farm and Industry Short Course

Ted Halbach, outreach specialist and dairy judging coach at UW-Madison Dairy Science Department, has been appointed as the new director of the University's Farm and Industry Short Course, a 17-week educational program that prepares students for careers in agriculture and related fields.

Halbach joined the staff of the UW-Madison Department of Dairy Science in 1998. He has coordinated and supported dairy youth programs throughout Wisconsin; taught dairy cattle evaluation classes for both the four-year college program and the short course, and coached the UW-Madison's highly successful dairy judging team.

The Farm and Industry Short Course offers more than 40 courses in subjects ranging from crops and livestock to marketing, human relations and communications. Its curriculum has evolved in recent years to reflect new industry trends. One new specialty program is geared toward the turf and landscape industry, while another focuses on pasture-based dairy and livestock systems.

Established in 1885, the UW-Madison's Farm and Industry Short Course is the oldest program of its kind. Its first director was W.A. Henry, the first dean of what was then the College of Agriculture. Halbach will be the seventh director. He replaces Richard Daluge, who retired last year.



Alumni Updates

Congratulations!

Diane Amera (BS '89) was elected president-elect of the National FFA Alumni.

Four Crave brothers - Charles, George, Tom and **Mark (BS '88)** - received the prestigious title of Dairymen of the Year at the recent World Dairy Expo in Madison. The brothers and their families are partners in Crave Brothers Farm, LLC and Crave Brothers Farmstead Cheese, LLC.

Karen (Topel) Lee (BS '03) is the newest editor at Progressive Dairy Publishing. She previously held the position of managing editor at *Agri-View*.

Monroe Miller, Blackhawk Country Club golf course superintendent, has been selected by the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America as a recipient of the 2009 Colonel John Morley Distinguished

Service Award.

Samuel J. Miller (BS '84), senior vice president of Agribusiness and Food Banking for M&I Bank, has been elected chair of the American Bankers Association's Agriculture and Rural Bankers Committee for the 2008-2009 association year.

Kristin (Barlass) Paul (BS '02), Janesville, was named field service coordinator for the AJCA and its affiliate, National All-Jersey Inc.

Nicole Schmidt (BS 08) was selected to lead the Wisconsin FFA Foundation.

Gary Sipiorski was named by Vita Plus to a newly created position of dairy development manager. Sipiorski had been the president and CEO of Citizens State Bank of Loyal.

Tim Sonntag (BS '80) has been named president

of the National Seasoning Manufacturers Association (NSMA) for a two-year term. He is the vice president of quality and technical services for Wixon, Inc.

Carol M. (Thomey) Stiff, (BS '72), is the new president and executive director of Kitchen Culture Education Technologies Inc. (KCET) and its subsidiary, the Home Tissue Culture Group (HTCG).

Lindsey Worden (BS '07), who has been serving as Holstein USA public relations specialist for the past year, will now lead all editorial, advertising, public relations strategies and programs as communications manager for Holstein USA.

Congrats to CALS Alumni elected to the Legislature: **Al Ott-R, FISC, '67; John Steinbrink-D, FISC; Ed Brooks-R, BS '65.**

Campus Happenings

By **Michelle Brenner**
WALSAA Student Rep.

Happy Holidays WALSAA alumni! I hope each and every one of you has a safe and enjoyable holiday season. This past semester was full of many exciting events on CALS campus and as the semester rapidly comes to a close, I would like to look back on one very successful event put on by the CALS Student Council in conjunction with its over 40 member organizations.

This past September, grills were cooking and booths were full at the Microbial Sciences Building for the CALS Student Council Fall Picnic. The fall picnic is an annual event for organizations to reach out to students, but especially freshman, to get involved during their time here at UW-Madison. This year CALS career services and company sponsors were also present to help students with job and internship opportunities. CALS Student Council would like to thank the following sponsors for their generosity: Cargill, Case New Holland, Ecolab, Fort Dodge, and Kellogg.

This year students also had the opportunity to dunk their favorite professor, dean, or club president. This dunk tank was used to help CALS Student Council in its fundraising efforts. A special thanks to Professor Marv Johnson, Dean Robert Ray, Clayton Wohlk (Badger Dairy Club President), Danyel Hosto (AWA President), Eli Rolli (AGR President), and Luke Lopas (CALS Student Council Co-President) for being dunked.

Overall, 500-plus students stopped by to find out more about organizations, eat, and have a great time networking. CALS will host its fall picnic again next fall. If you have connections to a company that would want to participate and have a booth at the fall picnic net year, contact me at mkbrenner@wisc.edu.

If you have any questions, comments, or would like more information about student events on campus, feel free to contact me at mkbrenner@wisc.edu. Student organizations are constantly looking for alumni connections and appreciate your time, energy and support.

Membership Contributions



Although WALSAA is moving away from dues and to contributions for support, anyone who contributes at the previous membership levels – \$35 a year, \$500 for a lifetime – will continue to receive the full WALSAA benefits, including the newsletter, WALSAA President Liz Henry said.

While WALSAA will no longer collect either annual or lifetime membership dues, the organization is counting on members to contribute to the WALSAA fund, Henry said. The money will continue to be used for WALSAA programs, including scholarships and ambassadorships, and donors will continue to receive the WALSAA newsletter and invitations to events, including the Football Fire Up.

To make a gift to WALSAA, make checks payable to UW Foundation-WALSAA. Mail to the University of Wisconsin Foundation, U.S. Bank Lockbox, P.O. Box 78807, Milwaukee, WI 53278-0807. To make a contribution online, go to www.uwfoundation.wisc.edu.

If you have questions about how to make gifts to WALSAA through the UW Foundation, contact Brian Hettiger at 608-265-5893 or brian.hettiger@uwfoundation.wisc.edu.

Board Member Listing

WALSAA Board of Directors

Liz Henry, President '83 - 2011

7809 Dunroven Road
Dane, WI 53529-9711
Home: (608) 592-5299
Work: (608) 262-9485
Cell: (608) 575-6747
E-mail: bothh@msn.com

Merle Richter, Vice President '72 - 2009

1907 York Street
Bloomer, WI 54724
Home: (715) 568-5687
Cell: (715) 579-7288
E-mail: mkrichter@bloomer.net

Bob Kaczmarek, Treasurer, 2008

3512 14th Place
Kenosha, WI 53144
Home: (262) 552-7777
Cell: (414) 810-9685
E-mail: badger80@uwalumni.com

Jessica Agnew '03 - 2010

5584 Winsome Way
Fitchburg, WI 53575
Cell: (608) 751-3084
E-mail: jagnew@uwalumni.com

Tom Albrecht '76 - 2009

N6031 Opperman Way
Shawano, WI 54166
Home: (715) 526-6728
Work: (715) 526-4229
E-mail: albrecht@ezwebtech.com

Michelle Brenner, Student Rep.

2605 El Rancho Dr.
Brookfield, WI 53005
Home: (262) 784-4704
Cell: (608) 217-6971
E-mail: mkbrenner@wisc.edu

**Andrea Brossard Martin '01 -2011
FISC Alumni President**

N9069 Basswood Road
Beaver Dam, WI 53916
Home: (920) 296-2382
Work: (608) 836-8820
E-mail: amartin@wmmb.org

Gena Cooper '05 - 2010

1728 TamOShanter Trail
Sun Prairie, WI 53590
Home: (608) 444-7656
E-mail: glcooper@uwalumni.com

Brian Fluno '97 - 2011

1712 North Woods Way
Vernon Hills, IL 60061-1236
Home: (847) 327-9466
Work: (847) 438-8211
E-mail: brian.fluno@sbcglobal.net

Brian Hettiger - 2008

1848 University Ave.
Madison, WI 53726
Work: (608) 265-5893
Cell: (608) 345-0031
E-mail: brian.hettiger@uwfoundation.wisc.edu

Karen Lee '03 - 2010

11316 N Washington Road
Edgerton, WI 53534
Cell: (608) 576-2580
E-mail: ryankarenlee@gmail.com

Jill Makovec

3234 Stonecreek Dr.
Madison, WI 53719
Cell: (608) 513-5605
E-mail: jillmakovec@uwalumni.com

Sam Miller '84 - 2011

914 N. Fox St.
Appleton, WI 54911
Home: (920) 733-0012
Work: (920) 738-5150
E-mail: sam.miller@micorp.com

Dr. David Nelson - CALS Faculty Rep

1034 Waban Hill
Madison, WI 53711-3050
Home: (608) 274-5184
Work: (608) 263-6879
E-mail: nelson@biochem.wisc.edu

Brian Nodolf

11623 State Rd. 80
Livingston, WI 53554
Work: (608) 943-6363
Cell: (608) 732-1533
E-mail: briann@biddick.net

Robert Pofahl '74 - 2011

1370 Boundary Road
Middleton, WI 53562
Home: (608) 831-0434
Work: (608) 831-6563
E-mail: bob@reaeng.com

Bryan Renk

3513 Anderson St. Ste. 100
Madison, WI 53704
Work: (608) 310-9595
E-mail: byran@aovatech.com

Dave Schroepfer

N6739 Hwy V
Deerbrook, WI 54424
Home: (715) 627-2539
Cell: (715) 367-0886
E-mail: dschroepfer@altagenetics.com

Marjorie Stieve

PO Box 259126
Madison, WI 53725-9126
Work: (608) 250-4284
E-mail: mstieve@vitaplus.com

Steven Thomas '89 - 2010

904 Oaks Avenue North
Onalaska, WI 54650
Home: (608) 779-5951
Cell: (608) 769-2233
E-mail: steven.thomas@micorp.com



Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Madison, Wisconsin
 Permit 1868

116 Agriculture Hall
 1450 Linden Drive
 Madison WI 53706

**Short Course Reunion
 To Be Held Jan. 31
 More info inside.**

The WALSAA newsletter is published by the Wisconsin Agricultural and Life Sciences Alumni Association, Inc., 240 Agriculture Hall, 1450 Linden Drive, Madison, WI 53706. Circulation 3,000. Send change of address notices to above address. Layout and design by Karen Lee. Printing by Badger Press.

Jan. 31	Farm & Industry Short Course Reunion ■ DeForest
March 27	Farm & Industry Short Course Graduation ■ Madison
May 17	Spring Commencement ■ Madison
July 22	WALSAA Farm Technology Days Picnic ■ Waterloo
Aug. 5	UW Day at Wisconsin State Fair ■ West Allis

Upcoming WALSAA Events