

WALSAA EXPRESS

WISCONSIN AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FRIENDS



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2009 Badger Football Schedule

Sept. 5	6 p.m.	Northern Illinois
Sept. 12	11 a.m.	Fresno State*
Sept. 19	11 a.m.	Wofford
Sept. 26	TBA	Michigan State
Oct. 3	TBA	Minnesota
Oct. 10	TBA	Ohio State
Oct. 17	11 a.m.	Iowa**
Oct. 24	Bye week	
Oct. 31	TBA	Purdue
Nov. 7	TBA	Indiana
Nov. 14	TBA	Michigan
Nov. 21	TBA	Northwestern
Nov. 28	Bye week	
Dec. 5	TBA	Hawaii

Home games in red

*Fire-Up

**Homecoming



Fire Up For WALSAA's Annual Tailgate Party on Sept. 12

The 34th annual WALSAA Fire-Up tailgate party and auction will be held at the UW Field House, Saturday morning, Sept. 12, prior to the Fresno State football game. Tickets are available for the football game this year. This is a great opportunity to meet with old friends and be a part of the excitement that comes with being a Badger.

Please plan to join WALSAA for the pre-game festivities and help meet its goal of raising scholarship dollars. The WALSAA annual meeting will be held from 8-8:30 a.m. where business will be conducted and board member nominees entertained. Fire-Up runs from 8:30-10:30 a.m. with Dean Molly Jahn, a visit from Bucky Badger, the UW Band and cheerleaders. Please join WALSAA for this wonderful opportunity to connect with the College, CALS alumni and fellow WALSAA members to network and raise scholarship funds to benefit current and future CALS students.

As in years past, Fire-Up 2009 will include the WALSAA Silent Auction where WALSAA earns matching funds from the UW Foundation to support its Outstanding Sophomore Scholarships, Senior Activity Awards, Farm & Industry Short Course activities, leadership retreats, CALS Ambassador activities and more. It will feature some new items and many of the wonderful auction items you bid on each year: Badger sporting event tickets; a week's lodging in beautiful Door County or at Rick and Peggy Daluge's ski cabin; dining, hotel and entertainment gift certificates will all be available. See the listing inside for a sneak peek at what will be available for bidding.

This year 200 international students will be joining the WALSAA Fire-Up as guests of the Wisconsin Alumni Association to see what an all-American football tailgate is like. They will experience what it is like to be a Badger on football Saturday, enjoy delicious Wisconsin food and beverages and take in the sea of red filling Camp Randall Stadium. When you arrive, please give a sincere WALSAA welcome to our guests as they learn what it is like to be proud alumni returning to our alma mater for a fun game day experience.

For tickets to Fire-Up and/or the Fresno State football game, see the form on page 5.



THE UNIVERSITY
of
WISCONSIN
MADISON

Inside This Issue:

Auction Items	page 4
Fire-Up Form	page 5
Board Retirees	page 6
Alumni Updates	page 8
Go Big Read	page 9
FTD Picnic	page 10
FISC Corner	page 11



Greetings WALSAA members and friends!



As summer rapidly winds down I am nostalgic about back-to-school, buying books, new tennis shoes and class schedules. My 30th high school reunion was in August. Many of my high school friends also attended UW-Madison with me and we remain close today. We treasure our opportunities to get together, share a laugh and reminisce about our days on campus and the experiences we shared.

An important function of WALSAA is to provide opportunities to come together, renew friendships and acquaintances, return to campus and revisit the people and places that shaped each of us. So I am pleased to invite you to return to campus for the annual WALSAA Football Fire-Up.

Please join fellow WALSAA members, family and friends at the UW Field House on Saturday, Sept. 12 at 8 a.m. for our annual membership meet-

ing followed by a pre-game tailgate with food, music and fellowship, prior to the 11 a.m. kick-off against Fresno State. We have football tickets available this year in addition to Fire-Up tickets. We will once again have our scholarship fundraising auction so come prepared to eat, drink and enjoy great CALS company while bidding on fantastic auction items. Please order your tickets today and review a sample of the auction items available in this newsletter.

Our Farm Technology Days picnic had much nicer weather this year and we had a wonderful crowd of a couple hundred people at this event. It was a pleasure to catch up with so many WALSAA members and to enjoy Northcrest Dairy and the hospitality of the Topel and Spoke families. Dean Jahn arrived from FTD and thanked WALSAA for the scholarships and support we give to the college. Several WALSAA board members were there to visit with attendees and hear your suggestions for Fire-Up and other events and we even got some new members at this event.

Our new administrative team did a wonderful job on the entire event. They have been brainstorming about new and additional ways that we can serve our membership and provide more events like this picnic that are fun for members and meet our goal of fundraising and networking. More to come on some of these events soon.

There is a great deal happening on campus, plenty of construction projects, preparation for the fall semester and a new batch of bright students arriving who will be our future and the future of agriculture. So as your summer winds down, please make plans to return to campus and catch up with your fellow CALS alumni at one of our WALSAA events. Consider making a donation to our scholarship funds or making a purchase at our scholarship auction to support our current students. Renew your WALSAA membership or invite your friends to join in this vital link to our campus, our college and our alumni. Thank you.

President Liz Henry

2009 CALS Classified Employee Recognition Awards

- Glenn N. Carlson, auto equipment tech-master at the UW-Madison Hancock Agricultural Research Station.
- Barbara Cochrane, a University services associate 2 in the Department of Food Science.
- Linda Cunningham, an animal research technician at the Blaine Dairy Unit in the Department of Dairy Science.
- Staci Francis, academic department manager in the Department of Bacteriology.
- Nick Ganser, a farm equipment operator at the West Madison Research Station.
- Steve Switzer, an I.S. network support technician in the Department of Animal Sciences.

Extraordinary Students



As we embark on another school year, I want to share with you a brief illustration of just how extraordinary our students really are. Just in this past year, all of these things have happened:

- Our student chapter of the National Agri-Marketing Association placed second in a national marketing competition.
- Two CALS undergraduates, Megan McGough and Paul Humphrey, won National Undergraduate Scholastic Achievement Awards from the American Meat Science Association.
- Lindley Reilly, a 2009 dairy science graduate, was selected from more than 1,100 students for the Regional Young Scientist award, sponsored by Alltech.
- A CALS student, agriscience education major B.J. Chrisler, was elected president of the Wisconsin FFA, and recent Farm and Industry Short Course grad Wade Kessenich was chosen as Wisconsin's FFA Star Farmer.
- The FISC dairy judging team placed second at the World Dairy Expo, the best performance ever for an FISC team.
- Life sciences communication student Noel Benedetti won a Madison Addy award for a public-service video she made for the Wisconsin AIDS Network.
- Lauren Walsh, a CALS Dairy Science student, contributed to a briefing on agricultural terrorism before the U.S. House of Representatives.
- Trisha Weiland, a dietetics student, was selected to evaluate the Madison Public Schools' breakfast program and its effect on academic performance.
- A team of CALS students helped design an award-winning stormwater management system for a Madison neighborhood and the UW Arboretum.
- Our biological systems engineering stu-

dents made a strong showing in several pre-professional award categories at the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers' annual meeting.

- The student Food Product Development team once again advanced to the finals of their national competition, which CALS teams have won three times in the past eight years.

This is just a small sample of the amazing achievements our students generate in and out of the classroom. Their intellect, creativity and diligence take my breath away. Even more impressive is their desire to leave a lasting imprint on their world – to make it better through their work and service.

It is our moral duty to provide these students with the educational experience they deserve. We know, through working with students, alumni and employers, some of what that experience looks like. First and foremost, we must have a curriculum that fits their skills and the changing landscape of the industries they will enter. Our instruction must be topical, practical and current. And it must be experiential. We see dramatic results when we give students opportunities to engage deeply with their subject matter and to connect their learning to real-world contexts.

In many ways, CALS is leading the way in molding its teaching to the unique needs of this generation. One recent survey showed that 50 percent of our seniors have worked with faculty on a research project outside of course requirements, highest among all of UW-Madison's schools and colleges. But we need to do more. We need to provide more opportunities for our students to study abroad, to complete internships in their career area and to nurture one-on-one relationships with mentors who can help them reach their full potential.

You can help us meet these goals. As alumni, you are already where these students want to be. Your experiences and your connections can help these students set and meet goals that match their ambitions. So as the next class of eager new students arrives on our campus, please consider the value that you can bring to their lives. We are all stewards of their future greatness.

Have a great fall, and On, Wisconsin!

Dean Molly Jahn



Silent Auction Items

Here is a partial listing of items that will be up for auction at Fire-Up. To see the full spread, attend the event on Sept. 12!

Item: Two Tickets to the Madison Symphony Orchestra for any Friday or Saturday night concert during the 2009/2010 season.
Value: \$96
Donor: Madison Symphony Orchestra

Item: \$100 toward a full service lawn care
Value: \$100
Donor: Weedman Lawncare

Item: One complimentary night's stay and breakfast for two at the DoubleTree Hotel
Value: \$175
Donor: DoubleTree Hotel

Item: Mixed quarter of Angus beef
Value: \$500
Donor: Mike Marr, Valley View Farms, LLC

Item: Fraser Fir Christmas tree
Value: \$50
Donor: UW Forestry Club

Item: One week stay in Montreal, Wis., for 10 people
Value: \$350
Donor: Rick & Peggy Daluge, Daluge Travel

Item: Two Tickets to the show of your choice at the Overture Center
Value: \$90
Donor: Overture Center of the Arts

Item: Dairyland Home Accessories Gift Basket
Value: \$35
Donor: Dairyland Seeds

Item: One Autumn Blaze Maple Tree (2.5" caliper) along with the labor to deliver, professionally plant the tree, and top-dress the immediate area with shredded hardwood mulch.
Value: \$550
Donor: Brickman

Item: The Manney Place in Door County from 12 p.m. June 18 through 12 p.m. June 25, 2010.
Value: \$1,800
Donor: Wilson Family

Item: One night stay in the newly renovated Governor's Club
Value: \$200
Donor: The Madison Concourse Hotel and Governor's Club

Item: World Dairy Expo Gift Basket
Value: \$100
Donor: World Dairy Expo

Item: Pair of UW Men's Basketball Season Tickets (Section 306, Row C, Seats 1&2)
Value: \$950
Donor: Badgerland Financial

Item: Pair of UW Men's Basketball Season Tickets (Section 306, Row B, Seats 1&2)
Value: \$950
Donor: Badgerland Financial

Item: Pair of UW Men's Hockey Season Tickets Friday Night series includes playoff rounds and parking (section 120, Row Q)
Value: \$439
Donor: WALSAA

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Value: \$439
Donor: WALSAA

Item: One week stay in Kuauai Hawaii condo
Value: \$2,000
Donor: Duane & Kay Mass

Item: Processed Lamb
Value: \$200
Donor: Scott Rasch, Rasch Farm

Item: Autographed Hockey Stick (Eves and Johnson)
Value: \$250
Donor: AgSource Cooperative Services

Item: Pedal Tractor
Value: \$150
Donor: CNH - Case New Holland

Item: Bucky Badger standee
Value: \$25
Donor: Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board

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Value: \$25
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Value: \$25
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Item: Bucky Badger standee
Value: \$25
Donor: Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board

Item: Two tickets to Short Course Reunion and a night's stay at the Sheraton Madison Hotel
Value: \$180
Donor: Sheraton Madison Hotel

Item: Gift certificate for award winning meat and sausage products
Value: \$50
Donor: Lodi Sausage Co.

Item: Two all-day lift tickets
Value: \$84
Donor: Tyrol Basin Ski & Snowboard Area

Item: Fiskars garden tools basket
Value: \$50
Donor: Nancy Horan

Item: Two tickets for Badgers vs. Michigan game (Nov. 14)
Donor: Liz Henry, Henry Farms

Item: Crave Brothers Farmstead Cheese cheese basket
Value: \$75
Donor: Crave Brothers Farmstead Cheese

Item: Framed Ag Hall Print
Donor: Marcy Heim

Reserve Your Seat Today!



WALSAA

WISCONSIN AGRICULTURAL AND LIFE SCIENCES
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND FRIENDS



Fire-Up

WALSAA Fire-Up will be held on Saturday, September 12 from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. with the Wisconsin Badgers vs. Fresno State game starting at 11:00 a.m. Tickets for the 2009 football game are available. Tickets will be sold on a first come, first serve basis.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Number of Adults: _____ Number of kids 2 to 11: _____ Number of kids under 2: _____

Event	Cost	# of Tix	Total
PACKAGE Fire-Up Luncheon Badgers vs. Fresno State game	Adults: \$69 Kids 2 to 11: \$59 Kids under 2: Free*	Adults: _____ Kids 2 to 11: _____ Kids under 2: _____	
FIRE-UP ONLY Luncheon tickets only	Adults: \$30 Kids 2 to 11: \$20 Kids under 2: Free	Adults: _____ Kids 2 to 11: _____ Kids under 2: _____	
Handling Charge on Football Tickets Just one fee per group of tickets	\$5		
		Total	

Check made payable to WALSAA in the amount of \$ _____

Checks and forms can be mailed to WALSAA, 3310 Latham Drive, Madison, WI 53713

Credit cards will not be accepted.

NEW this year, Fire-Up and game tickets will NOT be mailed. There will be a will call table at the Fire-Up.

Fire-Up Nametags: Please list the names of all persons attending Fire-Up

NOTE: Fire-Up Luncheon Tickets will be sold at the door for \$35 for adults and \$25 for kids at the door.

**Child under 2 must sit on the lap of an adult ticket holder*



WANTED: Board Candidates

With its annual meeting fast approaching, WALSAA is seeking interested candidates to fill Board of Director positions opening this year.

Retiring from the board are Jessica Agnew, Merle Richter and Dave Schroepfer.

Jessica completed her maximum of two consecutive terms on the board. While serving WALSAA, Jessica did an exemplary job as a NAADA conference co-chair in 2007 when the national event was held in Madison. She also served on the scholarship committee for a number of years.

Merle will be missed for his broad range of experience and his help serving on several committees, keeping WALSAA connected to the FFA family and rural activities and for serving as vice president for several years.

Dave's connection to another geographic region of the state and the production ag industry was beneficial to the board.

Tom Albrecht has agreed to serve another term on the board. Tom drives a great distance for the meetings and brings a different perspective with his wildlife ecology background and DNR work.

Marjorie Stieve and Brian Nodolf are planning to continue service on the board. They both joined the board last year when WALSAA voted to change the by-laws to add several board seats. With the approval, several 'short term' positions were created to get all new seats on the three-year schedule. They are starting their first full-term.

As always, WALSAA strives to keep a diverse board, both in majors and professional industries. It prefers to have all corners of the state represented as well. With two members from northern Wisconsin retiring, the board would like to replace one or both of those positions with someone from the same region.

If you or someone you know are interested in serving on the WALSAA Board, please contact the WALSAA President, Liz Henry, at (608) 592-5299 or bothh@msn.com

AAE Plans Centennial Celebration

Since 1909, the Ag and Applied Economics department has brought economic concepts and empirical methods to bear on the aspects of contemporary life that affect how individuals and policy makers understand the choices they face, and the consequences of those choices.

Today, it invites UW-Madison AAE alumni and friends to help celebrate the department's history and commence its second century of excellence. A reception, speakers/panels, banquet and interaction with current students and faculty are planned for Sept. 23-25.

For a full agenda of activities and to register for the events, visit www.ae.wisc.edu/centennial.



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Call/e-mail with questions



FFA Honors Knipschild, Daluge and CALS Students

The Wisconsin FFA has bestowed honor on Karen Knipschild and Rick Daluge, elected a CALS student as its president and recognized several recent Farm and Industry Short Course (FISC) grads. Knipschild, FISC assistant director, received the Honorary State FFA Degree Award. Daluge, FISC assistant dean emeritus, received the FFA Distinguished Service Citation. Both honors were bestowed at the Wisconsin Association of FFA State Convention held in Madison on June 10.

Karen Knipschild is among 16 individuals to receive the FFA Honorary Degree, which recognizes individuals who have rendered outstanding service to the agricultural education/FFA program. As contest manager of the State FFA Career Development Contest held in Madison every April, she has spent many hours of dedicated service working with high school agriculture instructors, UW faculty/superintendents and students.

Richard Daluge is one of two people to receive the Distinguished Service Citation this year. This is the highest award that FFA bestows on an individual, organization, agency, business or industry. This recognition is for Daluge's outstanding contributions made to the State FFA Organization and the total program of agricultural education during his many years of service to the UW and the FFA organization.

At the same meeting, Wisconsin FFA elected CALS student B.J. Chrisler (an agricultural education major) as its next president and named recent FISC grad Wade Kessenich as State FFA Star Farmer. Bradley Sternweis and Tyler Schwartz, both recent FISC graduates, were finalists in the Star Farmer competition.

WALSAA Scholarship Awarded

Twenty-eight FFA members received scholarships at the 80th State FFA Convention held June 8-11 in Madison. The total amount awarded to FFA members to continue their education exceeded \$18,500.

Receiving a scholarship sponsored by Wisconsin Agricultural and Life Sciences Alumni Association (WALSAA) was Frank Behling of the Waupun FFA.

Alumni Updates

Ron Schuler, BS '63, MS '67, PhD '71, has been named general manager of the Wisconsin Farm Technology Days show. He replaces Glenn Thompson who was general manager for 17 years. Schuler is a professor emeritus of biological systems engineering.

Kim Havens, BS '75, was re-elected as treasurer of the Wisconsin FFA Foundation. Havens owns Havens Financial Services. **Emeritus professor Lou Arrington** serves as secretary of the Foundation.

Bob Giblin, BS '82, manager of food industry communications, comes to Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health from the Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs, where he served most recently as interim deputy director of public affairs. Prior to that, he served as an account manager for issues management at the communications agency Charleston/Orwig and as senior public relations counsel and director of research, measurement and insight at the firm Morgan&Myers.

Mike Kawleski, BS '84, has been cho-

sen as the vice-president of the Wisconsin FFA Foundation Board where he also serves as chair of the Sponsors Board. Kawleski is employed as the head of ag programs for Wisconsin Public Service in Green Bay.

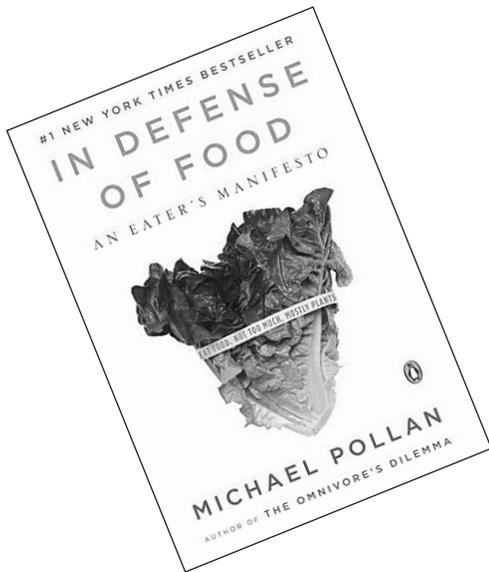
Three other CALS alumni have joined the Wisconsin FFA Foundation as board members: **Julie (Krull) Larson, BS '86**, with Merial; **Christine Lepple, BS '06**, with Animart; and **Derrick Papcke, FISC '08**, Papcke Farms.

Mike Stranz, BS '08, is the new government relations specialist for Wisconsin Farmer's Union. Stranz is an ag economics and life sciences communication major and is a former FFA State Officer in Wisconsin. He previously served as a legislative intern of the National Farmers Union in Washington DC last summer.

Karen and Robert Schauf of Barron received the Elite Breeder Award from the National Holstein Association at their recent Convention. Karen Nelson Schauf is a former Alice in Dairyland and honorary WALSAA member.



Initiated by Chancellor Carolyn "Bidly" Martin, the Go Big Read program aims to engage students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members in a shared, academically focused reading experience. Participants are invited to read the book, and take part in discussions and events on campus and in the community. Program goals include: generating vigorous discussions and exchanges of diverse ideas; promoting connections between the campus and the wider community; linking the community to the intellectual resources of the campus; and bridging learning experiences inside and outside of the classroom.



The book, Michael Pollan's *In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto*, was chosen by the chancellor to be the first Go Big Read common book. Pollan's book examines the modern American food landscape where the simple question of what to eat has been muddled by numerous and conflicting claims.

Pollan will visit Madison for a series of events Sept. 24-26. Pollan will give a public lecture on Sept. 24, 7 p.m., at the Kohl Center. The event is free; no tickets required.

In addition to the public lecture and festival there will be a variety of programming and events on campus and in the community throughout the 2009-10 academic year including discussion groups, blogs, films and exhibits. Campus and community participants are encouraged to

attend and participate in many of these events. Events that are unfolding include:

- Book discussion groups offered in conjunction with the university and public libraries, and other groups across campus and in the community
- A Go Big Read Blog and other interactive technologies (www.gobigread.wisc.edu/blog)
- Spring semester educational event focused on food
- The integration of the book into various courses offered in departments across campus

A full calendar of events and activities is posted on the Go Big Read events website at www.gobigread.wisc.edu/events.

CALS has indicated that the college faculty, staff, students and alumni will be involved in many of the programs.

WALSAA members are encouraged to read the book and be a part of the discussion, either online or at various events. If you would like to serve as a food industry expert and provide insights to classroom discussions or speak with the media, WALSAA encourages you to contact Dean Jahn to see how you can be more involved.



Farm Technology Days Picnic

Thank You

Those who were able to attend the Farm Technology Days Picnic on July 22 enjoyed several treats. Our hosts were Bob and Chris Topel and Jeff and Jenny Spoke at Northcrest Dairy. They opened their home and their dairy to nearly 200 WALSAA members and friends on the Wednesday evening of Farm Technology Days.

Their farm was conveniently located just a mile north of the FTD host farm, Crave Brothers Farm, near Waterloo. Members of the Crave family took the time to come over and join the picnic as well.

The weather was agreeable and everyone was able to relax and visit at a leisurely pace. Many toured the farm.

WALSAA is grateful that generous members continue to graciously host our picnic in conjunction with the annual Farm Technology Days event. It is a great tradition that provides a moving location so all our members have a chance to join in the fun when the picnic is near them.

Thank you to the Spoke and Topel families for keeping this tradition strong!



Farm Technology Days Picnic cont.



Owned and operated by Bob and Chris Topel and Jeff and Jenny Spoke, Northcrest Dairy is home to 275 cows and their youngstock. They grow mostly forages on their 380 owned acres and 300 rented acres for feed.

Both raised on dairy farms, Bob and Chris began their own operation in 1981, just ½ mile from Bob's family's farm, south of Lake Mills. They started with 30 cows and in 20 years grew the herd to 100. When the next generation, their daughter Jenny and her fiancé Jeff, wanted to join the operation they realized any further growth was limited at the location in Lake Mills. In the spring of 2001 they purchased this dairy and moved the entire operation 20 miles north to Waterloo, where they've continued to grow to the current size. In the last eight years they have built dry and fresh cow housing, an additional freestall barn for milk cows, manure storage for the milking cows and a calf barn for calves weaned through 6 months of age.

In addition to the four family members, Northcrest Dairy employs five part-time employees from the surrounding communities.

Bob and Chris have always valued education and are proud of the degrees their children have received from the University of Wisconsin – Madison. Jenny holds a bachelor's degree in agricultural business management and her hus-



Left to right: Bob and Chris Topel; Jenny, Ian, Jeff and Marissa Spoke

band Jeff graduated from Farm and Industry Short Course. Bob and Chris's son Jeff graduated with a bachelor's degree in ag engineering and master's degree in biosystems engineering and now works senior product support representative for John Deere AMS in West Des Moines, Iowa. Their daughter Karen has a bachelor's degree in agricultural journalism and dairy science and is an editor for Progressive Dairy Publishing. Kelly, the youngest daughter, received her bachelor's degree in kinesiology and is a student at the UW Pharmacy School. Bob is a Farm and Industry Short Course graduate and Chris attended the Milwaukee County School of Nursing.

About the Hosts

FISC Corner

Save the date for the 125th Farm and Industry Short Course Reunion Celebration. It will be on January 30, 2010, at the Alliant Energy Center with banquet, speakers and interaction with fellow alumni.

For more information, contact FISC President Andrea Brossard Martin at (920) 296-2382, (608) 836-8820 or amartin@wmmb.org, or the Farm and Industry Short Course office at (608) 263-3918.

New WALSAA Member

Maria McGinnis



3310 Latham Drive
Madison WI 53713

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Sept. 12	WALSAA Annual Meeting ■ UW Field House
Sept. 12	WALSAA Fire-Up ■ UW Field House
Oct. 3	CALS Scholarship Brunch ■ Monona Terrace
Oct. 16	WALSAA Board Meeting ■ WDE Office
Feb. 6	Culver's Camp Randall Hockey Classic ■ Camp Randall

Upcoming WALSAA Events