



CALS Ambassadors and student volunteers prepare for Fire-Up in 2000.



Celebrate 40 years of WALSAA at Sept. 15 Football Fire-Up

Come celebrate 40 years of WALSAA at its marquee event. Nearly as old as the Wisconsin Agricultural and Life Sciences Alumni Association (WALSAA), the WALSAA Football Fire-Up tailgate party and silent auction has served as the Association's annual gathering and fundraiser for 37 years.

In its first-ever evening timeslot, the 2012 Fire-Up will be held from 3 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., prior to the Wisconsin Badgers vs. Utah State Aggies kickoff at 7 p.m. on Saturday, September 15. It will take place outside the University of Wisconsin Foundation, located at 1848 University Ave., Madison, WI 53726.

In honor of the 40th Anniversary, this year's celebration includes a special recognition program for those honorees selected as the WALSAA 40 in 40 in appreciation of their contributions to WALSAA, the UW College of Agricultural and Life Sciences (CALS) and Farm and Industry Short Course, farms, classrooms, laboratories, businesses and other organizations within the state.

A special birthday cake and ice cream will also be served in addition to the traditional steak sandwich and bratwurst fare.

Join WALSAA as it continues its 40-year mission of connecting the College,

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President's Message: Football, Fire-Up on its way

WALSAA President Jill Makovec



It's a Badger football Saturday! Well, not yet, but as the days get shorter and the school year gets closer, I can't help but think of my time in the marching band and Badger football game days. From the music of "On Wisconsin" in the wee morning hours to wake up the residents of Breeze Terrace to the swarms of fans decked out in red and white, nothing beats game day in Madison.

While my years in the marching band have long passed, each year I look forward to the WALSAA Football Fire-Up to relive the excitement of Badger football game days, reconnect with friends and cheer on my alma mater. This year, Fire-Up returns to the UW Foundation parking lot, but for the first time in WALSAA history, Fire-Up will be held in conjunction with a night game.

Speaking of history, this year's Fire-Up will be one for the books and you don't want to miss it! WALSAA is turning 40 this year and Fire-Up will serve as a grand birthday party. Join us starting at 3 p.m. for our anniversary celebration and all your favorite Fire-Up traditions – Wisconsin brats, the UW Marching Band, hundreds of fellow CALS alumni and great silent auction items.

I invite you to check out the exciting list of silent auction items on page 5. Board Member Sara Schoenborn has been hard at work putting together an impressive auction for our anniversary. Since the early days of WALSAA, Fire-Up has served as our premier fundraising activity for the year. Proceeds from the silent auction are vital to our organization's mission to support CALS students. Last year, we raised more than \$25,000 for scholarships. This year, we would love to push that number closer to \$30,000. With raising costs of tuition, agricultural and life science students continue to need our support. If you have something to donate to the auction, be sure to contact us at admin@walsaa.org. In the meantime, check out the list of items received to date and consider being a successful bidder at this year's event.

If you're planning to attend Fire-Up, consider making a WALSAA weekend out of it and join us on Friday afternoon for the golf outing. This is a best ball

format, so golfers of all levels are invited to attend. Held at the Bridges, this event is a wonderful way to kick-off the weekend and enjoy a round of golf with fellow WALSAA members.

In addition to our Fire-Up birthday bash, we have a number of ongoing anniversary initiatives this year. We bought back memberships to WALSAA and are offering special anniversary rates for this year only. Join WALSAA today at the annual rate of just \$40 per year, or at the lifetime rate of one installment of \$400. Encourage your friends and family to apply now because the rate will be higher next year.

Already a WALSAA member? Consider a monetary contribution to WALSAA's 40th Anniversary Fund. This fund was created to help student organizations looking to get started or current organizations in need of seed money for a new project to achieve their goals. Take a look at the WALSAA members who have already pledged their support to the fund on page 9 and consider adding your name to the list to help us reach our \$14,000 goal.

Last but not least, this summer we announced our 40 in 40 Impact Awards. Wow! What an impressive list! However, for every name I saw on the list, I could not help but think about those that I didn't see. I am sure you will think the same as you look through honorees on page 4. Reflecting on the list of honorees and our 40-year history, many individuals had an impact on WALSAA, the College and the agricultural and life science industries. WALSAA and CALS are blessed to have a long list of impressive individuals, whether on the list or not, that have made significant contributions to the success we celebrate in our anniversary year!

As we reflect on WALSAA's history, I hope you have enjoyed the look back through the years. In this issue, we highlight milestones from 1993-2002. Turn to page 11 to learn about WALSAA's 25th anniversary and the initiation of the Outstanding Sophomore scholarships.

I look forward to seeing you at Fire-Up on Sept. 15!

On Wisconsin!

Dean's Message: CALS shines with the Wisconsin Idea

CALS Dean & Director Kate VandenBosch



It was my good fortune to take a road trip this summer in a program called the Wisconsin Idea Seminar, which was designed to illuminate the Wisconsin Idea for new UW faculty and staff. Although the concept of the Wisconsin Idea – that the "boundaries of the university are the boundaries of the state" – was introduced in the early 1900s, it was deeply gratifying for me, as the new dean of CALS, to see the enduring vibrancy of the Wisconsin Idea at our college.

That recognition began as I deepened my acquaintance with three new CALS faculty members who are steeped in research of vital importance to our state.

Garret Suen, an assistant professor of bacteriology, studies ruminant digestive systems and the microbes that allow them to serve as "powerful natural biomass breakdown machines," he says – which means they hold tremendous potential for the development of biofuels. Amy Stanton, an assistant professor of dairy science, focuses on dairy animal welfare and disease, with an emphasis on best management practices. And assistant plant pathology professor Aurelie Rakotondrafara focuses on understanding and strengthening genetic resistance to plant RNA viruses. These CALS newcomers were already able to enrich our discussion about a wide range of ag issues facing the state.

And of course we encountered numerous CALS/UW Extension alumni and seasoned faculty along the way (I can only mention a few of them here). Dan Veroff, director of the Applied Population Laboratory, started us off with a bus aisle presentation of "Wisconsin's People and Places," an overview of demographic status and trends. In Fond du Lac we had a tour of Vir-Clar Farm featuring a "Dairy 101" talk by Extension agent Tina Kohlman and a tour hosted by Katie Boyke Grinstead BS'00 and the Boyke family, who own the farm. Plant pathology professor Amanda Gevens gave a crosstake talk about Wisconsin cabbage prior to our tour of the Great Lakes Kraut plant in Bear Creek. In Milwaukee, food science professor Rich Hartel enlightened



Dan Veroff, director of the Applied Population Laboratory, and his "Wisconsin's People and Places" presentation.

us about the challenges and opportunities of chocolate manufacturing, joined by Adam Lechter BS'05 and his colleagues at Archer Daniels Midland.

At these sites and many others, not all the stories we heard were warm and fuzzy. We discussed numerous challenges facing agriculture. Changes in the labor force, changes in scale of operations, changes in certification – and simply managing change itself – were recurring themes.

But the take-home message was heartening. On all sides, participants expressed a depth of pride in and commitment to our state. The network of support and shared resources, the flow of knowledge from the university to the fields to industry and back again, is palpably strong. Together we can find creative solutions to our challenges.

And that is the Wisconsin Idea at its best.

On Wisconsin!

WALSAA names 40 in 40 Impact Award honorees



In celebration of its 40th anniversary, WALSAA is honoring individuals who have made a difference not only for WALSAA, the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and Farm and Industry Short Course, but also farms, classrooms, laboratories, businesses and other organizations in Wisconsin.

Nominated by their peers, the 40 honorees are examples of the many individuals inside and outside of the university who have made a difference and contributed in significant ways not only in the past but also toward shaping the future. From leading companies, shaping associations, impacting student organizations and having far-reaching careers, these individuals have a common commitment to agriculture and the life sciences and paving the way for the next generation. The following honorees will be recognized on Sept. 15 as part of WALSAA's Football Fire-Up event.

40 in 40 Impact Award honorees **in memory*

| | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Lou Armentano | David Dickson* | Valerie Johnson | Larry Satter* |
| La Verne Ausman | Norval Dvorak | Bruce Jones | Tom Schomisch |
| Roger Biddick* | Dorothy Farrell | John "Jack" Kaltenberg | Ronald Schuler |
| Dale Boness | Steve Fronk | Pete Kappelman | George Shook |
| Dale Bruhn | Corey Geiger | Robert Kauffman | Bernie Staller |
| William C. Bruins | Bob Hagenow | Alan Koepke | Marjorie Stieve |
| Robert Bush | Keith Hawks | Shelly Mayer | William F. Tracy |
| Susan Crane | Liz Henry | Jill Makovec | Gale VandeBerg |
| Tom Crenshaw | Daphne Holterman | Larry Meiller | Bob Williams |
| Rick Daluge | Gail Janssen* | Sam Miller | Thomas Wright |

There will a reception for all honorees on Sept. 15 at 2 p.m. inside the University of Wisconsin Foundation building located at 1848 University Avenue in Madison. The WALSAA Football Fire-Up event will follow at 3 p.m. just outside the Foundation building. It will precede the Wisconsin versus Utah State football game at 7 p.m. in nearby Camp Randall Stadium.

These events are open to all WALSAA members and agricultural enthusiasts. If you would like to attend the 2 p.m. reception, please call (608) 438-1994 or e-mail admin@walsaa.org with your name and number of guests. For Fire-Up and football game tickets, please use the ticket order form located on page 7.

Tee off at WALSAA's Golf Outing Sept. 14

Time is running out to register for the WALSAA Football Fire-Up Golf Outing. Join us on Friday, Sept. 14 at The Bridges Golf Course, 2702 ShopKo Drive in Madison.

Play will be best ball to aid both experienced and in-experienced golfers. This is truly an opportunity for WALSAA members and friends to get together and play some golf the day before Fire-Up. Tee times will begin around noon and exact tee times will be communicated to all golfers once registration had been closed. The cost is \$60 per golfer with \$10 of that fee being a tax-deductible donation to WALSAA.

Register by calling (608) 438-1994 or e-mailing admin@walsaa.org by the end of the day Aug. 31. Sign up as an individual or in a group. Registrations can be made payable to WALSAA.

Items up for auction at WALSAA Football Fire-Up

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. 15.

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| ITEM: An Igloo Icy Tunes cooler and stuffed cow VALUE: \$170 DONOR: ANIMART | ITEM: One processed lamb VALUE: \$225 DONOR: Rasch Market Lambs, Larry Rasch | *ITEM: Pair of tickets to Pre-Game Chili Cook-off & Ohio State vs. Badgers football game on Nov. 17 VALUE: \$180 DONOR: Birdie Schiller | *ITEM: Autographed 2011 Rose Bowl cartoon VALUE: \$20 DONOR: Phil Hands |
| ITEM: Two UW Badger Homecoming football tickets VALUE: \$200 DONOR: CALS | ITEM: A pair of tickets to a 2012/13 season Madison Symphony Orchestra concert VALUE: \$117 DONOR: Madison Symphony Orchestra | ITEM: Badger baby basket VALUE: \$100 DONOR: Ryan & Karen Lee | ITEM: Two lift ticket vouchers VALUE: \$74 DONOR: Tyrol Basin & Snowboard Area |
| ITEM: One-week of summer/fall lodging for 12 people in Montreal, Wis. VALUE: \$350 DONOR: Rick & Peggy Daluge | ITEM: One complimentary night stay VALUE: \$165 DONOR: Doubletree Hotel of Madison | ITEM: Curly Maple cutting board, Forestry Club Sweatshirt VALUE: \$45 DONOR: UW Forestry Club | ITEM: Two UW Badger vs. Illinois Football Tickets VALUE: \$200 DONOR: Brian Nodolf |
| *ITEM: \$125 gift certificate to Ruth's Chris Steakhouse VALUE: \$125 DONOR: Bob & Lisa Hagenow | *ITEM: Set of two UW Men's Hockey season tickets (Friday night series) with parking VALUE: \$620 DONOR: Steve Dierks, Coloma Farms | ITEM: Your choice of any one Christmas Tree at the UW Forestry Club 36th Annual Christmas Tree Sale VALUE: \$75 DONOR: UW Forestry Club | ITEM: A mixed case of Gold Medal winning wines VALUE: \$125 DONOR: Botham Vineyards & Winery |
| ITEM: One week stay on the garden island of Kauai, Hawaii. Sleeps 6. VALUE: \$1,400 DONOR: Kay and Duane Mass | *ITEM: Set of two UW Men's Basketball season tickets VALUE: \$845 DONOR: WALSAA | ITEM: New 16GB Apple iPad with Wi-Fi in white VALUE: \$500 DONOR: Valerie Johnson, Sam and Nadine Miller, Daphne and Lloyd Holterman | *ITEM: American Girl doll Badger outfit VALUE: \$40 DONOR: Russell Rindsig |
| ITEM: Three bottles of wine VALUE: \$35 DONOR: Wollersheim Winery | ITEM: Autographed UW game day football VALUE: \$120 DONOR: Dale Beaty | *ITEM: Pair of UW Basketball tickets, courtside seats, four rows up behind the Badger bench VALUE: \$100 DONOR: Bryan Renk | ITEM: Mary Kay pamper package VALUE: \$150 DONOR: Sara Schoenborn |
| ITEM: World Dairy Expo attire and dairy-themed items VALUE: \$75 DONOR: World Dairy Expo | ITEM: A one-week stay at The Manney Place in Door County for week of May 31 or June 7. Sleeps more than 8. VALUE: \$1,500 DONOR: Tom Wilson Family | ITEM: One-week stay at cabin in Waupaca, WI VALUE: \$500 DONOR: Sue Crane, Crane Farms | ITEM: Framed print VALUE: \$200 DONOR: Marjorie Stieve |
| ITEM: 2013 Wisconsin FFA Foundation Golf Outing four-some at choice course VALUE: \$320 DONOR: Wisconsin FFA Foundation | ITEM: 1960s Bucky Badger Stuffed Toy with UW Dairy Science Milk Bottle VALUE: \$150 DONOR: Marjorie Stieve | ITEM: Brewer fan package VALUE: \$175 DONOR: WE Energies | ITEM: Jordy Nelson autographed Packer magnet VALUE: TBD DONOR: WALSAA |
| ITEM: Case IH Steiger 600 4-wheel drive pedal tractor VALUE: \$275 DONOR: Case IH | | | ITEM: Door County basket VALUE: \$150 DONOR: Lynn & Al Herrman |

continued on page 6

**More than one of these items to be auctioned off.*

WALSAA to hold annual meeting, consider by-law change

The WALSAA Annual Meeting will be held at the WALSAA Football Fire-Up at 3:15 p.m. on Sept. 15 in Madison. Current WALSAA members are invited to attend. Agenda items include voting on a by-law change, honoring retiring board members and electing board nominees.

The by-law change involves altering language in Section 1 on Board Composition. Here is how the language now reads in the by-laws:

Section 1. Composition: The board of Directors shall consist of up to twenty-one (21) members.

(1) One (1) director shall be elected from and by CALS Student Council each year during the annual Student Council elections. (He or she shall assume office at the time of election and serve until the next annual election). The student may be a sophomore or junior.

The WALSAA Board of Directors is proposing it to read as follows:

Section 1. Composition: The board of Directors shall consist of up to twenty-one (21) members.

(1) One (1) director shall be selected from the CALS Student Association or CALS Ambassadors each year. Interested students shall complete an application for submission to the WALSAA board each spring term. (He or she shall assume office at the time of selection and serve until the next annual selection). The student may be a sophomore or junior.

Auction cont.

Continued from page 5

ITEM: WALSAA lifetime membership
VALUE: \$400
DONOR: WALSAA

ITEM: A mixed quarter of Angus beef and processing, cut to your specifications
VALUE: \$550
DONOR: Valley View Farms, Mike Marr

ITEM: Dog grooming basket – up to \$75 in dog grooming (any breed), homemade dog treats and dog toys
VALUE: \$100
DONOR: Maria McGinnis

ITEM: \$125 certificate of retail advertising and one-year subscription for The Country Today
VALUE: \$163
DONOR: The Country Today

Fire-Up cont.

Continued from page 1

CALS alumni and fellow WALSAA members. CALS Dean Kate VandenBosch will be in attendance, as well as the UW Band and spirit squad.

As in years past, Fire-Up 2012 will feature the WALSAA Silent Auction to raise money to support scholarships, awards, activities and more. The UW Foundation generously matches up to \$10,000 of the funds raised at this auction to help increase WALSAA's impact on CALS students. See page 5 for a preliminary listing of auction items and watch the WALSAA Facebook page for an

updated list as the event nears.

The WALSAA annual meeting will be held at 3:15 p.m. in conjunction with the event. Association business, including a change to the bylaws, will be conducted and new board member nominees will be introduced.

The cost for both the Fire-Up luncheon and game is \$75 for adults; \$65 for children 3 to 11; and ages under 3 are free. If you'd rather not attend the game or already have game tickets, Fire-Up luncheon tickets are \$30 for adults; \$20 for children 3 to 11; and free for those younger than 3 years old. \$15 of

your ticket price is a 100 percent tax-deductible donation to WALSAA.

Ticket orders must be postmarked by Sept. 5. After that date, Fire-Up tickets will be sold at the gate for an additional \$5 each. Tickets to the football game are limited and sold on a first come, first served basis.

Please plan to join WALSAA in celebrating 40 years of supporting agricultural and life sciences and to show your Badger pride! To order tickets, please use the form on page 7 or contact the WALSAA administrative coordinator at (608) 438-1994 or admin@walsaa.org.

2012 WALSAA Football Fire-Up order form

WALSAA Football Fire-Up • Saturday, Sept. 15 3 p.m. • UW Foundation building

Please fill in ALL information below to complete your registration.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State & Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail (required to receive additional e-mail correspondence): _____

| Event | Cost | # of Tickets | Total |
|--|--|---|--|
| Game Day Package* Fire-Up Luncheon** & Wisconsin vs. Utah State tickets Kick-off at 7 p.m. (max. 6 tickets per request) | Adults: \$75 Child 3-11: \$65 Child under 3: Free*** | Adult: _____ Children 3-11: _____ Children Under 3: _____ | \$ |
| Fire-Up Luncheon Luncheon** Tickets Only | Adults: \$30 Child 3-11: \$20 Child under 3: Free | Adult: _____ Children 3-11: _____ Children Under 3: _____ | \$ |
| Fire-Up T-Shirts See page 6 for more information. | \$15 per shirt | Small Qty. _____ Medium Qty. _____ Large Qty. _____ X-Large Qty. _____ | \$ |
| Make checks payable to WALSAA. Mail registration and payment to WALSAA at P.O. Box 5177, Madison, WI 53705 Registration must be postmarked on or before Sept. 5. After that date, tickets will be for sale at the gate for an additional \$5 each. | | | Additional 100% tax deductible donation to WALSAA. \$ |
| | | | Total Cost \$ |

List Names for Fire-Up Nametags: _____

All football and Fire-Up Luncheon tickets will be available at the "Will Call" table. Tickets will NOT be mailed.

* Badger Football tickets are available only as a Game Day Package deal with Fire-Up Luncheon tickets.

** \$15 of each luncheon ticket is a gift of support to WALSAA and is 100% tax deductible.

***Children Under 3 must sit on the lap of an adult football ticket holder during the Badger game.

For additional information, please contact WALSAA.

Phone: (608) 438-1994; E-mail: admin@walsaa.org; or visit us on the web at www.walsaa.org

NAADA Conference inspires and motivates participants

WALSAA Director Sara Schoenborn attended the National Alumni and Development Association (NAADA) Annual Conference in Lexington, Kentucky, this June. The "Make Your Mark" themed conference allowed attendees to hear from both motivational and educational speakers as well as participate in informative and fun tours featuring just what makes Kentucky proud.

Schoenborn enjoyed the brainstorming sessions where individuals shared what made their university – and alumni – so special and the activities they do to inspire

and support others. She also enjoyed networking with fellow members of the agriculture industry and collegiate alumni associations.

"Listening to inspirational and motivating speakers like Grace Gorrell and Marcy Heim and then being able to visit with them one-on-one was my favorite part of the Conference," she says. "The tours – and in particular, the Kentucky Proud dinner, hosted by the University of Kentucky and

its strong alumni group – allowed me to have valuable networking time with others and brought me to a new level of excitement for everything that WALSAA has and will do."

The 2013 NAADA Conference "Shaping the Future...Facing the Challenges and Leading the Change" is scheduled for June 16-19 in Old Town Alexandria, Va. To learn more about NAADA or its annual conference, visit www.naada.org.

Volunteers wanted

With a number of special 40th Anniversary plans for this year's Football Fire-Up event, WALSAA is looking for more volunteers than usual to help make its marquee event a success.

Fire-Up will be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15. Just like last year, the tailgate will be held at the UW Foundation, just a couple blocks from Camp Randall's front gates. WALSAA is specifically seeking your help with set-up, clean-up and operations in between.

If you would like to take the opportunity to assist in the planning and set-up of the 37th annual WALSAA Football Fire-Up, contact WALSAA at admin@walsaa.org or (608) 438-1994.

WALSAA t-shirts available at Fire-Up

Show off your support for WALSAA with this long-sleeved t-shirt. Perfect for fall football weather, this t-shirt will be available at the WALSAA Fire-Up.

The shirt is black with white lettering and offered in the following sizes: small, medium, large and x-large.

You may purchase one of these exclusive WALSAA long-sleeved t-shirts in advance for \$15 each using the order form on page 7. WALSAA will then have it waiting for you when you arrive at the annual tailgate party on Sept. 15.



Anniversary fund supports Innovation Grants



More than 70 WALSAA members and friends have already supported the WALSAA 40th anniversary fund. A total of \$9,050 has been raised as of press time towards our goal of \$14,000. Funds raised will support grants to CALS student groups, encouraging innovative special projects next year.

There's still time to help WALSAA reach our goal; please consider donating online at www.walsaa.org or with a check to: WALSAA 40th Anniversary, PO Box 5177, Madison, WI 53705.

Thank you to the following early donations received.

Donors giving \$400 or more to the anniversary fund

Kent Carnahan, Compton, IL
Mark Crave, Waterloo, WI
Richard & Peggy Daluge, Madison, WI
Steve Diercks, Coloma, WI
Mark & Deborah Hansen, Onalaska, WI
Allan Herrman, New Franken, WI
Edward Jesse, Madison, WI

Jerrald Kindschi, Prairie du Sac, WI
Robert Luening, Madison, WI
Russell Rindsig, Sarona, WI
Russell Skewes, Union Grove, WI
Gale Vande Berg, Madison, WI
Jennifer Vincent, Floyds Knobs, IN
Leo Walsh, Madison, WI

Donors giving up to \$400 to the anniversary fund

Lawrence Behlen, Green Lake, WI
Robert Briggs, Tucson, AZ
Warren Bryce, Beach Park, IL
Elizabeth Burgy, Maple Grove, MN
Howard & Teresa Cameron, Hudson, WI
Philip Craker, Reedsburg, WI
Gordon Cunningham, Madison, WI
Gwen Daluge, Janesville, WI
Carolyn Deegan, Marshfield, WI
Ronald & Caroline Doersch, Madison, WI
Cynde & John Dornuf, Franklin, WI
Marshall Finner, Verona, WI
Pat Ford, Appleton, WI
Myron Groskopp, Stevens Point, WI
Frank Groves, Lodi, WI
James Hansen, Valders, WI
Arden Hardie, Blair, WI
Philip & Mary Hasheider, Sauk City, WI
Keith Hawks, Wausau, WI
S. Don Heth, Macclenny, FL
Arthur Hintzman, Rochester, IL
Pamela Hodgson, Plymouth, WI
Gail Holm, Columbia, MD
Albin Jaeger, Hustisford, WI
Eric Johnson, Clinton, WI
Valerie Johnson, Waunakee, WI
Richard LaCroix, Stoughton, WI
Howard & Ruby Larsen, Ashland, WI
Ryan & Karen Lee, Edgerton, WI

Kenneth & Elizabeth Lepine, Stoughton, WI
Michael Marr, Mineral Point, WI
Ardith Mc Dowell, Madison, WI
Stanley Mc Graw, Mineral Point, WI
Mary Kaye Merwin, Delavan, WI
James Miller, Rio, WI
Dwight Mueller, De Forest, WI
Randall Murley, San Francisco, CA
Peter Pleuss, Tucson, AZ
Todd Prescott, Suwanee, GA
Robert Reddell, Janesville, WI
Irvin & Mary Sather, New Richmond, WI
Jon & Jennifer Sawle, Prairie du Sac, WI
Sheldon & Janet Schieldt, Edgerton, WI
Dale & Patricia Schlough, Hazelhurst, WI
Larry Skaar, Cottage Grove, WI
Mark Strohschein, Green Bay, WI
Millard & Barbara Susman, Madison, WI
Mark Thieleke, Howards Grove, WI
Harvey & Alice Thompson, Ames, IA
Russell Tietz, Watertown, WI
Ralph Uttech, Arlington, VA
Gary Wagner, Madison, WI
Maurice White, Madison, WI
Kay Wilhelm Maas, Pewaukee, WI
Ralph Zibell, Seymour, WI
Scott Zimmerman, Delavan, WI
Wynnie Zuchowski, Wales, WI

A look back at WALSAA: 1993-2002

“There is no doubt in my mind that the college as well as students and alumni are better off because WALSAA existed!”

—Rick Daluge



WALSAA presidents gather at the association's 25th anniversary celebration in 1997.

WALSAA at 25th Anniversary

When WALSAA turned 25 years old on January 19, 1997, WALSAA Secretary/Treasurer Rick Daluge had these comments in his regular newsletter column:

"In looking at WALSAA's accomplishments, it is interesting to wonder where we would be if our Founders would not have created our organization? There would be no Commencement Breakfasts, no Rural Leadership scholarships, \$10,000 fewer scholarship monies for students in CALS each year, no Advisor Awards, no Fire-Up, nor any newsletters. We would not have an Ambassador program, leadership and activity awards for seniors and short course students, a Farm Progress Days picnic, area alumni gatherings, and funds to support student organizations. There is no doubt in my mind that the College as well as students and alumni are better off because WALSAA existed!

"As we look to the future, WALSAA plans to become more active in supporting fundraising for the College, in assisting with student recruitment, in extending the messages about CALS to people in the state and our legislature, and finally continuing to support the students and faculty of CALS in all ways that we can."

WALSAA Presidents

John Hansen, 1992-94

Sue Cowan, 1994-1996

Gary Wagner, 1996-97

Bob Kaczmarek, 1997-98

Sheldon Schieldt, 1998-99

John Brunquell, 1999-00

Cindy Baumgartner, 2000-01

Ann Groves Lloyd, 2001-02

Research at CALS

- In 1997, Geneticist Fred Blattner decodes the complete genetic sequence of a harmless strain of the E. coli bacterium, leading to a better understanding of its lethal counterpart.

- In 1998, Biochemist Ron Raines discovers the key to collagen's strength, a protein that acts like a "solder" to give the body its structure and shape.

- That same year, Microbiologist Jo Handelsman helps pioneer the field of metagenomics, opening the door for scientists to study the genes of large populations of "unculturable" microbes living in soil and other environments.

- In 1999, Biochemist David Schwartz sequences a bacterial genome using shotgun optical mapping, an approach he developed that takes a fraction of the time that conventional DNA sequencing takes.

- In 2002, Biochemists James Ntambi and Alan Attie help discover a gene, known as SCD-1, that appears to play a critical role in fat metabolism. When the gene is removed from mice, the animals can eat a rich, high-fat diet without adding weight or risking the complications of diabetes.

WALSAA Milestones

APRIL 1993

More than one hundred alumni and friends attend the first-ever WALSAA-sponsored buffet at the World Beef Expo in Madison.

OCTOBER 1993

WALSAA teams up with WAA to host an all alumni tailgate party at the UW Fieldhouse prior to the Northwestern vs. Wisconsin Homecoming Football game.

APRIL 1994

In 1994 WALSAA initiated an Outstanding Sophomore Award program to provide funding and encouragement to students in the middle of their undergraduate career.

SEPTEMBER 1994

A record 1,300+ people attend Fire-Up at the UW Stock Pavilion.

JULY 1995

Alumni contribute a little muscle power during the first Allen Centennial Gardens Workday, which became an annual event.



CALS seniors were recognized at the 1999 spring WALSAA Commencement brunch for their leadership and activities in CALS. From left are Jenny Topel, WALSAA President Shelly Schieldt, Louann Hausner, Ben Waddell, Jill Zimmerman, Luke Wiedenfeld, Tracy Daluge, Kari Horant, Matt Sansone, Paul Wellentin, Craig Carncross, Amy Steiner, Jennifer Bertrand, Bethany Nelson and Jonathon Wuest.



Fifteen 1994 graduates were recognized by WALSAA for their Outstanding Leadership and Activities in CALS. Pictured from left to right, Dan Berg, Todd Bonnin, Kari Slark, Elizabeth Burgy, Robert Satori, Timothy Buttles, James Mickelson, Russell Doersch, Peter Mumm, Jason Luedtke, Martin Posset, Dean Meyer, Lance Ellsworth and WALSAA President John Hansen. Also receiving awards were Heather Olson and George Iftner (not pictured). Nearly 400 graduates, families and faculty attended the WALSAA Commencement Breakfast in the UW Stock Pavilion.

APRIL 1997

WALSAA members, faculty and friends gathered for a luncheon at the Great Hall in the Memorial Union to celebrate 25 years of WALSAA service to the College. More than 1,200 alumni and friends returned to campus for the entire two-day series of alumni events, which included the Gamma Sigma Delta banquet, Robert Kauffman retirement dinner, Alpha Gamma Rho Founders Day, Smith Instructional Greenhouse dedication, and the Daughters of Demeter spring luncheon.

JANUARY 1999

WALSAA hosts a post Rose Bowl game victory party at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in downtown Los Angeles, California.

SEPTEMBER 2002

Fire-Up moves to the West Madison research station after the UW Stock Pavilion closes its doors to events with food due to food safety concerns.

WALSAA congratulates new grads at CALS reception

WALSAA was proud to welcome CALS' most recent graduates at the University of Wisconsin May Commencement Ceremony on Saturday, May 19.

Following the graduate's 10 a.m. commencement ceremony, CALS hosted a wonderful celebration at the Nicolas Johnson Pavilion at the Kohl Center. Around 120 CALS graduates, along with 700 guests enjoyed refreshments and were visited by Bucky Badger.

Majors represented included: ag and applied economics, ag business management, agronomy, animal science, biochemistry, biological systems engineering, biology, community and environmental sociology, dairy science, dietetics, food science, genetics, horticulture, landscape architecture, life science communication, microbiology, nutritional science, soil science, and wildlife ecology.

WALSAA Board of Director, Valerie Johnson, and (former) Administrative Coordinator, Amy Ryan, were honored to bring greetings to each graduate and their families. WALSAA greeted each graduate with a congratulations, WALSAA sticky pad and WALSAA Express newsletter.

WALSAA looks forward to engaging with its newest alumni at future alumni events and activities for years to come.



A transitionary period for students and a call to alumni for fall event

2012-2013 CALS Student Association Vice President Marie Kumerow

This spring wrapped up successfully for CALS student leaders. They put on CALS Day for Kids (CD4K) on April 17, reaching more than 600 Madison metro area students and held their first college-wide elections for the new CALS Student Association. As the fall approaches, students will be preparing for new leadership transitions and renovating the classic CALS Fall Picnic event to integrate a greater presence from alumni.

The annual CD4K event reaches out to fourth grade students to promote the agricultural and life sciences. Around 25 CALS student organizations teamed up this year to host educational booths for the visiting groups at the Stock Pavilion. Teachers, parents and students were able to engage with science topics by interacting with a variety of agricultural and companion animals, answering quiz questions on food production, making play-doh, learning about molecular structures through beads, checking out crops and turf grass, etc.

Many teachers inquire about CD4K and integrate this field trip into their curriculum year after year. As an opportunity to educate the community, the best part of the day for most students is "to watch the kids have fun while they are learning."

CALS students are now looking forward to fall for the implementation of new ideas and leadership. After evaluating and writing a new constitution last academic session, CALS students are expanding their leadership. The new organization, dubbed CALS Student Association, will reach out to freshmen and new students, expand shared governance within the college, increase campus-wide networking, and designate committees to prepare for CALS events.

What makes this system better? Online college-wide elections will shift the student voice to be more open and representative of students and away from potential biases and clique advantages. Improved shared governance and better campus representation will ensure that CALS students have a voice in the decisions that will affect them. The changes will also engage



CALS students with the Badger Crops Club share their knowledge of plants with fourth graders.

freshmen early in their careers, and prepare them for better leadership within their student organizations and the Student Council. With a stronger, streamlined process for events and planning, CALS will definitely benefit from the remodeling of its student government.

This fall, CALS students are also looking forward to the expansion of the Fall Picnic. We will be inviting CALS alumni to attend the picnic, socialize with incoming students, and hear about career topics. As in the past, this cook-out is a chance for attending freshmen to network with CALS student organizations and to socialize with their peers. To better integrate the alumni presence, students are encouraged to get advice and/or discuss career planning with recent alums and to write a "Letter to the Future Self," which will be returned to them at Commencement. A workshop for career advancement will be planned after the picnic for attending alumni and upperclassmen.

The picnic is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 6, from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Alumni registration for this event will be opening soon. If you would like to participate in this event, check in with cals.wisc.edu/studentcouncilpicnic.

Greetings from Farm Technology Days!

WALSAA Events Committee Chairman Dave Welsh



This year's Farm Technology Days was co-hosted by Sugar Creek Farms and Heideman Farms near New London. A great show was put on again by the Farm Technology Days committee, even though they fought through extremely high temperatures the first day plus a little rain on days two and three that delayed the show's opening a bit. Farm Technology Days is always a great opportunity to learn more about new products and equipment though so a little extreme weather hardly got in the way.

WALSAA's annual Farm Technology Days Picnic was held at the Fox Valley Technical College in Appleton. More than 60 alumni and friends were able to get together to talk and reminisce. It was good to see friends that I haven't seen in years and was a great chance to meet alumni from the Fox Valley area.

CALS Dean Kate VandenBosch along with several other CALS and UW Foundation representatives attended the picnic and were able to visit with alumni. Our WALSAA picnic is a great chance to meet fellow alumni from around the state so please stop by if you see the picnic in your area in the future!

Next year's Farm Technology Days will be held in Barron County so please let us know if you know of a good place nearby to hold the WALSAA picnic.

WALSAA welcomes new administrative coordinator

WALSAA welcomes Allison McCarty as its new administrative coordinator. In this contracted position, she will provide administrative support to the WALSAA board of directors, membership and all WALSAA activities.

Allison is currently employed by the World Council of Credit Unions as conference specialist, assisting with the planning and execution of their annual conference and other events. She is a graduate of Madison Area Technical College, where

she earned her associate degree in meeting and event management, as well as a graduate from the University of Minnesota with a bachelor's degree in sociology – law & criminal deviance.

In addition to her roles at World Council and WALSAA, she is a member of Meeting Professionals International (MPI) and is working towards her Certified Meeting Professional (CMP) certification.

Allison grew up in Cambridge and currently resides in Madison.



Allison McCarty

She assumes the role from Amy (Ryan) Bonomie, who resigned from the position on July 31.

Special membership rates

In honor of WALSAA's 40th anniversary, special membership rates are available for the 2012 calendar year. Anyone may join WALSAA now for \$40 for an annual membership or \$400 for a lifetime membership. Close to 80 new WALSAA enthusiasts have taken advantage of the membership deal to date. Encourage your former classmates, friends and family to take advantage of this opportunity while it still lasts. Membership rates will increase in 2013.

Mail your check, along with your name, address, phone number, e-mail, degree, graduation year and major(s) to WALSAA, P.O. Box 5177 Madison, WI 53705-5177.

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Visit www.walsaa.org to view biographies and contact information for each of the Board members.

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Upcoming Events

Sept. 14 WALSAA Fire-Up Golf Outing

Sept. 15 WALSAA Annual Meeting & Football Fire-Up

Sept. 20 UW Fall Career Fair