



Fall
2018

WISCONSIN FFA FOUNDATION

Celebrating 35 years of support for agricultural education & FFA

Our Tradition. Our Future. Our Legacy.

As we celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the Wisconsin FFA Foundation, and look forward to the 90th Wisconsin FFA Convention in 2019, the Wisconsin Association of FFA's theme of "Our Tradition. Our Future. Our Legacy." this year seems fitting.

FFA membership is at a 39-year high of more than 21,000 students and the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association also continues to grow. The organization's 180 chapters of FFA supporters now number nearly 19,500 in Wisconsin.



At the 89th Wisconsin FFA Convention in June, the Foundation welcomed two new members to the Blue and Gold Society, and honored a family which continues to support its endowment fund each year.

Pictured above, James T. and Mary Handrich-Grasee were inducted at the event and say: "The FFA gave us the opportunity to grow and become better leaders, speakers, shaping us into who we are today. We donated to the Blue and Gold Society so we could hopefully have an impact on the lives of FFA members today and into the future."



Message from
Ginger James,
Board President

I am honored to serve as the Wisconsin FFA Foundation Board President this year to give back to an organization that has given so many of us the skills to be successful.

I would like to thank Jon Anderson for his year of service in leading our Foundation. His marketing knowledge and strategic planning have set the WI FFA Foundation for success for years to come.

The 2018-2019 State FFA Officer team has selected the theme "Our Tradition. Our Future. Our Legacy." I cannot think of a better way to describe the agricultural market and FFA today. Although constantly changing, technology continues to make the world smaller and jobs in the agricultural industry more diverse. There has never been a greater need to feed the world.

We as donors and FFA supporters have the opportunity and responsibility to ensure there are opportunities for FFA members in order to become future producers, marketers, educators, scientists and entrepreneurs. These members are our future.

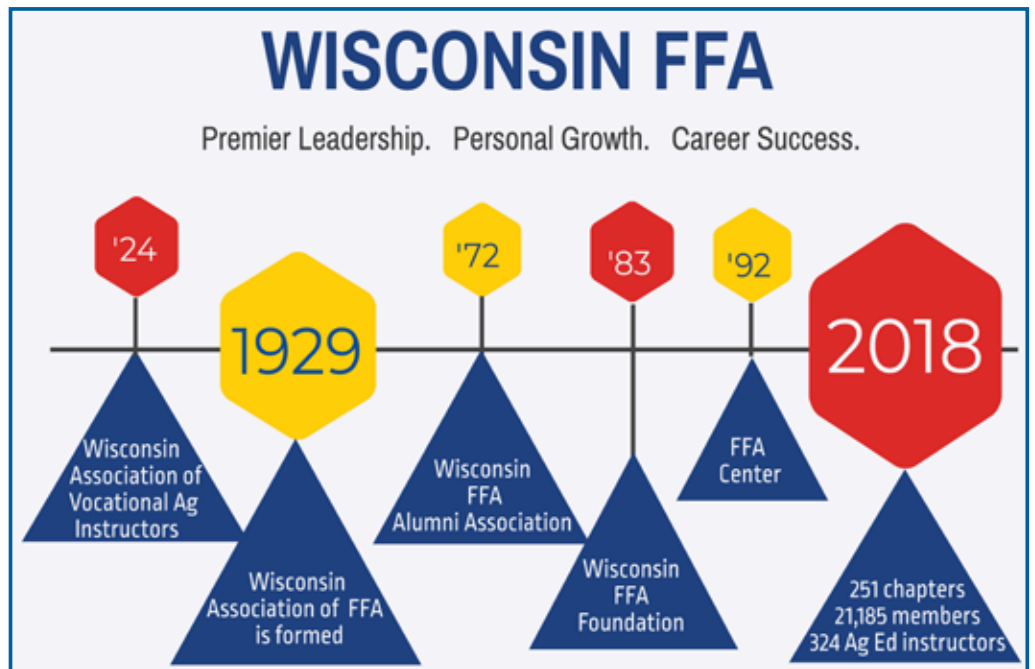
Thank you to our donors for partnering with us this last year in an effort to carry on the proud tradition that is Wisconsin FFA. We hope you continue to partner with us as we look ahead – to increased opportunities to build a better future.

We are celebrating 35 years of financial support for Wisconsin FFA and agricultural education.

Thank you for helping us raise **\$503,548** this past year!

In 2019, the Wisconsin Association of FFA celebrates 90 years as an organization, and 50 years of women as members.

You continue to support that legacy today.



Thank you!
Together we raised
\$40,500 for FFA



Save the Dates:
2019 Golf Outings

Northwest: July 15
Wild Ridge Golf Course,
Eau Claire

Northeast: July 16
Mid Vallee Golf Course
De Pere

Southern: July 29
Pleasant View Golf Course,
Middleton

See sponsorship opportunities at
wisconsinffaoundation.org



Mark The Calendar:
February 8-10, 2019

Join the Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association in Stevens Point for its winter convention, which includes updates on ag education, workshops, tours, annual business meeting and banquet.

Details will be posted online at:
wisconsinffaalumni.org/events



Ag Instructor News...

Jacob Cramer from Mayville High School was honored with the Outstanding Agricultural Education Teacher Award at the Wisconsin Association of Agricultural Educators (WAAE) Professional Development Conference held the final week in June.

WAAE Executive Director Nicole Nelson offers this note of gratitude to donors: "Your contributions to the Foundation show our dedicated ag teachers that you value the work they are doing day in and day out! Thank you for supporting our mission to provide programs which recruit and retain quality educators."

Leave Your Legacy

What will be your legacy? You can leave it to Wisconsin FFA in a matter of minutes. There are many ways that you can make a difference including:

- *Join the Blue & Gold Society.* The society is comprised of individuals who generously demonstrate support through a gift of \$15,000 or more over a period of one to three years, or who have supplied a letter of intent that they included the Wisconsin FFA Foundation in a planned gift estimated to be a comparable amount. This gift can also be directed to an endowment that can fund programs into the future.
- *Name Wisconsin FFA Foundation in your will.* You can specify a certain dollar amount or a percentage as a gift.
- *Name Wisconsin FFA Foundation as a beneficiary of one of your assets,* such as your retirement plan, life insurance policy or bank account. Simply contact the administrator of the plan, policy or account and complete the paperwork.
- *Donate stock to Wisconsin FFA Foundation.* You can avoid capital gains by donating your stock (that you've owned for more than one year) to the Foundation.
- *Donate your IRA required minimum distribution to Wisconsin FFA Foundation.* IRA owners who are 70 ½ or older can transfer up to \$100,000 per year directly to the Foundation without paying income tax on the transaction. If filing jointly, a spouse can also make a \$100,000 contribution.



William Maurina was inducted into the Blue and Gold Society at the 89th Wisconsin FFA Convention. He says: "I taught agriculture for 30+ years. It was my life's work, and I feel very strongly about FFA, both personally and professionally. Wisconsin's agricultural educational model (classroom, SAE, and FFA) is almost like a philosophy. I don't think there's any other model that fits middle and high school students as well as that model. I feel it's something I have to support."



Your financial gift and legacy to the Wisconsin FFA Foundation makes an impact! Members learn technical trades to succeed in their future careers, as well as leadership skills through state and national training conferences. These Wisconsin FFA members are your future employees and colleagues who will lead us into the coming decades' of agricultural growth and sustainability throughout Wisconsin. Your legacy gift matters! To learn more, contact John Hromyak, Executive Director, at 608-831-5058 x3 or jhromyak@wisconsinffaoundation.org.





Invest in agriculture's future. Support FFA.
 1241 John Q. Hammons Dr, Ste 200
 Madison, WI 53717



The 2018-19 State FFA Officer Team includes: (first row l-r) Section 1 Vice President Alexis Kwak, Prairie Farm FFA; President Amelia Hayden, Big Foot FFA; Reporter Ashley Hagenow, Rio FFA; and Secretary Paige Nelson, Ellsworth FFA.

(Second row) Section 4 Vice President Amber Patterson, River Ridge FFA; Section 9 Vice President Sarah Calaway, Denmark FFA; Parliamentarian Emily Kruse, Elkhorn FFA; and Section 7 Vice President Jillian Tyler, Granton FFA.

(Third row) Treasurer Mitchell Schroepfer, Antigo FFA; Section 3 Vice President Collin Weltzien, Arcadia FFA; and Sentinel Gaelan Combs, Verona FFA.

Honors & Memorials

- In Memory of Earl Anderson: John and Greta Woodruff
- In Memory of Ron Bader: Philip & Carol Peterson
- In Memory of Lewellen "Lew" Erb: WI Association of Ag Educators
- In Memory of Wesley Higgins: Keith Dougherty
- In Memory of Wesley Higgins: Larson Engineering
- In Memory of Wesley Higgins: Kirk A Haverland
- In Memory of Wesley Higgins: Linn-Mathes Inc.
- In Memory of Ben Hylkema: Thomas Kurth
- In Celebration of Mr. Raymond Krcma: Mark P. Strohschein
- In Honor of David Laatsch: Mark P. Strohschein
- In Memory of Gloria Larsen: WI Association of Ag Educators
- In Memory of Dr. Gerald Matteson: Gary & Jennifer Gracyalny
- In Memory of Ray Miller: Thomas Kurth
- In Memory of Michael Purcell: Philip & Carol Peterson
- In Honor of Tina Rennebohm: Sharon Wussow
- In Honor of Mark Stroschein: Brett & Natalie M. Killion
- In Memory of: Edward Taylor: WI Association of Ag Educators
- In Memory of Richard Tollefson: Philip & Carol Peterson

Thank you, Industry Partners!

Philanthropist

- CHS Foundation
- Compeer Financial
- Equity Cooperative
- Livestock Sales Association

Patron

- AgCountry Farm Credit Services
- Culver Franchising System
- Grade A Strategic Brand & Marketing Services
- GROWMARK
- Landmark Services Cooperative
- Kerry
- Organic Valley/CROPP Cooperative
- Renk Seed
- Rural Mutual Insurance Co.
- Syngenta

Benefactor

- Alliant Energy Foundation
- Andis Foundation
- ANIMART
- Blain's Farm & Fleet
- Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin
- GreenStone Farm Credit Services
- Investors Community Bank
- Land O'Lakes Foundation
- Landmark Services Cooperative
- Russ Davis Wholesale/Crazy Fresh Produce
- Seneca Foods Corporation
- U.S. Army ROTC 3rd BDE
- Wisconsin Agri-Business Assoc.
- Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation

Contact the Wisconsin FFA Foundation Staff:

• John Hromyak, Executive Director
 jhromyak@wisconsinffaoundation.org
 (608) 831-5058 x3

• Carol Ellis, Operations Manager
 cellis@wisconsinffaoundation.org
 (608) 831-5058 x1

• Jen Bradley, Marketing Coordinator
 jbradley@wisconsinffaoundation.org
 (608) 831-5058 x2