



The Announcer

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Still Time to Register and Attend Regional Development Conference

Registration is open for any Alumni members across the state to attend the Regional Development Conference that is put on by the National FFA Alumni and Supporters. This conference is held a few times each year and we are fortunate to be hosting it in Wisconsin this fall, so this is a perfect chance to get some of your local FFA Alumni members together to attend. You may drive to Madison for the day on Saturday, or you may come and spend the weekend, that is totally up to your group. But the conference itself is FREE and it proves to be a valuable day, well spent. Lunch will be provided on site.

Comments from past attendees include:

- “Excellent activities with a nice balance of lecture and hands-on!”
- “I really enjoyed all aspects of this conference and would strongly encourage others to attend in the future.”
- “Each session, I learned something new that I can use with our chapter.”

The conference format allows for networking and socializing with fellow FFA Alumni and Supporters, idea sharing and collecting feedback to address obstacles, learning and training in areas of advocacy, leadership, chapter business operations and more. The schedule is as follows:

Saturday, September 22: 8 – 8:30 am - Conference Check-In and Networking

8:30-10 am - I Can (FFA Alumni Member Development)

10:15-11:45 am - We Will Grow Leaders (Agricultural Education/FFA Program/Student Development)

11:45 am-1 pm - Lunch

1:00-2:30 pm - We Will Build Communities (Business Operation, Community Partnerships and Non-traditional Alumni Chapters)

2:45-4:15 pm - We Will Strengthen Agriculture (Advocacy for Agricultural Education and Civic Engagement)

4:15-5:00 pm - We Will Help (Questions and Answers)

Registration for Wisconsin closes on September 9, 2018 so be sure not to miss the deadline. Register at <http://www.ffa.org/gotordc>.

There are some rooms being held at Madison Marriott West and Convention Center, 1313 John Q Hammons Dr, Madison, WI 53562 on a courtesy block until August 30 for those who will be arriving on Friday night and needing a place to stay. Their phone number is 608-831-2000.



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We strive to be Wisconsin's premier Agriculture Education advocate with FFA Alumni support in every community. We envision our diverse, positive, community committed organization to provide resources to support youth development and leadership.

Membership Information

The 2018-19 membership year for Wisconsin and National FFA Alumni is now open. The information packets will be sent to the leaders that are registered, however, several chapters have not provided leader information so we don't know who to send it to.

You may send an email to execdir@wisconsinffaalumni.org if you want to receive more information.

In order to help the local chapters run more efficiently, we are asking for the rosters to be submitted on a timely basis, following the same calendar schedule as the FFA chapters. If the rosters are not submitted until March or later, the members are not receiving the full benefits of their membership. As of August 1, 2018 any annual members from 2017-18 lose their membership until it is resubmitted for the new year, thus our approach to sending them in sooner.

Our recommended deadlines are:

- December 3 - First Initial Roster
- March 1 - Final Rosters due to be submitted if you would like your local FFA Alumni to be eligible to receive state or national level awards for individuals, membership, and as an FFA Alumni Chapter. This is the deadline that is used by the National FFA Alumni to determine state/chapter awards. The state's membership numbers also generate the funds available for WLC scholarships for the upcoming year.
- **Dues check must be postmarked by March 1 to qualify for awards.**

These deadlines apply to chapters with affiliated membership as well.

There still seems to be some confusion regarding membership and rosters. We hope to help that with workshops at fall FFA Sectional Leadership Workshops and FFA Alumni fall section meetings.



FFA Alumni to be at FFA Sectional Leadership Workshops Again

Wisconsin FFA Alumni leaders are finalizing plans for workshops again to be held in conjunction with the FFA fall leadership workshops held in each section.

The plan is to begin the workshops around 6 PM and we will have a couple of options for members to choose, so if you send more than one person from your chapter you can be sure to get all of the information.

Membership drive and roster help will be provided. We will also discuss ways to ensure that your local chapter is running smoothly and professionally, avoiding any potential fraud or tax implications, while maintaining the mission of the FFA Alumni.

Dates for SLW are:

- Sept. 17 - Section 1 @ Prairie Farm
- Sept. 18 - Section 2 @ Ellsworth
- Sept. 19 - Section 3 @ Arcadia
- Sept. 20 - Section 7 @ Granton
- Sept. 24 - Section 6 @ Rio
- Sept. 25 - Section 5 @ Verona (EPIC)
- Sept. 26 - Section 4 @ River Ridge
- Oct. 1 - Section 10 @ Elkhorn
- Oct. 3 - Section 8 @ Antigo
- Oct. 4 - Section 9 @ Denmark

Give the Gift of Blue

For those who have worn the FFA jacket, the blue corduroy is more than just a jacket - it is a symbol of faith, leadership, pride and honor. It is the tradition that has unified FFA members everywhere. Sadly though, some students can not afford to be part of that tradition,

You may help to give the gift of blue by donating online. Learn more at www.ffa.org/Giveblue. You may also nominate someone to receive a jacket.



State FFA Alumni Convention

Planning Under Way

Sections 1, 2, 3 and 7 are busy making plans for the 2019 State FFA Alumni Convention to be held February 8 & 9 in Stevens Point. They will be meeting at Granton High School in the Ag Room, this Saturday, August 25 at 10 AM. Address is 217 N Main. St, Granton, WI 54436.



The 2020 convention team will also be meeting soon. They are scheduled to meet Sunday, October 14 at 1:30 PM at the Stoughton Sons of Norway Lodge at 317 South Page Street. This is for sections 4, 5 and 10.

If you are a member in one of these sections and you would like to learn more about the convention planning or are interested in helping out, please make arrangements to attend your respective planning meetings.

If you would like to help but can not attend, please feel free to email execdir@wisconsinffaalumni.org and she will pass it on to the co-chairs.

National Grant Deadline

For details on the 2018-19 National FFA Alumni and Supporters grants please visit www.FFA.org/AlumniGrants. The application deadline for the next round is September 4, 2018.

There are thousands of dollars available in these grants thanks to Crop Production Services and Tractor Supply Company. You can use these grants to grow your chapter or even create a new chapter. You may also use the funds to partner with your student chapter and work together on a project or to help cover student chapter expenses. Be sure to check this out and see how you can apply.



Wisconsin FFA Alumni Council members attended the Farm Technology Days Event in Wood County in mid-July to help spread the message of agricultural advocacy and Team Ag Ed. Vice President Rudy Kaderly, President-Elect Cari Sabel and Sectional Representative Bobbie Jo Montgomery were the first group to attend, but several other council members helped out during the 3-day event.

Calendar of Events

- August 25 - 2019 Wisconsin FFA Alumni State Convention Planning meeting, 10:00 AM
- August 30 - Deadline to reserve rooms for RDC
- September 4 - Postmark deadline for all National FFA Alumni legacy grants.
- September 9 - Registration closes online for RDC
- September 21-22 - Regional Development Conference at Madison
- October 11 - Section 8 Fall Meeting @ Main Event Cecil, 6:30 PM
- October 14 - 2010 Wisconsin FFA Alumni State Convention Planning meeting, 1:30; Followed by Section 5 Fall meeting.
- October 23 - 27 - National FFA Convention
- October 27 - National FFA Alumni and Supporters annual meeting.