



WISCONSIN FFA
ALUMNI AND SUPPORTERS

The Announcer

October 2022

Editor: Cheryl Steinbach

Wisconsin FFA Alumni, Executive Director

Online Auction is Open Now, Please Help Support the State Association

The Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters Association is currently hosting our annual online auction to help raise funds for our various programs. The auction will run through November 6, 2022 at 6 PM. The process to bid is very simple and there are lots of options. Thanks to our **“Living to Serve”** sponsors we have a set of **Kondex** Concaves for purchase and 6 bags of **Renk Seed**. We also have numerous other agricultural supplies, home décor and kitchen items, a Mathews bow, Wisconsin Badger items, an Aaron Jones Green Bay Packer Jersey with rookie cards and more.

All of the items may be found at <https://online.auctionsbyobrien.com/Event/Details/669183/NOVEMBER-6-2022-600-PM-WISCONSIN-FFA-ALUMNI-ASSOCIATION-AUCTION>

Special Thanks to Our

“Living
Spon-



To Serve”
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Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters 43rd Annual Convention Registration Now Open

It is now just a bit more than 3 months until we gather for our annual Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters convention. There are a lot of great events being planned and you will want to be sure to attend. Some specific details for the event being held at the Milwaukee Marriott West Hotel and Convention Center on February 3-4, 2023 at W 231 N 1600 Corporate Court, Waukesha, WI 53186 include:

- Registration can be found at <https://wisconsinaged.org/alumni/convention/register/> and will close on January 3, 2023. (Due to supply chain shortages, etc. we must have final numbers to ensure that we can meet our expectations of excellence.) "We would sincerely appreciate all registrations that will be mailed to please have them in the mail by December 20th in order to ensure their receipt to the treasurer by the closing date of January 3rd."
- Hotel accommodations are the responsibility of each individual attending. Rooms are blocked currently but will be released after January 2, 2023. Hotel Reservations may be made at <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1662757285388&key=GRP&app=resvlink>
- Room rates are \$ 75 for King bed and \$ 90 for 2 Full beds.

Friday Afternoon Activities Include:

- Registration begins at 11 AM.
- Auction items, baskets, etc. may be turned in at the main registration area starting at noon. We would appreciate any donations.
- There is an option for a bus tour on Friday. Extra cost of \$ 25.00. Due to bussing issues it is only open to the first 33 registrants. This must be selected at the time of registration. Bus loading at 12:15 PM and returns to hotel about 4:30 PM. Read details below.

Mitchell Park Domes: Feel the heat of a desert oasis, the humidity of a tropical jungle and the bright colors of a floral garden...all at one destination! The Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, better known as The Domes, is a living museum filled with plants from across the globe. The three themes of the domes are:

1. Floral Show Dome-Five times a year the Floral Show Dome transforms with unique, themed floral show. In February this dome includes the Miniature Train Show
2. Desert Dome-Explore the deserts of Africa, Madagascar, South America and North America. Snap a selfie by giant cacti, seek out succulents, agave and more, and meet Steve, our resident bearded dragon.
3. Tropical Dome-Step into the steamy rainforest and transport yourself to another world. As you explore the jungle look for coffee beans, cocoa pods, bananas and even sausage fruit! You'll find 1,200 species of plants in this dome.

American Family Field—This private tour highlights special behind-the-scenes locations at American Family Field. This tour may include the Selig Experience, Playing Field, Visitors' Clubhouse, Visitors' dugout, Brewers bullpen, luxury suite level, Press Box, Bob Uecker's broadcast booth, and many other special locations!

- Tour will close when full. First come, first serve registration

Friday Evening:

- Dinner is provided for those choosing the all-inclusive registration package. Featuring “Made Your Way Buffet” of rock shrimp scampi - penne pasta and northern lake walleye with garlic herb butter, wild mushrooms, cabbage and apple slaw and old-fashioned potato salad, steamed baby red potatoes and macaroni and cheese with mushrooms, tomato and fontina cheese. Also includes chef’s artisan breads and flatbreads, chef’s dessert cart, coffee, milk and tea.
- A commemorative glass is available that will enable you to have free beer or soda throughout both Friday and Saturday evenings. This mug is included in the all-inclusive registrations. Thank you **Nelson-Jameson Inc.** for sponsoring the mugs.
- Choosing the all-inclusive registration option allows you to enjoy the dinner and entertainment on Friday evening, along with all of Saturday’s activities.
- Tim O’Grady, singer/songwriter is performing after Friday’s auction.

Saturday is packed full of Activities!

- Opening Session and Breakfast - “All American Buffet” including assorted cold cereals, with 2 % and skim milk, scrambled eggs, sausage links, bacon, breakfast potatoes, assorted breakfast pastries, preserves and whipped butter, sliced fresh fruit, assortment of chilled juices, coffee, milk and tea.
- The opening session is followed by section meetings with state leaders.
- After section meetings the upcoming convention groups of combined sections will meet.
- We plan to hold our Luncheon and annual Business Meeting at 11:00 AM. The proposed resolutions will be posted online after the November council meeting.

- **Lunch** includes country garden salad with shaved carrots, sliced cucumbers, tomato, croutons and choice of French or ranch homemade dressing. Entrée is chicken cardinale, a pan sautéed breaded boneless chicken breast with lemon butter sauce. Includes chef’s pairing of vegetable, rolls, butter, coffee, milk and tea.
- Saturday Workshop Options – There will be 2 rounds of workshops, each lasting about 45 minutes. You may choose which 2 you want to attend. Options include:
 1. Barn Quilts - This workshop will discuss the design and construction of barn quilts and how one can enhance your property. The fascinating history of barn quilts in Wisconsin will also be presented during this workshop. Presented by Ronna Ballmer, past president of the Wisconsin FFA Alumni and Supporters. She is a charter member of the Rock County Barn Quilt Trail committee. Ronna is a registered fair judge and has judged barn quilts at numerous fairs in Wisconsin.
 2. Volunteerism - The 4 A's! - Working with volunteers does not need to be difficult if you employ the 4 A's. Join the Past President's Productions team, Diane and Ronnie Ansley, to learn about the 4 A's and volunteerism. Be prepared to get off your feet for this engaging workshop.
 3. Advocacy - Agexplaining! - How can you take advantage of the opportunity to advocate for agriculture? Join the Past President's Productions team, Diane and Ronnie Ansley and get excited about advocating for today's agriculture. Consider the vast agriculture industry from farms, large and small, to urban agriculture when developing your PSA.
 4. Local Leader Resources & Support – There are many questions that come to the state office each year regarding membership rosters, tax documents, award applications and grant options. Cheryl Steinbach, Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters Executive Director will share how to easily find forms, helpful videos and other information, as well as answer questions local leaders may have.

- Additional Workshop Options include:
5. I'm an Alumni Member: Now What - Learn more about the benefits of alumni membership and how volunteers can work with National FFA Alumni and Supporters to support students and teachers. Presented by Allie Ellis, Associate Director of National FFA Alumni & Supporters.
 6. Reflo Environmental Programming - Justin Hegtarty, P.E., LEED A.P., is an environmental engineer and executive director of the nonprofit Reflo - Sustainable Water Solutions. Justin has a Bachelor of Sciences degree in Civil Engineering from UW-Milwaukee and environmental engineering masters work at Milwaukee School of Engineering. He works with the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewage District and other partners to replace problematic schoolyard asphalt with green infrastructure. They work with residents of under-resourced neighborhoods to capture rainwater to supply irrigation for urban gardens thinking outside the box to help neighborhoods create meaningful spaces that enhance urban life. Reflo joins forces with Milwaukee Water Stories helping Milwaukee residents of all ages understand water as a valuable resource through engaging digital media products: interactive maps showcasing data and stories from community partners.
 7. The 2022-23 Wisconsin FFA Officer team will also be offering 2 different interactive workshops to be announced when convention gets closer. This is a great way to see the officers in action, doing what they do best, offering leadership training.
 8. Milwaukee Vincent Agriculture Program - Presented by Monica Gahan, the Animal Science Pathway teacher at Vincent High School of Agricultural Sciences. VHSAS is the only Milwaukee County school that has a robust agriculture program featuring 6 pathways that students can choose from. Pathways include Animal Science, Agribusiness & Entrepreneurship, Horticulture Science, Environmental Science, Food Science and Culinary Arts; which takes their students from the farm and field all the way to the fork.

The Ag Department continues to encourage urban students to get involved in agriculture through showing at the WI State Fair, making and growing products for the farmers markets, and participating in community events including Harvest Fest, Fish Fry Friday's, and Ag Ventures in the spring. Gahan earned the first Agriculture Youth Impact Award from Sav-A-Calf Products in 2017 through her work at the school. She currently serves on the Wisconsin Agriculture Education and Workforce Development Council.

- The Wisconsin FFA State Officer team will once again offer their **reflections** program prior to the banquet Saturday evening. This is always very inspirational.
- The evening banquet buffet will feature sliced peppercorn sirloin of beef and crusted pork loin with whiskey molasses glaze, seasonal fruit and berries, Caesar salad with shaved Reggiano parmesan cheese and croutons, Caprese salad, with mozzarella, roma tomatoes, basal and balsamic vinaigrette, glazed carrots, grilled vegetable blend, garlic mashed potatoes, bakery rolls, butter, coffee, milk and tea.
- There will once again be a dessert dash to follow the banquet.
- Chapter and individual awards will be presented on Saturday during the opening session and during the banquet.
- The Live Auction will begin immediately following the banquet festivities, followed by special entertainment
- There are a variety of options for convention packages to purchase. They may be seen on the next page.
- Please consider inviting someone who has never attended before, as it is a great opportunity to network with other Alumni members.
- **If you have any special dietary needs, please contact the executive director, as well, and please note that the menu is subject to change based on availability.**



2023 Wisconsin FFA Alumni Convention Registration Form

February 3 - 4, 2023 @ Milwaukee Marriott West in Waukesha, WI

- It is vital to include email and/or phone number for texts so that you may be notified of changes, etc.
- Payment must be postmarked by 1/3/2023.
- All attendees must be registered to take part in convention events.
- Registration is transferrable between participants in the same year, but is not refundable.
- All online registration will close on 1/3/2023.

FFA Alumni Chapter: _____	Section: _____
Name/Names: _____	
Address: _____	
City: _____	State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Phone: _____	
Email: _____	

<u>Package Options</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Individual All-Inclusive (\$ 160.00) Includes all Friday Evening and Saturday Events and a Commemorative Mug		
Couples All-Inclusive (\$ 310.00) Includes all Friday Evening and Saturday Events and 2 Commemorative Mugs		
<u>Other Options</u>	NA	NA
Friday Tour of Domes and American Field - (\$ 25.00 Each) - <i>Not included in all inclusive package, must be purchased, only available to all inclusive registrants.</i>		
Saturday Only, Meetings, Workshops and 3 Meals, and 2 commemorative mugs - 2 People -(\$240.00)		
Saturday Only - Meetings, Workshops, Lunch & Banquet - (\$95.00 Individual (No Breakfast Included, no discount for couples, Doesn't include mug)		
Saturday luncheon Meal Only, meetings and workshops - (\$40.00 Individual - (No discount for couples, Doesn't include mug)		
Saturday Evening Banquet Dinner - (\$ 55.00) Individual - (No discount for couples, Doesn't include mug)		
Purchase of Commemorative Mug—\$ 20.00 (If not included in package)		
Total Registration Cost		

Make Checks Payable and mail to:

2023 Wisconsin FFA Alumni Convention
 Janet Schneider, Convention Treasurer
 N6291 County Rd G, Saint Cloud, WI 53079
 Or Call: 920-948-7110