



WISCONSIN FFA
ALUMNI AND SUPPORTERS

The Announcer

July 2021

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Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters Active at State FFA Convention

The 92nd Wisconsin FFA convention was a great success and it was awesome to be back in person. Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters provided the financial support to livestream the event for those who were unable to attend in person. If you missed it, or would like to go back and rewatch portions of the convention, you may find the session links at <https://wisconsinffa.conferencestreamsolutions.com/video-on-demand> until mid-October.

Wisconsin FFA Alumni was also active at the convention in several other ways. We conducted a workshop for FFA members and provided chaperones and helpers for several other events. Many alumni members also served as judges for the convention. We were very excited to be back at the expo as well, meeting with FFA members to share our mission and how they can become involved. We also held a drawing for a free FFA jacket at our booth.

Not only did we sponsor the livestream for convention, we also helped to sponsor two proficiency awards that were not sponsored through the Foundation partners this year. Those areas that we sponsored were Swine Production Placement and Turf Grass Management. We were also a Gold convention sponsor, meaning that we contributed \$ 5000 towards general convention expenses.



The highlight of the convention was recognizing the 2020-21 Wisconsin FFA officer team with life-time memberships to our association, along with the retiring of the blue corduroy jackets for the alumni blazers. FFA Alumni & Supporters President Nate Zimdars addressed the convention attendees and shared the message that they are our future, as potential members, and our present, as we advocate for agricultural education and FFA.

**Thank You 2020-21 Wisconsin State FFA Officers
for your year of service in such challenging times.
We look forward to your future leadership in
Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters.**



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Wisconsin FFA Alumni Council Recognized at FFA Convention

We are excited to report that a few of our FFA Alumni state council members were recognized at this year's state FFA convention earlier in the month.

Current state FFA Alumni & Supporters President Nate Zimdars received the Honorary State FFA degree.



Past President Rudy Kaderly also received the Honorary State degree citation.



In addition, retired agriculture instructor Dan Ziegler, who now serves as one of the Section 5 representative on our council, was presented with the VIP Award.



Congratulations to all of these gentlemen, as well as the many others recognized at this year's convention.

Many FFA Chapters and individuals, as well as businesses, alumni and other sponsors were all honored at the event.

New Membership Year to Begin August 1

The 2021-22 membership year for FFA Alumni & Supporters will begin on August 1, 2021 and run through July 31, 2022. The membership process has changed and there is no longer any annual dues charge, but rather the chapter pays an affiliation fee and can have as many members as they want on the roster. There are still associate members, who have graduated within the last 5 years, and there is an option for lifetime membership investments.

If you are interested in lifetime membership, please go to our website <https://stayforeverblue.com/> for more information. Local chapter leaders will be receiving information soon about the payment and filing process.

New Sponsorship Option

Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters is excited to announce that at their recent board council meeting, they organized a new "Living to Serve" perennial sponsorship opportunity. This sponsorship will provide businesses and individuals the fortuity to support the FFA students and Alumni & Supporters chapters throughout the state. Wisconsin will use the funds generated with this new sponsorship level to expand on its current programs, which already include grants, scholarships and leadership training. Having perennial sponsors will allow the organization to know that they will have that continued support in upcoming years to help build ideas and projects.

In addition, the Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters is ecstatic to announce that they already have their first sponsor to join this prestigious partnership.

Renk Seed of Sun Prairie has chosen to become the first contributor at this "Living to Serve" sponsorship level. The sponsorship level was created as a multi-year commitment with a minimum donation of \$4,000 per year. Renk Seed's continued support of agricultural education, FFA members, and now the Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters Association shows their dedication to the future of the agricultural industry and growing leaders for the next generation. Our thanks to them for this commitment.



New Award Being Offered for FFA Alumni Chapters

Due to a lack of participation the past couple of years, we have decided to discontinue the chapter website and chapter newsletter award applications that are presented at the annual convention each year. Instead, we are excited that we have begun the development of a new award, recognizing chapters for their public relations efforts. Communication to our members and the community are essential to the success of our organization and we recognize there are so many different ways to do that. This new award will provide chapters the opportunity to share how they share their stories and resources.

We are hoping to have the draft application approved at the August council meeting, so we can post it on the website right after that. It will be found at <https://wisconsinaged.org/alumni/awards-and-grants/>

All Wisconsin award applications are due November 1, 2021.

2022 Convention Planning

Plans for the 50th anniversary celebration of Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters are being solidified for February 4 -5, 2022 at Wausau/Rothschild, Wisconsin at the Central Wisconsin Expo Center. This is our annual convention and business meeting event, and since Wisconsin FFA Alumni chartered in 1972, we are celebrating that in conjunction with the event. We are looking for any volunteers yet, as well as financial assistance. If you would like to be involved please contact us at execdir@wisconsinffaalumni.org.

We are also looking for any historical pieces, such as pictures, programs, buttons, banners, etc. from past conventions, that could be used for a history display. You may also contact us at the above email if you have any items that you would be willing to share with the committee.

The group will be meeting again later this summer, so the next newsletter will have more details of activities, hotel accommodations and registration costs, but we are very excited to provide a lot of neat opportunities to celebrate, collaborate, educate and motivate with all of you. Please mark the dates on your calendar now.



Like & Follow Us

We have an active page on Facebook that is updated regularly to include current events and activities, as well as, pertinent information for current alumni members. Please find us at Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters Association and then like and follow our page so we show up on your regular newsfeed. We want to help our members stay informed so watch for reminders and updates about awards, grants, leadership opportunities and more.

Final Chance for FFA Alumni Leadership Workshop this Fall

National FFA will again be offering their RDC (REMOTE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE) August 9 - 12. Each interactive session will be held from 1 - 2 PM EST daily (so 1 to 2 PM our time) and will include time for idea sharing, questions and answers. Accompanying documents and conference information can be found at [FFA.org/GotoRDC](https://www.ffa.org/GotoRDC).

Monday will feature topics of Learning to Do, Affiliation, FFA.org, Recruitment and Starting a Chapter. Tuesday will include Doing to Learn, Forever Blue Network, Member Benefits and Member Retention. Wednesday will highlight Earning to Live, Awards, Grants and Scholarships. Thursday concludes with Living to Serve, Advocacy, Community Service, Fundraising and Volunteering.

All of these sessions will be held virtually via zoom. The Zoom Meeting Information is <https://ffa-org.zoom.us/j/91458941958?pwd=K3NaR2Raem9KTnVTNmRGbWMYs0F1dz09>. The Meeting ID is 914 5894 1958 and the Passcode is FFARDC.



Wisconsin to be Well Represented at National FFA Convention

The results are in and we are excited to hear that Wisconsin FFA Alumni & Supporters will be well recognized at this year's national FFA convention, being held in Indianapolis October 27-30. The entire convention event will be livestreamed as well, as part of the virtual event, so you are encouraged to check it out.

Wisconsin has been named a Regional Finalist in the area of Outstanding Association and will be on stage at Lucas Oil Stadium during the third session, Thursday night, October 28. Weyauwega-Fremont FFA Alumni & Supporters has also been named a Regional Finalist for the area of Outstanding Chapter and will be featured on that same stage during the third session as well.

There will be a special FFA Alumni & Supporters awards session at the convention center on Friday afternoon where the above awards will again be recognized. Also being recognized at this program will be the Denmark and Stoughton FFA Alumni chapters, who were also nominated by Wisconsin for recognition. Only one chapter per state can be chosen for the finalist selection process.

We are also very excited to report that both of our state nominations for the Outstanding Achievement Award were selected for national recognition so they will also be recognized at the alumni event on Friday, as well as, a special Foundation breakfast being held on Thursday. This award is being presented to Melanie Huchthausen from Stoughton and Jeremy Krerowicz from Denmark.

Congratulations to all of these chapters and individuals and good luck at the national level.

Online Fundraising Auction Being Planned Again for this Fall

The Wisconsin FFA Alumni fundraising committee is looking at hosting another online auction this fall. We have held a couple auctions to assist with raising funds and have found it to be a good resource to reach members, and even non-members, who may not be able to attend the annual convention. We are always looking for neat donations of items for the auction so please let us know if you are interested in contributing. The link for the auction and dates will be in upcoming newsletters, but will also be available at <https://wisconsinaged.org/alumni/events/> and Facebook when it gets closer.

Last Chance for Commemorative Tractors

The 2022 commemorative tractor being sold by the convention planning committee had to have its deadline extended due to the state convention being extended until July. So, this is your final chance to order a tractor. There are only a few being made so they will indeed be a collector item. Orders should be postmarked by July 29 if you want to guarantee that your order is processed August 1. You may also email an order to execdir@wisconsinffaalumni.org.



Wisconsin FFA Alumni and Supporters 50 Year Commemorative Tractor

Limited Edition 1:16 Die-Cast Replica
1:16 Farmall 350 with 2 row cultivator



FEATURES

- Highly detailed by Spec Cast
- Collector pewter plate
- Die-cast metal
- Rear wheel weights
- Gas engine
- Fast hitch
- Collectible display box

Order deadline is

July 30, 2021

Shipping cost is \$16 each or pick up at 2022 convention at the Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center in Wausau, WI.

Stock #	Description	Unit Per Case	Unit Price	Units Ordered	Shipping	Pickup at convention	Total
CUST 1976	1:16 Farmall 350 with 2 row cultivator	1	\$90		\$16	\$0	
GRAND TOTAL							

Orders processed in order of receipt

Visa Mastercard (5% added on credit cards)
 Cash or check enclosed (U.S. Funds Only) Cash
 Card No. _____ Sec. Code _____ Exp. Date _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____

Checks made payable to :
 Wisconsin FFA Alumni
 Attn: Cheryl Steinbach
 W2680 US Hwy 10
 Granton, WI 54436

SHIP TO: (Please print clearly) PICKUP AT SHOW

Name _____

Street Address (No PO Box) _____

City _____ State _____

Zip/Postal Code _____

Phone _____



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