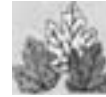




AWA Happenings



Issue I
October 2005

AWA Women Promote Agriculture

Gena Cooper, Alice in Dairyland



Growing up on my family's Clydesdale horse and mink ranch, I always respected Alice as an outstanding female role model. My childhood dream came true on May 21 as I was named the 58th Alice in Dairyland. I am honored to serve as the official spokesperson for agriculture in Wisconsin.

The year has taken me countless places and each experience has deepened my appreciation for the diversity of agriculture in Wisconsin! I have been everywhere from a fish farm to an emu farm, from a cherry orchard to a ginseng garden, and from a board room to a room filled with over 1 million worms. Highlights in my term thus far include actively participating in the Wisconsin State Fair, speaking at the US Agricultural Media Summit, and working with an international contingency on a kidney bean trade mission. These events allow Alice to greet thousands of citizens while expanding their knowledge of our agricultural commodities. This fall I am looking forward to visiting classrooms with the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board. I will build a healthy Wisconsin working with students to appreciate agriculture and learn where food products originate.

The life of Alice is full, busy and exciting because the people of agriculture make this experience so rich. In talking with many citizens along the way, I realize that you do not need to search in order to find a person's connection to agriculture in Wisconsin. Agriculture is the heartbeat of this state.

Thank you to AWA for the resounding support throughout my Alice journey. I appreciate your warm wishes, conversations, and camaraderie as women working for the betterment of Wisconsin agriculture!

Susan Orth, State Fairest of the Fairs



Simply amazing! There is no better way to describe this opportunity to serve Wisconsin as the Fairest of the Fairs! I am honored to have served in this important role promoting Wisconsin fairs! While I have many priceless memories, it was very special crowning several of my AWA sisters.

This summer I was often asked if I was tired of fairs, and, honestly, I do not think that is possible! While each fair has similar components, every fair is unique. Each fair is also special because I have met excited fairgoers, proud organizers, and fantastic supporters. Every fair captured a part of my heart, and I am enjoyed every moment of this exciting summer!

I have had the privilege to work with a variety of people – from agriculturalists to rural families to urban children. June was "Dairy Delicious" as I enjoyed dairy breakfasts and other promotional events across the state. July flew by with a fun flurry of Fairs. My sister, Dana, and I kicked off July at the Travel Information Centers. Other highlights include auctioning off a cake, meeting Phil Vassar (my middle name is Carlene!) and of course, the heat! August brought the Wisconsin State Fair, where I spent 11 fun-filled days promoting and enjoying all the State Fair has to offer! I rounded out my final fairs in August and September with even more memories. I'll never forget judging and participating in a hog calling contest, reading stories to the children at a Fair, and the phenomenal support at junior livestock auctions!

A highlight of every Fair was catching up with AWA sisters and meeting our amazing alumni! Our AWA actives and alumni are oftentimes directly involved with the Fairest program. Whether it's volunteering as a coordinator or serving as the Fairest of the Fair, the positive impact of AWA is clear! Thanks for your involvement!

Undeclared Year For the UW Dairy Judging Team

This fall, AWA ladies dominated the UW-Madison dairy judging team with amazing contest success. Here are some highlights...

Accelerated Genetics Contest in Viroqua: The team placed third overall, with Chrissy Wendorf taking home top honors and placing first in oral reasons. Linda Behling finished fifth individually.

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All American Contest in Harrisburg, PA:
The team had

tremendous success there as well with Lindsey Worden placing first overall, Lea McCullough was fifth, and Suzie Benoit finished 12th.

Mid-South Fair in Memphis, TN: The two teams controlled the contest, placing first and second. Alane Uhe was high individual in the contest, Behling was fourth overall, and Wendorf was eighth. The second place team was led by Kelsi Hendrickson placing second, and Benoit, fifth individually.

World Dairy Expo in Madison: This win marked UW-Madison's ninth national team championship. Molly Florent was fourth overall and first in reasons! Congratulations to all dairy judging team members!



AWA Inc. President's Report

Jenny Spoke

It is a new year for AWA. Our fiscal year begins on July 1, but our organization really revolves around the school calendar year. We have new active officers taking leadership positions, new members joining the organization and new goals set by the corporation board.

Goals for 2005-2006

- Better communication between alumni and actives
- Get more alumni involved
- More information sharing among the corporation board
- Work towards an advisory role

The corporation board developed these goals as well as tactics to help achieve these goals at our summer strategic planning meeting.

The alumni committees have also been busy planning for the upcoming year.

The house management committee is working with active members to put together a wish list for house updates. With only 23 renters in the house this year, marketing the house is a priority.

The education committee is promoting the scholarships available.

The financial management committee will have the 2006-2007 budget completed by the time you read this newsletter.

The marketing committee is busy as always with plans for the second annual Real World Workshop (RWW), new ideas for AWA Day, and don't forget to check out the website: www.uwmadisonawa.org.

Looking ahead, it is a year filled with both challenges and great opportunities. As we plan for the upcoming year, we know it would not be possible without the foresight and dedication of the women who worked to build the foundation of AWA as well as the many friends who have supported us through the years. Thank you.



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Benoit Spends Semester Abroad

By Andrea Klahn

"The landscape changes so much in New Zealand. You can go from the ocean to mountains in about an hour," recalls active AWA member Suzie Benoit. "From the highest point on the farm (where she interned) you could see the ocean."

Benoit, who will graduate in the spring of 2007, spent the spring semester of 2005 in New Zealand. She stayed at Clarksville Station, a 650-cow farm outside of Kurow. The farm was fairly secluded and located 20 minutes from the nearest town.

"There would be miles where there would only be a house or two," Benoit said of the landscape in New Zealand.

She lived in a house located on the farm and she was active in all aspects of work at Clarksville.

"Every morning I would get the cows with the cow dog. I really liked being out working with the cattle everyday," said Benoit. "I learned a lot about the New Zealand (dairy) industry."

The dairy industry is seasonal in New

Zealand. During the winter and dry season the cows graze in the pasture. The cows had already calved when she had arrived in January so milking was her main responsibility at Clarksville. During her stay, Benoit was in-charge of mastitis treatment and involved in drying off the herd in early May and June. She explained that New Zealand's seasons are opposite of our seasons in the United States. Winter was just ending when Benoit arrived in Kurow. She was surprised to find the weather still chilly.

It wasn't all work and no play for Benoit.

"I also got to travel a bit while I was over there," she said. While her dad was visiting from the United States, they traveled along the northern half of New Zealand's lower island.

"One thing I thought was really neat was that the coast has been left alone in New Zealand. There aren't houses up to the water. There are sheep grazing on the hills."

Now in the United States, Benoit misses the magnificent sunsets and sunrises the most in New Zealand. Given the chance, she would love to go back.

Andrea Klahn is a senior from Lodi.

Another Successful Dairy Expo

By Kelsi Hendrickson



World Dairy Expo just wouldn't be complete without milk. Nothing is more fitting than having the outstanding members of AWA distribute milk at Expo.

Handing out milk is one of the major fundraising activities for AWA. Members distribute approximately 5,000 cartons of chocolate milk Tuesday through Saturday at the gates of Expo. They are responsible for courteously thanking the attendees for visiting Expo and inviting them to return next year.

In addition to handing out milk, AWA members are busy for weeks contributing to the success of Dairy Expo. Kara Kasten was the National Agri-Marketing Association World Dairy Expo chairperson. AWA women leading Badger Dairy Club were: Ashley Yager, showing; Laurie Volkman, milk house; Lindsey Worden and Brenda Thimmig, business and Eliza Ulness and Haley Mell, cheese stand. In addition to working, members also show their cattle. Top finishes from AWA were Haley Mell with her winning spring heifer calf and Lea McCullough with the Reserve Junior Champion Holstein of the Junior Show.

Kelsi Hendrickson is a sophomore majoring in dairy science and ag journalism from Belleville.

AWA Women Gain Experience in Internships

Jeanna Burggraf, a senior majoring in dairy science, was the marketing intern for the Wisconsin Beef Council in Madison.

Shauna Carter is the youth Extension intern under Bernie O'Rourke in Madison. Shauna, a sophomore majoring in animal science, will help plan youth 4-H and FFA events.

Molly Florent spent her summer in Plain City, OH as the dairy science marketing Intern for Select Sires. Molly is a senior majoring in dairy science and ag journalism.

Marta Grinde is a sophomore majoring in animal science. Marta was the intern for the UW Ag Research Station in Lancaster where she did research project sampling and daily chores.

Nicole Hosto was the communications intern for the Wisconsin Holstein Association in Baraboo. She is currently the marketing and sales intern for the Alliant Energy Center in Madison. Nicole is a senior majoring in dairy science and ag journalism.

Kara Kasten was a Wisconsin State Fair Agriculture Intern in West Allis. Kara, a junior majoring in dairy science and ag journalism, is currently the DATCP Dairy Business Intern in Madison.

Sarah Kuffel was an AI technician for Northstar/Select Sires in Stevens Point. Sarah is a senior majoring in dairy science.

Christine Lepple, a senior majoring in dairy science and ag journalism, was the dairy sales intern for Fort Dodge Animal Health in Marshfield. Christine is currently the editorial intern for Agri-View in Madison.

Amanda Levzow is a senior majoring in Agriculture and Biology Education. Amanda is an agriculture education student teacher in the Milton School District for the fall semester.

Haley Mell is a junior majoring in dairy science. Haley was the East Central/Select Sires communications intern in Waupun.

Crystal McNett was the corporate communications intern for Select Sires in Plain City, OH. Crystal is a senior majoring in dairy science.

Susan Orth is a senior majoring in animal science and ag journalism. Susan is the Wisconsin State Fairest of the Fairs in West Allis. She is also the marketing intern for the Professional Dairy Producers of Wisconsin (PDPW).

Keela Retallick is a junior majoring in animal science. She was a veterinarian assistant for the Southwest Veterinary Clinic in Bloomington.

Laurie Rieden, a senior majoring in dairy science, was an intern for the Adams Dairy in Eleva. She managed pastures for organic cows and heifers, helped with calf care, and did field work.

Alane Uhe was the editorial and circulation Intern for Agri-View in Madison. Alane is a junior majoring in dairy science.

Naomi Uhlenhake was an intern for Resource Engineering Associates in Middleton. Naomi was part of agricultural storm water management, erosion control, and CAFO permitting. Naomi is a senior majoring in biological systems engineering.

Eliza Ulness, a junior majoring in dairy science, was the youth livestock intern for the Wisconsin State Fair in West Allis.

Laurie Volkman was a sales and marketing intern for Alltech in Juneau. Laurie is a senior majoring in dairy science and ag journalism.

Lindsey Worden, a junior majoring in dairy science and ag journalism, was the UW-Extension dairy youth programs

Congratulations to AWA Members making 2005 Spring Semester Dean's List!

Katie Behnke	Emily Miller
Rhonda Brahn	Sarah Peters
Michelle Fischer	Vicki Scannell
Nicole Hosto	Abby Wochinski
Ashley Huijbregtse	Lindsey Worden
Christine Lepple	

Alumni (Continued from page 5) experience more, and that can uncover new talents and interests that are worth pursuing. Second, "do the right thing." In my case, this involved standing firm against political/public pressures when we were reviewing rbST to either rush it to approval without thorough review, or to just give up and never approve it just so we didn't have to face criticism. I couldn't have lived with myself in either situation. Instead, we did what our job as public servants required: a thorough review and a decision based on science. You may face challenging decisions in your career or life with moral/ethical implications. Always choose the right course of action so you can look back with no regrets on your decision. Finally, do "get a life"! It is important to work hard to develop a satisfying career, but a key purpose of that career is to support a satisfying life! Find something out of work to be passionate about and to enrich your life.



Catching Up With AWA Alumni

Valerie (Johnson) Breunig
Waunakee, WI
Graduated: 1986

I am surprised this spring will mark 20 years since I graduated from UW-Madison. That's more years than I was old when I arrived! When planning your life, keep in mind this will sneak up on you, too.

I double majored in ag extension education and ag journalism, and my career has centered in the industries of agriculture and credit unions. My resume in five quick bullet points is:

- AgSource Co-op: marketing
- CUNA: advertising, product manager
- World Dairy Expo: sales
- Ag Science Foundation: fundraising
- World Council Credit Unions: international funds

The credit union connection was made possible by my marketing skills, the cooperative experience offered by agriculture, and the presence of the credit union center (CUNA) in Madison. I love my latest position (six months old) at the international trade association and international development agency for credit unions, WOCCU. We develop credit unions in third world countries as poverty alleviation tools, we lobby governments for equitable treatment of financial cooperatives, and we promote credit union membership and knowledge exchange around the world.

I traveled to Ecuador this summer to see our government funded project that teaches rural women to start businesses on micro loans as small as \$200; the very next week I traveled to Rome for our annual meeting with credit union leaders from all over the world. My main responsibility is to match credit unions in the developed world as donors with wonderful assistance projects in the developing world and see the great work unfold. (Ask me about

the new credit unions in Afghanistan that require women on the board, for example.)

My husband, Tom, has owned his own marketing consulting business (The Thomas Group/TTG) for the last five years; prior to that he was with ABS Global. Yes, he was that AGR dairy science major I hung around with a lot in college. Our biggest achievements are a son, Kyle (13) and a daughter, Mikaela (11).



While I've done my share of volunteer work (NAMA, Agri-Business Delegation, Forage Superbowl, etc), I now focus my volunteer efforts on our Kyle and Mikaela's activities, as it will soon be their turn to be the college students, and I want to spend as much time with them as I can before they leave home in six years.

For the first time in my life I don't have a specific career goal; I'm just enjoying the ride and will re-evaluate after those six years pass. It's going fast, but I still enjoy getting together with my AWA friends, and I still use my AWA connections. (Thanks Jamie Greenheck for helping me make a contact last week you don't even know about!).

Advice? I'd have different advice at each stage of my career, so my advice is to get lots of it from lots of people, try it all on and see which fits. My e-mail box is always open for AWA members who want a "twenty-year perspective" at vbreunig@charter.net.

Krista Knigge
Minneapolis, MN
Graduation: 1996

I am Krista Knigge, originally from a dairy farm in Omro. I am a 1996 ag economics and ag journalism graduate with an international and natural resources focus. I currently work for Deere & Company, where I interned between my junior and senior years of college. I've lived in Minneapolis, MN; Reno, NV; Portland, OR and Moline, IL doing various sales, marketing, business development and project management roles. I'm currently on a six-month assignment working in Moline, however, my residence is Minneapolis until January 2006 when the project I'm working on is scheduled to be completed.

I'm sure this is the story that many are most interested in. I'm in a great relationship. (I can hear the gasps of shock!) Yes, I finally have a significant other. Corey Geiger and I met in college 13 years ago. We started dating this year after we went as friends to my cousin Pat Uhlenhake and Jean Rowntree's wedding this spring. We had been each other's dates for a few other AWA alumni weddings since graduation - Katy (Duwe) Katzman and Mary Ellen (Lerum) Karls. Third times a charm I guess!

I wanted to provide some words of advice to the AWA members based on my experiences.



I learned a lot about people skills during my time as an AWA member. More specifically, I learned how to not treat people and how to get things done. I had some rigid guidelines as house manager and a less than politically correct manner. I admit I made many mistakes. I offer my thanks to those who endured me during this time and did not kill me. Thank you also for helping me to be better. Thank you for the feedback so I could improve. At the time, I didn't particularly enjoy receiving all that feedback, but I tried to remember that the person providing me the feedback actually was trying to help. If they didn't care, they wouldn't have bothered.

Keep that in mind when it comes to giving feedback. Make sure you give it, even when it could be uncomfortable. Think through the best way to approach the person and tell him/her your thoughts. One way to lessen the sting is to sandwich your critique between acknowledgements.

Giving and receiving feedback takes practice. Sometimes it will be uncomfortable but try to take a positive spin as you are giving and receiving feedback in the future. We're all in this together.

Recommended readings/listenings: The Gift of Fear by Gavin DeBecker-trusting your instincts Lessons in Mastery by Anthony Robbins - learn from the best to improve your own techniques

Suzanne Sechen
Gaithersburg, MD
Graduation: 1980

I grew up on a dairy farm in the northwestern corner of Wisconsin, near Ashland. I had a lot of interests and hadn't planned on a career in agriculture. I somehow became aware of the UW agriculture school and majored in dairy science when I began college in 1976. The large UW campus and challenging classes were quite an adjustment

for this small town, country girl. Groups like AWA and the Badger Dairy Club helped tremendously. I developed friendships with other ag students and enjoyed getting involved with the many activities these groups sponsored. AWA was still in its early stages at this point. Several women lived in the two rented houses, and I can't recall if buying a house had even crossed anyone's mind.

Working in the lab throughout college made it clear to me right away that I, too, would pursue graduate studies in dairy nutrition or physiology. I began my Master's degree right after I graduated in 1980.

I ventured out of Wisconsin in 1982 to start my Ph.D. at Cornell with Dale Bauman. I did research on the effects of bovine somatotropin (bST) on metabolism in the lactating dairy cow. After a few years, though, I had a nagging feeling that something just wasn't right. The realization finally caught up with me that this was not the right fit. After so many years of time and energy invested in this pursuit, it was a hard admission to make. And now what? Dale and I explored other options and found an internship with the FDA in Rockville, MD. I took a break from my Ph.D. work for four months in 1986.

I gained a lot of confidence from that internship and headed back to Cornell recharged. I finished my degree in early 1988 and returned to FDA to officially start my career. I became the "primary reviewer" for rbST products, meaning that I coordinated the reviews of all aspects of safety and effectiveness by the various experts in FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine. Our dairy science team faced a "perfect storm" of controversy in the late 1980s and early 90s as publicity about the

products increased concerns with rbST. After several years of very long days and weeks, FDA approved the rbST product in 1993.

The experience of reviewing rbST was extraordinarily exciting, but I'm happy to now work at a calmer pace! I continue to review production drugs, primarily those intended for use in dairy cows. For example, I was heavily involved in the review of monensin for use in dairy cows, which FDA approved in 2004. In addition to traditional production drugs,



my division is helping the agency determine if cloned and transgenic animals will be regulated.

On a personal note, I have a townhouse in Gaithersburg, MD, which is just a few miles from my office in

Rockville. These are both suburbs of Washington, D.C., northwest of the city. I enjoy living here with many wonderful cultural and historical offerings in D.C.

In 1993, I decided I needed to "get a life" and develop some hobbies. I had always wanted to learn to dance, and so I signed up for a few ballroom dance lessons at a local Arthur Murray studio. That innocent little step led to a 12-year passion! I fell in love with dancing and continue to take lessons. I developed a wonderful social circle with my dance friends – now my second family. I even do competitions with the glittery ball gowns! Besides the great exercise, I have found dancing to be the absolute best way to relieve stress encountered through work and just everyday life.

For those of you just starting your careers, my advice would have to be based on some of my own experiences. First, don't be afraid to change course if the direction of your career just doesn't feel right. We change as we grow and

Alumni (Continued on page 6)



Meet the 2005-2006 AWA Officer Team



President: Devon Frei
 Hometown: Janesville
 Year in School: Senior
 Major(s): Animal Science & Ag Journalism
 Favorite UW location: Picnic Point & Lakeshore Path
 Officer Goal: To create more memories



Vice President: Kara Kasten
 Hometown: Richfield
 Year in School: Junior
 Major(s): Dairy Science & Ag Journalism
 Favorite UW location: Birge Terrace
 Officer Goal: To keep everyone informed



Secretary: Buffy Sacia
 Hometown: North Bend
 Year in School: Junior
 Major(s): Animal Science
 Favorite UW location: Frank's Place Cafeteria
 Officer Goal: To get to know new members



Treasurer: Amanda Levzow
 Hometown: Pardeeville
 Year in School: Senior
 Major(s): Agriculture & Biology Education
 Favorite UW location: Steenbock
 Officer Goal: Be more involved in AWA



Membership: Lindsey Worden
 Hometown: Cassville, NY
 Year in School: Junior
 Major(s): Dairy Science & Ag Journalism
 Favorite UW location: Picnic Point
 Officer Goal: To get to know the new members



Activities: Eliza Ulness
 Hometown: Valders
 Year in School: Junior
 Major(s): Dairy Science
 Favorite UW location: Steenbock Library
 Officer Goal: To plan lots of fun events



Public Relations: Nicole Hosto
 Hometown: Juda
 Year in School: Senior
 Major(s): Dairy Science & Ag Journalism
 Favorite UW location: Babcock Ice Cream Store
 Officer Goal: To work with the website



Alumni: Alane Uhe
 Hometown: Janesville
 Year in School: Junior
 Major(s): Dairy Science
 Favorite UW location: Ian's Pizza
 Officer Goal: To have a great AWA Day



Fundraising: Kelsi Hendrickson
 Hometown: Belleville
 Year in School: Sophomore
 Major(s): Dairy Science & Ag Journalism
 Favorite UW location: Memorial Union & bike path
 Officer Goal: To give AWA an even better atmosphere



Scholarship: Molly Florent
 Hometown: Marengo, IL
 Year in School: Senior
 Major(s): Dairy Science & Ag Journalism
 Favorite UW location: Stadium Bar & Grill Karaoke
 Officer Goal: To organize Competitive Edge



Sentinel: Sarah Galdi
 Hometown: Brandon
 Year in School: Sophomore
 Major(s): Dairy Science
 Favorite UW location: First Floor Steenbock
 Officer Goal: To composite the scrapbook



Sunshine: Chrissy Wendorf
 Hometown: Viroqua
 Year in School: Sophomore
 Major(s): Dairy Science
 Favorite UW location: Babcock Dairy Store
 Officer Goal: To help everyone have a wonderful time



AWA Wear: Sarah Kuffel
 Hometown: Stevens Point
 Year in School: Senior
 Major(s): Dairy Science
 Favorite UW location: The AWA House
 Officer Goal: To get everyone in style



Newsletter Editor: Ashley Huibregtse
 Hometown: Plymouth
 Year in School: Junior
 Major(s): Education and Communications
 Favorite UW Location: Steenbock & Cole Beach
 Officer Goal: To become more involved



Service: Katie Knapp
 Hometown: Lancaster
 Year in School: Senior
 Major(s): Rehabilitation Psych & Occupational Therapy
 Favorite UW location: Union Terrace in the summer
 Officer Goal: To get traditions re-established



House Steward: Ashley Yager
 Hometown: Highland
 Year in School: Junior
 Major(s): Dairy Science & Ag Journalism
 Favorite UW location: Picnic Point and Bascom Hill
 Officer Goal: To keep girls' stomachs full



House Manager: Laurie Volkman
 Hometown: Black Creek
 Year in School: Senior
 Major(s): Dairy Science & Ag Journalism
 Favorite UW location: Anywhere with friends
 Officer Goal: To create a great house to live and visit



New in Agriculture: Livestock Premises

By Leanne Ketterhagen

Premises registration is the foundation for individual animal identification and tracking. Premises registration is easy, fast and offered at no cost to livestock owners in Wisconsin. This registration is the vital first phase in developing a national trace back system to identify all animals and premises potentially exposed to a foreign animal disease within 48 hours of its discovery.

The Wisconsin Premises Registration Act requires anyone who keeps, houses, or co-mingles livestock to register their premises effective November 1, 2005. There is a compliance window for registrations. Premises that are not currently licensed by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) are required to register by January 1, 2006. Those premises currently licensed by the Department must register as part of their annual license renewal date.

"Livestock," as defined by the Wisconsin Premises Registration Act rules, includes aquaculture, bovine (bison, cattle), camelids (llamas, alpacas), cervidea (deer, elk, moose, caribou, reindeer and the subfamily musk deer), equine (horses, donkeys, mules), goats,

pheasants, poultry (chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, guinea fowl), quail, ratites (rheas, ostriches, emu, cassowary, kiwi), sheep, and swine.

There are four ways to register premises at no cost: computer registration at www.wiid.org is available by clicking on the link for WLIC Premises Registration; a premises registration form can be mailed directly in response to a producer who calls WLIC at 1-888-808-1910; a producer may register premises by requesting a WLIC agent to register premises on his/her behalf — listed on the web site at www.wiid.org; or visit an FSA office for on-line registration or to pick up a paper form.

Leanne Ketterhagen is the AWA Corporation Board Vice President.

AWA Sisters Celebrate



Several AWA alumnae were on hand to celebrate the marriage of Suzy Duwe to Brett Weeks on July 30 in Janesville. Pictured left to right, front row, are Kristina Duwe, Suzy (Duwe) Weeks, Katy (Duwe) Katzman, Ann Paulman and Angie (Christenson) Kynell; back row MaryEllen (Lerum) Karls, Katey (Olson) Chronister, Tammy Voegeli, Brenda (Behnke) Murphy, Jill Makovec, Courtney (Ott) Booth, Tammy es, donkeys, mules), goats, Barb (Luedtke) Thiel, Tracy (Smithback) Travis, Marjorie Stieve and Tracy (Daluge) Sagan.

All About AWA Alumni and Actives

- Brenda Thimmig** and David Cook are engaged to be married on August 5, 2006.
- Congratulations to the County Fairests of the Fairs selected this summer: **Jeanna Burggraf** of Grant County, **Sarah Galdi** of Fond du Lac County, **Ashley Huibregtse** of Sheboygan County, and **Eliza Ulness** of Manitowoc County.
- Patti Maedke** is engaged this summer to Erik Lemke. The wedding date is August 26, 2006.
- Keela Retallick** won Reserve Champion Steer at the 2005 Wisconsin State Fair.
- Liz Matzke** recently joined the team at World Dairy Expo as a marketing specialist.
- Dana Pronschinske** is working in Member Services with the Dairy Business Association.
- Devon Frei** recently became engaged to Andy McWilliams. The wedding is set for May 2007.
- Nicole Hosto** is engaged to be married to Aaron Bruenig.
- Amy (Danhof) Mitchell** has a new baby girl, Lily Marie!
- Congratulations to newlyweds Pat and **Jean (Rowntree) Uhlenhake!**
- Dan and **Mary Ellen (Lerum) Karls** have a new baby boy! John Daniel was born on September 18 joining his older brother, Mathew.
- Joey and **Katey (Olson) Chronister** have a new baby, Delaney Mattea, born September 19.



Active President's Report

Devon Frei

The year has only just started and already the active membership has been keeping busy and having fun doing so.

The 2005-2006 officer team kicked off the year with a summer retreat towards the end of August. We made s'mores over a campfire, shared summer stories well into the night and went mini-golfing the next morning. (Oh, and yes, we even got some planning done for this year, too!) I personally could not think of a better way to end summer and to start the school year than spending that time having fun with ladies that I can proudly call my AWA sisters.

A new group of potentials are starting the joining process, and from what I've seen, they will make an excellent addition to our organization. Many of them have already been getting active in the organization by attending events above and beyond what is expected of them as potentials. My hope is that they find AWA to be a group of women they can call their sisters and a house they can call a home here in Madison as so many actives and alumni have done before them.

With all of the activities and events both actives and alumni are busy planning, I hope that everyone takes the time to participate and enjoy the group of sisters they have acquired through the wonderful organization that our founding members worked so hard to create for us.

As we move into the fall semester, I look forward to working with actives and alumnae in what promises to be a fun and exciting year for AWA.

Devon Frei is a senior majoring in animal science and ag journalism from Janesville.

Marketing Committee Chair:
Tracy Travis
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608-423-3035
tlsmithback@uwalumni.com



Calendar of Events



October:

16 - 22 Homecoming Week

24 AWA Meeting & Potential
Intent to Pledge

November:

7 AWA Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

18 Real World Workshop
Memorial Union @ 9:00 a.m.

Sleepover
AWA House @ 7:00 p.m.

21 AWA Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

AWA Fall Semester Goals

The 2005 - 2006 AWA Officer team selected the AWA fall semester goals at their first officer meeting of the year.

The officers chose three measurable and attainable goals for the organization.

97% attendance at all professional events

*

Hold two Big and Little Sister Events

*

**Have increased active attendance at all
AWA alumni events**



Association of Women in Agriculture

1909 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53726

Address Correction Requested