

Equity News

A PUBLICATION OF EQUITY COOPERATIVE LIVESTOCK SALES ASSOCIATION



Equity Cooperative Livestock Sales Association's district meetings are approaching fast. We must adjust to an ever-changing market while holding onto our unchanging principles is this year's focus. Please choose the date, place and time that best fits your schedule and attend one of your cooperative's annual meetings. Highlights from the past year will be discussed, financials will be reported, voting at four districts will occur and this year's guest speaker will address the beef check-off.

Come enjoy a good meal while supporting your cooperative and as a patron member your ideas and suggestions matter and we'd like to hear your point of view as we move forward.

— Curt Larson

2020 Annual District Meetings:

Friday, March 13

District IV, Bonduel/Marion

The Gathering, Shawano, WI 2600 E Richmond Street, Shawano, WI 54166

- Registration 11:00 a.m., Lunch 11:30 a.m., Business Meeting 12:15 p.m.
- Regional Director Election

Monday, March 16

District VI, Altoona/Barron

Holiday Inn - Eau Claire South, 4751 Owen Ayres Court, Eau Claire, WI 54701

- Registration 11:00 a.m., Lunch 11:30 a.m., Business Meeting 12:15 p.m.

District VII, Sparta

Jake's Northwoods, 1132 Angelo Road, Sparta, WI 54656

- Registration 7:00 p.m., Dinner 7:30 p.m., Business Meeting 8:15 p.m.
- Regional Director Election

Tuesday, March 17

District VIII, Monroe

Turner Hall, 1217 17th Avenue, Monroe, WI 53566

- Registration 11:00 a.m., Lunch 11:30 a.m., Business Meeting 12:15 p.m.

District I, Arlington/Johnson Creek

Hi-Way Harry's, Johnson Creek, WI 710 Glover Lane, Johnson Creek, WI 53038

- Registration 7:00 p.m., Dinner 7:30 p.m., Business Meeting 8:15 p.m.
- Regional Director Election

Wednesday, March 18

District X, Waukon

Old Rossville Store, Waukon, IA 851 Volney Rd, Waukon, IA 52172

- Registration 11:00 a.m., Lunch 11:30 a.m., Business Meeting 12:15 p.m.
- Regional Director Election

District IX, Richland Center

Ramada by Wyndham, 1450 Veterans Dr, Richland Center, WI 53581

- Registration 7:00 p.m., Dinner 7:30 p.m., Business Meeting 8:15 p.m.

Thursday, March 19

District II, Lomira

Radisson Hotel (formerly Holiday Inn), WI 625 W Rolling Meadows Dr, Fond du Lac, WI 54937

- Registration 11:00 a.m., Lunch 11:30 a.m., Business Meeting 12:15 p.m.

District III, Reedsville

Cobblestone Creek Supper Club, Brillion, WI 740 W Ryan Street, Brillion, WI 54110

- Registration 7:00 p.m., Dinner 7:30 p.m., Business Meeting 8:15 p.m.

Friday, March 20

District V, Stratford

Country Aire, 118600 (formerly F1312) County Rd P, Stratford, WI 54484

- Registration 11:00 a.m., Lunch 11:30 a.m., Business Meeting 12:15 p.m.

If you are an active patron and are not able to attend your meeting where an election is being held, absentee ballots are available. Please call the main office at 1-800-362-3989 extension 200 to have a ballot mailed to you.

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Equity Recognizes Their College Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to these individuals for earning the 2020 Equity Cooperative Livestock Sales Association college scholarships. These youth have demonstrated scholastic achievements and leadership throughout their educational years.

College Scholarship Winners:



District I - Arlington/Johnson Creek - Grace Link, daughter of Jim and Linda Link from Deerfield, attending Iowa State University studying Agricultural Communications



District II - Lomira - Benjamin Bruss, son of Dave and Sue Bruss from Markesan, attending UW-Platteville studying Dairy Science



District III - Reedsville - Brandon Biese, son of Ron and Kay Biese from Chilton, attending UW-Madison studying Dairy Science



District IV - Bonduel/Marion - Colin Wussow, son of Ron and Nicolle Wussow from Cecil, attending UW-River Falls studying Agricultural Business



District V - Stratford - Jillian Tyler, daughter of David and Karen Tyler from Granton, attending UW-River Falls studying Agricultural Education



District VI - Altoona/Barron - Abigail George, daughter of Doug and Patty George from Mondovi, attending UW - River Falls studying Ag Business/Ag Marketing and Communications



District VII - Sparta - Carisa Cleven, daughter of Conrad & Debra Cleven from Kendall, attending UW-River Falls studying Agricultural Education



District VIII - Monroe - Molly Minder, daughter of David and Kathy Minder from Browntown, attending UW-Platteville studying Agribusiness



District IX - Richland Center - Tara Liegel, daughter of Randolph and Linda Liegel from Loganville, attending UW-Whitewater studying Accounting and Finance



District X - Waukon - Max Dach, son of Dwight and Wanda Dach from Viroqua, attending UW-Platteville studying Animal Science/Livestock and Meat Production

Technical College Scholarship Winners:



District VIII - Monroe - Brooklynn Hollis, daughter of Todd and Jodi Hollis from German Valley, IL, attending Highland Community College

studying Dairy Science



District VI - Altoona/Barron - Brandon Gilbertson, son of Kevin and Kay Gilbertson from Elk Mound, attending Northeast Iowa Community College

studying Dairy Science

"On behalf of Equity Cooperative, I'd like to thank the Federated Youth Foundation for their participation in selecting our scholarship winners," says Curt Larson. "It is so encouraging to see the enthusiasm and fresh outlook our applicants have toward their future and success. We welcome more students that fit our scholarship criteria to apply in fall. Best wishes and keep dreaming big."

Scholarship applications are available on our website in the fall and applications are due in late November.

Distinguished Patron Recognition Awards

These patrons received the cooperative's "Distinguished Patron Recognition" award during local association meetings. Nomination and selection are at the discretion of each individual shipping association board of directors and is presented at each association's annual meeting.

These individuals have been honored this year:

Robert Felts

Lyndhurst Cooperative Shipping Association

This program will continue as we move forward. Another list of recipients will appear in the summer edition of *Equity News*.

Charles Held

Equity Kettle Moraine Lakeside Livestock Marketing Cooperative



Charles Held with his award.

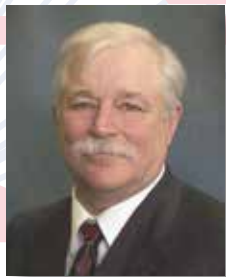
Curt Kolpack

South West Shawano Cooperative



George Roemer (l) presents Curt Kolpack with his award on February 11.

Adami Receives 2019 Robert B. Engel Farmer Cooperative Manager of the Year Honor



Chuck Adami

Equity's former President and CEO, Chuck Adami, received the Robert B. Engel Farmer Co-op Manager of the Year Award. The National Council of Farmer Cooperatives (NCFC) held their annual meeting in February and announced Adami as their recipient. This award was created to acknowledge outstanding achievement and commitment to cooperative principles by co-op managers across the country. Chuck was recognized

for his hard work, dedication, leadership skills, and genuine interest in agricultural cooperatives. Chuck always utilized the seven cooperative principles in planning ideas and themes for member meetings and incorporated those same themes into training programs as well. Chuck shared his enthusiasm, desire and ability with several state and national agriculture groups to help them advance. He previously served on NCFC's Council for seven years and chaired their government affairs committee.



Since Adami could not personally accept the award, board member Steve Schleis (l) accepted it on his behalf, from NCFC's President/CEO Chuck Conner (r).

A \$10,000 donation will be made by CoBank and the NCFC Foundation to a charity of Adami's choice, that being the Wisconsin FFA Foundation in support of the future leaders of agriculture.



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Ryan Adams Wins State Contest

Ryan Adams, co-owner of Adam's Auction Service from Prairie du Chien brings home top honors from the Wisconsin Auctioneer Association's state contest. He and his brother Seth auctioneer at several Equity locations, with Ryan being a regular at Johnson Creek. Also competing were Tilon Mast (Stratford) and Jacob Hills (Richland Center and Monroe). Mast won the novice category out of six contestants. Congratulations to all of the competitors!



Ryan Adams with his award.

Congratulations Philip and Laura Finger

The 2020 Wisconsin Outstanding Young Farmer (OYF) was announced in late January. We want to say CONGRATULATIONS to the winners, Philip and Laura Finger, from Oconto. Philip and Laura operate the Finger Family Farm LLC dairy, which has 540 cows on about 1,400 cropped acres. They are the fifth generation on the family farm. They belong to the Equity Northeast Livestock Marketing Cooperative.

Congratulations to the other OYF finalists, who are also members of Equity:

- Kelly & Rachel Fruit, Viola – Equity Rich Land Livestock Marketing Cooperative
- Jeremy & Heather Natzke, Greenleaf – Equity Reedsville Livestock Marketing Cooperative
- JJ & Chase Pagel, Kewaunee – Equity Reedsville Livestock Marketing Cooperative

Thank you for your continued support, involvement and patronage as a member, and we praise all of you for your dedication to the dairy industry!



Philip and Laura Finger with their award.

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P.O. Box 1003
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Market Directory

Altoona 715-835-3104
Arlington 608-635-4376
Barron 715-537-5618
Bonduel 715-758-2125
Johnson Creek 920-699-3588
Lomira..... 920-269-4351
Marion..... 715-754-5227
Monroe 608-328-8344
Reedsville 920-754-4361
Richland Center..... 608-647-6151
Sparta 608-269-3104
Stratford..... 715-687-4101
Waukon..... 563-568-4501

Equity Livestock Credit Corporation

Gary Williams.....608-356-8311, ext. 125

Commodities Division

Scott Anderson.....608-356-8311, ext. 132

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