

DEMETER NEWS

• FOCUSING ON OUR COMMUNITY & THE UW-MADISON COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL & LIFE SCIENCES •

WHAT IS the USDFRC?

What are multifunctional farms, resilient landscapes?



In March via Zoom we heard from Dr. Alison Duff, a Research Ecologist and a member of the dairy systems research team at the US Dairy Forage Research Center (USDFRC). The DFRC has labs on the UW campus and a 400 cow dairy herd, 1300 acres of cropland and 900 acres of pastures and perennials north of Prairie du Sac. Alison describes multifunctional farms in measures that include not only productivity and profitability, but also an array of ecosystem services. The latter include soil carbon storage, food production, pollinator benefits, greenhouse gas emissions, water infiltration, reduction of soil loss, and more. Many of the ecosystem services may provide direct benefits to farms such as reduced need for fertilizer, improved water infiltration, or reduced predation. Resilience in landscapes refers to their capacity to withstand or adapt to a sustained disturbance such as climate change.



Dr. Duff outlined her own research on silvopasture, the practice of grazing permanent pastures on landscapes containing trees.

Alison envisions three paradigm shifts for agricultural systems research: A) move from production and profitability as the primary metrics of assessment to multiple farm-scale metrics including nitrous oxide (N₂O) reduction, nitrate (NO₃) retention, soil carbon storage, erosion control, pest suppression, and pollinator conservation, B) shift from distinct/separate research on croplands and non-croplands to a farmscape view that integrates agricultural sciences and landscape ecology, C) shift from originating research at the lab then communicating results to producers to “co-production of research” that continuously engages producers in developing objectives and conducting the research followed by outreach. This was a thought-provoking view of ongoing and future research. Demeter wishes Alison a productive, impactful future in dairy systems research.

Report by *George Shook*

IT IS CORN ROAST TIME!

5:00 PM Wednesday, September 7, 2022
Lakeview Park, Middleton
SEE INSERT FOR DETAILS
SEND YOUR RESERVATION NOW!



L—R Heidi Holmes, Mary Stuiber, Mary Whitmer, Phyllis Menne, Jodi Wickham, Linda Harvey, Ann Zenner

The 2022 Garden Party in the Allen Centennial Garden was a fun event and well attended considering the extreme heat on June 14th! Garden Director Reba Luiken, Event Coordinator Ryan Dostal and interns arranged space where we were comfortable and not in the direct sun. The interns mingled with the 36 attendees, offered walking tours and served food. Assorted beverages, box lunches and conversation were enjoyed by all in spite of a catering glitch. Thank you to everyone for taking it in stride. Dean Kate addressed the group for the last time in her capacity as CALS Dean and Reba Luiken was introduced as the ACG Garden Director.

Judy Barth, Event Chair

WELCOME

Our new Vice President

Laura Hernandez
Professor Animal & Dairy Sciences



Demeter members are grateful to the other members of the Executive Committee who have agreed to continue serving.

Sally Leong, president
Linda Harvey, recording sec'y
Lynn Grooms, corresponding sec'y
Douglas Maxwell, Treasurer

A YEAR IN PERSPECTIVE

As we cross into the new year 2022-2023, I am reminded of what a good year 2021-2022 has been to our organization. We were able to offer \$48,000 in student support in scholarships, grants and internships to deserving undergraduate students in CALS. We were able to gather in person to see friends and colleagues again on several occasions including the Corn Roast Picnic, bulb planting at Allen Centennial Garden, the annual meeting at Blackhawk Country Club, the memorial for Jeff Martin, and the Garden Party at Allen Centennial Garden. And we were able to sew head coverings for cancer patients in person at our new venue Blue Bar Quilts. These opportunities have shown us how important our community is and how valuable the opportunities are to be together in person in friendship. These events and their communication through the newsletters and directory of members are made possible by the outstanding and dedicated volunteer efforts of our membership. This fellowship of Demeter members is truly a gift for all!

Through virtual programming we have been able to keep in touch with the importance of laughter to our mental health, the restoration and current uses of the former Badger Ordinance Plant and the new Dairy Innovation Hub.

Plans are underway for the fall Corn Roast Picnic at Lakeside Park on September 7. Alice in Dairyland, Taylor Schaefer, a recent CALS graduate, and our new CALS Dean Glenda Gillaspay will be on hand to visit and make presentations. Following an invitation by Curt Meine, a field trip to Badgerlands (former Badger Ordinance Plant) and the associated USDA Dairy Forage Research Farm in Sauk County is planned for August 17 from 9 AM to 1 PM. And a service project at Kemp Station may be organized for late September.

Thank you for your continuing membership and generous contributions in time and money to Demeter's student support and other service activities. I look forward to seeing you at upcoming events!

Sally Leong, Demeter President



L-R Local chef Yusuf Bi-Rella and interns, Isaac Zaman, Alan Fox and Aleigha Fandre, planting African diasporic garden.



DAIRY INNOVATION HUB

Maria Woltdt, Program Manager



Wisconsin continues to have more dairy farms than any other state at slightly less than 6500 farms, and ranks first nationally in cheese production. More than 90% of the milk from nearly 1.3 million cows goes into cheese. The dairy industry overall generates about \$45 billion in economic activity for the state of Wisconsin. The Dairy Innovation Hub (DIH) provides nearly \$8 million of state funds toward support of the dairy industry through investments at UW-Madison, UW-Platteville, and UW-River Falls. The four pillars of the DIH are Animal Health & Welfare, Human Health & Nutrition, Farm Business & Community, and Land & Water. By July 2021 more than 100 funding awards had been approved in the four priority areas. Researchers have published results, given presentations and participated in patent applications. Five new faculty members have been hired at UW-Madison in the following areas: dairy economics, human health & nutrition, land & water stewardship, and rumen microbial physiology. UW-Madison faculty hires are in progress in immunology and dairy food science and the DIH supports another three faculty members at UW-Madison in Animal & Dairy Sciences and one in Nutritional Sciences. Similar efforts are on-going at UW-Platteville and UW-River Falls.

Report by *Randy Shaver*

Allen Centennial Garden

While awaiting construction of our new Wyman Kitchen Garden at Allen Centennial Garden, community partners have helped bring our kitchen garden to life with a Hmong herb garden, an African diasporic vegetable garden, and a Three Sisters Garden grown from Oneida seeds. You might recognize corn, beans, and squash in the Three Sisters Garden, but other plants may be more surprising. In the African garden celosia is growing as a leafy green for salads, but you might know it as a great edging flower. Another difference is that all three of these gardens are planted in clumps or artistic groupings which allows them to help each other grow and provides an opportunity for a colorful living design.

At a Harvest Festival on October 8, ACG will host multiple performances from Hmong, African, Indigenous, Slavic, and Scandinavian musicians, dancers, and storytellers. Plus, students will share their research and family traditions. Join us for this free community event!

Reba Luiken, Director ACG



Photography: Lynn Grooms
Editor: Martha Maxwell
martha.maxwell41@gmail.com

ED FUND REPORT

Despite the disruptions over the past two years, one constant has been the continued support Demeter has provided to CALS students. UW Foundation endowments and continued donations from Demeter members will provide \$48,000 support via scholarships, three internships, a research stipend, and grants during the 2022-2023 academic year. New this year is an internship at the Arlington Research Station. Demeter has received several thank you cards from students and clubs already. Words from AWA member McKenzie Trinko ***“I would like to thank you for your generous scholarship toward my education. I am currently studying Animal Sciences and French and hope to continue on to veterinary school, so your contribution is absolutely appreciated. I look forward to working with a group like yours in the future. Thank you kindly”***

CALS clubs and organizations to receive extra-curricular activity support next year include National Agri-Marketing Association (NAMA), Food Science Club (FS), Society for the Advancement of Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS), and CALS Health and Research Society (CHARS). Students in both NAMA and FS organizations will be preparing and developing marketing plans and products, respectively, throughout the year. Competing at a national competition serves as the final learning phase of the experience. SACNAS members will be attending a conference and CHARS will be hosting an undergraduate research symposium on UW campus.

You will have an opportunity to meet this talented group of students at the annual corn roast. They will share information about themselves and directly express their appreciation for the support they have received.

Liv Sandberg, Education Fund Committee Chair

NEW DEAN OF CALS

Glenda Gillaspy, current chair of the Department of Biochemistry at Virginia Tech, has been appointed the new Dean of CALS and will assume her new duties August 4, 2022. She is excited to attend the Demeter Corn Roast picnic.

Dr. Gillaspy follows Kate VandenBosch, Dean since 2012, who oversaw the launch of the Wisconsin Crop Innovation Center and the Dairy Innovation Hub, and led a successful fund-raising campaign for the college. Demeter has very much appreciated her enthusiastic support. Dean Kate will return to her home department of agronomy.



Thanks to
Sharon Brantmeier of



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For sponsoring
this newsletter

DONATIONS—STUDENT SUPPORT

Sally Andrews, Judy Barth & Darrell Barth, Donna Beestman, Sandra Bertics, Dorothy & Larry Binning, Joyce Bringe, Sue Cowan, Candee Craven, Mary Diezel, Ruby Dobson, Ann Ellingboe, W. Emy Gartzke, Laura Hernandez, David Hogg, Daphne Holterman, Ruby A. Larsen, Sally Leong, Douglas Maxwell, Darlene Nelson, Gail Schaefer, Kate VandenBosch

IN MEMORY OF

Jeff Martin by Carrie & Abe Aberle, Ruth Apps, Jackie Bowe, Karen & Bob Bradley, Sharon Brantmeier, Joyce Bringe, Rick & Peggy Daluge, Nancy Field, Andrea & Keith Kelling, Amy Lorimer, Ester & Birl Lowery, Jan Martin, Gail Schaefer, Beverly D. Schrag, Leo Walsh & Hanna Boekhoff-Walsh

Daisy Pound by Sally Andrews
Cynthia Benevenga by Norlin Benevenga
Dennis Buege by Catherine Buege
LaVerne Forest by Betty Forest
Dwight and June Forsyth by David Forsyth
Hazel L. Shands by Jobelle Shands
David Stuibler by Mary Stuibler
Norm Olson by Gail Schaefer
Edith Arny by Martha & Doug Maxwell, Judy & Walter Stevenson,
Janet Bruhn by Mary Kay & Doug Reinemann
Shirley A. Lower by Richard Lower
Donald Field by Nancy Field
Arthur Pope by David Thomas
Inge and Fritz Albert by W. Emy Gartzke
Dwight and June Forsyth by David Forsyth
Marion L. Jackson by Chrystie M. Jackson

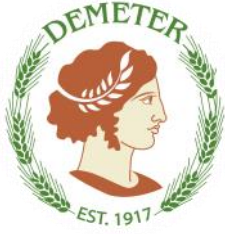
IN HONOR OF

Sally Leong by Liz Henry
Kate VandenBosch by Sally Leong
Sally Leong by Judy Stang
Betty Pope by Lynda Thomas
Jan Martin by Leo & Hanna Boekhoff-Walsh

SEWING WORKSHOP

Julie Arriaga, Jackie Bowe, Karen Bradley, Lois Buelow, Sue Cowan, Ann Ellington, Betty Forest, Rita Harris, Linda Harvey, Liz Henry, Ruby Larsen, Brenda McNatt, Sherry O'Connor, Mary Kay Reinemann, Beverly Schrag, Judy Stang, Mary E. Whitmer, Coe Williams, Ann Zenner

Demeter welcomes all those interested in supporting students in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.
Contact Sally Leong at sallyleong6@gmail.com.



DEMETER

Judy Barth
1885 Briarwood Lane
Fitchburg, WI 53575-2001

CALENDAR

BUS TRIP to BADGERLAND
August 17, 2022, 9 AM—1 PM

CORN ROAST PICNIC
5 pm Wed, Sept. 7, 2022
Lakeview Park 6300 Mendota Ave
Middleton

KEMP STATION SERVICE PROJECT
Late September TBA

SEWING WORKSHOP
10 AM—4 PM, Blue Bar Quilts
6333 University Ave. Middleton
Lynda Thomas 608-836-4677
3rd Tuesdays, Sept thru May

BULB PLANTING
October 2022, TBA

BOARD MEETINGS
19 Oct. 2022, 18 Jan. 2023, 8 March 2023
7:00 PM via Zoom

SPRING LUNCHEON & ANNUAL MTG
3 May 2023, Blackhawk CC



SYMPATHY

Family of Edith Arny on her death

THINKING OF YOU

Mary Jane Getlinger
Ruby Dobson
Eileen Nelson

Please send news to
Lynn Grooms
groomslynn@gmail.com

Edith & Deane Arny at Hoyt Park
Demeter Corn Roast Picnic?

**Oak Bank Increases Security for
Check Deposits**

Demeter members have been generous over the years in the support of students at CALS. This has involved writing checks to the Treasurer, who deposits them at Oak Bank in the Daughters of Demeter, Inc. checking account. To protect the check writer Oak Bank has become more particular about how the checks are written. Checks must be addressed to **DOD, Inc.** or they will need to be returned to the sender. For deposits to the Demeter account at UW-Foundation, please contact the Treasurer for instructions.

Doug Maxwell, Treasurer