

# DEMETER NEWS

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



## *MULTIFUNCTIONAL FARMS, RESILIENT LANDSCAPES : SYSTEMS RESEARCH at the DAIRY FORAGE RESEARCH CENTER*

March 10, Alison Duff will present a zoom on the Center's use of former-Badger Prairie Ordinance land, a follow-up of Curt Meine's January talk. Watch your email for a link for the 7:00 pm presentation.

## *PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*

This is a big year for Demeter with \$48,000 planned in student support toward 25 student awards among which three new awards will be offered for the first time! The steady growth of the eight UW Foundation endowment funds that benefit our organization and its program of student support are a tribute to all those generous individuals who have invested in CALS in the name of Demeter. Annual cash donations will support grants to several student organizations in CALS as well as one internship this coming academic year.



I would like to announce the new Maxwell Endowment which supports a student research award in plant or microbial science. Doug and I got started in research as undergraduates working on research projects that were life changing experiences leading us into careers as research scientists. The Maxwell award will allow one student each year to have such an experience in our college! Thank you to Martha and Doug Maxwell for their foresight and largesse!

I am proud to lead Demeter in this time of abundance and giving!

On a more sobering note, some members have lost loved ones in the last year. Our friend and colleague Jeff Martin passed away suddenly in December. His many contributions to Demeter and the Corn Roast event and his friendship will be deeply missed!

*Sally Leong, President*

## *JEFF MARTIN REMEMBERED*

Demeter recently lost one of our treasured members. Jeff Martin passed away unexpectedly of a heart attack on December 13, 2021. He was a professor in forestry/extension (ret.). You can find his obituary in local newspapers or the Gunderson Funeral Home.

He was among the first men to officially join Demeter. His involvement started with being Jan's helper with the Corn Roast, dragging all the necessary equipment to the park, helping set up the shelter and picking corn. You will remember his cheery, smiling face serving you the food as you went through the food line.



Members have so many memories of Jeff. He was a professional photographer following his retirement. We all recall him quietly moving about our events with his high-tech camera in front of his face, taking photos. Martha Maxwell and Nan Field were so very appreciative of those great, ready-to-publish images for the newsletters and directory. He took photos at Linda Harvey's son's wedding. He was a dear husband, father, friend, and fishing buddy.

Not only did Jeff give to us his precious time and skills, but did so with positive energy and affection. He will truly be missed.

*Report by Nan Field*

## **Memories from Jeff and Jan's son Jon Martin -**

Jeff built a professional connection to some of his favorite things: forest land owners with a shared commitment to the land, and students on their way to working in and for our shared forests. As one of these students, who was lucky to have Jeff in the classroom and field, and forever joyous as a person lucky enough to have Jeff as a father, I am saddened to think of a world where he is no longer a part. However, I am truly grateful for the time I had, the lessons I learned, the experiences we shared, and for the knowledge that many people, and many forests are better off for the time they shared with Jeff.

*Jonathan G. Martin*  
Associate Professor of Forestry  
Northland College

*Caring for Land and People:  
Building on Aldo Leopold's Legacy  
in the 21st Century*

Demeter members were treated to an outstanding presentation by Dr. Curt Meine on the evening of 26 January 2022. Dr. Meine received his PhD in Land Resources from the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at the UW-Madison and is currently a Senior Fellow with the Aldo Leopold Foundation and Chicago-based Center for Humans and Nature, Research Associate with the International Crane Foundation, and associate adjunct professor in UW-Madison Dept. of Forest and Wildlife Ecology. Dr. Meine is a conservation biologist, environmental historian, and writer.

Dr. Meine intertwined the geological history of Wisconsin, stories of the native American people, effigy mounds, the settling of the Sauk Prairie, Lake Ta-wah-cun-chunk-dah (Sacred Lake), the naming of Tripp Commons, the starting of the Arboretum, stories about Aldo Leopold, quotes by Albert Yellow Thunder, heritage apples, the Coon Valley Watershed Conservation Project, the Wisconsin Idea, the process of restoration of the Badger Army Ammunition Plant, the Great Sauk State Trail and much more. If you want to learn more about the restoration of this area, view the presentations at the links you will receive by email from Eileen Nelson. (See below right.)



Dr. Meine represented the best of merging of nature, native culture, land conservation, citizens, government all harmony to create a better future. He would want us all to heed the advice given by Albert Yellow Thunder, "Civilization must be a constructive, conserving, benevolent thing."

Local Demeter members were joined by others from as far away as Maryland and Arizona, and Dr. Meine was in his home in Sauk County. This was made possible by Zoom and the skills of Eileen Nelson and was arranged by President Sally Leong.

References on this topic: *The Driftless Reader* by Curt Meine & Keefe Keeley, and a video about apple trees left on Badger Prairie after government acquisition.

Report by Douglas Maxwell

UW Arboretum ca 1930



Image credits: Aldo Leopold Foundation (L) and Wisconsin Historical Society (above)

Aldo Leopold

LUNCHEON & ANNUAL MEETING

May 5, 2022 11:30am  
Blackhawk Country Club  
Watch mail for registration form

Peggy Flora Zalucha is an internationally known artist who lives and works in Mount Horeb, WI. She has exhibited widely and has won many awards for her dynamic watercolor paintings, constructions and collages. Peggy is best known in the Madison area for the thirty one images that were used over thirty years by the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra's "Concerts on the Square." Peggy and her husband Tony traveled the world, together and individually, pursuing their interests in culture, art and archaeology. In 2018, she travelled halfway around the world to attend a reception and view her work in the Missouri Watercolor Society International Exhibition in Qingdao, China. Peggy's favorite travels are those that involve art and opportunities to relate to other artists. It is easy for her to find what unites people when art is the communication tool.



To that end, Peggy plans to meet, teach and learn with as many people as possible...in as many places as possible... for as long as possible.

Ms. Zalucha will give a presentation about the "Concerts on the Square" series of paintings as well as a brief overview of her new "Deconstruction/ Reconstruction" series. And Peggy is generously donating "Concerts on the Square" posters for us to auction off in support of the Education Fund.

Gail Schomisch, Future Events Chair

WE LAUGHED WITH BETSY!

Betsy Haimson's zoom presentation on laughter was just what the doctor ordered! She showed us how laughter is the best medicine for our mental and physical health. It's no joke that a good laugh has many short-term benefits for your body. It stimulates your organs by the intake of oxygen rich air to your heart, lungs and muscles. It relieves stress and anxiety, and soothes tension by stimulating circulation and muscle relaxation. Some long-term benefits are that it can boost your immune system, relieve pain, improve your mood, and help you cope with difficult situations. So for those of us looking for a good laugh, Betsy has the answer!

Gail Schomisch, Future Events Chair

Links to some of our recent presentations and related videos will be sent to all members by Eileen Nelson, our database keeper.



## EDUCATION FUND REPORT



Demeter members continue to be amazing in their commitment to supporting College of Agricultural & Life Sciences (CALs) students! As a result of the annual donations from Demeter members as well as UW Foundation (UWF) endowment funds from individual Demeter members, \$48,000 will be distributed to CALs students throughout the 2022-2023 academic year. Thirty-four thousand dollars will be offered as merit, need, research and Farm and Industry Short Course (FISC) scholarships; \$9,000 will support three internships; and \$5,000 will assist student club activities. Three new awards will be offered this next year, including a Babcock House merit scholarship, an internship at the Arlington research station, and a new UWF Maxwell research scholarship for an undergraduate interested in plant and/or microbe research.

Over the past year, the Education Fund committee completed a comprehensive review of current funds from UWF member-endowed accounts, the UWF Demeter Education endowment, and Demeter bank accounts. CALs Scholarship Director Karen Martin provided insight regarding the scholarship selection process, the status of study abroad, FISC programs, diversity initiatives, and the CALs undergraduate research program. The committee's evaluation focused on scholarships awarded by major in comparison to CALs student demographics, student club/organization activities, internship opportunities at CALs farm/facilities, and the undergraduate research scholarship program. Results of this evaluation indicated that scholarships awarded per major mirror current student demographics. Members agreed that internships provide impactful learning opportunities, and they would prefer to partially fund internships in collaboration with CALs facilities. Fully funded internships would be about \$6,500 per student and Demeter Internships are for \$3,000 per student. A long-range goal should be to grow the UWF Demeter Education Fund so that additional internships can be supported. The commitment to help clubs via grants should continue, expanding the scope of activities which can be supported. The CALs research program also gained positive approval as a worthy investment for future funding. Study abroad programs should continue to be supported as travel opportunities resume.

Individual UWF accounts fund scholarship preferences according to guidelines established by the individual donors. The UWF Demeter Education Fund allows more flexibility in the types of support that can be provided than do individual UWF Endowment funds.

Last but not least, \$24,000 from Demeter bank accounts will be added to the UWF Demeter Education Fund. These additional funds will generate about \$900 annually for student support.

A Big thank you to all committee members for their time and efforts.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Liv Sandberg*, Chair Education Fund Committee

## DONATIONS TO EDUCATION FUND

Mary Diezel & Tom German  
Coe Williams

In Memory of Jeff Martin  
Sally Leong  
Martha & Douglas Maxwell  
Judy Stang  
Virgene & Richard Vathauer

## THANK YOU from NAMA

This is such wonderful news. On behalf of my hard-working NAMA (National Agri-Marketing Assoc.) students, thank you for this generous grant. It will help so much in alleviating the travel and lodging costs for the marketing team's competition travels.

*Sarah Botham*, NAMA advisor

## BULB PLANTING REPORT

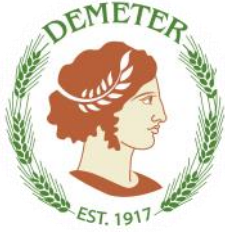
We planted 1750 bulbs in one hour. There were two volunteers from the Friends of the Allen Centennial Garden. You may recall that the bulb planting was postponed until late October 2021 because of delayed bulb production. See p.4 for identification of planters.



*Jan Martin*, Fall Bulb Planting

Demeter welcomes all who share an interest in agriculture and in supporting students in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. Contact Sally Leong at [sallyleong6@gmail.com](mailto:sallyleong6@gmail.com) or 608-583-3045.

Editor: Martha Maxwell  
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**DEMETER**

Judy Barth  
1885 Briarwood Lane  
Fitchburg, WI 53575-2001

*SYMPATHY*

Jan Martin and Family on their loss of husband and father Jeff Martin  
Memorial service at Lakeview Shelter  
May 22, 2022

Carrie Aberle on the loss of her sister

The **SEWING WORKSHOP** is planning to meet Feb. 15 and on each third Tuesday of the month following, depending on the pandemic. The decision to come is up to each person's comfort level. Questions? Call Lynda Thomas 608-836-4677



*NEW MEMBERS*

Coe Williams (Paul) 608-274-1958  
CALs Plant Pathology,  
610 Orchard Dr, Madison, WI 53711  
coemw@att.net

Brenda McNatt (Cary) 608-576-1357  
350 S Hamilton St #506  
Madison, WI 53705  
mcnattcb@gmail.com

Photography: Jan & Jeff Martin, Sally Leong, Doug & Martha Maxwell  
Proofreaders: Dorothy Binning, Judy Stang, Sally Leong

Please send news to  
Lynn Grooms  
groomslynn@gmail.com

*Allen Garden bulb planters*

L-R Mary Jane Getlinger, Gennie Bostian, Sally Leong, Linda Harvey, Jan Martin (kneeling), Jeff Martin, Lloyd Bostian

*CALENDAR*

**SEWING WORKSHOP**

10 am - 4 pm, Blue Bar Quilts  
6333 University Ave, Middleton  
3rd Tuesdays, Lynda Thomas  
608-836-4677

**MID-WINTER ZOOM MEETING**

7:00 pm March 10, 2022  
Alison Duff, agroecologist  
Dairy Forage Research Center  
Watch email for link.

**BOARD MEETING**

7:00 pm April 6, 2022  
Zoom link to be sent via email

**SPRING LUNCHEON & ANNUAL MEETING**

11:30 am May 5, 2022  
Blackhawk Country Club  
3606 Blackhawk Dr.

**GARDEN PARTY**

4:30 pm June 14, 2022  
Allen Centennial Garden

**CORN ROAST PICNIC**

5:00 pm Wed., Sept. 7, 2022  
Lakeview Park 6300 Mendota Ave