

# DEMETER NEWS

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

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings! Many thanks to the organizers of the Corn-to-Go portion of this year's Corn Roast - Jan and Jeff Martin and Dorothy and Larry Binning and their committee. Our first-ever virtual program was the Corn Roast. We enjoyed a presentation from Dean Kate VandenBosch, followed by a good question-and-answer session. Alice in Dairyland, Julia Nunes, then shared a well-prepared power point presentation. Like the rest of us, the 73<sup>rd</sup> Alice is having a very different experience this year! Liv Sandberg did a great job lining up scholarship recipients to give us a little peek into their lives and studies, and Dean Kate introduced four new faculty hires who shared a bit about their research and teaching, while another wrote a good bio in the chat section. If anyone has a suggestion for someone who would make an interesting, informative speaker for another virtual presentation, please contact me or one of the other board members. It is my sincere hope that COVID has not visited the rest of you! Thankfully my husband Dan had a relatively light case of it and is now recovered. Stay well and please continue to support our scholarship efforts!



Gail Schaefer, president

## WHAT DO DEMETER SEWERS DO DURING COVID?

The Demeter Sewing Group never stopped cutting and sewing, they just adapted. They moved to their dining room tables or their husbands' workshops, and materials for sewing were left on their porches. The patients at UW Hospitals continued to receive the monthly donations of 100 items. We have materials - just need more sewers and cutters. Contact Lynda Thomas (608-836-4677) if you can help.



Lynda's table

## DECEMBER MEETING!

Grab your "ugly holiday sweater" and plan to attend the first of a series of Zoom programs beginning in December. The first program will feature what is happening at the Center for Dairy Research on campus as well as tips for creating a festive holiday cheese board. Your Demeter membership committee is ironing out the details and will soon send you an update. Please plan to wear your ugly holiday sweater to make this a fun and festive event! Future programs will feature the new Meat Science & Animal Biologics Discovery Building and programs, animal welfare research, and chasing away the winter blues with garden planning. More details coming soon!



Lynn Grooms



One of the Zoom screens from our Corn Roast Picnic hosted by Eileen Nelson & led by President Gail Schaefer.

## CORN-TO-GO and VIRTUAL CORN ROAST PICNIC ARE SUCCESSFUL!!

This has been a year of many challenges. How could Demeter not have a Corn Roast? It is tradition! Thanks to Larry and Dorothy Binning's idea that "the corn is planted so let's take orders and deliver." Great idea! Who would have guessed it would be so successful? Larry Binning, Jeff Martin and Darrell Barth picked over 1200 ears of corn, and 36 orders were filled. We asked for donations for corn and as always, Demeter members were very generous. Corn donations generated \$832, which goes into our general operating account. This is very helpful since we cannot host any other events. And once again you were very generous with scholarship donations of \$2,220 for CALS students. Both of these numbers exceed last year's event profits and scholarship donations.

As always, this Corn Roast Committee stepped up, and in addition to helping pick the corn, they helped package and deliver. Thanks to everyone for your support and dedication to Demeter.

*Jan Martin, chair Corn Roast Committee*



Jeff Martin, Larry Binning & Darrell Barth who picked over 1200 ears of corn.

## SAYING GOOD-BYE to BEN FUTA

Ben Futa, Executive Director of Allen Centennial Garden has left his position and moved back to South Bend. It has been great working with him on our fall bulb planting project and our Summer Garden Party. If we are allowed to plant bulbs this fall, you will receive an email.

*Jan Martin, coordinator garden projects*

Thanks to  
Sharon Brantmeier of

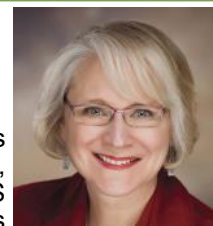


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## DEAN KATE VANDENBOSCH

### Report at Virtual 2020 Corn Roast Picnic



In spite of the difficulties and problems caused by the coronavirus pandemic, Dean Kate was very upbeat about CALS and the outlook for the future. Here is some of what she reported.

Even though research activity has been suspended due to the pandemic, faculty have not been idle. The result has been brilliant success with grant applications, resulting in a 20-25% increase in new awards.

There are two new facilities opening soon. A state-of-the-art cryoelectron microscopy facility will keep the campus at the frontier of bioscience. In November the new Meat Science and Animal Biologics Discovery building will support teaching, research and outreach opportunities in meat science, food safety and animal biologics. Steven Ricke, Dan Schaefer's first Ph.D. student, has been appointed director.

Expanding opportunities for students include a new Global Health major and a new undergraduate major in Agroecology. Registration for Initial classes in both areas maxed out. And a happy result from moving the Farm and Industry Short Course online is that it has picked up students who otherwise could not have attended.

Funding for the new Dairy Innovation Hub, being developed jointly at Madison, River Falls and Platteville, will increase from \$1 million to \$7.8 this year, and half comes to Madison. The purposes of the hub are to build research capacity, to keep dairy on the forefront in Wisconsin, and to be a talent magnet. The areas of emphasis are stewarding land and water resources, ensuring animal health and welfare, growing farm business and communities, and enriching health and nutrition. It will involve infrastructure, trainees and eventually, twelve faculty searches.

Other announcements: The Babcock Hall addition, which has been underway for a while, is expected to be finished in the spring of 2022. An anonymous \$1 million grant has been made to support research, instruction, and outreach in organic agriculture, and it has catalyzed significant interdisciplinary activity. The UW fundraising campaign, which is nearing its goal, will provide CALS with four new endowed professorships leveraged by a Morgridge match.

Plans for the Dean's House, which is surrounded by Allen Centennial Garden, have changed. The house has been turned over to campus and will be run as a conference facility. Funds raised for a Jeff Wyman Memorial will be used for an internship at the Garden and for garden development. To preclude damage to plantings by the remodeling of the house, the garden funds are being held until after completion of the remodeling.

In response to a question from Grace Puc, who is an intern at the West Madison Agricultural Research Station and thinks it is an amazing place, Dean Kate replied that the facility is at present primarily used for plant research but CALS would eventually like to also use it for public education. Even though the station is surrounded by development, CALS does plan to keep it forever.

Submitted by *Martha Maxwell*, editor

## ED FUND REPORT

Some scholarship and grant awards reported in the August 2020 newsletter have been impacted by the pandemic, especially those involving travel. Some valuable learning opportunities have been lost but unused funding allocated for 2019-20 is being held, and further allocations for 2020-21 will not be transferred until programs resume. Since an intern could not be hired this summer, the Allen Garden internship funds were redirected for summer maintenance. The following students have expressed their **thanks and deep gratitude for their Demeter awards.**

*Liv Sandberg, chair education committee*



Despite the cancelation of the NAMA Student Competition, teams from across the U.S. and Canada were able to compete by submitting summaries. Our Marketing Team created a full-scale marketing plan for our product, "EcoCite," a biodiesel made from excess manure from Wisconsin dairy farms. It led to a top-five finish. Real-world marketing experience in college is rare, but NAMA provides it.

**Emily Franke**, Dairy Science major with a Business Management certificate, grew to love the dairy industry when working on a neighbor's farm. She wants to help farmers use best management practices, and to educate consumers about food sources and the health benefits of dairy products.



**Ronnie Dewberry**, senior Horticulture major, enjoys working in a lab, which he credits with increasing his confidence in his abilities. He hopes to become a business owner in Horticulture, working with medicinal herbs in line with his interests in chemistry, medicine and culinary arts.



**Sabrina Servais**, junior in Dairy Science and Life Sciences Communications, grew up on a SW Wisconsin dairy farm and may farm with her brothers. She is also interested in an Agriculture Advocacy position and in marketing for a company promoting dairy or dairy-related products.



**Catherine Vickerman**, senior in Genetics & Genomics, Life Sciences Communications and Global Health, plans to be a genetic counselor and wants to explain science to the lay audience. She is gaining experience shadowing genetic counselors, volunteering at a shelter and working as a respite care worker for a child with a rare genetic disease.



**Anna Christenson**, senior in Biochemistry and Applied Mathematics, is fascinated by how molecular interactions drive diversity, and the interconnection between biochemical reactions, disease spread, and ecosystem networks. She finds research exhilarating because you can be the first to learn something new about the natural world.



**Megan Lehr**, senior in Agricultural Business Management from Monticello, is interested in agricultural finance and the marketing and sales aspect of agri-business, which she sees as an opportunity to work with both producers and consumers to find solutions to common problems.



**Madalene Halley**, junior in Genetics and Genomics in CALS plus Mathematics and 3D Studio Art. She also works in a lab in the Department of Pediatrics. Madalene's interests are still evolving and she is grateful for the scholarship that allows her to follow her dreams on the way to an advanced degree.



The generosity of Demeter members over the years, and especially now during the covid-19 crisis, is immensely helpful to the students receiving Demeter scholarships and is greatly appreciated by them. *Candee Craven, treasurer*

## DONATIONS

### In Memory Of

Helen Kelman by Sally Andrews

Norm Olson by

Jan & Jeff Martin,

Carrie & Abe Aberle,

George Shook,

Nan Field,

Keith & Andrea Kelling

Howard Larsen by Ruby Larsen

Dwayne Rohweder by Lynn Grooms

Louise Olson by

Clarence Olson,

Beverly Schrag ,

Joyce Bringe

Inge Albert by Emy Gartzke

Dean Glenn Pound by Sue Cowan

Jane Hilsenhoff by Nan Field

Eloise Hagedorn by Judy Stevenson

Gordon Cunningham by

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### In Honor Of

Larry & Dorothy Binning by

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### General Scholarships

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Sandra & Lou Arrington

Darrell & Judy Barth

Dorothy Binning

Sharon & Randy Brantmeier

Peggy Daluge

Ron & Carrie Doersch

Ann Ellingboe

Linda Harvey

Terri Lang

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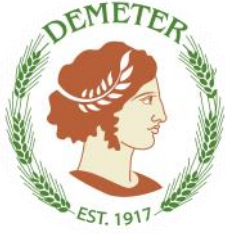
Hanna Boekhoff-Walsh

Leo Walsh



?? Did you remember to send your dues (\$20) to:

**Candee Craven**  
6132 Sun Valley Pkwy  
Oregon, WI 53575



**DEMETER**

Judy Barth  
1885 Briarwood Lane  
Fitchburg, WI 53575-2001

**SYMPATHY**

*Family of Jane Hilsenhoff on her death*  
*Ruby Larsen on the death of her husband Howard*  
*Family of Clarence Olson & his sister Ruth Apps on his death*

**THINKING OF YOU**

*Judy Stevenson*  
*Martha Maxwell*  
*Lois Buelow*  
*Judy Barth*

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Lynn Grooms**, Agri-View writer, received Capital Newspapers first ever “Above & Beyond Award” for her excellent work in reaching out to the agricultural community, and in particular for writing about women and new technology in agriculture.



**Jeff and Jan Martin** received the Middleton “Good Neighbor Award” for sharing with and caring for any and all they meet. They have been active members of many Middleton organizations like the Historical Society and the Chamber of Commerce, as well as those of the broader community.

**CALENDAR**

**Board Meeting** Nov. 11, 2020

Enthusiastic Demeter members are working hard to fill this space with safe meetings. *See page 1 and watch your email* for exciting announcements!

**TAX TIP!**

This year tax filers may deduct \$300 in charitable expenses without itemizing. Demeter is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Talk to your financial adviser.

**Directory Change**

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