



the Voice

*We can do it **together!***

FALL 2017
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Convention is Fast Approaching

by Karolyn Zurn, Convention Chair

Our AAW National Convention is closing in on us. Please join us November 16th –18th at the Embassy Suites, Bloomington Minn. If you arrive by plane the hotel has a shuttle service. If you prefer a cab or are driving in yourself, make sure to give the street address as 2800 American Blvd West. As it turns out, there are two Embassy Suites on American Blvd. Also, there is a free shuttle from the hotel to several shopping centers, including the Mall of America, which is four miles east of the hotel. This Embassy Suites has a wonderful restaurant in the same parking lot “Cowboy Jacks.” They serve great margaritas—yes, I sampled one.

Everything seems to be lining up with sponsors and speakers plus our

Hospitality Committee has some great Minnesota wines and treats in store for you. I would like to remind you to bring something for the silent auction and please order your “Minnesota Nice” T-shirts so they are available for you during registration. We also will have available a beautiful polo with our convention logo for a purchase price of \$25. It is well worth it.

Another reminder, we have a post tour that will take most of the day on Sunday, which may make it difficult to take air flights home yet that day. You may have to leave on Monday instead. Our hotel is supposed to honor the convention price if rooms are still available.

As you arrive and need help with registration or finding meeting rooms ask a Minnesota or North Dakota crew member who will be wearing our state

pin with a ribbon attached to direct you.

Safe Travels!



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The Voice is published quarterly by American Agri-Women as a service to members. Contact Jane Marshall, VP Communications (information above). Deadlines: December 1, March 15, June 15, September 10.



President's Report

Dear AAW members,

“Because I said I would.”

These are the first words that I said upon addressing the 2013 AAW Convention in Niagara Falls when I was running for election to serve you and AAW as First Vice-President, now President, and soon to be Past President. At that convention I said, “Because I said I would” because when I pledge something I mean it and at that convention I promised to do the best that I could to move the organization forward. More importantly, I also said it was not about me and what I could do, but that it was about what all of us, as AAW members, could do by working together in our organization to make a difference. Many of you came up to me following my election and made a pledge to the organization and many of you followed in the ensuing years. Not only did you pledge something but you followed through, “Because you said you would.” Thank you for your dedication and service to our organization and agriculture. Thank you for following through on your pledge to our organization. We can all be proud of what we have accomplished together.

After I was elected, I was thrilled and honored to be working as the First Vice-President understudy, under Sue McCrum’s leadership and mentoring. She had the terrific idea of driving around to visit affiliates. Our organization came together, grew that idea and with some help from our friends we pulled off the awesome feat of our 40th anniversary “Drive Across America.” During that Drive we learned many things from our members. While ag policy is important and still vital and a core to whom we are as an organiza-

tion, members were expressing other needs and asking for other opportunities. Some of these included educating and advocating to consumers, leadership development, skill building, and networking. As I moved into the role of president we set out to respond to these needs that members had identified.

Terrific volunteers have come together to develop and implement initiatives on a number of fronts, including AgDay365 to educate and advocate to consumers, Ag Policy Action Agents, the Farm Bill Task Force, the Waves of Change Leadership Development Process, and a bigger National Ag Day presence. Several webinar series have offered skill building, affiliate development, transition planning, personnel management, farm and ranch management skills, and government policy insights, among others. Other volunteers have stepped up to expand our reach in social media and others pored over our policy and procedures to help our organization as it grows and changes. Still others worked relentlessly to make important connections, providing public relations opportunities, raising funds, and following through with sponsors. Then there were those who ensured that all the other activities that provide the vital base of our organization were covered — Mid-Year, Fly-In, Convention, position books, white papers, letters of support, the directory, the Voice, organizing and implementing AAW’s presence at outside meetings, finances, all of the committee and Foundation work, and much more. It takes my breath away to think about how much we as a grass roots organization of volunteers accomplish and do well.

Congratulations on a job well done!
Thank you for caring and doing your

Nominations for AAW Officers



Jeanette

Jeanette Lombardo of Ventura, California is seeking nomination for the AAW position of President. She passionately believes in the purpose and objectives of American Agri-Women and has been highly active at the local, state, and federal level on both legislative and regulatory issues within California and other agriculture-related groups.

For the first twenty four years of her career, as a corporate banker, there was local activity in her community. Since, she has started two companies working on regulatory advocacy for farmers in Ventura and Santa Barbara County. She also served a four year federal appointment to the Agricultural Technical Advisory Committee for trade.

With her two year term as State President for California Women for Agriculture ending, it seems to be the appropriate time to continue devoting her life to agriculture and AAW.



Karolyn

Karolyn Zurn is running for the executive office of 1st VP of Vital Issues. We have realized her energy and devotion to our organization through participation on the Policy and Procedure Committee. Karolyn is from Minnesota and we will see a lot of her at the upcoming convention as she serves as a chairperson of the committee. There are many affiliations with agriculture advocacy groups which have allowed her to travel the world to gain leadership and personal motivations to serve AAW. She is prepared to move forward to the AAW future.

Stacy Whitener of Dallas, Texas is a member of California Women for Agriculture and seeking the office of Treasurer. Stacy is currently Chief Administrative Officer for Pecan Grove Farms and is obtaining a Masters in



Stacy

accounting program. She has the past experience of an agricultural lender and analyst. Stacy has participated in the Syngenta's Leadership At Its Best, Mid-year meetings and was Chapter President of the Sacramento Valley Chapter.

VP Communication ??? Still seeking an individual who would like to participate at the National level as a chairman of a committee filled with other skilled individuals.

Additional information is available on any candidate or position by contacting Kathy Rhoads, Nominating Chairman at krhoads1@frontier.com 740/404-5699.

◀ **PRESIDENT**, continued from page 2

part to move AAW forward. The organization is a success because of you and your involvement. Don't rest on your laurels though, challenge yourself to offer more when you are able and please take a serious look at serving on the Executive Committee in the future.

As I close out my presidency and move into a new role as past president after Convention in November, I want to thank you for the honor and opportunity to serve you and our organization.

Best wishes for a safe and bountiful harvest season. I look forward to seeing you at our National Convention

November 16-18. I am ready for "Shining Our Lights on Agriculture" and I hope that you are ready too! Until then.

All the best,

Doris Mold

AgDay365 Rolls On with Special Events, 'Gen Z Speaks Ag' Contest

The “AgDay 365: Ag Day is Every Day” campaign is rolling on throughout the U.S., with a celebration of our year-long advocacy efforts planned at the 2017 convention in Bloomington, Minn. Thank you for all you are doing at special events, on social media and in conversations to help educate that we are all part of agriculture. And, thanks



AGDAY365
#GenZSpeaksAg

to our AgDay 365 sponsors: Farm Credit; Caterpillar; Crop Science, a division of Bayer; and CCI Marketing.

Please share about our “Generation Z Speaks Ag” photo, video and special event contest with young advocates, one of the projects of AgDay 365. The contest runs through Oct. 10 and is open to anyone who is from 15-23 years old. The contest’s goal is to help young

advocates tell agriculture’s story in a positive way — with a chance to earn up to \$500 in prize money.

Thank you to Crop Science, a division of Bayer, for sponsoring the contest. For details, go to americanagriwomen.org/gen-z-speaks-ag.

Stay tuned for more information about how to keep AgDay 365 going long after the convention! Interested in serving on the committee? Email president@americanagriwomen.org.

‘I’m a Bee!’

AW members have been having fun this summer educating consumers, even our youngest consumers, about the role of pollinators and creating pollinator habitats. Karolyn Zurn, with the help of fellow members of Minnesota Agri-Women and North Dakota Agri-Women, took to the stage — with a bee costume — to educate at the Red River Valley Fair in West Fargo, N.D.

“I put on a 10-minute skit talking to kids and parents about Bayer’s FeedaBee program. Dressed as a bumblebee, I told everybody that I was a farmer and also a member of American Agri-Women and we were partnering with Crop Science, a division of Bayer, to provide information about forage and bee health. Plus, I sang ‘I’m a bee. I’m a bee.’ That is the entire song. Yes, I am sure it looked foolish, but the kids loved it. We had a huge turnout at our booth. We asked children to color pictures and then they would get a fun gift. All participants were also asked to sign our AgDay365 banner,” Karolyn says.

She adds, “On our farm, we also plant-



Karolyn Zurn of Minnesota Agri-Women in a bee costume, educating visitors at the Red River Valley Fair in West Fargo, N.D., about pollinators.

ed 14 acres of forage for pollinators. We did this on our own and received no payment from the government.”

Follow these links to view Karolyn’s presentation:

- youtu.be/X7w4ef-lwEI
- youtu.be/hPFkke-oi3A

Do you have a FeedaBee story to share? Write community@americanagriwomen.org.

Kansas Agri-Women: Finding New Ways to Share Our Message

by Lynn Woolf, Kansas Agri-Women

Way back in 1978, Jeanne Mertz, former national president and former president of Kansas Agri-Women, led the launch of state highway billboard signs, when Kansas Agri-Women was called United Farm Wives of Kansas. The signs, which were originally hand-painted and once numbered as many as 60, featured a grocery sack filled with healthy food, with the first message reading, “One Kansas Farmer Feeds 55 People + You!”

We were all saddened at Jeanne’s passing this past year at the age of 87, but her spirit of advocacy lives on.

Kansas Agri-Women now work with a sign company to produce the signs on vinyl and have adapted the signs into magnets, smaller metal signs and posters — updating the number to read 155 + you! On National Ag Day in 2016, Jeanne worked her connections to have the magnets placed on the statehouse desks of every Kansas representative.

Jeanne’s son Jonathan also worked with her and Kansas Agri-Women to have a sign on display at the Flint Hills Discovery Center in Manhattan, Kan., as part of a special exhibit about agriculture. Jonathan estimates that more than 18,000 people viewed the sign.

Maintaining the signs has been a challenge. First, the numbers needed to be updated over the years and now many of the signs need to be replaced. KAW has a special committee dedicated to replacing the signs. Jeanne’s family established a memorial for the upkeep of the signs, so her passion for agriculture lives on. She continues to be a role model for us all.



In this archived magazine cover, Jeanne Mertz, former AAW president, is shown by a highway sign, a statewide Kansas initiative she helped launch in 1978.

AAW Foundation Offers Mini Grants

The AAW Foundation is offering mini grants for the third year. Each applicant can apply for up to \$500. The Foundation will give out no more than a total of \$1500. The grants will require 50% cash match, but the Foundation’s money must be at least 10% of the project. Any of AAW’s affiliated organizations or their chapters can apply. This must be for an educational or membership activity. Grant applications are due by October 15, 2017. The mini grants will be awarded at the Annual Convention in Minnesota. The application can be found at <http://americanagriwomen.org/content/uploads/2016/03/Microsoft-Word-AAW-foundation-mini-grant-application.doc.pdf>. If you have any questions please contact Jane Marshall at citizenjane@me.com or 937.336.1456.

Teaching Communism in Public Schools

Dear AAW friends,

One of the most serious and dangerous political objectives I've seen in over 20 years of working on critical issues is the current push to make environmental education and student activism the new theme of public education.

The Portland Public School System has already passed a plan to teach one-sided environmental goals and ideology as a focus in K-12 schools, which is a plan to train our children to adopt the biased political goals of the environmental movement. And now the National Education Association (NEA) is working to implement this plan nationwide this fall

To learn more about this issue please read the following article by Holly Swanson, a long time friend of AAW and the author of "Training for Treason." Preserving the freedoms we cherish, including the right to own property, and stopping the political indoctrination of our children go hand in hand. I urge you to get involved.

—Arlene Kovash, Oregon Women for Agriculture

by Holly Swanson

Portland Public Schools, the largest school district in Oregon, passed Resolution 5272 on April 19, 2016, . . . to "Develop an Implementation Plan for Climate Literacy." This resolution gained national attention for banning books that question the validity of global warming claims. The resolution states:

"PPS will abandon the use of any adopted text material that is found to express doubt about the severity of the climate crisis or its root in human activities."

Banning books is only the tip of this political iceberg. This resolution is designed to

- 1) silence teachers, students and parents that do not share the PPS view on climate-change,
- 2) diminish the value of free thought and,
- 3) pave the way for environmental groups to politically indoctrinate 49,000 children (Oregon's future voters).

What does the PPS mandate for "all

students" to see themselves as activists for social justice and environmental justice entail? What does social justice mean? Facing the Future, one of the leading Education for Sustainability groups, defines social justice as:

" . . . the movement towards eliminating oppression and ultimately achieving equality in the distribution of goods and wealth among all groups in a society."

Training "all students" to be social justice activists requires every student to conform and to adopt the political belief that "all wealth and goods must be distributed equally" within our society. In other words, brainwash innocent children and train students to be political activists so they will vote to impose social justice policies as adults.

What Would It Take To Achieve Social Justice?

Before "all wealth and goods" could be distributed equally, "all wealth and goods" would first have to be seized and controlled. Achieving social justice would require dictatorial power over the American people.

The CIA (United States Central Intelligence Agency) defines a Communist

system of government as:

"Communist – a system of government in which the state plans and controls the economy and a single – often authoritarian – party holds power; state controls are imposed with the elimination of private ownership of property or capital while claiming to make progress toward a higher social order in which all goods are equally shared by the people."

Communism eliminates "private ownership of property or capital" to control people and is based on the idea that all wealth and "all goods are equally shared." Social justice is communism.

Taxpayer funded schools are being used to dictate public policy. For instance, the Portland Resolution indicates students will be trained to adopt the PPS climate position on the following issues:

"The climate crisis is created by human beings releasing greenhouse gases by mining and burning fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas); through deforestation; and with environmentally damaging agricultural practices."

The scientific debate on global warming is far from over. Prominent scientists have changed their position based on evidence. After dire predictions about global warming did not come to pass and false claims were exposed, the environmental movement renamed the issue "climate change." Climate change is a general idea that can be twisted to impose more pieces of the Green agenda in schools and elsewhere.

Green Communism

Teaching communism in our schools is harmful and a violation of the public trust. Free thought, individual freedom and the democratic process are at risk.

'Small Partnership Exception' Reintroduced as HR 3508

by Jane Marshall, Ohio Agri-Women

As part of the Budget Bill of 2015, the "Small Partnership Exception" was removed from tax law effective after 2017. This was a provision that allowed for partnerships of 10 or fewer members to be able to record their income and expense through their personal 1040 rather than to have to file an expensive 1065. These small partnerships were not considered partnerships according to the tax law. Dr. Neil Harl who spoke at the 2011 AAW

Convention in Kansas on "Farm Business and Estate Planning" was instrumental in getting the "Small Partnership Exception" passed in the 1980's.

During the AAW 2017 Mid-Year meeting, AAW adopted this position statement: "AAW supports restoring the 'Small Partnership Exception' into tax code. Congress eliminated this provision in the 2015 Budget Bill found in section 6231(a)(1)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code." This was also part of the AAW White Paper on Taxation. We

further advocated for this at 2017 Fly-In. AAW also worked on this in 2016 through another white paper on Tax Simplification.

This summer Congressman Renacci (OH-16) introduced HR 3508, which does what AAW is asking. It is currently in the Ways and Means committee. You can help by contacting your member of congress, especially if he or she is on Ways and Means, to encourage them to move HR 3508 forward.

◀ **COMMUNISM**, continued from page 6

The issue of political indoctrination needs to be addressed on the local, state and national level immediately. Parental rights, religious freedom, free enterprise, private property rights and so much more are on the line.

To find out what you can do to help stop the political indoctrination of America's children, contact We Choose Freedom at: wechoosefreedom@earthlink.net

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To learn more about this issue get a copy of the book *Training for Treason* which contains extensive documentation regarding the political agenda of this movement. To order call: 1-877-715-5481.

Holly Swanson is a leading authority on the harmful political agenda of the Education for Sustainability movement. She is a national speaker; a frequent guest on regional and national talk radio and the author of the acclaimed books 'Set Up & Sold Out' and 'Training for Treason'. Swanson is the founder and director of We Choose Freedom® and Operation Green Out!®.

Farm Credit Understands Stahlbush Island Farms

provided by Farm Credit

In 1985, Bill and Karla S. Chambers started Stahlbush Island Farms with two crops, a piece of land and a passion for good food. Today, Stahlbush's operations sprawl across some 5,000 acres in Oregon's Willamette Valley. Despite that impressive growth, Stahlbushes have held fast to their core values. For more than 30 years, they've never wavered from the farm's mission of producing safe, high-quality food.

Stahlbush's main farm has a food-processing facility that produces individually quick frozen (IQF) fruits and vegetables and custom purees in bulk. Over the years and changes to their business, Karla and Bill have stayed close to operations. They manage the business every day, including oversight of three national retail lines: Stahlbush Island Farms frozen fruits and vegetables, Farmer's Market Foods, gourmet canned purees and Nummy Tum Tum pet food supplements.



Bill and Karla S. Chambers and family of Stahlbush Island Farms.

"Farm Credit is such a great partner because they provide the capital we need to grow the business," Karla says. "They understand agriculture, food processing and vertical integration. Having a reliable banking relationship with extensive knowledge about the agricultural sector is invaluable."

Donate to AAW via Amazon Smile

Go to smile.amazon.com, select AAW Foundation as your charity, and anytime you make a purchase, Amazon Smile provides a small percentage of your purchase to us. It does not cost you anything, but helps our Foundation grow!

American Agri-Women Daughters Of American Agriculture Scholarships Named

by Ardath DeWall, Scholarship Chair

Daughters of American Agriculture Scholarships were created to honor the memory of Jean Ibendahl (scholarship for ages 18-23 and Sister Thomas More Bertels (scholarship for ages 24+). These courageous and adventuresome pioneer women played an important role in the founding of this nation and encourage the present generation to continue their education in agricultural pursuits.

These two scholarships are available to any farm, ranch or agribusiness woman or her daughter to pursue accredited courses in agriculture leadership, communications, rural sociology, medicine or any other courses directly related to agriculture.

The Jean Ibendahl scholarship was initiated in 1991 by AAW member and educator, Jean Ibendahl of Tamaroa, Illinois, supported by a generous endowment of \$10,000 by Jean and her husband Calvin.

It is further maintained by donations by AAW members and affiliates.

The Sister Thomas More Bertels scholarship was begun in 1991 to honor a founding mother of AAW. Sister T.

More Bertels was a history teacher at Silver Lake College in Manitowoc, WI. She traveled the United States and Canada extolling the virtues of agriculture and empowering producers to realize their potential.

Both scholarships are for \$1,000.

McKenna Marshall, Eaton, Ohio, an outstanding advocate for agriculture, was selected to receive the Jean Ibendahl DAA Scholarship. She states, "My desire to become a veterinarian stemmed from my love of animals and farm animals in particular. After an intense vet school application and interview process, I was accepted at two different vet programs, and chose Purdue University College of Veterinary Medicine beginning this fall semester."

During McKenna's undergraduate career, she lived at home, worked nearly forty hours a week at the dairy, and completed her B.S. in Biology with a 3.99 GPA and was an Honors Program graduate at Indiana University East.

McKenna won the Most Creative award from 18 Honors Senior Theses. Her Honors Senior Thesis was to write a children's book on family farms, which

she did admirably, writing interesting prose about young farmers in her area. She interviewed eight young farmers from different farming areas: cattle, pig, sheep, etc. She interviewed them about their experiences, putting these in very readable format. But the most impressive aspect of the book were the photographs she took: close-ups of eggs and sheep, wide-angles of clouds hovering over the fields and barns, etc. It is a testament to McKenna's care of animals and the farming lifestyle that she would like to re-enter as a large-animal veterinarian, but also to her photographic, writing and creative skills that will enhance her profession. Also, McKenna ended up with a lovely, publishable book that could be enjoyed by all ages.

Viroopa Volla, Eagan, Minnesota, is the recipient of the Sister Thomas More Bertels Scholarship, with a focus on Food Law and Policy and Agribusiness. Viroopa's goal is to work in general counsel of a major agricultural inputs player, driving the company's strategy in market expansion and enhancing the regulatory landscape of the United States to increase total food production. She has been a top student, recognized for global research projects related to health, food and energy policy and as Minnesota's Global Food Leadership Roundtable facilitator, facilitating agricultural roundtable discussions for the University of Minnesota.

Since graduating from Harvard College, Viroopa has continued to pursue her passion for food policy and desires to make a difference in the world by improving food security. She has also written reports on how new technology can improve food production in a sustainable way. Viroopa will begin Harvard Business School and Harvard Law School this fall.

Financing farmers and ranchers since 1916...



... and we'll be here tomorrow.



Thank You, AAW Sponsors

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- Western Skies Strategies

Pre-Convention Training Opportunity: Bayer 'Agvocating' Train-the-Trainer Sessions

American Agri-Women is excited to invite you to a Train-the-Trainer session with representatives from Bayer to engage in a discussion about "AgVocating" for the benefits of modern agriculture.

As we look to sustainably feed a growing population using fewer resources, voices like ours will be critical in driving the charge to engage in important discussions about how to work together.

Join Bayer and AAW for an impactful dialogue that will empower you to conduct future AgVocate training sessions with your affiliates. The Bayer AgVocate session will include powerful examples of how our industry hopes to feed the next generation, interactive real-life scenarios and a wealth of knowledge on the latest advancements in ag.



The training will occur Wednesday evening, Nov. 15, the day before AAW Convention. AAW is offering a \$100 stipend to cover the extra hotel night. The stipend will be paid after the member gives at least one training session based on the Bayer AgVocate materials. The training session needs to be completed by June 1, 2018.

To register, email AAW President Doris Mold, president@americanagriwomen.org. Include "AgVocacy Training" in your subject line and send your name, phone, email, mailing address and brief info about plans for using the information to lead your own session.

Between now and November, you can join the conversation by following #AgVocate on social media and engaging with the AgVocate Facebook group.



Hotel Information: We will be meeting at the Embassy Suites Bloomington, 2800 American Blvd W, Bloomington, MN 55431, (952) 884-4811. The official agenda starts November 15-19, 2017. You can check-in beginning Wednesday, November 15, 2017 and check-out Saturday, November 19, 2017. Please note these rates may be available three days before and after depending on hotel availability. Check in time is 4:00 PM and check out time is noon. The room rate is \$139.00 for a king and \$149.00 for a double per night. Please note this room rate does not include MN sales tax, currently at 14.275%. Wireless internet in guest rooms is complimentary. Please call 952-884-4811 or 1-800-Embassy. Ask for Group: American Agri-Women or Group Code: AAW. Credit card information is needed at time of reservation. Individual cancellation policy is 72 hours prior to date of arrival to avoid extra charges. Please call 800-EMBASSY and reference your confirmation number. Please obtain a cancellation number when cancelling a reservation. The deadline date to make reservation is Wednesday, October 25, 2017. Reservation requests received after the deadline date will be subject to availability and prevailing rate of the hotel.

Ground Transportation: The Embassy Suites Bloomington, 2800 American Blvd W, Bloomington, MN 55431, (952) 884-4811, offers complimentary transportation to and from the Minneapolis – St. Paul Airport. Please call them upon picking up your bags at baggage claim.

Dress Code: International standard business attire for meetings, receptions and banquet. For example, tailored dresses; skirts, slacks with a blouse and jacket; and comfortable shoes. Business casual for the Thursday tour.

To Register: Go online to www.americanagri-women.org to submit the form or mail completed registration and payment to: AAW, 142 Oak Circle, Colchester VT 05446 For additional information, please contact Lisa Campion, Executive Assistant at 586-530-1771 or aaw@americanagriwomen.org.

Please note: Photographs of attendees may be taken at this event. These may appear in AAW publications and in online communications. By registering for this conference, you authorize AAW the right to use any photographs taken of you for AAW communication.

AAW National Convention

'Shining Our Lights on Agriculture'

November 16-18, 2017

Embassy Suites Bloomington, 2800 American Blvd W, Bloomington, MN 55431 • (952) 884-4811

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Affiliate _____

Are you a voting member of AAW? Yes No

Are you a first time attendee? Yes No

Do you want us to find you a roommate? Yes No

Special needs? _____

Spouse/guest/child's name(s): _____

Spouse/guest/child's phone number(s): _____

	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Total</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Registration (before Oct. 25)	\$250	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Late Registration (after Oct. 25)	\$275	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Early Spouse/Guest Registration	\$250	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Late Spouse/Guest Registration	\$275	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Child/Student	\$150	_____	_____
School name _____		Grad date _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> One Day (choose one) <input type="checkbox"/> Fri <input type="checkbox"/> Sat	\$120	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Convention T-Shirt (optional)	\$15	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Convention Charm (optional)	\$20	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Thursday Convention Tour and Evening Reception at Mill City Museum (optional)	\$40	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sunday Tour (optional)	\$60	_____	_____

Total enclosed \$ _____

AAW 2017 Convention Schedule

*Preliminary Schedule.
Subject to Change.*

'Shining Our Lights on Agriculture' • November 16-18, 2017 • Bloomington, MN

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

- 2–5 p.m. **Executive Committee Meeting**
- 6–8 p.m. Registration
- 6–9 p.m. **Bayer Agvocacy Program & Dinner**
- 8–10 p.m. Hospitality Suite Open

- 1:45 – 2:45 p.m. **Panel Discussion – Innovation from Farm to Fork**
- 2:45 – 3 p.m. Break
- 3–4 p.m. **Breakout Sessions** – sessions related to leadership, marketing, advocating and more
- 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. **Town Hall**
- 6–7 p.m. Syngenta Reception for Leadership At Its Best graduates – Only for Syngeta Graduates
- 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Complimentary Hotel Reception, Atrium
Dinner on Your Own
- 7:30 – 11 pm Hospitality Room Open

Thursday, November 16, 2017

Breakfast on your own–complimentary by hotel, 6-9 a.m.

- 7–8:30 a.m. Registration Open
- 8–9:30 a.m. **Foundation Meeting**
- 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. **First Time Attendee Gathering**
- 9–10 a.m. **Affiliate Presidents Caucus**
- 10–11 a.m. **Joint Executive Committee and Foundation Meeting**
- 11 – 12 p.m. **Standing Committee Meetings** (Finance, Membership and Education)
- 12:15 p.m. Board Buses (boxed lunches)
- 12:45 – 5:30 p.m. **Tours:** See the flourishing agriculture of Minnesota without leaving the city.
- 6–8 p.m. **Mill City Museum**
- 9–11 pm Hospitality Suite Open

Saturday, November 18, 2017

Breakfast on your own–complimentary by hotel, 7-10:30 a.m.

- 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Trade Show Open
- 8:15 a.m. – 12 p.m. **AAW Business Meeting**
- 10–11 a.m. Break – help yourself as you have time, meeting continues
- 12–1 p.m. **Lunch and Illinois 2018 Convention Invite**
- 1–1:45 p.m. **AAW Business Meeting or Moving Forward** – How To's, Take Home Ideas
- 1:45 – 2:30 p.m. **Jim Beers**
- 2:30 – 3 p.m. Break, Silent Auction Closes
- 3–4 p.m. **U.S./Canada Trade & Agriculture Panel**
- 2:45 – 5 p.m. Pick Up and Pay for Silent Auction Items
- 4–4:30 p.m. **Foundation Meeting (Elections)**
- 6–7 p.m. **President's Reception**
- 7–9 p.m. **President's Banquet**
- 9–11 p.m. Hospitality Suite Opens

Friday, November 17, 2017

Breakfast on your own–complimentary by hotel, 6-9 a.m.

- 7:30 a.m. Registration
- 7:30 a.m. Silent Auction Opens
- 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. **Spouse/Guest Tour** leaves
- 8–10 a.m. **Board of Directors Meeting**
- 10–10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:30 – 11:15 a.m. **Opening Ceremonies:** Welcome, Flag Ceremony, National Anthem, Affiliate Flag Ceremony

Welcome to Minnesota: Sheryl Meshke, Co-CEO Associated Milk Producers Inc.
- 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Round Table Mini-Sessions**
- 12:30 – 1:45 p.m. **Networking Lunch** – Defending Your Lunch, Dr. Amy Kircher, Director, Food Protection and Defense Institute and Dr. Jennifer van de Ligt, Associate Director, Food Protection and Defense Institute

Sunday, November 19

Breakfast on your own–complimentary by hotel, 7-10:30 a.m.

- 8:10–8:40 a.m. **Worship Service**
- Optional Sunday tour leaves after the worship service



American Agri-Women
142 Oak Circle
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Follow Along with 'Ag Trends' by Caterpillar

Our partner Caterpillar is continuing its email series for AAW members, focusing on trends in agriculture machinery.

Watch your inbox for the Ag Trends series. The first two emails highlighted the versatile mini excavators and wheel

loaders. The emails are also archived on the Special Projects page of www.americanagriwomen.org.

Take a look and share with your family, friends, co-workers and employees. And, send in a photo of you using Cat machinery and we may feature you in an upcoming Ag Trends email. Please send photos to community@americanagriwomen.org.

Have a membership question? Need to update any of your information?

Contact Lisa Campion, AAW's executive assistant, with all membership requests. You can e-mail aaw@americanagriwomen.org or call 586-530-1771. You can also write Lisa at American Agri-Women, 142 Oak Circle, Colchester, VT 05446.

Advertising Rates & Deadlines for Sponsors

Ad Sizes	Dimensions	Rate
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Half page horizontal	7.5"W x 4.875"H	\$750.00
Quarter page	3.875"W x 4.875"H	\$500.00
Business card	3.875"W x 2.375"H	\$350.00

Contract rates available. Ask about special sizes and display advertising. **To advertise, contact Lisa Campion at (586) 530-1771 or aaw@americanagriwomen.org.**

Ad Deadlines: Noon on these dates.

- December 1 for Winter Issue
- March 15 for Spring Issue
- June 15 for Summer Issue
- September 10 for Fall Issue