Scheduled Meetings To Date:
- Thursday, November 5 - 8 PM ET/7 CT: Town Hall Meeting
- Monday, November 9 - 8 PM ET/7 CT: Foundation Meeting
- Tuesday, November 10 - 7 PM ET/6 CT: Trade Session: Lia Biondo
- Wednesday, November 11 - 7 PM ET/6 CT: EC Meeting
- Thursday, November 12 - 7 PM ET/6 CT: Foundation ~ EC Joint Meeting
- Friday, November 13 - 6 PM ET/5 CT: BOD Meeting
- Saturday, November 14 - 1 PM ET/noon CT: Annual Meeting (Full Membership & Affiliates)

AAW Education/Finances/Membership Committee Meetings are still TBD.

Registration is $30 via digital access: https://form.jotform.com/202783873820158

Town Hall

While AAW Convention is online this year and just the meetings, we are still holding the Town Hall. This is a place where all of our members can get up and talk about something that is important to them to educate the membership; things happening on any level. The format will be a member speaking for up to 5 minutes or talking less than that and taking Q&A the rest of the time. You will need to abide by the time limits so everyone is given a chance to speak. Please come even if you don’t plan to talk. This is a time when we don’t just get to share, but to learn a lot about things that are not in our back yard. To attend, email Jane and put Town Hall in the subject line. You will then receive the Zoom invitation. Questions? Contact Jane 937-336-1456 or jane.marshall@americanagriwomen.org

Convention Coordinators
- Chair~Karolyn Zurn
- Registration~Lisa Sullivan
- Parliamentarians~Chris Wilson/Kathy Reavis
- Veritas Award~Linda Swiercinsky
- Leaven Awards~Kim Schmuhl/Jenny Stelmach
- Affiliate President’s Caucus~Melody Speer/Eleanor Peterson
- Government Issues~ Deb Whalen/Kathy Reavis

Convention Forms
Please submit your Annual Reports & Proxy Forms by Nov. 1st for National Convention

New Texting Program
We have updated our texting service to a more user friendly platform. To enroll:
Start a new text to the number 31996. In the message body type aaw1974 and hit send. You will receive a message stating that you have been successfully subscribed.
Greetings!

WOW! What a year.

We have seen our country put through the wringer in 2020. I don’t know if things will change & go back to normal or continue down the path of a ‘new normal’. Added to all this, we have had extreme fires, hurricanes, flooding, riots, killings, & mob rules tactics. Our youngsters are also adapting to a new process of education; most likely confusing for them which in turn throws the whole family into a tailspin.

We, as an organization, have seen the need to cancel events from last March until now. On an annual basis, those are Ag Day, Mid-Year, & Fly-In. Although the 2020 Convention hasn’t been canceled, it’s indeed taking on a different form that still leaves us longing to see each other in person. On a regional level, many meetings & conferences have been re-scheduled & we can only pray this nonsense is dealt with & our nation is allowed to see a better day.

I don’t mean to put forward a depressing stance but one of hope as our organization & country roll into a new year. Regardless of a “not in person” National Convention, we still will be presenting the Veritas & Leaven awards. We have some dedicated women moving forward with these projects.

Last year for the Annual Convention in Oregon, I was able to obtain a grant from CHS to gift 12 college women with a trip to the National Meeting. Funding that wasn’t covered by the grant, was donated by me. We had a great panel discussion called “It’s About Time” with the attendees. This was an educational program that outlined women taking their place in society by serving as board members for agriculture associations, church groups, city boards, etc.

We had a great response from those AAW members that attended. Many AAW & Sigma Alpha members thought it was a great segway for young women that will someday take part in their communities.

Because of this panel idea, I was invited to be on the advisory board for a state college. It doesn’t pay expenses for attending but gives AAW a voice. My follow up has been hindered by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, having a close relationship with CHS board members, we invited a couple of these scholarship recipients to attend local board meetings in the future & hopefully without masks.

One of the young ladies took a place on our board as a parliamentarian but is on hold while she is in training at a new job. My husband was proud when his good friend, the CEO of CHS, complimented me for being a wonderful mentor & promoter of young women (that is a little pat on the back I wanted to share). The grant’s final follow-up is due to the end of November of 2021 at which time I will get a continuance if needed. I will continue to work with these young women when the pandemic goes to sleep.

I also am currently working on a new grant from another commodities group to provide mentoring to young women in FFA. We will be offering Leadership training sometime this winter, so stay tuned in.

Thank you to all my friends that have prayed for me through my health issue. I am trying very hard to work through this unexpected attack on my body by going to my physical therapy sessions & relying on my good friends for support. We will do our best to put forward an awesome AAW Convention & provide transparency of (Special Project) funds as requested & voted on by the members.

Respectfully,

Karolyn Zurn
‘Feed Your Mind’
Consumer Education

Developed in partnership with the USDA and the EPA, the FDA launched, “Feed Your Mind”; a consumer education initiative to provide science-based information on genetically engineered foods, commonly called GMOs. The new materials include:

Two videos
- Why do we have GMOs?
- Do GMOs Affect Your Health?

Four new fact sheets
- GMO Crops and Food for Animals
- GMO Crops and Humanitarian Reasons for Development
- Types of Genetic Modification Methods for Crops
- Why Do Farmers in the U.S. Grow GMO Crops?

As part of the initiative, the Science and Our Food Supply: Exploring Food Agriculture and Biotechnology high school curriculum is available for the 2020-2021 school year. This supplementary curriculum includes science-based lesson plans to introduce an in-depth understanding of the science behind genetically engineered plants.

Funding for “Feed Your Mind” was provided by Congress in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017 to conduct “consumer outreach and education regarding agricultural biotechnology and biotechnology derived food products and animal feed, including through publication and distribution of science-based educational information on the environmental, nutritional, food safety, economic, and humanitarian impacts of such biotechnology, food products, and feed.” Additional funds were provided through 2018 and 2019 Appropriations bills.

For More Information
- Agricultural Biotechnology Education and Outreach Initiative
- Understanding New Plant Varieties


LEAVEN Award  This award is the highest member award that AAW gives. Nominees should have provided outstanding contributions to Agri-Women on the national level. Please consider your fellow Agri-Women who have gone above and beyond in their commitment to the organization and nominate them. Further information and guidelines may be found under Member Awards on the AAW website. Nominations and questions may be addressed to: Kimberly Schmuhl, LEAVEN Award Chair at kim@colomafrozen.com

Deadline for Nominations is October 25th
Finding Your Voice
Natalina Sents

Going back...I wish I knew how many people in this wonderful industry are willing to teach and mentor if I am humble enough to ask for help and listen.

Membership Support Gatherings

Jane Marshall, 1st VP/Membership Ch.

Usually, by this time of year, many of us have seen each other twice and we are looking forward to Convention, a wonderful time of fellowship and learning. This year has certainly been a challenge in connecting members and affiliates with each other. We also haven’t been able to learn new things as we do at each of these meetings.

At the AAW Executive Committee (EC) retreat in January, the EC began planning Membership Support activities that included regional Membership Support Gatherings (MSG). Yet another thing canceled, because of COVID-19. As Agri-Women, we find new and innovative ways to do things; that is just what we do. To that end, Membership chair-Jane Marshall, along with the Treasurer- Katie Yost, VP of Education-Lesley Schmidt, VP of Communications-Carie Marshall-Moore, Secretary-Natalina Sents, and Past President- Jeanette Lombardo have planned an introductory (Virtual) Membership Support Gathering. This initial program was held via Zoom on Wednesday, September 30, from 8-9:30 pm EST, allowing all of our members the opportunity to join. The structure is informal with a speaker, followed with Q & A, for the first hour. The last 30 minutes will be getting to know each other and fellowship. The September session hosted Rick McNary from Shop Kansas Farms.

October’s MSG will be held on Wednesday, October 28 -- 8:00-9:30 pm EST via Zoom. Mindy Patterson with the Calvary Group will be our speaker. She will share about their new media platform. November’s MSG will happen on Wednesday, November 18--8:00-9:30 pm EST via Zoom. Rose Tryon will be speaking about the fires on the west coast and forest management.

Communication is important. Last time I checked, people cannot read other people's minds. Now I must admit I have friends that I can almost finish their sentences. I also know people who listen so intently they finish my sentences with me.

Listening is also a large part of communication. Think about this, if no one is listening why should a person talk?

Missing somebody? Call
Wanna meet up? Invite
Want to be understood? Explain
Have questions? Ask
Don’t like something? Say it
Like something? State it
Want something? Ask for it
Love someone? Tell them
Gallup Poll
Farming & Ag on Top

Ruth Jensen,
President, Florida Agri-Women

STORY HIGHLIGHTS
- Farming now best viewed of 25 U.S. business and industry sectors. It has moved to #1 with a 69% positive rating -- an 11 percentage point increase. For the first time in Gallup's 20 years of tracking Americans' views of various business and industry sectors, farming and agriculture is the clear leader.

This year's rankings reflect significant changes in the ratings of six industries, three of which are delivering vital goods and services to Americans during the pandemic. These three -- healthcare, farming and pharmaceuticals -- are all rated more positively this year than in 2019. This is a great thing for American agriculture in such a disheartening time. For the article in its entirety please visit: https://news.gallup.com/poll/319256/farming-rises-sports-tumbles-industry-ratings.aspx

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GALLUP, JULY 30-AUG. 12, 2020
Vital Issues Committee

Food & Water

Jacquie Compston/Deb Whalen
Nat. Resources Committee

The Covid-19 pandemic has shown the people of our great Nation how fragile our food supply chain is. Food security is also a National Security issue, as you control the food supply, you control the people. Leaders of various countries have used food for this exact purpose throughout history.

Now farmers, ranchers, and the commodities they produce are more important than ever when the supply chain is disrupted. We do not need our government agencies to be complicating and impeding the farmer’s ability to produce food.

In Nevada, for example, the most striking impediments have been the taking of water rights that have been owned as private property for generations. Some of these rights predate Nevada’s statehood. Congress has appropriated $350,000,000 through the Conservation Title of the Farm Bill for the purchase of water rights on agricultural production lands, to save a Desert Terminal Lake. This lake is a remnant of the once huge expanse of water that covered the Great Basin. The common thread in the takings and consensus-driven purchases from willing sellers is the use of the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Examples of the species used are the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout and the Tui Chub.

In Southern Oregon and Northern California, the Klamath River and associated Dams and Reservoirs provide irrigation water to approximately two hundred and twenty-five thousand acres of fertile farmland. Most of this area was awarded to WWI and WWII veterans as homesteads when they were discharged after the wars to: “Grow Food for A Hungary Nation”. The Klamath Project issued deeds to the property that included water rights appurtenant to their land for them and their heirs in perpetuity. Water storage facilities and water conveyance infrastructures were built as part of the project and that has continued to provide a means to deliver a dependable and timely supply of water for food production. This entire watershed is under extreme pressure by the environmental activist community, the indigenous tribes in the area, and the agencies of the Federal Government, to completely and totally reallocate the water within the Basin. The Coho Salmon are being used as a species to justify the removal of the five power generation dams within the watershed. This will, like other efforts, reduce the water and productive land available to produce food and fiber. The Bureau of Reclamation has called for the removal of the dams in 2021. Continuing negotiations may bring forward alternative solutions that are less devastating to the agriculture community and other interests in the area, it also realistically provides for a resolution to fish spawning concerns.

The most devastating water takings to impact food production has been the diversion of water to the Pacific Ocean to save the Delta Smelt and Salmon in California. The extremely diverse and highly productive farms in the Central and San Joaquin Valleys will fallow over a million acres. The impact will be felt across the entire Nation with the increase in prices and availability of many fruits and vegetables reduced.

We must ask ourselves; did we have empty shelves or shortages in the grocery stores during this pandemic? Are our food supply chain and production at risk? Will we rely on foreign governments to allow their farmers to provide the United States with food?

We support the Klamath River Basin, Central and San Joaquin Valley, and Great Basin farmers and ranchers. We stand with them in their efforts to preserve water rights and supplies of affordable water for the production of food.

Consumers benefit when water, fertile soil, processing and packaging facilities, reliable energy sources, and distribution infrastructure are assured as essential components of a system that produces an affordable and consistent food supply.

Government affairs & vital issues is our public policy arm that is tasked with the protection of agriculture and ensuring that America’s producers are able to continue producing safe, reliable and affordable food and ag products. https://americanagriwomen.org/vital-issues-committees/

Cultivating Resiliency Webinar ~ Gaining Momentum

October 23rd-12:00 pm CDT https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2228657702738109967

Do you feel that it’s difficult to separate your business from your personal life...Do you struggle with family dynamics within your business? Please join us to learn more. For past recordings: https://americanagriwomen.org/webinars/
Stand Up Speak Out
Are You Willing?

Karolyn Zurn, Pres./Committee Chair

We can all do it together. We can share the truth about agriculture through our newest project, #STANDUPSPKOUT4AG. One of the reasons I love this project so much is because it encircles the original mission of AAW when it started in 1974. At that time, this organization was tough and took on strong stances. Through this organization, strong women practiced standing up and speaking out for our forestry, mining, livestock, and traditional farms. Hopefully we still are.

Yes, American farmers and ranchers have more issues to contend with from GMOs, to chemical usage, states shutting down the farmers water usage, and changing the ag curriculums in schools. Farmers and ranchers are being attacked daily by the outspoken media but agriculture will stay strong and stand up for agriculture processes.

If we, AAW, don’t STAND UP AND SPEAK OUT 4 AG we will lose more dairies, produce farms, feed yards, mines, petroleum areas, and our families will lose their livelihoods.

We are moving forward and personally funding this project until we get a final reconnig of the AAW Finances. All program details will be published at that time. Co-Chair Deb Whalen and myself, are currently working with individual states and promoting Op-Eds on petroleum production and forestry maintenance.

Stand Up Speak Out Committee:
- Chair: Karolyn Zurn 218.850.9219 karolyn.zurn@americanagriwomen.org
- Co-Chair: Deb Whalen 218.686.1009 deb-whalen@live.com
- Kathy Reavis 956.585.8128 kjreavis1948@hotmail.com
- Education: Lesley Schmidt lesley.schmidt@americanagriwomen.org
- Livestock: Janell Reid 719.446.5210 jjreid@coairnet.com

The Voice is published quarterly as a service to members. For more info, contact Carie M. Moore, VP Communications for submission requirements.

“Farmers who wait for perfect weather never plant. If they watch every cloud, they never harvest.” – Ecclesiastes 11:4
Lindie Huffman’s mantra is “People don’t care how much you know, until they know how much you care,” and building relationships is just one of this Jane-of-all-trade’s exceptional talents. Lindie is the University of Kentucky Ag and Natural Resources Ext. Agent-Pendleton County and she loves the flexibility and creativity needed to develop new educational programs. Her featured program highlights include: expanding the Farmers’ Market, developing an intensive beginner beekeepers’ program, and supporting aspects of small business support and agritourism efforts.

Lindie received her Bachelor of Science where Education and Agriculture are two of her top passions in life (but don’t forget traveling). Taking a holistic approach and increasing diversity were and are two top priorities when developing educational programs. She’s always up for an adventure, but grounded in her family’s 6th generation farm. When not traveling or creating, she can be found on either of the farms with dog Goose always in tow. Beef cattle, hay production, tobacco have been family staples and in 2019 they experimented with hemp.

Kim Bremmer was a dairy nutritionist for almost 15 years and is the owner of Ag Inspirations LLC. She has been advocating for farmers as a professional speaker since 2015, traveling across the country, as well as internationally. Kim is the Executive Director of Venture Dairy Cooperative and is a registered lobbyist in Wisconsin, President of Wisconsin Women for Agriculture (AAW affiliate), and a regular contributor on Rural Route Radio. She serves on the Executive Advisory Council for the American Dairy Coalition and is on the board of directors for her county Farm Bureau. Kim loves being a quiz bowl coach for her Clark County Junior Holstein Association. She is a vocal champion of agriculture everywhere she goes...from the grocery store to the airport. She joined the board of KWIA in 2016 and was immediately appointed as conference chair. Kim currently serves KWIA as President, where her mission is to shine the light on it’s amazing members and their passions that make Kentucky Agriculture so strong!

Jacqueline Rose Compston "Jacquie" is a fifth generation native Nevadan whose roots run deep in the history of ranching. She received a Bachelors of Science Degree in Education and taught at Smith Valley Schools and Western Nevada College. They owned and operated sheep and cattle operations and were active in local and State politics. Jacquie’s family owned and operated a large family ranching and farming operation in Western Nevada that included, registered and commercial cowherds, commercial feedlot, seed garlic, small grains, and alfalfa. Jacquie is a lifetime member of American Agri-Women, and President of the newly formed Nevada Agri-Women Organization. She became an active member in 1986 as the representative for the American Hereford Auxiliary. She has held various positions in AAW that include, Natural Resources, Animal Welfare, Beef Cattle, Public Lands, Global Issues, Water Resources, and Climate Change. Jacquie has received the AAW Leaven Award and two Presidents Awards.

Go to smile.amazon.com select “AAW Foundation” as your charity, and anytime you make a purchase, Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchase. It does not cost you anything, but helps our Foundation grow!
Lauren Schwab Eyre works on her family’s pig farm in Ohio while writing and engaging on social media about farming and the country music industry. She has a passion for communicating and educating all ages about farming to bring up the next generation of agriculturalists. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Women’s Studies, including a Master of Science in Family Studies. Lauren has been a member of AAW since 2014. Her favorite thing is to interview people about their lives and learn from them. AAW members have so many inspiring stories to share. She attended Syngenta ‘Leadership At Its Best’ training where she made great connections with AAW members and strengthened her media skills. She has attended many National Conventions and Mid-Year meetings. Lauren received the scholarship to attend Fly-In and learned how important it is to lobby for our policies. In 2017 she attended National Ag Day in Washington D.C. and proudly represented AAW and U.S. Farmers and Ranchers Alliance on a panel in the National Press Club. She also served as Ohio Agri-Women President 2017-2019.

Linda Swiercinsky was born in Chicago during World War II. Her parents began purchasing Hereford cows at dispersal sales and OXO Ranches grew to be a respected, thriving enterprise. She held a wide variety of jobs including a 5th-grade teacher, secretary to an executive at a market research company, positions in advertising at Record Stockman and Drovers Journal, secretary/sale manager for the Illinois Hereford Breeders’ Assn., and an International Marketing Specialist for the Illinois Dept. of Ag. Linda was employed as Public Information Chief at the Kansas Dept. of Health & Environment and the same job at the Kansas State Board of Agriculture. Her family purchased a feed and fertilizer business in Scandia/Courtland but, in 1992, she moved back to the farm in Illinois with about 75 head of sheep. In summary, Linda’s highest achievement was the volunteer work she did over 44 years for AAW and other ag organizations. Her son says that is her “passion” -- bridging the gap between urban and rural people.

The AAW Foundation has decided not to award Mini-Grants at the 2020 Convention. The lack of in person events due to COVID-19 has made fund raising difficult. The Foundation feels that our College Scholarships deserve priority. We hope to be able to offer mini-grants in the coming years, so please consider a donation to the Foundation to support all our programs. If you have any questions please email: foundation@americanagriwomen.org

Chris Wilson and her family farm and ranch in Kansas. Their operation includes a commercial cow-calf herd that her father and grandfather started in 1944. They also raise dairy goats, horses, and llamas. The Wilson’s Lazy T Ranch is a national historic register site. They produce grain, vegetable, and specialty crops, and have hosted an annual fall festival for the past decade, as well as weddings and other agritourism events. She was raised on a grain and livestock farm in Illinois and holds a degree in Agricultural Sciences and a Juris Doctorate, Cum Laude. Wilson formerly served as Asst. to the Director of the Illinois Dept. of Ag and Asst. to the Secretary of the USDA where she was Director of the Office of Public Liaison. She owned an association management firm and worked with the Kansas Legislature on ag and property laws for over 25 years, along with making ag educational materials. Wilson previously served as Deputy Secretary and General Counsel of the Kansas Dept of Ag. In AAW, she has served on the EC as VP Communications, First VP, and President. She is a Past President of Kansas Agri-Women and served as AAW Fly-In Chair and Legislative Chair for many years. She received the Illinois Agri-Women Hall of Fame Award.

Foundation Mini-Grants

The terms are 3 years and there is a 2 term limit
AAW Nominating Committee

Carol Chandler is a partner in Chandler Farms, LP where her family grows grapes, almonds, and tree fruit in the Selma District of Fresno County. Grapes production is for raisins and wine, as well as almonds, peaches, plums, and citrus. She assists with the business administration portion of the operation. She served as State President of CA Women for Agriculture and is a member of the boards of Western Growers and the Fresno State Board of Governors. Carol belongs to the Junior League of Fresno, La Feliz Guild of Valley Children’s Hospital, and the Common Threads Committee that honors philanthropic women in Valley agriculture communities.

Ardath DeWall is Owner/Partner of Shannondoa Holsteins, a Dairy/Grain Farm. Ardath is active in the dairy industry where she serves on promotion boards, two terms on the National Dairy Board, and the President of Wisconsin Dairy Council. She is on the Foremost Farms USA Board of Directors, member and Clerk of Session, Prairie Dell Presbyterian Church. She joined AAW in 1974 and since served on past and present AAW Offices and Committees. As a long time active member, Ardath has attended most AAW Conventions, Mid-Year Meetings, and Washington, DC Legislative Fly-ins throughout her membership. She served as AAW President, 1994-95, Secretary, VP of Education, and First VP. Also serving on numerous committees such as Dairy Ch., Membership Ch, Dues, New Affiliate Ch., Bylaws Co-Ch., Presidents’ Council Ch., 1993 AMPI Convention Co-Ch., 2000 Convention Co-Ch., Fund-Raising for 3 conventions, Symposium Ch/Comm., AAW Resource Center Board (2 terms), and presently serving 1st term Foundation Board, and Scholarship Ch. for several years.

Ruth Jensen has served as an independent agricultural consultant for nearly 40 years, Ruth traveled the world for clients that include the World Bank, United Nations, and the U/S. State Department. Her work also included agriculture and water resource policy consulting projects for California farmers and farm organizations. Some of her work is published by the International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage. On any given weekend you might find her and her husband riding for a local charity with a group of riders like the American Legion or at a Patriot Guard Welcome Home event. This year Ruth Jensen celebrates 37 years as an AAW member and has served as an active member of California Women for Agriculture, Wisconsin Women for Agriculture, and Florida Agri-Women. Over the years, Ruth has served as President of three different Chapters of CWA and is a founding member of a chapter in Wisconsin. She currently serves as State President for FAW and Chair of AAW Fly-In to DC.

Kathy Reavis and her family, farm and ranch in Mission, the Rio Grande Valley, of Texas. They grew grain sorghum, corn, cotton, sunflowers, onions, and watermelons--depending on the markets of that year. They also raise Simbrah cattle, a cross between Simmental and Brahman cattle, which do very well in their area. She was born in McAllen, TX, and raised in Mission. Kathy has also lived in Tampico, Mexico, and still has family there. Kathy is a founding member of Texas Agri-Women and is a past president. She has worked on various committees of AAW through the years, dealing with Ag Chemicals, Labor, and Immigration. She served as Vital Issues chair for several presidents of AAW before becoming the first VP and then President of AAW.

Education

Farmers & ag organizations around the country are stepping up to help with at-home learning. These resources cover nutrition, STEM, general ag, dairy, farming, ranching, & so much more!
- Weekly lessons: www.agfoundation.org/at-home-learning
- www.agdaily.com/crops/top-resources-online-learning-opportunities/
- www.farmjournalfoundation.org/resources provide a wide-ranging view of ag food production through first-hand videos shared by US farmers & ranchers.
- National Ag in the Classroom Virtual Summit Session Rewind: www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYA8jFF7Rfxt2U1wA_c59di3MQ77CCsMp
  Take some time to check them out!
Mahindra & Citizen Jane Scholarship Awards

Ardath DeWall, AAW Foundation Scholarship Chair

Mahindra Scholarship Awards
AAW Foundation awarded two Mahindra Scholarships this year for $1,200 each. These scholarships exemplify the characteristics of hard work, dedication, and a spirit within the women in agriculture. After reviewing all these applications, these young women are a role model and an inspiration to other women.

With past experiences and future education, Molly Biggs of Dixon, IL, hopes to increase transparency between producers and consumers on what is done in the agriculture industry. Plans include attending Kansas State University and double majoring in Ag Communications and Animal Science. Molly’s dream job is to work in Ag Marketing and digital design.

Brylie Thompson of Genoa, CO, has a personal goal to attain an Agricultural Communications and Agricultural Education Degree at Texas A&M University. Brylie has a heart for service. Her most impactful contribution came through helping donate holiday blankets to less-fortunate elementary students. She developed the idea to do tie-blankets, contacted the teachers to determine how many would be needed for the holiday season, organized the FFA Chapter, and raised the funding for this project. A true testament to get a job done.

Citizen Jane Marshall Scholarship
A $1,000 scholarship was awarded to Madison Baumgartner, of Bismarck, ND. She enrolled in a study abroad course and focused on comparative livestock systems in the Midwest vs. England. Madison is a very inquisitive individual who is passionate about the veterinary science industry and the animals within them. She will do well as she works toward her career goal of becoming a food animal veterinarian.

AAW Foundation thanks Jane Marshall for putting this scholarship together. A special thank you to all her friends and fellow AAW members who helped contributed to it.

NDAW Mini-Grant Update

Carie M. Moore, NDAW President

#AgDay365 #LoveFoodDon'tWasteIt - was a National Challenge put on by AAW to help lower food waste in the US. North Dakota Agri-Women (NDAW) was awarded grants by AAW and the ND FFA Foundation to help us educate youth about their food and to give back to local communities. Due to COVID-19 and the impact on school closures we were unable to finish out our project in its entirety.

Food Waste and Food Need are both problems in the U.S. NDAW members were able to visit classrooms and talk about ag products & how they become food (i.e. sugar & wheat). Some food waste sessions were held discussing options like smaller portions at buffets or re-using leftovers into a new meal. With the educating of food waste, we wanted to bring awareness about food needs. Many students in our communities only eat complete meals while they are at school. PB&J sandwiches & pancakes can provide nutritious meals for those in need and many of the products are raised here in ND.

NDAW initiated a Peanut Butter/SunButter & Jelly drive. These donations came from different events and our amazing NDAW members. ND has our own State Mill where farmers bring in their wheat for flour, bread, & pancake mix. The SunButter plant gives an alternative to nut allergies by using sunflowers. These businesses are a great way to tie local farming with local food.

Although we were not able to carry out the project in full, we purchased books, and Ag Mags were donated that we distributed to schools we did attend. The remaining funds will purchase additional books and provide learning packets to classrooms that we will reach out to virtually. We wanted to give back what we did collect, so baskets of PB & J, along with Food Waste Ag Mags and other ag information was donated to a local food pantry to be shared with families.

Carie M. Moore-Pres, Marsha Van Laere-VP, Jessica Dammen-Treasurer, Sarah McNaughton-Secretary, and our amazing group of state members.
Have a membership question? Need to update your information? Contact Lisa Campion Sullivan, *AAW Executive Assistant* aaw@americanagriwomen.org 586.530.1771 142 Oak Circle Colchester, VT 05446 www.americanagriwomen.org

Photo by CJ Mell

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