

29th Annual FWS Registration

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Fees:

**\$180:** 3-day registration includes all materials, workshops, lunches, Wed. evening banquet, and bus tour. **Must be post-marked by Feb 12.**

**\$210:** 3-day registration **after Feb 12**

**\$135:** 2-day registration (pick two below)

**\$85:** 1-day registration (pick one below)

OR

**\$30:** GreenStone Scholarship Co-payment

Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_ PayPal is available.  
(No refunds for any reason after Feb 12, 2020)  
I received financial assistance from:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please mark the days you plan to attend:  
March 4 \_\_\_\_\_ March 5 \_\_\_\_\_ March 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
Is this your first FWS? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

AGREEMENT, WAIVER AND RELEASE

In registering to participate in activities at Farm Women's Symposium (FWS), I hereby waive, release and discharge any and all claims for any and all personal injury, losses, or property damage, as a result of participation. This release is intended to discharge in advance and hold harmless the FWS, its officers, agents, and committee from any and all liability arising with my participation in activities.

I understand that by participating I consent to photos taken during this activity to be used in any or all FWS publications, website, and social media.

**SIGNATURE REQUIRED BELOW:**

X

**Make checks to:** Farm Women's Symposium  
**Mail Registration & Checks to:** Wanda Skinner,  
749 S. Van Dyke Rd., Bad Axe MI 48413.

Registration questions can be addressed by **Shari Konkell** at 231-519-4723. Confirmation letters will be emailed when possible, or mailed if reg. deadline Feb. 12 is met.

Hotel Accommodations

Treetops Resort <sup>TM</sup> - Gaylord reservation number is 855-261-8764. Designated FWS rooms will be released after **Jan 3** for use by others (rate will revert back to standard, with no guarantees on availability).

**Reserve through Jan. 3** for FWS Convention rate of \$127.99/room (includes all fees/taxes). The rate includes breakfast vouchers based on up to four guests per room.

As an added incentive to book hotel and register early, all who register for FWS (postmarked) by Jan. 3 will be entered in **raffle for \$50 gift card** towards Spa.

Those who require individualized meals due to dietary issues or special room accommodations should address these needs directly with the hotel when reservations are made.

GreenStone FCS Scholarships

With GreenStone Farm Credit Services dedication and support for rural communities and agriculture, the association will again offer **\$150 scholarships** to its members attending the Farm Women's Symposium on a first come first served basis. Scholarships will be awarded to those who register before **Feb. 12, 2020**. Simply mail your registration in with your \$30 co-pay and indicate your local office. Eligibility questions should be directed to Wanda Skinner at (800) 255-6458. **Don't wait—apply today!**

Many participants have been successful in getting financial support from their vendors and suppliers; don't hesitate to ask for their support. If you still

find yourself in need of financial support, some donors provide funds for scholarships and/or hotel stays. Contact **Wanda Skinner** at (989) 315-1493 for availability.

**Silent auction donations and purchases, along with scholarships and cash donations are all very much appreciated. 2019 Donors at \$100+ are listed below, with \$1000+ in bold type.**

Clunis, Kimba-Fishing Charters, Pinconning  
**Cooperative Elevator Company**, Pigeon  
Dairy Farmers of America, Comstock  
Edgewater Bank, St. Joseph  
Gelder, Louis & Sons Co., Benton Harbor  
**GreenStone Farm Credit Services**, E Lansing  
Hillside Orchards, LLC., Berrien Springs  
Huron County Farm Bureau  
Lalone, Duane Inc., Alma  
Iott Insurance Agency, LLC., Blissfield  
Maple Lane Ag-Bag, LLC., Kawkawlin  
**Michigan Corn Growers Association**, Lansing  
Michigan Soybean Promotion Comm., Frankenmuth  
Michigan Sugar Company, Bay City  
Michigan Wheat Program, Lansing  
Nietzke & Faupel, P. C., Pigeon  
Nutrien Ag Solutions, Inc., Benton Harbor/Blissfield  
Pine River Correctional-Woodworking, St. Louis  
Saar, Michael-Crop Insurance, Reese  
Schulte, Marlene (quilt), Harbor Beach  
Star of the West Milling Co., Bad Axe  
Thumb Two Cylinder Club, Ubly  
**United Dairy Industry of Michigan**, Okemos  
United Title Agency, Bad Axe  
Weiss Farm Equipment, Frankenmuth



Treetops Resort<sup>TM</sup>

Gaylord, Michigan

March 4-6, 2020



**Bancroft Family**  
Rolling Meadows Farms, Buckley MI

**29 YEARS**  
Farm women  
coming together for  
fun, learning and  
fellowship.  
**Please join us!**

## Day 1 – Wednesday, March 6

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Registration

8:30 a.m. “Welcome to Gaylord”

Debbie Rasmussen, FWS Chairperson  
Lisa McComb, Otsego County Economic Alliance, and Rachel Frisch, County Administrator, Gaylord.



“What Women In Ag Want”

Jeanne Bernick, Keynote Speaker, Consultant, Journalist. Lenexa KS. Women in agriculture are making progress, but we still have a ways to go in achieving what we want in leadership, fulfillment and experience in the farm operation. Citing examples of women changing agriculture, and giving tips on empowerment, Jeanne will both inspire and provoke laughter as life doesn't always go to plan.

Morning Break

“Crop Insurance: Roller Coaster 2019 and Outlook for 2020” Ryan Kratochvil, Crop Insurance Specialist for GFCS, Cadillac. Ryan will give an overview and answer questions.

“I Never Knew That About You!” Diane Reed Loew, Farmer, Blogger “A Farm Wife”, and FWS Committee member, Byron Center. We will find common interests, others who have gone through similar challenges, weaving strands of friendship throughout.



LUNCH

“Life Experiences at the Farm Journal”

Jeanne Bernick. Traveling the world, Jeanne met a lot of diverse people. Kindly sit a spell and listen to some stories!



“Seed Potato 101 & Hands-On Tissue Culture Cutting” Ben & Alison Sklarczyk, Johannesburg.

The couple will give an overview and history of their seed potato farm, with lab manager Alison (named 2019 Spudwoman of the Year) leading a demonstration.

Afternoon Break & Reminder to Bid!

“Mindful Laughter” Tracie Abram, MSU

Extension Health Educator, St. Ignace. Discover the therapeutic benefits of laughter which doesn't cost a cent! Interactive, fun, and impactful, Tracie's session can teach ways to lessen depression, worry, and tension.



4:30 p.m. Closing Announcements & Final Bids at Silent Auction\*

4:45 p.m. End of Auction, Payment, and Removal of Items

6:30 p.m. Reception

7:00 p.m. Banquet

(There may be after-Banquet activities—watch Facebook page for updates)

Join us in the Hospitality Suite for snacks & fellowship!

Day 2 – Thursday, March 5

(Bus sign-up sheets available on Wednesday)

Stops are subject to change but may include:

Kitchen Farms, Elmira (potato warehouse)  
Gaylord City Elk Park  
Alpine Maple Farms, Gaylord  
Alpine Chocolat Haus and Downtown Gaylord  
Big Buck Brewery, lunch stop, Gaylord

Load Bus #1 with Captains Keri Bancroft and Diane Loew.

Load Bus #2 with Captains Kimba Clunis and Christina Gelder.

Note: Choice of two sandwiches with meal. If prefer gluten-free or vegetarian, notify Shari Konkel 231-519-4723 by Feb. 12.

Thursday night on-your-own: Treetops will offer entertainment at the Lodge. Please watch our Facebook page for more details.

Join us in the Hospitality Suite for snacks & fellowship!

## Day 3 – Friday, March 6

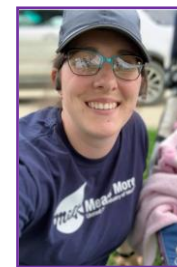
8:30 a.m. Opening Comments

“Legislative Update” Triston Cole, State Representative, 105<sup>th</sup> House District, Mancelona.

First elected in Nov. 2014, Rep. Cole is an avid outdoorsman, former hunting guide, county FB president, and has farmed since 2000 with his wife and three daughters.



“Ag Mediation” Kate Pigott, Intake/Outreach Coordinator, MI/FL Agricultural Mediation Programs, Lansing. Kate connects farmers and families with resources to deal with challenges.



“Ag Promotion & Transparency in Social Media” Ashley Messing-Kennedy, blogger, farmer, mom, Bad Axe. Ashley will discuss her challenging last year, how she found strength in sharing her story, and also tips about using Social Media.

Morning Break & Hotel Check-Out

“Anti-Bullying/Transforming Schools and Communities”

A speaker from Rachel's

Challenge, Colorado. Rachel Joy Scott was the first victim of the Columbine tragedy in 1999. Her journals provided inspiration for her parents to form this organization with a mission to make schools and communities safer. An ongoing chain reaction of kindness and compassion is one of the foundations of this movement.



Wrap-up & Dismissal & Lunch

*While our program name refers specifically to women; this program is open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, or family status.*

Look for us on Facebook at:  
Farm Women's Symposium  
Or on the web at:

[www.farmwomenssymposium.com](http://www.farmwomenssymposium.com)

**Silent Auction**

\*To receive recognition for your donation to the 2020 Silent Auction, you must notify Kim Clunis by Feb. 12 your intention to donate. Her email is: [kclunis3588@gmail.com](mailto:kclunis3588@gmail.com) or leave her a message at (989) 550-3588. Please estimate the approx. cost or value of your item.