



News & Reviews

WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE

News from the SCFB Women's Leadership Committee

2019

FALL EDITION

Youth Leadership Conference Held at Camp Long in Aiken

Seventeen rising high school juniors and seniors from across South Carolina recently participated in the South Carolina Farm Bureau Federation's 2019 Youth Leadership Conference in Aiken, SC.

The conference, held at Camp Long June 23-27, allowed students to gain valuable leadership skills and a better understanding of S.C. agriculture. Students were addressed by industry professionals on leadership, team building and goal setting.

"Our Youth Leadership Conference, sponsored by the SCFB Women's Leadership program, allows students to explore opportunities within agriculture while developing their skills to be leaders in the industry," said Elizabeth Wood, SCFB Director of Agricultural Literacy, Women and Youth Programs.

The conference operates on a two-year curriculum cycle where students learn about agricultural marketing and promotion one year and about gov-

ernment relations and agricultural advocacy the next. This year's conference focused on marketing agricultural commodities in South Carolina.

2019 SCFB Youth Ambassador Hunter Dove said, "Youth Leadership Conference is a great way to meet people from all across South Carolina who share a passion for agriculture. We were able to build leadership skills while expanding our network and agricultural knowledge."

Participants spent a day touring the Midlands, including stops at Walther Farms, Yon Family Farms and the National Wild Turkey Federation. The Aiken and Lexington County Young Farmers and Ranchers also hosted an Ag Olympics competition.

"South Carolina's agricultural industry is a vital part of the state's economy," said Harry Ott, SCFB President. "Inviting youth to take part in and learn about opportunities available to them within the agriculture industry is an important step in advocating for the future of agriculture and giving them the confidence to have a voice in today's issues."



AFBF Announces Book of the Year

The American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture presented its 12th "Book of the Year" award to Lisl Detlefsen for "Right This Very Minute." The book, stunningly illustrated by Renée Kurilla, explains to children how every minute of every day, someone, somewhere, is working to bring food to their table. "Right This Very Minute" is the first book published by the Foundation's Feeding Minds Press, which was launched in 2018.

Detlefsen lives on a cranberry marsh near Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin, with her husband and two sons. She has two previously published books, "Time for Cranberries" and "If You Had a Jetpack."



Here we are again – the season of fall and the time of harvest. I love this time of year when we gather in the results of hard work. It is also the time of year in South Carolina Farm Bureau (SCFB) when we send in contest applications and results of the years work in preparation for the annual meeting. We have been celebrating the 75th anniversary of SCFB and I wanted to share with you in this writing some of the history of the Women's Program in SCFB. There is much to celebrate.

When SCFB held their 2nd annual meeting in 1945 the delegates passed a resolution to initiate a program for farm women and youth. In December of 1945 the SCFB Board of Directors voted for President E.H. Agnew to appoint a committee of women to organize "an Associated Women's Organization in South Carolina."

Lots of work was done over several years and in December of 1949 Anderson County FB organized the first county committee. They helped organize a meeting in Columbia in February 1950 of farm women from across the state. Over 80 women were in attendance and officially organized the Associated Women of South Carolina Farm Bureau.

At that meeting the attendees elected Mrs. Joe Frank Jones of Starr as President, Mrs. John Bennett of Dillon as Vice-President and Mrs. Randolph Watson of Iva as Secretary/Treasurer. Additional Board members elected were Mrs. W.M. Hamilton of John's Island (Pee Dee District), Mrs. J.A. Sease of Gilbert (Central District) and Mrs. M.H. Lineberger of Catawba (Piedmont District). At this time there were only three districts in state for SCFB. Their first project was to ensure a large voter registration and large voter turn out in the 1950 elections. (Remember when we focused on voter registration?) SCFB 8th annual meeting in 1951 saw more support of women being involved as they passed a resolution for women to tie their activities into the whole SCFB organization and have articles of their organization incorporated into the Constitution and By Laws of SCFB. They also approved "that a woman be elected to represent the Associated Women of SCFB on the county and state FB Boards with voting rights."

In 1954 American Farm Bureau changed the Women's Program name from Associated Women to Women's Committee. The change was made in SCFB in 1955 to SCFB Women's Committee. In the early 2000's the name was added to, making the name Women's Leadership Committee (WLC).

A few things along the way from 1950 to today are:

- The first Queen's Contest at the SCFB annual meeting in November 1954;(This was stopped in 2005)
- The first Talent Contest at the SCFB annual meeting in November 1955; (This year makes 64 years)
- The first SCFB booth at the SC State Fair sponsored by the SCFB Women's Committee was in 1960;
- Youthpower began in 1964 for high school students and it became Youth Leadership Conference in 1983 and in 1983 was held on campus at Clemson University; (This year marks 55 years of these 2 programs)
- The first Farm Bureau Day at the SC State Fair was in 1976;

■ Ag-In-The-Classroom Program began in South Carolina in 1984; The first Scholarship for tuition to higher learning was awarded to the SCFB Queen in 1989;

■ The Country Store was introduced at the SCFB annual meeting in 1990 with sales of over \$1700.00; and

■ The Silent Auction, a joint effort of the Women's Leadership Committee and the Young Farmer and Rancher Committee, was introduced at the SCFB annual meeting in 2001.

The SCFB Women's Leadership Committee provides educational materials and information, produced 2 cookbooks with proceeds going to agricultural education, with your help we support the three Ronald McDonald Houses in South Carolina and the McLeod House in Florence with food and other supplies, SCFB Youth Ambassador Contest began in 2005 and is getting better each year, we provide leadership training for women at Women's Conference and other meetings and support involvement in the legislative arena on the local, county, state and national level. We annually sponsor a Women's Legislative Day at the State House in Columbia which is open to all Farm Bureau women.

As a way of providing all Farm Bureau women with information about activities, events, programs, etc. we continue to publish our newsletter in the spring and in the fall. It is also available on line. After discussion at our Planning Retreat in August the SCFB WLC decided to change the name to one more fitting of what we women do. So we hope you enjoy "Women in Agriculture – News and Reviews."

Over the past almost 70 years farm women from all across the state have been in the Women's Program of work on the county, state and even national level. There have been many women over the years who served on the SCFB WLC. I do not have that number but thank everyone for all their efforts to continue to grow the program for women and youth to support FB and agricultural education.

These are the women who have served as Chair of the SCFB Women's Committees over the years: Mrs. Joe Frank Jones of Starr, Mrs. Sallie Bennett of Dillon, Mrs. C.F. Price of Marion, Mrs. Mittie Parr of Newberry, Mrs. Betty DeWitt of Darlington and myself – Mrs. Frances Price of Gilbert. Mrs. Betty DeWitt and myself both were honored to serve on the American Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee.

As we celebrate almost 70 years of women working through the Farm Bureau Organization on the county, state and national level let us not forget that we need to continue our efforts in the areas of education and legislation for the future. We need to increase efforts to work with children and youth for they will be the leaders of tomorrow. Remember those of us in agriculture are less than 2%. We take care of and must educate the other 98+%. The future is in our hands.

Thank you all for everything you do for agriculture and Farm Bureau. I look forward to seeing you at Women's Conference in Charleston and the SCFB annual meeting in December in Myrtle Beach.

Historical facts taken from "The History of South Carolina Farm Bureau 1944 - 1994" written by Lawrence Smith.

2019 Policy Development Update

For 75 years, South Carolina Farm Bureau has used grassroots policy development to surface issues affecting farmers. These issues direct policy that is set during Annual Meeting. This year, over 200 members from 41 counties attended Policy Development meetings held in each district. They heard about progress made during the past legislative session and had the chance to share challenges they are facing on their farm.

Here are some highlights from the 2019 Policy Development Meetings:

In the Central district meeting, members discussed the opportunity for South Carolina to create a program offering funding for farmers through grants similar to programs in place in Pennsylvania, Florida and Mississippi. County-level issues identified included increasing the stormwater run-off fee and the institution of a business registration fee.

During the Coastal district meeting, mariculturists, or “farmers of the ocean,” raised the issue of the ongoing efforts by some to seek a ban of floating oyster cages in Charleston. Issues like this highlight the diversity of agriculture in South Carolina and the importance of working together to protect farmers’ freedom to operate.

In the Pee Dee district meeting, members discussed the success Farm Bureau had in stopping a dramatic rate increase by Duke Progress and Duke Carolinas. These efforts also set a precedent for Farm Bureau’s involvement in future cases to continue to protect agricultural interests. Hemp was another popular topic as the industry continues to grow. Members agreed that a unified voice is important to ensure long-term success of the commodity.

During the Piedmont district meeting, Vice President Tim Donald discussed how the creation of “reciprocal setbacks” could help protect farms from urban encroachment. Laurens County members shared their success of partnering with their county Chamber of Commerce to host candidate forums during special elections. Their work highlight the impact Farm Bureau can have during an election cycle and the importance of engaging with local politics.

From hemp to taxes to maintaining access to water, South Carolina Farm Bureau stands ready to fight for farmers at all levels of government. If you have other issues that are affecting you and your farm, contact your county farm bureau so those topics can be considered during the SCFB Annual Meeting this December.



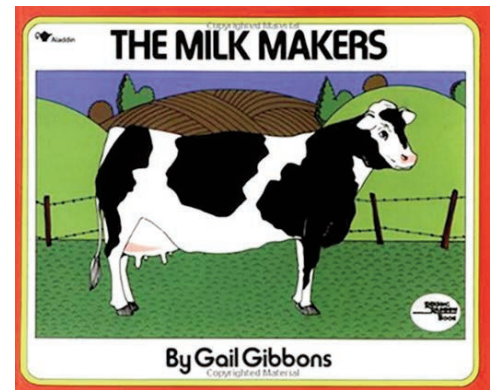
2020 Youth Ambassadors Austin Cathcart and Christle Tindall are shown above with several members of the State Women's Leadership Committee. This year's contest was held earlier this summer at the State Farmers Market.



SCFB Discount Marketplace is now online

The SC Farm Bureau Discount Marketplace, hosted by BenefitHub, provides members online access to discounts, rewards and perks on thousands of brands you know and love. You'll find discounts on automobiles, farm equipment, travel and a whole lot more!

Visit scfb.org/memberbenefits to check it out!



Book of the Month

Sponsored by Ag in the Classroom and the SC Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee, Book of the Month is a literacy outreach program for anyone looking for a valid ag-related resource to utilize in a classroom. Every month, a new book will be available for purchase with accompanying activities that are aligned with SC State Standards. Target age groups will vary, however, many of the activities can be adapted for age appropriateness.

Books are available for \$5 each, while supplies last. Want to guarantee the receipt of a book each month? Subscribe for the year at only \$60. Not interested in purchasing the book? Visit scfb.org to download the activity sheet for free. Donate a subscription to a local elementary school for an easy purpose activity.

Through education, leadership development, legislative activities, youth programs and special events, our Women's Programs grow and support women leaders – locally, regionally and nationally. Your SCFB Women's Leadership Committee is committed to furthering the cause of agriculture in our state and throughout the world.

Please e-mail Elizabeth Wood, ewood@scfb.org a brief summary and/or pictures of any of your county's successful Farm Bureau Women's Programs. We would love to share your success stories with other counties as we all work together to "Tell the Farm Story" to the general public.

SCFB Women's Leadership Committee

Central District



Frances Price, Chair



Carolyn Boyd

Coastal District



Kristi Shirer



Nikki Kelley

Piedmont District

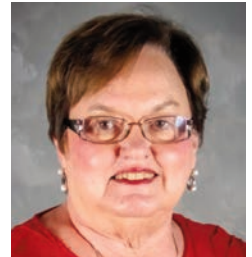


Janice Wood

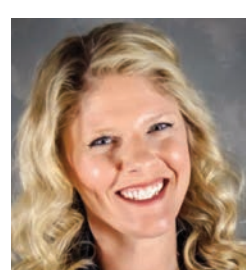


Marilyn Easter

Pee Dee District



Joye Davis



Megan Floyd



this might be the only **lasagna recipe** *you ever need*

3/4 lb. lasagna noodles
1 tsp. extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for drizzling
1 lb. ground beef
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 tsp. dried oregano
Kosher salt
Freshly ground black pepper
1 (32-Oz.) jar marinara
16 oz. whole milk ricotta
1/2 c. freshly grated Parmesan, divided
1/4 c. chopped parsley, plus more for garnish
1 1/2 lb. sliced mozzarella

Preheat oven to 375°. In a large pot of salted boiling water, cook pasta according to package directions until al dente, less 2 minutes. Drain and drizzle a bit of olive oil to prevent noodles from sticking together.

Meanwhile, in a large pot over medium-high heat, heat oil. Cook ground beef until no longer pink, breaking up with a wooden spoon, then drain fat. Return beef to skillet and add garlic and oregano and stir for 1 minute. Season with salt and pepper, then add marinara and stir until warmed through.

Combine ricotta, 1/4 cup Parmesan, and parsley in a large mixing bowl and season with salt and pepper. Set aside.

In a large casserole dish, spread a thin layer of meat sauce, a single layer of lasagna noodles, a layer of ricotta mixture, and a single layer of mozzarella, then repeat layers. Top last layer of noodles with meat sauce, Parmesan, and mozzarella.

Cover with foil and bake for 15 minutes, then increase temperature to 400° and bake uncovered for 18 to 20 minutes. Garnish with parsley and serve.