

Be a Farmer in Winnebago County

As a member of the County Board, we invite you to contact one of our Farm Bureau Members to spend some time side by side with an agriculturalist and learn first hand what it is like to be a farmer in Winnebago County! Choose from a list of various farming enterprises from cattle to grain. Winnebago and Boone County agriculture is full of many opportunities!.



Why We Do This

The Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau is dedicated to promoting agriculture within the counties of Boone and Winnebago. As County Board Members, it is important to understand your community and the local industries, including agriculture, that benefit the local economy.

Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau

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www.winnebagoboonefarmbureau.org

Winnebago- Boone Farm Bureau

“Be a Farmer”





Farmers

Richard Beuth

Richard is the President of the Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau. He resides in Leaf River, IL. Richard and Judy Beuth, along with their son Paul, farm 1200 acres in Seward Township in the southern most corner of Winnebago Co. They fed beef cattle for 25 years and raised hogs for 42 years. With the use of modern technology, such as auto steer tractors, a converted planter with electric clutches, and use of satellites, they grow about 800 acres of corn, 350 acres of soybeans and 50 acres of wheat. They have a modern grain set up with 120,000 bushels of storage. The Beuths were named the Winnebago Co. Conservation Farm Family of the Year in 2008. They use a lot of minimum tillage and no till for both corn and soybeans and are experimenting with cover crops after wheat. The 180 acre farm where Paul lives has been in the family since 1858. The home farm where Richard grew up has been in the Beuth Family since 1895. Richard's grandfathers, Enos Beuth and Charlie Comly were charter members of the Winnebago County Farm Bureau in 1920. To visit, call Richard at (815)541-8641.

Gary Greenlee

As a 7th generation farmer, Gary and his wife, Jane farm near Argyle, IL. Over the years they have implemented many practices to conserve soil and improve soil health and nutrient application. These include converting to no till and strip till and adding nutrients based upon soil tests and actual yield. Nitrogen levels have been reduced by split applications; the use of nitrification inhibitors; and applying all nutrients no more than 30 days prior to planned planting. They continually work with their

fertilizer provider to implement improved practices, such as precision and variable rate nutrient applications, plant tissue tests and potential cover crops. Strap on your boots and walk their fields to see firsthand the different practices they have implemented or help care for their crops. Gary also raises a variety of specialty crops in Idaho. To visit Gary's local operation, call (815)988-6481.

Larry Larson

Larry serves on the Winnebago-Boone Farm Board of Directors. Larry and his younger brother, Tom, farm 2000+ acres north of Peconica, IL, growing primarily row crops, along with some wheat, hay, and cover crops. Larry began dairy farming with his father, Menten, immediately after college and milked cows until 2001. He was the fourth Larson generation to milk on their farm since it was purchased by his great-grandparents in 1875. He stays involved in the dairy industry by custom-raising heifers for several area dairy farmers. He also sells seed and does a little custom farming. At age 65, Larry still does livestock chores every day, but also spends a significant portion of his time on the management aspects of the farm business. To visit, call Larry at (815)985-4079.

"Be the voice, resource, and advocate for farm families and agriculture, while promoting stewardship for today and future generations." - Mission Statement



John Mitchell

Mitchell Dairy and Grain LLC, newly formed by Tim, John, and Aaron Mitchell, is the most recent expansion of the Mitchell family farm and grain operation. The site of the present dairy operation, located south of Winnebago, was purchased in 1960. One of the first milking parlors in the area, a double four herringbone parlor, followed in 1961. In 1984, the farm expanded and a dump pit and drying system to accommodate an ever expanding custom farming operation was built. In 2004, a new milking facility large enough to accommodate a Westfalia-Surge rapid exit, double twelve herringbone parlor, that was initially outfitted as a double eight parlor was built. When John returned home from the University of Illinois, expansion continued with the addition of a new calf building, commodity shed, and a number of bunker silos. In July 2014, a new silage pad was completed, a larger bulk tank was installed, and the milking parlor was outfitted with the remaining eight machines. A new manure lagoon was begun as well. A new free stall barn was completed in the spring of 2015 to complete the cow facility, and to expand the holding pen. The farm is currently milking 320 head, three times a day, and is farming 2500 acres. John serves on the Board of Directors at the Winnebago-Boone Farm Bureau. Join John on his state of the art dairy farm. To visit, call John at (815) 703-5614

Brent Pollard

Brent's great-grandfather started his family farm in the 1920s. Now, four generations later, Brent, his wife Carrie and their young daughter, are keeping the Pollard family tradition going. What started as a 148 acre farm with work horses, is now a farm that is home to between 80 and 90 dairy cows and 300 acres of corn and soybeans. The diversity of a dairy and grain farm means he can put all of his resources to good use. Brent of Rockford, IL serves on the Farm Bureau Board of Directors. Join Brent in milking, feeding the calves, planting corn or beans, chopping corn or harvesting the crops. To visit, call Brent at (815)621-8087.