

# MARION COUNTY FARM BUREAU

## Board of Directors:

President John Zielinski

VP Troy Hadley

## Directors

Kathleen Carl

Brenda Kirsch

Bob Dettwyler

Roger Dejager

Greg Bennett

Scott Miller

Jeff Butsch

Joe Sherman

## Young Farmer/Rancher

Joe Sherman

## Women's Chair

Connie Young

## Voting Delegates

Dan Goffin

Brenda Kirsch

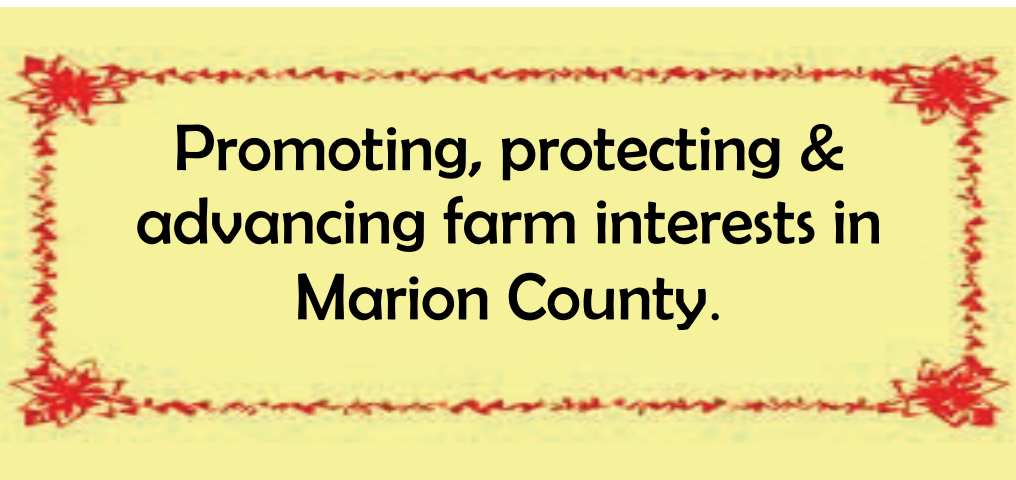
Troy Hadley

## Staff & Membership

Mike McLaran

Genoa Ingram

Jessica Carpenter



***Local YF & R,  
Brenda Kirsch,  
needs your  
support!***



Earlier this summer, US Farmers & Ranchers Alliance, put out a call for standout farmers and ranchers who are proud of what they do, eager to share their stories of continuous improvement with others and are actively involved today in telling those stories to enter the search for the “Faces of Farming and Ranching”. Farmers and ranchers from different commodity groups, farming practices, sizes and geographies applied – and among all of the quality entrants received, we’re down to nine finalists. Our own, Brenda Kirsch of St. Paul, is one of these 9 finalist and could use supporting votes from Marion County Farm Bureau members to help keep in in the forefront.

### **Here is Brenda’s story:**

Brenda’s grandfather started this farm over 60 years ago as a dryland farm. Her father took over in the 1970s and Brenda is now being transitioned to run this 1,000-acre operation. In the last 30 years, irrigation was added to three quarters of our ground. With water and great soil the farm is able to be very diversified. The farm raises perennial ryegrass, hazelnuts, straw, wheat, green beans, squash, and crimson clover. Products are sold worldwide through farmer-owned co-ops, and other processors and distributors.

I am part of “Adopt a Farmer”, which brings urban kids to our farm for field trips, and I go to their classrooms to teach about farming. I have given legislative testimony and am a spokesperson for the End the Oregon Death Tax campaign. I have done both taped and live syndicated radio interviews. I participated in AFBF’s strategic issues communication training and was featured on the front page of The Oregonian for my farm work last year.

I hope that people could look to me as a resource to find honest answers about how their food is grown. I think that bridging that gap is so important in a world where the public is curious about their food, from the farm level. I also would hope to be a source for young farmers, to show them that there is a future in agriculture. And to also show all farmers that it’s important to show we are proud of what we do; and we hold our heads high because we truly are feeding the world.

To vote for Brenda Kirsch, please visit <http://www.fooddialogues.com/> Register on this site and you can then vote for Brenda one time per day per electronic device. Voting is open until Dec. 15.

Information for this article was obtained from the following website:  
<http://www.fooddialogues.com/faces-of-farming-and-ranching>

Images: freedigitalphotos.net

## **Inside this issue:**

*Board member highlight* 1

*Annual Dinner, PERS  
Crisis article link,  
MCFB Board Meeting* 2

*Board of Directors,  
Energy Symposium* 3

*MCFB Website Photo  
Request* 3

## Oregon PERS Crisis 101 – An issue impacting us all.

MCFB Staff encourages all members to visit this website and view the presentation about how PERS is affecting our community.

[www.dan-lucas.com](http://www.dan-lucas.com)

The next MCFB board meeting is scheduled for  
**Wednesday  
December 19, 2012**  
starting **6:30 pm** at  
Location to be determined, please call 503-378-0595 to confirm location.  
The meeting is open to any farmer.

## Annual Dinner Banquet & Meeting

The Annual Meeting & Dinner Banquet were held at the Keizer Renaissance Inn on Wednesday November 28, 2012. Attendance was strong with close to 75 guests this year. Dinner consisted of a lovely buffet with many local ingredients as arranged by the Court Street Consulting team with the Keizer Renaissance Inn. We are pleased to share that the menu consisted of predominately local products including Willamette Valley Fruit Company Pies for dessert.

The 2013 Board of Directors were chosen and are on page 3 of the newsletter.

Scholarship recipient, Jaimee Brentano, was in attendance and provided an update on her studies and shared her appreciation for the support.

**Brenda Kirsch** was the keynote speaker sharing photo and information about her mission trips to Africa and the success stories for the communities that are being educated in basic emergency care and farming practices. Staff provided an annual report that reviewed the year and the exciting happenings and changes that have taken place with MCFB.

A big thank you to the individuals/companies that donated for the door prizes:

Marion County Dairy Women

EZ Orchards

Wilco Farmers

SLAB Soaps

Brooks Hardware



# Tickets Available Now for 2013 SAIF Corporation Agri-Business Banquet

Social 6pm ~ Dinner Program 7pm

The SAIF Corporation Agri-Business Banquet, presented by KeyBank, is one of the most fun and well attended agriculture events in Oregon. Join us as we celebrate Ag in the Willamette Valley with our featured comedian, Jerry Carroll.

We look forward to seeing you at the Salem Conference Center on January 25! For questions or information, please call 503-581-1466.

## 2013 Board of Directors

President John Zielinski

Vice President Troy Hadley

Past President Dan Goffin

Voting Delegates Troy Hadley, Brenda Kirsch, Dan Goffin

Directors Kathleen Carl, Roger Dejager, Bob Dettwyler, Scott Miller, Greg Bennett, Jeff Butsch

YF&R Joseph Sherman

WAC & Women's Committee

## Discovering the Natural Energy of your Farm

Marion County Farm Bureau presented an energy symposium on Tuesday December 4, 2012 on the first day of the Oregon Farm Bureau Convention held at the Salem Conference Center. Sponsors for the event, PGE and Energy Trust of Oregon helped in securing presenters and providing current information for Oregon Farmers interested in learning more about the natural resources they have on their land. Attendance for the event was strong at almost 80 attendees and 9 speakers discussing Wind, Hydro, Methane and Solar Power. A large thank you to our sponsors and all that attended.



Portland General Electric



## **MCFB Website & Scrapbook Needs Your Photos!**

MCFB members are invited to submit their farm photos with descriptions for display on the website or to be included in the MCFB Scrapbook that Connie Young, WAC, representative is working on with Court Street Staff.

Submit photos with description to [jessica@courtstreetconsulting.org](mailto:jessica@courtstreetconsulting.org) or mail to 1284 Court St NE Salem, OR 97301.

Marion County Farm Bureau  
1284 Court St. NE, Salem, OR 97301  
503.378.0595

---

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

**Promoting, protecting &  
advancing farm interests in  
Marion County**

**Important Dates**

December 15, 2012 – Faces of Farming Voting Deadline

December 21, 2012 – MCFB Board Meeting

December 24-January 2, 2013 – Offices closed for holiday

January 13-15, 2013 – AFBF Annual Meeting, Nashville, TN

January 16, 2013 – MCFB Board Meeting

January 25, 2013 – Ag Banquet – Salem Conference Center

***Don't Miss Your Newsletter!***

In an effort to be careful stewards of our resources, MCFB plans to switch to e-newsletters to save money on printing and postage. Members are encouraged to forward your email address to [jessica@courtstreetconsulting.org](mailto:jessica@courtstreetconsulting.org) at your earliest convenience so you don't miss out on MCFB news. Those members who do not have internet access can request to receive their newsletters printed and mailed to them.