

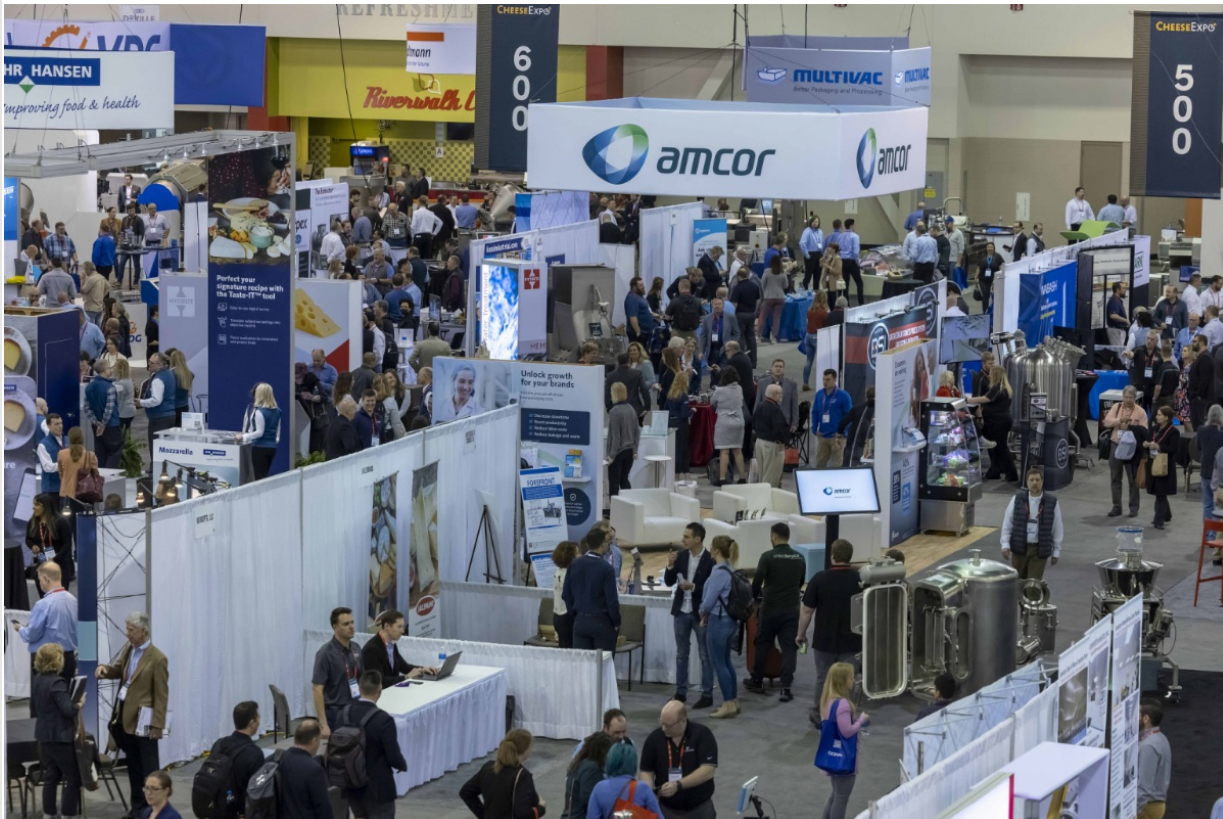


WCMA NEWS

AN EXCLUSIVE UPDATE FOR MEMBERS OF THE
WISCONSIN CHEESE MAKERS ASSOCIATION



WCMA SIGNATURE EVENTS



Largest-Ever CheeseExpo Concludes



Over 3,800 attendees - including nearly 250 food and dairy manufacturing organizations - built connections with over 300 exhibiting companies, learned the latest insights from key experts, and celebrated excellence in dairy processing April 12-14 at the largest-ever [CheeseExpo](#) in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. A full gallery of photos is [now available online](#). Many thanks to our [CheeseExpo 2022 sponsors](#) for their generous support in making this year's event a success!

Mark your calendars now for next year's Cheese Industry Conference, set for April 5-6, 2023 in Madison, Wisconsin. Then, CheeseExpo returns to Milwaukee April 16-18, 2024. Don't miss these opportunities to reconnect with the dairy processing community!



Championship Cheese Auction Tops \$333,000 in Record-Breaking Year

Enthusiastic CheeseExpo attendees **raised an impressive \$333,125** at the 2022 Chr. Hansen Championship Cheese Auction April 13, 2022. WCMA sincerely thanks all of the winning bidders for their enthusiastic support of industry training, higher education, and the World and U.S. Championship Cheese Contests: ALPMA; APT, Inc.; Chr. Hansen, Inc.; Custom Fabricating & Repair, Inc.; Dairy Connection, Inc.; Decatur Dairy, Inc. & Guggisberg Cheese; DSM Food Specialties USA, Inc.; DR Tech, Inc.; Emmi Roth; Food Safety Net Services; Great Lakes Cheese; Hydrite; Iverson, Inc.; Kelley Supply, Inc.; Loos Machine & Automation; Masters Gallery Foods, Inc.; Milk Specialties Global; Nelson-Jameson, Inc.; Novak's Cheese of Wisconsin, Inc.; Oshkosh Cold Storage; ProActive Solutions USA, LLC; T.C. Jacoby & Co.; TC Transcontinental; Vivolac Cultures Corporation; Wabash; and Wisconsin Aging & Grading Cheese, Inc.

Join Exclusive WCMA Annual Meeting May 25

WCMA invites **designated key contacts** at our member organizations to attend the WCMA Annual Meeting in person on Wednesday May 25, 2022 at the Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin.

The meeting will open with a luncheon and keynote guest speaker Chad Vincent, Chief Executive Officer at Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin. Following lunch, members will laud legislative leaders who have advanced dairy opportunities, then hear details on WCMA activities and plans for the coming fiscal year.

The meeting is open in-person to the designated key contact at each WCMA member organization, or one proxy representative. Any and all WCMA members may **register** to watch the meeting live online.

Registration and networking begin at 11:30 a.m. The WCMA Annual Meeting program will kick off at noon and conclude at 2:00 p.m. Participants in WCMA's Membership Committee and Supplier Committee, meeting in person at the Osthoff on May 25, are also invited to attend.

Register on the [WCMA website](#) for this exclusive member networking and education opportunity. Attendance in person is \$75 and online participation is \$25.

Members are invited to sponsor the event at a \$500 level, earning one free registration, signage, and recognition at the meeting and in advance notices. Sponsorship deadline is May 6.

For more information, contact [WCMA's John Umhoefer](#).

REGISTER NOW



Mark Your Calendar for 2022 WCMA Golf Outing & Trap Shoot



Plan to join friends and colleagues at the 2022 WCMA Golf Outing & Trap Shoot, scheduled for Wednesday, July 20. Registration for this popular event will open on Tuesday, May 17 and will fill quickly, so mark your calendar now! More information, including sponsorship details, will be released in May.

INDUSTRY UPDATES

USDA Seeks Yogurt, String Cheese, Butter

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has issued solicitations for [yogurt](#) and [string cheese](#) to be used in federal food assistance programs. Bids for both solicitations are due April 22 at 1:00 p.m. (CT). Please contact USDA staff with questions about [yogurt](#) or [string cheese](#) bids. USDA is also seeking [butter products](#), with a due date of April 26 by 9:00 a.m. (CT). Please contact [USDA staff](#) with questions.

WCMA Members to Serve on Wisconsin Agricultural Export Advisory Council

WCMA members MCT Dairies and Sartori Company will serve on the newly-created Wisconsin Agricultural Export Advisory Council, state officials announced last week. Chad Vincent, CEO of Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin, joins MCT Director of Global Sales Ryan Wucherer and Sartori CEO Jeff Schwager in representing Wisconsin's dairy industry on the council.



Chad Vincent
Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin



Ryan Wucherer
MCT Dairies



Jeff Schwager
Sartori Company

The group, which includes representation from the crop and meat industries as well as the State Legislature, will guide the activities of the Wisconsin Initiative for Agricultural Exports (WIAE) within the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. The WIAE provides \$5 million to increase Wisconsin's agricultural exports – including cheese, yogurt, butter, and other dairy products – by 25 percent over the next five years. Initially proposed by Governor Tony Evers, the bipartisan initiative was championed by State Senator Joan Ballweg (R-Markesan) and State Representative Tony Kurtz (R-Wonewoc). WCMA staff and members joined other agricultural groups in strongly advocating for the proposal, contributing heavily to its success.

IN THE NEWS

Wisconsin

- *Only In Your State*: [You're guaranteed to love a trip to this epic cheese factory in Wisconsin](#) (Featuring WCMA member Union Star Cheese)
- *FaB Wisconsin*: [Masters Gallery Foods is first manufacturer in Wisconsin to deploy 100 percent electric Class Eight Orange EV truck](#)

National/International

- *Bloomberg*: [Dairy giant Arla wants to pay farmers more for low-emission milk](#) (Featuring WCMA member Arla Foods)
- *U.S. Food & Drug Administration*: [Draft guidance: Evaluating the public health importance of food allergens other than the major food allergens listed in the federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act](#)
- *Dairy Foods*: [Hilmar Cheese Co. offers scholarships](#) (Featuring WCMA member Hilmar Cheese Company)
- *Dairy Foods*: [We don't have to guess consumers' thoughts on dairy](#) (Featuring WCMA Executive Director John Umhoefer)

EDUCATION



Front-Line Leadership Cohort Discusses Essential Leadership Skills

WCMA appreciates the engagement and enthusiasm of today's Front-Line Leadership-Part A class! The group evaluated their current leadership skills and learned ways to improve. Our thanks go to their member employers for their commitment growing and supporting their teams: Emmi Roth; Great Lakes Cheese; Klondike Cheese Co.; Koss Industrial, Inc.; Milk Specialties Global; Nelson-Jameson, Inc.; Renards Cheese; and Schuman Cheese.



WCMA Webinar

Grants for Growth: How to Find and Apply for Federal and State Funding

New Date: Join WCMA May 17 Webinar for Tips to Find and Apply for State and Federal Grants

Register now for WCMA's **next free, member-only webinar!** Join us on Tuesday, May 17 at 1:00 p.m. (CT) for practical strategies on finding and applying for federal and state grant funding. Additional details will be shared in the coming weeks.

This offering is the latest in WCMA's **monthly webinar series**. Webinar topics are driven by WCMA member feedback and cover a range of themes such as business development, communication strategies, and industry resources.

Have an idea for a future webinar topic? Please contact **WCMA Senior Director of Programs & Policy Rebekah Sweeney**.

Additional Industry Training Opportunities

WCMA is pleased to share opportunities for industry-specific training and enrichment. Here's a look at other trainings hosted by our partners:

- April 25-29: **World of Cheese from Pasture to Plate** - Center for Dairy Research
- May 2-4: **FSPCA Preventive Controls for Human Food (PCQH) Training** - Dairy

Farmers of Wisconsin

- May 9-13: [Advanced Cheese Technology - In Person](#) - Center for Dairy Research
- May 12-13: [Internal Auditing \(Virtual\)](#) - Mérieux NutriSciences
- May 18: [Cheesemaking Fundamentals - Online, Self-Study](#) - Center for Dairy Research
- June 14-16: [Advanced Buttermaking - In Person](#) - Center for Dairy Research
- June 14-15: [Environmental Monitoring Hands-On Training Workshop \(In Person\)](#) - Mérieux NutriSciences
- June 20-24: [Buttermakers License Apprenticeship - In Person](#) - Center for Dairy Research
- June 21-23: [FSPCA Preventive Controls for Human Food \(PCQI\)](#) - Mérieux NutriSciences
- Rolling Admission: [Online HACCP Training](#) - North Carolina State University
- Rolling Admission: [Environmental Monitoring in the Dairy Industry](#) - North Carolina State University
- Rolling Admission: [Preventive Controls for Dairy Processors](#) - North Carolina State University
- Rolling Admission: [Food Safety Basics For Artisan Cheesemakers](#) - North Carolina State University

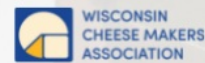
MEMBERSHIP

Together We Grow: WCMA Celebrates Member Employee Growth and Advancement

WCMA members know that growth involves more than product sales. A focus on the potential, satisfaction, and development of team members helps build a foundation for long-term success. That's why WCMA is pleased to celebrate the many opportunities for collaborative employee advancement in dairy processing through our newest social media campaign: Together We Grow.



Together WE GROW

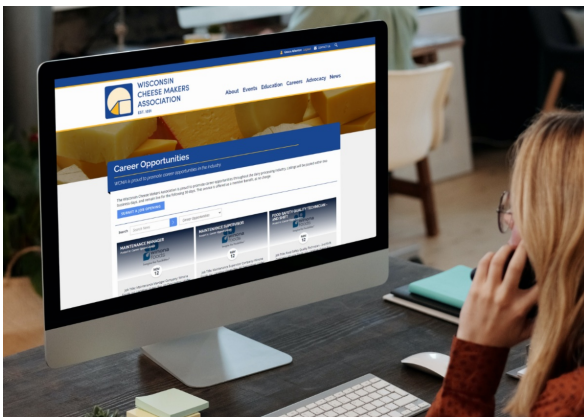


This week, we're proud to highlight **Braiden Garcia** (left), **Muenster Packaging Supervisor at Klondike Cheese Co.** Production Supervisor Jon Brunner says WCMA's Front-Line Leadership class "helped Braiden learn how to think about the department as a whole and what roles people can fill to make the department run smoothly. It's taught her how to consider everyone's skill set and where to place them in order for the employee to be successful in the jobs that are needed."

Follow along on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [LinkedIn](#) each week for more inspiring stories of growth from WCMA members!

WORKFORCE

View, Share Career Opportunities on WCMA Jobs Board



Visit WCMA's [online jobs board](#) to view job openings from WCMA members Alpine Slicing & Cheese Conversion, Inc.; Associated Milk Producers, Inc.; Baker Cheese, Inc.; Bunker Hill Cheese Co., Inc.; Complete Filtration Resources, Inc.; Land O'Lakes, Inc.; Masters Gallery Foods, Inc.; and Westby Cooperative Creamery.

Have an opportunity at your company or cooperative? WCMA members can [post openings](#) on the Jobs Board anytime - it's free and easy!

[SEE ALL OPENINGS](#)

WisCheeseMakers.org

