

# WCMA NEWS

Your source for the latest  
in dairy processing

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## NEWS

### WCMA Awards 2025 Student Scholarships



Congratulations to the seven winners of WCMA's annual scholarship awards! Today, [WCMA announced the exceptional students](#) receiving a total of \$29,000 in scholarship funds this year.

Following a successful Championship Cheese Auction in 2024, WCMA's Board of Directors guided \$200,000 from generous bidders to programs focused on dairy's future. As part of that effort, WCMA's five student scholarships for dairy processor and supplier members' families were enhanced to \$5,000 per student. [READ MORE...](#)

*Pictured: 2024 WCMA Student Scholarship Recipients*

### Support the Industry's Next Generation at CheeseCon!

Make plans now to join an energetic crowd of friends and colleagues as you bid on the nation's best cheeses at the exciting Novonesis Reception & Championship Cheese Auction on Wednesday evening, April 16 during CheeseCon in Madison, Wisconsin. [View the complete bid sheet](#) and gear up for a friendly competition with dairy processors and supplier partners to raise funds for the future of the industry.

Registration for CheeseCon is [open online now](#) through April 7; after April 7, all registrations will take place on-site.

**REGISTER NOW**

### WCMA Policy Committee Elects Andy Hatch as Chair

During its recent meeting and State Advocacy Day, members of the WCMA



*Pictured: Andy Hatch, Uplands Cheese*

Policy Committee voted to elect Andy Hatch of Uplands Cheese as their new chair.

Andy assumes the role following a two-year term completed by Mike Neu of Novonesis. WCMA thanks Mike for his service and support of the Association's impactful advocacy efforts!

Members interested in joining WCMA's active, engaged Policy Committee can contact [Senior Director of Programs & Policy Rebekah Sweeney](#).

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## Headlines

### Wisconsin

- Wisconsin Public Radio: [Study: Some raw milk cheese is vulnerable to avian flu](#) (Featuring WCMA)
- Yahoo! Life: [Meet the Wisconsin maker: BelGioioso Cheese](#) (Featuring WCMA member BelGioioso Cheese)

### National & Global

- CNBC: [Trump pledges auto, pharma tariffs in 'near future,' sowing more trade confusion](#)
- Dairy Processing: [FDA to push back traceability deadline](#)
- Dairy Processing: [Nelson becomes first woman to lead Organic Valley](#) (Featuring WCMA member Organic Valley/CROPP Cooperative)
- Buffalo Business First: [Western New York emerges as dairy powerhouse, attracting \\$1.5B in private investments](#) (Featuring WCMA member Great Lakes Cheese)

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## FEATURED: MEMBERSHIP

### WCMA Welcomes New Members



Join WCMA in welcoming new dairy processor members [Harmony Cheese](#), [MDS Cheese](#), and [Red Rock Dairy Products](#), and supplier members [American Agco Trading Company](#), [Blackhawk Industrial](#), [Market & Johnson](#), [Trioworld](#), [Workforge LLC](#), [Zeytech](#), [Engineered Sales Co.](#), [Quantum Technical Services, Inc.](#), [Ryan Companies](#), [Ellingson Companies](#), and [Ascendant Partners](#).

View these and hundreds of other WCMA members now in our searchable [online directory](#).

Have questions about WCMA membership? Contact [WCMA Membership Director Sara Schmidt](#).

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# Explore, Tailor Your WCMA Member Benefits in Member Compass



Get the most out of your WCMA member benefits - log in to your [Member Compass](#) at [WisCheeseMakers.org](#) today!

This portal allows members to view and tailor their communication preferences, update their personal information, and engage in WCMA's member-only events and programming.

Need help? [Watch our step-by-step tutorial](#) for instructions to get started.

## EVENTS & CONNECTION

### CheeseCon Advance Registration Ends April 7



April 15-17, 2025 | Alliant Energy Center | Madison, Wisconsin

The countdown to [CheeseCon](#) is on! With just three weeks remaining until this energy-packed industry gathering, there's limited time to secure your space. Advance registration ends April 7, so [act now](#).

[REGISTER NOW](#)

### Upcoming WCMA Events

| April 15-17   | April 24   | May 1   | May 13   | May 15   |
|---|--|---|--|--|
| <a href="#">CheeseCon 2025</a><br>(Advance registration closes April 7) | <a href="#">Free Webinar: Dairy Exporting - Navigating Economic Cycles in a Changing World</a> | <a href="#">Health &amp; Safety Group Meeting</a><br>(Hybrid) | <a href="#">Basic Safety Training for Dairy Processors</a> (In-Person) | <a href="#">Workforce &amp; Education Committee Meeting</a> (Hybrid) |

[VIEW ALL & REGISTER](#)

## EDUCATION

### Register Now for WCMA Basic Safety Training May 13

Ensure your valued team members have the knowledge and skills needed to stay safe on the job. [Register them now](#) for the May 13 in-person offering of WCMA's Basic Safety





Training for Dairy Processors class, exclusively sponsored by [Nelson-Jameson](#). Just 24 spaces are available, so reserve yours now!

**SIGN UP TODAY**

## Industry Training Spotlight: Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy



Registration is open now for [four new Dairy Plant Food Safety Workshops](#), hosted by the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy. Join Innovation Center staff and industry co-hosts - including WCMA members Glanbia Nutritionals, Hilmar Cheese Company, Leprino Foods Company, Land O'Lakes, Organic Valley/CROPP Cooperative, and Schreiber Foods - to learn strategies for improving pathogen control practices including PEM, sanitation, and sanitary design. [READ MORE...](#)



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