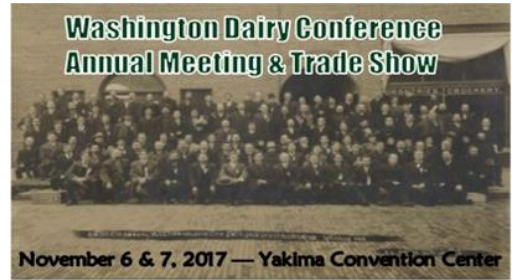


September 2017



Dear Dairy Producers:

We cordially invite you to our upcoming Washington Dairy Conference, Nov. 6 & 7 at the Yakima Conference Center, 10 North 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Yakima, Washington.

Thanks to our Title Sponsor, the Dairy Farmers of Washington, dairy producers may register for **FREE** for the event. Please register by **Oct. 20** for planning purposes. For online registration, the link is at [www.WaStateDairy.com](http://www.WaStateDairy.com).

Typical annual meeting activities will occur at the Dairy Conference. You will have time to catch up with fellow producers, sponsors and exhibitors. The Dairy Women will host their scholarship auction. Both the Dairy Federation and the Dairy Women will hold annual membership meetings. The Dairy Farmers of Washington will hold their board meeting two hours before the conference begins.

As we are celebrating our quasiquintennial (125 years as an organization), we are excited to take a group photo similar to what our 1908 predecessors did at their annual meeting! We will make the photo available to all who want one.

#### EARLY REGISTRATION PRIZES

Terrific prizes will be given by the Dairy Farmers of Washington to early registrants. For those who register by Oct. 2, your name will be put in a drawing for two general admission tickets to Cowabunga, "America's Largest Festival of Beef," in Seattle on Oct. 13-15. Check out the event at [www.cowabungausa.com](http://www.cowabungausa.com). For those who register by Oct. 20, your name will be put in a drawing for two Seahawks tickets. Don't miss out on your chance for these tickets! The Seahawks tickets drawing will occur at the Dairy Conference, and you must be present to win.

#### HOTEL

The Red Lion hotel is our headquarters hotel, as it is located a short walk across the parking lot from the convention center. Guests receive a free breakfast. The deadline for conference rates is Oct. 23. See enclosed for more information.

#### SPEAKERS

Dave Carroll is speaking about how he cost United Airlines \$151 million in value via social media. He shares lessons and observations about how ALL of us live in a world of instant feedback.

Dr. Frank Mitloehner, professor at UC Davis, will talk about the positive impacts of livestock agriculture and the remarkable gains in environmental stewardship.

We've invited a federal official – *I can't tell you who it is yet!* – to be our keynote speaker. We're awaiting confirmation of availability but have received encouraging hints so far.

You will also not want to miss:

- Membership Meeting (covering legal issues, CAFO appeal, and federal issues)
- New Technology Panel
- Robotics Panel

**BREAKOUTS:**

EQIP  
 Social Media  
 Dairy Safety  
 Labor Supply & Harassment Solutions  
 Animal Health & ID  
 Wage & Hour Compliance  
 Employer Medical Insurance  
 Crisis Communications

**GENERAL SESSIONS:**

Dave Carroll, “United Breaks Guitars”  
 Frank Mitloehner, UC Davis, Air Quality  
 New Technology Panel  
 DMI Presentation  
 Robotics Panel

**BOARD ELECTIONS**

Three of WSDF’s 3-year, board member positions are up for election this year:

- District 1: position currently held by Chris Sybrandy;
- District 2: position currently held by Walt Abplanalp; and
- District 3: position currently held by Art Mensonides.

If you are a Grade A producer and have been engaged in producing dairy products for the five preceding years within the state, you are eligible to run. Those interested need to fill out a Board Candidate Biography form prior to Nov. 15. Please contact the office at 360.482.3485 or [Darcel@WaStateDairy.com](mailto:Darcel@WaStateDairy.com), and we will send you the form and answer any questions you have.

**YAKIMA TOURISM**

If you are arriving earlier or staying later, check out the following links to explore Yakima.

- Wineries – <http://visityakima.com/yakima-valley-wineries.asp>
- Craft Brews – <http://visityakima.com/yakima-valley-craft-brews.asp>
- Downtown Yakima – <http://visityakima.com/downtown-yakima.asp>
- Museums – <http://visityakima.com/yakima-valley-museums.asp>

See you in November!

*Dan Wood*

Dan Wood  
 Executive Director  
 Washington State Dairy Federation  
 360-482-3485

**WSDF District Map**

