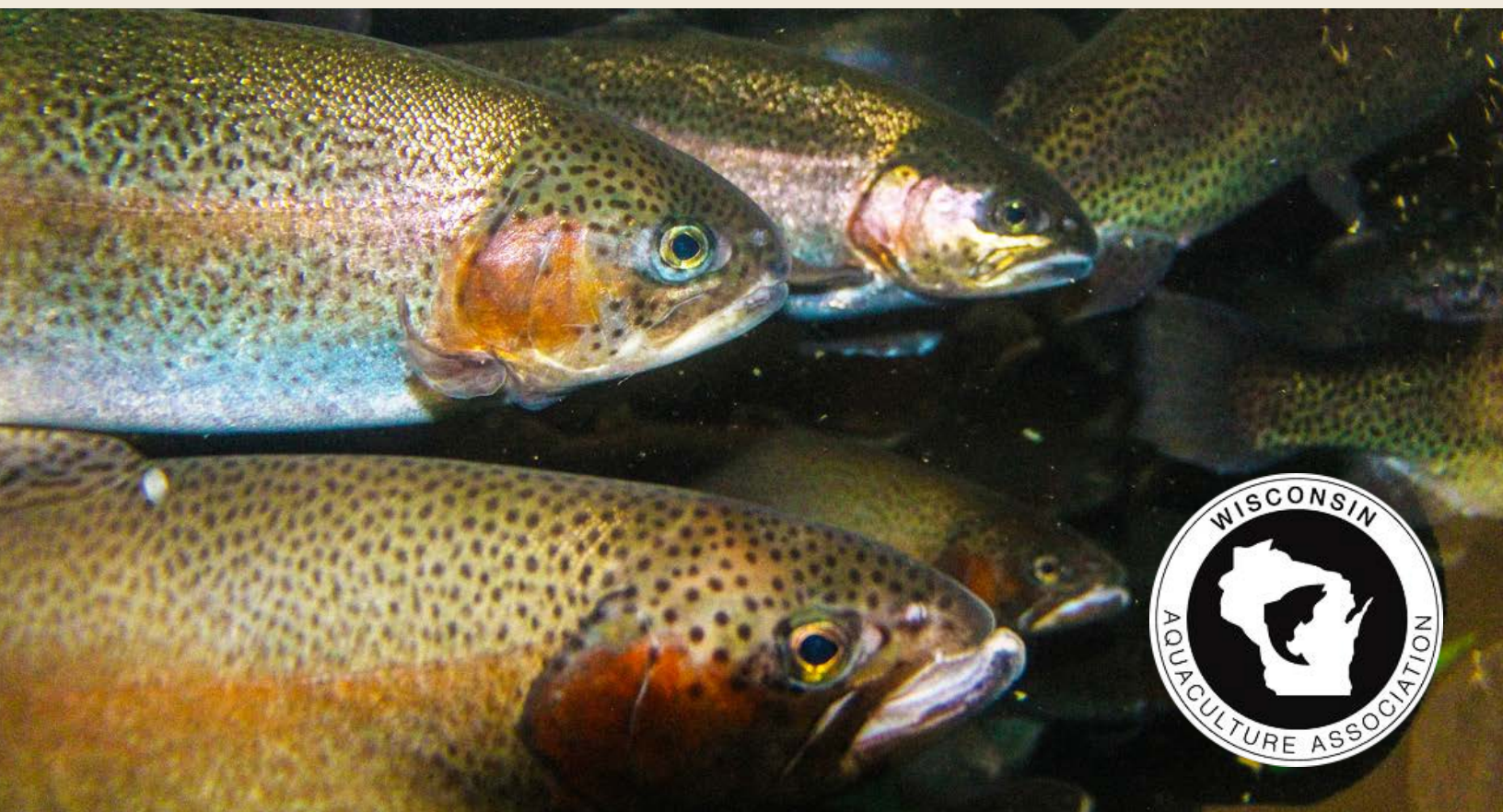


WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE 2025 CONFERENCE



February 21-22, 2025



HOTEL MARSHFIELD

2700 S CENTRAL, MARSHFIELD, WI 54449



Welcome to the 30th annual Wisconsin Aquaculture Conference!

Thank you for your support in attending the annual Wisconsin Aquaculture Conference! This conference continues to be the largest aquaculture conference in the upper Midwest, showcasing industry leaders, research, and extension in our region, presented by 35 experts from our region and beyond. We encourage you to take advantage of this important opportunity to learn and connect with one another.

In addition, we request the following from our audience:

- ✓ **Take time during the breaks to meet with vendors**, their support is critical for this conference to happen. Information on vendors and sponsors is also included in this conference brochure.
- ✓ **Please ask questions** during presentations and panels. You may ask questions directly or anonymously by submitting written questions to the drop box at the front of the room. You may submit questions at any time before the session presented. If we do not get to your question, we will email the answers out after the conference.
- ✓ **Participate in the breakout sessions**. This session concludes our Friday meeting and is new to the conference this year. This provides the opportunity to discuss individual needs and gather resources for your specific system or situation.
- ✓ **Please fill out the evaluation form** before you leave, drop off at the registration table. This form is crucial for us to know how to better your needs for future events.

**WE THANK EVERYONE WHO HAS MADE THIS CONFERENCE A SUCCESS
INCLUDING OUR SPEAKERS, VENDORS, SPONSORS, AND ALL OF YOU!**



**THE 30TH ANNUAL
WISCONSIN AQUACULTURE CONFERENCE
FEBRUARY 21-22ND, 2025
THE MARSHFIELD HOTEL, MARSHFIELD, WISCONSIN**

AGENDA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

6:00 – 7:30 AM: Complimentary Breakfast for Hotel Marshfield Guests

(Non-guests' breakfast voucher is \$7.00)

8:00 – 8:10 AM: Welcome

- *Ben Gollon, Gollon Brothers Bait & The Wisconsin Aquaculture Association*

8:10 – 8:50 AM: Aquaculture in the Midwest. Moderator: Ben Gollon

8:10 – 8:30 AM: The Minnesota Aquaculture Plan

- *Don Schreiner, Minnesota Sea Grant*
- *Ed Aneshansley, EDA-Aquatics*

8:30 – 8:50 AM: Aquaculture Regulation in the Great Lakes

- *Terra Bowling, National Sea Grant Law Center*

8:50 – 9:05 AM: WI DATCP - Supporting Wisconsin Agriculture. Moderator: Ben Gollon

- *Dan Bauer, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection (WI DATCP)*

9:05 – 10:10 AM: Fish Health. Moderator: Peter Fritsch

9:05-9:25 AM: Fish Health Case Study

- *Peter Fritsch, Rushing Waters Fisheries*
- *Myron Kebus, Michigan State University*



9:05 – 10:10 AM: Fish Health. Moderator: Peter Fritsch continued...

9:25-9:40 AM: Common Fish Health Issues in Aquaculture

- Katharine Onofryton, *AquaTactics*

9:40-9:55 AM: WI DATCP Fish Health Updates

- Elisabeth Patton, *WI DATCP*

9:55-10:10 AM: Wisconsin DNR Regulatory Updates and Future Partnership Initiatives

- Todd Kalish, *Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources*

10:10 – 10:30 AM: Break/Vendors - Coffee, Tea & Pastries

10:30 – 11:30 AM: Business Resources & Opportunities. Moderator: Mark Schmitz

10:30-11:00 AM: What the Fish? ~~2023-2024~~ 2025 Farm Bill

- Paul Zajicek, *The National Aquaculture Association*

11:00-11:15 AM: Consumer Preferences on Aquaponics

- Mark Schmitz, *Concordia University Wisconsin*

11:15-11:30 AM: Talking with your Legislators

- Sharon Moen, *Wisconsin Sea Grant*

11:30 AM– 12:00 PM: Vendor Lightning Talks. Moderators: Tyler Firkus & Emma Hauser

Platinum: 5-minute Introduction

- Minnesota Sea Grant & The Great Lakes Aquaculture Collaborative, *Don Schreiner & Julia Grenn*
- Fiberglass Solutions, *Ben Bertram*

Gold: 2-Minute Introduction

- Kasco Marine, *Jason Brazzale*

Silver- 1 Minute Introduction

- Skretting, *Jessica Wong*
- Sydel, *Amber Train*
- University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility, *Jared Neibauer*



Silver- 1 Minute Introduction continued...

- Wisconsin Sea Grant/Eat Wisconsin Fish, *Titus Seilheimer*
- AquaTactics, *Katharine Onofryton*
- Council of Great Lakes Governors, *David Naftzger*
- Bird Commander by Harrietta Hills, *Dan Vogler*
- Zeigler Feed, *Tom Welch*
- Supply One, *Alan May*

Thank you to our Bronze Vendors

- Duluth Nets
- Alum Line

12:00 – 1:10 PM: Lunch with Keynote Speakers. Moderator: Sharon Moen

12:20 PM: Introduction

- *Sharon Moen, Wisconsin Sea Grant and Eat Wisconsin Fish*
- *Dani Klontz, Safeway*

12:30 PM: Oh, the Places You'll Go

- *Mackenzie Klemek, Morgridge Institute*

12:40 PM: Lessons from Yellow Perch

- *Willow Williams, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee*

12:50 PM: The Aquaculture Challenge

- *Rachel Ziegler, Green Bay Area Public School District*

1:00 PM: Q&A

1:10 – 1:30 PM: Break & Vendors



1:30 – 2:40 PM: Aquaculture Feeds. Moderator: Julia Grenn

1:30-2:00 PM: Current Research in Aquaculture Feeds

- *Tyler Firkus, University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility*
- *Dr. Dong Fang-Deng, University of Wisconsin Milwaukee School of Freshwater Sciences*

2:00-2:40 PM: Feed Production Panel

2:00-2:20 PM: Feed Updates

- *Sabine Mader, Skretting*
- *Tom Welch, Zeigler Feed*

2:20-2:40 PM: Panel Discussion

2:40 – 2:45 PM: Introduce Breakout Sessions. Moderator: Ben Gollon

2:45 – 3:00 PM: Break

3:00 – 4:00 PM: Breakout Sessions

- Outdoor Systems (ponds & raceways). *Moderators: Peter Fritsch & Ben Gollon. Grand Ballroom*
- RAS & Aquaponics. *Moderator: Kyle Woolever. Central Ballroom Room 1*
- Educational School Systems. *Moderator: Emma Hauser. Marshfield Room*
- Processing. *Moderators: Bill Bodin & David Naftzger. Central Ballroom Room 3*

4:00 – 4:15 PM: Break/Vendors

4:15 – 5:00 PM: WAA Membership Meeting: Grand Ballroom

5:00 – 6:00 PM: The Taste of Wisconsin Happy Hour & Social with Chef Dani Klontz

- Cooking Demonstration, Appetizers, Cash Bar & Silent Auction

6:00 PM: Announce Silent Auction Winners. Moderator: Peter Fritsch



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND _____

6:00 – 7:30 AM: Complimentary Breakfast for Hotel Marshfield Guests

(Non-guests breakfast voucher is \$7.00).

8:00 – 10:00 AM: The Wisconsin Aquaculture Industry. Moderator: Spence Driver

8:00-9:40 AM: Industry Overviews & Updates (10min/business)

- Valley Springs, *Spence Driver*
- Eat My Fish Bullfrog Farm, *Jeremiah Fredrickson & Dave Sundal*
- Rushing Waters Fisheries, *Peter Fritsch*
- Gollon Brothers Bait, *Ben Gollon*
- Crystal Clear Fish Farm, *Doug Sackett*
- Woods and Waters Fish Farm, *Annie Schmitz*
- Fountain Fresh, *Mike Neukirchen*
- Mulberry Aquaponics, *Peter Shep*
- Aqua Garden, *Colin Bursik*
- Superior Fresh, *Kyle Woolever*

9:40-10:00 AM: Q & A

10:00-10:15 AM: Break

10:15 – 10:45 AM: Processing. Moderator: Kyle Woolever

10:15-10:30 PM: From Small to Commercial Scale Processing

- *Bill Bodin, Bodin Fisheries*

10:30-10:45 PM: 100% Great Lakes Fish Initiative

- *David Naftzger & John Schmidt, The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers*



10:45 – 11:30 AM: Best Management Practices. Moderator: Tyler Firkus

10:45-11:10 AM: Management Practices of a Research and Demonstration Facility

- *Tyler Firkus, Jared Neibauer & Emma Hauser, UWSP Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility*

11:10-11:30 AM: Managing Bird Predation on Fish Farms

- *Dan Vogler, Bird Commander by Harrietta Hills*

11:30 AM: Closing Statements, Optional Tour & Lunch at Gollon Brothers Bait

- *Ben Gollon, Gollon Brothers Bait*

11:35 AM: – 12:15 PM: Travel to Gollon Brothers Farm

- Address: 2450 Torun Rd, Stevens Point, WI 54482

12:30 PM: Tour of Gollon Brothers & Lunch

PRESENTER BIOS 2025

ANESHANSLEY, EDWARD. Ed is a professional engineer and technology innovator in the field of Recirculation Aquaculture System (RAS) and Aquaponics. He has 20+ years of experience in engineering, design, construction methods, site development, civil works, project implementation and commissioning. He is the current founder and president of EDA-Aquatic Design Services, offering RAS technology training and investing in cutting-edge educational and research system design. Ed has an educational background in Natural Resources from the University of Maine, and a Masters in the field of Agricultural and Biological Engineering from Cornell University.

BAUER, DAN. Raised on a dairy farm in central Wisconsin, Dan earned his bachelor's degree in dairy science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He spent nearly 15 years working for several global dairy organizations with responsibilities including strategic planning and project management. Dan now leads DATCP's Farm Center as the program supervisor. He is passionate about fostering a culture of clear communication and efficient planning.

BODIN, BILL. Bill Bodin, the youngest of the 4th generation of the Bodin Fisheries family, has been managing Bodin Fisheries since 2017. Having grown up in the family business in the 70's and 80's, Bill returned in 2016 to take the lead managing role from his brother Jeff after his 42 years of running the Fisheries portion of the family business. Bill is the Secretary of the Lake Superior Commercial Fisheries Advisory Board to the WI Department of Natural Resources, is HACCP Certified by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and is currently Vice President of Bodin's Inc.

BOWLING, TERRA. Terra Bowling is Research Counsel II at the National Sea Grant Law Center, where she is editor of *The SandBar* and the *Ocean and Coastal Case Alert*. She provides legal research and outreach for the wider Sea Grant network on ocean, coastal, and natural resources legal issues. Terra is past co-chair of the ABA SEER Oceans and Coasts Committee and past chair of the Mississippi Bar's SONREEL section. Terra has her J.D. from the University of Mississippi School of Law and is licensed to practice in Mississippi.

BURSIK, COLIN. Colin is the owner of Aqua Garden. Aqua Garden is an aquaponic facility in Rice Lake, WI. Their RAS system raises walleye for food production and captures organic nutrients to help grow fresh herbs and lettuce on aeroponic towers. The team first brought fresh walleye to market in the summer of 2023 and are looking to expand their grow out facilities within the next couple of years.

DONG-FANG, DENG. Dr. Deng is a professor at the School of Freshwater Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, specializing in aquaculture nutrition. She earned her PhD in nutrition from the University of California, Davis. In addition to her academic role, Dr. Deng serves as the Aquaculture Outreach and Extension Specialist for the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant and is a member of the National Animal Nutrition Program's Feed Composition Committee. Her current research focuses on nutrient requirements and optimal feed formulations for yellow perch, walleye, and lake sturgeon, as well as exploring alternative feed ingredients for aquatic feed.

DRIVER, SPENCE. Spence received his bachelor's degree from UW-River Falls and his master's degree in Dairy Nutrition from UW-Madison. Since receiving his education, he has worked in the agricultural field supporting sales and providing technical support for regional feed companies. Spence moved to western Wisconsin in 2013 and continues to work for a regional feed company. Valley Springs Trout Farm was established in 1958, located in an area untouched by glaciers known as the driftless region along the Mississippi river, underground springs provide a continuous water flow and a steady temperature year around for an ideal natural habitat to raise trout. In 2015 the original owner decided to retire from the business putting it up for sale. That gave Spence the opportunity to purchase the business and become more involved in the production side of agriculture. Spence immediately joined the Wisconsin Aquaculture Association to take advantage of the resources to learn about the business and network with other fish farms.

FIRKUS, TYLER. Tyler is the Facility Operations Manager for the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility. Tyler oversees the day-to-day operations, develops the research program, and prepares manuscripts to disseminate research conducted at the facility. Tyler received his PhD at Michigan State University in Fisheries and Wildlife and Environmental Toxicology, his master's degree in Zoology and Physiology at the University of Wyoming, and his bachelor's degree in biology from the University of St. Thomas. His previous research has focused on the effects of a variety of stressors on fish reproductive and growth physiology, including the sub-lethal effects of Sea Lamprey parasitism on two different Lake Trout morphotypes at UWSP NADF from 2016- 2019.

FRITSCH, PETER. Peter Fritsch is President of Rushing Waters Fisheries. He graduated from The University of Wisconsin Steven's Point College of Natural Resources with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and limnology. He started working at Rushing Waters in 1997. When not raising trout, he enjoys bow hunting, fishing, and traveling with his family.

GOLLON, BEN. Ben has been CEO and President of Gollon Brothers Live Bait out of Stevens Point, Wisconsin for 30 years. For over one hundred years and four generations, the Gollon Family has been at the forefront of the North American Live Bait Industry. Their main service is supplying bait shops throughout most of Wisconsin with high-quality live bait. In addition, they also supply regional distributors across the northern United States. Through the business, Ben has extensive experience in farm raising bait fish (aquaculture), importing/exporting, and harvesting wild baitfish.

HAUSER, EMMA. Emma has been the Aquaculture Outreach Specialist for the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility as well as Wisconsin Sea Grant since 2014. She is responsible for showcasing facility research, incorporation of aquaculture into local schools, representing the facility at various public events, organizing and leading tours, managing the facility website and video production. Emma received her Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Ecology Biology from the University of Wisconsin- Eau Claire.

KALISH, TODD. Todd Kalish has been the Fisheries Bureau Deputy Director for the WI Department of Natural Resources since 2015. He is responsible for developing and implementing the statewide Fisheries Management program for the DNR. He also served as a Senior State Program Administrator for the MN Department of Natural Resources in 2015 and served as a Fisheries Biologist, Fisheries Unit Manager, and Fisheries Basin Coordinator for the MI Department of Natural Resources from 2003-2015. He was also a Fisheries Biologist for the US Forestry Service on the Tahoe National Forest from 2001-2003. Todd received a Bachelor of Science degree in Field Biology from UW-Platteville in 1998 and a Master of Science degree in Aquatic Science from UW-La Crosse in 2001. Todd was also an adjunct professor at Northwestern MI College from 2007-2015 teaching Biology and Watershed Science courses.

KEBUS, MYRON. Dr. Myron Kebus is an assistant professor at the College of Veterinary Medicine, Michigan State University and has been working as the north central regional Aquaculture Outreach Veterinarian since 2022. He has provided extensive direct outreach assistance on fish veterinary concerns to fish farmer and veterinary stakeholders. In 1993, after a year of mixed animal veterinary practice, he started the Wisconsin Aquatic Veterinary Service, the first fish-only private veterinary practice in the Midwest, and provided veterinary services to fish farms, public aquariums, pet fish retailers, wholesalers, and hobbyists. From 1999 to 2022 he was Wisconsin's State Fish Health Veterinarian, directing the Fish Health Program for the Division of Animal Health, in the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. He is a founding member and is the past president of the American Association of Fish Veterinarians. He is the past chair and currently serves on the Aquatic Veterinary Medicine Committee of the AVMA, representing Private and Public Food Animal Production.

KLEMEK, MACKENZIE. My journey in aquaculture began back in high school, where I discovered my passion for the field. I volunteered at the Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility (NADF) for two summers, which sparked my interest and gave me hands-on experience. With their support, I pursued a water resources major and an aquaculture minor at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. While still in college, I returned to NADF for two summers as an intern, where I further honed my skills in various aquaculture practices. After college, I moved to Homer, Alaska, where I worked with pink and red salmon and became involved in managing net pens. NADF had prepared me well for these hands-on roles, providing me with extensive training in different aquaculture techniques. My career path then led me to Baltimore, Maryland, where I shifted focus to research and began working with zebrafish, diving into the research side of aquaculture. After six years of research, I've returned to Madison, Wisconsin, where I am continuing to work with zebrafish. This new job will allow me to take both aquaculture and zebrafish research even further. Along the way, I've had the opportunity to attend conferences in Italy, which has been an incredible experience in expanding my global perspective on aquaculture practices.

KLONTZ, DANI. Dani received her bachelor's degree in Aquaculture from the University of Idaho. Following her degree, she travelled to South Africa for 6 years where she managed 4 of the 7 farms and started cooking at the fish shop in Johannesburg. Returning to Idaho, she found a job in retail as a seafood manager and did summer cooking sessions for the store. Dani began working with Safeway 26 years ago as a seafood manager, worked her way up into store management. Finding out that management was not for her, she became personnel coordinator/bookkeeper for Safeway. "I get to hire and train staff and hopefully give some guidance to the young people I hire. I'm the 'mom of the store'." She credits her parents for her journey and success in her career.

MADER, SABINE. Sabine Mader, based in Boone, NC, US, is currently a RAS and CAS Segment Manager at Skretting North America. Sabine Mader brings experience from previous roles at Skretting North America, Marshallberg Farm and others including Humboldt State University where she worked as a Hatchery Manager which included primary on-site responsibility for operation of a recirculating aquaculture facility for the production of steelhead and cutthroat trout. Sabine also worked as a Production Manager for LaPaz Group, LLC. where she was responsible for the operation of a large-scale recirculating aquaculture system for the production of sturgeon meat and caviar.

MOEN, SHARON. Sharon joined Wisconsin Sea Grant during the Covid-19 pandemic and serves as their food-fish outreach coordinator. She works with commercial fishers, fish farmers, fish processors and the public to support the economic, societal and environmental wellbeing of Wisconsin. Sharon's career with Sea Grant spans 25 years and is fueled by degrees from Penn State (BS - Biology) and the University of Minnesota (MS - Ecology, Evolution and Behavior).

NAFTZGER, DAVID. David Naftzger serves as executive director for the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers. He coordinates the efforts of eight U.S. Governors and two Canadian Premiers to grow the region's \$6 trillion economy and protect its world-class environment. David manages an innovative economic portfolio that includes impact investment, maritime transportation, export promotion, 100% fish and tourism marketing. He also spearheads an award-winning environmental program to protect about 20% of the world's surface fresh water. He earned a Master's degree from the London School of Economics; a Bachelor's degree from DePauw University; and, studied at the University of Freiburg, Germany.

NEIBAUER, JARED. Jared received his bachelor's in biology with a minor in Geographic Information Systems at the University of Wisconsin-Superior. Since his hire in 2015, Jared has worked with various cool and cold-water species in various production systems including recirculating aquaculture systems and related technologies, ponds, raceways, and larval systems including bell jar and heath tray incubation systems. He has experience culturing various species including Arctic char, Atlantic salmon, lake trout, rainbow trout, yellow perch, walleye, saugeye, sauger and lake sturgeon. As Advanced Aquaculture Technician, Jared's duties also include alarm and emergency response, training new staff, project development and research assistance.

NEUKIRCHEN, MIKE. Worked in the HVAC industry for over 30 years, former Owner of "Complete Control, Inc." an Energy Management Firm and an Independent Field Office for Siemens Building Technologies. At Complete Control, Inc. I had over 100 employees that included Tradesmen, Technicians, Mechanical Engineers, Electrical Engineers, Application Engineers, Project Managers, and others. My main role was as an Application Engineer, applying program code and controls, bringing life to the designs of Mechanical & Electrical Engineers. Mike is currently retired and having fun in the Aquaculture industry.

ONOFRYTON, KATHARINE. Dr. Katharine Onofryton, known to most as Ono, joined the AquaTactics® Bimeda® Team in the Summer of 2022. She graduated with her Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from Oregon State University in 2020 and her Bachelor's Degree in 2014 from Cornell University. She is originally from Phoenix, Arizona, but spent many of her formative years romping around the Northwoods of Wisconsin. She has been able to gain experience in several aquaculture species, and her pursuits have taken her around the world learning the intricacies of fish culture. Dr. Ono is excited to be part of AquaTactics® Bimeda® and bolster the application of disease prevention technology, such as vaccines, in fish culture. She believes that U.S. Aquaculture has huge potential and hopes to see the US become a leader in finfish aquaculture one day. Dr. Ono loves traveling, skiing (water + snow), SCUBA diving with her fiancé, watching hockey, and making bread.

PATTON, ELISABETH. Dr. Patton serves as the Assistant State Veterinarian at the Division of Animal Health, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. In this position, she oversees the Division of Animal Health's Bureau of Animal Disease Control. The Bureau is responsible for overseeing certification and regulatory programs related to Animal Health for the state. Prior to accepting her current position, she served as a Veterinary Program Manager at the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and worked with cattle health programs.

SACKETT, DOUG. After over 30 years of serving the City of Beaver Dam and the surrounding Townships as a fulltime firefighter/EMT-Intermediate and Fire Inspector, I retired from the fire service in 2015. I wanted to do something in my retirement, so I bought a game farm where we put out pheasants for hunters. We started out small, but the pheasant farm has grown a little bigger than anticipated, turning my part time job into a full-time job. Having some ponds on the property, I was looking for a use for them. We started with one pond and 3,000 perch 10 years ago and have now grown it into 8 ponds with approximately 60,000 perch today. In 2025 we will be experimenting with hatching our own fish as well as utilizing fish from other hatching facilities. My son Eric is a partner on the fish farm and also works for the Water/Wastewater Department in Beaver Dam. I handle most of the day-to-day activities and Eric helps when time permits. My three grandchildren enjoy feeding fish with grandpa and getting some of that very important farm life exposure too. I have to admit, grandpa enjoys it even more!!!!!!

SCHMIDT, JOHN. John serves as Program Manager for the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers. As the coordinator for the Governors' and Premiers' Regional Maritime Initiative, John analyzes and develops maritime transportation policy while implementing programs focused on green shipping, trade development, and autonomous shipping. He also works to generate more value and improve sustainability from our region's fisheries. John holds an MBA from William & Mary, an MPP from the University of Chicago, and a B.A. in Economics from Loyola University Chicago.

SCHMITZ, ANNIE. Annie Schmitz is a Fish Biologist with Woods and Waters Fish Farm. She specializes in larval rearing of percids and has over 5 years of experience in aquaculture raising yellow perch in recirculating aquaculture systems.

MARK, SCHMITZ. Dr. Schmitz's experience in the aquaculture industry dates back to the 1990's and includes a rare combination of experience in both the private sector and academia. Dr. Schmitz completed a Master's Degree at Virginia Tech while conducting research on indoor aquaculture of yellow perch in RAS. Mark then managed a private fish farm, Brookcrest Fisheries, for ~5 years before completing a PhD at UW-Milwaukee while conducting research on a rare, blue colored walleye. Dr. Schmitz's research continued as he became a tenured professor in Biology at the University of Wisconsin – Sheboygan where he established an aquaponics system and promoted undergraduate research. Since July of 2017, Mark has been the Director of the Concordia Center for Environmental Stewardship (CCES) and Professor of Environmental Science. Dr. Schmitz established a state-of-the-art aquaponics system and walleye culture room at the CCES. Dr. Schmitz has completed extensive work on advancements in walleye aquaculture. Dr. Schmitz was invited to and presented at Aquaculture America in San Antonio (2022) and New Orleans (2023). Mark has also presented at state Wisconsin Aquaculture Association and is currently a member of the Wisconsin Aquaculture Industry Advisory Board.

SCHREINER, DON. Don is a fisheries biologist with more than 35 years of experience managing fisheries in Minnesota, and the last 25 years working on Lake Superior and the Great Lakes. He is employed part-time as a fisheries outreach specialist and educator with Minnesota Sea Grant. His work focuses on transferring technical fisheries information to interested public in a concise and easily understood manner. Don addresses specific questions and issues that are associated with the recreational fisheries statewide along with recreational, commercial and charter fisheries on Lake Superior. He is also involved with exploring environmentally sound aquaculture practices in Minnesota.

SHEP, PETER. Peter is co-owner of "Mulberry Aquaponics LLC" with the landowner James Hougan in Stoughton, Wisconsin. Mulberry Aquaponics breeds yellow perch on site, raising fingerlings in a RAS system that was built and insulated in a dairy barn. Outside of the farm, Peter worked with Stoughton High School on their own aquaponics system. Peter has also assisted David Northey of "Northey Farms LLC" in Deerfield, Wisconsin, and is currently retrofitting his tanks into a recirculating system. Peter aided in breeding the fish at Northey's facility using RAS in spring 2023. Peter's advisor was Dr. Dong Fang Deng at the University of Wisconsin School of Freshwater Science, where he learned the basic methods for RAS yellow perch breeding. He has since modified the method to be commercially viable. Peter plans on branching out to walleye breeding by next year 2025. Peter received his B.S. in Marine Biology/Freshwater Ecology from University of Wisconsin Whitewater, his M.Sc. Freshwater Technology (Aquaculture propagation and Nutrition Yellow Perch) at University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee School of Freshwater Science and is a current Ph.D student investigating Aquaculture Yellow Perch Propagation and Nutrition and Implementation into the Industry at the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee School of Freshwater Science.

SUNDAL, DAVE. Sundal, Dave. “Dockside Dave” is the Production/Operations manager at Jeremiah’s Bullfrog Fish Farm - Eat My Fish. He started at the farm in 2000 after a few seasons at a DNR Hatchery. He graduated from University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Water Resources with an emphasis on Fisheries. As well as growing, processing, and marketing fish, he is the farm cook during the summer months of “Hobo Chefin” - “The meal of low expectations and big surprises.”

VOGLER, DAN. A leading figure in Michigan aquaculture, Vogler runs Harrietta Hills Trout Farm alongside his wife Susan and parents Jim and Katherine Vogler. The 122-acre facility located in Harrietta, Michigan produces fresh rainbow trout for retail and restaurant sales, with sidelines in fish farming equipment, pond and water maintenance and nuisance bird deterrence. Recently, Dan Vogler was elected in December 2024 to represent District 9 on the Michigan Farm Bureau Board of Directors. Dan has chaired MFB’s Aquaculture & Fish Commodity Advisory Committee since 2004. The following year he joined the state’s Water Action Team and more recently has served as president of the Wexford County Farm Bureau. Locally he’s also been foundational to Wexford’s Policy Development and Candidate Evaluation programs. Outside Farm Bureau he’s a longtime president of the Michigan Aquaculture Association and has represented the industry on more national-level boards and organizations than he can recall.

WELCH, TOM. Tom is the Global Aquaculture Specialist for Finfish Feeds at Zeigler Feeds. He leads Finfish feed sales and has over 20 years’ experience collaborating with commercial fish farming operations raising trout, bass, tilapia, and a variety of marine species. Tom also works with state and federal hatcheries to support their stock enhancement efforts. Tom earned his B.S. degree from West Virginia University.

WILLIAMS, WILLOW. Willow is an undergraduate student at UW-Milwaukee pursuing her bachelor’s in Biological Sciences with an emphasis on Conservation and Environmental Science. She’s also research technician at the School of Freshwater Sciences Milwaukee, WI, contributing to studies examining the influence of gender on the nutritional requirements and environmental stress resilience of yellow perch under the direction of Dr. Dong-Fang Deng.

WOOLEVER, KYLE. Kyle entered commercial aquaponics at a small-scale farm and eventually began working at Superior Fresh, where he oversaw all fish production. He then transitioned to Director of Operations where he oversees both the Greenhouse and Aquaculture operations. He is married to Brianna, and has two sons, Eli and Cooper, living the good life in a little cabin in the woods.

ZAJICEK, PAUL. Mr. Zajicek manages the administration, programs and strategic plan for the National Aquaculture Association (NAA). The NAA is the only national non-profit trade association that represents and advocates for U.S. aquaculture before Congress and the federal agencies. Paul works for, and reports directly to, the NAA President and a 21-member Board of Directors. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in marine biology and a Master of Science degree in agriculture.

ZIEGLER, RACHEL. Rachel is an agriscience teacher at Green Bay Southwest and East High Schools. She grew up in Green Bay and spent summers at a family farm in Denmark, Wis. Rachel served in the Peace Corps as an Ag Extension Forestry Volunteer in Malawi. She earned degrees from UW-River Falls (BA - Agricultural Education) and UW-Stevens Point (MA - Education). Rachel helped guide a team to an Aquaculture Challenge victory in 2024 .

THANK YOU TO OUR CONFERENCE SPONSORS

PLATINUM VENDORS



The Great Lakes Aquaculture Collaborative
www.greatlakesaquaculture.org

The Great Lakes Aquaculture Collaborative (GLAC) provides aquaculture producers and consumers, educators and teachers, legislators and policymakers, and folks interested in raising, selling, eating, and stocking fish and other aquatic organisms in the Great Lakes region with science-based information, resources, and expertise. GLAC is composed of Sea Grant extension educators, fisheries biologists, aquaculture specialists, economists, and science communicators working together to support an environmentally responsible, science-based, competitive, and sustainable aquaculture industry in the Great Lakes region.



Fiberglass Solutions
www.fiberglasssolutions.us

Fiberglass Solutions serves many different industries such as cheese production, dairy manufacturers, the pulp & paper industry, wastewater treatment facilities, water utilities, chemical companies, plating and coating industries, electrical utilities, vegetable processing, indoor & outdoor water parks, and other custom markets. The opportunities within fiberglass manufacturing are endless and we want to help you with your ideas! Corrosion resistant products such as bait tanks for fish hatcheries, chemical resistant tables, serpentine, holding cells, and tanks remain part of the core products produced at Fiberglass Solutions.

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GOLD VENDORS



Kasco Marine, www.kascomarine.com

Based in Prescott, WI, Kasco Marine a world-leading and family-owned manufacturer of decorative and aerating fountains, surface and diffused aeration systems, municipal products, circulators, de-icers, and beneficial bacteria. All Kasco aquaculture-related products are designed to increase your operation's effectiveness and your bottom line by providing superior performance with low energy costs. Whether you are a production farmer, researcher, or hobbyist, Kasco's aquaculture aeration will ensure that all your fish are the "big fish in a small pond."

SILVER VENDORS



Skretting, www.skretting.com/en-us/

Skretting is a world leader in the manufacture and supply of aquaculture feeds, making us an essential link in the feed-to-food chain. We apply our knowledge of ingredients and the nutritional needs of fish and shrimp to develop innovations that achieve optimum nutritional value, sustainable production and economic performance as we seek to fulfill our company-wide mission of 'Feeding the Future'. Our feed production in 2019 alone produced 21.5 million portions of seafood per day globally.



Syndel, www.syndel.com

Over the years Syndel has evolved into a world-class organization that specializes in high quality aquatic animal health solutions for fish reproduction, disease prevention, disease treatment and biosecurity. The growth in aquaculture for domestic use and international trade has become increasingly regulated, as such it is essential that aquatic animal health products are produced and used in compliance with the rigid regulations.

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SILVER VENDORS



University of Wisconsin
Stevens Point

STEVENS POINT • MARSHFIELD • WAUSAU

University of Wisconsin Stevens Point Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility

www.aquaculture.uwsp.edu

UWSP NADF is a one-of-a-kind facility in the Midwest and joins only a handful in the U.S. that provide applied research, demonstration, education, and workforce development capabilities. The state-of-the-art, dynamic facility, showcases new advances in aquaculture system technology such as sustainable land based recirculating aquaculture, while also providing traditional aquaculture systems such as flow through raceways and outdoor ponds for industry-based research projects. The facility is national leader in aquaculture training and skill development, leading to nearly 100% job placement for aquaculture technicians and interns.



Wisconsin Sea Grant, www.seagrants.wisc.edu

Wisconsin Sea Grant (WISG) is a statewide program of basic and applied research, education, outreach and technology transfer dedicated to the stewardship and sustainable use of the nation's Great Lakes and ocean resources. The main focus areas of WISG include: aquaculture, fish and fisheries, aquatic invasive species, coastal processes and engineering, education, emerging contaminants, mapping and GIS, resilient coastal communities, social science and water quality. Regarding aquaculture, WISG funds research that generates actionable information grounded in solid science—research that fish farmers can use. To name just a few examples, Sea Grant-supported research helps Wisconsin fish farmers learn how to best raise certain species, understand what consumers want to eat, develop effective marketing strategies for their products, stay on top of sustainable, environmentally responsible practices and much more.



Eat Wisconsin Fish, www.eatwisconsinfish.org

Eat Wisconsin Fish (EWF) was established in 2013 by Wisconsin Sea Grant to provide a source for information about food fish that are commercially harvested or farmed in Wisconsin. EWF provides consumers, grocers, chefs and others with fact-based information about Wisconsin fish via a website, social media, events and trainings. The program also looks to foster the livelihoods of Wisconsin's commercial fishers and fish farmers through research, trainings and opportunities to share products with wider audiences as well as supports food security, environmental health and the wellbeing of the people of Wisconsin.

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Minnesota Sea Grant
www.seagran.umn.edu

Minnesota Sea Grant's mission is to inform and facilitate interaction among the public and scientists to enhance the communities, the environment, and the economies along Lake Superior and across Minnesota's inland waters by identifying information needs, supporting scientific research to address those needs, translating the resulting science into actionable information, and communicating those results to the public. Sea Grant is a leader in developing sustainable, environmentally sound, and innovative technologies for all sectors of the seafood industry including fishing, aquaculture, seafood processing and consumer safety. Research and outreach/extension efforts are focused on ensuring a safe and sustainable supply of seafood products for current and future generations.



AquaTactics
www.aquatactics.com

Based in Kirkland, Washington, AquaTactics® Fish Health provides a full range of fish health services including Health Products, Veterinary + Regulatory Consultation, Pathology Services, Fish Health Education + Stockmanship Training, Vaccination Protocol Design. Built with 175 years of experience, the members of the AquaTactics® team are pioneers in fish health, aquaculture business management, and custom fish vaccination development. Our mission is to assist our clients in accessing the people, knowledge, skills and products required to safely and consistently produce wholesome, palatable fish, by the most cost-efficient, humane methods that are available, and in compliance with regulatory agencies.

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SILVER VENDORS

GREAT LAKES
ST. LAWRENCE
GOVERNORS
& PREMIERS



Council of Great Lakes Governors

www.gsgp.org

The Great Lakes St. Lawrence Governors & Premiers, also known as GSGP, unites the chief executives from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Québec, and Wisconsin. The Governors and Premiers work as equal partners to grow the region's nearly \$8 trillion economy and protect the world's largest system of surface fresh water. GSGP is leading various projects including the 100% Great Lakes Fish initiative. This project's goal is to demonstrate how 100% of commercially-caught fish from the Great Lakes can be used for different purposes and beyond just food. The initial focus is on whitefish followed by other Great Lakes fish such as yellow perch, walleye, lake trout and white sucker. A 100% Great Lakes fish strategy holds tremendous promise for the Great Lakes St. Lawrence region to more completely utilize caught fish, drive greater economic returns, create jobs and help develop rural economies.



Harrietta Hills

BIRD COMMANDER

Bird Commander by Harrietta Hills

www.birdcommander.com/aquaculture/

Fish-eating birds, such as Cormorants, Herons, and Egrets, are skilled fish hunters and can cause various issues that impact both the fish and the infrastructure in aquaculture facilities including heavy fish predation and losses, disease transmission and spread, stress in fish populations, damage and crippling of fish. Bird Commander provides various bird repellent solutions using both manual or automatic laser technology. They offer services in: Advising- You tell us your problem and we will help you find a solution. We can provide the necessary information to guide you in selecting the system that best suits your needs, Installation- Our Harrietta Hills Service Team will set-up, install, and program the AVIX Autonomic systems for you, Service- Is there a problem? We will also service the AVIX Autonomic, assuring optimized performance and consistent bird control year after year.

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SILVER VENDORS



nutrition through innovation

Zeigler Feed
www.zeiglerfeed.com

Spanning nine decades and three generations, Zeigler is an industry leader in the development of nutritional products and technologies that support the health and well-being of animals and the environment. With a passion for innovation and collaboration, our success is built upon these core competencies: Manufacturing Expertise – Diverse knowledge and capabilities in the manufacturing of premium feeds for aquaculture, pets and biomedical research. Nutritional Leadership – Industry-leading feed conversions from formulations designed for superior animal performance and reduced environmental impact.

Research & Development – Investment in new products and process technologies backed by research conducted at the Zeigler Aquaculture Research Center (ZARC). Global Reach – Serving over 50 countries with 5 international feed mill partnerships. Personal Touch – Three generations of family ownership and a professional team dedicated to personalized service.



Supply One
www.supplyone.com

At SupplyOne, we provide packaging solutions for North America that improve our customers' total cost of ownership. We're dedicated to being your top choice for customized packaging solutions that save you money—guaranteed. Our mission is to uncover hidden packaging costs, boost efficiency, and enhance cash flow. As both manufacturer and distributor, we offer comprehensive industry expertise. Our Certified Packaging Specialists prioritize responsive service and quality from start to finish. We listen to your needs, applying our experience to design strategies that align with your business. Let's optimize your packaging and drive your profitability together. SupplyOne Wisconsin is located in Jackson, Wisconsin.

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BRONZE VENDORS



Duluth Nets
www.duluthfishnets.com

Duluth Fish Nets strives to have the highest quality workmanship and customer service in the net market today. Duluth Nets, formerly H. Christiansen Company, was originally founded in 1886 to serve the commercial fishing industry. Duluth Nets continues to support the fishing industry with high-quality fishing nets. We make all of our Trap Nets, Fyke Nets, Hoop Nets, Gill Nets, Seines, Block Nets, Net Pens and any other custom nets right here in Duluth, Minnesota USA.



Alum-Line
www.alumline.com

Alum-Line is a manufacturer of custom aluminum trailers, truck bodies, and truck accessories. They offer a wide range of products including animal poppers, contractor bodies, dump trailers, fire and rescue bodies, utility equipment trailers, and more. With a focus on quality and durability, Alum-Line ensures reliable products built to last a lifetime. They provide excellent customer service, prompt responses to inquiries, and a five-year workmanship warranty. Alum-Line has experienced steady growth since its establishment in 1986, expanding nationally with over 200 dealers across the nation.

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