



# Leadership Wisconsin Alumni Newsletter

Once Connected, Always Connected.



WISCONSIN RURAL  
LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

June 2016

Dear Leadership Wisconsin/WRLP Alumnus:

As of June 20<sup>th</sup> summer is official and already in full swing. I hope that you have some exciting adventures planned and that one of those is attending the **July 16 Legacy of Leadership Celebration in Wausau!** We are excited about our keynote speaker Greg Forbes Siegman. He co-authored [The Silhouette Man](#), a book based on his own true story. Group XVI received signed copies of his book and have the opportunity for a private session with Greg prior to the Legacy event. During his address to everyone that evening, Greg will be discussing “The seemingly small, oftentimes overlooked opportunities to serve and lead, and how our efforts in those “little” moments can ripple effect far beyond their starting point”. Learn more about Greg in our recent interview with him at <http://leadershipwisconsin.org/greg-forbes-siegman-featured-keynote-at-2016-legacy-celebration/>.

I want to thank Mark O’Connell and the [Wisconsin Counties Association](#) for sponsoring the Legacy Celebration keynote. I also want to thank John Bonsett-Veal (Group XIV) and [Bonsett-Veal Vision Source](#) for sponsoring our photo booth. Yes, that’s right, we have a photo booth reserved for the Legacy event! It will be a fun opportunity to make memories as you and your groupmates connect throughout the evening. And don’t forget to come prepared to bid on fabulous auction items as we raise money to support Group XVII’s Signature Program Journey.

I hope to see you as we celebrate Group XVI’s graduation and the anniversaries of Group VI and XI! Go [online](#) or call the office at (608) 263-0817 to register today!

Sincerely,  
Sarah Schlosser  
Executive Director, Leadership Wisconsin

## Newsletter Content

[Reminiscing with Group XI](#)

[International Seminar Part II](#)

[Leadership Wisconsin Seeking Proposals for Group XVII](#)

## Alumni News

Congratulations to Michelle Zahn of Group XI! She was elected as a delegate for Bernie Sanders to the National Democratic Convention in Philadelphia. She was one of only two women in her Congressional district chosen!

Group VII has recently been rallying around one of their own. Earlier this month the lifeblood of alumni Robert Nigh and his wife Betty’s Vernon County farm was destroyed by fire. Our sympathies and well wishes to Robert, Betty and their family as they rebuild from this unfortunate event. If you know the Nighs please reach out with your support.

Email your Alumni News to

## Reminiscing with Group XI as they Celebrate 10 Years!



In last month's newsletter we were able to reminisce with Group VI in celebration of their 20-year anniversary. Another group is also celebrating a significant anniversary this year - Group XI is celebrating their 10-year graduation anniversary! We contacted members of Group XI and asked them to share memories and experiences from their two years in the program.

When speaking with alumni of Group XI the fondest memories were those that happened while on the International Seminar. Group XI traveled to Chile and Argentina. During this seminar Marvin Prestrud said that it was interesting to see life from the different perspective of another country. Marv also went on to say that public policy differs depending on where you are in the world, noting that it was interesting to see how it was in Chile and Argentina compared to the United States. [Click here to read the full story online.](#)

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### **International Seminar March 2016: Part II**

In the May newsletter we shared with you journal reflections of Group XVI Fellows Kalpana Rizal and Mario Micheli related to their International Seminar in Kazakhstan. The [article](#) available on our website took you through the first six days of this educational journey. Part II picks up here with reflections from Leadership Wisconsin staff Sarah Schlosser and Kim Clist.

Sarah: On March 21<sup>st</sup> we met at Ertish Hotel in Pavlodar to reflect

LeadershipWisconsin@ced.uwex.edu  
and we will put your news in the next  
Alumni Newsletter!

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### **Calendar**

June 25th - Group XVII Picnic  
Social, Marathon Park Shelter #4  
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
OPEN TO ALUMNI who want to  
meet the new Fellows

June 4th - Office Closed for Holiday

June 16th - Legacy of Leadership  
Celebration & Group XVI  
Graduation, Great Dane, Wausau, WI  
OPEN TO ALL ALUMNI

### **CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!**

July 26th - "From Wisconsin to  
Kazakhstan and Back", Group XVI  
Presentation as part of CESSI  
Summer Lecture Series,  
4:00-5:30 pm, 2016 Ingraham Hall,  
UW-Madison

August 3-5th - Group XVII  
Foundational Leadership Seminar in  
Osseo, WI

September 5th - Office Closed for  
Holiday

September 14-16th - Group XVII  
Education Issues Seminar

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[Leadership Wisconsin - Mission](#)

Developing Leaders to Strengthen  
Communities

[Leadership Wisconsin - Vision](#)

**Strong Communities, Effective  
Leaders in a Changing World**

on our homestay experiences. Many of the travelers had an opportunity on Sunday to join their families as they went to vote in a regional election. For me it was a true neighborhood experience. We walked from the old Russian-style apartment building through dirt-laden common space to the school that my family's daughter attends. Along the way we stopped to talk to neighbors all bundled up against the bitter wind. Upon arriving there were multiple photos taken as three generations of women cast their votes with pride. As we reflected among the group, I learned that some of the host families decided not to vote, expressing to our group members that in their opinion the election was already decided. [Click Here to read more about Sarah and Kim's experience](#)

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### **Leadership Wisconsin Seeing Proposals for Group XVII U.S. & International Seminars**

Leadership Wisconsin is seeking proposals for our Group XVII U.S. and International Seminars. In submitting a proposal you are recommending a destination for each of these educational events and proposing yourself as a Seminar Co-Lead.

- Leadership Wisconsin Group XVII U.S. Seminar – September 10-15, 2017
- Leadership Wisconsin Group XVII International Seminar – 2 weeks in March/April, 2018

Proposals are due by 5:00 p.m. on August 1st. [Click here to learn more.](#)

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In every corner of the state, where organizations and communities are dealing with difficult issues, Leadership Wisconsin alumni can be found among the leaders stepping forward to foster civil dialog, identify inclusive solutions, and create positive change.

[Leadership Wisconsin - Values](#)

#### **Building Community**

Growing diverse networks, collaborations, and connections

#### **Encourage Learning**

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### **Support**

Alumni are our key supporters because you have experienced first-hand the value of the Signature Program. When you donate to Leadership Wisconsin you can choose to have your gift directed towards Supporting the Signature Program, Providing Tuition Support for Fellows, Growing the Endowment Fund, and/or the Area of Greatest Need.

### **Thank you to our May 2016 Donors!**

Linda and Mark Backer  
Ann and Dick Beinborn  
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Leadership Wisconsin  
610 Langdon St., Rm 331  
Madison, WI 53703

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### **Monthly Motivational Quote**

"If opportunity doesn't knock,  
build a door"

-Milton Berle

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### **Leadership Resource of the Month**

Check out this article written  
by the Harvard Business

Review called "The Triplet"

Review called "The Trickle-Down Effect of Good (and Bad) Leadership"

Do you think it's contagious?

<https://hbr.org/2016/01/the-trickle-down-effect-of-good-and-bad-leadership>

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