



“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”  
-Margaret Mead

## 2007-2008 Program Review

**The mission of the Jackson-Monroe-Vernon County Leadership Program is...** to provide an educational forum where individuals can develop leadership skills and deepen their understanding of community issues as a means of creating an ever-growing network of knowledgeable, skilled and passionate leaders for our communities.

**2007-2008 Jackson-Monroe-Vernon County Leadership Program Participants:** Nancy Mellor, Black River Falls; Carol Ostrem, Sparta; Grady Gutknecht, Black River Falls; Shawn Whaley, Tomah; Hope Laufenberg, Alma Center; John Keiser, Sparta; Elizabeth Rezin, Warrens; Barb Hendricks, Tomah; Susan Weber-Johnson, Viroqua

### 2007-2008 Jackson-Monroe-Vernon County Leadership Program Sessions

Date	Topic	Location
September 21-22	Leadership Overview and Team Building	Warrens
October 9	Land Use/Agriculture	La Farge
November 13	Finance/Economy/Real Estate/World Markets	Sparta
December 11	Corrections and Justice	Black River Falls
January 8	Rural Healthcare	Tomah
February 12	Local Government/Citizenship/Philanthropy	Black River Falls
March 11	State Government	Madison
April 8	Economic Development and Entrepreneurship	Tomah/Cashton
May 13	Education	Viroqua

### 2007-2008 Steering Committee Members

Jeff Butteris, Westby; John Dreier, Norwalk; Vonnie Jensen-Lee, New Lisbon; Deb Jones, Black River Falls; Debbie Keesler, Viroqua; Gary Kirking, Sparta; Martha Klatt, Tomah; Tracy Madvig, Black River Falls; Sue Noble, Westby; Laura Pettersen, Sparta; Amy Schanhofer, Sparta; Nodji Van Wyche, Warrens

## Sampling of 2007-2008 Session Agendas

### December Program: Corrections and Justice, Jackson County UW-Extension Office, Black River Falls

#### The Objectives of the seminar are to:

- Gain an understanding of Wisconsin's criminal justice system at a state and local level
- Develop competences in setting a good first impression and thinking on your feet
- Gain experience with online learning systems

#### The seminar's curriculum elements include:

- Development of reflection skills, Understanding of self, Leadership and the public good, Networking skills

#### Tuesday, December 11, 2007 – Seminar Chairs: Deb Jones and Amy Schanhofer

- 8:00 AM Welcome and Preparation for the Day: Jackson County UWEX Office
- 9:00 AM Tour of Jackson County Jail
- 10:00 AM Tour Black River Correctional Center
- 11:30 AM Lunch
- 12:30 PM Tour Jackson Correctional Institution
- 2:15 PM Presentation of and work with Blackboard Online Learning, Western Technical College, BRF
- 2:45 PM Educational Activity: Making a Good First Impression and Thinking on Your Feet
- 3:30 PM Personal Reflection and Seminar Evaluation

### April Program: Economic Development Seminar, Western Technical College-Tomah, travel to Cashton

#### The Objectives of the seminar are to:

- To increase participants knowledge and understanding of different approaches to economic development.
- Increase understanding of different key elements that impact local economic development efforts.
- To gain skills and insight in analyzing group dynamics and cause/effect elements of Economic Development projects.
- To increase personal leadership skill development
- To provide experiential learning opportunities from economic development participants that includes entrepreneurs, local leaders, and business representatives

#### The seminar's curriculum elements include:

- Interviewing skills, Leadership development, Increased perspective on issues, Self directed experiential learning opportunities

#### Tuesday, April 8th, 2008 - Seminar Chairs: Gary Kirking and Amy Schanhofer

- 8:00 AM Meet at the Western Technical College-Tomah Campus (120 E. Milwaukee)
- 8:15 AM Seminar introduction and discussion
  - Review experiential learning format and expectations
  - Monroe County Economic Profile overview
  - Brief discussion on current economic situation
  - Review visit info packets and directions
  - Groups to formulate questions and team approach
- 9:30 AM Leave for group tour of Modern Manufacturing Facility—TORO
- 10:30 AM Depart for Entrepreneur Visits
  - Group A
    - The Funky Monkey (Joey & Mary VandenBoom)
    - Sparta Floral (Paul Solberg)
  - Group B
    - Financial Impact of a small wind turbine (Paul Wolf)
    - FAST Corporation (Jim Shauf)
- 12:30 PM Lunch at Justin Trails Bed & Breakfast
  - Panel on Leadership, Economic Development
- 2:15 PM Cashton - Scenic Bluffs Clinic
  - Economic Impact of Healthcare, Mari Freiberg
- 3:00 PM Kathy Kuderer: Down a County Road
- 3:45 PM Refreshments at the Badger Crossing
  - Scot Wall: the "greening" of Cashton
- 4:15PM Reflections & Seminar Synthesis

## Sampling of 2007-2008 Session Agendas

### October Program: Land Use/Agriculture, Kickapoo Valley Reserve, La Farge, WI

#### The Objectives of the seminar are to:

- Giving a context for current land use pressures.
- Tools for addressing land use conflicts.
- Gain perspective and understanding from other communities' challenges and successes with land use.
- Continue to improve group dynamics.

#### The seminar's curriculum elements include:

Public speaking, Interviewing, Trust building, Leadership skills, Reflection, Communication

#### Tuesday, October 9, 2007 – Seminar Chairs: Laura Pettersen and Amy Schanhofer

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| 8:00 AM    | Arrival & Coffee  |
| 8:15 AM    | Marcy West, Executive Director of the Kickapoo Valley Reserve |
| 8:45 AM    | Land Use Education  |
|            | Presentations on current land use issues                      |
| 10:45 AM   | Break   |
| 11:00 AM   | Outdoor Land Use Activity                                     |
| 12:00 Noon | Lunch   |
| 1:00 PM    | Presentation and tour at Mark Shepherd's Farm, Viola, WI      |
| 2:45 PM    | Outdoor community building games and initiatives              |
| 3:30 PM    | Group Discussion  |
| 4:00 PM    | Reflection, Questions, & Evaluation                           |

### March Program: State Government

**Pick-Up Point: Burnstad's, Highway 16, Tomah for bus trip to Madison**

#### The Objectives of the seminar are to:

- Meet with legislative representatives at the State Capitol
- Interact with the Wisconsin Counties Association to better understand the state and county government relationship
- Increase familiarity with State Government
- Prepare to speak to state legislators

#### The seminar's curriculum elements include:

Speaking to elected officials, Discussing public policy, Development of reflection skills

#### Tuesday, March 11, 2008 - Seminar Chair: Amy Schanhofer

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|------------|--|
| 7:00 AM    | Bus leaves from Burnstad's, Tomah  |
| 8:30 AM    | Arrive Wisconsin State Capitol   |
| 9:00 AM    | Meetings with Senators Kathleen Vinehout (104 South) and Dan Kapanke (3 South)           |
| 9:30 AM    | Regroup/Explore the Capitol  |
| 10:00 AM   | Meetings with Representatives Terry Musser (11 West) and Lee Nerison (310 North)         |
| 10:30 AM   | Regroup  |
| 11:00 AM   | Tour of Capitol  |
| 12:00 Noon | Walk to lunch  |
| 12:30 PM   | Lunch: Brocach's Irish Pub, 7 West Main Street   |
| 1:30 PM    | Walk to Wisconsin Counties Association   |
| 2:00 PM    | Meeting with Wisconsin Counties Association – John Reinemann, 22 East Mifflin, Suite 900 |
| 3:00 PM    | Walk to Overture Center  |
| 3:30 PM    | Tour Overture Center, 201 State Street   |
| 5:00 PM    | Walk to dinner   |
| 5:30 PM    | Dinner: The Casbah Restaurant, 119 East Main Street                                      |
| 7:00 PM    | Board bus for return trip  |
| 8:30 PM    | Return to Tomah  |

# 2007-2008 Jackson-Monroe- Yernon County Leadership Program in Pictures



Getting to know each other with a little role play.



TOURS



Meals Together



More fun games!



Interesting people & places

*Jackson-Monroe-Vernon  
County Leadership Program  
2007-2008 Participants*



Back Row: Nancy Mellor, Carol Ostrem, Grady Gutknecht, Shawn Whaley, Hope Laufenberg. Front Row: John Keiser, Elizabeth Rezin, Barb Hendricks, Susan Weber-Johnson

*Jackson-Monroe-Vernon  
County Leadership Program  
2006-2007 Participants*



Back Row: Diane Gloede, Tracy Madvig, Tara Manske, Paula Knutson, Vonnie Jensen-Lee, Chad Hill Front Row: Debbie Keesler, Angie Scotland, Rita Hutchison, Chris Hardie, George Wilbur, Barb Bendel-Sandvigan