

WISCONSIN SCHOOLS AQUACULTURE POSTER WINNERS PICKED AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Wisconsin Aquaculture Association (WAA) in conjunction with the Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility (NADF) and the University of Wisconsin Extension (UW-EX) sponsored the third annual Aquaculture Poster Contest. The purpose of the poster contest is to promote creative thought regarding the benefits of growing fish in Wisconsin, how aquaculture uses natural resources in an environmentally sound manner, promotes rural communities and produces safe locally grown products. The theme of this year's poster, "We're Fresh and Local", was the same theme for the 2010 Wisconsin Aquaculture Conference. Notices were sent to over 350 aquaculture programs in the state and as a result, there were many submissions. The entries showed great imagination and understanding and the attendees at the annual Wisconsin Aquaculture Conference held in Eau Claire had quite a challenge to pick the poster that they felt best represented this year's theme based on originality, artistic appeal and understanding of Wisconsin Aquaculture. They had evaluated the posters throughout the day on Friday, March 19th and at 5:30 that afternoon Cheryl O'Brien, the 62st Alice in Dairyland, announced the winners

The winners are:

First Place \$100, Milton High School, Second Place \$50, Clintonville High School and Third Place \$25, Durand High School. Since a winner fell in each of the Aquaculture Outreach Specialist's regions, they each visited their respective school.

Milton High School

Nicole Reese teaches 2 veterinarian science classes and they created 15 posters and then voted for the best one Breanna Cutrara and Brooke Countney's poster drew the most votes and was submitted. Jim Held then led the class in fish dissection. They divided into groups of 3 and dissected yellow perch with Jim and Nicole going around to each table and identifying and explaining fish anatomy.



Clintonville High School

Joe Heinbuch teaches the aquaculture class at Clintonville. His students made up 10 posters, they then evaluated them and made 1 poster based on the best elements of the original 10. The

class plans on harvesting their tilapia at the end of the year and to use the money they won to supplement the tilapia so the school can have a lunch. Sarah gave a presentation to the class on trends in aquaculture, she started with world seafood production, pointing out that we import most of our seafood, followed by how much is grown in the US, and finishing with Wisconsin aquaculture and how Wisconsin ranks with other states in aquaculture production.



Durand High School

Tawna Pogreba, a student in Ann Oberding's Independent Art class, designed the poster that was submitted by Durand High School. Ron Johnson met with Mike Retzlaff, who teaches the aquaculture class, and gave a presentation to his students on Wisconsin aquaculture and afterwards was given a tour of their aquaponics setup.



The winning posters will be on display at the Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility during the coming year. More photos are posted on WisconsinAquaculture.com