

**ALP**  
**Success Story**  
**(2003-2009)**

*In 2009, Bill Bomber, Retired Mauston High School Principal and Past President of ALP nominated the Juneau County UW-Extension Team for a Joint Council of Extension Professional (JCEP) Team Award. ALP's early successes are highlighted in that application, which follows:*



**ALP Founding Board of Directors**

Front row: Craig Saxe, April Lackas-Schmid, Sean Kelley, Jim Goldsmith and Kathy Metzenbauer. Back row: Bruce Schroeder, Bill Bomber, Jody Kibler, Sally Kolba, Barb Baker, Margaret McIlnay, Clifford McIlnay. Not pictured: Ed Brown, JoAnne Ehasz , Stacy Havill, Bob Jasinski, John Noga, Chris Pochowski, Peg Saylor, Margie Strouse and Terry Whipple.

## 2009 JCEP Team Award Nomination

### Team Members:

- Jim Goldsmith, Juneau County Community Resource Development Agent, CNRED, WEECDA
- Judy Kennedy, Juneau County 4-H Youth Development Agent, WAE4-HYDP, ESP, Dept. of Youth Development
- April Martell, Juneau County Nutrition Education Program Coordinator, Wisconsin Nutrition Education Program
- Kathy Metzenbauer, Juneau County Family Living Agent, WEAFCFS, Dept. of Family Development
- Craig Saxe, Juneau County Agriculture Agent, ANRE, WACAA

### Educational Program Name:

Juneau County Advanced Leadership Program (ALP)

### Nominator's Name:

Bill Bomber, Retired Mauston High School Principal, Past President of ALP

### Nominator's Phone:

608-847-6411

### Who will accept the award on April 1<sup>st</sup>:

Judy Kennedy, Kathy Metzenbauer, Craig Saxe

### News Release Information:

Juneau County Star-Times, 201 E. State Street, P.O. Box 220, Mauston, WI 53948; [jcst-news@capitalnewspapers.com](mailto:jcst-news@capitalnewspapers.com)

The Messenger of Juneau County, 229 Main St. Elroy, WI 53929; [themessenger@centurytel.net](mailto:themessenger@centurytel.net)  
WRJC Radio, P.O. Box 200, Mauston WI 53948; [info@wrjc.com](mailto:info@wrjc.com)

### Supporting Statement:

On January 9, 2003, Juneau County UW-Extension Agents facilitated a community leadership planning and visioning meeting. Thirty-five participants strongly supported the development of a leadership training program, later entitled the Juneau County Advanced Leadership Program (ALP).

All UW-Extension Agents, with Jim Goldsmith as lead agent, were instrumental in helping the group develop bylaws, articles of incorporation, and 501c3 non-profit status. ALP is governed by a nineteen member board with Extension Agents as non-voting ex-officio members. A majority of ALP's work is executed by six standing committees. ALP's mission is to "facilitate the advanced education and empowerment of emerging leaders for professional, personal and community enrichment. "

The Advanced Leadership Program strives to identify and cultivate existing and emerging community leaders. Participants broaden their knowledge of community, develop networks, and learn skills needed to take on leadership roles in their places of employment and in Juneau County Communities. ALP's leadership development program consists of ten one-day workshops. Each session focuses on a different set of leadership skills, community issues that incorporate classroom, and field experiences to keep learning interesting as well as practical.

Eighty-one Juneau County citizens will have completed this nine-month training program, now in its 6<sup>th</sup> year. In any given year, nine to seventeen businesses have sponsored one or more ALP participants and

fifty-five to seventy speakers have contributed time to share their specific community expertise. Each year local media outlets have contributed a dozen or more media spots to ALP.

As a key component of the ALP training participants develop and implement a community project by working in teams or individually to address a community need. To date, forty-seven community projects have been started by participants. Projects include developing a: Humane Society, Dive Rescue Team, Four Year-Old Kindergarten (Mauston Public Schools), Keeping Hope Alive-Stroke Support Group, Regional Center Municipal Court, Heart of the Farm Women in Agriculture Conference, Sharing Supper Community Meal, Adaptive Aquatics Swimming Project, Junior Achievement, Friends Sheltering Neighbors, Organizing a Young Veterans group and Promoting Native-Ho-Chunk Language revitalization.

When ALP participants are asked how the training has helped them, responses include: *I gained more self confidence and learned a lot about the county and members of the community, It made me more aware of local issues and made me care more about the area, I met some wonderful people and made many friends, ALP has helped me express my opinions and thoughts more freely than I have ever been able to. It has given me a new found courage when it comes to speaking in public, ALP has proven to me that one person can make a difference, I gained knowledge of what services are available to residents of Juneau County, I have gained a better understanding of what qualities make a good leader and more importantly what qualities make a bad leader.*

When employers of past ALP participants are asked to share comments; responses include;

- *I wish to highly recommend the Advanced Leadership Program to any employer in Juneau County. The participants come away with enthusiasm for working hard in their community. They gain confidence in their abilities and they build a network with existing community leaders and teachers. Employers, along with organizations in the community, will benefit from the positive roles the participants will undertake.*
- *Oakdale Electric Cooperative provided the Advanced Leadership Program with start-up money and has and will continue to sponsor a candidate in the future. This is a top notch program providing knowledge of Juneau County. It provides a great networking opportunity for participants. The program enables graduates to have the confidence to pursue leadership roles in the workplace as well as their community. I would highly recommend this program to area employers.*

One intended goal from the very beginning was to empower local citizens to “take the reins” of ALP. That goal has been achieved though Juneau County Extension remains committed and supportive of the ALP program. All Extension staff have and will continue to play a role in the continued success of the ALP program.

Extension Staff contributions include:

Jim Goldsmith:

- Participant: Planning and Visioning Meetings
- Coordinator of sessions and “go-to” person
- Coordinator/Presenter: Personalities, Government, Economic Development and Graduation Days
- Presenter: “Soft Skills” subject at all sessions
- Presenter: County Board on ALP Program
- Public Relations Committee Advisor
- Finance Committee Advisor
- Program Committee Advisor
- Ex-officio board member

Judy Kennedy:

- Presenter: Agriculture Day
- Presenter: Government Day
- Ex-officio board member

April Martell:

- Participant: Planning and Visioning Meetings
- Co-Coordinator: Family Issues Day
- Presenter: Family Issues Day
- Alumni Committee Advisor
- Ex-officio board member

Kathy Metzenbauer:

- Participant: Planning and Visioning Meetings
- Co-Coordinator: Family Issues Day
- Presenter: Family Issues Day
- Program Committee Advisor
- Finance Committee Advisor
- Ex-officio board member

Craig Saxe:

- Participant: Planning and Visioning Meetings
- Coordinator: Agriculture Day
- Presenter: Agriculture Day
- Presenter: Ethics Day
- Graduation Day photographer and AV person
- Webmaster: ALP Website
- Maintained, Facilitated Desire2Learn site (2 years)
- Program Committee Advisor
- Ex-officio board member

Results have been shared with other colleagues and leadership groups. Jim Goldsmith has been the primary lead on this with help from Judy Kennedy. The out-of-county impact of this effort has been exceptional.

Examples of results shared include;

- Presentation at National Leadership Conference for the Association of Leadership Educators
- Presentation at three statewide leadership conferences
- Mentoring assistance to two multi-county start-up leadership programs
- Presentations at the Rural Wisconsin Economic Development group from Jackson County
- Video clips as a part of Central District WACEC District 3 “Partners in Planning” DVD
- Video clips pending on “Recruitment and Retention” and “Report to Stakeholders” DVDs produced by Extension Central District agents for statewide distribution.

**Supplementary Material Attached:**

- Juneau County Advanced Leadership Program 2007-2008 Annual Report
- Juneau County Advanced Leadership Program Website
  - Also can be viewed at: <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/alpjuneaucounty/index.html>
- May 25, 2006 newspaper article in The Messenger of Juneau County