



# BABCOCK HOUSE

Alumni Newsletter | March 2022

## From the alumni president: Celebrate with us April 23!

Bailey Quam Schultz, Babcock House alumni president, class of '12



How fitting is it that we seem to be coming out of the COVID-19 tunnel in time for the 90th anniversary of our beloved Babcock House. For 90 years, Babcock House has brought together UW students from different backgrounds and interests for the common goal of providing students with affordable housing while receiving a world-class education. No matter your era in the House, this deserves celebrating.

On behalf of the board of directors, we invite you all to attend the 90th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, April 23, at my family's Angus farm outside of Lodi, Wisconsin (N706 State Road 113, Lodi, WI 53555). With two Babcockers in the family (my father, Terry Quam ('78), and myself), we are honored to host you all for a day of celebration and camaraderie.

The schedule of events will be as follows:

- 3 p.m. Sheepshead Tournament
- 5 p.m. Social Hour
- 6 p.m. Dinner
- 7:30 p.m. Live Band

An auction will be held during the band's intermission to raise funds for future House improvements. A number of alumni have donated items to help benefit the House. If you would like to donate an item, please let me know via email at [bailey.quam@gmail.com](mailto:bailey.quam@gmail.com).

The cost for attending is \$35 per person or \$60 per couple with the opportunity to also sponsor a student's meal for \$35. Payment will be collected at the celebration. RSVP online (<https://www.babcockhouse.org/90th>) or complete the form on the back of this newsletter by April 9. If you have any questions, please contact Terry Quam (608.575.9261 or [mardafarms@gmail.com](mailto:mardafarms@gmail.com)) or myself (608.575.3466 or [bailey.quam@gmail.com](mailto:bailey.quam@gmail.com)).

I hope you will all be able to join us on April 23 to celebrate the House that has served generations of Badgers. On, Wisconsin!

## From the House president

Joe Nicholson, Babcock House president

For those who haven't met me, I'm Joe Nicholson, the current Babcock House president. This year has been going well for the House with frequent social involvement from House members. Our new cook has been phenomenal with meals frequently attended by all House members. Early this semester, we've continued our connection with other agriculture organizations on campus; we have had a group dinner and volunteered for Rally to Fight Hunger with AWA. House members are currently looking forward to the Green Tie Event, Spring Formal and the 90th Anniversary Celebration! Thank you for your continued support of Babcock House, and I can't wait to meet you at the 90th!

## From the House steward

Blake Johnson, Babcock House steward

Hello, Babcockers! As spring rolls around, it pleases me to provide you with my final steward's update and introduce Stephen Zheng as the successor for the steward position. Much of the coming time will be dedicated to preparation for the upcoming 90th anniversary as well as ensuring that the transition for Stephen to his role as steward is as smooth as possible. With that in mind, there has still been some attention paid to making sure that the House keeps updating with the times. Some of the most recent house updates include the hiring of a new House cook, Carrie Mess. Carrie has been the cook since the beginning of the semester and the approval of the students has been resounding. However, I would be remiss not to name current House members Ana McCourt and Mara Quarne and thank them for their services in filling in as House cooks during the fall semester. To this date, there have been very few notable House improvements since the fall semester, but I look forward to the possibilities that exist for large-scale summer projects. With that said, I would last like to recognize the current House seniors and acknowledge the impact that they have on all aspects of Babcock House.

## Thank you

to everyone who supported Babcock House in 2021 and contributed to House improvements and scholarships.

You are the ones who ensure Babcock will be a House, a Home and a Tradition for many future Badgers!

Find the full list of supporters on page 2 of this newsletter.

Thank you!



# BABCOCK HOUSE ALUMNI

## Thank you for supporting our students!

Bryan Rowntree, Babcock House alumni treasurer, class of '13

A special thank you to all of the individuals listed below for donating to Babcock House in 2021, either directly to the House for improvements or to the student scholarship fund at the UW Foundation. Your gifts last year helped to make Babcock House a home for the student residents and supported them financially on their academic journeys. We would also like to thank those who supported Babcock House with cash donations and services in 2021. On, Wisconsin!

Please note that the UW Foundation scholarship fund qualifies as a charitable gift fulfilling Annual Minimum Distribution (AMD) requirements for retirement accounts.

We are currently exploring ways to for the board to establish a long-term investment fund for general House improvement donations. Our goals are to invest the contributions in order to see a higher return over time that our savings account can provide and to provide for long-term House needs. If you have any comments or questions, please contact me at [browntree66@gmail.com](mailto:browntree66@gmail.com) and stay tuned for future news!

- |                            |                             |                                |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Brian Bradley              | The Knigges                 | Dave Schultz                   |
| Kody & Theresa Habeck      | David and Rebecca Marburger | Andrea and Craig Slattery      |
| Glenn Helgeland            | Gary Miller                 | Laura Sommers                  |
| Arthur Hilker              | Maureen and Bob Norton      | Lee Swan                       |
| Greg Huber                 | Philip O'Leary              | Douglas Traastad               |
| Brian Huenink              | Angela and William Radtke   | Aaron and Camila Wepner        |
| The John Deere Foundation  | John and Helen Rossmiller   | Christina and Terry Wiedenhoft |
| Coleen and Michael Kennedy | Daniel and Gail Schaefer    |                                |



We sincerely apologize if we have unintentionally missed any 2021 donors in this list. If your name is not listed and should be, please let us know by emailing [babcockhousealumni@gmail.com](mailto:babcockhousealumni@gmail.com) so we can include your name in the next newsletter. Thank you for your contributions!

## Introducing our 2021 Babcock House scholarship recipients

**Ian Rocha** received the **Bob Van Liere Memorial Scholarship**. Ian is a sophomore and has lived in the House for two years. He is majoring in nursing and currently serves as a House social co-chair.

**Stephen Zheng** received the **Mark Sherry Memorial Scholarship**. Stephen is a first-year House resident majoring in food science. He is incredibly grateful for being chosen for the Mark Sherry Memorial Scholarship. He plans to work in the agricultural food industry after college and currently works in the Meat Science Lab in MSABD.

**Paul Connolly** received the **Dan Nusbaum Memorial Scholarship**. Originally from Montfort, Wisconsin, Paul is a senior in the genetics & genomics program. He has spent all four years of his college education at Babcock House and has a great appreciation for all it has done. After college, Paul plans to begin a career in lab work.

**Josh Gerbitz** received the **Les and Ellen Huber Memorial Scholarship**. Josh Gerbitz is a senior dairy science major from Milton, Wisconsin. He did not grow up on a farm, but found numerous other ways to stay active in the dairy industry, which all led him to UW-Madison and Babcock House. His college experiences have been invaluable, leading him to make lifelong friends and learn by doing. After graduation, he will work for Alta Genetics in eastern Wisconsin doing sales and consulting.

**Mara Quarne** received the **John and Helen Rossmiller Scholarship**. Mara is a sophomore in animal science and a second-year House resident from Blair, Wisconsin. She would like to thank those who have made the Babcock House and these scholarships available! She grew up on a small dairy farm that now feeds out beef/dairy-cross heifers and has a personal sheep flock that she hopes to keep improving in the next years. This scholarship allows her to further her education here at UW-Madison and work toward the goal of working in the agriculture industry after graduation.

**Kirstin Novak** co-received the **Katie Kennedy Memorial Scholarship**. Kirstin is a three-year House resident and a junior agricultural business management major. Upon graduation, she plans to return to her family's grain farm to expand its operations. Kirstin would like to say thank you so much for providing the opportunity to continuing education through scholarships!

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## Introducing our 2021 Babcock House scholarship recipients *continued from page 2*

**Blake Johnson** co-received the **Katie Kennedy Memorial Scholarship**. Blake is a junior in life sciences communications and a three-year House resident, fulfilling the role of House steward. He would like to say thank you to those who have made this scholarship available so as to assist House members such as himself. The effect this scholarship has makes it possible for him to continue his education and to pursue his goal of returning to the agricultural industry after graduation.

**William Ziemet** received the **Babcock House Alumni and Friends Scholarship**. William is from a dairy farm east of Madison and, after graduation this spring, he plans on returning home to the farm. He started in the Farm and Industry Short Course program and is so thankful for all the friends he has made at Babcock and at UW-Madison. William states these have been the best years of his life and he hopes to be able to give back in the years to come. "Thank you, UW!"

**Daniel Neerdaels** received the **Babcock House Alumni and Friends Scholarship**. Daniel is a junior in mechanical engineering and three-year House resident. He feels very fortunate to receive this award and says thank you for the Babcock House Alumni and Friends scholarship.

**Seth Rocha** received the **Babcock House Alumni and Friends Scholarship**. Seth Rocha is currently a senior in the House and a nursing major at UW-Madison. He is also an active member in the Division of Diversity, Equity, and Educational Achievement. Throughout the semester, he has been working on an oncology, hematology, stem cell transplant and palliative care unit.

## Meet our new board member

*Max Shenkenberg, class of '17*

Hello everyone, my name is Max Shenkenberg and I am the newest (and youngest) member of the Babcock board of directors. I assumed the role of secretary this past fall, and am very excited to serve on the board for this upcoming term. I am originally from Burlington, Wisconsin, and attended UW-Madison from 2013 to 2017, obtaining a degree in dairy science. I lived in Babcock House all four years of my college career, serving as House chaplain, public relations director, and House president for two terms. After graduation, I worked as an AI technician for East Central Select Sires (now known as Centralstar Cooperative) for four years. Most recently, I have been working as the herdsman for Maier Farms LLC in Waunakee, Wisconsin, since early 2021.



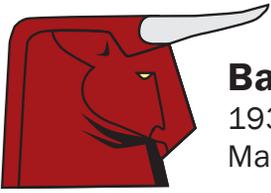
In my spare time, I enjoy playing golf and softball, kayaking, and attending UW sports events, especially Badger wrestling meets!

My time in Babcock House was deeply pivotal in my development as a young adult. I made a wealth of lifelong friends and it ultimately shaped my career path, converting me from a city kid into a wannabe farm boy. I feel that I owe a lot to this organization, and that it is only right that I now give back to further provide the same great opportunities for future Babcockers. On, Wisconsin!

## Order your Babcock House apparel by March 28!

Students are ordering new Babcock House apparel and invite alumni to join in purchasing as well - just in time for the 90th Anniversary Celebration. A wide selection of items for men and women is available. Visit <https://babcockhouse22.itemorder.com/shop/sale/> to browse the items and place your order by March 28.





**Babcock House**  
 1936 University Ave.  
 Madison, WI 53726



# BABCOCK HOUSE

## Email us

Need to get in touch with your Babcock alumni friends?

Our email address is [babcockhousealumni@gmail.com](mailto:babcockhousealumni@gmail.com).

Please email us to receive your Babcock House newsletter electronically. You can save us a few bucks if you do!

## Babcock House 90th Anniversary Celebration on April 23

Join your fellow Babcockers April 23 for the Babcock House 90th Anniversary Celebration at Marda Angus Farms (N706 State Road 113, Lodi, WI 53555). Complete event details are included in the alumni president's message on page 1. *Payment will be collected at the event.*

Please RSVP by April 9 online at <https://www.babcockhouse.org/90th> or complete the form below and mail it to: Bailey Quam Schultz, N2197 Mielke Rd. Poynette, WI 53955.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

- Yes, I'll be there (\$35)       Yes, my partner/spouse and I will be there (\$60)

Guest's name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to sponsor a student's meal (\$35)?       Yes       No

Would you like to participate in the sheepshead tournament?       Yes       No

Would you like to donate an item for the auction?       Yes       No

If yes, what will you be donating? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_