



# Wisconsin Towns Association Convention

October 22 - 24, 2023

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## *From The President*

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**W**elcome fellow Town Officials to the 2023 Wisconsin Towns Association Convention!

I am excited that you have taken the time to be with us for this conference. I hope that you find the conference to be educational and beneficial to you and your town. Our staff has put together an excellent line up of speakers and topics to help you fulfill your duties as an elected or appointed official. During the general assembly session they have also lined up some informative and entertaining speakers. I encourage you to visit with the many vendors showcasing the quality services they provide for the citizens of your town.

On Sunday afternoon, we will be having a Packer Party in the Exhibitor Area on the big screen. There will be complimentary beer, soda and snacks during the game. If you are lucky, you might even win a prize at half-time!

On Monday evening, all registered convention attendees are invited to join us for the Felix and Fingers Dueling Piano Show that will take place following the banquet. Be sure to visit the exhibitors on Sunday and Monday to collect the stamps that you will need to enter the prize drawing. We'll announce the winners on Monday night. Good Luck!!!

On Monday and Tuesday morning, we have included an optional breakfast for those pre-registered on their convention registration form before the workshops start.

I hope that you take the opportunity to meet with old and new acquaintances and have discussions about ideas you have to empower town government to thrive in the future.

Have an enjoyable, learning filled convention!



Jerry Derr, President

Wisconsin Towns Association





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# 2023 Wisconsin Towns Association Convention Highlights

## Name Tags

Whether you are a registered town officer, spouse, or guest, your name tag is a very important item for your participation in the 2023 Wisconsin Towns Association Convention. It is your admission to convention functions. Please wear your name tag, as it identifies you as a registered attendee at the convention.

## Phone Courtesy

We are all very busy and must occasionally take a phone call. Out of courtesy for other attendees, please put your cell phone on vibrate or silent during any program you attend. And, if you must take a call, please politely exit the room and have the conversation in the hallway.

## Workshops & General Assembly

A map of the Convention Center is included in this material. General Assembly will be held on Monday morning at 8:30 am in the **Africa West Ballroom**. Workshops will be held in the breakout rooms in the adjacent corridors as listed in the following schedule. Most workshops are repeated except as identified in the schedule. Please take some time to acquaint yourself with the floor plan. Signs identifying the workshop name and room will be posted outside each room.

## Exhibitor Area

The Exhibitors will have displays in the **Africa East Ballroom**. The displays will be open on Sunday afternoon from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm and Monday from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm. We encourage all attendees to stop by the many commercial vendors and state government tables for information. On Sunday and Monday afternoon **Exhibitor Receptions** will be held in the Exhibitor Area. Coffee will be available from 8:00 am until 9:30 am on Monday morning in the Exhibitor Area and on Tuesday morning in the workshop area, sponsored by **Scott Construction**.

## Sunday Afternoon and Evening

Convention attendees will have the opportunity to enjoy complimentary beer, soda, and snacks sponsored by **Rural Mutual Insurance** beginning at 3:30 pm while they visit with the exhibitors and watch the **Packer Game** on the big screen. Be sure to fill out the ticket in your registration envelope and deposit it in the box in the Exhibitor area before halftime! We'll be drawing winners for fun prizes during halftime! You must be present to win! Enjoy dinner on your own Sunday evening.

## **Monday and Tuesday Breakfasts**

On Monday, breakfast will be served in the General Assembly Area from 6:45 am to 7:45 am for those attendees who pre-registered for the buffet on their convention registration form. **The cost for breakfast is \$28.00 per person and is not included in the general convention registration fee.** Breakfast will include fresh cut fruit, muffins, breakfast breads, fruit-filled Danish, scrambled eggs, smoked bacon, turkey sausage links, breakfast potatoes, orange juice, apple juice, coffee, and tea.

On Tuesday morning, breakfast will be served from 7:00 am 8:00 am as an optional event for **\$28.00 per person** for those attendees who pre-registered on their convention registration form. The breakfast will consist of fresh-cut fruit, muffins, breakfast breads, fruit-filled Danish, orange juice, apple juice, coffee, tea, scrambled eggs, smoked bacon, turkey sausage links, and roasted red bliss potatoes.

## **Monday and Tuesday Lunches**

Lunch is provided on Monday and Tuesday to registered officers as part of their registration. Lunch is not included in the spouse or guest registration. **Spouses and guests may purchase lunch tickets at a cost of \$20 per day at the registration desk.** Lunch tickets for officers and spouses/guests who purchased tickets in advance will be found in the envelope you received at the time of registration at the convention. **Tickets will be collected each day.** Lunch will be served in the **general assembly area**. Monday's lunch menu will feature a deli sandwich buffet. Tuesday's buffet lunch menu will feature brats and hamburgers.

## **Monday Evening Banquet & Awards Program (Optional Event)**

The Monday evening Banquet and Awards Program will include recognition of town and village officers who have served 30 years or more and have achieved a 5-year increment as was indicated on their convention registration. **This is an optional banquet at a cost of \$35 per ticket and is not included in the registration fees for officers or spouses/guests.** The dinner buffet will feature a full salad bar, prosciutto and fontina chicken, pit ham with honey glaze, mashed potatoes, chef's vegetable, and mini dessert buffet.

For those attendees who did not register for the banquet in advance, a limited number of tickets are available until Monday at 1:00 pm at the WTA Convention Registration area.

## **Monday Evening Entertainment**

Monday evening following the awards program, we will be drawing winners for the Exhibitor BINGO game. Be sure to visit the exhibitors **before 5:00 pm on Monday** and collect the stamps that you'll need to complete your card and enter the drawing. You **must** be present during the drawings to win! Following the prize drawings, join us for the **Felix and Fingers Dueling Piano Show**. This will be a great time to mix and mingle with fellow attendees. Grab a table. Share some laughs. Enjoy the music. Complimentary snacks and beverages will be provided.

## **Scholarship Donation**

**Scott Construction, Inc.** has donated a television and grill for door prizes in honor of the **Rural Mutual Insurance/Scott Construction/WTA Scholarship Fund**. We invite all registered officers, spouses, and guests to sign up for the drawing at the **Scott Construction** booth in the **Exhibitor Area** and contribute to the **Rural Insurance Mutual/Scott Construction/WTA Scholarship Fund**. Drawings for these door prizes will be conducted at the Monday evening banquet. (You need not be present at the banquet to win either of these two special door prizes.) **Thank you to Scott Construction and Rural Mutual Insurance for their continued support of the WTA Scholarship Fund.**

## **Monday Spouse/Guest Activity**

Monday afternoon, registered spouses and guests will have the opportunity to play BINGO for cash prizes from 1:15 pm - 3:15 pm in the **Africa 80** room. Be sure to bring your convention **nametag** to participate in this event.

## **2024 WTA Convention**

The site of the 2024 WTA Convention will be the **Stevens Point Holiday Inn and Convention Center**. The dates are **October 6-8, 2024**. **The Holiday Inn will not be accepting reservations until January 15, 2024.**



2023 Wisconsin Towns  
Association Convention

# SPONSORS

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**Carol Nawrocki**  
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**Lara Carlson**  
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**Jake Langenhahn**  
**Outreach Specialist**



**Karisa Schulze**  
**Support Staff**



**Casey Gast**  
**Support Staff**



**Sandy Wanta**  
**Support Staff**

# District 1 Directors



**Betty Manson, Secretary**  
**Plymouth, Juneau Co.**  
**608-547-5283**

Crawford 100% Paid  
Dane 100% Paid  
Grant \*Muscodas  
Green 100% Paid  
Iowa 100% Paid  
Juneau 100% Paid  
Lafayette 100% Paid  
Richland 100% Paid  
Sauk 100% Paid  
Vernon 100% Paid  
*\*1 Non-Member*



**Gerald Derr, President**  
**Bristol, Dane Co.**  
**608-575-3407**

# District 2 Directors



**Jack Herricks**  
**Jefferson, Monroe Co.**  
**608-487-3094**

Buffalo 100% Paid  
Clark 100% Paid  
Dunn 100% Paid  
Eau Claire 100% Paid  
Jackson 100% Paid  
La Crosse 100% Paid  
Monroe 100% Paid  
Pepin 100% Paid  
Pierce 100% Paid  
St. Croix 100% Paid  
Trempealeau 100% Paid  
Wood 100% Paid



**Steve Dickinsen**  
**Garfield, Jackson Co.**  
**715-533-3360**

# District 3 Directors

**Photo  
Coming  
Soon!**

**Jeneene Rydberg  
Lakeland, Barron Co.  
651-428-6935**

Ashland	100% Paid
Barron	100% Paid
Bayfield	100% Paid
Burnett	100% Paid
Chippewa	100% Paid
Douglas	100% Paid
Iron	100% Paid
Polk	100% Paid
Price	100% Paid
Rusk	*Grow
Sawyer	100% Paid
Taylor	100% Paid
Washburn	100% Paid



**Dale Houdek  
Emery, Price Co.  
715-339-3307**

*\*1 Non-Member*

# District 4 Directors

**Photo  
Coming  
Soon!**

**Brad Wyss  
Grover, Marinette  
715-701-1833**

Florence	100% Paid
Forest	100% Paid
Langlade	100% Paid
Lincoln	100% Paid
Marathon	100% Paid
Marinette	100% Paid
Menominee	100% Paid
Oconto	100% Paid
Oneida	100% Paid
Portage	100% Paid
Shawano	100% Paid
Vilas	100% Paid
Waupaca	100% Paid



**Kevin Koth  
Bradley, Lincoln Co.  
715-612-8124**

# District 5 Directors



**Lee Engelbrecht**  
**Two Creeks, Manitowoc Co.**  
**920-755-4042**

- Adams 100% Paid
- Brown 100% Paid
- Calumet 100% Paid
- Door 100% Paid
- Fond du Lac 100% Paid
- Green Lake 100% Paid
- Kewaunee 100% Paid
- Manitowoc 100% Paid
- Marquette 100% Paid
- Outagamie 100% Paid
- Waushara 100% Paid
- Winnebago 100% Paid



**John Piechowski**  
**Warren, Waushara Co.**  
**920-566-2855**

# District 6 Directors



**Sharon Leair**  
**Genesee, Waukesha Co.**  
**262-968-3166**

- Columbia 100% Paid
- Dodge 100% Paid
- Jefferson 100% Paid
- Kenosha \*Somers
- Ozaukee 100% Paid
- Racine 100% Paid
- Rock 100% Paid
- Sheboygan 100% Paid
- Walworth 100% Paid
- Washington 100% Paid
- Waukesha 100% Paid
- \*1 Non-Member



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# COUNTY UNIT CHAIRS

## District #1

Crawford	Wayne Jerrett Jr	608-872-2129	waynedjerrett@gmail.com
<b>Dane</b>	<b>Jerry Derr*</b>	<b>608-575-3407</b>	<b>chair@tn.bristol.wi.gov</b>
Grant	Michelle Olson	608-206-9295	michelleolson@alliantenergy.com
Green	Chris Narveson	608-558-2900	cnarveson@townofnewglarus.com
Iowa	Vacant		
<b>Juneau</b>	<b>Betty Manson*</b>	<b>608-547-5283</b>	<b>toply@centurytel.net</b>
Lafayette	Timothy Mc Comish	608-553-2048	mccomishk@yahoo.com
Richland	Jean Nicks	608-479-0616	jad@mwt.net
Sauk	James Huebsch	608-986-2875	jhuebsch@wicw.net
Vernon	Ole Yttri	608-606-0129	soyttri@mwt.net

## District #2

Buffalo	Claire Waters	608-687-8419	cwaterstob@gmail.com
Clark	Larry Oehmichen	715-223-4916	larry.shortlane@gmail.com
Dunn	Bob Cook	715-505-5263	chair.townofredcedar@gmail.com
Eau Claire	Dan Hanson	715-577-7362	gdhanson@charter.net
<b>Jackson</b>	<b>Steve Dickinsen*</b>	<b>715-533-3360</b>	<b>srcasfarm@gmail.com</b>
La Crosse	Mike Hesse	608-780-3391	hessem@centurytel.net
<b>Monroe</b>	<b>Jack Herricks*</b>	<b>608-487-3094</b>	<b>hdfinc@centurytel.net</b>
Pepin	Brad Anderson	715-285-5455	bpadre13@gmail.com
Pierce	Diana Smith	715-425-5478	printart@comcast.net
Saint Croix	Paul Hueg	715-977-1378	pahueg@hotmail.com
Trempealeau	Daniel Lilla	608-539-3923	lillaroad@aol.com
Wood	Randy Nieman	715-213-4841	gmhill@tznet.com

## District #3

Ashland	Jamie Weaver	715-292-3581	jediweave@hotmail.com
<b>Barron</b>	<b>Jeneene Rydberg*</b>	<b>651-428-6935</b>	<b>jeneenerydberg@gmail.com</b>
Bayfield	Sandra Raspotnik	715-373-2709	chair@townofwashburn.wi.gov
Burnett	Darwyn Brown	715-566-2343	browndarwyn@gmail.com
Chippewa	Ronnie Arts	715-595-4882	ron.arts.birchcreek@gmail.com
Douglas	Sam Jones	218-341-8229	sbjones@townofhighland.net
Iron	Steven Finco	715-208-0312	chairman@town.oma.wi.gov
Polk	Brad Olson	715-327-4614	brad_vickyolson@yahoo.com
Price	Darrel Lind	715-564-3340	farminginspirit@gmail.com
Rusk	Joe Lorence	715-415-6562	joelorence@centurytel.net
Sawyer	Mark Bartlett	715-415-3724	mmb@bevcomm.net
Taylor	Jim Livingston	715-965-3423	jllham@tds.net
Washburn	Tim Kessler	715-635-6834	tjfarmask@gmail.com

**\*DIRECTOR**

# COUNTY UNIT CHAIRS

## District #4

Florence	Fred Erwin	715-528-4338	townoffernwi@gmail.com
Forest	Lynne Black	715-478-3103	black.lynne317@yahoo.com
Langlade	Leah Antoniewicz	715-216-1263	townofupham@gmail.com
<b>Lincoln</b>	<b>Kevin Koth*</b>	<b>715-612-8124</b>	<b>kothkkjjj@gmail.com</b>
Marathon West	Keith Langenhahn	715-218-1929	langenhahn@wicounties.org
Marathon East	Al Christensen	715-573-6956	aldianechr@gmail.com
<b>Marinette</b>	<b>Brad Wyss*</b>	<b>715-701-1833</b>	<b>chair@tn.grover.wi.gov</b>
Menominee	Elizabeth Moses	715-853-9004	bmoses@co.menominee.wi.us
Oconto	Terry Brazeau	920-842-2703	terryb1023@gmail.com
Oneida	Ted Cushing	715-892-0425	tcushing76@gmail.com
Portage	Mike Pagel	715-824-5231	k9uw@wi-net.com
Shawano	Steven Gueths	715-851-5494	no email address
Vilas	John Hanson	715-543-8413	townchair@mwtown.org
Waupaca	Jackie Beyer	920-250-0949	litlwolf@wolfnet.net

## District #5

Adams	Jesse Pittsley	608-547-4256	jessep@frontier.com
Brown	Jim Osterloh	920-492-1074	jimosterloh@gmail.com
Calumet	Kevin Fischer	920-213-4889	kfischer@townofbrillion.com
Door	Elizabeth Gauger	414-702-1660	supervisor2@townofeggharbor.org
Fond Du Lac	Ken Depperman	920-960-2356	kendepperman@yahoo.com
Green Lake	Robert Bahn	920-361-3702	robt009@centurytel.net
Kewaunee	Brian Paplham	920-255-1468	bpaplham@scottconstruct.com
<b>Manitowoc</b>	<b>Lee Engelbrecht*</b>	<b>920-755-4042</b>	<b>bengelbrecht@tm.net</b>
Marquette	Gary Schoppenhorst	608-587-2469	moundville1@outlook.com
Outagamie	Joe Schumacher	920-739-8567	joeschumacher61@yahoo.com
<b>Waushara</b>	<b>John Piechowski*</b>	<b>920-566-2855</b>	<b>hhf32@centurytel.net</b>
Winnebago	Bob Schmeichel	920-729-5995	rschmeichel@tn.neenah.wi.gov

## District #6

Columbia	Darren Schroeder	920-623-4616	darrenwschroeder@yahoo.com
Dodge	Russell Kottke	920-210-4996	rkottke@bugnet.net
Jefferson	Robert Preuss	262-391-0550	official@townofwatertownwi.gov
Kenosha	Vacant		
<b>Ozaukee</b>	<b>Tom Winker*</b>	<b>262-224-6691</b>	<b>hkwink@hotmail.com</b>
Racine	Vacant		
Rock	Jeff Klenz	608-289-1738	chairman@townofharmony.com
Sheboygan	William Goehring	920-994-4749	william.goehring@outlook.com
Tri-County	Sam Stratton	262-206-4843	doverchairman@yahoo.com
Walworth	Joe Klarkowski	262-642-7292	jklarkowski@townofeasttroy.com
Washington	Paul Metz	262-224-6944	pmetz@rocketmail.com
<b>Waukesha</b>	<b>Sharon Leair*</b>	<b>262-968-3166</b>	<b>sbl2@wi.rr.com</b>

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# Town Advocacy Council Ambassador Program FAQ



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## **Q. What is the Town Advocacy Council (TAC)?**

A. The Town Advocacy Council is one of WTAs' most influential strategies. Founded in the 1980s, the TAC is a subsidiary of the Wisconsin Towns Association that has evolved over time. One of WTA's main purposes is to provide legislative advocacy in support of towns. The TAC is the primary instrument through which we accomplish this. In Addition to funding general legislative advocacy efforts, TAC investment helps pay for WTA's Capitol Day, the Local Government Institute, legislative listening sessions, and educational workshops. Please consider investment in the Town Advocacy Council as you prepare your 2024 budget!

## **Q. What is the TAC Ambassador Program?**

A. Expanded legislative advocacy capacity stemming from increased investment in TAC by member towns and villages has put us in a position to take a new step forward in how we support and defend local government – the TAC Ambassador Program. This program will draw on a select group of engaged town officials from every legislative district who volunteer to develop a relationship with their state legislators and engage with those legislators on WTA's priorities. TAC Ambassadors will be on the front lines of our advocacy efforts and will receive regular educational opportunities to support their mission.

## **Q. What is required of TAC Ambassadors?**

A. The time commitment for Ambassadors is not intended to be burdensome. We will hold a few virtual trainings and discussions throughout the year to provide Ambassadors with updates on specific legislative priorities. Ambassadors will then be expected to initiate a few short informal meetings or phone calls with their state legislators throughout the year to build relationships and discuss town issues. Travel to Madison will not be expected of Ambassadors, except that we strongly encourage all ambassadors to attend WTA's Capitol Day, held in the spring of odd numbered years.

New TAC Ambassadors will be provided with all of the training and information necessary for their success. That training will include an overview of current legislative priorities, a description of Wisconsin's legislative process, and tips for engaging with legislators on the issues. The primary goal of this program is simply to develop relationships with legislators and have discussions about local issues. We firmly believe that good communication and active relationships between local and state officials is necessary for effective governance.

## **Q. How do I apply?**

A. To be considered for the TAC Ambassador Program, please fill out and submit the TAC Ambassador Program application on the following page. Applications can be returned electronically to [sandy.wanta@wisctowns.com](mailto:sandy.wanta@wisctowns.com), or by mail to:

Wisconsin Towns Association  
W7686 County Road MMM,  
Shawano, WI 54166



# Town Advocacy Council

*Champions of Town Government*

W7686 County Rd. MMM

Shawano, WI 54166

715.526.3157

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## Ambassador Program Application

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

Town/Village: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Position Held in Town/Village: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Your State Representative: \_\_\_\_\_

Your State Senator: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to:

[sandy.wanta@wisctowns.com](mailto:sandy.wanta@wisctowns.com)

Or by mail to:

Wisconsin Towns Association

W7686 County Road MMM,

Shawano, WI 54166

# 100% MEMBERSHIP COUNTIES

- |                 |                |                 |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Adams        | 23. Green Lake | 45. Pierce      |
| 2. Ashland      | 24. Iowa       | 46. Polk        |
| 3. Barron       | 25. Iron       | 47. Portage     |
| 4. Bayfield     | 26. Jackson    | 48. Price       |
| 5. Brown        | 27. Jefferson  | 49. Racine      |
| 6. Buffalo      | 28. Juneau     | 50. Richland    |
| 7. Burnett      | 29. Kewaunee   | 51. Rock        |
| 8. Calumet      | 30. La Crosse  | 52. St. Croix   |
| 9. Chippewa     | 31. Lafayette  | 53. Sauk        |
| 10. Clark       | 32. Langlade   | 54. Sawyer      |
| 11. Columbia    | 33. Lincoln    | 55. Shawano     |
| 12. Crawford    | 34. Manitowoc  | 56. Sheboygan   |
| 13. Dane        | 35. Marathon   | 57. Taylor      |
| 14. Dodge       | 36. Marinette  | 58. Trempealeau |
| 15. Door        | 37. Marquette  | 59. Vernon      |
| 16. Douglas     | 38. Menominee  | 60. Vilas       |
| 17. Dunn        | 39. Monroe     | 61. Walworth    |
| 18. Eau Claire  | 40. Oconto     | 62. Washburn    |
| 19. Florence    | 41. Oneida     | 63. Washington  |
| 20. Fond du Lac | 42. Outagamie  | 64. Waukesha    |
| 21. Forest      | 43. Ozaukee    | 65. Waupaca     |
| 22. Green       | 44. Pepin      | 66. Waushara    |
|                 |                | 67. Winnebago   |
|                 |                | 68. Wood        |

## MEMBER VILLAGES

- |                                          |                                         |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Village of Mason - Bayfield County       | Village of Couderay - Sawyer County     |
| Village of Stockbridge - Calumet County  | Village of Exeland - Sawyer County      |
| Village of Bell Center - Crawford County | Village of Birnamwood - Shawano County  |
| Village of Kekoskee - Dodge County       | Village of Eland – Shawano County       |
| Village of Poplar - Douglas County       | Village of Gresham - Shawano County     |
| Village of Browntown – Green County      | Village of Adell – Sheboygan County     |
| Village of Reedsville - Manitowoc County | Village of Gilman - Taylor County       |
| Village of Elderon - Marathon County     | Village of Lublin - Taylor County       |
| Village of Wyeville – Monroe County      | Village of Stetsonville – Taylor County |
| Village of Suring – Oconto County        | Village of Minong – Washburn County     |
| Village of Stockholm - Pepin County      | Village of Lisbon – Waukesha County     |
| Village of Nelsonville – Portage County  | Village of Waukesha - Waukesha County   |
| Village of Boaz – Richland County        | Village of Big Falls - Waupaca County   |

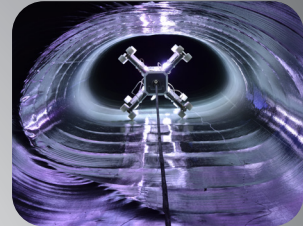
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- Point Grouting from the roads surface

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After



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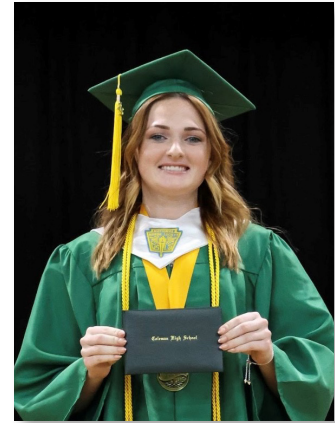
# *Scholarship Winners*





Ava Armstrong  
Village of Waukesha,  
Waukesha Co.

*Congrats*  
**2023**  
*Scholarship*  
*Winners!*



Sylvia Fochesato  
Town of Pound,  
Marinette Co.



Gregory Hora  
City of Hillsboro,  
Vernon Co.



Autumn Martin  
Town of Caledonia,  
Waupaca Co.



Josie Matiash  
Town of Algoma,  
Winnebago Co.



Connor Nahas  
Town of Boscobel,  
Grant Co.



Zoe Schmidtknecht  
Town of Mondovi,  
Buffalo Co.

Read the winning essays on our website: [www.wisctowns.com](http://www.wisctowns.com)

# Exhibitor & Sponsor Directory

Company	Service	Website
American Transmission Company	Utilities	atllc.com
<b>*Ayres</b>	<b>Engineering/Architecture</b>	<b>ayresassociates.com</b>
Bureau of Correctional Enterprises	Non Profit	shopbce.com
Burke Truck & Equipment Inc.	Snow removal equipment	burketruck.com
<b>*Cedar Corporation</b>	<b>Consulting, engineering, planning &amp; architectural</b>	<b>cedarcorp.com</b>
Commercial Recreation Specialists	Recreational design and equipment supplier	crs4rec.com
Community Insurance Corporation	Municipal Insurance	communityinsurancecorporation.com
Construction Business Group	Non Profit	cbgwi.com
Contree Sprayer & Equipment	Sprayer Equipment	contree.com
<b>*Crack Filling Service, Corp.</b>	<b>Road Maintenance</b>	<b>crackfillingservice.com</b>
Decker Supply Co., Inc.	Traffic signs & traffic safety equipment	deckersupply.com
Delmore Consulting	Road Consulting	delmoreconsulting.com
<b>*Dempsey Law Firm, LLP</b>	<b>Law Firm</b>	<b>dempseylaw.com</b>
Ehlers	Financial Consultants	ehlers-inc.com
<b>*Enbridge</b>	<b>Energy Company</b>	<b>enbridge.com</b>
Ethoplex LLC	Telecommunications	ethoplex.com
<b>*Fahrner Asphalt Sealers, LLC</b>	<b>Asphalt Maintenance</b>	<b>fahnerasphalt.com</b>
Gabe's Top It Or Drop It Tree Service, LLC	Tree Service	gabestreeservice.com
General Engineering Company	Engineering Consultant & Building Inspection	generalengineering.com
Jewell Associates Engineers, Inc.	Engineering Firm	jewellassoc.com
Keller, Inc.	Construction	kellerbuilds.com
KerberRose	Certified Public Accounting Firm	kerberose.com
<b>*Lange Enterprises of Wisconsin, Inc.</b>	<b>Signs, Posts, Brackets</b>	<b>langeenterprises.com</b>
Little Falls Machine, Inc.	Snow plows	fallsplows.com
Martenson & Eisele, Inc.	Consultants	martenson-eisele.com
Mathy Construction Co.	Road Construction	mathy.com
Metal Culverts, Inc.	Corrugated Metal Pipe / Culvert Manufacturer	metalculverts.com
Mid-State Truck Service	Full Service Truck Dealership	midstatetruck.com
Monroe Truck Equipment	Truck upfitter, snow and ice control equipment	monroetruck.com
MSA Professional Services, Inc.	Engineering	msa-ps.com
MuniBilling	Utility Billing Software	munibilling.com
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<b>*Premier Gunite, LLC</b>	<b>Concrete Restoration</b>	<b>premiergunite.com</b>
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Riesterer & Schnell	Agriculture/Commercial Equipment	rands.com
Road Groom	Unpaved road maintenance	roadgroom.com
Robert E. Lee & Associates, Inc.	Consulting Engineering	releecinc.com
<b>*Rural Mutual Insurance Company</b>	<b>Insurance</b>	<b>ruralmutual.com</b>
<b>*Scott Construction Inc.</b>	<b>Road Construction</b>	<b>scottconstructioninc.com</b>
<b>*SEH (Short Elliott Hendrickson)</b>	<b>Consulting Engineers, Architects &amp; Scientists</b>	<b>sehinc.com</b>
Serwe Implement LLC	Roadside Mowing Equipment	serweinc.com
<b>*Stafford Rosenbaum LLP</b>	<b>Law Firm</b>	<b>staffordlaw.com</b>
<b>*Subsurface, Inc.</b>	<b>Cured in place pipe lining, drainage</b>	<b>subsurface-inc.com</b>
Swiderski Equipment Inc.	Agriculture and construction sales	swiderskiequipment.com
The Horton Group, Inc.	Independent Insurance Agency - Public Entity Specialists	thehortongroup.com
<b>*Thunder Road</b>	<b>Asphalt Maintenance</b>	<b>gothunderroad.com</b>
Town Web Design	Website Hosting & Design	townweb.com
Winter Equipment Company	Snow Plow Blade Manufacturer	winterequipment.com
Wisconsin Department of Revenue	State and local finance division of Wisconsin's state tax agency	revenue.wi.gov
Wisconsin DOT - Acquisition Services	Government Agency	wisconsin.gov
Wisconsin Surplus Online Auction	Online Auction Service	wisconsin-surplus.com
Wisconsin Tubing LLC	Manufacturer	witubing.com
WisDOT - WISLR	State DOT	wisconsin.gov
WisDOT TIME Program	State DOT	wisconsin.gov/time
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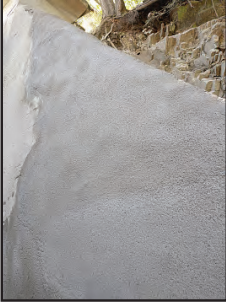


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# Wisconsin Towns Association Annual Convention Program

***Room Names will appear in RED***

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## Sunday, October 22, 2023

**1:00 pm - 6:00 pm      Registration**

**1:00 pm - 6:00 pm      Be sure to visit the Exhibits! (Africa East)**

Exhibitors will be open from 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm on Sunday. Beginning at 3:30 pm, enjoy snacks and complimentary beverages provided by **Rural Mutual Insurance**, the endorsed insurance carrier of the Wisconsin Towns Association. Also be sure to complete the ticket in your convention registration envelope and deposit it in the box in the Exhibitor Area. We will be projecting the Packer Game on the big screen in **Africa East** and drawing for prizes during halftime! You must be present to win.

### **Sunday Evening**

Dinner is on your own. Information on area restaurants will be available at the WTA Convention Registration area.

## Monday, October 23, 2023

**7:45 am - 4:30 pm      Registration**

**6:45 am - 7:45 am      Breakfast Buffet** (for those attendees who pre-registered)  
**Africa West**

**8:00 am - 6:00 pm      Exhibit Area Open**  
**Africa East**  
Complimentary coffee sponsored by **Scott Construction** will be available in the Exhibit Area from 8:00 am to 9:30 am

**8:30 am - 10:30 am      General Assembly** (*Tentative agenda, subject to change*)  
**Africa West**

**Call to Order**  
President Jerry Derr

### **Invocation**

Jack Herricks

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Vice President Tom Winker

### **Introduction of the WTA Board of Directors**

President Jerry Derr

### **Welcome**

WTA Executive Director Mike Koles

### **Don't Keep Score**

Ben Leibl, Public Relations, Kwik Trip, Inc.

## **11:00 am - 12:00 pm    Round 1 Workshops**

**(Repeated 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm--*Except for Shared Revenue/State Budget*)**

**1. Shared Revenue and the Wisconsin State Budget:** Presented by: Atty. Joe Ruth, WTA Government Affairs Director/Legal Counsel

### **Legislative Update Part 1: Shared Revenue (11:00 pm-12:00pm)**

2023 Wisconsin Act 12 marked the first changes to Shared Revenue in decades, providing additional funding and requirements for local governments. This session will dig into the details of Shared Revenue and Act 12 and help you understand what changes are coming and how to leverage those changes to benefit your community. Learn about the bipartisan efforts that led to historic funding increases and answer any questions still lingering about this complex legislation. **(Africa 10/20)**

### **Legislative Update Part 2: The State Budget (1:15 pm-2:15 pm)**

This session will provide an overview of the 2023-25 state budget and other law changes affecting towns and villages. Learn about WTA legislative priorities and accomplishments, what to expect from the new state budget, and how recent law changes will impact your community. **(Africa 10/20)**

**2. Clerks Helping Clerks--Learning from Experience:** We invite new and seasoned clerks to share your experiences and consider what you would do to address common town concerns. Network with clerks from other towns and villages as we discuss everyday scenarios and learn best practices for how to handle various clerk responsibilities. Presented by: Lara Carlson, WTA Legal Counsel. **(Africa 30/40)**

**3. Update on the Use of Comprehensive Planning to Guide Utility-Scale (>100 MW) Solar Systems:** Due to the national and global efforts to reduce the dependency on fossil fuel consumption, renewable energy project developers are aggressively seeking acreage to site utility scale solar and wind projects in Wisconsin. Rural towns with large tracts of undeveloped agricultural land next to transmission infrastructure are uniquely positioned to become "hosts" to these large-scale solar energy projects,

oftentimes with mixed resident support. Over the last year, growing evidence suggests towns can be proactive through their comprehensive planning efforts (Wis. Stat. §66.1001), to assess and guide where renewable energy projects may be sited to be most advantageous to the town, residents, and landowners. Solar application reviews continue to point to the importance of towns having a compliant (updated within the last 10 years) Comprehensive Plan and having more local input on siting of solar arrays BEFORE Wisconsin Public Service Commission testimony. This session will discuss, with examples, how towns utilized land use planning to develop criteria that help protect incompatible areas while identifying areas that could accommodate the benefits of renewable energy. Presented by: Ken Jaworski, Senior Consultant, Cedar Corporation. **(Africa 50)**

**4. Right-of-Way and Utility Accommodation:** This session will discuss town right-of-way authority regarding the permitting of utilities. The applicable state statutes will be reviewed, and the presenter will discuss the WCHA and WisDOT Utility Accommodation Policies, their history, purpose, and benefits. Finally, the presenter will discuss how to implement something at the town level to protect towns against future liability and cost implications. Presented by: Chris Hardy, P.E., Columbia County Highway Commissioner. **(Africa 60)**

**5. ATC's Role in Energizing Your Town's Future:** The energy landscape is rapidly changing across the country due to a shift in public policy and renewable generation goals. To connect these new forms of energy to areas it is used, a safe and reliable grid is needed. American Transmission Company is the regional owner and operator of the high-voltage power delivery system for significant portions of Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Learn more about the role ATC plays in the changes to an evolving, modern electric grid and how we're powering the needs of electric consumers today and for the future. Presented by: Sharon Pretorius, Mike White, and Jon Callaway. **(Africa 70)**

**12:00 pm - 1:15 pm**      **Lunch**  
**Africa West**  
*Tickets will be collected!*

**1:15 pm - 2:15 pm**      **Round 2 Workshops (as described above)**

**1:15 pm - 3:15 pm**      **Monday Afternoon Guest Activity**  
**BINGO** will be held in **Africa 80** for registered spouses and guests.

**2:15 pm - 2:30 pm**      **Break**  
Soda provided in hallways outside workshop rooms sponsored by **Crack Filling Service**.

**2:30 pm - 3:30 pm      Round 3 Workshops**  
**(Repeated 3:45 pm - 4:45 pm)**

**1. Common Meeting Misconceptions:** In this session, we will review some common meeting issues that most towns encounter at some point. Routine questions about notices, public comment, minutes, and more will be reviewed, so that attendees will leave with a better understanding of what to do when there are issues. Presented by: Jake Langenhahn, WTA Outreach Specialist. **(Africa 10/20)**

**2. Legal Cracker Barrel:** Join WTA legal staff for an informal question and answer session on any town topic. This is always a popular session with convention attendees and we encourage you to bring your questions! **(Africa 30/40)**

**3. You Need to Hire an Engineer - Now What?:** Oftentimes, hiring an engineering firm to help you bring your project from concept to completion can be overwhelming. This presentation will discuss Requests for Qualifications, Requests for Proposals, and Master Service Agreements. Learn which process should be used when, and how you can find the best consultant for your needs. Presented by: Paula Vandehey, Craig Schuh, and other staff from Ayres Associates. **(Africa 50)**

**4. Internet for All - A Federal Update on Next Steps for Wisconsin:** Wisconsin will receive a significant amount of funding for broadband expansion in the next few years through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. In this session, attendees will learn details about the federal Broadband, Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) and Digital Equity (DE) grant programs, gain insight into the overall timeline and upcoming milestones in Wisconsin and leave with an additional understanding of the important role local governments and communities play in connecting everyone in Wisconsin to high-speed internet. Presented by: Carah Koch, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Federal Program Officer. **(Africa 60)**

**5. WISLR & Mileage Certification Basics:** An overview of WisDOT's local road mileage certification process and using the Wisconsin Information System for Local Roads (WISLR) to view local road data and report your road maintenance. Presented by: Shelly Coleman, WI DOT. **(Africa 70)**

**3:30 pm - 3:45 pm**

**Break**

Soda provided in hallways outside workshop rooms sponsored by **Crack Filling Service**.

**3:45 pm - 4:45 pm**

**Round 4 Workshops (as described above)**

**3:45 p.m.**

**TAC Annual Meeting**

Learn more about WTA's Town Advocacy Council and its efforts advocating for towns and villages in Madison. From listening sessions to Capitol Day, TAC has been essential in WTA's efforts to secure a plethora of recent legislative victories, including the generational shared revenue increase that towns will begin receiving in 2024. The TAC annual meeting

is your opportunity to engage with WTA's lobbying team and better understand how WTA navigates the legislative issues important to your community. TAC will also elect three board members to its Executive Board during this meeting. All town and village officials are welcome to attend the annual meeting, although voting will be limited to current TAC member towns and villages. **(Africa 80)**

**4:45 pm - 6:00 pm**

**Exhibitor Reception**

**Africa East**

Complimentary beer, soda, and snacks sponsored by **Scott Construction**.

**6:00 pm**

**Monday Evening Banquet** *(doors open)*

**Africa West**

**6:15 pm**

**Banquet and Award Program** *(Optional, ticket required)*

Special recognition will be given to town and village officers in attendance who indicated they are celebrating certain service milestones as local officials.

**After the Program**  
**(Approximately 7:30 pm)**

**Prize Drawings and Felix and Fingers Dueling Piano Show**

Following the awards program, winners of the Exhibitor BINGO game will be drawn before the dueling piano show begins at 8:00 pm. All convention attendees are welcome to attend the prize drawing and piano show. Complimentary beer, soda, and snacks will be provided! **(Africa West)**

**Tuesday, October 24, 2023**

**7:00 am - 8:00 am**

**Breakfast Buffet** (for those attendees who pre-registered)

**Africa West**

**8:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**Registration**

**8:30 am - 12:00 pm**

**Election Training** **(Africa East)**

Wisconsin Elections Commission staff is looking forward to providing clerks with a review of the new absentee certificate envelope and the latest news on the Badger Book project. It's never too early to look at ballot access procedures for the spring 2024 elections and appointing election workers for the 2024-2025 term. The Learning Center (TLC) is getting a refresh and we will share some key changes for the training site and what we envision when it goes live next year. This three-hour session will count for recertification training.

**8:30 am - 9:30 am      Round 5 Workshops**  
**(Repeated 9:45 am - 10:45 am)**

**1. Towns and Wisconsin Lake Districts - Working Together for Our Waters:** For nearly 50 years, Wisconsin towns have been partners in governing Inland Lake Protection and Rehabilitation Districts under Chapter 33 of State Statutes. These unique districts provide a funding mechanism to handle lake management expenses, from aquatic plant harvesting to dam maintenance to watershed management. Every lake district has a municipal-appointed board member, but not every town appointee fully understands how and why districts operate as they do. This presentation provides an overview of Wisconsin Lake Districts and their relations to towns, dispelling myths and offering examples of how lake districts have helped communities better care for lakes. Presented by: Eric Olson, Director and Outreach Specialist, Extension Lakes at UW Stevens Point. **(Africa 10/20)**

**2. WisDOT Local Programs Update:** WisDOT staff will give an update on recent project solicitations for the various Local Programs including the Surface Transportation Program (STP), Local Bridge, the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ), and the Local Roads Improvement Program (LRIP). **(Africa 30/40)**

**3. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding - Assistance for Water Related Projects:** The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has received funding to support a variety of project positions for the next four years through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Staff from the storm water, wastewater and water quality programs will provide information on how the department will support and assist communities in the development of and funding for new wastewater and storm water infrastructure as well as assistance for infrastructure improvements to create infrastructure resilience in extreme rainfall events. The BIL funding is intended to help the department provide technical assistance to support small, rural and tribal communities that have not historically been able to implement infrastructure projects due to a variety of barriers. Presented by: Shannon Haydin, Storm Water Section Manager and Tim Asplund, Water Quality Monitoring Section Manager, Wisconsin DNR. **(Africa 50)**

**4. Using WISLR to Submit Pavement Ratings:** WISLR contains all the tools you need to complete your biennial pavement ratings. We will cover how to submit and update your ratings, modify your pavement data, and use your data to respond to public inquiries. Presented by: Isaac Park, Wisconsin DOT. **(Africa 60)**

**9:30 am - 9:45 am      Break**

**9:45 am - 10:45 pm      Round 6 Workshops (as described above)**

**10:45 am - 11:45 am      Break**

**11:00 am - 12:00 pm      Round 7 Workshops (will not be repeated)**

**1. Legal Cracker Barrel:** Always popular, this session will offer another opportunity for attendees to ask the WTA Legal Staff questions about any town topic. Bring your questions or just sit and listen to learn more about issues towns around the state bring up for what is sure to be an interesting discussion. **(Africa 10/20)**

**2. The Extraordinary Threats to Our Democratic Republic:** January 6th was a wake-up call for all of us. We will discuss the Wisconsin electoral process and its safeguards. We will discuss how Democrats and Republicans have undermined the will of the people and how our politics today is harming our country. The division among us is in the plan of our adversaries. We will explain how Wisconsin Keep Our Republic is educating citizens about the electoral process, one community at a time. Presented by: Kathy Bernier, former WI State Senator and State Director of Keep Our Republic and Lisa Tollefson, Rock County Clerk. **(Africa 30/40)**

**3. Municipal Storm Water Permit Compliance - Where Do I Even Start?:** Some townships, primarily adjacent to larger urban communities, are required to hold a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) permit for discharges of storm water to waters of the state. Learn from DNR staff what the program is, why you need it and how to comply with this complex program. Presented by: Shannon Haydin, Storm Water Section Manager and Brooke Robinson, Municipal Storm Water Program Manager WDNR. **(Africa 50)**

**4. Managing Pavement with WISLR Pavement Analysis Tools:** WISLR can be a valuable tool to manage your road data and plan for future maintenance. We will cover the WISLR Pavement Analysis Module, creating a five-year budget plan, running reports, and adding local priority information. Presented by: Isaac Park, Wisconsin DOT. **(Africa 60)**

**12:00 pm - 1:00 pm**      **Lunch**  
**Africa West**  
*Tickets will be collected!*

**1:00 pm**                      **Adjourn**



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## Contacts

**Kory D. Anderson, P.E. Vice President** — Municipal Engineer  
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**Mike Parrott, Dir of Inspection Svs** — Municipal Building Insp  
[mparrott@generalengineering.net](mailto:mparrott@generalengineering.net)

**Lukasz A Lyzwa, Project Engineer** — Municipal Engineer  
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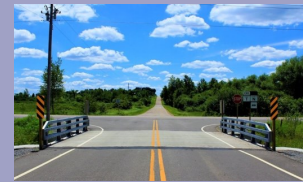
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**Bridge Inspection Services** include routine and emergency bridge inspections with submittal of inspection data to the Highway Structures Information System maintained by WisDOT. In addition, we offer Bridge Program Management Services to clients who need assistance with review of bridge data, and provide recommendations for needed maintenance.

**Surveying, Land Planning, and Funding Assistance Services** provide local units of government with the tools they need to move their projects forward from the planning stages to design and construction. Site design, stormwater management, floodplain studies, flood control, water systems, and wastewater treatment plants are our other areas of expertise.

**Architecture Services** include functional designs for a wide variety of projects including town hall and shop buildings, county highway departments, salt sheds, and other government facilities. We work closely with clients to define project goals at the outset and provide design alternatives for evaluation during the design development phase.

**Civil Engineering Services** include design improvements for storm water management, potable water systems, and wastewater systems in communities. We also provide civil engineering for dam repair and removal, stream restorations, wetland mitigation, and other water resources projects.

### CONTACT US

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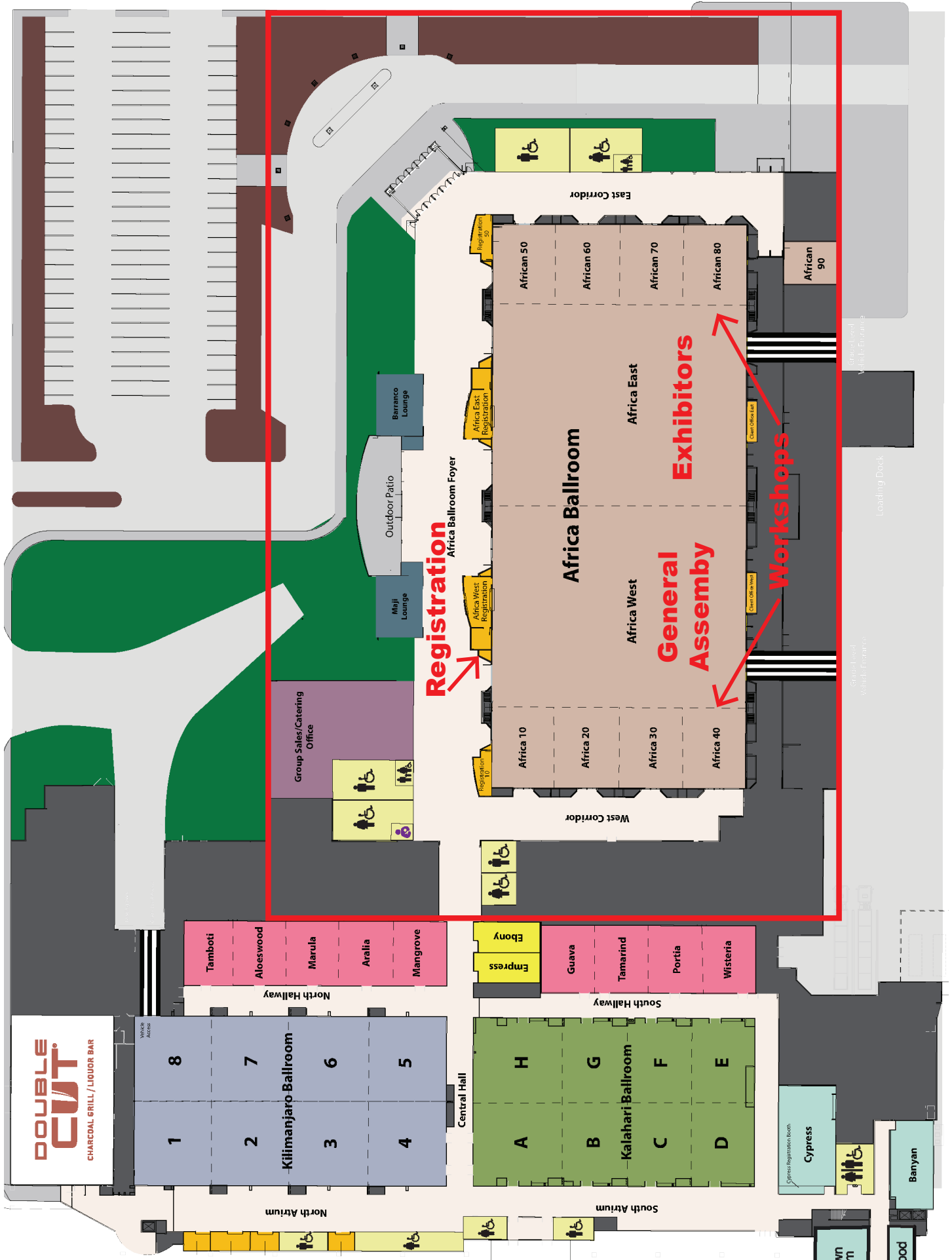


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Africa 10 Africa 20 Africa 30 Africa 40  
Africa 50 Africa 60 Africa 70 Africa 80  
Africa 90

Africa West  
Africa East

**Exhibitors**

**General Assembly**

**Workshops**

**Registration**

Africa Ballroom Foyer

Group Sales/Catering Office

Maji Lounge

Baranco Lounge

Outdoor Patio

Africa West Registration

Africa East Registration

Africa Registration

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