Blaine Hitzfeld grew up on a conventional row crop and confinement livestock operation in Roanoke Indiana. His family developed a vision of producing nutrient-dense foods, beginning a transition to pasture-based, stacked enterprise production models.

Blaine was instrumental in helping his family establish a farm-to-consumer direct marketing business that thousands of dedicated patrons know as Seven Sons Family Farms.

Currently Blaine is employed at Seven Sons, overseeing the daily marketing and distribution activities as well as future business developments.

Blaine shares the Seven Sons story, speaking to consumer and producer groups and consulting for numerous direct marketers. He has written for The Stockman Grass Farmer.

Dr. Rachel Gilker
Editor of On Pasture Electronic Newsletter

Rachel's interest in sustainable agriculture and grazing has deep roots in the soil. She's been following that passion around the world, working on an ancient Nabatean farm in the Negev and with farmers in West Africa's Niger.

After returning to the US, Rachel received her M.S. and Ph.D. in agronomy and soil science from the University of Maryland.

For her doctoral research, Rachel spent three years working with Maryland dairy farmers using management intensive grazing. She then began her work with grass farmers, a source of joy and a journey of discovery.

Rachel will speak about dealing with compaction in pastures and maximizing your soil's health.

Phyllis Van Amburgh
Dharma Lea Farm, Sharon Springs, NY

Phyllis Van Amburgh runs Dharma Lea, a 100% grassfed dairy, with her husband Paul and their five children. Dharma Lea was one of the early adopters of 100% grassfed dairy production in the United States, and has pioneered the production model, including the Madre’ Method.

Phyllis is director and chief educator of the Agrarian Learning Center, the Savory Institute Hub located in Sharon Springs NY. She holds a Master's degree in Occupational Therapy, two Bachelor's degrees, OT and biology, as well as a supplemental degree in European Studies from the University of Antwerp.

Phyllis brings this breadth of knowledge and passion to her farming practice, the Savory Hub, her writing for national trade publications and the work she and Paul do together supporting the Maple Hill Creamery producer group.

Doug Carmichael
Michigan State Univ.
Lake City Research Station
Lake City, Michigan

Douglas Carmichael is the manager of the Lake City Research Center. The Lake City Research Center includes 810 acres of managed land and 180 beef cows in a geographic area suitable for forage-based livestock enterprises.

He has been employed at Michigan State University for 18 years and has a background in business and production agriculture.

Grazing management is Doug's specialty. His expertise contributes to the livestock finishing program at the Lake City facility and helps insure the program achieves the overall goals of MSU AgBioResearch.

Doug is also Accredited Professional with the Savory Institute.
## Participant Registration Form

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Daytime phone with area code

Registration fee is $75.00 per person, includes lunch and speaker handouts.

Total payment: number of people _______ x $75.00 $_______ Total

Please make checks payable to: Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County

Return completed registration form with payment to:

Winter Green-Up
Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County
PO Box 497, 24 Martin Road
Voorheesville, NY 12186

To Register online: https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/WGU2017_201

To pay by credit card, call 518-765-3518

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### Agenda

8:00-9:00 a.m. Registration

9:00-9:30 Doug Carmichael – How to enhance winter gains to finish grass-fed animals at 18 months of age.

9:30-10:00 Dr. Rachel Gilker—Dealing with compaction in your pasture.

10:00-10:30 Blaine Hitzfield—Seven Sons Farm’s marketing program.

10:30-11:00 Break—visit with vendors

11:00-12:00 Phyllis VanAmburgh—Using holistic resource management in a pasture based dairy and beef operation.

12:00-1:30 Lunch and visit with speakers and vendors Fundraiser for On Pasture electronic newsletter.

1:30-2:00 Doug Carmichael—What constitutes good feed.

2:00-2:30 Dr. Rachel Gilker—Maximizing your soil health.

2:40-3:30 Blaine Hitzfield—Team building on the farm.

3:30-4:00 Speaker Panel and promotion of the Grassfed Exchange National Conference to be held in Albany September 27-29, 2017

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### David Huse Scholarship Fund

David Huse was well known and respected throughout the beef industry. The David Huse Education Fund has been established in his memory, and helps farmers by reimbursing them for tuition/expenses for attending seminars and conferences. Assistance can be used for everything from registration fees and traveling costs to hiring relief help.

To apply for a scholarship from the David Huse Education Fund, contact one of the fund administrators:

Tom Gallagher, (518)765-3511/tjg3@cornell.edu
Kathleen Harris, (518)258-4823/nelpsc@frontiernet.net

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If you have any questions, please contact Tom, 518-377-0958, Hank, 518-649-0267, or Tove, 518-765-3518.

Cancellations will be accepted until January 14, 2017 (a $10.00 cancellation fee will be charged).

Rooms are being held for Friday and Saturday nights at The Century House, 997 New Loudon Road in Latham, NY for $114.00 per night.

Call 518-785-0931 to reserve. Please mention the conference for this special rate.