



# News Briefs

February 2016

## From the Executive Director

Greetings! While another calendar year is under way - we are busy planning our July 2016 - June 2017 program schedule. Yes, we are making plans for 2017 already! Thank you to those of you who participated in our annual member survey and provided program topics and ideas to us. It is through your input that we are able to provide relevant presentations and workshops to help your family business through the critical issues and problems you are facing.

One announcement in this newsletter I'd like to highlight is our student scholarship application is now available online. The deadline for applications is on March 11, 2016. If you know of a UW Oshkosh student who is part of a business owning family, works in a family business or is interested in family business, please share the opportunity with them.

In this month's From The Expert - Sponsor's Corner, Bob Mathers, Davis & Kueltheau shares with us "*Ten Ways to Help Your Business Prosper in 2016.*" Bob shares some good tips we could all use in our businesses.

We are also busy planning our 20th Annual Dinner & Celebration. Be sure to mark your calendar for Monday, May 2nd from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. We look forward to seeing friends, old and new, during this time of celebration.

Warm wishes for a healthy and successful 2016!

### Quick Links

[Join the Wisconsin Family Business Forum](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

### Mission

To foster healthy family businesses through learning, sharing, and creating effective solutions regarding the critical issues and problems confronting family businesses.

### Mark Your Calendar!

February 12, 2016  
Family Business Foundations

March 16, 2016  
Family First or Business First Can you have both?

May 2, 2016  
20th Annual Dinner & Celebration

### Wisconsin Family Business Forum

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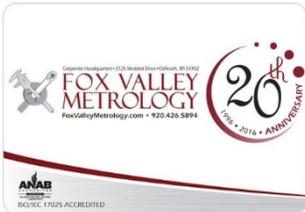
## New Members

# REMIS

Power Systems, Inc.

The company was founded in 1980 by Pat Remis and is a distributor of industrial batteries, chargers and Columbia ParCars. Remis Power Systems is headquartered in Onalaska, Wisconsin with locations in Kaukauna and Jefferson. There are currently three generations active in the business and are in the middle of transition of ownership from Pat Remis to his two children, Melissa and Rob. Visit their website at [REMIS Systems](http://REMIS Systems)

## Member and Sponsor News



Fox Valley Metrology is the same age as the Wisconsin Family Business Forum! Founded in 1996 by Mark Toll, the company is celebrating 20 years in business this year.

In December, Marion Body Works completed their recertification of the ISO 9001 Quality Management System. Congratulations!!



*A Tradition of Quality. Since 1905*



Congratulations goes out to Mandi & Noah Hinrichs of FLASH Trucking. Rori Lynn Hinrichs was born January 11th at 11:44pm. She was a happy and healthy 8 lbs and 19 inches. Big brother Finn is excited to have a little sister :).

Bank First National recently announced the opening of its newest office at 4201 W. Wisconsin Ave. in Appleton, just north of the Fox River Mall. Leading the team at this new office is Joan Woldt, EVP and regional president at Bank First, along with Bill Bradley, vice president of business banking. Joan is active on the Wisconsin Family Business Forum Board of Directors and Recruitment & Retention team.



# Upcoming Programs

## Family Business Foundations Friday, February 12, 2016



On Friday, February 12th, WFBF will host a discussion on family system dynamics at the UW Oshkosh Appleton Executive Education Center, 2323 E. Capital Drive Appleton, WI. Registration begins at 7:30am with discussion starting at 8:00 am - 11:30am.

Presenters - Dale Feinauer, UW Oshkosh College of Business, Phil Florek, SBDC and Meridith Jaeger, Executive Director of WFBF will discuss family system dynamics and define what a family business is and what it means to own a family business. We will discuss various roles & perspectives of an owner, manager and non-family member; specifically analyzing your role.

[Click here](#) for more information.

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## Family First or Business First

*Is it possible to have both?*

Wednesday, March 16, 2016

Registration/Networking & Breakfast - 7:30 am  
am - 12:00 noon



Program - 8:00

UW Oshkosh Appleton Executive Education Center  
2323 E. Capital Drive, Appleton

One of the most fundamental challenges of being a family in business together is finding a way to balance both the needs of the family and the needs of the business. Many families find that they naturally lean in one direction or the other - family first or business first - when the best possible outcomes for both the business and the family come from harvesting the upsides of both approaches.

In this session, noted family business expert Amy Schuman will share how these different perspectives effect the quality of our decisions as well as our relationships. You will complete a self-assessment to identify your preferred approach and identify practical ways to better support both family and business.

We encourage you to bring multiple representatives from your family business - family members and non-family - as you will benefit from multiple perspectives and move forward together!

[Click here](#) for more information.

## Previous Program Highlights

### Compensation in the Family Business -

On Tuesday, January 19th, Phil Florek - SBDC and Dale Feinauer - UW Oshkosh College of Business spoke to WFBF participants on best practices for managing a compensation system in a family business.

They highlighted the reasons why we pay family members as well as how to pay them - market wage or equity within the family. Be sure to explore your current compensation plan and make sure it works for your organization as there is no right answer!

**For Members of the Forum**, go to our [website](#) - Members Only Section - to access podcasts of our past programs.

Are you on social media? We are! Be sure to keep up with what's happening at the

## Like us, Follow us, Join us!

Forum.

"Like" us on Facebook

"Follow" us on Twitter @WiFamilyBiz "

Join" our group on LinkedIn



## From the Expert – Sponsors Corner

### 10 Ways for Your Business to Prosper in 2016

As you enter 2016, please consider these 10 suggestions ways that will keep you focused on maintaining a healthy business in 2016 and beyond.

#### **1. Engage your succession plan.** Your business succession plan

needs to start with an understanding of what you, personally, want to get out of your business. How much would your business be worth if you were to sell it today? Maybe you are interested in passing the business down to future generations. Did you know that family-owned businesses drive an average of more than a 6% return on assets higher than their non-family owned counterparts?

To read the rest of Bob's column: [CLICK HERE](#)

# UW Oshkosh Leadership Series offers discount for WFBF Members



The Wisconsin Family Business Forum has partnered with the UW Oshkosh MBA Leadership series to offer a 10% discount for WFBF members. To receive the discount, please use discount code WFBF16. The next program is ["Improving Project Performance through Line of](#)

[Sight."](#)

Want to find out how an advanced degree can increase your personal & professional growth? Learn how an MBA from UW Oshkosh will give you a distinct advantage in any industry or company. To learn more, check out one of the upcoming [information sessions](#) in your area.

## WFBF Scholarship - Online application now open!

Do you know a Junior or Senior student attending UW Oshkosh and has an interest or a connection to a Family Business? Then ask them to apply for the WFBF Scholarship. For more information, go to our website and select scholarship or [CLICK HERE](#)



## Family Business First Award

Do you know a family business that is doing business right in northeast Wisconsin? Nominate them for a Family Business First Award.

The Family Business First Initiative of Northeast Wisconsin exists to support and recognize family businesses in our area. At First Business, we believe family businesses are the backbone of Northeast Wisconsin. With these views in mind we have partnered with the Wisconsin Family Business Forum to create an annual awards event recognizing family businesses. Winners will be announced at the Wisconsin Family Business Forum's 20th Annual Dinner & Celebration on Monday, May 2, 2016.

Nominations can be made directly by the family business, or by any third party including accountants, attorneys, or customers.

For more information on this initiative, [CLICK HERE](#)

## Peer Groups Update

Being part of a peer group can be an important part of learning, development, problem solving and networking. The groups are kept to about a dozen members. By building bonds of trust, the groups enable learning beyond that possible in the large group programs.

Upcoming Peer Group Meetings:

ROOT's - Friday, February 12, 2016

TBD - Tuesday, March 8, 2016

Gen Now - Tuesday, February 16, 2016

Non Family Execs - Tuesday, February 23, 2016 Sponsors - Wednesday, March 2, 2016

Remember - participation in peer groups is included in your annual membership. For more information on these groups visit the [PEER GROUP](#) page on our website. If you would like to participate in one of these groups, please contact Meridith Jaeger at [wfbfdirector@uwosh.edu](mailto:wfbfdirector@uwosh.edu).

## WFBF Office In Need Of.....

At our WFBF programs, we provide each attendee with a note pad and pen. Due to an increase in program participation - our stash has been depleted. If a Member or Sponsor has some they would like to donate, please reach out to Nancy Jo at 920-424-1541 or [wfbf@uwosh.edu](mailto:wfbf@uwosh.edu).

THANKS!

## Our Sponsors:

