



BLUE AND GOLD

Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

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From AFY to FLC, FFA Students Enjoy Acronyms



Beginner FFA members engage in fun leadership workshops.

SARABETH ROYER
State FFA Secretary

On Sept. 22, FFA students attended the Adams Franklin York (AFY) Leadership Conference at Gettysburg High School. The attendees, all chapter officers, went to officer workshops held by the Pennsylvania state FFA officers.

It was a night of learning, meeting other students, fun and food. Caleb Wright, the Pennsylvania national officer candidate also held a mini-workshop with the students before dinner. The students enjoyed learning more about their specific positions. Overall, the night was a success.

The Fall Leadership Conference (FLC) was held on Oct. 4, at the Blair County Convention Center and hosted students from all across the state. This year's theme was "Treasure Chest," and such things as pirates and ships were used throughout the conference. Chapter officers sailed through workshops

taught by the ag and Extension education students from Penn State, where they learned about their respective offices. The first year members voyaged through workshops held by the state officers. These new sailors to the FFA learned about opportunities in the organization, as well as team-building activities that taught lessons about communication, following directions, pride in self and trust.

Caleb Wright also steered the students through some team-building exercises that they completed as a chapter. At the conclusion, the State Officers urged the students to really evaluate what their treasure chest looked like. They asked, "Is it full of rubies and gold coins? Or, is it full of friends and fond memories? What really is treasure?"

It is the state officers hope that each and every student can find the treasure within their chapters, and within themselves.

Captain Jack Goes All American

Captain Jack FFA

On Sept. 20, nine members of the Captain Jack FFA Chapter traveled to the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg for the 37th Annual 4-H and FFA Dairy Judging Forum and the 25th annual Junior Dairy Management Contest.

Samantha Bliss competed as an individual in the Junior Dairy Management Contest. The contest consisted of a dairy judging class, a dairy linear type class, as well as an assessment of Samantha's knowledge of milk and meat quality assurance, feed and nutrient management, and farm business management practices. As a top five winner, Samantha also participated in an interview where she was questioned about current dairy

industry issues. Samantha placed second out of 65 other 4-H and FFA members across Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio and New Jersey. She earned \$175 for her accomplishment.

The FFA judging team members judged five classes of top-quality dairy animals from across the nation. In addition, members were assessed on their knowledge of dairy herd management and competed in a dairy linear type class. The top two members were Taylor Miles, 15th, and Danielle Varner, 17th. Other Captain Jack members who participated were Abby Carper, Valerie Coleman, Amanda Fisher, Mason Hockenberry, Dillion McBeth, and Kendra Semple. The team, which placed 18th, competed against 286 other 4-H and FFA members from across the state.

Fall Fun

FROM THE OFFICER'S STATION

The foliage is vibrant, air is crisp, pumpkins are waiting to be carved, and apple cider is ready to be sipped. Ah, yes, October is here. Which just happens to be my favorite season with all the football, hunting, and apple picking, not to mention so much going on with the FFA, I couldn't ask for more.

We kicked off the month with the Blue and Gold Ball, a huge success that raised funds for the FFA Alumni Association. A personal thank you to anyone in attendance. Our next adventure took us to Blair County where the officers with the help of the Penn State student teachers hosted the Fall Leadership Conference to introduce new members to FFA and train officers on their important duties. It was great to meet so many new members and also see familiar faces of the officers.

With the fall season here, chapter visits are in full swing. The seven of us have been traveling to all corners of the state visiting your wonderful high schools to get students pumped about FFA. We were in attendance at Farm



CASEY HALL

City Day at the Farm Show Complex and had the opportunity to visit with more than 600 second grade students to teach them about agriculture. While there, we kicked off the Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE) and saw FFA members receive well-deserved awards. Right around the corner is National Convention and we want to wish all the participants good luck and we're sure that you will make Pennsylvania proud. I encourage everyone to get outside to enjoy the fresh crisp air, drink your local apple cider, and eat some pumpkin pie to fully take advantage of this fall season.

In addition, if you have any articles that you would like to see published on the Blue and Gold pages email them to Mike Brammer at c-mbrammer@pa.gov and include pictures! Thank you so much, and have a wonderful rest of October.

Editor's Note: Casey Hall is the Pennsylvania State FFA president.

Hoss's, Alumni, Jackets



Photo submitted by Pa. FFA

LITITZ, Pa. — On Oct. 4, 17 Hoss's restaurants helped to raise money for the Pennsylvania FFA Alumni Freshman Jacket Campaign. Anyone who had an event coupon could help support the Freshman Jacket Campaign. Hoss's donated 20 percent of the total check to the Pennsylvania FFA Alumni Association.

At the Lititz Hoss's three state officers Casey Hall, Sarabeth Royer, and Jenna Moser were able to meet two supportive FFA chapters, Ephrata and Solanco. Pictured here with the state officer team are the Solanco FFA members. The state officers said it was awesome to see so many members attend.

Other locations included in the event were Williamsport, Chambersburg, State College, Shamokin Dam, Indiana, Meadville, Carlisle, Huntingdon, Hanover, Grove City, Lewistown, Leesport, Greensburg, Annville, York East, and York West.

Pa. Makes it Big at the Big E

SARAH KESSLER
State FFA Treasurer

A few weeks ago, Pennsylvania FFA members and advisers traveled to the Eastern States Exposition, otherwise known as the Big E, in Springfield, Mass. During the two days, Pennsylvania FFA Members competed in many Career Development Events (CDE) and received first place in the following categories: Ag Marketing (Cumberland Valley, team), Creed Speaking (Central Columbia, Malaya Kile), Poultry (Grassland, team), and Zachary Mueller from the Grassland FFA Stared in Agrisbusiness. In addition to competing in more than 20 CDEs, members had the chance to explore the Big E fairgrounds and visit the New England state buildings. Each building proudly displayed and sold commodities that represent their state, for example: Maine had baked potatoes, New Hampshire had blueberries and Massachusetts had maple candy.

For more results from the Big E visit the Pennsylvania FFA website at: www.paffa.state.pa.us



Photo by Jenna Moser, Pa. FFA Reporter

After many long hours of planning and working together, Big Spring's Landscape Exhibit looked absolutely stellar at the Big E.