



BLUE AND GOLD

Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

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Northern Lebanon FFA Gets the Ball Rolling, Fast

HANNAH KISCADDEN
Northern Lebanon FFA Member

FREDERICKSBURG, Pa. — In the month of November, the Northern Lebanon FFA Chapter was busy organizing a food drive to benefit the community.

The week before Thanksgiving, donation boxes and collection jars were given to each homeroom teacher in the high school. Students in each homeroom competed against other homerooms to see who would win the coveted prize, a doughnut breakfast. Each day FFA members collected, counted, and totaled all cash and the food items each homeroom collected that morning. Flyers were posted daily announcing to homerooms who was in the lead.

It was a close race, but in the end Mrs. Smith's homeroom came from behind and won the breakfast. With the support and donations from all students and faculty members; the Northern Lebanon FFA Chapter was able to raise more than \$670 and 1,200 food items to donate to the Lebanon County Christian Ministries. Members who volunteered their time and students from the winning homeroom were given the

opportunity to help load the food into the truck during the final period of the day. FFA advisors and members were pleased with the donations in 2008 and are looking forward to a bigger turnout next year.

State Officers Hannah Wentworth and Lance Waybright came to Northern Lebanon the day before Thanksgiving break. They led the classes in teamwork building workshops and games. The Chapter officers were lucky enough to be able to have a pizza lunch with the state officers. This allowed Chapter members who want to become State Officers in the future to ask questions and get more insight into becoming a State Officer. Late in the day, Wentworth and Waybright even got to rush outside with classes during a fire drill.

With a break after fundraising, food drives, officers visits, and fall CDE's, members from the four county FFA chapters were given the chance to hang out and attend a Hershey Bears hockey game.

After an exciting game and Thanksgiving break, chapter members were straight back to work with the upcoming citrus sale. Scattered through the department,



It is fruit day. Northern Lebanon members stack clementines and get ready to hand them out to their many customers.

armed with nothing but calculators and a basket full of patience, members set to work on doublechecking each and every order that was turned in. Others members were entering data into the computer and cleaning the department for the big day. Dec. 9 rolled around, and in rolled the tractor trailer, packed to the brim with cartons of citrus fruit. Students formed assembly lines and brought in the cartons and sorted them into the proper piles. Boxes were sorted through for rotten fruit, combo boxes were made, orders were pulled and satisfied customers left with their cars full of fruit.

FROM THE OFFICERS STATION



LAURA MACHMER

“Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow” seems to be a pretty popular concept from my home here in the Northern Region as we move into the frigid December month.

My teammates and I have had so much fun traveling and presenting the last chapter visits of 2008 and are eagerly anticipating 2009 because that means the 93rd Pennsylvania Farm Show is just around the corner.

This month we traveled to Baltimore, Md. for the National Young Farmer Educational Association (NYFEA) Convention, where we participated in a leadership seminar led by the Disney Institute. The day-long program focused on leadership roles at Disney and how they could apply to any business or organization. It was a blast to learn about how Disney really

works and all that goes on “behind the scenes” to make magic for their guests when they visit the theme park and resort.

Planning for Mid-Winter Convention is well under way since it has been announced that more than 300 of our 8,000 members will be receiving their Keystone Degree (the highest FFA degree that Pennsylvania can confer upon a member) and 200 first-year or freshmen members will receive their very first FFA jacket from the Pennsylvania FFA Alumni.

As the year 2008 comes to a close, my teammates and I would like to wish everyone a very happy holiday season. See you in 2009!



Young Farmers, FFA'ers Come Together at Convention

BRITNEY MARSH
Pa. FFA Association Reporter

BALTIMORE, Md. — The National Young Farmers Educational Association (NYFEA) held their annual convention Dec. 11-13 in Baltimore, Md.

Britney Marsh attended as the Pennsylvania FFA Association representative. Past state officer Christine Oellig attended as the spokesperson for the Pennsylvania Young Farmers (PYF). Amanda Harrington, a Penn Manor graduate, won the scholarship to attend the convention with all expenses paid.

The first two days were full of tours allowing participants to ex-

perience agriculture in Maryland and Washington D.C. On the last day, the Disney Institute held a Young Agricultural Leaders Event (YALE). The program showed how Disney's procedures and forms of leadership can fit into any business or organization. The PYF sponsored the whole State Officer team to attend YALE. The team learned a lot about leadership and how going above and beyond what is required of you can make magic happen. They got an inside look at Disney and how it makes magic happen for each and every one of their guests.

During the banquet, NYFEA President Jeffrey McClellan, who is a member of the Pennsylvania Young Farmers association,

stepped down and handed his gavel to Cindy Johnston.

Carol Corman, Pennsylvania Young Farmers vice president of the Northcentral Region, was elected NYFEA secretary. Richard Waybright was honored for his support of agriculture and Young Farmers.

Pennsylvania participants represented the state well. FFA and the PYF merged together to improve the leadership skills of the state officer team and enhance their knowledge of other state's agriculture. FFA thanks PYF for allowing the state officers to partake in a great conference that will no doubt improve their leadership skills.

Cedar Crest Attends Area Leadership Conference

BRANDON WENGER
Cedar Crest FFA Reporter

LEBANON, Pa. — Lebanon-Schuylkill FFA officers recently joined to hold a leadership training conference at Elco High School.

The Lebanon County officers started off the evening with opening ceremonies and a welcome from the county president, Molly Walmer. Tri-Valley FFA mem-

bers led “ice breaker” games that helped everyone get to know one another.

Pennsylvania State FFA Reporter Britney Marsh gave a keynote address and everyone enjoyed the evening meal provided by the Elco High School cafeteria staff.

After the meal, the Greenhand Quiz Contest took place. The quiz is a spelling bee style contest where first year FFA members are

asked questions about the FFA.

Members attending the conference were split into groups and attended sessions conducted by FFA state and county officers. Sessions covered topic including FFA after high school and public relations for juniors and seniors. For sophomores and freshmen, the sessions were about teamwork and leadership. Members went home with a new understanding of the FFA.