



BLUE & GOLD NEWS

Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

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The FFA officers with Rose Wenger, left, of the Wenger Foundation and Michael Brammer, right.



Submitted photos

The FFA state officer team, from left, Callie Whiting, treasurer, Grace Benton, secretary, James Winklosky, president, Jeremy Rose, reporter, Benjamin Torrey, vice president, and Zaleigh Wade, chaplain.

State Officers' Year in Review

The FFA state officers have had the pleasure of serving Pennsylvania throughout their year, having been blessed with hundreds of opportunities.

The officers have collectively traveled over 115,000 miles, spent 154 nights away from home, completed 41 chapter banquets and made 117 chapter visits, which is a record.

This year, the state officers saw record attendance at State Legislative Leadership Conference with over 600 members, advisers and guests present in March. The state officers also saw record attendance at Agricultural Cooperation Establishes Success with over 1,900 members, advisers and guests present over three weekends in February.

The officers have worked day in and day out, going to banquets, concluding chapter visits and planning for retirement. The 2022-2023 state officer team has been honored to be a part of the Pennsylvania FFA Association and to have had the opportunity to serve FFA this year.

As their term ends, the officers are still attending events across Pennsylvania.

Wenger Foundation Praise Dinner

Every year, the Wenger Foundation holds a dinner to raise money for faith, family and farming communities, assisting in providing help for those individuals in need.

The praise dinner gives community members the opportunity to enjoy a delicious meal, hear a keynote speaker and listen to heartwarming gospel music.

The state officers aided in the setup of the dinner by putting tables, chairs and decorations throughout the beautiful hall. They also guided people through the buffet lines as the hall filled with hungry participants.

It was a great experience. The state officers are forever grateful to the Wenger Foundation and all the incredible contributions it makes to Pennsylvania FFA.

Earlier this year, the Wenger Foundation made a very generous donation by buying a new van so the state officers have transportation.

Bloomsburg Agricultural Awareness Day

Jeremy and Grace from the state officer team had an interesting opportunity to attend the Bloomsburg Agricultural Awareness Day at the Bloomsburg Fairgrounds. During their time there, they got to experience many different displays from the FFA chapters in the northeast area.

Chapters, as well as individuals affiliated with agriculture, presented to the community to show how important agriculture is to the area, as well as the state of Pennsylvania as a whole. A presentation Jeremy and Grace won't forget included firefighters saving someone who



The FFA officers with Ed Norman, left, and two Brookside Sales representatives, right.

was stuck in the corn inside a silo.

Grace and Jeremy were also given the opportunity to speak on behalf of Pennsylvania FFA. They talked about how agricultural education plays a big role in the community and our world.

Visit with Brookside Sales

Throughout the year, the state officers have been blessed to have a lot of interactions with the owner

of Brookside Sales, Ed Norman. Norman is a proud supporter of Pennsylvania FFA and also of the Georgia Bulldogs.

The state officers enjoyed a sit-down lunch and conversation with Norman and two other representatives from Brookside Sales. Brookside Sales is a BG Products distributor that provides automotive maintenance services.

During the visit, Norman did some science experiments to show the state officers how the chemicals affect oil, gas and water and what happens when BG chemicals are combined with those substances.

Brookside Sales representatives then showed how they can service a vehicle with their chemicals to ensure that it will operate as good as new.

Next State Officer Candidates to Be Chosen

Every year, during the regional Pennsylvania Association of Agricultural Educators meetings, the state FFA officers get to interact and work with members to convey what state office is. The state officers produce handbooks with a ton of information about the commitments, duties and opportunities of being a state officer.

The manual also includes a lot of knowledge about the Pennsylvania FFA. Two or three state officers cover all four of Pennsylvania's regions — the west, east, south-central and northern regions.

This year, Pennsylvania is honored to have 33 state officer candidates. The candidates are listed below:

- Alexis Otsott, Newport FFA
- Bryce Danko, Greenwood FFA
- Charity Wampole, Athens FFA

- Clayton Hetrick, Big Spring FFA
- Crystal Bomgardner, Northern Lebanon FFA
- Delaney Barrick, Big Spring FFA
- Elyse Dilling, Central Cove FFA
- Emily Kerstetter, East Juniata FFA
- Ethan VanCamp, Otto Eldred FFA
- Grace Brammer, Cumberland Valley FFA
- Grace McCarty, Grassland FFA
- Gracie Albright, Garden Spot FFA
- John Kroft, Dover FFA
- John McCarty, Red Lion FFA
- Kiera Mull, Gifford Pinchot FFA
- Kayla Nauman, Eastern Lebanon County FFA
- Lillian Hetrick, Oley Valley FFA
- Lindsey Kline, Grand Canyon FFA

- Madeline Musser, Shippensburg FFA
- Maggie McAteer, Little Dutchman FFA
- Mary Ribbeck, Cloister FFA
- Mary Walter, Mifflinburg FFA
- Natalie Musser, Elizabethtown FFA
- Nathaniel Turner, Conneaut Area FFA
- Rayann Walls, Tyrone Area FFA
- Rebecca Lehman, Central Columbia FFA
- Rebekah Aldrich, Chambersburg FFA
- Sarah Beaver, Otto Eldred FFA
- Sarah Lasko, Conneaut Area FFA
- Taylor Noss, Northwest Area FFA
- Taylor Waggoner, Big Spring FFA
- Vera Innerst, West Perry FFA
- Tre Rosa, Pequea Valley FFA