



# Summer/ August Blue and Gold Times



Created By Chapter Reporter Allyssa Barnes

## Cooperative Conference

Hunter Levan and Allyssa Barnes of the Shawnee FFA Chapter attended the Cooperative Youth Conference on June 6-7 at SIU Carbondale. At the conference students learned about the seven cooperative principles through mini sessions put on by the staff. Students then gave a presentation on the principle that

they were assigned to do in front of everyone to demonstrate their knowledge of the principles. Students also had time to swim and play sports at the SIU rec center. At the end of the conference a action was put on where students could spend their Coop bucks that they receive through-

out the conference when the participate.



Allyssa Barnes and Hunter Levan at Coop Conference

### Inside this issue:

Cooperative Conference	1
State Convention	2
Washington Leadership Conference	3
Leadership Camp	4
FFA Communication Summit	5
DuQuoin Farm	6
Officer Retreat	7
Ag-Mazing Dairy Cows	8

## State Convention

On June 11-13 the Shawnee FFA Chapter took seven members to the 85<sup>th</sup> Illinois State FFA Convention. The chapter was awarded the silver chapter award, chapter challenge award and a cooperative award. Members also be took over 170 pounds of soda tabs to the Ronald McDonald House where they also volunteered for a couple of hours. During state convention members had time to tour the have career show. Austin McAllister was installed into office as the Section 24 President and served as a delegate to vote

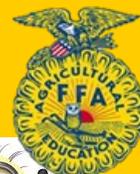
for the newly elected state officer team. Allyssa Barnes was awarded the outstanding chapter reporter award, competing in the chapter scrapbook contest where she was awarded gold and she served as a delegate too. Tommy Whitaker was part of the state chores and Hunter Levan was part of the state band. The 2013-2014 Illinois State Officer team is President-Sam Detwiler, Flanagan-Cornell FFA Vice President-Rachel Hawk, Mercer County FFA Secretary-Cody Carman, Sullivan FFA

Reporter-August Schetter, Southwestern FFA Treasure -Joe Heavner, Val-meyer FFA.



You know you're an FFA member when.....

When someone says "I Believe" and you instantly start reciting the FFA Creed in your head.....



Reminder FFA dues are \$25 and are do by October 1st.

# Washington Leadership Conference

Allyssa Barnes recently attended the National FFA Washington Leadership Conference (WLC) June 25-29 where she analyzed her personal skills and interests, developed leadership skills and created a meaningful community service plan that will make a difference in her communities.

More than 1,800 students are registered for the 2013 Washington Leadership Conference, the second-largest student experience that the National FFA Organization hosts each year. Created in 1969 and held annually in Washington, D.C., this year Allyssa attended week four of WLC.

Allyssa spent a week under the guidance of educational professionals, counselors and professional FFA staff members. In workshops, seminars and

small groups, Allyssa focused on identifying and developing her personal strengths and goals and undergoing comprehensive leadership training that will help her guide her local FFA chapter.

Allyssa also analyzed needs for her community, developed a wide-ranging and high-impact community service initiative and implement her plan with the help of her FFA chapter upon returning home. Students in recent years have created food and clothing drives, volunteer campaigns, educational outreach initiatives and more.

While in D.C, Allyssa experienced the history of the nation's capital, by touring landmarks including the Washington Monument, War Memorial, the National Mall, Arlington National

Cemetery and the U.S. Capitol among others

At the end of the week Allyssa participated in WLC Day of Service, during which students work together on a real, hands-on community-service project. This year WLC members helped package school supplies for the local D.C. schools.



Allyssa Barnes and her roommates Gabby, Katie, and Allie.

## Leadership Camp

Kyle Kutak, Billy Davis, and Braden Mezo of the Shawnee FFA Chapter recently attended the 2013 Illinois FFA Leadership Camp, held at Allerton Park near Monticello from July 24- July 28. Billy, Kyle, and Braden were among the 320 campers from across the state that gathered to develop leadership skills and learn more about the FFA. Campers participated in a challenge course to develop teamwork, Ag Olympics, FFA

power sessions, dance, and a large water balloon fight. They also listened to presentations from the Illinois FFA Alumni, Illinois Foundation FFA, hypnotist Dr. Morton Ford, and guest speaker Rod Stoll, vice president of Farm Credit communication of Illinois. FFA Leadership Camp is one of the best opportunities in FFA for students to develop their own leadership styles and become an active member of the FFA.



Kyle Kutak participating in Leadership/Team-building session at Leadership Camp

## FFA Communication Summit

Shawnee FFA Reporter, Allyssa Barnes traveled to the University of Illinois on August 1, 2013 for the very first FFA Communications Summit. The summit was put on by photographers, reporters, newscasters and publishers. FFA members learned how to properly take pictures by learning how to use the setting on their cameras and how to find the perfect angle in weather conditions. They also

learned how to interview someone properly and what to include in articles and press releases when writing them. Members learned about a variety of media's that can help them spread the word about their FFA chapter. Allyssa left the communication summit with skills that will benefit her throughout her year in promoting her FFA Chapter.



Allyssa Barnes attending FFA Communication Summit

# DuQuoin Farm Yard Follies

On August 27, 2012 FFA Chapters from District 5 met at DuQuoin fair grounds for the annual Farmyard Follies. Among the chapters attending, there were 18 members from the Shawnee FFA Chapter. At Farmyard Follies, Allyssa Barnes and Kyle Kutak competed in backseat driver and Brandy Prater and Ian Robertson competed in balloon toss and Roger Whitney and Braden Mezo competed in the hay bale toss. Colby Kuberski, and Ben Stanley competed in the hay bale stack and Drew McLane, Aaron Newell, Roger Whitney, Braden Mezo, Abby Livesay, Billy Davis, Alexis Charles, and Samantha Hancock com-

peted in tarp fold. Billy Davis, Aaron Newell, Drew McLane, Billy Davis, Brandon McClanahand and Roger Whitney competed in tug a war, Colby Kuberski, Samantha Hancock, Brittney Abercrombie, Mickayla Sichling, Abby Livesay, and Drew McLane shovel race, Roger and Tommy Whitaker, Drew McClain, Mickayla Sichling, and Abby Livesay competed in dizzy bat race .

Everyone had a great time competing in the follies, making new friends , eating fair food and getting to check out all the rides. Shawnee FFA would also like to thank all of the sponsors who helped make it possible to have

the farm yard follies this year.



DuQuoin Farmyard Follies participants

## Officer Retreat

August 30 through September 1, the Shawnee FFA Officers headed to Dixon Springs State Park in Golconda, IL for the annual officer retreat. Officer retreat is where the chapter officers design the club t-shirt, set some goals for the chapter and plan fundraisers for the year. They also work together to prepare the Program of Activities (POA). Allyssa Barnes and Billy Davis planned the Chapter Development, Hunter Levan and Tommy Whitaker planned the Student Development and Colby Kuberski, Ben Stanley, and Kyle Kutak planned the Community Development part of the

POA. Throughout the weekend the officers took time to do team, trust, and leadership building activities that will help one another lead the chapter this year. They also caught up with the Vienna FFA officer team for a chapter exchange. The weekend wasn't all business the team did take some time to tour Tanglefoot Ranch, a shrimp/hydroponic tomato and raspberry farm where they had fun seeing how a shrimp farm runs and how a hydroponic tomatoes and raspberry's grow. Officers also visited The Chocolate Factory and Weaver's Amish Food Market.



Shawnee FFA Officers at Dixon Springs State Park.

## Ag- Mazing Dairy Cows

Today there is an estimated 920 breeds of cows in the world. Cows came to America with Christopher Columbus in 1492. Cows have been domesticated for nearly 5,000 years. Today America is home to more than 11 million dairy cows which will make about 57.5 billion quarts of milk each year. The main breeds for Dairy cows are Holstein, Guernsey, Jersey, Brown

Swiss and Ayrshire. An average dairy cow weighs about 1,400 pounds. On average a cow will drink 35 gallons of water and eat 20 lb hay, 20 lb silage, 10-20 lb corn, 6-12 lb supplement all in one day. To make one gallon of ice cream it takes 12 pounds of whole milk and to make one pound of butter it takes 21.2 pounds of whole milk.



# Shawnee Informational Page

## SHAWNEE FFA WEBPAGE

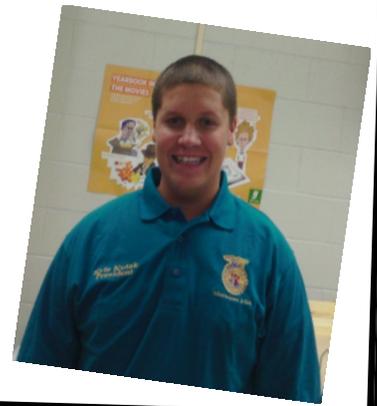
[http://shawneeffachapter.  
weebly.com](http://shawneeffachapter.weebly.com)

Learning to do,  
Doing to Learn,  
Earning to Live,  
Living to Serve

Shawnee FFA Facebook

## Kyle Kutak Chapter President

Kyle Kutak is a Junior in high school and is the son of Angie and Bob Kutak and the youngest brother to three older sisters. This is his third year in the FFA. This year he is serving as the chapter president, he was encouraged to join FFA because he really enjoyed FFA and Ms. Ochs made him. He is currently holding the chapter degree and is enrolled in the Ag science class. FFA has taught Kyle to become a great leader. Kyle's goal for the chapter is to increase membership and become very well known in the state and he hopes to help make leaders and improve the chapter in anyway this year. His SAE is Ag Safety and his favorite CDE's are Food Science, Ag Sales, and Horticulture. So far Kutak's favorite memory is becoming section 24 secretary.



Candle Sales start August 27th  
and finish September 12th.



## Shawnee FFA

**FFA Fact of the Month:** The Smith-Hughes Act was passed in 1917 that allowed Agriculture classes in public schools.

### Shawnee FFA Chapter Officers

President- Kyle Kutak  
Vice President- Tommy Whitaker  
Secretary- Billy Davis  
Treasurer- Ben Stanley  
Reporter- Allyssa Barnes  
Historian- Colby Kuberski  
Sentinel- Hunter Levan  
Advisor- Ms. Ochs

### September Agenda

6- Horse Judging  
10- Greenhand Workshop  
10- FFA Meeting  
12- Candle Sales Due  
15- Fall Feed  
19- Union Farm Safety Day Camp  
24- FFA Meeting  
26- National Teach Ag Day  
28- State Forestry

### IAVAT Excellence in Teaching Award



Ms. Ochs was awarded the Section 24 IAVAT Excellence in Teaching Award at the Illinois IAVAT held in Bloomington June 18-20, 2013.