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January and February Blue and Gold Times



Ag Acquaintance Day

The Shawnee FFA Chapter recently attended the Southern Illinois County Farm Bureau's FFA Acquaintance Day Program held on January 31, 2013 at the Southern Illinois University Student Center in Carbondale. The event is sponsored by local County Farm Bureaus® and the Southern Illinois University College of Agricultural Sciences. This year 443 FFA'ers were in attendance! The program provided students with the opportunity to attend a variety of educational workshops including: Four breakout sessions presented by county AITC Coordinators, where students learned various Ag in

the Classroom programs to teach to young children; "The Farm Bureau Organization" presented by Mariah Dale-Anderson from Illinois Farm Bureau, "Opportunities & Careers in Ag" by Kelly Robertson, Agronomic Consultant from Franklin County, and "FFA After High School" presented by SIUC Collegiate FFA & Ag ambassadors. After workshops, students gathered in the grand ballroom for a closing speaker. John Caupert, Director of the National Corn to Ethanol Research Center, spoke to

the crowd about persistence. He showed a dozen pictures of people that are/were persistent in their life and what goals they accomplished because of it. Those people are role models for the students, with connections to agriculture and Illinois.



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

Your catch phrase is: "I'm not too busy to do anything with FFA, FFA is the reason I'm too busy."



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

212 Conference

Rickie Livingston, Dylan Boston, Colby Kuberski, and Hunter Levan of the Shawnee FFA Chapter attended the National FFA Organization's 212 Conference at the Double Tree Hotel, Collinsville, Illinois, January 25-26, 2013. The two-day 212 Conference personal development program helped students learn techniques for dealing with peer pressure and how to set and achieve goals. The conference also featured a self-discovery workshop designed to help members find their own success in life.

Illinois held two 212 Conferences with 298 members attending the conference in Collinsville and another 373 attending the MFE held in Schaumburg. The conference is open to freshman and sophomore FFA members. 212 program staff members are college students who are former state or national FFA officers. Many staff members have also worked as counselors for the Washington Leadership Conference, FFA's national leadership seminar held in Washington D.C. each summer. FFA is a national organiza-

tion, of over 540,000 members, developing each student's potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. Local, state and national activities and award programs provide opportunities for students to apply knowledge and skills acquired through agricultural education.



Section 24 Poultry CDE

Congratulations to the Shawnee FFA Chapter for placing in second place at the Section 24 Poultry CDE. The CDE was held at Egyptian High School on February 28, 2013. The Shawnee FFA had 5 member team consisting of Tommy Whitaker, Billy Davis, Braden Mezo, Kyle Kutak, and Austin McAllister. The competition consisted

of a 25 question test over the poultry industry. Participants also graded the outside of an egg shell and the inside of the egg by candling each egg. Members placed ready to eat meat such as chicken strips, graded chicken carcasses, and they identified cuts of meat from chicken. Shawnee FFA individually placements were as follows: Austin

McAllister in 2nd, Braden Mezo in 4th, Tommy Whitaker in 8th, Billy Davis in 11th, and Kyle Kutak in 14th place.



Section 24 Public Speaking CDE

On February twenty-six, six members of the Shawnee FFA chapter went to Shawnee Community College to compete in the Public Speaking CDE. At the public speaking CDE each participant is selects one of the three areas and are judged based on presentation, voice, poise, and knowledge on the topic presented. This year, Colby Kuberski and Dylan Boston competed in the Creed speaking CDE. In creed speaking each participant has to recite the FFA Creed written by E.M.

Tiffany. Hunter Levan and Allyssa Barnes competed in the Prepared Speaking CDE. In prepared speaking each participant writes a 6-8 minute speech on an Ag related topic Austin McAllister and Kyle Kutak competed in the Extemporaneous CDE. In extemporaneous each participant is given a random Ag related topic with twenty minutes to prepare for a 3-5 minute speech. Austin McAllister came in second place with his speech on water and soil relations permeability on

drainage, Kyle Kutak fifth with his speech on Ag literacy in urban areas, Colby Kuberski fifth in creed speaking, Allyssa Barnes fifth with her speech on Colony Collapse Disorder, Dylan Boston sixth place in creed speaking and Hunter Levan in sixth place with his topic on World Hunger.



National FFA Week

National FFA Week was February 16-23, 2013. The Shawnee FFA Chapter

celebrated with a variety of activities. Fifth and sixth grade classes participated in a poster contest. The theme was "Where Can Farmer Stanley Find Agriculture?" Students had to draw pictures of where they can find agriculture and include their flat, Farmer Stanley on the poster. The post contest winners were: 5th grade - Kylie Holloway and 6th grade - Megan Smith.



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SUNDAY

February 16th, Shawnee FFA officers and guest kicked off National FFA Week by attending the Vine Church in Carbondale. FFA members left with the message of service learning. That night Shawnee FFA held a Jr. high lock-in. The lock-in was a one night stay in the high school for 7th and 8th graders. The 7th and 8th graders learned communication and leadership skills through many group activities put on by the officers. The lock-in was to inform the 7th and 8th graders on FFA because starting next year 8th graders will be allowed to have an Ag class.



TUESDAY

On February 18th, Shawnee FFA officers traveled to Cousin Carl Radio Show (C106) to spread the word about FFA and upcoming events. The officers were interviewed by Leevon Decourley due to Cousin Carl being out for the day. The officers discussed their duties as FFA officers, their Supervised Agriculture Experience (SAE), the most memorial moment in



FFA and what the chapter has planned for FFA

Week. After the radio show the officers headed to Shawnee South and North to do a balloon release with the kindergartners. Before the actual balloon release the kindergartners learned a little bit about agriculture by listening to an agriculture book read to them by an officer while coloring an Ag related coloring sheet. The balloon release is a fun way to spread the word about FFA. Each balloon has a tag telling about FFA and a return address where the kindergartners can see how far their balloon traveled.

WEDNESDAY

On February 17th, Shawnee FFA members traveled to Shawnee South and North for ice cream day for grades first through fourth. Ice cream day is a fun educational day for



the grade schoolers. Students learn where each of ice cream ingredients comes from. Student learn about the importance of the dairy industry and about safety on the farm. Then students make their own ice cream in a bag.

THURSDAY

February 18th was teacher appreciation breakfast/ Greenhand Day.



Teacher appreciation breakfast is a way for FFA members to say thanks to the teachers for everything they do for the school. Before the school day started, teachers are treated to a big breakfast made by the officer team. The teachers are given a FFA t-shirt, FFA pen and a thank you letter. FFA Greenhand Day is for first year members only. During lunch the greenhands get to put their hand up on the wall while being treated to pizza for lunch. Before they can do either of these things they must get their hands died green for the day and a Greenhand necklace signed by each of the officers.

FRIDAY

February 19th was originally equipment and livestock day but due to weather conditions, it has been rescheduled for National Ag Day on March 19.

Parliamentary Procedure CDE

On February 5, 2013 six Shawnee FFA members competed in the Section 24 Parliamentary Procedures CDE at SIU Carbondale. This CDE teaches FFA members how to properly run a business meeting. At the contest members take a twenty-five question quiz over Parliamentary Procedures. Then they run a ten minute meeting over a given topic. The meeting has a president, secretary/ floor member and four other

floor members. Each floor member has to get 3-4 discussions, one required motion and 2 other motions of their choice. The teams was made up of Austin McAllister as president, Kyle Kutak as secretary/ floor members one, Allyssa Barnes as floor members two,

Billy Davis as floor members three, Tommy Whitaker as floor members four and Colby Kuberski as floor members five. The Shawnee FFA Chapter placed 4th overall with Kyle Kutak coming in 3rd place as the secretary.



The Shawnee FFA Alumni Chapter recharged on February 8th of 2013, Matt Folios was elected as the President, Jerry Shaffer was elected as the Vice President, Steve Brown was elected as Secretary and Charlotte Kennedy was elected as the treasure. Austin McAllister was elected as the past FFA member and Kyle Kutak was elected as the FFA current member.



FFA Fact of the Month: The Official FFA Creed was written by E.M. Tiffany and adopted in 1930 at the 3rd national convention.

Shawnee FFA Greenhand

Officers

President- Dylan Boston
 Vice President- Hunter Levan
 Secretary- Rickie Livingston
 Reporter- Colby Kuberski
 Treasure- Kristen Smithy
 Sentinel- Hunter Smithy
 Chaplin-Ben Stanley



March Agenda

- 2-Poultry set up
- 7-WCFA Conference
- 12- FFA Meeting/ Date Night @ Hungry Bear
- 13- District V FFA Science Fair/Proficiency Awards
- 14- Ag Legislative Day
- 19- Animal and Equipment Day
- 20- Envirothon Competition
- 21- District Novice Parliamentary Procedure CDE
- 23- Flower Bed Project

April Agenda

- 3- District Public Speaking
- 6- State Awards Day
- 8-9- Farm Bureau Youth Conference
- 11- Ag Awareness Day/Varsity Quiz bowl
- 12-FFA Date Night Fox's Flea
- 19- SIUC Agriculture Industry Day/Section Livestock CDE
- 22- Section Horticulture CDE