

Ohio FFA Alumni Council

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The Affiliate

The Newsletter of the Ohio FFA Alumni Association

Spring 2005

President's Corner

With the annual meeting over and the election of 7 new members to council we have had a busy start to 2005. The council has been organizing events, and working towards growth in the Alumni membership. Council members would like to have the opportunity to see what each of your local FFA Chapters and Alumni groups do. If you have an event or banquet that you would allow us to attend, please send the information to us. We will work hard to try to attend as many as possible. This will allow us to work together and share experiences throughout the state.

The Alumni has been busy lobbying for the Perkins Issue with the legislators to show our support. We need your assistance in getting this message to as many at the Senate to get this re-approved. It is an issue that would cut the vocational education monies, but to get more information, please check with your Alumni representative.

We have been accepted as the host for the State Alumni Leadership Conference coming up in July. This is an honor to be selected as the host state, bringing Alumni representatives from across the United States. It will be held in Columbus and when more information comes available, we will send it out to all. Hope some of you have an opportunity to attend this event.

Keep in mind that The Blue and Gold Annual golf outing will be coming up quickly and team registrations should be turned in to save your spots. Make your plans now to send in your registration early and save! This year's date is July 18th. Any sponsors would be greatly appreciated to continue in making this event a success once again. Refer to the Alumni website for further details or contact any of the council members.

Don't forget about the State Convention that is coming up soon. It is one of the highlights of the year. Make sure you take time to stop by and see what FFA items are available in the shopping mall.

Bruce Henney, President

Blue and Gold Classic

Mark July 18th on your calendar for the 11th Annual Blue & Gold Classic Golf Outing to be held at the Golf Club of Dublin.

Affiliate help is needed in securing door prizes and sending a foursome. Monies from this outing are used for FFA support; specifically the Greenhand Quiz Contest and state convention banquet. This is our main money maker for the year. With the help of affiliates, businesses and individuals we've had about 140 golfers the past few years.

For more golf details see page 3.

SLC

The National State Leaders Conference will be held in Columbus, Ohio the end of July. We still need support in the area of items for the state goodie bag and monetary support for meals and tours.

Items we are working on include: Wooster Brushes, Archway Cookies, Dum Dum Suckers, soy nuts & Frito-Lay products. If your affiliate has a connection with specific Ohio products in your area please contact Jesse Hamman (address on the back page).

Support Grants (LPS)

The National FFA Alumni Association is offering grants to local FFA chapters as a means of providing local chapter support. FFA chapters should consider items needed to strengthen their chapter's program and /or member support. The grant may be used for computers, equipment, member's supplies, official dress, etc.

Please go to www.ffa.org/alumni/index.html for more information and the new application form.

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33rd Annual Meeting

One hundred forty-three delegates and members attended the 33rd Annual Ohio FFA Alumni meeting in January.

Cindy Grassbaugh, President, presided over the meeting.

Dues were set to remain at \$15. A suggested \$100 Affiliate Fee was adopted.

Elected council members were: Dist. 2 – Bruce Henney, Dist. 7 – Duane Grassbaugh, Dist. 10 – Pat Smith. Appointed members were: Dist. 4 – Jason Fox, Dist. 5 – Rena Rager, Dist. 9 – Ron Tilford and At-Large – Linda Daniel.

New affiliates for the year were: Gibsonburg, McComb and Norwayne. Re-chartering affiliates were: Alexander, Barnesville, Greenon and Paulding. Affiliates with the most life members are: New Lexington and River View.

The Basket Contest was won by Anthony Wayne. We were pleased to have eleven baskets and ask you to start making plans for your affiliate basket for next year.

Sponsors for the awards were: Charles Hart, OAAE, Licking Valley, New Lexington and Federal Hocking.

Licking Valley conducted the Monte Carlo Night and a successful Silent Auction was held. Thank you to Andy White for conducting the auctions.

Apparel

You've asked for it – an Ohio FFA Alumni shirt. It's a dark blue polo shirt. We'll have some available at the Alumni shopping mall during the State FFA Convention in May. If you'd like more information please contact Lexie for ordering instructions.

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Dues

At the annual business meeting delegates voted to keep dues at \$15. That's \$5 for state and \$10 for national. Affiliate dues are \$100 for established affiliates.

Outstanding Member

Congratulations to outstanding member Bruce Henney from the Bellevue Affiliate. Bruce has attended numerous State and National Conventions and has chaired the state basket committee. Bruce judges for local and state events, hosts teams at his home and helps with shop projects. He has assisted at State Evaluation, presented a workshop at least year's meeting and is currently serving as president of the Bellevue affiliate. He is a member of the state council.

Outstanding Affiliate

Congratulations to the Bellevue Affiliate for being named our outstanding affiliate for 2004. Bellevue was chartered in 1983. They provided over 293 hours of instructional activities and 262 hours of cooperative activities with the FFA. They raised over \$46,000 in their sausage sale, silent auction and Pork Chop Stand.

Outstanding Agricultural Education Promotional Award

Congratulations to the Anthony Wayne affiliate for conducting a Food for America with the FFA. The alumni and FFA members set up and conducted an informational petting zoo. They also had tractors and equipment for the students to check out along with learning about farm safety. A straw maze, an electricity demonstration, straw baling and a games stop were also part of the day.

Coaching Award

Congratulations to Ashland and coaches: Cathy and Dave Bishop, Darlene and Kenneth Schuck, Mike Stitzlein and Dan Stone for their time and dedication in coaching their teams. Other coaches include: Dena and Bruce Henney, Scott Horn, David Ziegler, Tom Yingling, Sandy Michaels, Susan Steinmetz, Tim Boggs, Jared Kinnard, Bob Sieving and Vickie Hunt.

Scrapbook Award

Congratulations to Anthony Wayne for winning the competition this year. It was not easy judging. Second place went to Bellevue, third to New Lexington, fourth to Federal Hocking and fifth to Marlinton.

Upcoming Dates

July 18	Blue and Gold Golf Classic
July 1	LPS Grant Apps due to national
July 26-31	National State Leaders Conf.
Oct. 1	Fall Awards due
Oct. 27-28	National FFA Alumni Meeting
Jan. 28, 2006	State Annual Meeting

Affiliate News

Elmwood

Conducted their 12th Toy Show with over 600 visitors and people from as far away as New York.

Athens

Recently chartered with William Russell, President, Paula Carpenter, V. Pres., Maryann Stalder, Sec., Sharon Ervin, Treas., and Nanette Rorick, Reporter. They are putting on two banquets for the Township Trustees and will help the FFA run a Cornhole Competition at the county fair.

Smithville

Newly chartered and doing a hog roast.

Union Local

Conducted their 14th annual Toy show and had visitors from New York and Kentucky

Ashland

Conducted their 17th Judging Invitational

Talawanda

Conducted another very successful consignment auction

Pettisville

Awarded a scholarship to Laura Bruner and recognized FFA members for FFA Week

Hopewell Loudon

Recently chartered with Michael Obarr, President, and Bradley Fruth, Treasurer

Miami East

The first school in Ohio to hold an alumni charter is now again on the active list with Patricia Heilman, President, Marie Carity, Treasurer and Deb Peck, Membership Chairman

Race Day

The FFA has developed a fun-filled hospitality day for everyone during the NASCAR Busch Series race on Saturday, August 20 at Brooklyn, MI

The hospitality package includes free pit passes (if over 18 years old), reserved grandstand seat, access to FFA hospitality tent, breakfast, lunch, prizes, etc.

The package is \$70 and available until August 5th. Everyone is welcome...just say I'm with the FFA when you call 1-800-354-1010.

Proceeds support the Ohio FFA Foundation.

New Council Members

Hello, my name is Ron Tilford and I am looking forward to serving as your Ohio FFA Alumni representative from District 9. During the last twenty years I have been an active member of the Talawanda FFA Alumni and have assisted with State Evaluation for many years. I am a Senior Mortgage Consultant and reside in Fairfield, OH with my wife Terri and our daughter Katie.

Hi, I'm Linda Daniel and I am serving in the At-Large council position. I have been a member of the Bellevue FFA Alumni since it was started 25 years ago. I have held an office every year, including president for 8 years. My family raises Shorthorn beef cattle, steers and I raise Percheron and Belgian draft horses. Last year I was the Outstanding Alumni member for Ohio and I received my Honorary State Degree. This year I was hired by Bellevue City Schools as a full time assistant for Mr. Hoffman in the Agriculture Dept. I enjoy working with the FFA and look forward to helping the Alumni at the state level.

I'm Jason Fox and I am serving District 4. I grew up on a medium sized farm on the east side of Tiffin. Our farm consisted of 1200 acres, a 500 head farrow to finish swine operation and cattle. I have been involved with the ag program for 7 years, was president of my home chapter and became interested in what it took to run our state and national organizations. After graduation I became involved with the alumni attending their state conventions and helping with local activities. Currently I work for Royster Clark as a Salesman/Applicator, am vice president and owner of two 1100 head- finish barns.

My name is Duane Grassbaugh and I am serving District 7. I work on the family farm with my father and brother in Howard. We have a 120 cow dairy and farm around 1000 acres. I also work as a rep for ABS Global. I am an active member of the Ohio Farmers Union, where I have served on their state policy committee for the last 4 years. I have been an advocate for Ohio's family farmers, having made numerous trips to Washington to lobby on their behalf. I was an active member of the East Knox FFA and I was the 1991 Ohio FFA Star State Farmer and have received my American FFA degree.

I'm Rena Rager and I was appointed to serve District 5. I assisted in the recent rechartering of the Paulding Affiliate, serve as the treasurer and worked closely with the Reverse Raffle last fall. My husband, Russ, and I have two grown children, Andy (an ag ed major at OSU) and Jessica. I've worked for the Paulding Co. Board of MR/DD for 27 years. Currently as the Director of Residential Services.

Activity Reports

The following are expanded reports from some alumni's. The hope is these reports will give you a little bit more information on how an activity is run. If you want more information please contact them. If you would like to have your activity highlighted in the next newsletter please send us the information.

Bellevue

Recently held our annual sausage sale. FFA alumni members and FFA members take orders for the sausage and then it is picked up in the ag room. This year we sold about 500 pounds of bulk and 500 pounds of casing sausage. This is a good winter money maker. The FFA alumni gives an award for the high selling ag science student. These students are also recognized at the annual FFA Banquet.

The Bellevue FFA Alumni was recently recognized by the Bellevue Board of Education for our accomplishments at the Annual State FFA Alumni Convention. Bruce and Dena Henney were recognized by the board.

New Lexington

Held a Silent Auction in conjunction with the parent- member banquet and raised over \$1700, gave away \$1900 in college scholarships at the banquet and several Alumni service awards to students who assist us with our events. Plans are underway for the upcoming Truck and Tractor Pulling season. Our first pull is scheduled for April 23 at the Perry County Recreation Association. We have a total of 6 pulls planned for this year. Info can be found at the NL FFA website www.nlcs.k12.oh.us; Select high school, then choose FFA Web page, then FFA Truck/Tractor Pulls. You can also call (740)342-PULL or (740)342-1831.

Anthony Wayne

Our annual pork dinner was a success. We switched from a hog roast to doing a pork loin dinner. We also had 2 separate Silent Auctions during dinner and these were also successful. We are doing an exhibit at Southwyck Mall. This consists of baby chicks and bunnies on display. The chicken eggs are placed in incubators ahead of time and are scheduled to hatch during the exhibit at the mall. This is open during Mall hours and we try to have Alumni members and FFA students there to answer questions and be available to the public. In April we will be helping the students with their Awards Banquet. As part of Food for America in May we are going to initiate a coloring contest for the 3rd graders and have their pictures judged by Alumni members. We are trying this for the first time this year and hopefully it will become an annual event.

The FFA Spring Auction is coming up in May and we will do a concession stand for this. Something else we are going to try for the first time is to set up an interactive exhibit at our county fair. The Senior Fairboard has approved letting us use part of the Livestock barn to set up the exhibit. We are just starting to plan this but hope to educate the local children about agriculture and different areas of Agriculture.

Paulding

Held its first, of what is hoped to be many, Reverse Raffle and Steak Dinner. 250 tickets were sold for \$45.00 each for a chance to win a top prize of \$1000. The first ticket drawn that night won another ticket to be put back into the hopper. Every 10th ticket drawn won \$50.00. The 246th through 249th tickets won \$100, \$200, \$300, and \$500 respectively.

The dinner consisted of a 12 oz rib eye, grilled on site, baked potato, green beans, salad and assorted desserts. Members of the Paulding High School FFA served the dinner in official FFA attire.

The alumni considered the fundraiser a huge success netting \$7000. Money raised will be used to enhance their college scholarship fund, provide needed funds to finish the FFA greenhouse and make improvements on the Whole Hog Sausage Sandwich Booth at the fairground.

The Paulding FFA Alumni became re-affiliated in 2003 and now has 30 members.

Establish a local FFA Endowment

The Ohio FFA Foundation can now offer individual endowments for local FFA chapters. This service is available through our partnership with the Community Foundations Inc. A local endowment is a great way to set up a scholarship for college, camp or leadership programs. The local organization would direct the 5% yield from the endowment and have control over how the funds are used. The yield above the 5% continues to grow the endowment and your potential to support more students in the future. The Ohio FFA Foundation receives no income from this investment and can offer lower fees using our current advisor. The minimum amount to begin a local endowment is \$10,000. Contact the foundation office if you have questions or would like to see a sample endowment agreement. The Foundation contact number can be found on page 2.