

The Michigan FFA Creed

May/June/July 2003

**AgriScience
is built on
good methods
sparked
by great
imagination.**

Amy Garrison

Amy Garrison,
Michigan AgriScience
Student of the Year

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June	6-7	Region V Leadership Camp - Camp Manitolin
	12-14	Region VI Leadership Camp - Sprinkler Lake
	18-20	Region III Leadership Camp - Sleeper State Park
July	1	Livestock Judging contest - MSU Pavilion
	14-15	SLCCO & SLCRO
	22-24	Michigan Ag Expo - MSU
	23	Dairy Judging & Showmanship Contest

Stars over

Michigan



Star Farmer

Jim Williams

Byron FFA

As the highest recognition in the state for an aspiring young production agriculturalist, the Star Farmer award recognizes achievement in both career and leadership development. ☺



Star Agribusiness

David Reibling

Lakers FFA

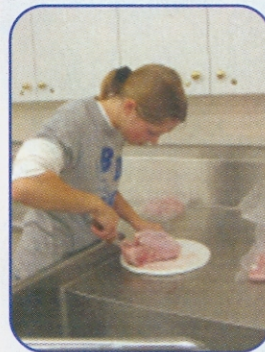
The Star in Agribusiness award winner should possess a successful agribusiness career and outstanding leadership skills. ☺

Star Ag Placement

Molly Spica

Caledonia FFA

The Star in Agricultural Placement award recognizes a student who has an outstanding SAE in placement in the agricultural industry and is active in FFA. ☺



Star AgriScience

Johanna Wiefraert

Lenawee Vo-Tech FFA

An outstanding AgriScience-based SAE, relating to natural resources, research/experimentation or science-based directed labs, is essential for the Star in AgriScience award winner. ☺



I believe in...



the FFA heritage

Celebrating our past while shaping our future

By Noelle Dunckel

Officer profiler

Luke Gertz State Vice President

Centreville FFA

SAE: Diversified Crop
Production

Majoring in
Agribusiness at
Michigan State
University

Alysa Isley State Secretary

Blissfield FFA Chapter

SAE: Diversified Livestock
Production & Ag.
Communications

Majoring in
AgriScience Education
at Michigan State
University

Since the founding of the national FFA in 1928 and the Michigan FFA in 1929, millions of students have harvested the benefits of FFA and agricultural education. While much has evolved throughout the years, the core mission - student success - has remained the same. This commitment and the rich heritage of the FFA has shaped our organization's past and present while continuing to impact its future.

The enrichment of the linkage between FFA and agricultural education has created a real success for every student and a heritage to be proud. Attending the 75th Michigan FFA State Convention has been a time-honored tradition that helps develop students' potential for

premier leadership, personal growth and career success.

If you were an attendee who shared your time, commitment and support, thank you. If you were unable to attend the convention this time, we hope to see you in the future. Either way you can experience the excitement, pride and energy of the convention and other FFA members through this issue of *The Creed*.

Congratulations to all of the members, advisors and FFA supporters featured in this issue.

As we embrace our past, in this the 75th year, we challenge you to both celebrate our heritage and create its future. So start today by shaping the future of your chapter while holding true to the best traditions of our organization and exerting an influence in your home and community that will stand solid for your part in that inspiring task. ☺

Did you know...

- Michigan produces 75% of the red tart cherries in the United States.
- There are 87 fairs and festivals held in Michigan each summer.
- Michigan produces about 105,000 beef cattle every year.



Convention

highlights

Diamond anniversary sparkles with success

Enthusiasm and anticipation were dancing in the air at MSU on March 3-5. In search of discovering individual and team victory, FFA members from across Michigan engulfed the Wharton Center for the 75th Michigan FFA Convention. The diamond anniversary extended the legacy, while celebrating 75 years of excellence. 2



State Convention 2003

Our Motto in Motion

Learning to Do

By Erik McGregor

This story starts a long time ago, 1908 to be exact. North Adams -Jerome (NA-J) has the prestige of being the oldest secondary AgriScience program in the United States. In 1908, Roswell Carr was sent from Michigan Agricultural College, now Michigan State University, to teach AgriScience on a local level.

Chapter president, freshman Ray Briner, and chapter sentinel and

historian, freshman Andy Webb, are some of the young and emerging leaders at NA-J and in FFA. In addition to being FFA members both are also students in the AgriScience and natural resource programs at NA-J.

NA-J has five AgriScience and natural resource programs that allow the students to benefit from courses that may not be offered at other institutions. The curriculum includes: artistry program (taxidermy), mechanical systems, agriculture business management, introduction and advanced biology and zoology and advanced natural resources.



The programs NA-J offers are certainly important and somewhat unique, but the real prize of NA-J's FFA program lies in the special projects, after school activities and community involvement that Michael Everett and others initiated.

One of the premier projects Everett's students have been working on is the 1963 Triumph (650cc). "Working on the bike is fun and the project gets everyone together," said Webb. The Triumph is special to Everett and the FFA's 75th anniversary because it was featured in the FFA magazine during the 1950's and 1960's. National Blue and Corn Gold were chosen as the bike's primary colors to honor the 75th anniversary of the FFA organization.

Apart from the motorcycle, NA-J offers students opportunities in the classroom. Their artistry program teaches the students how to perform the art of taxidermy for class credit. The quality of the students taxidermy

work is no less than what you would expect from your local shop.

Outside of the classroom the students are encouraged to stay focused and compete. Everett teaches and supervises a summer air rifle program for those who want to compete in target shooting. Students are able to stay in touch with each other and have fun in a productive and safe environment. The target practice also prepares them for the fall's "big buck contest."

NA-J FFA big buck contest is held every fall. Contestants from all around the area put their five dollars in the pool in hopes of bringing the big one home. The contest and dinner builds awareness of the FFA programs. "It's a great way to get the kids involved, to get the community interested and it's fun," said Everett.

To find out more about NA-J visit their web site at: <http://najps.org>



FFA 75th ANNIVERSARY Continuing the Legacy

By Enomhen Odigie

The 1960's was an important decade for advancing the Michigan FFA. In 1965, the New Farmers of America merged with FFA. In 1966, the National Convention launched the Ag Career Show. In 1969, women were extended national membership.



1960

The 1959-1960 Michigan State Officers gather at the 1960 National FFA Convention.



Doing to Learn

By Amy Jolliff and Scott Smalley

Amy Garrison of the Lenawee Vo-Tech P.M. FFA Chapter was named the 2003 AgriScience Student of the Year. This award recognizes high school students studying the application of scientific principles and emerging technologies in the agricultural industry.

The program provides scholarships to FFA members planning to pursue a college degree in agricultural science while helping to provide a reliable supply of AgriScience graduates to meet the private and public agribusiness sectors' needs. It is also designed to educate parents, school officials and the public about career and placements opportunities available for AgriScience students.

"The FFA has played a major role in enhancing my AgriScience project," Garrison said. "More importantly, FFA has opened doors for me, and continues to give me many opportunities to excel and become an outstanding leader, researcher and student."

Garrison was recognized for her study involving the effect of an EQUIP cattle crossing on a stream's water quality. She started

her research with the goal of determining if a cattle crossing developed through the government funded EQUIP program had an effect on the pH, turbidity, temperature, flow rate, or number of fecal coli form bacterial colonies in a stream.

Garrison's hypothesis was if the cattle crossing were installed, then the overall quality of the water will increase because there would be less sediment disturbance and fecal waste being directly distributed into the stream.


Garrison's study concluded that when cattle crossings are constructed over streams, the water quality improved at the crossing, and continued to improve farther downstream of the crossing.

"If it could be proven that crossings can drastically improve water quality this could mean a major breakthrough," Garrison said. "Since contamination by livestock has overtime become a bigger and bigger controversy. By putting these crossings up farmers wouldn't be hassled as much by the public saying that their animals are polluting the water in their area."

"FFA has encouraged me to participate in science fairs, doing research experiments, and gaining agricultural knowledge," Garrison said. "FFA has helped me realize that in doing this AgriScience project I can very possibly have an impact on the future of agriculture. Being involved with FFA has shed light on soil, livestock and water quality controversies.

I have a much better appreciation for agriculture, and everything that goes along with it."

Garrison's application of classroom knowledge to a real world problem earned her the title of Michigan AgriScience Student of the Year. Next, she will represent Michigan on the National level.

The AgriScience Student recognition program is sponsored by Dow Chemical, as a special project of the Michigan FFA Foundation. 



1965

Michigan FFA members and affiliates join for a meal during the 1965 National Convention. In this year, the New Farmers of America, an organization for African American Ag Education students merged with the FFA, adding 50,000 members.



1966

1965-66 National President and National Vice President meet during the 1966 National Convention. The 1966 convention was the first convention at which The FFA National Agricultural Career Show appeared.

Earning to Live

By Kara Butters and Kendra Butters

As the FFA mission states, "FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education."

Career success... many individuals can attest to the fact that the skills they learned in FFA have helped shape their success in the workforce. One such individual is Bart Marshall.

Attending his first state FFA convention at the age of seven, Marshall's interest in FFA began at an early age. Marshall became an active member of the Quincy FFA chapter, continuing the legacy of his family's FFA involvement. Growing up

on a cash crop, sheep and dairy farm, Marshall's SAE consisted of purebred Suffolk sheep, which led to his involvement in national sales, shows and competitions.

"FFA is a tradition that was passed to me by my father and a tradition that I will pass to my children as well."

After graduating from Michigan State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Ag Economics, Marshall was employed by Dow AgroSciences. He held several positions within the company including serving as a member of the commercial development

program doing in-field market research, customer support specialist

and sales representative. These positions allowed him to live and travel around the nation. Currently, he serves as a sales specialist for southern Michigan and lives on his family farm with his wife, Lynn, son Nicholas and daughter Allison.

What were some of your favorite FFA activities?

My most vivid memories of my FFA involvement include being active in contests, such as parliamentary procedure, extemporaneous public speaking, demonstration, and livestock judging. I also enjoyed the leadership aspect of FFA and served as a chapter officer, regional president, the 1984-1985 State President and the 1987 National Officer




Candidate. Through my involvement I was able to earn my State and American FFA Degrees and became a national proficiency finalist for sheep production.

What do you value most about your FFA experience?

Although I value much from my FFA experience, the most important skill I obtained was effective communication and working with others. The FFA trained me to operate in group settings and influence the way others think. I can attribute 90 percent of my success to my FFA experience.

What did you learn as an FFA member that has helped you at Dow AgroSciences?

Through my involvement in FFA and production agriculture, I learned that success requires hard work. It is fundamental to farming, FFA, a career, and developing a strong family. FFA also taught me how to prosper using my strengths and talents to propel myself forward in the business world. 



1967

Roger Bloss, pictured here with his wife Linda in Waterloo, Iowa was the recipient of the 1967 Star Dairy Farmer Award.



1969

Star State Farmer Albertson receives his award at the 40th annual State Convention.



Living to Serve

By Matthew Kapp

Locally, a group of Maple Valley High School students are already providing service through their FFA chapter. The Maple Valley FFA chapter has been busy fulfilling one aspect of the organization's motto by "living to serve."

During his State of the Union address President Bush asked all Americans to contribute at least two years of service to their country.

In a PARADE magazine article Bush says, "The character of the American people is the enduring strength of our country. And Americans understand that the best way to fight evil is by doing good."

Maple Valley High School students have answered President George W. Bush's call to serve their country. Their service exists not on the frontlines, but right in their community.

According to Mr. Aaron Sarri, Maple Valley FFA adviser, one community service project the Maple Valley FFA commits to is environmental stewardship. To preserve natural resources and to develop more environmentally responsible individuals, the Maple Valley FFA practices no-till cultivation on its 32-acre land laboratory. No till cultivation allows for working the ground once instead of repeatedly, conserving soil for future use. Maple Valley also hosts service seminars to educate farmers of the benefits of no-till cultivation. These environmental practices portray the message to area producers that younger agriculturalists want to preserve the soil for generations to come.

Chapter members promote active citizenship by promoting agriculture to urban children during Project Rural Education Day at Michigan State University (MSU). The chapter brought pigs to the event and drew the cuts of meat on them to show the everyday products obtained from pigs.

"It was nice to teach kids about agriculture who do not know much about it,"



stated Tommy Griffin, Maple Valley FFA President. Project Rural Education Day is designed to educate inner city children about agriculture.

To further educate children about agriculture, the Maple Valley FFA chapter hosts an annual elementary petting zoo. The petting zoo is for all K-3 students in the school district, and establishes a relationship between the elementary school and local FFA chapter. More importantly, the zoo educates young children about agriculture by giving background information on all animals. "It was fun to teach kids about farm animals and see the kids smile and laugh," declared, Maple Valley FFA Sentinel Jennifer Dunn.

Chapter members also support the economy of their community by volunteering in the Vermontville Maple Syrup Festival. The festival attracts visitors from across Michigan. The tourists bring an economic gain to

the area. Chris Creguer Region III Vice President of the Michigan FFA says, "A major part of our organization is community service at the chapter level. Everyone should devote a portion of their life to serving others. The results are rewarding to people on both ends. You have to be a functioning part of the community in order to get support from the community."

Mr. Sarri says, "One of the best parts of my job is watching my students learn the benefits of community service. The students start to establish a relationship with their community. By establishing this relationship, the students learn to take pride in their community, along with becoming an active citizen."

The Maple Valley FFA is very active in their community. Through service projects, the chapter is trying to achieve their motto, while fulfilling the call to service by President Bush. ♪



1970

Harry Birdwell, the 1969-1970 National FFA president, receives an award during the National Convention. In the year following this convention, the National FFA Alumni Association, which now has over 42,000 members was founded.



1971

1970-71 Michigan State President, John Young, speaks to a crowd at the Michigan State Convention.

Member Highlights

By Ryan McBride
Miranda Smith

Region 1 Bobby Jo Ludwick




Bobby Jo Ludwick

Once a Greenhand, now a green thumb, Bobby Jo Ludwick of the Bronson FFA chapter has been digging up new opportunities through her landscape and nursery operation SAE.

Bobby's SAE began at a young age when helping her mother with flower beds. She enjoys the outdoors and watching results from her work grow and blossom.

Currently, Bobby is working on plans to expand her SAE with a beehive colony to accommodate local cucumber farmers.

"Attending the National FFA convention career show has really helped me advance my SAE," stated Bobby. "I believe the FFA has helped me develop more confidence and meet a lot of new people, while allowing me to build career skills like time management, responsibility and creativity."

Bobby plans on attending college to major in veterinary medicine. 


Region 2 Jessica Knox

Jessica Knox, a Greenhand from the Sand Creek FFA, wakes each morning to the wagging tail of Buddy, a German Shepard-Lab dog.

Buddy is the centerpiece of Jessica's Small Animal Entrepreneurship SAE project.

Jessica's SAE involves raising her dog and training him for obstacle course events. Recently, as part of Jessica's SAE, she built an obstacle course in her backyard.

Jessica's SAE tasks include daily care for Buddy and spending hours teaching him new tricks or perfecting something on the obstacle course.


"The FFA has taught me to be a leader and how to make smart business decisions," said Jessica. "I plan to stay active in the FFA and eventually attend Michigan State University, studying veterinary medicine." 

Region 3 Michelle Warczinsky

Michelle Warczinsky, a member of the Sanilac FFA chapter has developed a Specialty Animal Production SAE that focuses on training and breeding Walker dogs.

With the help of her father, Michelle's SAE has advanced beyond caring for the dogs of other people into breeding and training her own dogs for professional shows.

"Record keeping, patience and customer relations are only a few of the skills that I have developed from my SAE and FFA experience," said Michelle. "I believe that all FFA members should take advantage of the valuable opportunities a SAE offers."

Currently Michelle is attending Michigan State University majoring in Animal Science. After college, Michelle plans on applying her degree with a career at the Thornapple Feed and Supply and ultimately beginning her own farming operation. 



Jessica Knox



Michelle Warczinsky

Region 4 Amanda Kowalski

Amanda Kowalski, a member of the Roosevelt FFA, enjoys working in her chapter's flower shop as the focal point of her SAE.

Amanda, along with several other students in the Roosevelt AgriScience program has the opportunity to spend part of the semester working and operating the flower shop as part of her SAE.

Amanda was selected as one of the leaders in the flower shop, which provides her the opportunity to spend more class time working and expanding her design and management skills.

Currently, Amanda works several hours a week managing the flower shops sales, designing flower arrangements and delivering orders to clients throughout the school.

"Customer service and proper floral care are two of the greatest skills I have gained from my SAE," said Amanda. "My SAE and work experience is just like having a full-time job at a working flower shop."

Amanda is currently on the dance team at Roosevelt High School and hopes to be a dance choreographer after graduation.

Region 5 Becky Stevens

Becky Stevens, a junior from the Belding FFA, has established a SAE that both challenges and rewards her in ways that most FFA members never experience.

Becky's SAE involves volunteering at a local horse stable and helping handicapped children ride horses.

Becky's SAE tasks include choosing a horse for the individual person based on horse and rider personalities. She then guides or walks next to their horse to insure the rider enjoys a peaceful ride. Becky also encourages the children to help groom and take care of the horses.

Becky works at the stables almost every night after school, some nights returning home after 10 p.m. However, she doesn't mind spending this much time volunteering for something she loves so much.

"Being able to help young kids live a fuller, more enjoyable life is the greatest reward my SAE project provides me," said Becky. "I hope to continue my SAE by becoming a horse trainer or horse chiropractor in the future."

Becky plans to attend Michigan State University and study animal or equine science.

Region 6 Ashley Skiera

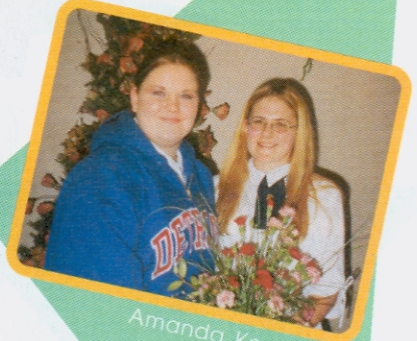
Ashley Skiera of the Alpena Chapter loves raising steers and feeder calves for her county fair as part of her SAE project.

"Responsibility and commitment are the two greatest skills I have learned while taking part in the SAE program," said Ashley. "I really believe that each year, I learn something new from my SAE. It has been a lot of fun and rewarding."

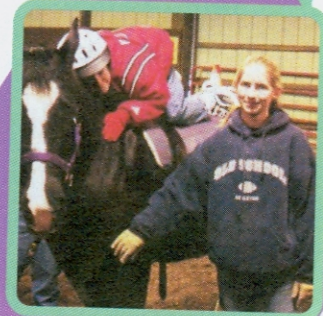
Ashley has been very active in leading her FFA chapter while serving as the treasurer and secretary.

After graduation, Ashley plans to attend Alpena Community College and later transfer to Lake Superior State University to pursue a degree that will help her with her career aspirations of being a conservation officer.

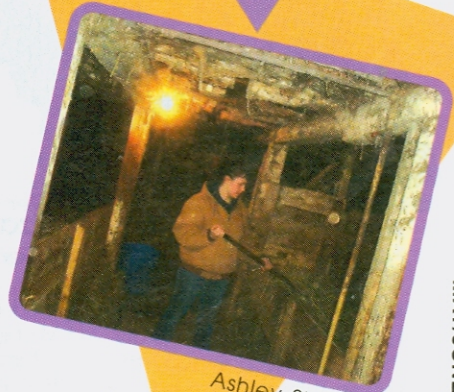
Besides her FFA activities, Ashley enjoys playing softball and is also a member of the National Honor Society.



Amanda Kowalski



Becky Stevens



Ashley Skiera

Submit your SAE or one of your student's SAEs!

Email Scott Smalley at smalley.scott11@hotmail.com

Say what?

Regional Responses to Current Issues

The question: What do you think is the biggest issue facing Michigan agriculture?

Region 1



Heather Frakes
Vicksburg FFA

Sanitation issues will continue to press Michigan agriculture. Around my area, many dairy farms are closing because they do not practice proper sanitation and waste removal. Other than sanitation issues, Michigan is doing extremely well. ♪

Region 2



Steve Uhl
Dundee FFA

Michigan agriculture will continue to face weather problems, just like anywhere else. I believe that last year's low yields should spark some interest on how to improve production practices in the future. ♪

Region 3



Jenna Rose
Birch Run FFA

Availability of land and quality of our commodities will continue to challenge Michigan agriculture in the future. Many producers and companies continuously focus on producing large quantities of GM commodities rather than providing products consumers desire. ♪



Region 4



Aaron Fountain
Dansville FFA

Michigan is losing farm land and wildlife areas rapidly. I believe the only way to lessen this problem is to educate the public and make the government aware of our concerns. ♪

Region 5



Elizabeth Eadie
Ravenna FFA

The biggest issue facing Michigan agriculture in the future is urban sprawl. With the addition of every house, precious farmland that can never be restored to its original use is sacrificed. ♪

Region 6



Diana Niswander
Petoskey FFA

The lack of windbreaks for soil erosion will threaten Michigan agriculture. Soil is the foundation for planting, so it must be preserved. With the loss of topsoil and fertile land, a farmer cannot have a successful harvest. ♪

Share & Win!

We appreciate the input students provide for this page. If you would like to submit your thoughts on urban sprawl, please contact Michigan's FFA State Reporter, Scott Smalley, at smalley_scott11@hotmail.com. So come on and speak your mind, so you can strut your stuff in this stylish FFA t-shirt.



What's up?

Regional Happenings



Matt



Brandon



Chris



Laura



Miranda



Sofia

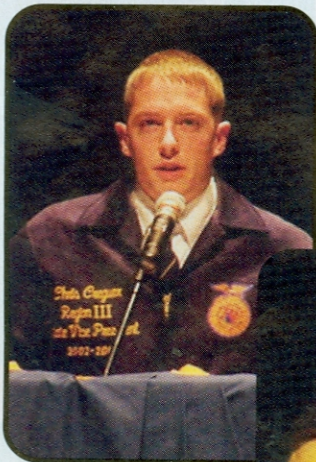
Living out the FFA legacy

Leadership is found in those who desire to serve others. It is proven by deeds, and earned by building those around you. Each of you has the potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. It is up to you to find it inside of yourselves!

To achieve your personal premier leadership takes perseverance. This year of service has truly reinforced in each of us that all FFA members have the ability to be excellent! We challenge you to never give up, persevere, reach for your goals and live your dreams!



The 2002-2003 Regional vice-presidents relax together after performing their reflections at the Wharton Center.



Region III Vice-President Chris Creueger addresses FFA members during a session at State Convention.


The altitude of your personal growth is determined by your attitude. Attitude can cross oceans or it can flood valleys. We encourage each of you to strive to build a positive attitude in yourself and those around you.

It takes courage to achieve your career success. Such courage is found in battling obstacles, which are keeping you from conquering your goals. Courage is found in standing for what you believe. Courage can

intertwine with your passion to succeed and make you stronger than any obstacle that may stand in your way.

You are the one! To achieve your premier leadership,

personal growth and career success be committed to persevering, building a positive attitude and showcasing your courage. With these valuable qualities you will make a difference!

As your 2002-2003 Regional State Vice Presidents, we challenge each member to live out the legacy of the Michigan FFA. 



Miranda Smith and Brandon Strong presents a piece of "It Doesn't Stop Here," from the regional vice-presidents' reflections.

The Cornerstone

Michigan FFA Foundation News



Executive Director

Corey Flournoy



Making it happen!

Spring Break...Prom... Graduation...Summer Break...Amusement Park... Vacations...Grade promotion...or for some COLLEGE!!

Think about it. Time moves so quickly and before you know it; another school year has started. Ultimately, as time moves on, it is time to start the whole process over with greater challenges and new adventures.

As the new Executive Director, I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for the Michigan FFA Association and the Michigan FFA Foundation. A new day has come to build partnerships with every chapter in the state as we prepare to take Michigan FFA to the next level.

Now is the time for new programs, greater leadership experiences, State Convention additions, and additional state officer visits - all adding to a greater experience for you as a Michigan FFA member.

Your part in the new day

These opportunities can only become reality through a partnership with every FFA chapter and various businesses/corporations across the state.

As a chapter or even a member, how can you help? We have three ways:

Encourage local businesses to participate

We need more chapters and regions to become actively involved in seeking new local contributors and providing donations to support the work of the Foundation.

Provide a list of contacts and referrals to the Foundation

The foundation staff visit many companies and corporations throughout the state to seek support for various programs. Whenever possible, we need

personal contacts that can help build lasting, personal relationships with potential contributors.

Encourage parents, teachers and administrators to contribute

About 95% of the current funding for the Foundation comes from corporations and businesses throughout the state. We need additional individual contributors to offset the potential risk of corporate budget cuts and add to the growth of the organization.

Even a \$20 donation can make the difference for a FFA member wanting to attend the Washington Leadership Conference or receiving an award on stage at the convention. As always, contributions are tax deductible. So become part

of the new day, help support the Michigan FFA Foundation. (2)

Help fuel agriculture and natural resources education for K-12 students across the state and commemorate Michigan's farm roots by ordering your Agricultural Heritage license plate today!

QUESTIONS?

contact...

Michigan FFA Foundation
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Lansing, MI 48909
Phone: (517) 323-6569
Fax: (517) 323-6541
E-Mail: foundation@michiganffa.com



ALUMNI *in action*

By Jeremy Glaspie

Pizza Party and Dance

On Monday March 3rd the Michigan FFA Alumni Association sponsored another awesome pizza party and dance after the first convention session of the 75th Michigan FFA State Convention. With over 1,000 FFA members in attendance, the FFA rocked West Akers Hall for two hours, non-stop.

"It was great to see so many FFA members sharing in the fun, while kicking off the first night of the 75th Michigan FFA State Convention," said State Sentinel Bill Darke. If you missed the pizza party and dance this year, the alumni hope to see you there next year.

Outstanding Affiliates

Every year at the Michigan FFA Alumni Annual meeting, the premier alumni chapters or

Michigan FFA Alumni Officers

President - Keith Smith
Vice President - Floyd Beneker
Secretary - Leslie Donovan
Region I VP - Larry Martz
Region II VP - Brent Leininger
Region III VP - Dave Armbruster
Region IV VP - Bryan Proseha
Region V VP - Jim May
Region VI VP - Charles Snyder
At-Large Director - Jeremy Glaspie
Administrative Director -
Matthew Swego



Newly elected State President Ryan Peterson dances with Alyssa Reniger from the Marshall FFA chapter.

"affiliates" in the state are chosen. Each affiliate must complete a 20 page award application highlighting what they do to support their local FFA program. This year, there were two exemplary affiliate awards given to top-notch affiliates, the Lowell Agricultural Supporters and the Marshall FFA Alumni.

Receiving the award for the 1-25 member affiliate category was the Lowell Agricultural Supporters, who support the local Lowell FFA chapter.

This past year, the Lowell Agricultural Supporters raised almost \$20,000 to assist with scholarship opportunities for local FFA members, expanding leadership opportunities, and enhancing agricultural education.

In addition to raising money, the Lowell Agricultural Supporters also support the Lowell Chapter by helping members raise

fair projects, assist with parade floats, and run the local Wittenbach Agriscience Center.

Receiving the award for the 60 plus member affiliate category, was the Marshall FFA Alumni. The Alumni hosts the annual donkey basketball and citrus sales and provides the chapter with hands-on help with various activities.

One of the largest projects the Alumni assists with is the legacy-learning program, which helps Marshall senior citizens become computer literate. Over 160 Marshall senior citizens have become computer literate because of the efforts of Marshall's FFA chapter and its' Alumni.

Does your affiliate contribute to the success of your local FFA? Does your local affiliate have unique programs? If so, urge the members of your affiliate to fill out the Outstanding Affiliate Award Application. You never know... your local affiliate could be the next Outstanding Affiliate recipient.

Hear the Call

You didn't have to wear the Jacket to be a part of it! Did you know most Michigan FFA Alumni members were never FFA members? Believe it or not, most people hear the call to join the Michigan FFA Alumni to support the cause of bettering agricultural education and leadership development.

Can you hear the call? The Michigan FFA Alumni are always looking for people that believe in advancing Michigan FFA members potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education.


If you want more information on how to join the Michigan FFA Alumni Association, please contact us today. ☎

Contact Information

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Ever Wear One of These?



Randy Butters, former Homer FFA member, said, "My first FFA jacket was given to a friend after I purchased a new one. Much to my enjoyment that jacket I gave away was returned this year after traveling from Alabama, Texas and overseas for 32 years. While my other jacket hangs in my closet, my wife and I have five children who have all proudly worn blue and gold jackets. Charles Snyder was my ag teacher and FFA advisor, and he started the annual trip to National Convention that I attended in 1967 and again in 1999-2002. One thing that I miss today is not seeing the FFA jackets worn on the street and at school, as they were when I first saw them and wanted to be a part of this wonderful organization." 

The Michigan FFA Foundation wants to know:

WHERE'S YOUR JACKET?

Have you proudly worn a FFA jacket or cared about someone who did? If so, let us know! Michigan FFA Foundation • P.O. Box 26111 • Lansing, MI 48909 Leadership is found in those who desire to serve others. It is proven by deeds, and earned by building those around you. Each of you has the potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. It is up to you to find it inside of yourselves!