



FFA Alumni Association

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER — 1982

YOUR INVITATION TO THE ELEVENTH NATIONAL FFA ALUMNI CONVENTION

from

Your National President, Harold D. Lineberry

The Eleventh National FFA Alumni Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, November 10 and 11, in Room 209 of the H. Roe Bartle Center in Kansas City, Missouri.

The FFA Alumni schedule has been set to allow members an opportunity to attend a major portion of the FFA Convention scheduled for November 11-13.

Each state is urged to send its full quota of Alumni delegates to transact the business of the Association.

All Alumni members are invited and encouraged to attend both the FFA Alumni and the FFA conventions.

Special recognition is planned for the Outstanding Alumni Affiliates, the Outstanding Alumni Achievement Award winners, the Legion of Merit Award winners, and the Honorary American Farmer Degree recipients. Scholarships to the 1983 Washington Leadership Conference will be awarded, and special Alumni sponsored leadership workshops will be conducted for FFA members, advisors, and Alumni members.

Please come and join us. You should secure your hotel room reservations immediately. Expected attendance is over 21,000 for the FFA and FFA Alumni conventions.

YOUR WISHES COME TRUE . . .

Your wishes of having the National FFA Alumni Convention not in conflict with the National FFA Convention will be done this fall. The Alumni convention starts Wednesday, November 10, 1:30 P.M., all awards and recognitions will be done at this time. From 3:45-5:00 P.M. are rap sessions which include the topics: membership, local activities, state & national activities, starting new local FFA Alumni affiliates, government & FFA Foundation relations. The delegate reception will again be held at the Presidential Suite at the Hotel Muehlebach, Wednesday evening, 5-10:00 P.M. with a break for the FFA Vespers program. Thursday, November 11, the business session of the National FFA Alumni will start at 9:00 A.M. and probably be done around 11:15 A.M.

FFA CONVENTION SPEAKERS

Added to the list of star attractions for this year's National FFA Convention are Dale Evans and Eddie Albert, star of television and film. Those who attended last year's convention will remember Mr. Albert's surprise appearance and enthusiastic support for the FFA. Also scheduled to appear is long-time FFA supporter Sen. Jesse Helms, R.N.C., Chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry.

Other NOTABLE SPEAKERS have been tentatively confirmed to appear at the National Convention. The latest list includes Agriculture Secretary John Block; "Little House on the Prairie's" Melissa Gilbert; and American Royal entertainer Barbara Mandrell.

SOUTH DAKOTA COMPLETES FFA ALUMNI INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Doug Wevik, South Dakota FFA Alumni Intern, recently completed 2½ months of extensive work in helping local vocational agriculture instructors and interested adults to organize FFA Alumni affiliates in their local communities. Wevik traveled throughout the state visiting and holding meetings on the organization of local FFA Alumni affiliates.

Through Wevik's efforts twelve FFA Alumni affiliates have been organized. His internship resulted from a special grant from the South Dakota Department of Agriculture.

MINNESOTA FFA OFFICERS BECOME LIFE MEMBERS



The 1981-82 Minnesota FFA State Officers are pictured presenting \$100 checks for their Life membership in the National FFA Alumni Association. Accepting the checks are Jack Stewart, National Vice President Western Region and Mel Lloyd, Past President Minnesota FFA Alumni Association.

Pictured from left to right: Deborah Huiras, Past State Reporter, Sleepy Eye; Michael Dove, Past State Vice President, Correll; Patrick Duncanson, Past State President, Mapleton; Jack Stewart; Mel Lloyd; Pat Daninger, Past State Sentinel, Forest Lake; George Peichel, Past State Treasurer, Fairfax; and Peg Zenk, Past State Secretary, Danube.

This is the first Minnesota FFA officer team to become Life members in the National FFA Alumni Association.

YOU CAN WIN

All FFA Alumni members are encouraged to win the Legion of Merit Award this year. To qualify for this special Citation, all you need to do is enroll ten or more NEW FFA Alumni members, or five Life Members this year, or five 1982 FFA Executive Sponsors. You must send their names and yours along with the official application to the National FFA Alumni Office. Applications are available from the FFA Alumni Office or any state FFA office.

After all, it's your leadership, your personal effort, and your initiative that counts. Help foster the growth of the FFA Alumni Association and demonstrate your faith by qualifying for your special Legion of Merit Award this year. The awards are presented during the national meeting in November.

REFLECTIONS OF THE WASHINGTON SCENE

Jim Honey, Vocational Agriculture Instructor at Carthage, Missouri, and President of the Missouri Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association was selected as the first FFA Alumni Vocational Agriculture instructor intern. His one-month stay (June) in Washington D.C. has resulted in the following observations.

The Vocational Agriculture Instructor Governmental Affairs Intern program is designed to provide an educational experience for the intern, to provide Vocational Agriculture information to individuals involved in Federal Vocational Education legislation and to provide information to teachers of Agriculture on governmental affairs activities at the national level.

The National FFA Alumni works in cooperation with the American Vocational Association, The National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association, and the National FFA Center Staff in studying and supporting the Vocational Agriculture Program at the national level.

During my orientation to Washington, it was stressed that a Vocational Educator must be aware of how the Federal legislative process works and be able to apply that knowledge in communicating to the Congress the needs of Vocational Education.

My area of concentration was to contact Senators on the Labor and Human Resources Committee to express the concerns of Vocational Agriculture Education. During my visits with Congressmen and Legislative Aides, I stressed that I was providing information and offering possible sources for testifying at any of their committee hearings. Most were knowledgeable about Vocational Education, but needed a review as to where Vocational Agriculture fit into the program. I noted in my visits that testimony had been presented three times in recent months on behalf of Vocational Education in Agriculture to House Sub-Committees with the following representatives for Agriculture Education: Phillip Alampi, Secretary of Agriculture, New Jersey and member of the National FFA Alumni Council; David C. Thomas, Chairman of the AVA Agriculture Education Division National Advisory Council and Director of Member Services, Milk Marketing, Inc., Strongsville, Ohio; and Rob Hovis, Vocational Agriculture Instructor, Convoy, Ohio. Speakers of such caliber have enhanced the communication of Vocational Agriculture Education's positions at this vital level.

Vocational Education Reauthorization, the Administration's proposals of block grants, and reduced funding for Vocational Education were usually part of conversations with the Congressmen I visited. Vocational Agriculture does not support the President's plan for block granting and reduced funding for Vocational Education. Most Senators are in agreement with that position. Therefore, the President will have a hard time making his proposals a reality.

Senator Thomas Eagleton recently released a statement to President Reagan stating that Congress should reject the Administration's efforts to tamper with Vocational Education. I believe that Senator Eagleton was speaking for the majority of Senators and Aides I contacted and that Vocational Education is a popular program with Congress.

Other contacts made on behalf of the FFA Alumni Association were the National Farm Organizations, Department of Education officials, both National political parties and White House Staff Members. During these visits I again stressed that Vocational Education should be a national priority and that substantial financial support should continue.

In summary, the results of my month in Washington D.C. have been to give additional exposure to Vocational Agriculture Education, to gather feedback from the levels where policies affecting Vocational Education are being formulated and provide information that will hopefully influence future policies.

DAVID C. THOMAS PRESENTS CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY



David C. Thomas (pictured at left) is being congratulated for his excellent testimony by Congressman Carl Perkins, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Elementary, Secondary, and Vocational Education of the U.S. House of Representatives. Mr. Thomas, Chairperson of the Advisory Council of the Agriculture Education Division of the American Vocational Association, represented the AVA as one of ten persons presenting testimony on May 18 and 19. Mr. Thomas is Director of Member Services for Milk Marketing, Inc., in Strongsville, Ohio. He presently serves as Chairperson of the National FFA Alumni Committee on Government and is a past National FFA Alumni President. His 15-page testimony has been reproduced by the FFA Alumni and is available upon request from the national office to any Alumni member.

GRANGE RESOLUTION

The National Grange passed the following resolution which has been distributed to the Education and Labor Committee members of Congress.

RESOLVED, that the National Grange support legislation to extend and improve the Vocational Education Reauthorization Act, which includes provisions for:

1. Full-time supervision in agricultural education at the state and national levels;
2. Identifying and defining vocational agriculture as one of the major vocational program areas;
3. Identifying vocational student organizations as an integral and vital part of each state plan for vocational education instructional areas;
4. Vocational programs which prepare students whose occupational objectives relate to entrepreneurship and instruction that will encourage and assist entrepreneurship;
5. Construction, improvement, and updating of vocational agricultural education facilities in all settings;
6. The development and supervision of occupational experience programs (FFA), including provisions where crucial, for year-round instruction from professional agriculture educators; and
7. Supplemental and full-time instructions for adults in agricultural program areas is vital to the industry and should be provided for by a separate title in the legislation, and be it

RESOLVED, that Subordinate Granges become familiar with local Voc-Ag FFA Advisory Board and/or FFA Alumni support affiliates to make sure vocational agriculture is available to provide quality vocational agriculture for all persons interested in preparing for a career in the agriculture business.

ALEXANDER, OHIO AFFILIATE TRIPLES MEMBERSHIP

With a goal to double membership, the Alexander Alumni Affiliate Albany, Ohio, has already tripled their membership. Support activities for the group include assisting the chapter with an animal nursery through the summer, serving two dinners as a fundraising project, and the construction of a new building for the chapter. During the first four days of the building campaign, they collected over \$5,000.00 and are beginning to receive commitments of large donations at this time. The Alumni are hoping to get the ground broken this fall.

ALUMNI PRESENTS WEA SCHOLARSHIP

The National FFA Alumni presented a scholarship worth \$119 to Jody R. Bischoff of the Hustisford FFA Chapter in Juneau, Wisconsin. The Work Experience Abroad scholarship is given annually to an FFA member from the state with the most WEA participants. The scholarship amount is based on one dollar for each of the FFA Alumni WEA Affiliate members. Jody was presented a trophy and 99 one dollar bills just prior to her departure for Europe. We have already received a thank you letter, postmarked in Luxemburg, stating that she thanks all Alumni for this scholarship and that she has already put it to use on her educational experiences in Europe.

NPASO SUPPORT

The National FFA Alumni sponsored a reception and workshop on governmental affairs for the Board members of the National Postsecondary Agriculture Student Organization. At the NPASO's national meeting, the FFA Alumni sponsored awards for their National Speaking Contest.

The Vocational and Adult Education Budget has been finalized with \$760 million provided for fiscal year 1983. This \$20 million boost over this year's level was passed on June 22 by both the House and Senate. The 1983 budget which shows a small increase for vocational education is the result of the strong voice of support being expressed by vocational educators and supporters such as FFA Alumni members. Attention now switches to the Appropriations Committee which is the next step in the funding process. They will decide whether to stay within the budget's functional allowances or shift money from one program to another. Congress has not supported the proposals calling for major budget cuts, block grants, and elimination of the federal role for the vocational education program this year. Your individual expressions of concern and support are proving to be very important in the future of vocational agriculture.

PHILLIP ALAMPI RETIRES AS NEW JERSEY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

Dr. Phillip Alampi, Eastern Region Representative on the National FFA Alumni Council, retired on July 1 after 26 years as Secretary of Agriculture in New Jersey. Dr. Alampi taught vocational agriculture for ten years. He was a charter member of the FFA and one of the first American Farmer recipients. He describes himself as a former migrant laborer who traveled from farm to farm with his family. Dr. Alampi will continue his active participation on the National FFA Alumni Council until his term ends at the National Convention in November.

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

The National FFA Alumni has provided 33 scholarships worth \$250 each for FFA members to attend this summer's Washington Conference. A trophy is presented in recognition of their winning. This week-long experience is very motivational and provides a great experience.

FFA ALUMNI SALUTES THE 1982 EXECUTIVE SPONSORS

The following have contributed \$100 or more in 1982 as an investment toward the vocational agriculture-FFA program. The Executive Sponsor funds directly support the prestigious Star Greenhand, Star Farmer, and Star Agribusinessman Award programs and the FFA Alumni Association. Persons listed below have become Executive Sponsors since our Spring Newsletter.

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| CALIFORNIA | | Merlyn Groot | Manson | James G. Miller | Mississippi State |
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WELCOME NEW LIFE MEMBERS

The prestigious roster of Life Members has reached 3,317. As a Life Member you may designate that, upon your death, the \$100 lifetime dues be presented as a memorial scholarship to an FFA member in a chapter or state of your choice, or as a permanent trust for the FFA Alumni. For those Life Members who do not designate otherwise, their \$100 will automatically be designated to the permanent trust fund as a memorial to the Life Member upon his or her death. As a Life Member, you will receive a special Life Membership card, Life Membership certificate, and lifetime subscription to *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine. The following have become Life Members since our last newsletter.

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Raymond D. Hagan | Jefferson City, Missouri | Roger A. Wehde | Dell Rapids, South Dakota | Charles McIlwee | Winchester, Virginia |
| Glen Ruder | Osseo, Michigan | Eudene Gullickson | Flandreau, South Dakota | Gladys Brumback | Winchester, Virginia |
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| Wes Sandall | Bassett, Nebraska | Wilfred Roe, Sr. | Whitewater, Wisconsin | Ken Hendrew | LeRoy, Illinois |
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| Ronald Hula | Brainard, Nebraska | Barbara Haverland | Lowry City, Missouri | Tim Marcum | LeRoy, Illinois |
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| Mary Kay Kubik | Weston, Nebraska | Jeff Rudd | Yanceyville, North Carolina | A. K. Golden | LeRoy, Illinois |
| Chuck Meirose | Hartington, Nebraska | Dave Miller | Denmark, Wisconsin | Barry Watts | Galena, Missouri |
| Paul Koch | Hartington, Nebraska | Alan Kudick | Denmark, Wisconsin | Clare Edwin Monroe | Pittsford, Michigan |
| Tony Koch | Hartington, Nebraska | Randy L. McCallon | Murray, Kentucky | Claud Cluff | Mesa, Arizona |
| Lawrence Pinter | Abbotsford, Wisconsin | Robert F. Hoser | Washington, New Jersey | Doug Kinghorn | Mesa, Arizona |
| Duane Broeske | Abbotsford, Wisconsin | Evelyn B. MacQuiddy | Winterhaven, California | Richard Sawyer | Mesa, Arizona |
| Leonard Allemann | Abbotsford, Wisconsin | David C. Roddide | Yuma, Arizona | Wayne Gerlach | Cascade, Wisconsin |
| Steve Kraus | Argyle, Wisconsin | Ethel Sherman | Lowry City, Missouri | Russel Kalk | Plymouth Wisconsin |
| George Roberts, Jr. | Denmark, Wisconsin | Lawrence Erpelding | Manhattan, Kansas | Valerie Parks | New Concord, Ohio |
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| Florence Sabatka | Brainard, Nebraska | Charles Jackson, Jr. | Berryville, Virginia | Bill Marlatt | Shoshoni, Wyoming |
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Newsletter

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