

APPLICATION FOR CHARTER

Beck's Bay,

chapters and 116.5.....members, and being empowered to act for this  
number  
organization, do hereby make application to be chartered as branch of  
the "Future Farmers of America".

\$5.00, to cover cost of issuing charter.

[illegible]

Secretary.....

for the success of the organization.

attached hereto is correct.

Signed: R. G. Martini

U. L. 24 State President

.....  
*John. Petrosky*.....

" " " State Secretary

State Advisor

Future Farmers of America

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE Keystone BRANCH OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF  
(State)  
AMERICA

DATE 25<sup>th</sup> OF Sept, 19 29

1. (a) When was state chapter organized? June 30 1929  
(b) When was national charter received? We hope soon
2. (a) Number local chapters in the state organization Fifteen  
(b) Number paid up members in the state organization 165  
(c) Amount dues paid to nat'l organization by state organization Tell us and we will  
(d) Amount national dues still unpaid none

3. State objectives for the past year and how reached:

*For present included in Constitution & by laws. Copy of which was sent you.*

4. Thrift:

- (a) Amount in savings accounts We  
(b) Amount invested in farming can not  
(c) Amount in other investments data before  
(d) Amount in checking accounts collect this

Total thrift accounts Jan 1930

5. Attach copies of state hand book, initiation ceremonies, songs and yells or other material that could be used in a national F.F.A. hand book.

*Constitution & by laws & suggested ceremony sent you with application for state charter.*

*forward check*

## 6. Names and addresses of state officers:

President V. A. Martin Dept. Public Instruction Harrisonburg Pa  
 V-Pres J. S. Champion " " " " "  
 Secretary H. C. Bitterolf " " " " "  
 Treasurer H. C. Bitterolf " " " " "  
 Adviser H. C. Bitterolf " " " " "  
 Reporter \_\_\_\_\_

Exec. Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

7. Names and addresses of delegates to Congress at Kansas City: *Agri. Teachers of Perma. authorized me to fill offices until the first annual meeting which will be held in Jan.*

Mr. J. S. Champion will accompany delegates to Kansas City - Names of delegates will not be determined until Oct. 5-6

## 8. List of members who received State Farmer degree at the last state convention of Future Farmers:

## 9. State Convention:

- (a) When held Will be held 3rd. wk. of Jan. 1932  
(b) Where held Harrisburg  
(c) Attendance \_\_\_\_\_

## 10. State objectives for the coming year:

*Will be sent after Jan. meeting.*

## 11. Names of candidates for the American Farmer degree:

✓

(One for each 1000 paid up members or fraction thereof)

## 12. Three outstanding chapters with names and address of instructors:

*Mr. Champion will give you this information*

## 13. Cooperative effort: (A write-up of any buying, selling or financing programs that have proved successful)

*next year*

14. Notable achievements: (Tell about the outstanding accomplishments of chapters or members. This material is for national publicity)

*next year*

15. Mail this report to Henry C. Groseclose, Executive Secretary of the Future Farmers of America on or before October 1.



## FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

A State organization of students taking Vocational Agriculture  
in Pennsylvania

### CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

#### Article I. Name and Purpose of the Organization:

Section A. The name of this organization shall be the "Future Farmers of America". Members and local chapters are hereinafter referred to as the F. F. A's.

Section B. The purpose for which this organization is formed are as follows:

- (1) To promote vocational agriculture in the rural communities of Pennsylvania.
- (2) To create more interest in intelligent agricultural pursuits in Pennsylvania.
- (3) To create and nurture a love of country life.
- (4) To provide recreation and educational entertainment for students in vocational agriculture.
- (5) To promote thrift.
- (6) To afford a medium for cooperative marketing and buying.
- (7) To establish the confidence of the farm boy in himself and his work.
- (8) To promote scholarship and rural leadership.
- (9) To foster an appreciative attitude toward cooperation through participation in its activities.

#### Article II. Organization:

Section A. F. F. A. is a national organization with a State Branch having local chapters in schools having organized instruction in vocational agriculture.

Section B. F. F. A. chapters may be organized only in schools where organized instruction in vocational agriculture is offered.

Section C. Students shall meet, organize, adopt the state constitution as their own, elect officers, set up a program of work, and then apply to the State Secretary

for membership in the state organization. The chapters and the members may then be known as F. F. A's.

Section D. Each chapter shall consider itself a unit in the state organization. It shall use the state constitution as its own constitution and have a like number of officers and committees performing the same duties for the chapter that the state officers and committees perform for the state organization.\*

\*Note:- Other committees may be created by chapters to meet the needs of their varying activities; i.e. committee on marketing, banquet committee, program committee, and the like.

### Article III. Membership:

Section A. Membership in this society shall be active and honorary.

Section B. Any student of, or former student in, vocational agriculture who has been regularly enrolled in a part-time, day-unit, or all-day class is entitled to active membership upon receiving a majority vote of the members present at any chapter meeting.

Section C. Instructors, school principals, superintendents, business men, farmers, and others who are helping to promote vocational agriculture may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the members present at any meeting. Honorary members shall not vote, nor shall they hold any office except that of "adviser". Honorary members rank as Pennsylvania Farmers unless they are made Keystone Farmers at a state meeting.

Section D. There shall be three grades of active membership based upon achievement. These grades are (a) Green Hand, (b) Future Farmers and (c) Keystone Farmer. The requirements for promotion from one grade of membership to another are set forth in detail in Article IX and are a part of this constitution.

Section E. Only members who have attained the grade of Keystone Farmer are eligible to hold state offices after 1931 but officers in the local chapters are not limited to any grade.

### Article IV. Officers:

Section A. The officers of this society shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Adviser, Reporter and an Executive Committee. The officers shall perform the usual duties of their respective offices.

Section B. The executive committee shall consist of the officers of the society and three (3) active members elected by the society. This committee shall perform the usual duties of an executive committee, review and approve receipts and disbursements, act as a nominating committee and be responsible for the welfare of the organization.

Section C. (1) The officers of the state organization shall be elected at the regular annual state meetings and each \*department of vocational agriculture in the state shall be represented by two delegates who shall represent the local chapter in balloting for officers and members who are nominated to be advanced to the grade of Keystone Farmer. Officers in the state organization shall hold office for one year.

(2) Officers of the local chapters shall be elected at regular meetings of the local chapters held in December of each year and shall hold office for one year.

\*Department will be interpreted as High School Department, Rural Community Vocational School, and each center where Vocational Agriculture is being taught by a county supervisor.

#### Article V. Meetings:

Section A. A meeting of the state organization shall be held annually at the time of the State Farm Products Show.

Section B. Local chapters shall hold their meetings monthly, or oftener, and at such time and place as may be decided by the executive committee of the local chapter.

#### Article VI. Dues:

Section A. There shall be no dues connected with the state meetings or organization.

Section B. The dues of any local chapter shall be fixed by a majority vote of the membership.

#### Article VII. Amendments:

Section A. Amendments to the state constitution shall be submitted in writing at the regular winter meeting. The amendments may be adopted or rejected at once by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present.

Section B. By-Laws may be adopted to fit the needs of any local chapter providing they do not conflict with the state constitution, which is also the constitution for each



chapter. The constitution is the same for all chapters but a certain amount of flexibility is necessary to the proper functioning of chapters because of their varying activities. This flexibility may be attained through by-laws for each chapter.

Article VIII. Plans:

Section A. The pin of the society shall be the same as that for a similar organization in Denmark - an owl perched on the handle of a plow and underneath these symbols the words "Wisdom" and "Labor".

Section B. All active and honorary members shall be entitled to wear the pin. The regular pin shall be of bronze but members who shall have attained the grade of Future Farmer may wear a silver pin and Keystone Farmer shall be entitled to wear a gold pin.

Article IX. The Three Classes or Grades of Active Membership:

Section A. Green Hand:

To be elected to membership in the F. F. A's, a student must qualify as follows:

- (a) Fourteen years of age or the mental equivalent.
- (b) Regularly enrolled in a class in vocational agriculture.
- (c) Possess facilities for carrying out a satisfactory program of supervised practice and have a definite agreement with the parent and instructor as to scope, labor and profits.
- (d) Receive a majority of the votes of the members present at a regular meeting of the local chapter of F. F. A's.

Section B. Future Farmer:

The qualifications necessary to election to the grade of Future Farmer are as follows:

- (a) At least one years instruction in vocational agriculture and completion of a satisfactory program of supervised practice.
- (b) At least twenty-five dollars earned and on deposit in bank or otherwise productively invested.
- (c) Regularly enrolled in vocational agriculture with

an amplified supervised practice program mapped out that will meet the State project requirements.

- (d) Have participated in public meeting in the interest of vocational agriculture.
- (e) Lead the class in a discussion for ten minutes whenever called upon to do so.
- (f) Receive a majority vote of the members present at a regular local meeting of F. F. A's.

Section C. Keystone Farmers:

The qualifications are as follows:

- (a) At least two years of organized instruction in vocational agriculture with supervised practice work that meets the requirements of the State Project Contest.
- (b) Outstanding qualities of leadership as shown by ability in class, school organizations, public speaking, and general activities of the society.
- (c) Farmers are elected at the state meetings only, and written records of achievement shall be submitted to the State Supervisor by the local executive committee prior to December 1st. The Supervisor will then look into the matter and submit his findings to the state executive committee. This committee will nominate the candidate at the regular state meeting if he is found worthy to receive the honor. The records shall be read by a member of the executive committee when the students are nominated and the delegates shall then proceed to elect those who are deemed most worthy to be Keystone Farmers. (See note)
- (d) Earn and deposit in a bank, or productively invest at least \$200.00. This may include the twenty-five dollars saved while advancing to the grade of Farmer.
- (e) Be familiar with parliamentary procedure by having held office in a local society.
- (f) Be able to lead a group successfully for forty minutes.
- (g) Make the high school judging team, debating team, or some athletic team representing the high school.

- (h) Show marked attainment in scholarship in all high school branches (grade 85 or above) and be an outstanding leader in school activities - be an "all-round man".
- (i) Receive a majority vote of the delegates present in a state meeting and respond, upon election, with a speech of appreciation. (two minutes)

NOTE:- Ex-students of vocational agriculture, members of the State staff, teacher trainers at The Pennsylvania State College, instructors, superintendents, farmers, bankers and others are eligible to election as honorary farmers provided they have done outstanding work in promoting vocational agriculture and this organization. As honorary members, they shall be entitled to wear the gold pin. Honorary membership, however, shall not exceed twenty percent of regular membership in the grade of Keystone Farmer. Honorary Farmers do not vote or hold office, except the office of Adviser.

It can be readily seen that the grade of Keystone Farmer is the capstone of the F. F. A's. To be elected a Keystone Farmer at a state meeting is indeed an honor and corresponds to collegiate Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi. In fact, it is more exclusive. Not more than fifteen farmers shall be elected in the winter of 1929 and not more than thirty per year thereafter. These do not include honorary Farmers, who may be elected as stated above, but not to exceed twenty percent of the active Farmers. Considering the number of students of vocational agriculture in Pennsylvania, a boy who attains the grade of Keystone Farmer is an outstanding individual and a F. F. A. indeed.

#### F. F. A. ACTIVITIES

In order for an organization to live the members must have something to do. A few activities that local F. F. A. chapters may engage in are suggested below:

- Maintain bulletin board for farmers
- Market eggs, or other farm products, cooperatively
- Father and Son Banquet
- Vacation tour
- School grounds improvement
- Cooperative buying
- State plays and pageants
- Hold public debates on agricultural topics
- Community service
- Organize and maintain a thrift bank
- Boost the Department of Vocational Agriculture
- Put on Demonstrations and Exhibits at Fairs, Patrons Day, etc.
- Community slogans
- Charts showing community standing and activities (Farm Survey)
- Promote local community fair
- Stimulate and organize planting of forest seedlings
- Conduct project tours

Conduct local judging contests  
Enter teams in State contests  
Promote short course

Conditions vary so widely in different communities that it would not be wise to have uniform programs for all local chapters in the state. It is true, however, that every local chapter should market something, should stage a Father and Son Banquet, should practice thrift, boost the department of vocational agriculture, and put on some sort of interesting exhibit at a fair. Other activities will suggest themselves or be suggested by local conditions and needs.

This Constitution and By-Laws has been modelled after the Constitution and By-Laws of the Future Farmers of Virginia which was originally prepared by Professor Henry C. Groseclose of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

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Suggested ceremony for initiating Green Hand

President: It becomes my privilege to announce that \_\_\_\_\_  
(read names) \_\_\_\_\_ are candidates for the grade of Green Hand. As all of you know our constitution sets up certain minimum qualifications which must be met before these are eligible to membership in our organization. I shall proceed now to determine whether these minimum qualifications have been met by the applicants whose names have been read.

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_ (Instructor) are these applicants regularly enrolled in agriculture?

Instructor: They are regularly enrolled in vocational agriculture, Mr. President.

President: Do they possess adequate facilities for conducting a satisfactory supervised practice program?

Instructor: They have adequate facilities for supervised practice work.

President: Have they made plans for their supervised practice work which are satisfactory to you, and are you satisfied that they will carry out a practice program that will merit the honor we are about to bestow?

Instructor: I have approved their plans and am satisfied that they will carry them out to the best of their ability. (Instructor here should tell of the plans the most outstanding of the applicants have made and the extent to which these have already been carried out.)

President: Mr. Treasurer, has each of the applicants paid the initiation fee prescribed by the by-laws of our Chapter? (A fee sufficient to buy the lapel button should be charged and the button should be presented as a part of the ceremony.)

Treasurer: Each applicant has paid the prescribed fee. (If any candidate is unsuccessful this fee should be returned)

President: Fellow members of \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter of the Future Farmers of America, you have had an opportunity to judge for yourselves as to the fitness of each of the candidates who have just retired. If you feel that they have met the qualifications necessary to election to the grade of Green Hand, the chair will now entertain nominations to that grade.

(Nominations are made, no second is required)

You have heard the nominations. We shall vote on the applicants in reverse order. Has any member anything to say for or against the first nominee? (Members discuss qualifications of first candidate, second candidate, Etc.)

If there is no further discussion we shall proceed to ballot. Remember that a majority vote of the members present is necessary in order that these candidates be admitted into our organization as Green Hands. (Vote on each candidate separately)

Mr. Reporter, will you recall the candidates and conduct those who have been elected to the front of the room. (Candidates elected are brought in and lined up in front of the president's chair)

It gives me great pleasure to tell you that you have been elected to \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter of the Future Farmers of America with the rank of Green Hand. This honor signified that we have faith in you and believe that you will not be content to remain a green hand, but will strive diligently for higher honors yet in store for each of you. You have today started at the bottom of the ladder and I congratulate you on this beginning, but the ladder leads upward and each succeeding round is harder to attain, yet I sincerely wish that some of you may reach the top.

You are now entitled to wear a bronze lapel button which I have the honor now to present (Presents buttons) Bronze is one of the first metals known to man, thus it is fitting that we use it for making the emblem worn by beginners in our organization. Bronze however possesses rare qualities of hardness and endurance and signified that you are not to be easily led away from your work nor easily discouraged. If you catch this lesson you in time may lay aside your bronze button for one of the more "noble" metals and advance to a higher rank in our organization. Every worthwhile reward carries with it an obligation. As a token of our esteem and faith in you we have elected you to our organization. In return we shall expect you to be loyal, work for the Future Farmers of America and be of service to your fellowmen.

Note: We are indebted to Prof. H. C. Grosecloss, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, for the ceremony after which this has been patterned.

#### Suggested Ceremony for Raising Green Hands to Future Farmers

President: It becomes my privilege to announce that the following Green Hands are candidates for the grade of Future Farmer: (read names of applicants). As all of you know, our constitution sets up certain minimum qualifications which must be met before these members are entitled to advanced standing. I shall now determine



whether these minimum qualifications have been met.

Mr. (Instructor) have these Green Hands had one full year's instruction in Vocational Agriculture, and have they completed a satisfactory program of supervised practice?

Instructor: They have (Instructor should briefly outline the work each Green Hand has done)

President: Mr. Treasurer, have you satisfied yourself that each of the candidates has earned and has on deposit, or otherwise productively invested, at least \$25.00?

Treasurer: The candidates have earned, invested, and deposited the following amounts: (Read the thrift account of each applicant showing earnings, investments, and deposits at time of applications for advanced standing)

President: Mr. (Instructor), are these Green Hands regularly enrolled in your classes for the second year, and are you satisfied that each of them has thoroughly planned a better practice program than he conducted as a Green Hand?

Instructor: They are regularly enrolled and better supervised practice programs than those conducted last year have been planned.

President: Are their plans and agreements now on file in your office?

Instructor: They are (Instructor may outline a few of the best plans submitted by the applicants)

President: All Green Hands will now rise and recite "The Country Boy's Creed" in unison. All together now "I believe that \_\_\_\_\_" (The Green Hands recite the creed from memory. If there is doubt as to the ability of a certain Green Hand to recite the creed alone, he should be called upon to do so.)

Let me congratulate you. I hope that you will always carry the spirit of the Creed in your hearts as you have carried the words in your memory.

Mr. (Instructor) are you satisfied that each of these Green Hands is able to lead a group for ten minutes whenever called upon to do so?

Instructor: I am satisfied as to that. Perhaps it would be well, however, to call upon one or two of these candidates to lead a discussion so that each member of this chapter may have the opportunity to judge for himself as to ability of these candidates to lead a group.

and wastefulness. Although you are laying aside the bronze button of a Green Hand, I hope that you will retain these bronze-like qualities of hardness and endurance that have won you this promotion in our organization.

Although you have done well your first year and merit this recognition, let me remind you that there are heights yet to be attained. Just as there are other metals more precious than silver, these are rarer and more precious laurels to be won in our organization. A key is waiting for those of you who strive for it-- a golden key of a Keystone Farmer. In order to obtain that key you must possess rare and golden qualities. You must be malleable but never crushed; ductile but never drawn into anything base or dishonorable; glowing with enthusiasm but unaltered by the heat of conflict.

It is my sincere wish that some of you may reach the very top grade in our Future Farmers organization, the grade of Keystone Farmer. If you do you will probably be entitled to wear a platinum key. Remember, however, that platinum is a very rare metal. It is scarcely affected by fire or by strong chemical reagents. In like manner, the boy who attains the ranks of Keystone Farmer will be rare. He will not be affected by temptations to turn aside from the course he has mapped out for himself but will strive straight for the goal he has set up.

Every worthwhile reward carries with it an obligation. You have been marked for distinction in our organization. For that reason, we shall expect more of you. Your Instructor, your parents and the community will expect you to do much more as a Future Farmer than you did as a Green Hand. As a token of our esteem we have advanced you to the grade of Future Farmers. In return, we shall expect more loyalty and work for the Future Farmers of America and more service to your fellowmen.

We are indebted to Professor Henry C. Groseclose of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute for the ceremony after which this one has been modelled.

President: That is a good suggestion. I shall vacate the chair and ask Green Hand (Name of Member) to preside while the question (or some local chapter problem) is discussed and the solution arrived at. (Green Hand named takes chair and directs the discussion for ten minutes.) (A second Green Hand may be called if time permits.)

I shall now ask the candidates to leave the room while the members vote for or against the advancement of the Green Hands to the rank of Farmer.

(The candidates retire)

Fellow members of the \_\_\_\_\_ chapter of Future Farmers of America, you have had an opportunity judge for yourselves as to the fitness of these Green Hands. If you feel that any of them have met the qualifications necessary to election to the grade of Future Farmer, the chair will be glad to entertain nominations to that grade.

(Candidates are nominated, no second is required)

You have heard the nominations. We shall vote on the nominees in reverse order. Has any member anything to say for or against the first candidate?

(Discuss qualifications of the first candidate, the second candidate, etc.)

If there is no further discussion we shall proceed to ballot. Remember that a majority vote of the members present is necessary in order that a Green Hand may advance to the grade of Future Farmer.

(Each candidate is voted on separately)

Mr. Reporter, will you recall the candidates and conduct those who have been elected Farmers to the front of the room. (The candidates are brought in and the successful ones are lined up facing the president)

It gives me great pleasure to tell you that you have been raised to the Future Farmer grade. This is the highest grade of membership that can be conferred upon you by any local chapter. You are now entitled to wear a silver lapel button rather than a bronze one. I have the honor of presenting each of you with a silver button, the emblem of our organization.

(Presents the buttons) Silver is one of the "noble" metals, not being easily oxidized or tarnished. As you wear these buttons may you develop more and more noble qualities. May you never be tarnished with selfishness, thoughtlessness,

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
HARRISBURG

September 25, 1929

#26

Mr. Henry C. Groseclose  
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE  
Blacksburg Virginia

Dear Mr. Groseclose:

Enclosed please find the application for a State Charter for the Keystone Branch of the Future Farmers of America. I am also enclosing a check of five dollars, the initial fee for issuing the State Charter. If you will let me know what the national dues are on our present membership, I shall be very glad to forward you a check covering same.

The teachers of vocational agriculture in Pennsylvania have authorized me to apply for a State Charter and fill the State offices temporarily until our State Meeting is held in January, 1930. Mr. V. A. Martin and Mr. J. S. Champion are both members of my staff.

We hope that you will accept the activities of our State Program for the present, as outlined on page 6 of our Constitution and By-Laws. We will have a committee of future farmers work out a detailed program at our January Meeting.

*am enclosing*  
~~I will mail to you in the near future the~~  
report which you requested recently for the Kansas City Meeting. This will not be as complete as we would like to have it. However, we will do the best we can.

With very kind personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours

*H. C. Fetterolf*

H. C. Fetterolf, Director  
Agricultural Education

FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

Keystone Branch

Local Chapters

Turbotville .....	15
Newville .....	12
Middleburg .....	22
Watsontown .....	6
North East .....	17
Arendtsville .....	16
Coudersport .....	11
East Greenville .....	13
Linesville .....	8
Trinity .....	45

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Total Membership ..... 165