

BLUE AND GOLD

Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

INITIATE, CREATE, ILLUMINATE

www.paffa.org

Pa. FFA Members Visit State Capitol

About 450 Pennsylvania FFA members attended the annual State Legislative Leadership Conference on March 18-20. Members developed leadership and personal growth skills, practiced the legislative process, completed community service around the Harrisburg area, and finished with a legislative breakfast.

Students began the conference with workshops about etiquette, parliamentary procedure and learned how the legislative process works. The students applied those skills by taking part in the legislative process. Each student was assigned to the House of Representatives or the Senate, and then was given a committee and bill to discuss and amend. The bills used were actual bills currently going through committee in the Capitol.

Students spent time reviewing and amending the bills as if they were legislators. After the committee work, students met as a caucus to further adjust the bills, and finally approved each bill as a general assembly, mirroring the actual legislative process. The legislative process ended with each caucus approving each bill.



FFA members attend one of the many workshops at the 2018 State Legislative Leadership Conference.

The students volunteered at more than a dozen sites in the Harrisburg area and logged more than 1,500 community service hours on March 19.

At Vibrant - A Christian Church, students cleaned the

children's area and packed more than 5,000 Easter eggs and about 160 baskets for the upcoming Easter egg hunt. At a local fire hall, students cleaned equipment and fire trucks.

Following an afternoon of com-

munity service, students gathered on busses to travel to a local Hoss's Steak and Sea House for dinner. At each location, students had the chance to interact with other chapters or a state FFA officer. After returning to the hotel, the student body attended a dance and graffiti party, taking the opportunity to socialize with other members and create mementos by signing each other's shirts.

A legislative breakfast wrapped up the conference. Members of the General Assembly were invited to join the Pennsylvania FFA membership for breakfast and a program held at the Radisson Hotel Harrisburg in Camp Hill. Legislators had the opportunity to visit with the local chapters they represent, while members were able to advocate for agriculture and FFA. Students also heard from special guests like Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture Russel Redding and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau President Rick Ebert. Other special guests in attendance included former Secretary of Agriculture Samuel Hayes, and former national FFA officers, Gary Swan and Victor Cappucci, Jr.

After the breakfast, several FFA chapters travelled to the capitol building to tour with their local legislators.

Members Shine at Chapter Banquets

As the spring season approaches and school comes to an end, FFA members across the state celebrate with chapter banquets.

Members of the community, FFA members, their parents and supporters of agriculture education come together to celebrate the pride associated with the blue and gold jackets at these events. In addition to enjoying the company of other agriculturists, chapter banquets provide an opportunity for students to showcase their accomplishments. These accomplish-

ments include but are not limited to career and leadership development event results, supervised agricultural experiences proficiencies, recognition of community partners and other awards. In some cases, local chapters will invite state officers to attend celebrating the accomplishments of the members and FFA.

Across the state of Pennsylvania there are 151 chapters. If you are interested in learning more about local chapters in Pennsylvania please visit paffa.org.



Looking for Past Pennsylvania FFA State Officers

Calling all past Pennsylvania FFA state officers who finished their year of service in the years ending with a three or eight. This year would be a reunion year for you. Not sure what year you served? Check out the past state officer listing on our website at http://www.paffa.org Click on Association and then State Officers.

These officers are invited to attend the 7 p.m. session of the 89th Pennsylvania FFA Convention on June 13. The session will be at the Bryce Jordan Center at The Pennsylvania State University at University Park.

Please contact Mike Brammer if you can attend or have additional questions at mbrammer@paffa.org or 717-705-9551.

2018 FFA Foundation Gator Raffle \$20 per ticket

Drawing: July 19, 2018

(Winner does not need to be present to win. Winner is responsible for all applicable sales tax and title fees)

Ticket sales will begin April 1st – drawing on July 19th

Tickets can be purchased online: www.paffa.org
Or from your local FFA Chapter



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