



BLUE AND GOLD

Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

BUILDING THE FUTURE

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Trees Sprout at Pennsylvania’s Capitol

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HARRISBURG, Pa. — On April 28, the Pennsylvania FFA state officers paired up with the Pennsylvania Landscape and Nursery Association (PLNA) to deliver red oiser dogwoods donated by Octoraro Nursery to the state representatives in Harrisburg in celebration of Earth Day and Arbor Day. The state officers met up with PLNA President Cathy Corrigan on April 25 to get more than 250 trees bagged, labeled and ready for their delivery to the capitol building the following Monday.

The state officers went onto the House floor in the state capitol and placed trees on each representative’s desk on April 28. When each representative had a tree on his or her desk, the remaining trees were delivered to each of the senator’s offices.

After walking through every hallway of the capital and seeing the House floor, the state officers successfully delivered 264 red oiser dogwoods to every member of the General Assembly.

Before leaving the capitol, the team also delivered trees to Gov. Tom Corbett and Lt. Gov. Jim Cawley and their staff.



Submitted photo

On April 28 the state officer team delivered red osier dogwood trees to the Capitol building in celebration of Arbor Day and Earth Day.

Measuring a Year of Service

FROM THE OFFICERS STATION

Quoting one of my favorite musicals “Rent,” “How do you measure a year? In daylight, in sunsets, in midnights, in cups of coffee, in inches, in miles, in laughter, in strife.” As our year as state officers comes to a close, all I can do is look back at all the great times and try and think of where the time went.

In this past year how has our year as state officers been measured? Was it by how many days we spent in office? Was it by how many nights spent in hotels? Was it by the miles put on our cars? The number of chapter visits and banquets we attended? Or was it by the number of friend requests we received from members on Facebook? After spending more than 300 days as state FFA officers (so far) what is it that we have to show for it? These questions all come to mind when I think of this past year, but when it comes to finding answers only one word comes to mind — wow — wow, what a year it has been, and an incredible year that is.

A year that began for our seven-member 2013-2014 state FFA officer team on June 14, 2013. It’s a day when some of our team cried with excitement, some speechless, but all delighted to be selected to serve the Pennsylvania FFA members. As excited as we were, we can all admit that we were also nervous for what was ahead of us. Which led us to the beginning of the questions. What did we get ourselves into? How many days are we going to be away from home? How many FFA members do you think we will meet? And so on. As our year went on we found ourselves questioning ourselves a whole lot less, and the nerves began to fade, but the excitement always stayed the same. Always excited for what was next.

Now here we are with our year coming to a close and those same feelings we felt the day we were elected are back. Excited for the members of the Penn-



MICHALA KULHMAN

sylvania FFA to keep moving on and for the new state officer team. As excited as we are we are also a little nervous and sad to be moving on with our lives and to soon be leaving an organization so near and dear to our hearts. It’s these feelings that finally lead to some answers on how has our year as the 2013-2014 state FFA officer team been measured. Was it by how many days spent in office? No, rather it was the number of days we spent serving the members of our organization and learning about ourselves. Was it by how many nights spent in hotels? No, it was the nights spent in hotels bonding as a state officer team reminiscing about past events we have attended, or members we’ve met. Was it by the number of miles we put on our cars? No, instead it was about the long talks we had with teammates from point A to point B, learning every back road in Pennsylvania, and learning the lyrics to every Taylor Swift song on the radio. Was it the number of chapter visits and banquets we attended? It can be measured by the number of students we got to be more involved in our organization, and celebrating the accomplishments of each of them at the end of the year. Or was it the number of friend request we received from member on Facebook? That can be answered by those were the number of students we impacted throughout the year and are able to continue to connect with for many years ahead.

So what do we have to show for our year? Well now that question seems to answer itself. Our year has been measured by the number of laughs, smiles, enthusiasm, hard work and dedication of the members of the Pennsylvania FFA association. After all they are our reason for our year of service.

Editor’s note: Michala Kulhman is the Pa. FFA state chaplain.

1,400 Registered for Convention

KAYLA WALLACE
Pa. FFA State Reporter

As of May 13, over 1,400 FFA members have registered for the 85th Pennsylvania FFA State Convention, which will be held June 10-12 on Penn State’s Main Campus in State College.

State Convention marks the end of another amazing year for the Pennsylvania FFA Association. This year’s State Convention marks a year of firsts.

This year is the first year that the convention will ever be sponsored. The state association would like to thank New Holland Agriculture for pairing up with the Pennsylvania FFA to sponsor the 85th State Convention. It is also the first year that FFA members have the opportunity to buy a State Convention T-shirt.

The 2013-14 state officers are all looking forward to seeing FFA members at state convention to celebrate a year of “Building the Future.”

