



BLUE AND GOLD

Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

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State Legislative Leadership Conference Breaks Records



More than 460 FFA members gathered at the state capitol with Agriculture Secretary George Greig on Tuesday morning.

SLLC Round-Up and Leadership Opportunities


FROM THE OFFICERS STATION

Wow, it's crazy to think that it's already the middle of March. As they say, "time flies fast when you're having fun!" Time really does go fast when you have to spring forward an hour too.

This past weekend, the Pennsylvania FFA hosted a record breaking 463 members and advisers at our 27th Annual State Legislative Leadership Conference. Workshops included legislative process, business etiquette and parliamentary procedures to help members be successful in their House and Senate meetings, Caucus meetings as well as the General Assembly. Monday afternoon all attendees loaded onto school buses to help out and participate in local community service projects.

Service locations included Central Pennsylvania Food Bank, CATRA, Project Share and Mission Central to name a few.

Then Tuesday morning legislature joined FFA chapters for breakfast, where they talked about issues important to their chapters and communities. Special thanks to Columbia Gas, AgChoice Farm



DEIDRA BOLLINGER

Credit and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau for helping make this conference so successful. Our team and local FFA chapters also had the chance to work with the Keystone Truck and Tractor pulls this week. FFA member Katie McLaughlin from the Juniata Chapter, said her favorite part from helping in years past has been "selling raffle tickets because you get to meet so many new people."

Something to look forward to in the coming weeks includes State Officer Candidacy School, where students can talk and ask questions with state officers about the application and interview process, and what it's like to be a state officer. Western Region is scheduled for Tuesday, March 25; Eastern Region is going to be held Thursday, April 3; Northern Region is Thursday, April 12; and to wrap up South-Central Region is Thursday, April 17. For additional information on SOCS locations and times, contact, Executive Director Mike Brammer, c-mbrammer@pa.gov.

Editor's note: Deidra Bollinger is the Pennsylvania FFA secretary.

KAYLA WALLACE
Pennsylvania FFA State Reporter

HARRISBURG, Pa. — The 2014 State Legislative Leadership Conference broke its attendance record with more than 460 members in attendance from across the state. Members had the opportunity to participate in workshops facilitated by the state officer and the second year scholar team. This year's second year scholars were Tony Rice from the Midd West FFA Chapter, Allyson Balmer of the Manheim FFA Chapter, Katie McLaughlin from the Juniata FFA Chapter, Jon Noss of the West Perry FFA Chapter, Tyler Watkins of the Southern Huntingdon with the legislative process, proper etiquette, and parliamentary procedure workshops.

In addition to the workshops, members had the opportunity to take part in discussing bills that are active in either the House or the Senate. Students had a blast amending the bills the way that they felt as though the bills should be read. They followed the legislative process and parliamentary procedure to conduct business.

After the bills were discussed, members had the chance to take part in community service events at 16 locations in the Harrisburg area. These projects ranged from working at food banks to helping to gut old houses.

Members wrapped up the conference at Harrisburg Hilton for the annual Legislative Breakfast to conclude the conference on Tuesday. There was one special "jacket" in the audience. Richard Waybright wore the jacket that he wore when he served as the National North Atlantic Vice President in 1950-1951. He was celebrating the 70th anniversary of the first time he zipped up his very first FFA jacket. More than 50 legislators visited with the FFA members at the banquet.



FFA members performed community service at more than 16 locations throughout the Harrisburg area as part of the conference.