



BLUE AND GOLD

Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

Act Today - Impact Tomorrow

www.paffa.state.pa.us



Photos by Caleb Grove, Pa. FFA Reporter
Northern Lebanon School are the chapter challenge winners at the Monsanto Fore FFA golf tournament.



Big Spring High School is the winner of the chapter challenge at the Hoss's Fore FFA golf tournament. Pictured here are Cassie Gutshall, Wade Black, Doug Lautsbaugh, Dwain Mussersmith, Charles Smith, and Cali Clarke.

Pennsylvania Fore FFA: 18 Years and Still Swinging

DR. KERRY RICHARDS
Pennsylvania FFA Foundation
Executive Secretary

BEAVER SPRINGS, Pa. — With the exception of a brief rain delay at the Monsanto Fore FFA east event in July, for the 18th year the outings went off without a bogey. Nearly 250 golfers joined sponsors Monsanto and Hoss's at the two events to raise funds to support Pennsylvania FFA activities. Funds provided for the chapter and state officer contributions to the Monsanto Fore FFA event alone will return more than \$3,000 back to those who contributed auc-

tion items and the same is anticipated for chapter and state officer contribution at the Hoss's event.

In addition to those funds, it is anticipated that the events will raise approximately \$20,000 to support Pennsylvania FFA activities. Planning is already under way for next year's events and committees will meet this fall so that information will be available about next year's events prior to the end of this year. Additional information about the events can be found on the Pennsylvania FFA Foundation web site at www.paffafoundation.org.



Pa. FFA Members Earn National Proficiency Awards

CALI CLARKE
Pa. FFA State Secretary

HARRISBURG, Pa. — Proficiency awards recognize FFA members who have excelled as agricultural entrepreneurs, employees or volunteers while they gained hands-on career experience. The program rewards members at the local, state and national levels for exceptional accomplishments and excellence in a Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) program. After being judged at the local and state level, Pennsylvania FFA submitted the best proficiency applications to the national level.

These proficiency applications represented

Pennsylvania well. Pennsylvania FFA members were awarded six bronze medals, eight silver medals and five gold medals.

There were also three applications from Pennsylvania selected as national finalists. Allison Hoover, from State College, was chosen as a finalist in the area of Food Science and Technology. James McMahon, from the Blue Juniata FFA Chapter, was selected as a finalist in the area of Home and/or Community Development. Zachary Mueller, from the Grassland FFA Chapter, was chosen as a finalist in the area of Nursery Operations. These finalists will receive \$500 and will be recognized on stage at the FFA National Convention in October.

Looking to Make an Impact FROM THE OFFICERS STATION

Greetings Pennsylvania FFA Association! It is an honor to be a part of writing this portion of Blue and Gold. I have only been "on the job" for two months now, and I have been blessed to witness some of the incredible things our association and organization can do.

Your officer team has been very busy these past few weeks. Kerri and I traveled to Washington D.C. for a week to advocate for agriculture education with our legislators, and decide the delegate issues for National Convention. The team was graciously invited by the Pennsylvania Landscape and Nursery Association to attend their convention: the Penn Atlantic Nursery Trade Show (PANTS). We spent that week helping to coordinate the event, meeting company representatives, and learning about the industry. It is incredible how many new and interesting things we have learned.

I was thrilled to see the members who came to Ag Progress Days. It was my first time there and I was not disappointed with how much fun it was. The team and I are really looking forward to reinstating a Fall Leadership Conference, starting some service learning projects, and of course beginning to do chapter visits and work with the membership. We also have the opportunity to visit with sponsors like Range Resources, Columbia Gas, and Ag Choice Farm Credit. It's always neat to meet the folks who make the conferences and career development events (CDE's) that we love, happen. So, thank



MATT REUTLINGER

you to all of our sponsors and supporters for not only giving us your time and resources, but also for inviting the team and members to work with you. Designing and planning the new Fall Leadership Conference has been a huge undertaking, but we are really looking forward to making it happen. The event is scheduled to take place on Oct. 5. We are partnering with Penn State for this event. As things come together, I get more and more excited about how this conference will turn out. I hope to see you there!

Writing this article was a surreal feeling. For years I anxiously awaited to read the Blue and Gold section of *Lancaster Farming*; and now I get to be a part of something that I always loved and admired. I always felt that the best part of Blue and Gold was reading about what other chapters and members were doing across the state. This section served to inspire me to do new things back in my home chapter. Here is where you come in. To continue this tradition of celebrating each other's success, we need to hear from you! If you have a story that you'd like to share, please contact Mr. Brammer at c-mbrammer@state.pa.us. The guidelines for articles and due dates are on our website at <http://www.paffa.state.pa.us/>. Again, it is an honor to be one of your state officers, and I can't wait to meet you all,

Editor's Note: Matt Reutlinger is the Pa. FFA State Vice President.



Photo by Mike Brammer, Pa. FFA Association
The team in the Pa. Department of Agriculture booth at PANTS.