



BLUE AND GOLD

Pennsylvania FFA Happenings

Act Today - Impact Tomorrow

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Continuing ‘Golden’ Chapter Traditions



Photos by Miss Sarah Quigg
Greenhand Jessica Hochreiter shows elementary students what ponies eat.

KIRSTEN KAUFFMAN
Cloister FFA reporter

EPHRATA, Pa. — In October, the Cloister FFA chapter will be celebrating its 50th anniversary. To kick off the new school year, FFA members participated in many activities, the first being the Ephrata Fair. The event ran Sept. 21-25.

On the day before opening of fair, Sept., several members assisted in setting up agricultural exhibit area better known as Tent City. The FFA members set up the dairy tent by pounding in posts, unloading the bedding, and setting up the boards to make the beds for the dairy animals. Students also set up hand sanitizers, picnic tables, display cases and helped with many other chores that needed to be done before Tent City opened on Tuesday.

On Wednesday, several FFA members gave agriculture presentations to preschoolers and kindergarteners on dairy cows, sheep, pigs, horses, and crops. Many youngsters were amazed as they got the chance to pet and learn about the animals. In the evening, Cloister FFA members entered a float for the parade that was made almost entirely out of soda cans. They chose this medium not only to encourage recycling, but also to save money as the chapter plans to attend National Convention. Unfortunately, due to sporadic thunder-

storms, the parade was cancelled so no prizes were awarded; however, the float definitely made an impression on the crowd. The officers worked with volunteer Carol Stark over the summer months to finish the work of art in time for fair.

FFA members Kirsten Kauffman, Joshua Ackley, Kirsten Kauffman, Megan Ackley, Terri Kauffman, and Toni Kauffman sold animals at the livestock sale. Josh and Megan Ackley sold their market lambs while Kirsten, Terri, and Toni Kauffman sold their dairy beef animals. Terri Kauffman, chapter president, and Sarah Quigg, chapter adviser, were able to meet Russell Redding, Pennsylvania Secretary of Agriculture. Redding visited the Ephrata Fair to recognize Tent City chairman, Sue Pfautz, with the award of Fair Ambassador.

To wrap up a full week, on Friday the Cloister FFA staffed an ice cream stand during Family Fun Night. They sold a variety of flavors including chocolate, mint chocolate chip, vanilla, and red raspberry. The money that they raised will be used for future FFA events including regional Career Development Events (CDEs) and state conferences. Overall, Ephrata Fair week was a busy time, but Cloister FFA members were glad to help the community by continuing chapter traditions that started almost 50 years ago.



Chapter sentinel Patrick Rehm, explains different agricultural crops.

October Happenings

FROM THE OFFICERS STATION

October may be my favorite month of the year, but I would be lying if I said I was ready for it. With so many events coming up, and so many events that have already passed, it's hard to believe the month is already here.



JILLIAN GORDON

Recently, while on one of our many FFA adventures, I read a quote that has had me thinking ever since. "Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision just passes the time. Vision with action can change the world." Thinking about what has been happening not only the past month, but the past few months, I can confidently say that The Pennsylvania FFA Association, whether they realize it or not, live by that quote, the past few weeks has allowed me to see this firsthand. Towards the middle of September, the team headed up to the Eastern States Exposition in Springfield, Mass. We had the opportunity to help out with Career Development Events (CDE) and see the Pennsylvania FFA members show off their skills first hand, which was incredible. In nearly every CDE we had either a Pennsylvania team or individual within the top five, not to mention we were certainly the most enthusiastic state there. After heading home from Springfield and The Big E, the team and I were headed to The All-American Dairy Show. The team helped out with some odds and ends, and again we were able to see students show their animals and compete in judging contests.

In the beginning of October, the team held our very first conference of the year, the Fall Leadership Conference, something I can safely

say we were very excited for. It was an absolutely amazing experience for us. We were so happy we could bring it back for the members, and we hope the conference does nothing but grow in the next few years.

And of course, how could I forget to mention chapter visits? Although they have just begun, the team has been working hard to create some fantastic workshops for our visits.

Saying the past month has been busy would be an understatement, but at the same time it has been one of the most rewarding months of our lives. Seeing the members in Pennsylvania rock it out all year has been indescribable. The vision and the actions of the Pennsylvania FFA members have already left a lasting impact on the Pennsylvania Association, and I am so excited to see that continue throughout the year.

With more chapter visits and of course National Convention right around the corner, the team and I are so excited to see the Pennsylvania FFA members and make the association proud. We hope that with your many events coming up, we see articles about what your chapters are doing here in the Blue and Gold Pages! If you have a story that you'd like to share, please contact Mike 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/>. Once again, thank you Pennsylvania FFA for an amazing year so far. I am so excited to be able to meet each and every one of you.

Editor's Note: Jillian Gordon is the Pa. State Eastern Region Vice President.

Plant A New Seed, Grow and Suc-'Seed'

KATIE SHIRK
Chapter Reporter

Tulpehocken FFA Officers conducted a leadership training retreat during the summer to kickoff their year. Plant A New Seed, Grow & Suc-seed was selected as their theme for the year. Additionally they participated in team building workshops, heard from professional and enjoyed recreational activities.

The group met with staff from Ken-Brook Camp and participated in a challenge course. The course provided obstacles and challenges that required the group to solve as a team. FFA is a leadership organization developing team skills in agriculture.

Students also practiced parliamentary abilities, with Northern Lebanon FFA students offering instruction. Career opportunities were explored with Mid-Atlantic Farm Credit staff providing instruction. Responsibilities of the officers and development of the program of work/budget received



Tulpehocken FFA Officers for 2010-2011 school years include: listed by office, President Andrea Stalnecker, Vice President Brandon Grumbine, Secretary Kelsey Boltz, Treasurer Jessica Spatz, Reporter Katie Shirk, Sentinel Shayna Schaeffer, Chaplain Aaron Hartranft, Parliamentarian Ashley Daub and Historian Kristen Shirk.

a lot of review. Communication skills were also review and practiced to help students build confidence in making phone contacts and introducing and welcoming guests.

Students also practiced community service skills by spreading a large amount of mulch provided by the host and owners of Weaver's cabin.

Living To Serve, Learning to Grow: Greenwood FFA Donates Produce

JILL TENGHERES
Chapter Reporter

"Living to Serve: Learning to Grow" was the theme of the Community Garden, maintained by the Greenwood FFA and housed on the Perry County Fairgrounds. The purpose of this garden is to help supply the Perry County Food Bank with fresh produce for about 1,250 needy families in the Perry County area. The project was funded by a grant through the National FFA and USDA. Members planted



Some of the green beans planted, harvested, and then donated to the Perry County Food Bank.

corn, potatoes, squash, green beans, radishes, tomatoes, and peppers. Throughout the summer, the chapter maintained the garden as well as harvested the fresh produce and delivered it to the Perry County Food Bank. Throughout the summer and early fall, the chapter donated several hundred pounds of vegetables. Because of the success of the garden and the response from the food bank, the Greenwood FFA Chapter has plans to continue and expand the project in the future.