



FOOD SCIENCE CDE 2014

FFA

November Newsletter 2014

IN OTHER NEWS

Major Events

by [Dustana Long]

Fruit Sales

The Athens FFA Chapter has kicked off its 2014-2015 fruit sales fundraiser. Items available to order include premium fruit, cheese, and sausage. They have a large variety of options and orders will arrive in time for Christmas! You can contact any FFA member to order or call Athens High School at (217) 636-8314 and ask for Mr. Brown and they will have an FFA member contact you. Thanks for your support!

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National Convention

October 29th through November 1st marked the dates of the 87th annual FFA National Convention. We were pleased this year to take sixteen lucky members on this can't miss opportunity. Those members were Cody Carter, Kellie Conover, Danielle Conwell, Andrew Daniels, Ashlee Daniels, Jessica Harding, Skyla Jewell, Dustana Long, Nathan Mayfield, Justin Myers, Molly Nance, Kayla Richards, Melodie Starkey, Abigail Stuebs, Jacqueline Stuebs, and

Hayley Yoakum. Special thanks to Mr. Evans, Mr. Brown, and Mr. Butler for chaperoning this year's trip.

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Food Science CDE

The Athens FFA Chapter recently participated in the Section 14 Food Science contest and took first place. The team was advised by Mr. Butler and consisted of eight AHS FFA members: Nici Bessert, Cody Carter, Kellie Conover, Jessica Harding, Justin Myers, Raine Poe, Kayla Richards, and Hailee Weisenberger. Individuals placing for Athens were Hailee Weisenberger (3rd place), Kellie Conover (4th place), and Jessica Harding (6th place) Congratulations!

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National Convention

L-R: Hayley Yoakum, Molly Nance, Danielle Cornwell, and Kellie Conover prove that those in FFA are cooler than those who are not with their sweet shades at Mall St. Matthews.

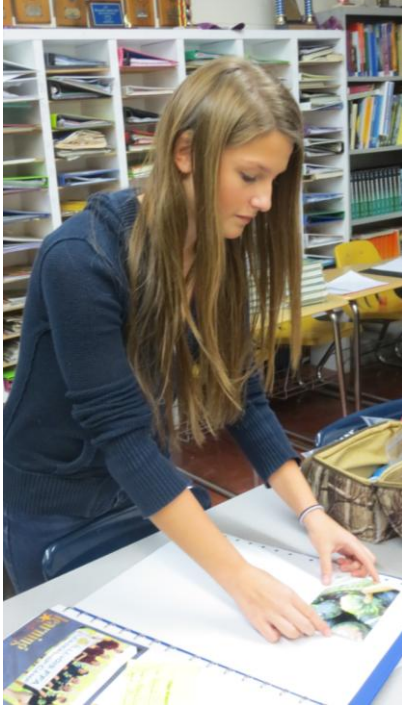
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Food Science CDE

Hailee Weisenberger flaunts her taste buds at Section Food Science CDE. Hailee landed first place in our chapter and third place overall.

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Chapter Scrapbook

by Justin Myers

Chapter Scrapbook is up and running! Thank you to all you have helped and are helping to make it a success.

The Chapter Scrapbook outlines the year's events and includes pictures as well as articles about them. It is displayed and presented by members of the committee at State Convention. It is then judged based on how well it meets the requirements set by the Association and by how well it represents our chapter as a whole.

The Committee meets 5A and 5B on most days and anyone who is interested can be a part of it. While we have many

creative members already, ideas for how the scrapbook can be improved are always welcomed.

Skills needed are an ability to coordinate paper and stickers with the given event's pictures, the ability to cut down and resize photographs, and an overall pride for the organization and the chapter as a whole. Even if you can only make one meeting, you can still be of help.

Thank you to all of you who have been giving up your study hall and lunch periods to ensure that our first year doing a scrapbook turns out to be success.

DECEMBER T-SHIRT TUESDAY

The next opportunity for members to receive a free soda just for showing off their FFA glam will be Tuesday, December 2nd.

Fruit Sales

by [Justin Myers]

Our chapter is participating is holding the annual fruit sales. The sales will fund most of our scholarships and will allow members to go on various trips within the FFA.

Fruit sale order went out last week. We need you to sell fruit. Those who sell ten items of fruit will be entered into a monetary drawing!

Ask your neighbors, your teachers, your family, etc. Emphasize that their money is going towards an organization that has been proven to have a positive impact on the lives of its members.

Order forms are due November 24th, right before Thanksgiving break. There will be a separate due date for items that you wish to add on.

MEMBERS OF THE MONTH



Kellie Conover

Congratulations to November Member of the Month Kellie Conover! Kellie was chosen based on her superb performance in Section 14 Food Science where she placed 4th overall.



Hailee Weisenberger

Also Member of the Month for November is Hailee Weisenberger, also chosen for her outstanding results at Section 14 Food Science, scoring 3rd overall.

FAST FACTS

2%

Percentage of FFA members who will go on to receive the highest degree of membership, the American degree

29.5%

Percentage of Athens members who are currently Greenhands

DID YOU KNOW?

The first Illinois State FFA President was 16 year old Homer Edwards. He was responsible for signing 156 chapter charters, including our own.

ILLINOIS FFA HISTORY

<http://www.illinoisffa.com/default.asp?f=7&>

Renee Kinzinger and the FFA

by [Justin Myers]

I am excited to announce, for the first time, State Officer Interviews! Each month a different State Officer will be highlighted. Interviews will follow the same format and are meant to encourage involvement and increase leadership awareness within our Chapter.



This month we look at our State FFA Secretary, Renee

Kinzinger, who hails from the New Athens FFA Chapter. Renee shares how the FFA

has helped her to develop her full potential and what it's like being a State officer.

What pushed you to get actively involved with the FFA?

I grew up on a farm, and my family was all big in the FFA organization, so it seemed only fitting that I had to join, too. However, it wasn't until after chapter visits and the 212 Conference that I truly realized all that FFA had to offer. It wasn't just about farming, it was about serving others, growing as a leader, and building a connection with other people from all across the country. From then on I was hooked!

Which leadership skills learned through the FFA have had the greatest impact on your everyday life?

The strongest skill I've obtained is the ability to socialize and network with others. It may seem odd for those who know me, but I was very shy when I was a freshman in high school. My experiences in the FFA have definitely broken me out of my shell. Now, I am probably one of the most social and talkative people you will ever meet! I've learned to network with

others and build strong friendships with those I meet all because of the FFA.

Has your perspective on the FFA changed since you became a State Officer?

Being a state officer in the Illinois FFA definitely gives you a behind-the-scenes look at the FFA. This new view has only helped instill more passion, appreciation, and hope for this organization. My work as a state officer is helping thousands of members in our state achieve their goals, gain a passion for the FFA, and break out of their shells, just like I have. I wouldn't trade this opportunity for anything, and I'm beyond blessed and proud to represent such a great state and strong organization!

How has the FFA helped you to become the person you are today?

Like I said before, FFA helped break me out of my shell. It gave me a place where I could be myself. FFA has helped me realize where I want to go in life, what I want to do, and how I will get there. I could talk all day about the experiences this incredible organization and unmistakable blue jacket have given me, but it is now my focus on giving those opportunities to younger members, so this organization can continue to get better for years to come.



National Convention

by [Justin Myers]

National took place between October 29th and November 1st in Louisville, Kentucky, at the Kentucky Exposition Center. We were able to send sixteen members from our Chapter on this can't miss event.

On day one, members were able to attend the Opening Session of Convention. Members were welcomed by the 2013-2014 National FFA President Brian Walsh. This was followed by a short performance from the band and the introduction of keynote speaker Nick Vujicic, a man born with tetra-amelia syndrome which caused him to be born without limbs. Mr. Vujicic spoke on the struggles, sometimes humorous, that resulted from this and how he overcame and shed a positive light upon them. Members were then granted some free time and allowed to shop at Mall St. Matthews before heading back to the hotel.

Day two consisted primarily of members attending the career show where they were able to talk to representatives about potential jobs and colleges in agricultural. They were also able to attend leadership workshops before heading off to the Second General Session. At the Second General Session, members heard from Monsanto President and COO, Mr. Brett Begeman. Central Region Vice President Steven Brokshus then gave his retiring address. Students then transitioned to the World's Toughest Rodeo where they were able to watch a variety of events such as bull riding.

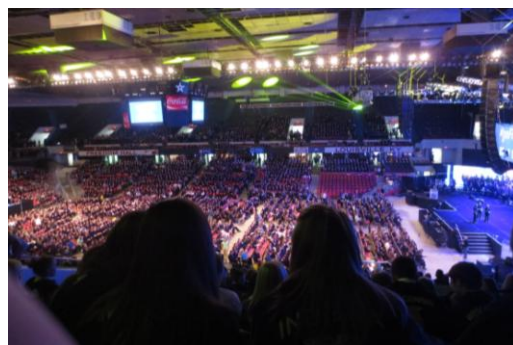
Members were able to view the career show some more on day 3 before heading out for a tour of Woodland Farms. Riding out the rain, members were able to view several sustainable and organic agricultural practices such

as free range chickens and were able to see commercially produced buffalo. This unforgettable trip came to a close as members headed off to attend the Seventh General Session. At Session, members were encouraged to not give up on their hometowns in a retiring address given by Southern Region Vice President Jackson Harris and were instructed on how to deal with the tomatoes of life by former Miss South Carolina and best-selling author, Jane Herlong. A dance proceeded session.

The fourth and final day consisted of members packing to leave, but not before watching member Charles Mayfield walk across the stage to receive his American degree. For those of you interested, Charles had to work 2,250 hours outside of scheduled class time and earn a total of \$10,000 from his SAE project. Special congrats goes out to Charles.

All attendees of the 87th National FFA Convention can all agree on one thing: they had a good time and learned many qualities of leadership that can be exercised in their home and Chapter. I encourage all of you to take action and pride in your Chapter and push yourself to get out there. FFA can only create improvement in your life if you take hold of its opportunities and apply the lessons it teaches.

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



Convention Sessions

During Sessions members were able to hear speeches given by featured keynote speakers and the 2013-2014 National Officer Team.



Career Fair

Members were able to view possible agricultural careers and agricultural colleges in sometimes interactive ways and speak to their representatives.



Rodeo

Members were able to watch cowboys from across the country compete in classic rodeo events as well as see special performing acts.

Food Science CDE

by [Justin Myers]

Section 14 Food Science CDE took place on Wednesday, November 5th, at Lincoln High School. In attendance were Nici Bessert, Cody Carter, Kellie Conover, Jessica Harding, Justin Myers, Raine Poe, Kayla Richards, and Hailee Weisenberger.

The contest consisted of four rounds. These included a testing round, two rounds of product control, and a round of scent identification.

Contestants were tested on several food topics. These included procedures, proper practices, and government regulations.

Attendees then moved on to two rounds of product control. On the first round, they identified which of the three samples was most like the control product strictly by identification. The second round allowed them to taste the samples to better judge their similarity to the given product.

The last round involved smelling and identifying a variety of common scents used in the food making process such as butter and cinnamon.

Congratulations to the team as a whole for placing first and to Hailee Weisenberger, first place individual for our chapter, and Kellie Conover for placing in the top five for our section.

I would like to thank Mr. Butler for chaperoning this trip and Lincoln High School for hosting the competition.



