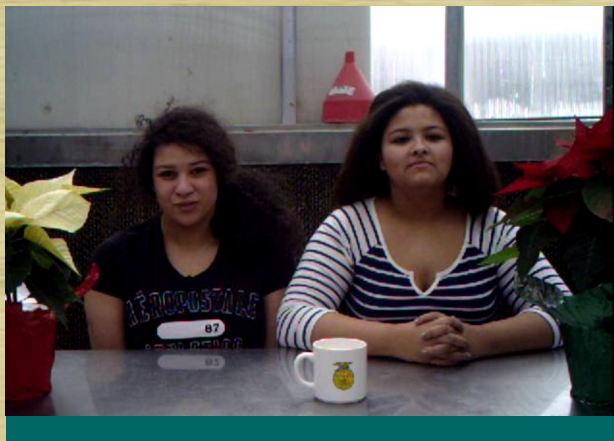


Athens FFA January Newsletter

January 12th, 2015

January Newsletter



Lea Kissick and Melodie Starkey report for the Athens Chapter News Network.

Athens Chapter News Network

The ACNN is a broadcast of chapter news, activities, events, and more. Its purpose is to allow members to develop reporting skills by giving them a chance to present chapter news to an audience comprised of their own classmates, parents of member, ex-members, and anyone who wishes to view the broadcast on YouTube. Thank you to everyone who helped with last Friday's filming. That will be posted by the end of this week. In the meantime, members may check out December's broadcast at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1Un7i_ZtrE. Those interested in joining may do so by contacting the Chapter Reporter, Justin Myers.

What is FFA?

"What is FFA?" is not a Chapter activity, but a resource put together by Danielle Cornwell, Justin Myers, Abigail Stuebs, Jacqueline Stuebs, and Emily Tomlin. It includes videos covering a variety of FFA topics including starting an SAE, 212 conference, and FFA camp. More videos will be added in the future. Be sure to get subscribed and tuned in at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC30IKGVLGUKb9Z0dqJ0oCBA>. This channel includes information for all members, regardless of how much experience they have with the FFA.

Chapter Scrapbook

Thank you to all who have helped to make the chapter scrapbook a success. As a committee, we are shifting gears and kicking into overdrive. Five members were chosen based on high attendance at meetings and were assigned to one of five sections required in a chapter scrapbook (Member Info, News Articles, Leadership Info, Chapter Info, Honors Earned) as well as being divided into two groups and assigned half of the chapter's events for the year to complete for the Photo section.

The State Association sets strict requirements that participating chapters must meet in order for their scrapbook to be considered for judging at State Convention. The committee has been working hard to put forth a product that meets all these requirements, which include everything from the amount of sheets allowed to what has to be featured in the given category.

Thank you to everyone for helping out in our first real scrapbook effort. The committee has been very successful and I hope that they will continue this onto the next year and make it a tradition.



Molly Nance and Hayley Yoakum plot out one of the many scrapbook pages members must complete to be eligible for judging at State Convention.

- Jan 28: Public Speaking CDE at New Berlin
- Jan 30-31: 212 Leadership Conference at Collinsville
- Feb 11: Chapter Career Day at Local Businesses
- Feb 19: State Degree Interviews at the Athens Library
- Feb 24: Meats CDE at Jacksonville

February Lottery Tickets

Lottery ticket sales fund many opportunities given to Athens FFA members.

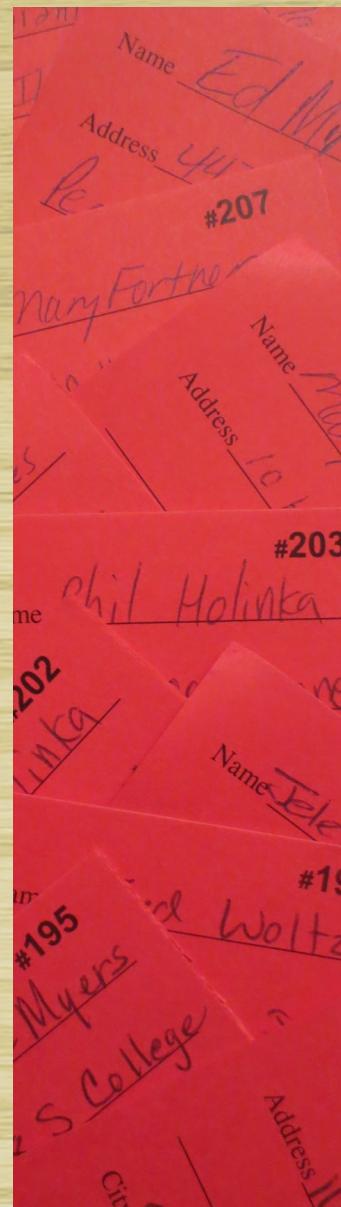
It is time to sell your February Lottery Tickets. Members should have received a packet containing fifteen tickets sometime last week.

Ticket sales help to fund chapter scholarships as well as our upcoming ski trip. Prices are \$10 each or three for \$20. Winning numbers coincide with the Evening Pick Three and prizes range from \$50 to \$500. Sellers of a winning ticket will receive a cash reward equal to ten percent of the amount of the ticket holder's prize.

Unsold tickets are due back by January 20th, but those planning to continue selling may continue until the start of February.

212 Leadership Conference

212 Conference is fast approaching. This event teaches members valuable leadership skills and goes through how to make good goals for the future. This is a two day event that gives members the chance to connect with people outside of their chapter and increase their impact on their chapter and community. More information on what it is can be obtained by going to YouTube, searching for "What is FFA?", and finding the video titled "What is 212?".



I believe in the future of agriculture...

Officer Bios

Get to know your Athens Chapter Officers. This year's officer team was asked to fill out a short survey that included their plans for FFA once they graduated, what part of the Creed means the most to them, and the impact the organization has had on them. These can be accessed by visiting the Chapter website at www.athensilffa.wix.com/athens-ffa and clicking on "Meet Your Officers". Thank you to all officers who completed their interview and I remind all of those that haven't to get theirs back to me as soon as possible.

Member Highlights

Get Involved

- **Scrapbook Committee Group I: Leadership Info, Chapter News, and Events** targeted towards members who are past their first year in FFA
- **Scrapbook Committee Group II: Member Info, News Releases, Leadership Info, and events** targeted at first year members
- **Athens Chapter News Network: reporting twice a month on chapter activities**

Contact Reporter Justin Myers for details on joining any of these activities

Members of the Month

Congratulations to January's Members of the Month Jessica Harding and Justin Myers.

Jessica Harding was chosen based on her exceptional ability in Section 14's Dairy Foods CDE, landing her in the top ten for the section and top place in our chapter. Jessica has also made many contributions to the chapter and has been a dependable asset.

Justin Myers was nominated by Mr. Brown based on his outstanding performance as the Athens Chapter Reporter. Justin placed tenth for the Section at Agronomy CDE.

This month's Members of the Month will receive an article in the Menard County review as well as a feature on our chapter website.



Meet State FFA President Cody Morris

What pushed you to get actively involved with the FFA?

A lot of support from my dad and friends pushed me to actively be involved with FFA. My dad always explained how this organization can help make you more successful in the future.

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

The leadership skill of being able to interact in an interview situation is one of the best ones I have ever learned through FFA. Just last year I would say because of a successful interview I had, it allowed me to serve Lake Land College as a student ambassador. Also I feel a lot more comfortable speaking in front of people because of FFA.

How has your perspective on the FFA changed since becoming a State Officer?

Since becoming a State Officer I have changed my perspective a lot. When competing as a member I really only focused on myself and my team, but as Section President and State President I think of every single member's best interest in the entire state to represent this great association.

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

FFA has definitely made me into the person I am. I was always a fairly quiet and shy kid growing up but FFA helped me to step out of my comfort zone and meet new people and try new things. If it was not for this organization I would never be able to speak in front of groups like I have done this year.

