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MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER
OF THE
ATHENS FFA

Athens FFA

February Members of the Month

The Members of the Month for February are Cody Carter and Danielle Cornwell.

Cody Carter was chosen based on his exceptional display of leadership within the chapter. He has been a regular participant in events and has shown a desire to better himself through leadership opportunities.

Co-President Danielle Cornwell was picked based on her push to get members involved through expanding their opportunities and encouraging them to get involved. She is involved and demonstrates exceptional qualities of leadership and has a positive influence on those in her chapter.



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Parliamentary Procedure CDE

The Section 14 Parliamentary Procedure CDE took place on January 21st at Mt. Pulaski High School.

Our team was comprised of six members (L-R in pic): Ashlee Daniels, Howie Kline, Abigail Stuebs, Justin Myers, Jacqueline Stuebs, and Lea Kissick. Justin Myers posed as the chairperson and Abigail Stuebs filled in as the secretary

The competition consisted of an initial round consisting of a series of test questions on parliamentary procedure. These included things like the required vote for a given motion and if a motion was privileged or not..

Following testing, members were then lead into a mock meeting room where they were assigned a number and a motion which they had to make in the meeting. Members then had to demonstrate proper procedure in bringing up a given main motion as well as making sure they got their given motion in.

The chairperson and secretary also had to keep a record of business being transacted and make sure the meeting was kept organized. The chairperson focused on leading the meeting through acknowledging floor members, announcing votes, and through making the

call when it came to specialized motions. The secretary's duty was to keep minutes of the meeting. She also had the job of reading off the pending motion. The president and secretary were then able to meet and edit the meeting's minutes and make sure that they were written up in the proper format.

Those who went can all agree that they had an amazing time. The technicalities are tricky to master, but don't let that stop you from going out for this CDE next year. Parliamentary Procedure has many practical life applications, especially for those planning on becoming a politician or a businessman in a setting that involves attending board meeting.

Athens placed third overall. Lea Kissick received first place in the outstanding floor member category, Justin Myers was second in outstanding chairperson, and Abigail Stuebs placed third in outstanding secretary.

Officer Interviews

We are wrapping up our series on our state officers with an interview from State Reporter Andrew Klein. He is the last of our four state officers to be featured.

State officer interviews were designed to give members knowledge on the long-term positive outcomes of getting involved within their chapter, thus encouraging them to get out there and get involved.

Officer interviews will not come to an end. Rather we are transitioning into interviews of our National officers. Included will be Victoria Maloch (Secretary), Andy Paul (President), and Ruth Ann Myers (Eastern Region Vice President). Look forward to the first in March's newsletter.



Meet Illinois State Reporter Andrew Klein

State reporter Andrew Klein talks about improving leadership success through getting involved with the FFA

What pushed you to get actively involved with the FFA?

In my early days of FFA membership, I was really excited about the idea of developing premier leadership and possibly getting scholarships some day. But after I attended FFA Leadership Camp, I found that FFA was an opportunity to make some great friends and serve awesome students. All things considered, a lot of things pushed me to be active. These are only a few.

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

I know that my ability to confidently speak in front of people is one thing I attribute to the FFA. I don't think people realize how valuable that skill really is. But every day I face the challenge of being able to convey my ideas to other people.

Other skills I use every day are skills like communication, patience, and the ability to work on a team.

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

I would say that perspective is all about position. So in a sense, absolutely my perspective has changed. I see and learn new things about FFA every day. However, my belief in our organization remains the same. As stated in our creed, "I Believe" in the future of the FFA. I believe that it grows and develops leadership and a passion for Ag. If anything, my change in "perspective" has only strengthened my beliefs.

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

I'd like to consider myself a well rounded individual, and I believe this is true because of the experiences FFA has given me. I have met a large and varying number of people. I have held many leadership positions. I have travelled all over the state of Illinois. I have done all of these things through the FFA. The experiences these opportunities have given me have helped me develop countless skill-sets that have helped me in life.



Public Speaking CDE

January 28 marked the date of the Section 14 Public Speaking CDE at New Berlin High School.

Athens had four members participate in this event. These members were (L-R in pic) Justin Myers, Lea Kissick, Danielle Cornwell, and Cody Carter.

The contest consisted of three categories: Prepared Public Speaking, Extemporaneous Public Speaking, and Creed Speaking. Athens participated in the categories of Creed and Extemporaneous.

Participating in Creed Speaking was Lea Kissick and Cody Carter. Participants were required to recite the creed. Judges looked for good tone, emotion, and posture. The members were then put through a round of questions. These included topics on the general history of the creed and how its words were interpreted by them.

Competing in Extemporaneous Public Speaking was Justin Myers and Danielle Cornwell. Contestants had to give a 3-5 minute speech on a topic drawn at random. They were

judged based on their ability to give an impactful speech and for exhibiting a basic knowledge on their topic. They were then submitted to questions based on major points on their topic.

Congratulations to Danielle Cornwell and Lea Kissick for placing first in their categories! They will advance on to district on April 1st. Cody Carter placed fourth in Creed Speaking and Justin Myers placed fifth in Extemporaneous Public Speaking.

Scrapbook Committee

For those of you who want to donate your creative ability to helping our chapter, we are currently putting together a chapter scrapbook.

The chapter scrapbook contains pages on our members, chapter events, and chapter news.

While we have people involved already, there is still room for anyone interested in joining. We normally meet 5B and details on joining can be obtained by contacting chapter reporter Justin Myers.

Athens FFA Website

Stay updated with the Athens FFA through out chapter website at



athensilffa.wix.com/athens-ffa.

On it are articles on chapter events, interviews of our chapter officers, and helpful resources for members.

Athens Chapter News Network

The Athens FFA is now on YouTube!!!

Our chapter has begun putting together bi-monthly newscasts that are uploaded to the chapter YouTube channel. The channel can be found by searching "Athens FFA" in the YouTube search box.

This allow us to get out there what our chapter is and how it lives out the values encouraged by the organization. It also provides members the chance to develop skills in reporting, public speaking, and skills



relating to appearing in front of a camera.

Any member can be involved in its production. Filming usually takes place on a Friday during 5A. Get with Chapter Reporter Justin Myers if you are interested in joining.



Talent Show

The Athens High School Talent show, sponsored by the Athens FFA, will take place on February 26th during 8th hour. Featured will be your very own Athens Warriors talent acts. Needed are people to coordinate these acts and work back-stage. Contact Justin Myers for information on helping out.

FFA Week Events

- **Day one:** Blue and gold dress-up; ice cream at lunch
- **Day two:** Camo dress-up; teacher breakfast
- **Day three:** Red, blue, and white dress-up
- **Day four:** Throw-back dress-up; pork chop lunch; talent show
- **Day five:** Red vs. green or tractor color dress-up; drive your tractor to school day