



Iowa FFA Alumni Newsletter

December 17, 2015

Support the Iowa FFA at the 43rd Annual Alumni Conference January 16, 2016 | FFA Enrichment Center

Pre-Registration (Closes Jan. 7th)
Full Conference \$60 / FFA Members \$15
Day ONLY \$25 / Night ONLY \$40

Agenda

9:00am - 10:00am Registration
10:00am - 2:45pm Workshops (with lunch break)
9:00am - 4:00pm Silent Auction
This is where the day ends and evening begins
4:00pm - 5:00pm Happy Hour
5:00pm - 6:00pm Banquet/Awards Presentation
6:00pm - 7:00pm Keynote Address (Dr. Larry Case)
7:00pm - 9:00pm Casino Night
9:00pm - 9:45pm Live Auction

Conference Hotel: Holiday Inn Express & Suites (Ankeny)

Hotel Address: 2402 SE Tones Drive

Room Block: FFA - Alumni (\$99.95 per room)

Call: (515) 965-0600 to make your reservation!

Register Now!

Payment available online or by mailing a check to Iowa FFA Alumni Association

www.iowaffaalumni.com

PO Box 127 Boone, IA 50036

Iowa FFA Alumni Calendar

January 15 Performance Beef Weigh-In

January 15 State Alumni Board Meeting

January 16 Iowa FFA Alumni Conference

January 26 Iowa FFA Legislative Symposium

February 10-11 PAS of Iowa Spring Conference

February 20 Iowa FFA Proficiency Award Judging

February 20 Black Ties, Blue Jackets Gala

February 20-27 National FFA Week

February 24 National Chapter Award Judging

March 5 North Central District Convention

March 5 Southeast District Convention

March 5 Northwest District Convention

March 5 Southwest District Convention

March 12 South Central District Convention

March 12 Northeast District Convention

April 18-19 Iowa FFA Leadership Conference

*Various award deadlines for state conference are listed on the Association and Alumni website.

**If your chapter has an event they want posted to the State FFA Alumni's Calendar send an email with event details to: diedrichpatrick@gmail.com

Alumni Awards

WIN \$100! Submit a short essay and the winner receives \$100! Washington Leadership Conference Scholarship awards are now posted! Details to these and other awards can be found on our website: www.iowaffaalumni.com



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Iowa FFA Alumni Conference

January 16th and the State FFA Alumni Conference is just around the corner, and the board couldn't be more excited. If you have been to the conference in the past, take everything you know about it and throw it out the window. If you have never been before, picture this: exciting workshops with enthusiastic presenters ready to help you improve your alumni, FFA legend & former National FFA advisor as our keynote speaker, great meals, placing your bets & enjoying casino night with friends & taking home some great loot from the live & silent auctions. We want the conference to be an event focusing on fun & learning, so join us for this unique opportunity! Board member and conference committee member Ashley Fitzgerald says, "I have been attending the state alumni conference for over 10 years, and I am really excited about this year, it is going to be so different than years past. I am most looking forward to enjoying the social hour and just talking with FFA supporters from around the state learning what they do to support their local FFA chapters." Register today at <http://www.iowaffaalumni.com/iowaffaalumniconference.aspx>

Ashley Fitzgerald
Colton Beals

Reginal Development Conference

"We are FFA" A powerful quote that twenty Iowa FFA alumni members got the opportunity to really understand at Reginal Development Conference held in Kansas City, MO. We boarded the charter bus at various points across Iowa to join many Midwest states learn more about their role as a FFA Alumni member and how they can best utilize the information and material that was provided to better their own local chapter. Workshops included where:

Workshop 1 Who are we? And What are our roles?

Workshop 2a How do we get started?

Workshop 2b We are started. Now what?

Workshop 3a. What resources are out there for me?

Workshop 3 b How do I use the resources available to me?

Workshop 4a Alumni Officer roles and responsibilities

Workshop 4b Developing a quality program of activities

Workshop 5 What does it mean to be an "Advocate?"

Workshop 6 Visions of Innovations Round table discussion

If you missed out on this years RDC and are interested in attending an event like this the Iowa FFA alumni state conference is January 16 where there will be many helpful workshops.

The 2015 Board

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Michael Tupper, Iowa FFA President

Dan Classen, National FFA Alumni Rep.



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National FFA Convention

National FFA Alumni Convention was held in Louisville, KY in conjunction with the National FFA Convention in October. It was well attended by Alumni members across the nation giving a perception that the FFA Alumni organization is as strong as ever before. For those who have never been, there are many activities throughout the National FFA Convention that make it an event well worth your time.

Starting Wednesday and running through every day of convention, FFA Alumni has a booth at the FFA Expo that includes handouts for FFA members, parents, and alumni and is staffed by national FFA alumni board members who are able to answer questions and have conversations with those looking to start their own local alumni. Wednesday was the start of the state basket silent auction which is always interesting because of the themes and imagination that go into putting these wonderful baskets together. Thursday included an alumni awards session and reception as well as a live benefit auction to raise money to be given back to state alumni affiliates in 2015-16. Friday brought the business side of National FFA Alumni with a business session that included voting on important bylaw changes that included topics such as FFA Alumni name/emblem and membership. New board members were elected and the session delegates were addressed by the FFA CEO Dwight Armstrong and National Southern Region FFA Vice President Stephen McBride. The business session was presided over Iowa's own National FFA Alumni President Dan Classen from West Bend.

A special thank you to Dan Classen for his year of service as National President and many years as region vice president! He will have one final year of service to National FFA Alumni as Past President before he will finally be able to rest and enjoy his retirement back on the farm in West Bend. Congratulations also to Abrah Meyer who is your newly elected Central Region National FFA Vice President! She will spend the next year representing and advocating for FFA across the Nation. Each year Iowa needs 8-10 delegates to represent our state at the National FFA Alumni business session. If you have interest in being a delegate feel free to contact a state board member for more information. Next year's National Convention will be held in Indianapolis.

Bryan Whitman

**Thank you for your support of the FFA and the
Alumni this year!!! Have a Very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year!**