

Iowa FFA Alumni

Newsletter



The mission of the Iowa FFA Alumni is to secure the promise of FFA and agricultural education by creating an environment where people and communities can develop their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success.

Upcoming Dates

September 1, 2017

Start of 2017-18 Membership Year

October 25 - 28

National FFA Convention
Friday is FFA Alumni Day
Indianapolis, IN

December 1, 2017

Iowa FFA Alumni Awards Deadline
Online

January 20, 2018

Iowa FFA Alumni
Conference & Banquet
Ankeny, IA



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WWW.IOWAFFAALUMNI.COM



Volunteer Judges Needed!

Another new school year and membership year brings new opportunities to partner with the Iowa FFA!

Hundreds of volunteers are needed throughout February, March and April.

<http://www.iowaffa.com/judges.aspx>

2017 Iowa FFA Alumni Board

President: Ashley Fitzgerald

President Elect: Patrick Diedrich

North Central Representative: Clyde Johnson

Northeast Representative: Debra Zelle

Northwest Representative: Haley Burley

South Central Representative: Nate Gibson

Southeast Representative: Samantha Urmie

Southwest Representative: Steve Dolch

At Large Representative: Andy Edson

At Large Representative: Keisha Thompson

At Large Representative: Colton Beals

At Large Representative: Kim Bullock

Iowa FFA President: Elisa Russ

IAAE President: James Russ

Iowa FFA Foundation Rep: Ron Zelle

Past Iowa FFA Alumni President: Bryon Weesner

Share Your FFA Alumni Stories!

We're always looking for content to share in our newsletter! Send us an article with photos of an event, fundraiser, or activity that your local FFA Alumni Chapter participated in! Your chapter could win a monetary award!

Newsletters are published quarterly. Send articles to: Keisha Thompson, kthompson7x@gmail.com.

Iowa FFA Alumni President's Corner

www.iowaffaalumni.com - PO Box 127, Boone, IA 50036 - president@iowaffaalumni.com

By: Ashley Fitzgerald

Happy Fall! With the start of a new school year, also comes the start of another membership year for FFA Alumni. Remember when recruiting new alumni members, the state and national level no longer requires dues be collected per member. Therefore, make sure to recruit, recruit, recruit! Membership in the Alumni is not limited to former members. So make sure you are reaching out to parents, teachers, people in your local agricultural community and local supporters to join and be part of your alumni group. A diversity of membership not only helps grow membership, but it also helps bring new ideas to your group. One thing I always tell people when encouraging them to join the alumni is an analogy my FFA advisor told me when I was a freshman in high school and hesitant to join FFA. He said that it is like a buffet line, you can take as much or as little as you want. With the FFA Alumni, you can be as involved as you wish. I know some alumni members are active on a weekly basis, while others only have time to volunteer at special events; the great thing is we appreciate them all! Volunteers are what make the alumni great. I challenge each alumni chapter this year to brainstorm and come up with a list of potential members for your local alumni chapter, and then go out and encourage those individuals to join the alumni. The National FFA theme for this year is “I CAN, WE WILL”. I love this theme as I really feel it resonates with alumni as well as FFA members. As an alumni member I CAN make a difference, but as a larger group, together WE WILL make the greatest impact of all. I am looking forward to the school year before us, and seeing many of you at the State FFA Alumni Conference on January 20th, 2018.

Check out the Latest Happenings in the FFA New Horizons!

<https://www.ffanewhorizons.org/>

How to Start or Reactivate an Alumni Chapter!

Step #1: Fill Out: [Alumni Chapter Chartering/Reactivating](#) (2 pages)

Step #2: Complete Page 3 of: [Membership Affiliation Program 2.0 Agreement](#) (1 page)

If you are reactivating and don't know your Affiliate ID Number contact:

Patrick Diedrich

If you're a new affiliate your number will be issued from nationals when they receive the form from step 1.

Step #3: Obtain an EIN Number: [Click Here for Instructions](#)

Step #4: Complete: [Tax Exempt Return Form](#) (1 page)

Step #5: Create a Constitution and Bylaws
[Sample Constitution/Bylaws](#)

Step #6: Create a [Membership Roster](#)

Step #7: Collect Dues and Submit \$150 for National and State Affiliation Fees + \$210.00 for each new life member recruited.

Step #8: Send a copy of the 4 pages from steps 1-4, your constitution and bylaws, and membership roster with your affiliation fee to Iowa FFA Alumni, PO Box 127, Boone, IA 50036

[Chapter Resources](#)

Congratulations you're Alumni!!!!

2017 Proposed Bylaw Amendments

2018-19 Proposed Dues

By: Clyde Johnson

On August 9, 2017 after reviewing the National FFA Organization Financial Reports and Budget, the National FFA Board of Directors passed a recommendation to set the 2018-19 National FFA Alumni membership dues as follows:

- Annual Membership - remain at \$10.00, the same as the previous year.
- Life Membership - increase from \$150.00 with a \$10.00 processing fee to \$200.00 with no processing fee.

Due to this recommendation coming from the National FFA Board of Directors, it is almost assured that this fee structure will be implemented in September, 2018 when the 2018-19 membership year begins. So with the added state life membership fee of \$50.00, we will see a \$40.00 increase in life membership fees after the 2017-18 membership year that runs from September 1st to August 31st.

As state membership co-chairperson, I would encourage local chapters to make this information known to their members as they make decisions about their membership in the FFA Alumni for this year.

Life Membership - 2017-18 - \$210.00

Life Membership - 2018-19 - \$250.00

A few rational points from the National FFA Board of Directors include:

- Life membership dues go into an investment account to secure the long term future and sustainability of the organization.
- Individuals that become life members see the value of the organization and not the cost to ensure that they will benefit the organization for well beyond their lifetime.
- Since 1971, life member dues have only increased once, from \$100 to \$150 in 1993.
- National FFA Alumni life dues are far lower than other organizations yet receive similar value.

Do Your Part to Promote Life Membership in the FFA Alumni!

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