



Iowa FFA Alumni Newsletter

December 1, 2014

Note from the President...

Hello Iowa FFA Alumni! We are nearing the end of another great year in the Iowa FFA and Alumni organizations. I hope it has truly been a safe and bountiful harvest this fall for the whole agricultural community. As the 2013-14 FFA & Alumni year has come to an end in Louisville, I want to take a moment to congratulate a couple of our own here in Iowa who are excelling as leaders of these great organizations. Steven Brockshus officially retired as the Central Region Vice President of the National FFA Organization at the National FFA Convention this past October. I've had the opportunity to get to know Steven while he served as a state officer for the Iowa FFA Association and can tell you that he is a great ambassador for FFA and the state of Iowa. Another great ambassador for the FFA and Alumni began his leadership role within the National FFA Alumni Organization in October. Dan Classen, a native of West Bend and past Iowa FFA Alumni President, officially became President of the National FFA Alumni Association. He will spend the year traveling throughout the U.S. advocating for the Alumni and will be spending many hours working with the National Alumni board and leaders of the FFA to strengthen our organization.

I also want to take a moment to invite all Alumni members and FFA supporters to the Iowa FFA Alumni Conference on January 17, 2015. This will be a great event where you can network with other alumni members and get ideas of how to better support and serve your local FFA chapters. Those that have attended our conference in the past will notice there has been a change in the time as the conference will begin at 1:30pm. Our board has been working hard to turn this conference into an event that is both educational and fun. Mark your calendars and come join us for some fun, fellowship, and learning. I want to wish everyone a safe and blessed holiday season. Let's build on what we have accomplished in the Alumni in 2014 and make 2015 another successful year!

Bryan Whitman, 2014 Iowa FFA Alumni President

Iowa FFA Alumni Calendar

December 25- Merry Christmas!

2015

January 1- Happy New Year!

January 5- 2014-15 Affiliate Membership fee deadline

January 17- Iowa FFA Alumni Board Meeting, Enrichment Center @ 8:00am

January 17- Iowa FFA Alumni Conference, Ankeny, IA @1:30pm

January 23-24- Illinois FFA Alumni Conference, Springfield, IL

February 6-7- Wisconsin FFA Alumni Conference, Stevens Point, WI

April 19-21- Iowa FFA State Leadership Conference



Iowa FFA Alumni Newsletter

December 1, 2014

Local Alumni Spotlight

Baxter FFA Alumni

Our alumni started an annual soup supper and silent auction. This year our event will be held on January 23, 2015. At last years event we had 14 FFA Alumni members present and served over 200 people. The goal is to raise money to give scholarships to graduating seniors as well as provide FFA Jackets to members who can not afford them. The event was very successful, and serves as our main fundraiser.

Earlham FFA Alumni

Our Alumni held a Harvest Feed Day on November 8th. 3 alumni members were present; we raised money for the chapter by selling burgers, chips, and pop to local growers dumping grain at the coops.

Rebel FFA at Sioux Central

Our alumni kick off the year with a back to books BBQ. The alumni provide a meal for the new members and parents. This is our way of welcoming the new members and parents to the chapter and it also gives us a way to get the information about the alumni out to anyone that is thinking about joining the alumni group.

We hold workshops for the students preparing for speaking contests. We judge and critique them to help them improve before competition. The alumni hold these workshops an hour and a half before the monthly meetings.

When SLC arrives in the spring, alumni members chaperone and drive the students to convention.

We take an average of 25-30 students per year. Our Alumni provides the students with 3 hot meals while attending SLC.

Iowa FFA Alumni Conference

The Iowa FFA Alumni Conference will be held on January 17, 2015 at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny, IA beginning at 1:30pm. Please make a point to attend the conference and support this great organization of which you are an active member. You will have the opportunity to learn, have a little fun, make your voice be heard in the future of the Iowa FFA Alumni, and congratulate those that have made a difference in our organization in 2014. Take a minute to look over the invite that is a part of this newsletter and seriously consider attending our conference in January!

Call for Board Members

Do you have a strong desire to volunteer your time to a worthy organization whose soul desire is to strengthen our local FFA chapters? Do you want to work with schools that aspire to add an alumni affiliate or are in need of some support to get their alumni back on track? The Iowa FFA Alumni is over 2300 members strong and growing, and with that needs great leaders. If you desire to become a member of the board, attend the state conference in January to be elected as a district or at-large representative.



Iowa FFA Alumni Newsletter

December 1, 2014

November Board Meeting

Our board meeting was held November 15 with 11 board members and 1 guest present. A financial report was given out and approved. Reports were given by the National FFA Alumni representative, Iowa district FFA alumni representatives, and committee chairmen. The main topic of our meeting was final preparations for the upcoming alumni conference in January. The board approved a budget of \$800 to advertise the conference and get the word out to Alumni members. Alumni conference schedule was finalized and tasks distributed to board members. The board discussed the need for possible by-law changes or updates. By-law change proposals will be posted on the Iowa FFA Alumni website by Dec. 17 and will be voted on by members at the conference in January. The next board meeting will be January 17 at 8am at the Enrichment Center. Feel free to attend if you are interested in seeing what the board working on.

Amy Classen, Secretary

2014-2015 Board Members

Bryan Whitman, President
Bwhitman86@gmail.com

Zach Classen, President-Elect
Classencattle@gmail.com

Ann Basset, Past President
Acbasset316@gmail.com

Vick Basset, NC District VP
Vrbassett80@gmail.com

Sarah Doese, NE District VP
sdoese@iowaffa.com

Brian Vanderhoff, NW District VP
Brianpat1984@hotmail.com

Bryon Weesner, SC District VP
Bryon.weesner@gmail.com

Bob Goodall, SE District VP
bgoodall@guardian.com

Lindsay Calvert, SW District VP
lcalvert@iastate.edu

Ashley Fitzgerald, At-large
Afitz1206@gmail.com

Clyde Johnson, At-large
clydejohnson@lm.k1.ia.us

Patrick Diedrich, At-large
diedrichpatrick@gmail.com

Amy Classen, Secretary
midwayfarms@ncn.net

Jeff Mayes, IAAE Rep.
Jeff.mayes@qr-rebel.net

Abrah Meyer, Iowa FFA President

Dan Classen, National FFA Alumni Rep.



**Same great date,
January 17, 2015 1:30 pm**

Registration starts at 12:30 pm

**Same great location,
FFA Enrichment Center**



Totally NEW Program!



Iowa FFA Alumni Conference



Don't wait, sign up today!

Registration

(Includes delicious banquet meal & conference gift. Early Registration online or via mail)

(Check out our website for information about the discounted hotel room block)

Early \$20 Day-of \$25 Collegiate Members \$15 FFA Member \$5

Winning Workshops

* Award Application & CDE Assistance Training * Ag Career Network Tutorial * Free Money 4U *

* Farm Legacy Planning * Chaperoning Success *

Networking Fun & FFA Support

* FFA Update * Idea Sharing with other Affiliates * Silent & Live Auctions * Meet the State Officer Team *