



WEST VIRGINIA FFA NEWS

*“Promoting Premier Leadership, Personal Growth and Career Success
Through Agricultural Education”*



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Roane County FFA members and advisors display their winnings after capturing the Sweepstakes Award at the Career Development Events in Morgantown.

West Virginia

State Career

Development Events

Late September in West Virginia typically lends itself to people in the Mountain State to enjoying the colors of fall, the start of high school and college football, and enjoying the last few days of nice weather. But to FFA members and their Advisors late September usually means one thing, Career Development Events. The State FFA Career Development Events provide members with an opportunity to sport their agricultural knowledge against FFA members from across the state and earn the right to represent West Virginia at the National FFA Convention.

This was a banner year for participation as over 900 FFA members and 75 agriculture teachers represented 60 schools during the September 28-30, 2010 Career Development Events held at West Virginia University. These individuals combined to compete in twelve different events held at WVU’s campus. Three other events, Equine Evaluation, Food Science, and Dairy Cattle Evaluation, were held off-campus during April, June, and August respectively.

Roane County FFA won their second Sweepstakes Award in the last three years by placing first in three competitions and placing in the top three in three other events. The Sweepstakes Award is determined by totaling the event placing of each school’s six highest placing teams. The school with the lowest score is the winner. Roane County won with a score of 11. Following behind in the top ten were: Second – Mineral County, Third – Ravenswood, Fourth – Hampshire County, Fifth – Clay County, Sixth – Taylor County, Seventh – Tyler, Eighth – Jefferson County, Ninth – Marion County, and Tenth – Hundred.

87th Annual State FFA Career Development Events Team Winners and First-Place Individuals

Event	Team	Individual
Agribusiness Management	Roane County	Alley Reynolds, Roane County
Agricultural Mechanics	Cabell Midland	Joe Hartley, Ravenswood
Agronomy	Ravenswood	Amanda West, Roane County
Dairy Cattle	Cameron	Jenny Brooks, Cameron
Dairy Products	Ravenswood	Max McCoy, Ravenswood
Entomology	Roane County	Bradley West, Roane County
Equine	Mineral County Tech	Jessica Woodworth, Mineral County Tech
Floriculture	Hampshire County	Emily Moss, Ravenswood
Food Science	Marion County	Rueben Sayre, Ravenswood
Forestry	Tyler	Johnny Holcomb, Clay County
Livestock	Lewis County	Dereck Price, Barbour County
Meats	Mineral County Tech	Will Woodworth, Mineral County Tech
Nursery Landscape	Hampshire	Evelyn Boyer, Hampshire
Plant Pathology	Roane County	Casey Lassiter, Roane County
Poultry	Cameron	Alex Jones, Cameron
7th & 8th Grade	Moorefield Middle	Rebecca Merrill, Moorefield Middle

Gold

West Virginia competitors brought distinction to their chapters and state association through their outstanding performances in Career Development Events (CDEs). The following FFA chapter had teams placing in the “Gold” category in national Career Development Events: Ravenswood (8th place)—Dairy Foods, Mineral County (9th place)—Horse Evaluation, Ravenswood (11th place)—Agronomy, and Tyler (10th place)—Parliamentary Procedure. The results of all West Virginia teams competing in CDEs can be found at www.wvffa.org.

Eight individuals received gold emblem ratings in their respective events. Those receiving gold emblems in national competition included: Kelsey Flinn, Ravenswood, Agronomy; Jacob Hafer and Makala Settlege, Ravenswood, Dairy Foods; Joe Henthorn, Tyler, Forestry; Ryan Turner, Mineral County, Horse Evaluation; Crystal Cummings and Kayla Adkins, Lincoln County, Agriscience Fair; Jared Beard, Moorefield Middle, Agriscience Fair.

Congratulations

A big congratulations and a sincere thank you also goes out to the following individuals for their continued work for agricultural education and FFA. Because of their efforts they were bestowed the Honorary American FFA Degree. William Aberegg (New Martinsville FFA), Russell Dotson (Cameron FFA), Howard Henderson (Pine Grove FFA), James Crumrine (Tyler County), Roger Mallow (Pendleton County), Andrew Kent Walker (Hardy County) and Eugene Walker (Pocahontas County).

83rd National FFA Convention, held October 20-23 - Indianapolis



The theme for this year’s convention was “Infinite Potential.” Over 55,000 members and guests attended the event. One of the many headlines for the 2010 convention was keynote speaker Josh Shipp. Josh Shipp is the host of the TV show “JUMP SHIPP,” author of “The Teen’s Guide to World Domination” (St. Martin’s Press) and was recently named to Inc. magazine’s 30 under 30 list. Josh has established an international reputation as an inspiring youth motivational speaker with a simple and entertaining, yet challenging, message. Abandoned and abused as a child, Josh was able to triumph over the tragedy, and he continues to encourage everyone to overcome struggles and live life to the fullest. And he does so through the power of laughter.....and a goat. Other events that were on the top of many FFA members’ list included a concert by ACM Award winners Lady Antebellum and the Three Hills Outlaws rodeo.

West Virginia FFA Members Earn Highest Degree

Twenty West Virginia FFA members received the coveted American FFA Degree on October 24, 2009 at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis.

The American FFA Degree is the highest degree of membership in the National FFA Organization. To be eligible for the degree, a member must meet a number of qualifications including: completing at least three years of secondary school instruction in agricultural education; and earning and productively investing at least \$7500 from his/her supervised agricultural experience (SAE) program or earning and productively investing at least \$1500 and working 2250 hours in excess of scheduled class time at the SAE.

Members receiving the American FFA Degree at the 2010 convention were: Jennifer Baker, Jacob Blue, John Boyd, Danielle Cox, Nick Cox, Trevor Cummings, Nathan Cunningham, Brent Ebert, Joe Ferrell, Dillon Fuller, Cody Grogg, Jason Grubb, Alyssa Harvey, Jada Hostutler, Kessel Lily, Hunter McGregor, Jenna Mullins, Allyson Peters, Jason Shamblin, Derrick Spencer, Rachel Spiker, Katlin Thorsell, Matthew Umstot, Andrea Walker, Sara Hayne, and Erik Yost. Less than ½ of 1 percent of FFA members earn their American Degree.

FFA Awards VIP Citation

Two individuals who have made a major impact on agricultural education and FFA in West Virginia were awarded the VIP Citation; Dr. Stacy Gartin, Agricultural Education Professor at West Virginia University and Dr. Stanley Hopkins, retired Assistant State Superintendent of Schools of the West Virginia Department of Education.



Dr. Stanley Hopkins



Dr. Stacy Gartin

Farm Credit of the Virginias was also recognized for its continued support of the West Virginia FFA Association and local chapters throughout the state. Joe Casto of the Ripley office received the Distinguished Service Citation on behalf of Farm Credit of the Virginias.

Thank You

A big "Thank You" also goes to representatives from West Virginia University's Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry and Consumer Sciences and Potomac State College for their exhibits at the Agriculture Career Show. Their exhibits were some of the most interesting and elaborate at the career show, and the interaction with visitors made thousands aware of the opportunities at these fine institutions.

State FFA president Serves on National Nominating Committee

John Lockhart is serving over 4,800 FFA members across the state of West Virginia as president of the West Virginia FFA Association. That in itself is a huge responsibility, but recently John received a phone call from a National FFA officer that gives him a responsibility with far more impact than just FFA members in West Virginia. John will serve as one of nine FFA members from across the country that will serve on the national nominating committee. The responsibility of this committee is to evaluate approximately 40 national FFA officer candidates and select the six individuals that will serve as 2010-2011 national FFA officers. To earn this distinct honor John was asked to submit an application by Southern Region Vice President Chelsea Doss during the State Presidents' Conference held in July. The national FFA officer team identifies 115-120 members to apply for the nominating committee; the national officer team selects only nine from that group. This is a huge honor for a West Virginia FFA member; it has been over 30 years since our last member served on the national nominating committee. John will arrive at the site of our national convention, Indianapolis, IN, on October 14 to prepare for the interview process and will finish his duties on October 23.



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and is loaded with pics from

WV FFA events and announcements

of upcoming activities.

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THE WV FFA NEWS

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Dr. Steven L. Paine
State Superintendent of Schools

UPCOMING EVENTS

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| Jan. 7-8 | State FFA Officers' Winter Planning Meeting – Morgantown |
| Jan. 20-22 | State FFA Winter Leadership Conference – Cedar Lakes |
| Feb. 20-27 | National FFA Week |
| March 14-15 | State Ham, Bacon and Egg Show & Sale – Charleston |
| April 1 | State FFA Governing Body Meeting – Cedar Lakes |
| April 8 | Stockman's Contest at WV Beef Expo – Jackson's Mill
Grassland Management Contest – Jackson's Mill |
| April 28-29 | WV Envirothon – Braxton County |
| April 30 | Equine CDE – Potomac State College |

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

- Highlights from the Winter Leadership Conference
- Preview of the State Ham, Bacon & Egg Show