

BELIEVE
83rd Indiana FFA Convention
June 18-20, 2012

Corduroy Chronicle

June 18-20, 2012

Vol. 83 Issue 4



Congratulations to the 2012-2013 Indiana FFA Officers

#believeINFFA



photo by Brittany Ryckman



2012 State Newsroom

Backpack Journalists

- | | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Alexis Whiteman | Connersville |
| Brittany Ryckman | Wawasee |
| Emily Sheets | Northwood |
| Jay Knepp | Woodlan |
| Maggie DeVoe | Northwood |
| Nicolette Weiler | Connersville |

Coordinators

- | | |
|-----------------|------|
| Jeannie Keating | ISDA |
| Jessica Thayer | ISDA |

Special Guest Speakers

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| Sarah Hann | FFA Alumnae |
| Kevin Smith | PU Instructor |
| Joe Kelsay | Director of Ag |
| Steve Hickey | FFA Director |



FFA using 'loppers'

by Magdolene DeVoe

For their service day project, Madison and Jennings Co. FFA boys helped the 166 Amphitheater County Park clear overhanging brush and limbs along the cross country trails.

The six man crew worked up a sweat and even survived a near death bus accident. On the way home, the emergency exit flew off the top of the bus and nearly caused an accident behind them.

The Tippecanoe County Parks and Recreation Department manages the park. As one of the employees, Dick, rode around distributing drinks, he told the students about the history of Indiana and the park.

The students arrived a little late but still got their jobs done. The boys found it amusing that they used "loppers" to cut the limbs and had a great time enjoying the outdoors. All the boys enjoyed "trimmin' trees" as they put it.

For most of the boys, it was their only event at the state convention but for Zach, it was just the beginning. Zach, as a high school senior, will be accepting his Hoosier Degree.

The six of them were led by their "fearless leader" Tracy who "knows all their tricks." She led them to the trails and kept them in line on the bus. Without her, they probably would have been in trouble...

The highlight of convention? "Meetin' new people" they all chanted...
The reason why they're at convention?
"We're just here to be here!"



FFA Sells Bands for Clean Water

Indiana FFA members at the 83rd Indiana FFA State convention raised money to give over 175 Africans clean drinking water.

The Indiana FFA state officers worked with MudLOVE, a small company located in Winona Lake, IN to raise money by selling "I believe" themed wrist bands for the 83rd Indiana FFA State Convention.

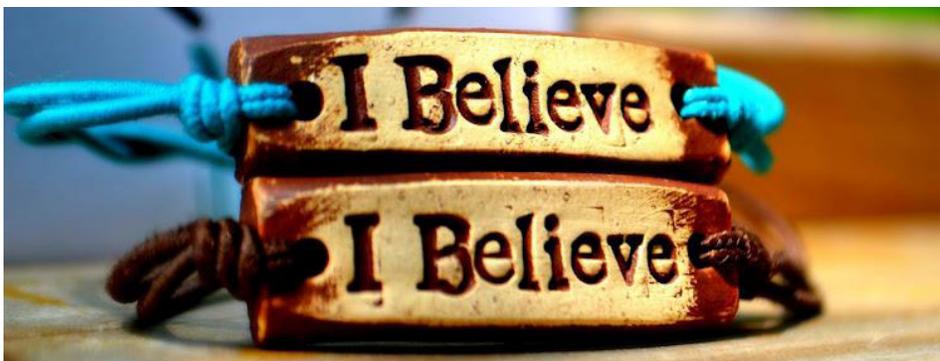
For every \$5.00 MudLOVE made off of their bands, one person in Africa would get clean drinking water for a year.

"We thought this was a really neat thing that they did, so we wanted to promote them at our state convention," said Gianna Hartman, the Indiana FFA Treasurer.

The FFA members rallied together and passed the team's goal of selling 250 bands before the state convention. The money went towards MudLOVE and the Indiana FFA State Officer Work Fund.

355

MudLOVE bands were sold giving **175** Africans clean water



IN FFA makes a Difference

by Emily Sheets

Can 22,000 meals be packaged in under two hours? The FFA can do it!

Monday, at the Armory Center, FFA members, advisors, and spectators joined together for a great cause...helping 22,088 children to not go hungry. Fairfield FFA member Treg Beer stated, "I participated because I wanted to help feed kids in Indiana, in our own state."

He participated in sealing bags of food, which were filled with chicken, vegetables, soy, and rice. These nutrient-rich substances are the perfect combination for under nourished children in Indiana and all over the world, according to Program Director, Angie Mollenkopf.

Angie became involved with Kids Against Hunger when their partner, Midwest Food Bank, stepped up to bring food aid to Henryville. After the deadly tornado that swept through earlier this spring, they supplied 50,000 meals to the people of Henryville.

Kids Against Hunger became involved with FFA when they attended the last National Convention and felt FFA would be a great group to participate in Feeding Hungry Children.

In November, they will be holding a Million Meal Marathon in Indianapolis at Lucas Oil Stadium. So become involved, and support those who support the less fortunate!

For more information, contact Angie Mollenkopf at 765-620-1493 or angie@kidsagainsthunger.net.



Photo by Jay Knepp



photo by Emily Sheets

The Blood-Mobile

by Emily Sheets

Today, the Indiana Blood Center participated in State Convention by hosting a blood drive outside Stewart Center.

All of the phlebotomists proclaimed that they have learned many things about the FFA organization, which changed their views of the blue jackets and black skirts from Flight Stew artists to FFA members.

In the Future, donate blood and save a life. One day it could be yours.



photo by Emily Sheets

FFA State Officers Fix Barn

The seven state officers traveled to Henryville to work with the Fellowship of Christian Farmers International on tornado clean up Wednesday May 30.

The officers visited a Llama farm where they helped fix up an old barn that had been affected in the tornado.

"We assisted in tearing up a rotting loft floor and tore down some of the walls of the barn that had been soaked through from the rain," said Gianna Hartman, the Indiana FFA Treasurer, "The boys on the team helped a guy finish putting a roof on his house."

Farm Credit Services donated \$1,000 to the Indiana FFA for us to use to assist with the relief efforts in Henryville.



photo by Nicolette Weiler

Living to Serve

by Nicolette Weiler

This year, the convention started off not only with many enthused attitudes, but caring and committed hearts. Even with some doubts, FFA members united to travel to Food Finders Food Bank to assist with filling and packaging over 200 bags of cereal, as well as unpacking various meats and breads.

Giving back to the community was a major goal members set for themselves. Plymouth FFA chapter member Sarah Lindvall shared her opinion of volunteering. "Going out into the community and helping with various activities would be my favorite part of volunteering," she said. "I like the feeling of helping others out, it is definitely a rewarding experience."

All members came forth with the effort and dedication to reach out to others. "I think that it's great that these members took part in this voluntary experience," said Amy Gualke, coordinator of Food Finders Bank. "It's good to know what others are going through so that they can relate to each other's struggles and overcome them."



photo by Nicolette Weiler

2012-13 State Officers

69.15

dollars were donated to Give Change to Give Hope Monday

President
Secretary
NR VP
SR VP
Treasurer
Reporter
Sentinel

Cameron Mann
Katherine Spencer
Marshal Perkins
Briley Fichter
Mallarie Stookie
Shelby Riley
Brandan Bergdall



Photo by Jay Knepp

A Coincidental Meeting with McKain

by Jay Knepp

As a former Indiana FFA Association State President, Scott McKain moved on to become the National FFA Secretary. He then moved on to work in the FFA for three years as the Director of The Washington Leadership Conference (WLC).

When asked about his favorite CDEs he replied, "That's one of the things I liked the most, is the variety of experiences that you can have. That is what appealed to me the most." He continued on to tell how much he loved the diversity of the different programs such as Public Speaking and Parliamentary Procedure.

McKain also said that everything he does now-a-days related to his work is directly the result of the FFA. He said "...[FFA] has had more of an impact on me than anything else in my life"

When asked what he thought about the social media of today's era and how it could help the FFA he replied "Social Media is one of those things that could be a power of tremendous good or something you could waste a lot of time on". He also commented on the strength of how twitter and facebook now opens a new realm of possibilities to connect with other FFA members much quicker and more efficiently.

At the end of the discussion, McKain was asked what he thought about the future of the FFA. His reply was "Opportunities

for FFA members are now global it's not just restricted to the United States. I think that the future is brighter than it ever has been. I wish I could go back and start over."

After the interview McKain asked where my home chapter was. I replied "Woodlan" thinking that I was about to have to explain the location, etc. I was about to continue when he said, "Oh my wife is from Woodlan." That threw me back because; hearing of someone from Woodlan doesn't just happen. It has to be sheer coincidence.

We talked a little more about what was going on at Woodlan. Then I thanked him for the interview and left the backstage area.

After speaking with McKain, I found my way back to my seat just in time to hear him begin his speech. He talked about how people make their product different so that they cost more and how we have to be different so that we're worth more to society.

He began to talk about how you can't "Miss the good stuff" in life.

Then he began to talk about his wife again. He showed a picture of her before she started chemotherapy. Then he began to talk about how when she was in hospice care, Diamond Rio dedicated "I Believe" to his wife just before she passed away.

When I heard that his wife had passed away I realized that just my being there

"We do not reap what we sow... we reap exponentially more... we plant our seeds and get a bountiful harvest"

-Scott McKain

was no coincidence. I was meant to be there to interview him. Then I also realized how hard it must be for him to have planned to talk about his wife and then I happen to show up from her old school. But he would have never talked about her if he hadn't known the song "I Believe" by Diamond Rio.

Through this whole crazy mess I have realized that the FFA makes full circle when it's a part of your life, that God can always show you the people that you need to see the most.

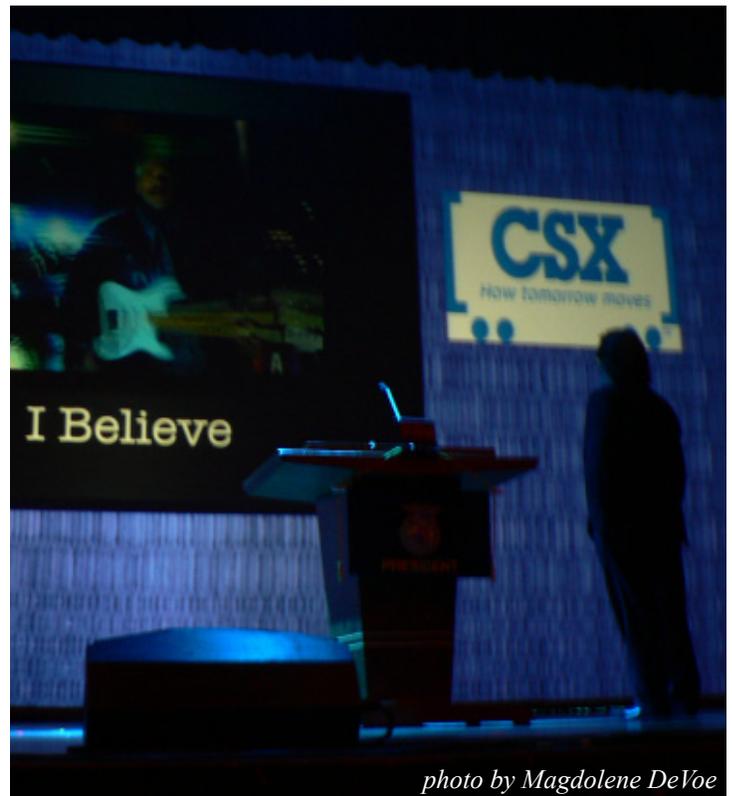


photo by Magdolene DeVoe

National FFA Officer Believes in Us

by Emily Sheets

“I believe in our ability to make our FFA better,” said Kenneth Quick at the Second General Session.

As National Eastern Region Vice President, Kenneth has been involved in everything from milking cows to speaking for youth all over the United States. This driven individual grew up just like us, learning from his mistakes.

Kenneth was driven “to be the kind of member that is at (this) convention to make their chapter better.” FFA members, what do you want to be for your chapter?



photo by Magdolene DeVoe



photo by Magdolene DeVoe

Top Ten Chapter Donors

- 10: Western Wayne FFA
- 9: Greenfield Central FFA
- 8: Tipton FFA
- 7: South Newton FFA
- 6: Knightstown FFA
- 5: Western Boone FFA
- 4: Southern Wells FFA
- 3: Indian Creek FFA
- 2: Delphi FFA
- 1: Shenandoah FFA

Total Donated:
\$32,168.62

Growing with CDEs

by Emily Sheets

CDEs took place Tuesday. I talked with Judge Larry Lyder, fellow participant Joe Barrow, and Joe’s Advisor. His advisor explained how he enjoys working with youth and has a passion for working with agriculture.

Joe Barrow had prepared ten hours for his presentation, but still believed that the judging would be difficult.

Judge Larry Lyder said that he judges the event because he “enjoys watching FFA members grow in both their professional and personal lives.”

When asked why farms matter, he replied, “Well, we all have to eat and need clothes to wear, and farming is a great way of life.” For all members participating in this event, it was clear that they were all passionate about distributing agricultural information to the peers and youth around them.



photo by Brittany Ryckman



Take a risk

by Magdolene DeVoe

“High school can either be the fastest or the shortest time of your life.” That’s the quote that Sara Morrell heard when she was sitting in her 9th grade history class on the first day of school. That made her think about how she would spend the next four years of her life. She could either sit at school all day and be bored or, she could be at school all day having fun and enjoying herself and learning. Can you guess what route she took?

Throughout Sara’s retirement address, the audience was engaged in her story. Laughs and giggles couldn’t be suppressed. But when she started talking about the lessons she learned, the giggling faces turned into attentive faces.

During a biography she watched later in high school, she learned that “success requires commitment... we have to keep going even if it takes the first, second, third, or fourth time to succeed... don’t be

afraid.”

Sara is the kind of person who never stops entertaining and amaze her friends, whether it be hugging random Amish men when she was a child, or the fun comments she makes today, Sara is always fun to be around.

“Take a risk and don’t be afraid to try something new. It could be competing in a contest for the first time, becoming friends with the new kid, starting a service project or joining a new club, just do it.”

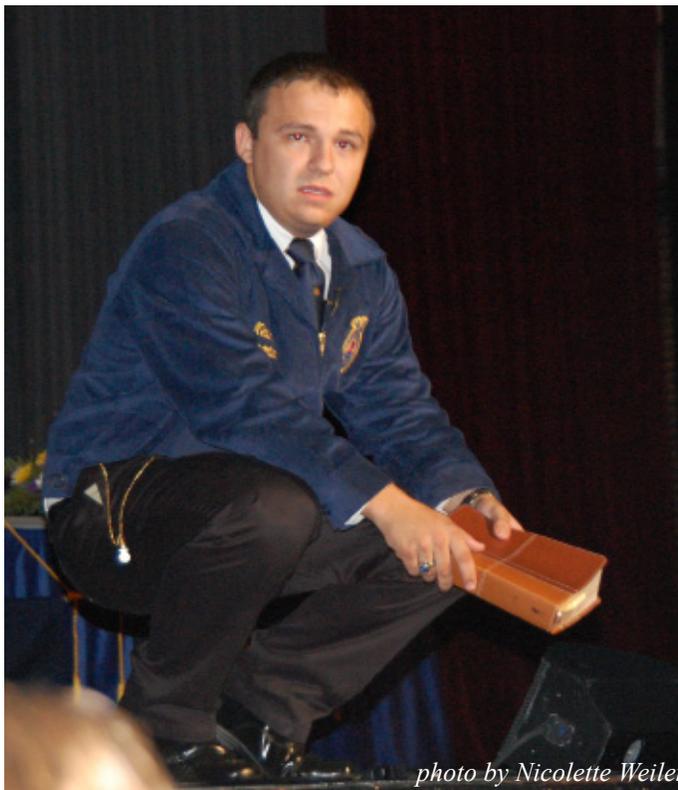


photo by Nicolette Weiler



photo by Nicolette Weiler

Little Red Wagon

by Nicolette Weiler and Magdolene DeVoe

What are a few words that would describe the 2011-2012 Indiana state treasure, Ross Newton? Just ask his Best Friends: helpful, friendly, kind, buddy-- lover of Jonny Cash-- funny. The list goes on and on but the most meaningful: “Our Best Friend.”

Giving his retiring speech Tuesday afternoon during the second session, Ross couldn’t help belting out his well known song, “Little Red Wagon” that many FFA members have come to expect.

As he spoke, emotions took over as he explained what struggles and road blocks he overcame when he lost a few loved ones throughout his FFA officer term. His speech revolved around his “story” where he explained that everyone has one that they write themselves. “You will never know the next chapter of your life.” He explained. ‘It’s your paper, your pen, it’s your story.’”

Ross concluded his address with a call to action to everyone in the audience wearing a blue jacket. “I challenge you to pick up that pen and paper... this is the life we live... everything will happen... we are the ones who write the stories of our lives.” What will you write down in your life? What story will your life tell? You are the writer, make every story count.”



photo by Nicolette Weiler

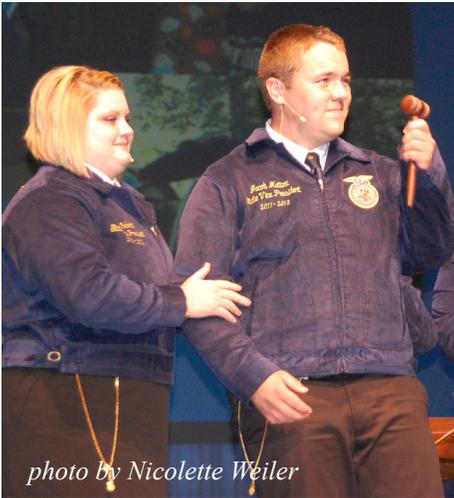


photo by Nicolette Weiler

One Action

by Brittany Ryckman

Jacob Mattox has struggled with guilt since July 21, 2010. That night, at an intersection difficult to see, Jacob ran a stop sign, killing the driver in the other vehicle

“I wish I had died that night,” Jacob confessed to the FFA crowd during his retring address. But it has been through this tragedy that Jacob Mattox’s life has been forever changed. “I think about that night every single day” continued Jacob.

Jacob has opened his eyes to how important life can be. “Do not take life too seriously” said Jacob. “You have no idea what you will miss out on in life if you take it too seriously. When God hands you a second chance – you do not turn it down.”

He learned how others struggled with similar things. He wanted more than anything to be there for someone else that was having struggles in their life. Jacob opened a listening ear for anyone who needed it.

“If you ever need help - ask for it,” stated Jacob. He has given his life to listen to your problems if you ever need to talk to someone you can email him at mattox.jacob@yahoo.com.

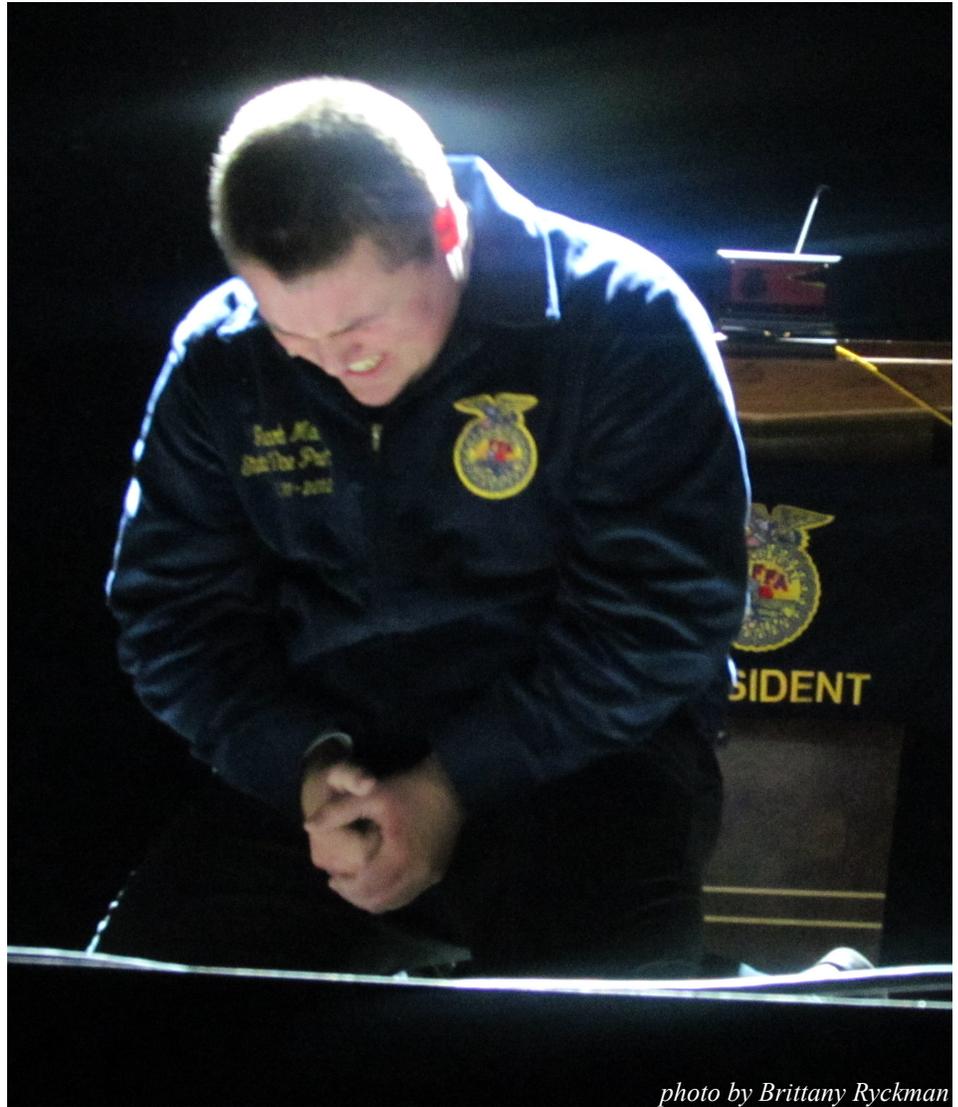


photo by Brittany Ryckman

FFA for life

by Magdolene DeVoe

Gene Swackhamer, alumni from 1956 and 1957, came back this year to his first reunion since 1961. The day was very meaningful for him and his wife as it was also their 51st wedding anniversary and they met at Purdue when they were in college.

Gene was a freshman at Purdue when he was 18 years old and was very active in the farming community then and now. Then, as he was active on the farm and FFA in

competitions, and now, as he lives on a small farm in Maryland with his wife and helps judge local Agriculture competitions. Still, he is active in the local high school’s FFA organization.

The impact on Gene had been beneficial. He learned parliamentary procedure and public speaking. Both are “often forgotten” he said as he reflected upon his experiences.

Gene believes in the future of agriculture and the long-term impacts it has on the community. What do you believe?

“Nothing great in this world was ever accomplished without passion.”

-Gianna Hartman



Photo by Jay Knepp

“Say What You Need To Say”

by Nicolette Weiler

Not everyone has that outgoing, bubbly, and cheerful personality; but having someone inspire you can give you a whole new perspective.

Giving her retiring speech during the 5th General Session, Indiana State Treasurer Gianna Hartman teared up as she described her struggles of being homeschooled and set out into scary, different surroundings. She explained how being homeschooled had made her a shy and backwards student.

Setting out into 9th grade, Gianna became part of a public school in Warsaw county where she felt “intimidated” by all the students and new faces she approached.

Once Gianna eventually settled into her new school, she met a teacher that made her feel welcome and inspired her to come out of her shell. Her Ag teacher, Mrs. Barkley had given her the confidence and motivation to speak her mind.

When losing a loved one in January 2009, she explained how she had talked to them before the passing and how it changed her life.

“The things we say to people matter, keeping things to yourself is a mistake.” She explained. “We can impact people so much by what we say to them, speak your mind because it might be too late.”

Make your Impact

by Magdolene DeVoe and Jay Knepp

Casie Conley, 2011-2012 FFA President, wanted to make an impact on the people of Indiana, but they left an impact on her.

“I have been impacted... because of the effect you have had on me,” she said holding back tears. The smiles and stories she experienced have had a lasting effect on her life.



Photo by Jay Knepp

Casie talked about how something can be over in a minute or two, how your chance to make an impact could end at any instant and how a tragedy could end it all in the blink of an eye.

“72 heartbeats. 22 breaths. 20 blinks. In 60 seconds a lot can change... in just one minute, your life can change... 365 days. One year. That’s all we’ve got (as an officer),” said FFA President, Casie Conley, in her retiring address.

One year ago-365 days- as of the last day of convention, was the first time Casie walked across the stage in the Elliot hall of music. It was that day that she received the opportunity to make her goal happen. Impact.

As Casie took her final steps across the stage everyone waited with emotions flaring ready to begin the end of a great year. She knew her impact on the FFA was ending, and she took all that was within her to give one final words of inspiration.

She finished her year as an Indiana State FFA President with her final words of “Indiana FFA keep making your impact!” Indiana FFA has made an impact on Casie’s life, now it’s time for Indiana FFA to make an impact on the life of the 2012-2013 Indiana State President, Cameron Mann.



photo by Nicolette Weiler

What matters most?

by Jay Knepp

For her retiring address, Rachel Schmitt talked about what used to be important to her. Most of which was in her purse.

At one time something that was important to her was a charm on her charm bracelet. Rachel loved this charm so much and one day it went missing. She assumed that her brother had taken it.

She was so mad at him that she threw a water bottle at him. The bottle hit her brother square in the nose and he started bleeding. Rachel later found the charm under the coffee table where it was the whole time.

“I thought that my charm bracelet mattered so much to me that I actually hurt my little brother,” said Rachel. “We have to figure out what really matters to us.”

“I’ve grown and learned over the years, I have reevaluated what matters to me and have realized three things matter to me: family, friends and FFA.”

Indiana FFA, what matters most to you?

If you build it....

by Magdolene DeVoe

An alumni workshop was held Tuesday in Fowler Hall of the Stewart Center with information directed toward advisors.

“If you build the program, alumni will come,” said Jim, a guest speaker from an Illinois high school. “Ag teachers can’t do everything for everyone and the alumni are here to help the ag teacher.”

Alumni associations supporting your chapter can be made up of anyone willing to help out in the FFA; there is no need for them to be previous FFA students. They can also easily get involved with other organizations that are active in the community.

“You don’t have to wear one of these blue corduroy jackets to be an alumnus,” said Clayton Carley, the Illinois state treasure. “Parents, Grandparents, community members, teachers, anyone willing to help the local Chapter can be FFA alumni; you



Photo by Jay Knepp

Show your Passion

by Jay Knepp

Starting off his retiring address Travis Olinske came sprinting out onto the stage yelling at a referee. Continuing to talk about how blind the ref was, Travis began to speak about how passionate his family is. “... Passion is the driving force for success,” Travis said.

Travis also talked about his thoughts the day before turning in the form to run for state office. Travis said that he was

not originally going to run for FFA state office, but then his mom changed his mind the morning the form was due. When he got to school he started and finished the form.

His passion for working as a state officer took over and he got the office position.

His final words as Indiana FFA State Sentinel were shouted loudly, “Show your passion and success will follow!”

only need 10 members who have paid their dues.”

Interested in getting an Alumni Association for your chapter? Visit the national FFA website at www.FFA.org/alumni to see the bylaws, policies, and the Manual.

Remember, “If you build the program, they will come.”



photo by Nicolette Weiler

Taking Risks, good or bad?

by Nicolette Weiler, Alexis Whiteman and Brittany Ryckman

In life, we make many decisions. Some good ones, and some bad ones. During the 83rd Indiana FFA State Convention, members gathered to hear a small speech about taking risks and how they impact many lives, especially when running an Ag business.

Speaker Shylea Wingard from Custom Ag Solutions in Cowley Wyoming volunteered to speak to FFA members about how taking risks. What is risk? It's taking a chance to gain a higher reward. Risk can change things for the good, as well as the bad. She handed out candy as she asked questions about how the audience would handle a car accident.

Towards the end of the session, she had members participate in a game where they each had a remote and had to make crucial decisions about running a farm

business. The top player won 10 dollars, second place 3 dollars, and last place one dollar. Members realized how important it is to take risks and the consequences that followed some of those risks.

“The good thing about taking risks in an Ag business is that you can work with your family and not be stuck in an office,” said Perry Central FFA member, Ethan Emmons. “The bad part is that if you take a bad risk, you could end up losing a lot of money and go bankrupt.”

Farming is a risky business.

But there are risks in everyday life so if you would like to know what she talked about find a friend that went and get to talking. It will be worth your while.

2596

people filled the Hoosier Degree Session Tuesday night

Mallorie Stookey

by Emily Sheets

Hailing from the Warsaw FFA chapter, this young woman truly has a love for FFA. Newly elected treasurer, Mallorie Stookey was also very successful this weekend, winning awards in both Dairy Production Placement and Star Farmer.

She believes that the future of agriculture will continue to be focused on people “working together for a cause bigger and better than themselves”. She has been significantly impacted by her FFA experiences, and believes it is time to “give back to the organization that has impacted (her) so much”.

Congratulations Mallorie! We look forward to your participation as Indiana State Treasurer.

Doing to Learn

by Brittany Ryckman

For all you FFA members who made it out to the armory building, did you have fun learning about different universities and businesses?

I had a blast hanging at the trade show watching people play corn hole and listen or watch some crazy amazing talent. The booths had a number of great merchandise for sale such as T-shirts, hats, and bracelets. I also asked what they thought about the 83rd Indiana FFA State Convention, all of you FFA members, and what they thought was the future of agriculture.

“I think agriculture will have changes in the future,” said Jeff Williams from Farm Life. “There will be progression and regression throughout the agriculture industry.” Jeff was also very impressed by how well the convention was run and really has enjoyed his time with us.



photo by Brittany Ryckman

Awards Luncheon

by Magdolene DeVoe

Clynnt Conley is a Knightstown FFA member and a champion in welding. Nicholas Fanning is a Carrol at Fort Wayne FFA member and a state champion in food science. What do these two have in common? They may be from different chapters, schools, be different ages, have different hair and eye color... but they do have one thing in common, they wear the official dress of the National FFA organization and have grasped the full FFA experience.

Clynnt Conley might not want to follow in his sisters footsteps (she is the 2011-2012 Indiana State President) but he has grasped the aspects that set the National FFA organization away from other organizations. In fact, every student at the Awards Luncheon is evidence of this. Evidence that “some of the best opportunities out there” are in the FFA said Gianna Hartman.

All of the students at the awards luncheon believed in the opportunities that the FFA has given them. They believe in grasping opportunity and taking advantage of the opportunities FFA can give the. What do you believe the FFA can give you? What do you want to get out of FFA? Because, if you believe it, it can happen. If you believe you want to be a state champion in anything you aspire to do, you can do it.



photo by Magdolene DeVoe



photo by Magdolene DeVoe



Photo by Jay Knepp

Joe Kelsay

by Emily Sheets

Joe Kelsay, originally from Whiteland, Indiana, the Director of the Indiana Department of Agriculture, and six generation farmer, has a love for FFA.

As an FFA member, his advisor was willing to try new things and passed on his passion to students like Joe. According to Joe, “farming keeps (him) grounded.” It has been key in assisting him in his strive to “look for opportunities to engage the public and FFA members”.

Joe has a passion not only for FFA, but also for the Department of Agriculture. He enjoys working in the department because of the interaction he gets with other staff members who share the same passion for agriculture as him. However, he believes his job can be challenging at times while “ensuring that the department remains relevant”.

If ever given the chance to speak with Joe, take the opportunity. His lively attitude and positive outlook are sure to stop you in your steps and change your views of FFA and the impact you can make!



FFA Saves Lives with Training

In the past 40 years over 900 grain entrapment cases in storage structures, grain storage piles and grain transport vehicles have been documented. In 2011, there were 8 deaths caused by these grain entrapments. In 2010 there were no less than 51 entrapments of which 26 were fatal.

“This is the largest number of deaths we’ve had for awhile,” said Steve Wettschurack, Certified Farm Accident Rescue Instructor at Purdue University. 2010 had the highest number since 1993. Wettschurack attributed the rise in deaths to the out of condition grain crop of 2010.

To assist emergency responders in extracting grain entrapped victims and enhance the likelihood of survival, Purdue University has developed a hands on training program. The program is a modern approach to provide protection to a partially entrapped victim and gives training in the use of grain rescue tubes.

There have been three rescue tubes used in Indiana since February of this year, all of which were purchased and donated by different FFA chapters to their local fire departments.

“It’s great these individuals are coming together to make this equipment available,” said Wettschurack.

It all started when the FFA chapter from Randolph Southern Jr./Sr. High School felt grain bin safety was important and saw an opportunity to help. The FFA chapter

rallied with their community to raise enough money to donate three rescue tubes to fire departments in Randolph County.

Liberty Rescue Tube Inc, one of the rescue tube manufacturers, worked with the FFA students to reduce the cost of the tube and has continued to work with more FFA chapters to bring this new rescue tool to areas all over Indiana and the United States.

Grain Storage Rescue Training is a class through Purdue University that provides fire/rescue and EMS personnel, grain elevator employees and farm operators with a better understanding of strategies for preventing and responding to grain-related entrapments. The course covers the primary causes of grain-related entrapments, grain storage design and operation, state of the art rescue strategies and first-responder injury prevention.

Learn how your chapter can get involved with the training program by contacting Steve Wettschurack at (765) 714-4557 or email him at swettsch@purdue.edu.

1723
people pre-registered for
convention



Win \$10,000 for College

FMC invites Indiana FFA members to participate in their “Stand and Be Heard Anthem Singing Contest” for a chance to win a \$10,000 college scholarship.

Members just need to enter online by uploading a video of themselves singing the National Anthem to www.FMCCrop.com/contest.

Participants can enter from now until July 15. A public online voting phase, beginning July 23, will determine the finalists.

FMC is currently offering \$25,000 in college scholarships through the contest. The grand prize winner will receive a \$10,000 scholarship with three runners-up each receiving \$5,000.

Outstanding Service Award

by Emily Sheets

Last night at the First General Session, Mrs. Elisha Priebe Buchanan received the FFA Outstanding Service Award.

She was a state officer, graduated from Purdue University, and went on to work for Dow AgroSciences, which is a large sponsor of the FFA.

She has also organized the FFA Tractor Drive, was the board chairman in 2008, and one of the top three individual sponsors for FFA in the past five years.

Congratulations Mrs. Buchanan!

Rising Talent

by Brittany Ryckman

The Indiana FFA is full of talent in every kind of way. Talent was presented throughout the convention through competitions, during sessions and as entertainment at the tradeshow.

Natalie Briant sang proudly as she represented her FFA chapter at the state convention.

Veronica did a beautiful sign language dance and you could tell she had an amazing time doing it.

There were so many more amazing talent presentations that went on during convention that made Indiana proud of our FFA members.

If you have a talent, we hope to see you up on stage next year to show everyone what FFA is made of. Also give a big thank you to FMC for sponsoring the talent competitions.



photo by Brittany Ryckman



photo by Brittany Ryckman



photo by Magdolene DeVoe

The Big Ten

by Brittany Ryckman

Over 30 chapters walked across the stage during the sixth and final session of convention for top 30 chapters award recognition.

These chapters were recognized for going above and beyond what anyone expected them to, and all of them performed outstanding acts of service in their community.

The chapters above all the rest were awarded the "Big Ten" title or the Gold Chapter Award. Winning these awards were: Carroll at Flora, Clinton Central, Jay County, North Montgomery, Prairie Heights, Plymouth, Shenandoah, Southmont, Western Boone, and Woodlan FFA chapters.

These 10 FFA Chapter went above and beyond. They showed that it is not impossible for just one small group to make a big difference. These chapters made a huge difference, so can you.



photo by Brittany Ryckman

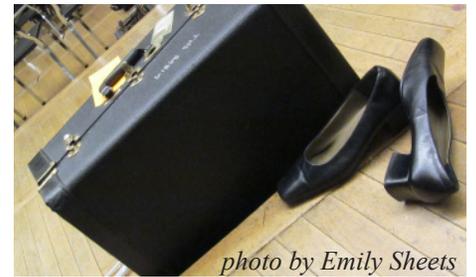


photo by Emily Sheets

State Stars

Farmer

Mallarie Stookey

Agricultural Placement

Katelin Schomber

Agribusiness

Chad Jones

Section Stars

Farmers

1. Mallarie Stookey

2. Richard Burns

3. Zach Dorrel

4. Amanda Wright

Agricultural Placement

1. Nathaniel Adam

2. Dillon Gable

3. Joseph Fidler

4. Katelin Schomber

Agribusiness

1. Andrew Frazier

2.

3. Angela Abney

4. Chad Jones



“Can anyone make a difference?”

I believe it's up to you”

-Scott McKain



Thank You to our 2011-2012 Indiana FFA Officers for a great year!

#believeINFFA