



FFA's

New Era



February 2019

Vol. 85 • No. 2

Experience “BEYOND” Your Dreams

In under two months, the South Dakota State University campus will be swimming with over 2,500 FFA members in corduroy jackets. April 7th – 9th, Brookings will host the iconic sea of blue jackets representing the future of SD agriculture at the 2019 State FFA Convention. This year’s theme “Beyond” will bring out each member’s excitement to go beyond - sharing their agriculture knowledge, experience and passion, and help go beyond ordinary - to reach their full potential and achieve their goals.

Highlights include:

- Members challenging themselves as they compete in fifteen Career Development Events with the hopes of being named state champions of their respective event, gaining the opportunity to advance to National FFA Convention in Indianapolis next October.
- FFA members receiving their State Degree, the highest award a state association can bestow.
- Students with top notch Supervised Agriculture Experience Project’s interviewing for Star Farmer, Star in Placement, Star in Agri-Business, and Star in Agri-Science.
- Recognizing last year’s American Degree recipients
- Awarding scholarships to graduating seniors and college students pursuing degrees in agriculture
- Outstanding Supervised Agricultural Experiences recognized with proficiency awards
- Presenting Honorary State FFA Degree and Distinguished Service Awards to select supporters

- Recognizing top chapters for their local activities with the National Chapter Award in 3 areas - Building Leadership, Growing Communities, and Strengthening Agriculture.
- Packaging meals for those in need at the “Living to Serve” project
- Members attending leadership workshops and the Career Carnival hosted by the agriculture industry
- State officers delivering retiring addresses and passing the gavel to the 2019-2020 State Officer Team.

SDSU looks forward to hosting the 91st South Dakota FFA State Convention as members go “Beyond” in their events, interviews and service projects.

JOIN US!



State Officers



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Tomorrows Leaders Met Today's State Leaders!

Bright and early on January 17, state legislators joined 51 District and State Officers for our annual legislative breakfast. Despite the chilly morning, energy ran high and discussions, cover current issues facing agriculture and education, bills that have been presented in the legislature, what ag education students are currently doing in their classroom, recent FFA activities, and recent local service projects. It was a great opportunity to showcase all FFA does to build leadership, grow communities and strength-

en agriculture in SD. Members used skills learned to advocate for the futures of agriculture education and shared about themselves. State Officers also shared a presentation about the 3-circle model of agriculture education - classroom learning, FFA and Supervised Agriculture Experience projects. One district officer commented, "I was so nervous, but my legislator was very easy to talk with and interested in what we are doing in our chapter. It was fun to share."



Mission: Possible – Advocate for Agriculture Education/FFA

January 16-17th, 45 FFA District officers from across South Dakota gathered in Pierre for the FFA Legislative Breakfast and District Officer Training. These members were elected to be the leaders of their respective districts to advocate for agriculture, agriculture education and FFA at various events.

The training, “Mission: Possible”, was hosted by State FFA Officers, taught leadership and teamwork skills, and guided the development of a plan for the year; skills that members can use all their lives. The sophomore and junior district officers sat in on a legislative session at the Capitol, seeing leadership and teamwork applied in a real-life setting; had workshops about personality types, interview and introduction skills, and conflict resolution; received training for their upcoming board meeting and a dining etiquette lesson from Clayton Sorum, 2017-18 State Vice President. These skills will serve these young as effective members in teams and careers throughout life. Members tested their new communication and etiquette skills at an evening dinner, in preparation for their upcoming legislative breakfast. They also engaged in roundtable discussions with State Veterinarian Dr. Oedekoven, State FFA Intern Jaclynn Knutson, and State Legislative Interns Matthew Bogue and Spencer Flood, on topics like the legislative schedule, current legislative issues and scholastic applications. Wrapping up their evening, they reflected in the Capitol Rotunda on their year of service. Day two training included members doing a SWOT analysis and training on positive advocacy. The District Officers finished by planning a district activity, learning the 2019 State FFA Convention theme - BEYOND, and writing Valentines for Veterans as a service project.

The FFA Legislative Breakfast and District officer training was made possible as a special project of the SD FFA Foundation by these sponsors: SD Association of Cooperatives, SD Bankers Association, SD Farmers Union, SD Wheat Commission, SDAAE, SD Crop Improvement Association, and our South Dakota FFA Star Partners: Twin Cities Region Northland Ford Dealers, Bayer, ADM Grain Tulare, CHS Foundation, Agtegra, AT&T/Weber Johnson, Bankwest, BASF, Butler Machinery Company, C & B Operations, Citi, Croplan by Winfield United, Dacotah Bank, Pioneer, East River Electric Cooperative, Farm Credit Services of America, First National Bank in Sioux Falls, Grain-Bridge, Hanson and Associates, Midwest Ag & Veterinary Service, Titan Machinery, Riverview LLP, RDO Equipment Co., SD Corn Utilization Council, LG Seeds, and US Army/ROTC.



JUST ONE. – National Convention Recap

**Just One chance. Just One moment.
Just One 91st National FFA Convention & Expo.**

The excitement ran high in Indianapolis as students heard great messages of facing massive challenges, cultivating potential and developing leadership with the convention theme, JUST ONE. It's a long-held tradition for the National FFA to invite the US President every year to bring remarks at the National FFA Convention. President Trump accepted and was one of many to address the attendees.

SD FFA members and agricultural educators represented our state with class, integrity, and passion for agriculture, and were recognized for months of hard

work and preparation. Nine SD individuals and their amazing projects were recognized on stage. We are proud of all our members and their accomplishments:

National Winner - Hadley Stiefvater, McCook Central, Agriscience Research - Animal Systems Proficiency

National Winner - Megan Nash, Northwestern, Agriscience Fair - Environmental Services and Natural Resources Division 1

National Winner - Danika Gordon, Sturgis, Agriscience Fair - Social Science Division 3

National Winner - Hadley and Ella Stiefvater, McCook Central, Agriscience Fair - Social Science Division 4

Runner Up - Adam Eichacker, McCook Central, American Star Farmer Finalist

Runner Up - Korbin Leddy, Milbank, Agriscience Fair - Social Science Division 1 at the National FFA

Runner Up - Mitchell and Sadie VanderWal, Northwestern, Agriscience Fair - Animal Systems Division 6

Runner up - Bridger Gordon, Sturgis, Extemporaneous Public Speaking

Honorary American Degree recipient - Patty Larson, Hartford, Supporter



Megan Nash



Danika Gordon



Patty Larson



Mitchell & Sadie VanderWal



Hadley Stiefvater



Bridger Gordon



Adam Eichacker



Korbin Leddy



Ella & Hadley Stiefvater

SD's Amazing Ag Teachers

Ag teachers work so hard! Even on weekends, they are networking, learning and growing so they can better serve our ag students. 90 SD ag teachers and preservice ag educators attended the Winter Professional Development Conference in Brookings January 4-5th. Training was around a variety of curriculum, leadership and career development events, and fun ways to teach. This event was sponsored by SD FFA star Partners Agtegra, Bayer, and Twin City Region Northland Ford Dealers, as well as the SD Ethanol Association. Thanks for helping train our ag teachers!



Meet the SD FFA Foundation Board

This group of dedicated volunteers works tirelessly to secure funds for all the events and activities of the SD FFA, as well as promote the wonderful things that FFA members do and learn. Our Mission: provide an avenue of funding which stimulates, promotes and supports the best interests of FFA students to create an awareness of agriculture careers, agri-business opportunities and the needs of a growing and diver-

sified industry. We develop resources to financially support leadership development programs for over 6,000 South Dakota agriculture education students; support the activities of South Dakota FFA chapters and members involved in Career Development Events and other events at the state and national FFA levels; and reward successful FFA members and chapters for their successes.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

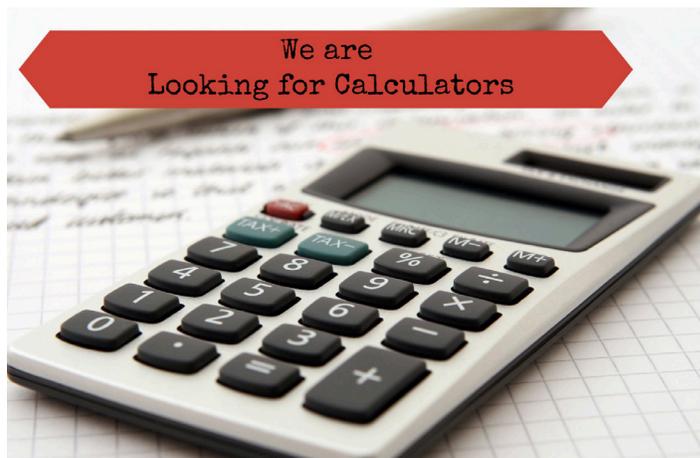


Sandy Osterday, McFleeg Inc.
Sandy Christensen, Stengl Oils
Matilyn Kerr, SDSU
Rebecca & Shad Christman, Ag
United & State of SD
John Lentz, NRCS
Wes Hotchkiss, Wilbur Ellis
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Jason Long, The First National
Bank of Sioux Falls
Adam Franken, Groton High School
Dan Tonak, Willow Lake High
School
Jim Wilson, Lennox High School
Cayla Graves, Platte-Geddes High
school

Erin Wammenn, Harding County
High school
Noelle Swanson, Northwestern
High school
Sarah VanderVleit, Tri Valley High
School
Andrew Streff, College student
Clayton Sorum, College student
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and Technical Education
Beth Mayrose, SD FFA Executive
Secretary
Gretchen Sharp, Executive As-
sistant
Gerri Ann Eide, Executive Director
Marvin Wastell, SD FFA Alumni

Looking for Basic Calculators!

The South Dakota FFA Foundation is looking for basic calculators for FFA members to use during Career Development Events at state convention and state leadership, with a goal of 2000 total. If you are a business that has basic calculators with your logo on and would like to donate some to our supply call or text Gerri at 605.765.4865 or email at gerri@sdffaoundation.org.



5 Great Ideas for Your Upcoming Chapter Banquet

Every chapter banquet is unique. Execute a memorable end-of-the-year event.

1. List your non-negotiables – like honoring supporters and recognizing awards and honors received by the chapter or members, retiring officer comments, and year-in-review moments. Make a list to keep organized, under control and from leaving something out.

2. Make memories - chapter banquets are usually the last event senior FFA members get to attend, make sure that it is memorable!

3. Add a service element – have attendees bring canned food to donate to a local shelter. Aim for a zero-food-waste banquet. This is your chance to end the year with a bang.

4. DIY when possible - Use the skills and talents of different members of your chapter to add do-it-yourself elements to your banquets, such as table centerpieces, door prizes, raffle items, hand-crafted frames for certificates, and self-made invitations and flyers.

5. Follow up - Take a moment to thank sponsors who helped throughout the year. Write thank-you notes to guests, post well wishes to the graduating class on social media and ask attendees for feedback.

Chapter Chatter:

See what our local chapters are doing!

Alcester Hudson - planning to attend a local horse expo.

McCook Central - practicing for career development events.

Watertown Area - holding an ice fishing tournament.

Platte-Geddes - just had their holiday party and planning a senior trip to Florida.

Howard and Beresford - Judged at the National Western Stock Show in Denver.

DeSmet - holding a chapter animal nursery.

Freeman - planning a benefit for local farmer with terminal cancer.

Garretson - planning for FFA Week, petting zoo and a day of service where they will bring in food and package it for the less fortunate.

Rapid City - preparing for livestock and horse judging at the Black Hills Stock show and Rodeo

Yankton - doing research on which sprinklers to put in their greenhouse.

Tri-Valley - planning a chapter ice skating event.

Sturgis - planning for their FFA Week events.

Ready to Lead? Serve FFA After High School

By Carolyn Blatchford, State FFA Reporter

Soon the South Dakota FFA will welcome a new State FFA Officer team and Ambassadors at the upcoming 91st South Dakota FFA Convention! Serving as a State Officer or Ambassador is a year of making a positive impact on the South Dakota FFA, as well as life-long memories and opportunities. It is a year of service - serving something bigger than yourself.

State Ambassadors serve at Leadership Retreat, assist in the State Fair Ag Adventure Center, State Leadership Events and State Convention. Hard work and dedication is required to serve as a State Ambassador, but the experience exceeds all expectations.

The memories made during a year as a State Officer will be remembered for the rest of your life. State Officers attend multiple trainings to develop positive leadership skills. The team then spends the rest of the year serving throughout Leadership Retreats, State Fair, Business & Industry Visits, Chapter Visits, National Convention, District & State LDE events, District Officer Training, preparing the following State Convention, and much more behind the scenes.

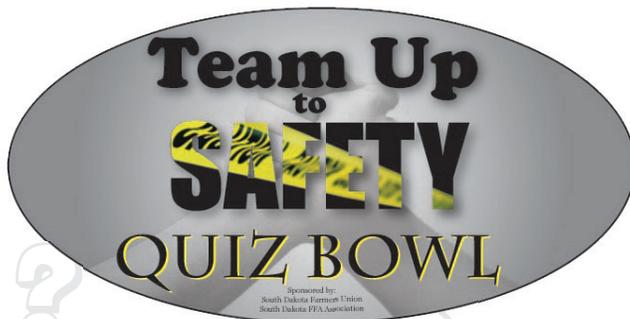
Are you ready to lead? Are you ready to make an impact on members for many years to come? If you are interested and ready, please visit sdaged.org, or contact a current State Officer or Ambassador to apply!

WHAT DOES CPR STAND FOR?

WHAT DOES AMMONIA SMELL LIKE?

WHAT'S AN ROPS?

COMPETE FOR BRAGGING RIGHTS!



WIN CASH PRIZES!

South Dakota Farmers Union is sponsoring the 7th annual 'Team up to Safety' quiz bowl competition

MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2019

During the State FFA Convention in Brookings



THINK YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO WIN?

FFA Advisers should contact Rocky Forman 605-352-6761 ext 117 or RForman@sdfu.org for details on competing in this year's QUIZ BOWL!



THE RIGHT WAY TO GROW
Agtegra Cooperative proudly supports FFA youth development in the Dakotas.



AGTEGRA.COM

FFA State Champions Crowned in Leadership Development Events

Nearly 600 FFA members from across South Dakota met in Pierre December 3rd for the State FFA Leadership Development Events (LDEs). Students qualified through district competitions, advancing the top two teams and top three individuals from each of the seven FFA districts. FFA members and chapters were recognized for their success in 11 leadership areas at the awards banquet. The banquet was sponsored by SD Midwest Dairy Association and SD FFA Star Partners: ADM Tulare, Agtegra, BankWest, CHS Foundation, LG Seeds, Monsanto and Twin City Region Northland Ford Dealers. State-winning teams and individuals now advance to the National FFA Leadership Development Events in Indianapolis next fall.

Parliamentary Procedure teams, consisting of six members per team, demonstrate an FFA business meeting. Our state sponsor is South Dakota Farmers Union. The state level travel scholarship is sponsored by South Dakota Farmers Union, Monte and Ruth Mason, and Brett and Tracy Kaltvedt. The team results are as follows:

1. Menno ((photo left to right) team members: Logan Klaudt, Tess Oplinger, Abby Fischer, Jaedyn Oplinger, Aidan Friesen, Eisley Saylor, alternate Brittney Massey and Advisor Brady Duxbury)
2. Highmore
3. Harrisburg
4. Willow Lake
5. McCook Central



The **All-State Parliamentary Procedure Team** is comprised of the top individual officer from each position in the Parliamentary Procedure CDE. These competitors are the best-of-the-best in their respective position. This area is sponsored by Skinner Financial Services. Those selected are (photo left to right):

President - Haley Husted, Highmore
 Members At Large:
 Tess Oplinger, Menno
 Abby Fischer, Menno
 Veronica Knippling, Highmore
 Trinity Peterson, Willow Lake
 Jacob Wagner, McCook Central (separate photo)



In **Prepared Public Speaking**, each contestant presents a 6-8 minute agriculture-oriented speech and answers five minutes of related questions. The event and travel scholarship are sponsored by Ag PhD. The results were (photo left to right 1st, 2nd, 3rd):

1. Danika Gordon, Sturgis
2. Sydney Hoffman, Bridgewater Emery

3. Hunter Eide, Gettysburg
4. Sami Wisman, Tri-Valley
5. Danielle Houghtaling, Doland
6. Molly Dye, Deuel
7. Grace Nelson, Madison
8. Jessica Boekelheide, Northwestern Area



In **Extemporaneous Public Speaking**, an unrehearsed 4-6 minute speech is written and presented onsite. Each contestant is allowed only 30 minutes to prepare. Our state level and travel scholarship sponsor is South Dakota Farmers Union. Results were as follows (photo left to right 1st & 3rd):

1. Isabel Roth, Harrisburg
2. Kayle Lauck, McCook Central
3. Madeline Lowe, Lennox
4. Grace Nelson, Madison
5. Samantha Pappas, Groton
6. Kristin Kotas, Bridgewater-Emery
7. Mitchell Vanderwal, Northwestern Area
8. Landon Wolter, Wessington Springs



Employment Interview Skills challenges FFA members to complete a job application, write a letter of application and resume, participate in an actual interview and compose a follow-up letter. Our sponsor is the South Dakota Department of Agriculture. The winning travel scholarship is sponsored by Kindra Gordon and Three Corners Agency, Inc. - Melissa Stearns, Agent. The results were (photo left to right 1st & 3rd with SD Dept of Ag representative Dusty Oedekoven):

1. Danika Gordon, Sturgis
2. Tayte Gleason, Dell Rapids (separate photo)
3. Reece Ullerich, West Central
4. Randi Tivis, Sturgis
5. Anna Schwader, Howard
6. Kady Nolz, West Central
7. Shania Knutson, Viborg-Hurley
8. Samantha Frickson, Bowdle



Ag Sales team members work together to develop a strategy for selling pre-determined products to specific customer scenarios. Participants also practice their individual sales skills by selling an agricultural product to a customer. This event is sponsored by CHS Brandon. The winning travel scholarship is sponsored by CHS Brandon and Hoegemeyer Hybrids. The results were:

1. McCook Central ((photo left to right) team members

Rylee Klinkhammer, Tanner Peterson, Hadley Stiefvater, Cole Grasma) Advisors Terry Rieckman & Tracy Chase

2. Brookings
3. Rapid City
4. Deuel
5. Northwestern



The **Junior Conduct of Meetings** event is designed for high school freshmen to present a mock FFA meeting. This event is sponsored by Gary Bachman, Prairie Appraisal Service of Bowdle. The team results were:

1. McCook Central ((photo left to right) team members Back row: Joe Loudenburg, Kyle Schoon, Emma Heinz, Sydney Grasma. Front row: Gracie Wurtz, Elana Krutsinger, Ella Stiefvater, Megan Stiefvater) Advisors Terry Rieckman & Tracy Chase
2. Lennox-Sundstrom
3. Hot Springs
4. Willow Lake
5. Highmore



Creed Speaking Freshman participants recite the FFA Creed and answer questions posed by the judges. This event and travel scholarship is sponsored by Craig and Bonnie Dybedahl and Jeremy and Laura Nettifee. The results were (photo left to right - 1st, 2nd, 3rd with Matt Dybedahl, sponsor):

1. Sierra Hilgenkamp Wall
2. Matea Gordon, Sturgis
3. Ella Stiefvater, McCook Central
4. Rachel Rickenbach, Hot Springs
5. Alana Howard, Miller
6. Kathryn Rausch, Hoven
7. Jacob Tvinnereim, Lake Preston
8. Annalise Kludt, Menno



In **Marketing Plan**, teams of students determine a local community need and create a complete strategy for marketing a new agricultural product or company to fill that need. The sponsor is Legend Seeds, Inc., and the state winning team travel scholarship is sponsored by Hurley and Associates. The results are:

1. Lennox ((photo left to right) team members Kayleigh Thill, Alexis Medenwald, Gemma Sanchez) Advisor Jim Wilson
2. Bowdle
3. Hot Springs
4. Harrisburg
5. Parker



In **Ag Issues**, a team of 3-7 students discuss the pros and cons of a major agricultural issue facing their area. The sponsor is South Dakota Farmers Union and the state winning team travel scholarship is sponsored by South Dakota Farmers Union and the Farm Forum. The results were:

1. Wall ((photo left to right) team members: Lillyanna Wagner, Camri Elshere, Katy Humphrey, Abbianna Weinzetl, Lexy Dunker, Jenna Elshere and advisor Dani Herring)
2. Milbank
3. Parker
4. Sturgis
5. Beresford



In **Ag Broadcasting/Journalism**, students have 30 minutes to prepare a five-minute agricultural radio newscast and then "air" it. This event is sponsored by Ludens Implement. Results were (photo left to right 1st & 3rd):

1. Cassidy Saylor, Viborg-Hurley
2. Taren Tschetter, Doland (separate photo)
3. Jessica Kot, Kimball
4. Alicia VanderWal, Sioux Valley
5. Maria Roghair, Sunshine Bible Academy
6. Morgan Anderson, Watertown
7. Kayle Lauck, McCook Central
8. Ashton Olivier, Chester



In **Ag Communications**, teams of students play the role of communications consultants to develop and present a media plan for an assigned scenario. Members also complete Editing and Communications tests. This event is sponsored by the South Dakota Broadcasters Association. The winning travel scholarship is sponsored by Dakota Farm talk. Results were:

1. Harrisburg ((photo left to right) team members Kayla Smeenk, Madison Heyn, Michaela Heyn, and Allyson Beninga) Advisors Tara Fastert and Todd Marks
2. McCook Central
3. West Central
4. Hot Springs
5. Belle Fourche



The South Dakota FFA consists of 90 FFA chapters with 4,400 FFA members. The SD FFA Leadership Development Events are a special project of the SD FFA Foundation. FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by

Members Act in Time of Need

The evening of November 12, District 3 FFA Leadership CDE's were held in Parker. Parker FFA members Kaleb Buseman and Geoff Dunkelberger were hurrying from their first wrestling team practice back to the school for the FFA event and came across smoke coming from an apartment building. Their reaction exemplifies the line of the FFA motto, "Living to Serve". Buseman shares the experience, "The smoke was very small when we first saw it. But suddenly it started to grow rapidly and flames started burning the siding of the apartment building. I immediately called 911. Then Geoff and I, along with several Beresford FFA members that were near ran inside, knocked on doors, told residents what

was going on, and helped evacuate the building." Residents were mostly unaware of the fire. Back outside, a crowd gathered and a firefighter arrived, thanked the FFA members, and asked them to step back. The members decided everything was under control and hurried off to compete in their Leadership Development Events. At the FFA event, they didn't say anything about it, and went on with their day. The next day, thankful residents reached out to the student's schools, impressed with the FFA leaders who stepped up to help, telling the story, recognizing their heroism. When asked, they said, "It was the right thing to do, so we just did it."

Go After Opportunities By Carolyn Blatchford

Andrea Schubloom is no stranger to taking chances. Past state officer, Andrea wanted to combine two passions: FFA and media. FFA offers multiple internship opportunities, especially during National FFA Convention. Andrea applied for the digital media internship because of previous work she has done with her marketing and communications internship with the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environmental Sciences at SDSU. She stated, "I really enjoy working in fast-paced environments, so I figured National Convention would be a great place to learn!" Andrea was able to work under experienced professionals and was able to step outside her comfort zone!

She ended up being the one to post the National FFA Facebook stories throughout convention! Challenging as it is to pick a favorite memory, Andrea narrowed it down to two. The first, hosting her first Facebook live interview with members at the National FFA Days of Service around Indianapolis. People thought she was a news anchor, and the video did end up looking very similar to a short news segment! The second favorite memory was helping monitor the press area in the session hall when President Trump gave his address.

All in all, Andrea encourages everyone to stay involved in FFA and go after available opportunities! For more information on internships available, check out ffa.org!



Break Out of Your Shell in 2019!

Serve on a chapter committee.

Help decide what your chapter will do this year. Gain experience that will serve you later in your high school career and teamwork skills you'll need outside of FFA, in school, your career, and life.

Build an awesome SAE project.

It doesn't matter if you're raising animals or doing a research project, building an SAE project teaches you responsibility and opens up avenues for you to receive recognition at local, state and national levels.

Apply for an award – or several.

When you've put in hours of hard work to reach a goal, it feels great when others recognize it. Stars, Proficiency, Agriscience, State Fair – there are lots of opportunities.

Get involved in a service project.

With your chapter, or at the Living to Serve Day at State Convention, you'll make friends while helping an important cause.

Compete in a CDE or LDE.

Career Development Events (CDEs) will give you a boost with job skills in everything from communications to mechanics, while Leadership Development Events (LDEs) create situations for you to demonstrate your abilities in public speaking, decision making, communication and your knowledge of agriculture and FFA.

Attend Leadership Retreat.

Hone your leadership, communication and teamwork skills, while networking with other future leaders in agriculture over the summer and having a great time! The SD FFA Foundation offers scholarships to attend too!

8 ways to GET INVOLVED

SOUTH DAKOTA FFA

1

Volunteer

We are always **looking for judges** for leadership and career development events, state fair, proficiency awards, agriscience fair, silent auction items, help at our state conventions and more. **Don't forget** chapters can use coaches and chaperones too!



5

Become a Star Partner

South Dakota's **most prestigious sponsor category**. Sponsor levels start at only \$3,000. Contact Gerri for more information at Gerri@sdfafoundation.org.



2

Donate Online

Whether it's \$5 or \$500, **everything helps**. Visit sdfafoundation.org to donate now.



6

Follow the SD FFA Foundation & SD FFA Association on Social Media

The easiest way to **keep in touch with us** and see what students and members are doing.



3

Sponsor a Blue Corduroy Jacket for an FFA member

Welcome a new member into the fabric of FFA, **giving them their own FFA jacket**; carrying forward that long-standing tradition of pride, dignity and honor. Contact Gerri.



7

Send us a photo of you in your Blue Corduroy

Did you sport the Blue & Gold? **Send us a photo** for our archives and to feature in our publications and online media! Share a testimonial on how FFA impacted your career or life direction. Email Gerri@sdfafoundation.org.



4

Join a Local Alumni Chapter

FFA Alumni chapters exist in small towns and big cities all across South Dakota. **Find a local chapter** to join. You don't have to have been an FFA member to join the SD FFA Alumni and Supporters. All alumni and friends are welcome to join!



8

Give a Scholarship

Support an FFA member's college education. **Send students** to Leadership Retreat, Washington Leadership Conference, or National FFA Convention.



Thank You to Our South Dakota FFA Foundation Sponsors

Thank you! We gratefully acknowledge the generous gifts made by the friends of SD FFA Foundation from January 1, 2018- December 31, 2018 at these levels.

Diamond (\$20,000 +)

Agtegra Cooperative
Twin Cities Region Northland Ford Dealers

Platinum (\$10,000 - \$19,000)

Farm Credit Services of America
Monsanto

Gold (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

BankWest
Butler Machinery Company
Jerry's Auto Sales
LG Seeds
Pat Wingen
SD Ethanol Producers Association, Inc.
U.S. Army

Ruby (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

BASF
ADM Grain Tulare
C & B Operations
CROPLAN by WinField United
Dacotah Bank, Inc.
DuPont
Farm Credit Services of America
GrainBridge
Gylling Data Management, Inc.
Hanson & Associates LLC
Kendel and Janice Thompson
Midwest Ag & Veterinary Service
RDO Equipment Company
Riverview LLP
SD Corn Utilization Council
SD Soybean Research & Promotion Council
Titan Machinery, Inc.

Pearl (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

Alpha Gamma Rho & Sigma Alpha
American News Farm Forum
Chad & Rhonda Wosje
Curry Seed Co.
Dakotaland Feeds
De Smet Farm Mutual Insurance Company of South Dakota
Doug and Clara Marsh
Eugene and Stella Nagel
First Bank & Trust
Glacial Lakes Energy, LLC
Hefty Seed Company
Hurley & Associates
Lyle Anderson
Rausch Herefords
SD Farmers Union
SD Wheat Commission
Ted and Marilyn Krogen
Tyson Foods

Silver (\$500 - \$999)

Associated Milk Producers, Inc.
Bayer CropScience
Central Farmers Cooperative
CHS Brandon
Clark & Lyla Hanson
Dakota Vision Ag, Inc.
The Dan Streff Family
Dan and Sheri Kahnke
De Johnson
Denny Oviatt
Eichacker Simmentals
FarmHouse Fraternity-SDSU
Gary Bachman
Glacial Lakes Energy, LLC
Grain Millers
Hoegemeyer Hybrids

Jon & Emily Minor
Lauren Stuck
Legend Seeds, Inc.
Mark Gross
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Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of the donor and volunteer lists. If your name has been omitted or misspelled, please accept our apologies and notify the Foundation of corrections by calling 605-765-4865.

Foundation Feature

JUST ONE person can make a difference! Raise your voice; advocate for agriculture & agriculture education! FFA is stepping up to the challenge, preparing youth to be tomorrow's employees in the science, business, technology and production of our food, and also equipping them to advocate for agriculture and how we raise our food. Join the SD FFA Foundation in building the next generation of agriculture leadership JUST ONE student at a time.

As JUST ONE sponsor, parent, alumni member or friend of agriculture, you can:

1. **Visit the SD FFA Foundation website** regularly at www.sdffaoundation.org
2. **Like South Dakota Supporters FFA Foundation on Facebook** and share what we're doing with your friends.
3. Help **judge an event** - contact gerri@sdffaoundation.org

4. **Celebrate National FFA Week, February 16-23** - take your jacket to work or hang in your car window, share the Ag Ed message with coworkers, or donate to the SD FFA Foundation.

5. **Be a sponsor** - State Degree recipients, proficiencies, CDE's or summer leadership retreat all need support.

6. **Attend South Dakota's State FFA Convention** in Brookings on April 7-9!

At Convention you can see SD FFA members grow JUST ONE experience, workshop, competition, award, scholarship at a time, building leadership for a lifetime. They'll grow in agricultural career skills through fourteen Career Development Events, a Career Carnival, service projects and agricultural leadership workshops. Experience the excitement of the State Proficiency Award Ceremony and State Stars Pageant. Cheer on FFA members receiving their State FFA Degrees. Raise your voice and strengthen agriculture by investing in FFA - the future of agriculture!

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A Milestone for the National FFA Organization is Approaching!

2019 MARKS 50 YEARS OF FEMALE MEMBERSHIP FOR FFA!

Were you one of the first females active in your chapter or at the state level?
We'd love to hear your experience and share with today's members.
Email gerri@sdfoundation.org or call 605-765-4865



Gerri Hofer, 1st female State Officer in SD 1974-75 State Sentinel from Doland



Jessie Geib, 1st female National Officer from SD 2005-06 National Secretary from DeSmet



Bonita Sneesby, 1st State FFA Sweetheart from Lake Preston 1977-78; also named American Royal Queen

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We're investing in the future



Pioneer is proud to support education programs that help ensure the successful agriculture of tomorrow.

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A New Set of Eyes and New Lease on Life

April Hamilton, 2017-2018 SD FFA Secretary, had the opportunity of a lifetime, along with 82 other state officers from the U.S., to travel to South Africa (SA) for 12 days through National FFA's International Leadership Seminar for State Officers (ILSSO). On this trip, they got to learn not just about agriculture, but also the inside scoop about South Africa's culture.

The state officers had the opportunity to learn SA's history and how their economy has evolved since the Apartheid and visit Robbin Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned. During their time in SA, they kept busy with visiting many places, such as a private game reserve, a crocodile estate, an ostrich ranch, a Boer goat farm, the Hoekstra Fruit Exporters, the Embryo Plus Centre, a cattle and crop farm, and much more.

For April, highlights of the trip included going on a game drive, visiting the Cape of Good Hope, conversing with students from an agricultural high school, and experiencing the community township of Kayamundi. "Interacting with the locals of South Africa was what I loved the most. They were willing to share their own stories, thoughts, and ideas. From them, I learned the most about everyday life in South Africa," stated April Hamilton.

Coming back from the trip, Hamilton emphasized how the people in South Africa are so welcoming and willing to show you how they live their lives. April advises: "If you have the opportunity to travel abroad, do it. Embrace the discomfort that comes with it. Try new food, meet new people, learn the language, be open to new experiences and immerse yourself in the culture. It will give you a new perspective at life." April received a grant from the SD FFA Foundation Star Partners program to assist with her travel experience expenses.





SOUTH DAKOTA FFA FOUNDATION, Inc.

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Top 10 Ideas - Celebrate National FFA Week with us!

FFA chapters and communities across the nation celebrate National FFA Week, February 16th- 23rd by planning activities and service projects. We asked SD chapters to share their top event ideas!

- 1. Teacher Appreciation Breakfast** - Members get to school early to fix a buffet style breakfast to thank their teachers - or deliver them a cupcake and coke at the end of the school day, with a thank you note for all they do for students.
- 2. Greenhand Night** - 1st year FFA members are invited to a night filled with games, leadership activities and helpful FFA hints to make the most out of their years in the blue jacket
- 3. Sponsor recognition** - In official dress, members deliver baked goods and thank you letters to chapter sponsors and supporters in their community.
- 4. FFA Emblem Scavenger Hunt** - What better way to celebrate FFA week than bring it to the whole school? At the beginning of the week, chapter officers hide FFA emblems around the school. Anyone who finds a emblem can bring it into the classroom to be entered to win a prize.
- 5. Speak Loud and Proud** - Schedule newspaper, radio or T.V. interviews to share our values and mission! Share ag education facts on social media to spread the word about what FFA and ag education do! Members speak about why they started and stayed in FFA and the opportunities of membership.
- 6. Package it up!** - What better way to follow the FFA motto of "Living to Serve" than packaging meals for those in need in the community.
- 7. Jackets at work** - Ask alumni to take their old FFA jackets to work, hang on their chair and start conversations about what FFA did to impact their career.
- 8. Display FFA emblems/facts around town-** whether it's the SD FFA placemats, table tents with FFA facts you make, or FFA emblems - ask local cafes to share the message with everyone in town, and local businesses to set up a display showcasing things your ag class is doing.
- 9. Host an Ag Olympics Challenge** - Get the whole school involved with competitions of bale tossing, roping, soil digging, saw horse riding, etc. between grade levels.
- 10. Wear FFA attire - sport your FFA t-shirts** - whether they are from Leadership Retreat, State Fair, State or National Convention, or District Officer Training - wear an FFA shirt every day to show off your pride in the organization, and encourage other students to ask questions about the organization!