

# UPDATE

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U.S. Department of Education  
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## DATES TO REMEMBER

### October

- 14 CDE Add/Delete Forms Due, National FFA Center
- 25-27 NASAE Annual Meeting, Louisville, Ky.
- 27-30 77<sup>th</sup> National FFA Convention, Louisville, Ky.

### November

- 1 BLAST Off Trainer Applications Due, National FFA Center
- 10 SAE Grant Applications Due, National FFA Center

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## THE LATEST FROM FFA

**National FFA staffing and structural changes:** In an effort to raise the level of visibility of the importance of marketing and communications within FFA, several staffing and structure changes have been made. Bill Stagg has assumed leadership as Division Director of the Information Services Division. Mark Cavell and the Information Technology Team have been shifted to the Business Services Division. Tom Kapostasy and the Business Services Division will assume responsibility for the business operations of the *FFA New Horizons* magazine, , while editorial content and direction will be the responsibility of Bill Stagg and the Information Services Division.

**The National FFA Organization is looking for conference trainers:** FFA is seeking talented and dedicated individuals to serve as conference trainers for the FFA Leadership and Personal Growth Series and State Officer Trainings (ALD, BLASTOFF, EDGE, MFE and WLC) for the 2005-2006 conferences. All the information needed to apply for a conference trainer position may be found at [http://www.ffa.org/about\\_ffa/html/ffa\\_jobs.htm](http://www.ffa.org/about_ffa/html/ffa_jobs.htm) - ffa. If you have any questions, contact Cindy Driver at 317-802-4257 or [cdriver@ffa.org](mailto:cdriver@ffa.org).

The deadline to apply for BLASTOFF is Nov. 1, 2004. The deadline to apply for ALD, EDGE, MFE and WLC is Dec. 1, 2004. This deadline allows National Officer candidates who were not elected to National Office adequate time to complete applications for a trainer position.

**Bernie Staller Endowment:** The National FFA Foundation would like to thank the individuals, companies and state associations who contributed to the Bernie Staller Endowment. The support - honoring and recognizing his years of service to FFA members, agricultural education teachers, agriculture professionals, alumni, the agribusiness community and many others - is greatly appreciated.

Proceeds from the endowment will be used to provide a scholarship for an FFA member who is entering college, based on financial need. The recipient must be majoring in agricultural education and be planning a career teaching agriculture education at the secondary school level. The annual scholarship will be \$2,500.

If you are interested in receiving more information about contributing to the endowment, contact Tammy Meyer at 317-802-4416 or at [tmeyer@ffa.org](mailto:tmeyer@ffa.org)

**FFA Foundation and Case IH Partnership:** CNH, the parent company of Case IH and New Holland, has created a new program to help the National FFA Foundation fund local chapters. CNH created two original prints, nostalgic in style, featuring FFA members in a farm setting. One print features the Case IH (Farmall brand) in the background and the other the New Holland brand. For each donation of \$100 to the National FFA Foundation (plus \$10 shipping and handling), the donor will receive a free print of his or her choice.

*Order forms and more details are attached.*

**Online Giving:** Online Giving is now available through the National FFA Foundation. You can make your

annual contribution to FFA by visiting <http://www.ffa.org/>

**West Virginia advisor named Teacher of the Year:** Jason Hughes, an agricultural education teacher and FFA advisor from Pleasants County, W.Va., was named the 2005 West Virginia Teacher of the Year. As the state winner, he received an educational technology package from the Smarter Kids Foundation and the opportunity to represent his state in the National Teacher of the Year Competition. Attached is a news release with more information.

**The Core to Hit Mailboxes Starting October 4<sup>th</sup>:** The latest edition of The Core, your first stop for agricultural education resources, will arrive in the first weeks of October. In an endeavor to make new and exciting resources available, National FFA launched a number of new products for your agricultural education program offered through *The Core* and at <http://www.ffaunlimited.org/>. Check out new resources such as Charlie Greenhand's Ag Trivia Challenge, Mpower: An Officer's Guide to Chapter Leadership and SAE Idea Cards. These products can help you spice up your classroom, help you teach a concept related to agriculture, FFA or SAE, inspire your chapter leaders or get students excited about being enrolled in agriculture classes! For more information contact Tiffany Sanderson at 317.802.4239 or [tsanderson@ffa.org](mailto:tsanderson@ffa.org).

**Final John Deere Credit Classic 4020 Giveaway:** This will be the final year for the John Deere Credit Classic 4020 Giveaway and we want to make it the best ever! Therefore, all FFA members are encouraged to register for their chance to win! The August/September issue of *FFA Advisors Making A Difference* contains a pullout poster and entry forms students can use for their chance to win this year's tractor. Completed forms should be mailed to: John Deere Credit/4020 Giveaway, P.O. Box 6600, Johnston, IA 50131-6600. Entries must be postmarked by Oct. 15. Those attending the 77<sup>th</sup> National FFA Convention may register at the John Deere booth in the FFA Career Show® between Oct. 27-29. The winner will be drawn and announced at national convention in the Shopping Mall Food Court at 1 pm on Friday, Oct. 29.

**Get Ready to "REV It Up" in 2005:** You'll be hearing the words, "REV It Up" in the coming months, and here's the reason: Thanks to grant monies from the USDA, the National FFA Organization will create and distribute a toolkit of new and redeveloped materials focusing on recruitment, engagement and volunteerism for rural youth. (The "REV" stands for Recruitment, Engagement and Volunteerism.) Be on the lookout for additional information about this exciting project this fall and winter. The toolkit's release is targeted for late spring 2005.

**PBR World Finals:** The Professional Bull Riders Association (PBR) will donate \$20 to the National FFA Organization from every ticket set purchased for the PBR World Finals at Mandalay Bay. To purchase tickets, call Beth Benjamin at 719-471-3008, ext. 3140, and use reference code FFAWF2004. For questions or for more information, email [BETH@PBRNOW.COM](mailto:BETH@PBRNOW.COM).

## **MERCHANDISING**

**Official Jacket Update:** Jackets currently being shipped feature new emblems that have been updated to restore the design and color of the original FFA emblem. The jacket's front emblem now matches its back emblem, and the color of the thread used for the jacket's embroidery matches the gold in the new emblem. In August 2004, chapters began seeing their jackets arrive in the original shade of FFA national blue. We're very excited and believe these changes are a move in the right direction that will get us closer to how the original jacket looked.

Next fall the jacket fit will be changing to provide students with a more comfortable jacket. Don't miss your opportunity to see samples of these new jackets at the FFA Mega Store at the 77<sup>th</sup> National FFA Convention. Please stop by and have your students try on one of the jackets to see how they've changed and get one-on-one instruction on how to measure your students for a jacket. Measuring instructions will be provided for you to take home, and you'll be able to enter a raffle to win one of the many sample jackets we will have on site.

We are also shipping a promotional piece to the owner of each new jacket that will provide them free shipping on their next purchase from the Blue catalog. This promotion is intended for members to buy more great clothes, accessories and gifts out of the Blue catalog as a thank you from the National FFA to them for becoming a member. This special promotion is not intended to be used by chapters but by members who have just become a proud owner of a new jacket. For more information, contact Lee Anne Shiller at [lshiller@ffa.org](mailto:lshiller@ffa.org).

## **INTERNATIONAL**

**International Leadership Seminar for State Officers:** Each year current and past state officers have an

opportunity to travel abroad to learn about agricultural practices in other countries. The 2005 trip is tentatively scheduled for Jan. 4-18. Approximate cost is \$3,300-\$3,600. The 2005 trip is tentatively scheduled for France, Germany, Switzerland and Austria. Information & Applications available online at <http://www.ffa.org/programs/global/>

## MEMBERSHIP

**2004-2005 Membership Numbers:** The heads have been counted, and the numbers are in! FFA membership is at a 22-year high with 476,732 members in 7,223 chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. With many new chapters added to the 2004 national roster, FFA membership is rapidly approaching the half-million mark.

**2004-2005 Rosters:** Membership rosters for the 2004-2005 membership year are now being accepted. Remember, the 2004-2005 rosters are to be on the new 2004-2005 template that all state staff should have received by Aug. 31. If you have not received the 2004-2005 Membership CD, please contact your membership representative as soon as possible.

As you know, delivery of the **FFA New Horizons** magazine is based upon the addresses submitted by chapters to state and national staff. Please stress that your chapters verify their members' mailing addresses and make any necessary changes before submitting their rosters.

**Membership Reports:** With the new Membership year, the Membership Team is excited to be able to offer additional reports for state staff use. In the next few weeks, your membership representative will be contacting you to discuss all the new reports created to assist you this year. As always, your membership rep will be able to answer your questions and provide assistance.

## NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION NEWS

Live Coverage of the 77th National FFA Convention on RFD-TV: RFD-TV will broadcast live coverage of the 77th National FFA Convention, Oct. 27-30, 2004, beginning with Session 1B on Wednesday, Oct. 27, at 6:30 pm (Eastern Daylight Savings Time). The live coverage will resume with Session 2 on Thursday, Oct. 28, at 3:00 pm, and will continue with sessions on Friday and Saturday, concluding with the election of the 2004-2005 national officers on Saturday, Oct. 30.

Max Armstrong and Orion Samuelson will be the official FFA Live! anchors for the convention coverage, with Andrew McCrea (1993-1994 National FFA Officer, Missouri) and National FFA staff providing insightful commentary as co-hosts. Headquarters for the live broadcast will be on the second floor of Freedom Hall in the Hickman Camp Room (next to the Advisors Lounge). Please stop by and give a friendly wave to the good folks of RFD-TV.

Remember to look your best and smile while you're at convention – you never know who might be watching! And when you call home, remind your family and friends to tune in to RFD-TV for the latest convention coverage.

RFD-TV is providing this special broadcast coverage of the national FFA convention as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. Please let RFD-TV know how much we appreciate their efforts by passing this information along to all of your FFA advisors and students, and ask them to send a thank-you to RFD-TV at [info@rfd-tv.com](mailto:info@rfd-tv.com) or RFD-TV c/o Northstar Studios, 3201 Dickerson Pike, Nashville, TN 37207. RFD-TV is the first 24-hour television network dedicated to serving the needs and interests of rural America as well as our city cousins. Currently, RFD-TV is available to more than 23 million homes as a basic channel on **DISH Network (9409), DIRECTV (379) and Mediacom and NCTC cable systems.**

### FFA Live! Broadcast Schedule – 77<sup>th</sup> National FFA Convention

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Wednesday, Oct. 27	Session 1 B Opening Convention Session
2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Thursday, Oct. 28	Session 2 National Chapter Awards
7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Thursday, Oct. 28	Session 3 Stars Over America
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Friday, Oct. 29	Session 4 Honorary American Degree
12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Friday, Oct. 29	Session 5 H O Sargent Awards
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Friday, Oct. 29	Session 6 Proficiency Awards
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Friday, Oct. 29	Session 7 Agriscience Fair Finalist
8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Saturday, Oct. 30	Session 8 American Degree
12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Saturday, Oct. 30	Session 9 Career Development Awards
3:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Saturday, Oct. 30	Session 10 National Officers Election

**CDE Add/Deletes:** Remember, all add/delete forms must be received at the National FFA Center by Oct. 14. Any add/deletes after that date must be done at the CDE registration booth in the West Hall Lobby one hour prior to the start of the team orientation meeting. State staff must sign each add/delete form.

**Attention American Degree recipients, families and FFA Alumni:** The National FFA Organization and the National FFA Foundation will offer a free workshop on estate planning at the 77<sup>th</sup> National FFA Convention. This workshop offers a realistic and fresh approach with simple ideas to what can be extremely complex. This workshop is designed for individuals and families who already have estate plans and for those individuals and families who don't have plans. Feel free to stop by Saturday morning for this BRAND NEW event on Saturday, Oct. 30, 2004, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Conference Center 109-110. For more information contact Andy Armbruster at [aarmbruster@ffa.org](mailto:aarmbruster@ffa.org) or 317-802-4308.

**Additional Career Opportunity Workshop:** The Associated Landscape Contractors of America will be offering two workshops for students who are interested in careers in the green industry. Professionals will be on hand to share personal testimonies and to give inside views about their own successes in the green industry. **Workshop Times: Wednesday, Oct. 27, 4 p.m., Conference Center 102 and Friday, Oct. 29, 4 p.m., Conference Center 103.** For more information go to [http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/evn\\_adv\\_workshops.htm](http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/evn_adv_workshops.htm)

**New Teacher Workshop:** Grow your program financially while learning about opportunities to enhance your career professionally. This workshop is especially designed for agriculture educators who want to learn more about funding available for their local program and for their own professional development. Join National FFA partners Wells Fargo, Toyota, DuPont and the American Welding Society as they share with you opportunities they have available for today's agriculture teacher. **Workshop Time: Friday, Oct. 29, 9 - 10:30 a.m., Conference Center 109-110.** For more information go to [http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/evn\\_adv\\_workshops.htm](http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/evn_adv_workshops.htm)

**Calling All LifeKnowledge Teachers!** Several teacher workshops focusing on LifeKnowledge will be held Thursday, Oct. 28 and Friday, Oct. 29 during the 77th National FFA Convention. Join experts Seth Derner and Mark Reardon as they lead sessions on integrating LifeKnowledge into your classroom, implementing student engagement and facilitation strategies and provide refresher courses on LifeKnowledge. Experienced and new teachers are welcome to attend. All workshops are free of charge. Check out the descriptions and times at [http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/evn\\_adv\\_workshops.htm](http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/evn_adv_workshops.htm). Contact Andy Armbruster at [aarmbruster@ffa.org](mailto:aarmbruster@ffa.org) or 317-802-4308.

**Interested in grants for your classroom or professional development?** Join partners of the National FFA Organization as they share ideas about funding and resources available for your local classroom and for teacher development. Representatives from Toyota, Wells Fargo, DuPont and the American Welding Society will lead this teacher workshop at the 77th National Convention and provide information on how they are helping local teachers and programs become a success. This workshop is free of charge and will take place on Friday, October 29, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. in CC 109 - 110. For more information visit [http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/evn\\_adv\\_workshops.htm](http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/evn_adv_workshops.htm). Contact Andy Armbruster at [aarmbruster@ffa.org](mailto:aarmbruster@ffa.org) or 317-802-4308.

**National Leadership Dinner/WLC Reunion:** After last year's huge success, the National Leadership Dinner/WLC Reunion will once again have an experiential learning activity take place on Friday evening during the national FFA convention. In addition to a meal and remarks from National FFA President Javier Moreno, students will participate in problem-solving and team-building activities. The doors will open at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 29, and the event will conclude at 7:00 p.m. All students and advisors are welcome to attend. The event is sponsored by CHS as a special project of the National FFA Foundation. For ticket information visit [http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/evn\\_hypnotist.htm](http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/evn_hypnotist.htm) - [nationallunch](#). Contact Andy Armbruster at [aarmbruster@ffa.org](mailto:aarmbruster@ffa.org) or 317-802-4308.

**Prepare Your Delegates for National FFA Convention:** Six issues have been identified for national delegate committees, and six amendments will be considered by the delegates at the 77th National FFA Convention. State leaders will be asked to assign delegates to committees via an email request. Please direct your attention to the national delegate website to find:

- background information on six national issues
- complete listing of delegate committee assignments
- background information on proposed amendments
- schedule for delegates at convention
- state leader's guide to preparing delegates

The national delegate website can be found on [ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org/statestaff/so/delegates/) at <http://www.ffa.org/statestaff/so/delegates/>. Challenge your officers to be prepared and get local members and advisors involved.

If you have questions about the delegate process, contact Seth Derner at [sderner@ffa.org](mailto:sderner@ffa.org) or Stacia Edmonds at [sedmonds@ffa.org](mailto:sedmonds@ffa.org).

**Agriscience Institute: An interactive onsite campus experience:** Teachers looking to integrate science, math and social studies into their agricultural education programs should attend these five different interactive workshops, specially designed to help teachers bring their classrooms to life. Participants will discover new ideas, activities, information and methods that will increase student involvement and interest. The project sponsors are providing this opportunity for teachers to experience an innovative approach to incorporating modern technology with current issues facing agriculture and our society.

Workshop topics:

- Bringing Sustainability to the Community
- Bringing Environmental Issues to the Classroom
- Applied Biotechnology workshop
- Agriculture Mechanics Repair and Maintenance Workshop
- Veterinary Science Instructional Materials and Related Equine Opportunities

Teachers can take advantage of this great opportunity while they visit the FFA National Agricultural Career Show® during convention. The interactive classrooms will be located next to the Agriscience Fair and FFA Education Division booth. A schedule with starting times will be placed in front of each classroom. It will truly be a campus atmosphere.

These 45-minute rotational workshops will be offered during the following dates and times: Wednesday, Oct. 27, 12:30-5:30 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 28, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 29, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. For more information visit [http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/evn\\_agsci\\_inst.htm](http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/evn_agsci_inst.htm) Contact Michele Gilbert at [mgilbert@ffa.org](mailto:mgilbert@ffa.org) or 317-802-4301 or Tony Small at [tsmall@ffa.org](mailto:tsmall@ffa.org) or 317-802-4300

**School Officials Luncheon:** Invite your state officials, school official or important education partners to experience motivational speakers, outstanding teachers and top students at the School Officials Luncheon. This educational and entertaining event is free and will take place during the 77th National FFA Convention on Friday, Oct. 29, 2004 at 11:30 a.m.

Take this opportunity to show your education partners a unique side of convention. In addition to the luncheon, we welcome them to experience the many suggested activities including convention sessions (4<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>), national FFA leadership workshops and the FFA National Agricultural Career Show®. The luncheon is **FREE**, however, seating is limited! Only 300 tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis, so please respond early to secure a reservation for this activity.

To order your school official's complimentary ticket, contact Michele Gilbert at 317-802-4301 or [mgilbert@ffa.org](mailto:mgilbert@ffa.org). Have attendee's name, organization, mailing address and e-mail address ready.

#### **FFA Education Division Booth:**

While attending the 77th National FFA Convention, we encourage all school officials, teachers (both novices and veterans), pre-service teachers and students interested in teaching to stop by the FFA Education Division Booth in the FFA National Agricultural Career Show®. Programs to be displayed include LifeKnowledge, The Core (AG ED Resource Catalog), Collegiate FFA, PAS, National FFA Collegiate Scholarship Program, H. O. Sargent, Local Program Success, Teach AG ED and much more. Additionally, a computer lab will be available for teachers to preview a variety of FFA educational resources and websites. FFA staff will be onsite to provide information and answer questions. The Education Division Booth will be located next to the Agriscience Fair and Agriscience Institute. More information is available online at [http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/conv\\_careershow.htm](http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/conv_careershow.htm) or contact Michele Gilbert at [mgilbert@ffa.org](mailto:mgilbert@ffa.org) or 317-802-4301

#### **Optional Monday Activities Offered for State Officers and Delegates**

State FFA Officers and national delegates who arrive in Louisville for national convention on Monday, Oct. 25, are welcome to participate in optional activities. This year the activities include a tour of the National FFA Center, workshops for state associations and a fun night out for officers and delegates. Information and order forms will be sent to state leaders from Amber (Miller) Goolsby, a past national officer who is coordinating the activities. If you have questions, contact Amber or Seth Derner at [sderner@ffa.org](mailto:sderner@ffa.org).

**H.O. Sargent Diversity Award Workshop:** On Saturday, Oct. 30, during the national FFA convention, a student workshop will be held from 8:30-9:30 a.m. in Conference Center 102. The overall purpose of the workshop is to provide students and their local chapters with the models and skills necessary to focus on building and strengthening relationships by respecting the many dimensions of diversity. Students and chapters will leave the workshop with tips, insights and practices that can lead to personal, membership and community growth. A \$300 mini-grant for diversity programming will be awarded to the chapter with the most



members present. For more information, visit <http://www.ffa.org/programs/hosargent/>

**New Educational Resources from *The Core* available at National Convention:** Plan to stop by *The Core* kiosk next to the FFA Mega Store in the Shopping Mall to learn how you can utilize the resources available from National FFA. The booth will be staffed with past, present and future agriculture instructors who will be able to help you determine the best package of products for your classroom. Demonstrations will be hosted on site providing ideas and options for using the products to support your current agriculture program efforts with FFA, SAE programs and classroom learning. The booth hours are Wednesday – Friday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. A selection of the products from *The Core* will be for sale inside the FFA Shopping Mall. Products will also be displayed in the National FFA Education Division Booth (Island LL) in the career show. Mark your convention schedule and plan a trip to *The Core* of learning. For more information contact Doug Kueker at [dkueker@ffa.org](mailto:dkueker@ffa.org) or 317-802-4272.

## EDUCATOR NEWS

**2004 Supervised Agricultural Education (SAE) Grants:** The SAE Grants will be available again this year. The application due date is Nov. 10, 2004. The application is attached, or you can download an application from the SAE home page <http://www.ffa.org/programs/sae/index.html>.

- 16 - \$1,000 grants available for beef/cattle, dairy or sheep production SAEs only. Sponsored by Merial
- 20 - \$500 grants available for swine production SAEs only. Sponsored by Akey
- 16 - \$150 grants available for SAEs in either agribusiness or farming. You must be from the following states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota or Wisconsin. Sponsored by Mrs. Charles Conrad.

**Local Program Resource Guide 2004-2005 CD-ROM:** One last reminder to all state staff and teacher educators -- the Local Program Resource Guide 2004-2005 CD-ROM has been released. Orders were shipped to state staff in late May and teacher educators in mid-August. If you have not received your order or have not placed an order, and you would like more information, please contact Michele Gilbert at [mgilbert@ffa.org](mailto:mgilbert@ffa.org), or 317-802-4301 or contact Jim Armbruster at [jarmbruster@ffa.org](mailto:jarmbruster@ffa.org), or 317-802-4334

**AG ED Job Posting Web Site:** Have any teaching, state staff or internship opportunities in your state? Post your agriculture-related job openings on our AG ED Job Posting website. Check it out at <http://www.ffa.org/statestaff/agedjobs/index.htm>! For more information, please contact Michele Gilbert at [mgilbert@ffa.org](mailto:mgilbert@ffa.org) or 317-802-4301

## STATE STAFF NEWS

**National Agriculture Education In-service:** We are pleased to announce that the National Agricultural Education In-service will be held Feb. 3–6, 2005, at the downtown Hilton (formerly known as the Adam's Mark Hotel) in Indianapolis, Ind. We will follow the same registration format used last year. For those who are eager to begin the planning process, please use the attached guidelines when selecting your paid participants.

Future National Ag Ed In-service Dates: Feb. 2-5, 2006; Feb. 1-4, 2007

In addition, we will conduct the National New State Staff In-service (NSSI) on Feb. 2–3, 2005, at the Indianapolis Hilton. The New State Staff In-service will run from noon on Wednesday, February 2 until noon Thursday, Feb. 3, 2005. At the conclusion of NSSI, New State Staff will also have the opportunity to attend the National Agricultural Education In-service.

Future NSSI Dates: Feb. 1-2, 2006; Jan. 31- Feb. 1, 2007

For updated information visit the State Staff Connection online at <http://www.ffa.org/statestaff/>

**NLC SO Task Force:** A three-year program review task force will be looking at the content and structure of the National Leadership Conference for State Officers (NLC SO) Nov. 5-7, 2004 in Indianapolis. The task force consists of one state leader from each of the nine NLC SO locations, an expert in evaluation from the collegiate level, a past national officer familiar with the program, representatives from the National FFA Board of Directors and a sponsor of the program. The following is a listing of the expected outcomes from this task force:

- Review and identify relevant and appropriate NLC SO program objectives
- Review and identify National FFA Mission precepts and standards to be met through student learning objectives
- Identify the necessary assessment requirements for evaluating both student learning and program objectives

- Identify instructional and program components required to meet the stated program and learning objectives
- Identify and prioritize recommendations regarding conference delivery

For state leaders involved in state officer programming, be looking for information during the month of October. You will be asked to share feedback regarding the needs for future NLCSOs with members of this task force. Please help your future state officers get the best experience possible by taking the time to provide comprehensive and honest feedback. Contact Tiffany Sanderson at [tsanderson@ffa.org](mailto:tsanderson@ffa.org) or 317-802-4239

**New State Staff, reserve your spot now!** Those who wish to attend NSSI prior to the National Ag Ed In-service are asked to contact Michele Gilbert, Program Coordinator, National FFA Organization, 317-802-4301, [mgilbert@ffa.org](mailto:mgilbert@ffa.org).

In October, agendas, registration forms and additional information will be provided for both the National Ag Ed In-service and National New State Staff In-service. Any questions about the National Agricultural Education In-service can be directed to Tony Small, Local Program Success Manager, National FFA Organization, 317-802-4300, [tsmall@ffa.org](mailto:tsmall@ffa.org).

## COLLEGIATE

**Visit the brand-new Collegiate website!** Thanks to generous sponsor dollars from Syngenta, you can now check out collegiate-specific content and features on [ffa.org](http://ffa.org). Visit the collegiate website at <http://www.ffa.org/collegiate.cfm> to access professional hot tips, campus life, chapter information and tools to help you run successful collegiate meetings.

**Collegiate FFA...Are you involved?** Do you have a Collegiate FFA Chapter? Are you interested in beginning a Collegiate FFA Chapter? If you answered yes to these questions please contact Eric Schilling and Kristy Miller, your Collegiate Services team. To confirm your National Collegiate FFA Chapter affiliations or to join Collegiate FFA, contact [collegiate@ffa](mailto:collegiate@ffa), 317-802-4214.

**Collegiate events at FFA convention:** The 77<sup>th</sup> National FFA Convention is just around the corner! Make sure to add collegiate programs to your travels! Along with the National Ag Ed Collegiate/ATA Conclave events, guests of the convention will have the chance to attend multiple workshops with topics including "Interviewing Hot Tips," "Career Development," "Choosing Ag Ed as a Career" and "Building a Successful Organization."

The 77th National FFA Convention activities will also include the first-ever Collegiate Career Expo on Saturday, Oct. 30. This activity is designed to allow college-age convention guests an opportunity to meet with the top agriculture businesses in the nation to discuss internships and full-time employment. Visit <http://www.ffa.org/collegiate/index.html> to learn more about the Collegiate Career Expo as well as the exciting evening activity planned for your collegiate students. If you have any questions, contact [collegiate@ffa.org](mailto:collegiate@ffa.org)

## ALUMNI

**Alumni Raffle:** We are excited to kick off the 2004 FFA Alumni Scholarship program to raise funds for WLC and collegiate scholarships by holding a raffle! Chevrolet and Bayliner have teamed up to provide the grand prize, a Bayliner 20-ft. runabout boat, model 205 with trailer. To enter the raffle, we are asking for a \$5 donation to the National FFA Alumni. Must be 18 years of age or older to enter and reside within the continental United States.

Tickets will be available prior to National FFA Convention through participating State FFA Alumni Associations or by completing the attached ticket request form. For each ticket sold by the state, the state FFA Alumni will receive \$2 and the remaining \$3 will go to the National FFA Alumni scholarship program. Tickets will also be sold at National FFA Convention, Oct. 27-29. The winner will be randomly selected from all eligible entries received on Friday, Oct. 29, during the FFA Alumni live auction starting at 6 p.m. in CC 104 & 105. *Boat image attached.*

**Alumni Convention Giveaway:** The National FFA Alumni will be giving away a Cub Cadet riding lawnmower donated by MTD Products at the 2004 National FFA Convention. A \$1 donation will get you entered in the giveaway. The winner will be randomly selected from all eligible entries received on Friday, Oct. 29, during the FFA Alumni live auction starting at 6 p.m. in CC 104 & 105. *Cub Cadet lawnmower image attached.*

**Alumni Auction:** The National FFA Alumni auction offers entertainment and excitement for convention attendees, while generating funds for student scholarships. Show your support of FFA and this rewarding activity by donating to the 2004 National FFA Alumni auction, Oct. 27-29. Donations of products, gift certificates, travel packages and gift baskets are all needed to continue the high level of support we offer FFA members.

**Calling all teachers!** Your agricultural education program can assist us in our fundraising efforts by donating outstanding student projects. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase your students' talents and skills. We are looking for a diverse representation of the areas being taught in our agricultural classes -- from woodworking to floral arranging and everything in between! Big or small, we'll take them all! Get your students thinking about unique and creative projects they could donate.

To donate to the auction, please complete the attached form and return to the National FFA Alumni. For more information on the auction, please visit our website at [http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/conv\\_alumni.htm](http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/conv_alumni.htm) or contact us at [alumni@ffa.org](mailto:alumni@ffa.org).

**UPDATE** is also available at [http://www.ffa.org/media/html/med\\_pub\\_index.htm](http://www.ffa.org/media/html/med_pub_index.htm) each month. Attachments are available online.

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#### **The FFA Mission**

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth** and **career success** through agricultural education.

#### **The Agricultural Education Mission**

Agricultural Education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.

The National FFA Organization is a resource and support organization that does not select, control or supervise state association, local chapter or individual member activities except as expressly provided for in the National FFA Organization Constitution and Bylaws.

The National FFA Organization affirms its belief in the value of all human beings and seeks diversity in its membership, leadership and staff as an equal opportunity employer.

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