

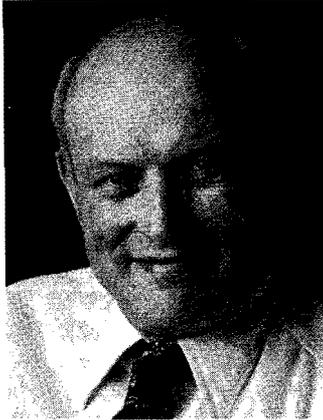


# FFA Alumni Association

## NEWSLETTER

SUMMER—1979

### FFA Alumni President States The Answer: Teamwork



Odell Miller

Last year at the National FFA Alumni Convention I said that the answer to the continual growth of the FFA Alumni Association is teamwork.

An indication of the growth is in membership, especially in life members. In order to be of more help to state associations and to the local affiliates a national membership person has been appointed. The state associations and the local affiliates also have been asked to have a membership person. We know the answer to

continued membership growth lies with the local affiliate and the local membership chairperson. With this increase in membership a greater number of scholarships can be given to FFA members for the Washington Leadership Conference. To those local and state associations that have worked so hard this year to maintain or increase membership, I say a most sincere "thanks."

I am also most pleased that the FFA Alumni is continuing to support and work with the National FFA Foundation. Again, as the amount of money collected for FFA increases, more members can benefit in many more ways for their work and leadership.

The Committee for Government Affairs is another way that the National FFA Alumni Association is benefiting from teamwork. Many people are giving of their time and knowledge to support vocational agriculture—FFA. Through the work of this committee, Howard Morrison, Past National FFA Secretary, is serving as an intern in the National FFA Alumni office this summer.

Space does not permit me to tell of the many ways Alumni affiliates and Alumni members are supporting vocational agriculture—FFA. Let's make full use of the FFA Alumni's potential, its energy, and its benefits. The answer, of course, is teamwork.

### NASSP to List 1979 National FFA Convention as Approved

The 1979 National Future Farmers of America Convention will be listed as approved in the Advisory List of National Contests and Activities for the coming year, according to Douglas W. Hunt, Executive Director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals, publishers of the list.

The decision followed the submission of a proposal for future Convention dates to the NASSP's National Contests and Activities Committee by the National FFA Organization.

Hunt said the Committee's reason for not including the FFA Convention in 1978 was because of the "out of school" time spent by a great number of both teachers and students who have attended the Convention. With the FFA's assurance that the program would go to an annual Thursday, Friday, Saturday schedule in 1981, the Committee chose to once again add the Convention to its Advisory List.

"It illustrates once again that the FFA is committed to working with school administrators and educators at all levels, whether it be local, state or national," Coleman Harris, National FFA Executive Secretary, said of the approval and the cooperation exhibited by the NASSP and the FFA. Harris also stated that the National FFA Organization plans to maintain and strengthen further the educational value of all the activities at the National FFA Convention.

While all entries in the NASSP's Advisory List are reviewed and subjected to change on a yearly basis, Hunt indicated that he thought the National FFA Convention would likely be included in the future, with the new revised schedule.

"We can see no reason why it would not be listed in the coming years provided the high level and quality of educational content is maintained and FFA's assurances of going to the new proposed dates are carried out," Hunt said. The 1979 edition of the NASSP's Advisory List will be mailed to every school system in the country this summer.

A special thanks to the many FFA Alumni members who contacted the Principals' Association in support of the FFA being listed on its list of educational activities.

### Trip to France

The French—American Foundation, in cooperation with the FFA Alumni Association, will be sponsoring and conducting an educational trip to France on August 1—15, 1979. The program is designed to enable American farmers to meet French farmers, to learn French farming techniques, and to discuss American and French national agriculture policies. The tour leader will be Cindy Katz, a staff member of the French—American Foundation. Participants, selected at time of this printing, for the 1979 trip are: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Paxton, Fortville, IN, Mr. and Mrs. Eston Glover, Elkton, KY, Commissioner and Mrs. Gus Douglass, Charleston, WV, Mr. Ervin Park, Metz, WV, Mr. and Mrs. Donley Duerksen, Hillsboro, KS, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Schwabe, Elkhorn, WI, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Mueller, Sun Prairie, WI, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Thomas, Greenwood, WI, Miss Sharon Smith, Milford, NJ, Mr. Norman Krause, Eagle Bend, MN, Mr. Lynn Eichler, Newell, SD, and Mr. Jack Scott, Aztec, NM.

### Now Is the Time

Make plans to attend the FFA Alumni and FFA Conventions in Kansas City, Missouri, on November 7-9. The FFA Alumni will have the opportunity to attend activities which will allow a better understanding of your FFA Alumni Association, and also an opportunity to view the educational and inspirational FFA Convention. The FFA Alumni will host a reception for the Honorary American Farmers, Leadership Workshops for FFA members and advisors, and a breakfast in honor of past Star American Farmers, Star American Agribusiness winners, and National Public Speaking winners.

### Your Help Is Needed

The FFA Alumni will salute past Star American Farmers, Star American Agribusiness winners, and National Public Speaking winners. If you know any of these winners, please extend a special Alumni invitation to them to be in Kansas City. Our office will attempt to mail special invitations to each, but because of a poor source of correct addresses, your assistance is needed. Please send the National Office your responses on invitations extended by you, and the person's address.

### Affiliate Is of Vital Support

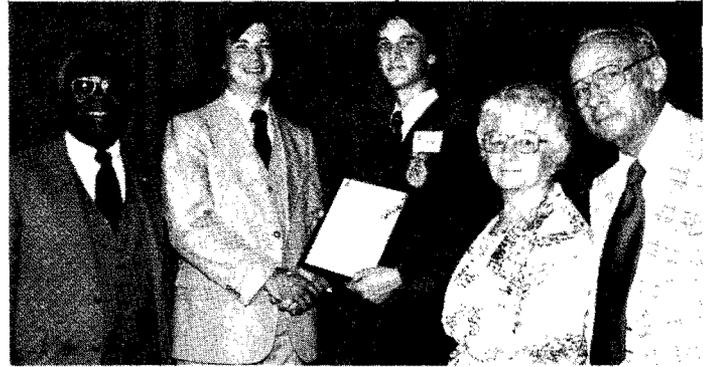


Pictured above is the LeRoy, Illinois, FFA Alumni fall cook-out which helps start the school year in the right way for both the FFA members and the Alumni supporters. Mr. Robert E. Brown, teacher of agriculture at LeRoy, made the following statements about the FFA Alumni. "One should be reminded of the fact that an extremely successful FFA chapter and vo-ag department needs help to improve and remain a winner. Some of this help may be in the form of adding a second vo-ag instructor to the curriculum, which has happened at LeRoy but is not always feasible with all school district budgets. Most teachers cannot do the job themselves adequately. The teacher needs help of parents and adults. A valuable resource, a sleeping giant that lies patiently waiting your beckon, is present in each and every community. Make use of this resource and you, too, will harvest the rewards of long hours and determination. The FFA Alumni is our answer."

### Alumni Provides Extra Event to Serve Advisors

The over 100 FFA Advisors attending this summer's Washington Leadership Conference are having the opportunity to visit the USDA and the Vocational Bureau of the Office of Education. The FFA Alumni in cooperation with the FFA Conference arranged this educational half-day program.

### Memorial Scholarship Presentation



Pictured above is the Johny Hendricks memorial scholarship presentation at the North Carolina FFA State Convention. The \$100 scholarship was made possible through Mr. Hendricks' FFA Alumni life membership. Pictured from left to right are: E. T. Revell, advisor of recipient; Jay Marshall, Vice Chairman, N. C. FFA Alumni Council, presenting scholarship certificate; Woody Brannan, scholarship recipient; and Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Hendricks, parents of Johny Hendricks.

### National Committee on Government Activities

The FFA Alumni National Committee on Government met at the West Virginia State Capitol on May 15. Many long- and short-range objectives were discussed and outlined. The first intern for Committee on Government Activities is Howard Morrison, a past National FFA Secretary, who is serving half-time as an intern to the Congressional Rural Caucus and half-time for the FFA Alumni. Howard, a native of Arizona, is doing research and developing legislative contacts which will play a vital role for the FFA Alumni support to vocational agriculture.

### FFA Alumni Salutes YFA



The FFA Alumni saluted the Young Farmers for their outstanding YFA Institute held in Kansas City, Missouri, last December. Wally McGinnis, 1978 Institute President, is shown receiving a framed copy of their program from David Thomas, Past FFA Alumni President, in recognition of the outstanding educational quality of the Institute. The next YFA Institute will be held in Toledo, Ohio. The new YFA Institute President is Bart Kaderly.

## WELCOME NEW LIFE MEMBERS

The prestigious roster of Life Members continues to grow. Life Members receive a special life membership card, life membership certificate, lifetime subscription to *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine, and can designate a Memorial Scholarship to be presented to an FFA member in the name of the Life Member upon his/her death. Why not join this list of over 1,762 Life Members and send your one-time lifetime fee of only \$100.00.

Ray Gibbs	Schofield, Wisconsin	Harold Lineberry	Nashville, Tennessee	W. D. Richards IV	Keytesville, Missouri
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Gov. Lamar Alexander	Nashville, Tennessee	Curtis M. Ross	Toone, Tennessee	Steve Dixon	Alapha, Georgia
Leann Simon	Tolstoy, South Dakota	Frank Moore	Cornersville, Tennessee	J. Cordner Gibson	San Luis Obispo, California
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Marvin Naebler	Granton, Wisconsin	Karon Jennings	McMinnville, Tennessee	D. P. (Pat) Hoyle	Morganton, North Carolina
David Tyler	Granton, Wisconsin	M. D. Overton	McMinnville, Tennessee	Reggis Stowers	Dawsonville, Georgia
Eugene Walter Jr.	Granton, Wisconsin	Victor Nelson	Rock Island, Tennessee	Henry L. Ariail	Sparta, Georgia
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## EXECUTIVE SPONSORS

The FFA Alumni salutes the 1979 Executive Sponsors. The following have contributed \$100 as an investment toward the vocational agriculture—FFA program. The Executive Sponsor funds directly support the prestigious Star Greenhand, Star Farmer and Star Agribusinessman Award Programs and the FFA Alumni Association. We hope you will become an Executive Sponsor during 1979. Your \$100 investment is a personal commitment to FFA, to FFA Alumni, and to the FFA Foundation.

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A certificate of appreciation will be sent to you as a token of our thanks. Check this box if you prefer *not* to receive the certificate.

H. N. Hunsicker, Head of Agriculture Education of the Office of Education and National FFA Advisor, retired on May 18, 1979. Mr. Hunsicker was employed at the U. S. Office of Education in 1952 after serving as West Virginia State Supervisor of Agriculture Education and State FFA Advisor. He had served as Head of Vocational Agriculture since 1965. Mr. Hunsicker has been one of the strong promoters of the FFA Alumni and was instrumental in its founding. He was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Alumni Award in 1977.

**Rawls Named National FFA Advisor**

Byron F. Rawls, Chief of the Southern Branch, Division of State Vocational Program Operations in the U. S. Office of Education and a member of the National FFA Board of Directors since 1967, has been named to assume the head position of Agriculture Education. Mr. Rawls, prior to his employment with the U. S. Office of Education, served as FFA Executive Secretary in Alabama.

**Did You Know?**

As the FFA Alumni becomes more aware of the needs of a strong voice for vocational agriculture—FFA, we feel the need to present important facts to you.

1. FFA membership for 1978–79 was 494,394 compared to 507,108 in 1977–78. The secondary (high school) vocational agriculture enrollment for 1978–79 was 715,272 compared to 720,509 in 1977–78. Note that only 69 percent of the students are receiving the educational values of the leadership laboratory offered by the FFA.

2. Vocational agriculture programs for Young Farmers and other adults are conducted in approximately fifty percent of the states. There has been a gradual decline in adult education in agriculture in recent years.

3. Currently your U. S. Congress members are young in terms of years in office. The Senate is composed of fifty-six percent of its members with less than six years in office. The House of Representatives' Committee on Education and Labor is composed of thirty-three percent of its members with less than six years in office. This emphasizes the need for constant input in support of vocational agriculture education.

4. The next Federal legislation on vocational education will start at the subcommittee level in 1980. Your interest in vocational agriculture-FFA should be expressed to your Congressional representative at every opportunity.

*The FFA and You*, an excellent reference book on the FFA, includes a chapter on the FFA Alumni in its recently published third edition. The Alumni chapter highlights the importance of the Alumni to the FFA, the history of the Alumni Association, eligibility and benefits to Alumni members, information on affiliate chartering and developing a program of activities, and much more. Editors are Bender, Taylor, Hansen, and Newcomb from The Ohio State Univ. Copies may be ordered from The Interstate Printers and Publishers Inc., Danville, Illinois 61382 for \$12.95. There is a 10 percent educational discount on one copy, or 20 percent discount on two or more where applicable.

**Ace Bolt and Nut Company Will Give \$250 Scholarship**

Due to the tremendous response by the FFA Alumni Affiliates in the central United States and the thousands of dollars generated for Vocational Agriculture, Ace Bolt and Nut Company is offering a \$250 scholarship, in addition to the normal fund raising percentage, to any Alumni Affiliate who has a fastener sale prior to September 1, 1979. Contact: Ace Bolt and Nut Company, 2342 S. Yankee Springs Road, Middleville, MI 49333 (call toll free 800-253-2646)

**1979 NATIONAL FFA ALUMNI COUNCIL**

- |   |  |   |
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