

UPDATE

Vol. XXXIII, No. 9
C. Coleman Harris
U.S. Department of Education
September 2003

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Sept.	5	Applications for Courtesy Corps due, FFA Center
	15	Agricultural communication portfolios due, FFA Center
	15	Agricultural issues portfolios due, FFA Center
	15	Job interview portfolios due, FFA Center
	15	Marketing plan portfolios due, FFA Center
	15	State Flag Bearer information due, FFA Center
	18-21	2003 National Postsecondary Agricultural Student Organization (PAS) Fall Board of Directors Meeting, Green Bay, Wis.
October	1	ILSSO applications due, FFA Center

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WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FFA

Become a trainer: Are you or someone you know interested in becoming an ALD, BLAST OFF, EDGE, MFE or WLC conference trainer? FFA is looking for ambitious and dedicated individuals to serve as conference trainers for FFA Leadership and Personal Growth Series and State Officer Trainings. If you or anyone you know is interested, visit the Job Opportunities-FFA Center section at www.ffa.org <<http://www.ffa.org>> or click on the following link <<http://www.ffa.org/careers/jobs/index.html>>. Information and instructions for applying can be found there. Applications will be accepted from July 1, 2003, through November 1, 2003, for Blast Off and July 1, 2003, through Nov. 30, 2003, for ALD, EDGE, MFE and WLC.

SAE Grants: Sixteen \$1,000 grants, sponsored by Merial, will be awarded to applicants with beef/cattle, dairy or sheep production SAEs. Twenty \$500 grants, sponsored by Akey, will be awarded to swine production SAEs only. In addition, twenty \$150 grants, sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Conrad, will be awarded to students from the following states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota or Wisconsin. Each grant will be awarded to an FFA member between the ages of 14-17 who demonstrates financial need and an exceptional SAE plan. The postmark due date is Nov. 5, 2003. Judging will be in December and grant winners will be notified by mail immediately following. The application is located on the FFA website at <<http://www.ffa.org/programs/sae/html/saegrants.html>>. The application is formatted in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet and you must have Microsoft Excel 5.0 or greater in order to work the template. Please note: Microsoft Works is not Microsoft Excel. If you have any questions, contact: Rosalie Hunsinger, 317-802-4255, rhunsinger@ffa.org.

Buy a Brick and Mark Your Future on FFA: For more than 75 years, FFA has been contributing to society through programs that provide young men and women with the experience, training and development vital to succeeding in the world. Without your support, FFA cannot provide America's youth with valuable programs, including: career development, leadership conferences, national convention activities, international exchanges and awards in 45 proficiency areas.

As part of the 75th anniversary of the National FFA Organization, we're inviting you to be a part of history. You can obtain your part of history at the National FFA Center by purchasing a 75th anniversary brick. A limited number of bricks will be available to friends, supporters and members of the FFA. These special edition bricks are available on a limited basis and will feature a diamond design in the corner to commemorate 75 years of student success!

A 4" x 8" brick suitable for two lines can be purchased for \$250 and an 8" x 8" brick suitable for four lines of text to remember an individual, chapter, teacher or officer team can be purchased for \$1,000.

Act now! Orders will be taken until December 31, 2003. Please call Molly Schilling, mschilling@ffa.org, 317-802-4416.

2004 National FFA Foundation Scholarship Program: This year the National FFA Foundation scholarship program will award approximately \$2 million to eligible FFA members and other agriculture students for their college education. Here are two examples of those awards:

- Cargill will award 350 scholarships of \$1,000 to each high school senior who lives in a Cargill community and plans to pursue a two- to four-year degree in any major at an accredited post-secondary institution in the fall of 2004. Students are selected based on academic achievement and involvement in extracurricular activities. Applicants must visit their local Cargill facility or subsidiary to obtain a signature from a location manager on their application. Each scholarship recipient's high school is also eligible for a \$200 library grant.
- Ford dealers across the country have partnered with Ford Trucks and Ford Motor Company Fund to provide more than 600 scholarships of \$1000 to FFA members in local communities. Scholarship applicants must be planning to attend any accredited two- or four-year institution in any area of study. The dealer's signature is required for eligibility for these scholarships. One lucky chapter will be eligible to receive a Ford F-Series truck.

Last year approximately one out of every four students who applied for a National FFA Foundation scholarship was a scholarship winner. In 2004, more than 7,000 students are expected to apply for approximately 1,600 available scholarships ranging in value from \$1,000 to \$16,340. More details about these and other National FFA Foundation scholarship opportunities, including a guidebook listing eligibility criteria and an application will be available on www.ffa.org in November. Application deadline is Feb. 15, 2004.

MERCHANDISE

Be on the lookout for the 2003-2004 National FFA merchandise materials-including the blue (apparel and gift catalog), the gold (awards and supply catalog), the Agricultural Education Resources Catalog, a flyer on nationally sanctioned fundraisers and information on the annual T-shirt contest. These materials represent the best FFA has to offer members, advisors and state staff alike. If you have not yet received your merchandise materials and catalogs, please contact Lee Anne Shiller at lashiller@ffa.org, and we'll rush a package to you.

There are several new and exciting services being offered to customers.

- Electronic merchandise order form-now you can purchase merchandise by e-mailing us an electronic order form. Reduce customization errors by going to www.ffaunlimited.org, download the electronic (Excel format) order form on the front page of the website, fill it in and e-mail it to orders@ffa.org. It's that easy.
- E-mail-many benefits come with providing us with your e-mail, including special promotional offers, order confirmation and shipping information from UPS. Take advantage of these new services by providing your e-mail address with every order.
- Return labels-we want to make your lives easier. That includes returning merchandise. Each package contains a pre-paid return label. If you have any problems with your order, just fill out the return form and ship the merchandise back using the shipping label. We'll exchange or credit your account as directed.
- Shipping/Handling Charges-no more rush fees (except for official jackets). The next time you need your order expedited, just double the regular shipping fee, and you're done. (See the ordering instructions in the back of each catalog.)

As always, remember that income generated from the sale of merchandise supports the operations of the organization and the programs we provide!

The Third Annual T-shirt Design Contest entries are due March 15, 2004. FFA is looking for some creative students to submit their designs. Winning designs will be featured on T-shirts and sold in the 2004-2005 National FFA Blue Catalog and online store. Encourage your FFA members to submit all those fabulous designs that have been produced at the local level. If selected, they will earn 50 percent of the gross profits on the catalog sales for one year. See the 2003-2004 winners in this year's blue catalog. For questions, contact: Dawn Sharp, dsharp@ffa.org.

Official FFA Jacket: Of all the articles and pieces of FFA history, perhaps none touches the lives of each and every FFA member the way an official jacket does. The blue corduroy does many things for many people as it brings up memories, plays a part in our organization's history and will continue to play a role in the rich FFA legacy for years to come.

During the next several years, the jacket will be evolving and undergoing changes to bring back the official colors of the corduroy and emblems. The new jacket will be closer to the original and traditional jacket in look and color. These changes will also improve the quality, color, fit, and feel of the jacket. We believe the end result will be an improved jacket, that more FFA members will be able to afford, as prices will be reduced slightly. There will be no reduction in quality of materials nor workmanship!

More information and details will be available in *FFA Advisor's Making a Difference* and the merchandise/catalog mailing package shipped in August.

NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION NEWS

2003 National FFA Officer Nominating Committee: National President Tim Hammerich reported the names of the individuals to serve on the 2003 National FFA Officer Nominating Committee as follows: Eastern region - Mindy Crane (Conn.) and Rachel Chillas (Del.); Southern region - Erica Der (Fla.) and Meredith McCurdy (Miss.); Central region - Kenan Peters, vice chair (Ill.) and Arne Harstad (S.D.); Western region - Stuart Joy, Chair (N.M.), Brandon McEndaffer (Colo.), Chancey Redgate (Okla.). Our congratulations to these individuals and sincere appreciation for the work they are about to undertake.

Reminder: Convention registration fee set at \$30 and \$35 beginning in 2003: The National FFA Board of Directors and National FFA Officers have set the national FFA convention attendance fee at \$30 for pre-registration and \$35 for on-site registration beginning in 2003. The action was taken to offset significant increases in costs for services, decoration, staging, labor and security. As a break-even activity, convention costs are borne by participants and not by general dues. Even with the approved increase, the \$30/\$35 FFA convention fee remains markedly lower than national meeting fees for other student organizations: VICA/Skills USA - \$90/\$100; FCCLA - \$100/\$110; and FBLA - \$85/95.

Delegate schedule for 2003 National FFA Convention: With the National FFA delegate process starting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday (registration that morning from 7-10 a.m.), there are no official delegate activities on Monday at the 2003 National FFA Convention. Instead, a past national FFA officer will be contracted to host activities for state FFA officers and other youth leaders (those serving as delegates). These activities will be completely optional; they will not be coordinated or sponsored by National FFA staff, and will be offered on a fee basis. The past national officer will be selected in the coming month and will send a survey to state leaders to identify two or three activity options on that Monday. These options might include tours, workshops, meal functions, etc. Once arrangements are made, an order form will be sent to state leaders to sign up and pay for the activities in which they choose to have students participate. If you have questions about this new opportunity, please contact: Seth Derner, sderner@ffa.org, 317-802-4413.

PALS Mentoring Conference at the 2003 National Convention: The format for the PALS Mentoring Conference at the national FFA convention has been changed for 2003. We regret that we will not have the elementary students from the Louisville area this year; however, this year's conference will focus more on instruction in why and how to conduct PALS programs at the chapter level.

The conference will be broken into two sessions. One session will focus on chapters that have established a PALS program at their schools. This session will feature guest speaker Mark Reardon with contributions from several others. The focus of this session will be to energize students about the importance of mentoring to youth and how to impact positive change on the lives of their mentees as well as their community as a whole.

The second session will focus on chapters interested in starting a PALS program and looking for ideas to get established. This session will feature brief presentations from advisors and members of FFA chapters that have some of the nation's most well established PALS programs. After the presentations there will be roundtable discussions where members and advisors from schools share ideas and ask questions about the PALS mentoring program.

Each participating chapter will receive a free CD-ROM that contains new instructional materials and resources to operate an effective PALS program. Those wishing to attend this exciting conference need to pre-register by Sept. 27 (pre-registration form attached). Each participating chapter may send up to six participants to the conference. More will be allowed if space is available. Contact: Mike Honeycutt, mhoneycutt@ffa.org, 317-802-4262.

School Officials Luncheon - free: Invite your state officials, school officials or important education partners to experience motivational speakers, outstanding teachers and top students at the School Officials Luncheon. This educational and entertaining event will take place during the 2003 National FFA Convention on Friday, Oct. 31, 2003 at 11:30 a.m. Take this opportunity to show your education partners a unique side of the convention. In addition to the luncheon, we welcome them to experience the many suggested activities including convention sessions (4th and 6th), 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, complete the attached request form or contact Michele Gilbert, mgilbert@ffa.org, 317-802-4301. Have attendee's name, title, organization, mailing address, phone/fax and e-mail address ready to share when contacting Michele. For additional information, contact Ernie Gill, project manager, egill@ffa.org, 317-802-4222.

Courtesy Corps applications now available: Applications to volunteer for Courtesy Corp are due Sept. 5th. Please make sure your application is accompanied by the signed code of ethics and that your application is signed by your state staff. For more information concerning Courtesy Corps, you may visit www.ffa.org/convention/html/pln_courtesy_corp.html <http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/pln_courtesy_corp.html>. All forms may be mailed or faxed to April Pruet, fax 317-802-5256.

New Event at the National FFA Convention for Teachers! Agriscience Institute: an interactive onsite campus experience. Teachers looking to integrate science, math and social studies into their agricultural education programs should attend these workshops. The Agriscience Institute includes five different interactive workshops especially designed to help teachers bring their classroom 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 on current issues facing agriculture and our society.

Workshop topics:

- Bringing Sustainability to the Community
- Bringing Environmental Issues to the Classroom
- Applied Biotechnology workshop

-- Ag Prep: Integrating Math, Agriculture, Science & Technology
-- 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 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. 29, 12:30-5:30 p.m.; Thursday, Oct. 30, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 31, 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m. For more information, contact Tony Small, tsmall@ffa.org, 317-802-4300.

State flag bearers: Don't let your state go unrecognized at convention! State Flag Bearer information is due to the National FFA Center by Sept. 15th. For more information contact: Tina Paris, tparis@ffa.org, 317-802-4309.

EVENTS

2003 CDE deadlines announced: Deadlines have been set for the 2003 National FFA CDEs; all items are due to the FFA Center by the dates indicated. A copy of all forms listed below can be found in the 2003 State Guide. They are as follows:

Sept. 15 - Agricultural communication portfolios due

- Agricultural issues portfolios due
- Job interview portfolios due
- Marketing plan portfolios due

Oct. 1 - Late membership payments and \$25 processing fee due (for qualification)

Oct. 15 - Add/Delete forms due

New CDE Special Needs Request Policy: Teams and individuals participating in the 2003 Career Development Events who feel that they are entitled to Special Needs Accommodations must submit a Special Needs Request Form. This form, along with additional information about the policy can be found on the following website: <http://www.ffa.org/programs/cde/html/cdeupdate.html>. Please make sure your national qualifying CDE participants and advisors are aware of this new procedure. The form must be submitted at the time of certification.

EDUCATOR NEWS

2003 National AgrAbility Training Workshop: FFA members and staff, please mark your calendars and make plans to attend the 2003 National AgrAbility Training Workshop (NTW) November 11-14 in Omaha, Nebraska.

An exciting program is being planned that includes four technical tracks with lots of opportunities for participation in hands-on activities:

- Track 1. Equipment & Assistive Technology
- Track 2. Farm Business & Financial Management
- Track 3. Independent Living & Health
- Track 4. Support Services & Delivery Systems

This is great year for students to participate in the NTW. Several college students will showcase projects they have designed and completed that relate to some aspect of

production agriculture. And a special, reduced registration fee of just \$50.00 is available to students only! For more details and downloadable registration materials please visit the workshop website at <http://www.agrabilityproject.org/events/workshop2003.cfm> or contact Carol Maus at 800-914-4424 or cmaus@easters-seals.org.

AgrAbility is a program authorized through a provision in the 1990 Farm Bill and administered by the USDA-CSREES that provides information and technical assistance to farmers, ranchers, and farmworkers with disabilities. A network comprising the National AgrAbility Project and numerous state AgrAbility Project partners provides program services to over half of the United States.

ALUMNI NEWS

National FFA Alumni Auction: This year's Alumni Auction is going to be one of the best! The auction committee and National FFA Foundation have been hard at work securing objects ranging from household items to weekend getaways. Be sure to come by during the national FFA convention and participate in the bidding excitement and to vote for your favorite state basket. The silent auction will run from Wednesday, Oct. 29 - Friday, Oct. 31. A complimentary social is being planned prior to the live auction on Friday evening. Supporters of agricultural education and FFA are encouraged to get involved by donating specialty items that will contribute to the success of the auction. All funds raised go to support WLC scholarships and local chapter grants. For a listing of all auction items and schedules and to download a donation form, visit <http://www.ffa.org/alumni>. Contact: Amber Smyer, asmyer@ffa.org, 317-802-4294.

National FFA Alumni Convention Raffle: The National FFA Alumni Association will again hold raffles in conjunction with the 2003 National FFA Convention. This year two raffles are being organized. Prior to the convention, limited supplies of three thousand tickets are being sold for a John Deere Gator at \$10 a ticket or 3 for \$20. In a second raffle, tickets will be sold at the national FFA convention for an EZ-Go WorkHorse and a Husqvarna YTH2046 Yard Tractor. Tickets can be purchased at the Alumni booth in the center aisle of the shopping mall for \$1 a ticket, with a bonus ticket for every \$5 you spend. The winners of all three items will be drawn during the Alumni Live Auction on Friday, Oct. 31 at 6 p.m. (need not be present to win). Contact: Amber Smyer, asmyer@ffa.org, 317-802-4294.

American Degree Scholarship: The National FFA Alumni Association has a special scholarship opportunity for FFA members receiving their American Degrees at the 2003 National FFA Convention. If a degree recipient is currently a member of the National FFA Alumni Association (membership is separate from FFA), or chooses to join the Alumni Association on or before Oct. 31, 2003, they will be entered into a drawing for a \$1,000 scholarship. Information was sent out to all American Degree recipients, so be sure to encourage them to take advantage of this great opportunity.

Alumni Auction State Basket Contest: Every state FFA Association and state FFA Alumni Association is encouraged to enter the State Basket Contest as part of the Alumni auction during the National Convention. Baskets should uniquely represent your state by including products native to your state and distinct items of interest. States that wish to enter a basket may contact us at asmyer@ffa.org. The winning baskets will be announced and moved to the Live Auction for further bidding Friday night. Prizes for

winning baskets include a \$450 Washington Leadership Scholarship and 100 tickets for the Alumni Giveaway. Show pride in your state by sharing what it has to offer!

STATE STAFF NEWS

Nominations for judges being accepted: The National FFA Organization is accepting nominations for judges for the Agricultural Proficiency Awards, Star Awards, Agriscience Awards and National Chapter Awards at the 2003 National FFA Convention in Louisville, Ky., this fall. The Agricultural Proficiency and the Star Awards judging will take place Thursday, Oct. 30. All of the judges will be invited to an awards luncheon on that day. The Agriscience Awards will be judged Wednesday, Oct. 29 and Thursday, Oct. 30. National Chapter Awards, Models of Innovation awards will be judged Wednesday, Oct. 29. We are not able to cover any expenses for the judges. Nominations can be submitted on the attached form and should be mailed to Rosalie Hunsinger, National FFA Organization, P.O. Box 68960, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960 or faxed to her at 317-802-5255.

Local Program Resource Guide 2003-2004 CD-ROM: Just a quick reminder to all state staff and teacher educators, the Local Program Resource Guide 2003-2004 CD-ROM has been released. Orders were shipped to state staff in June, and a second shipment will go out to teacher educators in mid August. If you have not received your order or have not placed an order, please contact Michele Gilbert, mgilbert@ffa.org, 317-802-4301.

For more information, please contact: Jim Armbruster, jarmbruster@ffa.org, 317-802-4334.

Time Capsule Effort at the 2003 National FFA Convention: State officers who attended State Presidents' Conference in July were involved in the kick-off of the time capsule effort for the 2003 National FFA Convention. During the conference each state was provided with a commemorative box designed for the occasion. We ask that states not decorate the outside of this box as it may damage the integrity of the box while in storage. During the months of August and September state associations should work to fill their box with items that will commemorate this moment in our history in terms of agriculture, agricultural education and FFA. On or before Sept. 15 states should submit a manifest list to Doug Kueker, dkueker@ffa.org. In addition, digital pictures of special items included from the state are welcome along with the manifest list. This list and the pictures will be compiled into a document that will be shared with others attending convention and online.

Plans for the ceremony to place the boxes in the time capsule are complete. Each state has been assigned a session where they will present their box. Presentations will take place during convention sessions two through seven and sessions nine through ten. One representative from each state should plan to be available to present the box during the kick-off of their session. Please submit the name of the individual who will represent your state to Doug Kueker, dkueker@ffa.org, on or later than Oct. 10. That person should report to the VIP seating section near the secretary's station in the convention arena at least 30 minutes prior to the session where they will present the state box. All boxes will be collected at delegate registration and will be waiting for your representative at the Secretary's station during your respective session.

The following is a listing of the times for state box presentations:

Thursday, Oct. 30

3-4:30 p.m. Second Session

Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut

7:30-9 p.m. Third Session

Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana

Friday, Oct. 31

8-10 a.m. Fourth Session

Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland

12-1:30 p.m. Fifth Session

Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska

3-4:30 p.m. Sixth Session

Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota

7-9 p.m. Seventh Session

Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island

Saturday, Nov. 1

12:30-2:30 p.m. Ninth Session

South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont

3:30-5 p.m. Tenth Session

Virginia, Virgin Islands, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming

For more information regarding the time capsule please visit

<http://www.ffa.org/convention/html/timecapsule.htm> or e-mail dkueker@ffa.org

INTERNATIONAL HAPPENINGS

FFA Global Leadership Training available online: FFA Global is looking for agriculture instructors who are interested in exploring agriculture in our exciting, online learning program about global agriculture. A “real world” storyline allows students to learn about global agriculture and U.S. policy as they follow the lives of two fictional FFA members as they travel to Moldova, Honduras and Ethiopia. Several chapters are already using the program and if you are interested in learning more about this project, contact FFA Global, global@ffa.org, or 317-802-4309. Visit the FFA Global Leadership Scenarios site at www.ffa.org/scenarios <<http://www.ffa.org/scenarios>> today!

ILSSO: Each year, State FFA Officers have the unique opportunity to travel to Europe to learn about global agriculture and business each January on ILSSO, the International Leadership Seminar for State Officers. Participants have a host family stay with a German farm family and participate in business and industry visits. Tentative dates for 2004 are Jan. 5 through 20. Applications will be due Oct. 1, 2003. If you are a newly elected or past state officer and have ever wanted to travel to a foreign country, learn about global agriculture, or spend two amazing weeks with other State FFA Officers, then the International Leadership Seminar for State Officers (ILSSO) is the right place for you! Download application forms and find out more information, e-mail us at global@ffa.org, visit online at <<http://www.ffa.org/programs/global/>> or call 317-802-4309.

International Teacher Opportunities: Competitive scholarships are available for agriculture teachers to participate in an international experience through EARTHWATCH. The scholarships are available for use in 2003. EARTHWATCH is a research organization with international expeditions throughout the world. Expeditions

take place throughout the year. Participants receive up to \$1500 scholarships to cover a portion of the expedition costs plus membership to EARTHWATCH. Applications are available online at www.ffa.org/programs/global/ <<http://www.ffa.org/programs/global/>>. There are late summer expeditions available. Applications are still being accepted. Please call 317-802-4309 for more information.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED IN UPDATE

National FFA Awards and CDE Advisory Board Award Revision Process: Every five years, the National FFA Organization's CDEs, award and recognition programs are reviewed to keep them closely aligned with instructional relevance, current technology, industry practices and the mission, vision and strategic direction of Agricultural Education and FFA. This year, we are beginning another round of this ongoing review process.

Currently, three subcommittees are evaluating award and recognition programs. As the committees continue their review process, the National FFA Organization will keep you up-to-date with the progress and status of the committees and the project timeframe, which is expected to last through 2005. The award revision process white paper, timeline and committee updates are available online at <http://www.ffa.org/statestaff/html/awardrevision.html>.

Communication Resource Index on ffa.org: A whole host of communication resources for state and local use is now available online at <http://www.ffa.org/comm/commindex.html>, a handy one-stop shop for state and local communication materials. Logos and the new *Opening Doors* materials are available here, as are standards and guidelines covering topics such as news releases, key messages and frequently asked questions. Throughout 2003 and 2004, we'll be adding new materials to this resource index every quarter, so check back often to see what's new.

National FFA Convention in Indianapolis in 2006: The annual national FFA convention is in Louisville, Ky., again this year, and will not move to Indianapolis until 2006. You can access convention site selection information at: http://www.ffa.org/about_ffa/convention2006/index.html.

UPDATE is also available at www.ffa.org/news/html/ffapubsindex.html#update 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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Convention Judges
Nomination F...



Courtesy Corp Application

DUE SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

Applications must be accompanied by the signed Code of Ethics and have a signature from the State FFA Association Advisor or Executive Secretary.

Chapter Information

Chapter Name: _____ Chapter Number: _____

Advisor Name: _____

School Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

School Phone: _____ School Fax: _____

Email Address: _____

Assignment Information

of Students Available: _____

Details on the Assignment Descriptions, Available Days and Time Requirements can be found on the following pages, located on the Local Program Resource Guide CD-ROM or the FFA website:

Courtesy Corp Position Matrix

All Chapter must read, sign and return:
Courtesy Corp Code of Ethics

Assignments:

Please rank your first 3 choices. [1, 2, 3]

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| _____ 1) Alumni | _____ 9) Registration |
| _____ 2) Awards Office | _____ 10) Hospitality Stations |
| _____ 3) a-d Main Arena | _____ 11) a-d Meals |
| _____ 4) a-d CDE's | _____ 12) Newsroom |
| _____ 5) Career Show | _____ 13) Shopping Mall |
| _____ 6) Chapter Activities | _____ 14) Workshops |
| _____ 7) Command Post | _____ 15) Any Position |
| _____ 8) Courtesy Corp HDQ | |

Time Preferences:

Please check as many time slots your chapter can fill as possible. Referring to the Courtesy Corp Position Matrix will be helpful. **Please note that assignments can begin as early as 6:00 am and end as late as 10:00 pm.** Shifts may vary in length from 2 hours to 5 hours depending on assignments, unless prior arrangements are made with Advisors.

	Early AM [6-10]	AM [8-12]	Mid-AM [10-2]	PM [12-4]	Mid-PM [2-6]	Evening [4-8]	Late PM [6-10]
Monday	<input type="checkbox"/> Early AM	<input type="checkbox"/> AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-AM	<input type="checkbox"/> PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening	<input type="checkbox"/> Late PM
Tuesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Early AM	<input type="checkbox"/> AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-AM	<input type="checkbox"/> PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening	<input type="checkbox"/> Late PM
Wednesday	<input type="checkbox"/> Early AM	<input type="checkbox"/> AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-AM	<input type="checkbox"/> PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening	<input type="checkbox"/> Late PM
Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> Early AM	<input type="checkbox"/> AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-AM	<input type="checkbox"/> PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening	<input type="checkbox"/> Late PM
Friday	<input type="checkbox"/> Early AM	<input type="checkbox"/> AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-AM	<input type="checkbox"/> PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening	<input type="checkbox"/> Late PM
Saturday	<input type="checkbox"/> Early AM	<input type="checkbox"/> AM	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-AM	<input type="checkbox"/> PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Mid-PM	<input type="checkbox"/> Evening	<input type="checkbox"/> Late PM

Special Needs or Requests: _____

By signing below I am certifying my chapter is in good standing with the State FFA Association and National FFA Organization and that we have read, understood and signed the Courtesy Corp Code of Ethics.

Chapter Advisor

Date

State FFA Authorizing Signature [State Advisor or Executive Secretary]

Date

Return Application & Code of Ethics to:
Courtesy Corps Coordinator
PO Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960
Ph: 317-802-4256 Fax: 317-802-5256

DUE SEPTEMBER 5, 2003

Due to National Center by June 1, 2003

**Star, Agricultural Proficiency Award and Other Selection
Committee Recommendations**

The following individual should be included among those invited to judge National FFA Awards, Agricultural Proficiency Awards or the Stars Over America at the National FFA Convention this fall:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Company/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone (Area Code Number) _____

E-mail Address: _____

(Please complete a separate form for each individual that you nominate.)

The nominee is best qualified in one of the following award categories:

Agricultural Communications Entrepreneurship/Placement	_____
Agricultural Crops Entrepreneurship/Placement	_____
Agricultural Livestock Entrepreneurship/Placement	_____
Agricultural Mechanical/Technical Systems	_____
Agricultural Sales Entrepreneurship or Placement	_____
Agricultural Services Entrepreneurship/Placement	_____
Emerging Agricultural Technology	_____
Equine Science Entrepreneurship or Placement	_____
Food Science and Agricultural Processing	_____
Horticulture or Nursery Operations	_____
Natural Resources Management & the Environment	_____
Small Animal/Specialty Animal	_____
Star Farmer	_____
Star in Agribusiness	_____
Star in Agricultural Placement	_____
Star in Agriscience	_____
National Chapter	_____
Agriscience Fair	_____
Agriscience Students and/or Teachers	_____

Person making nomination: _____

Please send all recommendations to:

Rosalie Hunsinger
Program Coordinator
National FFA Organization
P.O. Box 68960
Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960
Or FAX: (317) 802-5255



Partners in Active Learning Support

Dear Chapter Advisor:

You and your chapter members are invited to attend the Tenth Annual PALS Mentoring Conference to be held in conjunction with the 2003 National FFA Convention on October 29, 2003 in Louisville, Kentucky. This year we will hold two separate conferences designed at instructing students and teachers how to best utilize the PALS program to serve local communities and school systems. One conference will be designed for those chapters that already have established PALS programs and the second conference is designed for chapters interested in starting a PALS program.

The conferences will be held at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center located at the junction of I-65 and I-264. The conference will begin at 8:00am for the established PALS programs and at 9:00 a.m. for the chapters interested in starting PALS programs with registration prior to that time. Both conferences will be filled with energy and an opportunity to learn and discuss the PALS program featuring guest speakers such as Mark Reardon and roundtable discussions. Each chapter will receive a free CD-ROM packed with instructional materials and resources to effectively operate a PALS program. If your program has been involved with PALS for years or if your chapter is just looking for new community service and educational opportunities this conference will be very informative for you and your students. Each participating chapter may send six representatives to the conference.

To pre-register for this conference, please complete and return the bottom portion of this letter to Mike Honeycutt at the National FFA Center, P.O. Box 68960, Indianapolis, Indiana, 46268-0960 no later than September 27, 2003. Please call (317) 802-4262 or e-mail to mhoneycutt@ffa.org for more details.

PALS Mentoring Registration

Chapter Name: _____
Chapter Address: _____
City, State, and Zip: _____
Advisor's Name: _____
E-mail address: _____

Please check one of the following:

My chapter will attend the 8:00-11:00am session for chapters with established PALS programs _____

My chapter will attend the 9:00-11:00am session for chapters that are interested in starting a PALS program _____

Number of Participants: _____ Advisors _____ Counselors _____ Administrators
 _____ Students _____ Principals _____ State Staff



2003 National FFA Convention – One Mission: Student Success – October 29 – November 1

RSVP for School Officials Luncheon

Being held Friday, October 31, 2003

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

(East Hall 3 & 4 - will start serving at 11:30 a.m.)

FREE

FREE

Form is due by October 1, 2003

Please Print or Type

	First School Official	Second School Official	Third School Official	Fourth School Official
Name: (Include: Prefix, First Name, & Last Name)				
Title:				
School/Org:				
Address Line 1:				
Address Line 2:				
City, State, Zip:				
Phone Number				
Fax Number:				
E-mail:				
Qty of Tickets:				

**Please E-mail,
Fax or Mail To:**

National FFA Organization
C/O **Michele Gilbert**
PO Box 68960, Indianapolis, IN 46268-0960
Phone: 317-802-4301 Fax: 317-802-5301
E-mail: mgilbert@ffa.org

**Form is Due by
OCTOBER 1, 2003**

The luncheon is **FREE**; however, seating is limited! Only 300 tickets will be available on a first-come, first-served basis, so please respond early to secure a reservation.