

THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

Application for Charter

To Henry C. Groseclose,

Blacksburg, Va.

Carl Jagers

We,.....Jesse Woodard....., President;~~Elstner Beall~~....., Secretary; andR. B. Smith....., Adviser, officers of the State organization known as, a State organization for students of vocational agriculture, having at present ...54..... chapters and ...1179..... members, and being empowered to act for this organization, do hereby make application to be chartered as a branch of the "Future Farmers of America".

We are attaching to this application (1) the proposed State constitution and by-laws under which we desire to work; (2) a copy of our State program of work for the year; (3) a list of all local chapters and a statement of the total membership of each; and (4) a check for \$5 to cover cost of issuing charter.

The names and addresses of our State officers are as follows:

President:	<u>Jesse Woodard</u>	<u>Danville</u>	<u>Arkansas Planter</u>
	name	address	grade of membership
Vice President	<u>Elstner Beall</u>	<u>Wilson</u>	<u>Arkansas Planter</u>
Secretary	<u>Carl Jagers</u>	<u>Dardanelle</u>	<u>Arkansas Planter</u>
Treasurer	<u>Paul Nally</u>	<u>Batesville</u>	<u>Arkansas Farmer</u>
Reporter	<u>Wayman Johnston</u>	<u>Batesville</u>	<u>Arkansas Farmer</u>
Advisor	<u>R. B. Smith</u>	<u>Little Rock</u>	

If granted a charter, we promise to comply with the national constitution and by-laws of the Future Farmers of America and to work for the success of the organization.

We certify that the information given in this application and attached hereto is correct.

Signed: *James Woodard* State President
.....
Carl Jorgensen State Secretary
P. B. Bonlita State Adviser

STATE OF ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

J. P. WOMACK, DIRECTOR

LITTLE ROCK

November 5, 1928.

2

Mr. Henry C. Groseclose,
Executive Secretary F. F. A.
Blacksburg, Virginia.

Dear Mr. Groseclose:

In accordance with the National
Constitution and By-laws of the Future Farmers of America
you will find herewith enclosed the following:

1. A copy of our State Constitution and By-laws for the organization of the Future Farmers of Arkansas.
2. A copy of our State Program and goals for 1928-29.
3. A list of all local Arkansas Chapters and a statement of the total membership at the present date.
4. The name, grade, membership and address of each officer of the state organization.
5. The \$5.00 fee to cover cost of the Charter.

We are hereby applying for a charter
and will appreciate a prompt reply to our request.

Jose Woodard
President of the F. F. A.

Carl Jagers
Secretary of the F. F. A.

R. B. Smith
State Advisor.

RBS/M

P.S. Time prevents me securing the
signature of the officials, but they will
be at the convention at N. C. and
will sign for you there.

R. B. S.

ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

CONSTITUTION FOR STATE AND LOCAL ORGANIZATION

OF

"FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA"

ADOPTED AT THE FIRST ANNUAL CONVENTION

OCTOBER 11, 1928

ARKANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS.

* * * *

CONSTITUTION FOR STATE AND LOCAL ORGANIZATION OF
"FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA."

(Patterned after the Proposed Constitution
of the National Organization of
"Future Farmers of America.")

Adopted at the First Annual Convention
October 11, 1928.

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Explanatory Note: Ever since vocational education in Agriculture has been established in the high schools of the United States, State Supervisors, teacher trainers, and teachers of vocational agriculture have recognized that there is a need for some kind of organization which would take advantage of the natural instincts and psychological tendencies of boys in the adolescent age to group together into clubs or "Gangs." By establishing a strong state-wide organization, with local chapters in each school where vocational agriculture is taught, an outlet for these instincts and tendencies will be afforded our vocational students. Such organizations, if they function properly, will give us an excellent opportunity to teach vocational students some of the fundamental principles of group leadership. Boys will be taught how to conduct their own meetings and how to do things in an organized way. An increasing number of competitive activities, such as livestock judging contests between different schools in a state, can be taken over by these student organizations under the careful supervision of local teachers and the State Supervisors. As a matter of fact, one of the main secrets of the success of any student organization rests in the ability of supervisors and teacher trainers to delegate responsibilities to the students themselves, for unless a student organization is assigned something to do which is interesting and really worth while, there is no reason for its existence. By having strong State and National organizations of "Future Farmers of America," additional incentives for achievement by local chapters will be set up. Greater dignity will accrue to local organizations if each member knows that his local chapter of the "Future Farmers of America" is a part of a state and nation-wide organization of similar groups of vocational agricultural students which have been established in all or a great majority of the departments of vocational agriculture throughout the United States. For these reasons the constitution and general plans for the organization of "Future Farmers of America" within the several states should be as similar as it is feasible to make them. Definite steps have already been taken to have the name "Future Farmers of America" registered with the United States Patent Office, so that this name can not be used by any other group of individuals.

The following constitution is very closely patterned after the proposed national constitution of "The Future Farmers of America," but it is set up in such a way that it can be adopted as a constitution for a State or local organization of "Future Farmers of America" without being in conflict with the national constitution.

State Constitution Adopted at the First Annual
Conference at Little Rock, October 11, 1928.

Article I. Name and Purposes of the Organization.

Section A. The name of this organization shall be the Arkansas Division of the "Future Farmers of America". Members of the local chapter are hereinafter referred to as the "Future Farmers of America."

Section B. The purposes for which this organization is formed are as follows:

1. To promote vocational education in agriculture in the public schools of the State of Arkansas.
2. To create more interest in the intelligent choice of farming occupations.
3. To create and nurture a love of country life.
4. To encourage recreational and educational activities for students in vocational agriculture.
5. To promote thrift.
6. To encourage co-operative efforts among students of vocational agriculture.
7. To strengthen the confidence of the farm boy in himself and his work.
8. To promote scholarship among students of vocational agriculture.
9. To develop rural leadership.

Article II. Organization.

Section A. The Arkansas Division of "Future Farmers of America" is a state organization of affiliated local chapters in schools having organized instruction in vocational agriculture under the provisions of the Smith-Hughes Act.

Section B. Local "Future Farmer" chapters shall not be organized in schools where systematic instruction in vocational agriculture is not given under the provisions of the Smith-Hughes Act.

Section C. Members of local chapters shall meet, organize, and adopt the state constitution as their own, elect officers, set up a program of work, and then apply to the State Secretary for membership in the state organization. After this application has been approved by the State Secretary the members of the local chapter may be known as "Future Farmers of America."

Article III. Membership.

Section A. Membership in this organization shall be active, associate, and honorary.

Section B. Active membership. Any student of vocational agriculture, who is regularly enrolled in a part-time, day-unit, or all-day class, is entitled to active membership in "Future Farmer" chapters upon receiving a majority vote of the members present at any chapter meeting. A member may retain his active membership for three years after completing his systematic instruction in vocational agriculture.

Section C. Associate membership. Any former student of vocational agriculture may be elected to associate membership upon receiving a majority vote of the members present at any chapter meeting. Any former active member of a "Future Farmer" chapter may be elected to associate membership upon receiving a majority vote of the members present at any chapter meeting.

Section D. Honorary membership. Instructors, school principals, superintendents, business men, and others who are helping to promote vocational agriculture may be elected to honorary membership by a majority vote of the members present at any meeting.

Article IV. Membership Grades and Privileges.

Section A. There shall be four grades of membership based upon achievement. These grades are (1) Green hand, (2) Arkansas Farmer, (3) Arkansas Planter, and (4) American Farmer. (These terms to be used until approved or modified by the First National Congress).

Section B. "Green Hand". Qualifications for Election:

1. Fourteen years of age, or mental equivalent.
2. Be regularly enrolled in a class in vocational agriculture.
3. Possess facilities for and have a satisfactory program of supervised practice.
4. Receive a majority vote of the members present at a regular meeting of the local chapter of "Future Farmers of America."

Section C. "Arkansas Farmer". Qualifications for Election.

1. Satisfactory completion of at least one year in vocational agriculture, including a program of supervised practice.
2. Earn and deposit in a bank, or otherwise productively invest at least \$25.00.

Note. - Any modification of (2) above must be approved by the State Advisor.

3. Be regularly enrolled in vocational agriculture with an amplified supervised practice program.
4. Recite from memory the "Future Farmers" creed.
5. Be able to lead a group discussion for ten minutes.
6. Receive a majority vote of the members present at a regular local chapter meeting of "Arkansas Farmers of America."

Section D. "Arkansas Planter Degree". Qualifications for Election.

The qualifications for election are left to the various state organizations. The following qualifications are simply suggestive:

1. At least two years of systematic instruction in vocational agriculture with an outstanding supervised practice program in operation.
2. Pass some occupational test supplied by the State staff.
3. Earn and deposit in a bank, or productively invest at least \$200. This may include the \$25 saved while advancing to the grade of "Arkansas Farmer", and money invested in education.

4. Be familiar with parliamentary procedure by having held office in local young people's organizations.
5. Be able to lead a group discussion for forty minutes.
6. Make the school judging team, debating team, or some other team representing the school.
7. Show marked attainment in scholarship in all school subjects (grade 85 or above).
8. Possess qualities of leadership as shown by having held responsible positions in connection with student and chapter activities.
9. Each state shall be entitled to elect 10 qualified individuals but where the State membership exceeds 500, not more than 2 percent of the total state membership may be elected, fractions counted to the nearest whole number. Only copies of written records of achievement verified by the local advisor shall be submitted to the State Advisor by the local executive committee at least one month prior to the State Convention. The Advisor will then review the records and submit his findings to the State Executive Committee. This committee will nominate at the regular State Convention the candidates who have been found most worthy to receive the honor. Synopses of these records shall then be read by a member of the Executive Committee when the students are nominated. The delegates shall then proceed to elect to the "Third degree" the number of candidates to which the State is entitled.

Section E. "American Farmer". Qualifications for Election.

1. Hold the degree of Arkansas Planter.
2. Be engaged in a farming occupation or have definite plans for becoming a farmer.
3. Possess demonstrated ability to farm by having conducted an outstanding program of supervised practice throughout the period of vocational training.
4. Earn and deposit in a bank or otherwise productively invest at least \$500.00

Note. - In cases where the applicant has assisted in the support of dependents the amount so expended, in the judgment of the National Board of Trustees, may be considered as an investment.

5. Must have held office in a state organization or have represented a state in a national contest.
6. Possess demonstrated ability to work with others by having participated in some agricultural co-operative enterprise or movement.
7. Be recommended by the National Board of Trustees and receive a majority vote of the delegates present at a National Congress of "Future Farmers of America."

Section F. Associate and honorary members shall not vote nor shall they hold any office except that of advisor in the State and local organizations and that of Executive Secretary-Treasurer and Advisor in the National Organization. Exceptions to this provision are permitted during the first two years of a chapter's existence.

Section G. Only members who have been elected to the grade of "American Farmer" are eligible to hold national offices after 1929. One year after the Arkansas organization has been chartered all State officers shall have attained the "Arkansas Planter degree". Officers in the local chapters must not rank lower than the grade of "Arkansas Farmer."

Section H. Associate and honorary members are eligible to election to any degree provided they have done outstanding work in promoting vocational agricultur and the organization of Future Farmers of America.

Article V. Officers.

Section A. 1. The officers of the Arkansas Association of "Future Farmers of America" shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, advisor and reporter. These officers shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the delegates present at a regular state convention of "Future Farmers". The State Advisor shall be named by the State Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture, and approved by a vote of the majority of the delegates. The officers shall perform the usual duties of the respective officers. Each local chapter shall be entitled to two delegates in the State Convention, who shall represent the local chapter in balloting for officers and members who are nominated to be advanced to the grade of "Arkansas Planter." Nominees for state office and the Executive Committee shall be less than seniors in grade so that they may be present to serve at the following state convention, and must be Arkansas Planters or higher in degree.

2. Officers of the local chapter shall be identical with those for the state organization and shall be elected annually at a regular meeting of the local chapter.

Section B. The executive committee of the State organization of "Future Farmers of America" shall consist of the State officers ex-officio and three active members elected by the delegates in the state convention. This committee shall perform the usual duties of an executive committee, review and approve receipts and disbursements, act as a nominating committee, and be responsible for the welfare of the organization.

Article VI. Meetings.

Section A. A meeting of the State Convention of "Future Farmers of America" will be held annually and at least thirty days prior to the meeting of the National Congress of "Future Farmers of America," at such time and place as may be determined upon by the State Executive Committee.

Section B. Local chapters shall hold their meetings monthly or oftener and at such time and place as may be decided upon by the Executive Committee of the Local Chapters.

Article VII. Dues.

Section A. Membership dues in a State organization shall be fixed by the State Executive Committee subject to approval by a majority vote of the delegates present at the State Convention of "Future Farmers of America."

Section B. The dues of any local chapter shall be fixed by a majority vote of the membership of that chapter.

Article VIII. Amendments.

Section A. Amendments to the State constitution shall be submitted in writing by the delegates from any chapter at any annual State Convention of "Future Farmers of America." Amendments may be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present.

Section B. In order to secure flexibility, by-laws may be adopted to fit the needs of the state organization or local chapter, provided they are not in conflict with the state constitution, which is also the constitution for each chapter.

Article IX. Insignia.

Section A. The insignia of the "Future Farmers of America" shall be made up of four symbols, namely:-

1. Cross section of an ear of corn, - representing common agricultural interests, since corn is native to America and grown in every state.
2. The owl, - representing wisdom.
3. The plow, - representing tillage of soil, the basis of modern agriculture.
4. The rising sun, - representing progress.

Section B. All active, associate, and honorary members shall be entitled to wear the insignia. All "Green Hands" are entitled to wear a bronze insignia. All "Arkansas Farmers" are entitled to wear silver insignia. All members elected to the degree of "Arkansas Planter" are entitled to wear the gold insignia on a rectangular key base. All members elected to the degree of "American Farmer" are entitled to wear the gold insignia directly mounted on a key.

CREED OF A FUTURE FARMER.

I believe in the future of farming, with a faith born not of words, but of deeds — achievements won by the present and past generations of farmers; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come up to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of farm life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I can not deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of organized farmers to serve our own and the public interest in marketing the product of our toil. I believe we can safeguard those rights against practices and policies that are unfair.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so — for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that rural America can and will hold true to the best traditions in our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.

PROGRAM SET UP FOR ARKANSAS

FOR

1928 - 29

1. To have an F. F. A. Chapter organized in every Federally aided or supervised school by July 1, 1929.
2. A savings account for 25% of all the chapter members of the local organizations.
3. Every chapter to foster or give a Father and Son banquet sometime before July 1929.
4. The members of all F. F. A. Chapters to have a total of \$150,000.00 invested in farming or income investments by December 15, 1929.
5. Every chapter to send delegates to the 1929 state convention.
6. To foster and promote the usual state Vocational Agricultural Contests and Exhibits.
7. Every chapter to send \$1.00 annually to the State Treasurer to defray the minor expenses of the State organization.
8. To apply for a national charter.

ENROLLMENTS 1927-28

Charter Number	School	Secretary	Enrollment
1.	Danville	Robert Hays Williams	45
2.	Jacksonville	Edward Martin	24
3. <i>Conway</i>	Gentry	Forest Tosh	20
4.	Batesville	Jno. W. Newman	26
5.	Fuller	Doyle Kinser, (Sweet Home)	22
6.	Wheatley	Edd Staggs	38
7.	Rogers	Carl Shores	19
8.	Alma	Harold Moseley	37
9.	Richmond	Earl Willson	11
10.	Winthrop	Andrew Lambert	11
11.	Huntsville	Oakley Long	21
12.	Poughkeepsie	Guy McKnight	30
13.	Coy (Tomberlin)	Ben Smith	20
14.	Wilton	Carl T. Walker	15
15.	Norman	Preston King	12
16.	Hunter	Thomas Penrose	12
17.	Hatfield	Quentin Davis	24
18.	DeWitt	J. Wirt Burnett	31
19.	Bruno	Frank Burnes	19
20.	Foreman	Sect. Eisen <i>Clyde Burris</i>	18
21.	Waldron	Carl Dozier	41
22.	Glenwood	Orville Hughes	22
23.	Houston	Carroll Powell	30
24.	Choctaw	Fred Mauldin	24
25.	Dardanelle	Cleady Steward	33
26.	Beebe	Evan George	12
27.	Lead Hill	Earl Magness	17
28.	Strong	Colvin Wheelis	6
29.	Augusta	Harry Shell	20
30.	Cave City	Taylor Wann	21
31.	Wooster (Pleasant Valley)	Chester Carter	16
32.	Springdale	Ray Lovelace	26
33.	Pea Ridge	Max Ottinger	17
34.	Altus	Thomas E. Carter	19
35.	Prairie View	Lowell Cummins	18
36.	Moro	Samuel O'Shields	18
37.	Vilonia	Elbert Whorton	10
38.	Wilson	Elstner Beall	26
39.	Bearden	Sloan Henry	21
40.	Strawberry	Ray Lovelace	28
41.	Fountain Hill	Norman Hester	15
42.	New Blaine	Johnny Birkhead	17
43.	Lemas	Buster Rye	20
44.	Casa	Opie Tucker	17
45.	Plainview	Carl Laxenby	21
46.	Blytheville	Garrett L. Abbott	21
47.	Booneville	Rex Ellington	27
48.	Sheridan	Lee Barnes	35
49.	McCroary	Morris Best	21
50.	S. C. Beard High Sch.	Ray Robinson, Address Box 14, Wiville,	25
51.	Cotton Plant	Doyne Hunnicutt	25
52.	Mount Ida	Claude Wheeler	21
53.	Wooster	Carldon Patton	23
54.	Greenbrier (Centerville)	Arthur New	15
Total - - - - -			1179

OFFICERS OF THE FUTURE FARMERS OF ARKANSAS.

The state officers of the Arkansas organization of the Future Farmers of America are as follows:

Jesse Woodard, Danville, President, Arkansas Planter 1927.

Elstner Beall, Wilson, Vice President, Arkansas Planter 1927.

Carl Jagers, Dardanelle, Secretary, Arkansas Planter 1928.

Paul Nally, Batesville, Treasurer, Arkansas Farmer 1928.

Wayman Johnston, Batesville, Reporter, Arkansas Farmer, 1928.

State Advisor, R. B. Smith,
State Itinerant Teacher Trainer.