

# New VISIONS



The Official Newsletter of the National FFA Alumni Association

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## FFA Alumni Hold Convention in Indy

Partnerships are the focus of 35th anniversary event

The National FFA Alumni Association and National FFA Organization held their conventions for the first time ever in Indianapolis, Indiana. The move was years in the planning and took months to prepare. In contrast, the 35th National FFA Alumni Convention was over in just a few short days. The location offered a venue for many Alumni members to attend this inaugural event and celebrate the convention's new surroundings.



Skyline of downtown Indianapolis, Indiana

The Alumni convention was comprised of four main events: an awards session, a business session, and live and silent benefit auctions. Alumni members and other supporters had only a short distance to travel once they arrived in Indianapolis since all convention activities occurred in the Indiana Convention Center.

National FFA Alumni President Norman Gay began the awards session on Thursday afternoon by stressing the importance of the "Power of Partnership." He emphasized that members have a responsibility to support the FFA and urged them to unite their efforts with other individuals, groups, businesses, and Team Ag Ed members to make greater contributions to agricultural education. Following Gay's address, keynote speaker Chad Hymas delivered a powerful message entitled "Who Needs Legs When You Have Wings." At age 27, Chad's life changed instantaneously when a farming accident left him a quadriplegic. Chad's speech on mastering change inspired and motivated the audience, leaving them with an experience that will touch their hearts for a lifetime.

National FFA Alumni Council members then presented state, affiliate, chapter, and individual awards. Alumni membership grew this year to an all-time high of 46,533 members. The organization recognized 17 state associations for an increase of 100 or more Alumni members. Representatives from each of these states received blue blazers for their efforts in recruiting and retaining members.

The national association also recognized individuals with the Outstanding Achievement and Distinguished Contributor Awards for their support of FFA and agricultural education. Other honors like LPS Grants, Legion of Merit recognition, and state and affiliate awards, celebrated the hard work and success of FFA chapters and Alumni members. (See page 5 for an abbreviated awards listings. For a complete listing of convention awards, visit the association's website at [www.ffa.org/alumni/](http://www.ffa.org/alumni/).)

One hundred thirty-nine delegates representing 26 states registered for the business session on Friday morning. Delegates approved a bylaws amendment that established positions for business and industry representatives to the National Council. They also elected members to the Council (see sidebar at bottom of page for election results).

Monte Ladner, 2006-2007 National FFA Alumni President, closed the session by introducing the association's new theme: "Honor the Past; Celebrate the Present." (See page 2 for more on the 2006-2007 theme.)

### Election Results

President: Monte Ladner, MS  
President-Elect: Ronnie Ansley, NC  
Southern Region Representative: Joy Carter, GA  
Eastern Region Representative: David Miller, MD

## Calendar 2007

Dates listed are when items must be postmarked to the National Office.

### May 15

Rosters due to qualify for grants, awards, and delegate counts

Legion of Merit applications

### June 1

State Leaders Conference registration

### July 1

Local Program Support Grant applications

Outstanding/Pioneer Affiliate, Outstanding State Affiliate, Outstanding Achievement, and National Distinguished Contributor nomination applications; and Scrapbooks

National Alumni Council nominations

### July 15

Auction donation forms for items to appear in catalog

### July 10-15

State Leaders Conference, Portland, OR

### October 24-27

Alumni Silent Auction, Indianapolis, IN

### October 25-26

Alumni Convention, Indianapolis, IN

### October 26

Alumni Live Auction, Indianapolis, IN

Please visit the FFA Alumni website at [www.ffa.org/alumni/](http://www.ffa.org/alumni/) to download updated award applications. Send requests for forms to [bhaig@ffa.org](mailto:bhaig@ffa.org) or phone 317-802-4293 to have them mailed via the U.S. Postal Service.



# ROUND TABLE

## Let Us Honor Our Achievements and Celebrate Our Efforts

### President Urges Members to Grow Membership to Maintain Support

“Living to Serve” is a phrase from the FFA motto. It best describes the ongoing role of FFA Alumni members and their support of FFA and agricultural education. As a result, the Council has decided to focus this year on how we can best serve local members, local affiliates, and state Alumni associations in their efforts to support FFA and agricultural education. As an outgrowth of this effort, we have selected the theme for the year of “**Honor The Past; Celebrate The Present.**”

As we strive to embrace this theme throughout the year, let us remember to recognize all members, supporters, and volunteers who have made contributions to the FFA and agricultural education. At the national level, the FFA Alumni convention serves as the venue for our association to honor individuals for their accomplishments and celebrate the past achievements of our organization. Your state associations and local affiliates can continue this process throughout the year at annual conventions, local banquets, and affiliate meetings where you can recognize those who have played a key part in your success. These events can help build excitement and enthusiasm for your state and local efforts in support of FFA and agricultural education.

As we begin this new year, Council members will be contacting state leaders to let them know that we are available to offer assistance and willing to visit their respective states. We want Alumni members to know that the national association is comprised of people who really care about what they are doing.

If we want to continue to be strong advocates of agricultural education, we must recruit more Alumni members to help promote agricultural education and support FFA. To accomplish this goal, we need your help. Alumni membership must grow locally for FFA chapters to reach new heights and for our association to expand its voice of advocacy.

The more members we have the more we can do, both locally and nationally.

What can we do to increase membership? We can begin by recruiting, activating, and finding ways to involve more members in affiliate and FFA activities. Next, we need to communicate with our membership in order to retain them. We need to let them know what is going on and how their help is needed. The better members are informed and involved, the stronger our affiliates will be. Then, we need to share the positive impacts of our efforts, the challenges before us, and the enjoyment of Alumni fellowship. We need to emphasize the treasure of the friendships that we have gained through working with FFA Alumni and the excitement of what the future holds.

One way to celebrate our present efforts is to show support for our agriculture teachers. On the national level, we will be working with NAAE officers. We encourage state Alumni association leaders to work with the leaders of their state agriculture teachers associations. Let them know that the FFA Alumni is there to help the FFA and support agricultural education. We want to support and assist local FFA Advisors with their programs. We want to be strong supporters and positive advocates who are sensitive to the needs and directions of local advisors. We can build a great team by working together.

I would like to thank you for volunteering your time and talents to support the FFA and your willingness to serve the National FFA Alumni Association. Together we can help our association and the FFA grow. Let me close by quoting some fitting words from the FFA Creed:

*“I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born not of words but of deeds...”*



Monte Ladner  
National FFA Alumni President  
[mladner@leakesd.k12.ms.us](mailto:mladner@leakesd.k12.ms.us)



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FFA Alumni *New Visions* is prepared and published quarterly by the National FFA Alumni Association as an affiliate of the Future Farmers of America in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Education as a service to state and local agricultural education agencies.

#### Vision

The vision of the National FFA Alumni Association is a world where people and communities grow and develop to their fullest potential.

#### Mission

The mission of the National FFA Alumni Association is to secure the promise of FFA and agricultural education by creating an environment where people and communities can develop their potential for **premier leadership, personal growth, and career success.**

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#### National FFA Alumni Executive Council

**President,** Monte Ladner, *Mississippi*

104 Fairway Boulevard, Carthage, MS 39051

**President-Elect,** Ronnie Ansley, *North Carolina*  
4509 Burlington Mills Road, Wake Forest, NC 27587

**Past President,** Norman Gay, *Georgia*  
P.O. Box 1765, Perry, GA 31069-1765

#### Ex-officio Members

**National FFA Advisor,** Dr. Larry Case  
**National FFA Alumni Executive Director,**  
J. Frank Saldaña

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## Honoring the Past; Celebrating the Present

As the National FFA Alumni Association enters its 36th year of existence, it is fitting to remember how it has grown. In 1971, the association began with nine chartered states. Ronald Squires of Nevada and Lyle Carpenter of Colorado became its first life members. Comprised of 1,182 chartered, active affiliates and more than 46,000 members in 43 states, the association is a strong support organization for numerous FFA chapters. More than \$147,000 was awarded this year in grants, scholarships, and awards.

# Open Letter: Student to Student

## A buffet of opportunity

As a recent college graduate, I remember the fast-paced world of deadlines, exams, and studying. I remember entering this new world and realizing I had some of the most challenging decisions and stressful situations of my life ahead. Thankfully, I realized I was not in it alone; I had my friends and Alumni family to help me.

You are presently at a period in your lives when it is easy to become enveloped in the hectic schedule of college life. You are also at a time when you can benefit most from the organization in which you spent so many hours of your high school career. By remaining involved with the FFA and Alumni during your college years, you can establish a partnership that will be beneficial both to you and other FFA members as well.

As Alumni members, you can meet and interact with people from a variety of backgrounds and locations. Working with these individuals can lead to internships, job opportunities, and experiences that transform your future careers. Your involvement will present you with opportunities to learn skills in team building, communications, and public relations. The connections and networks you build may ultimately last your entire life and change who, and what, you become. They have for me.

My former FFA advisor was known for this remark: "The FFA [Alumni] is just like a buffet. You may try a little, or you may try a lot, but everyone will find something they enjoy, which will nourish them for their entire life."

I encourage you to challenge yourself, be open to and accepting of life's changes, give back to those who have given to you, and embrace each new relationship you make. You never know where life could lead. Most importantly, I encourage you to use each of your talents to help your neighbor, especially a fellow FFA Alumni member.



Joshua Remington  
National FFA Alumni Intern  
jremington@ffa.org



## 2006 National FFA Alumni Incentive Programs

### WLC Scholarship

State Association – one for each 500 members (67 @ \$550)	\$36,850.00
State Association with less than 500 members - \$.75 per member	\$ 3,645.75
Local Affiliate – one/each 250 annual and one/each 100 life (38 @ \$550)	\$20,900.00

**State Rebates** \$12,932.50

**Outstanding Affiliate** \$ 225.00

**Outstanding Pioneer Affiliate** \$ 225.00

**Scrapbook** \$ 225.00

**Local Program Support Grants** \$20,000.00

**American FFA Degree Scholarships** \$ 1,000.00

**Agriculture Teacher College Scholarships** \$ 5,000.00

**Memorial Scholarships** \$ 2,950.00

**State Leaders Conference Grants** \$ 5,250.00

**National Council for Agricultural Education** \$ 5,000.00

**New or Re-activate Affiliate Incentive Program** \$ 1,000.00

**Postsecondary Agriculture Student Association** \$ 1,500.00

**National Association of Agricultural Educators** \$ 6,000.00

**Seeds of Hope** \$10,000.00

**Ag Ed Opportunity Fund** \$14,350.00

**TOTAL** **\$147,053.25\***

\* This amount is \$35,000 more than awarded in 2005.

# 2006 Benefit Auctions Raise Record Funds

## Crowds discover entertainment during the national FFA convention

More than 800 bidders perused some 1,200 auction items and entered into friendly bidding competitions with fellow convention attendees at the 2006 National FFA Alumni live and silent benefit auctions. From bidding on amazing state baskets to drawing the winners' names for the convention giveaway items, the crowd displayed the enthusiasm needed to generate enough funds to provide student scholarships!

This year's live auction was a highlight for convention attendees because it marked the return of a pickup truck to the auction block. Ford Trucks came on board with a 2007 Ford F-150 XLT valued at \$32,000. At the end of the night, Monte Ladner of Mississippi, whom delegates elected as the 2007 National FFA Alumni President, was the winning bidder on the truck with a bid of \$29,000. The live and silent benefit auctions raised more than \$117,000 for student scholarships for the Washington Leadership Conference and collegiate scholarships for students pursuing a career in agricultural education.

### State Basket Contest Results

This year's contest included entries from 15 states. State representatives offered unique and creative "baskets" and proudly displayed their states' commodities and attractions. State associations are encouraged to submit an entry next year and compete for these great prizes!

**Best Overall:** (Received \$550 Washington Leadership scholarship)

- Georgia FFA Alumni Association

**President's Choice:** (Received \$150 registration fee to Alumni State Leaders Conference)

- Oklahoma FFA Alumni Association

**People's Choice:** (Received 100 tickets for a chance to win the 2006 FFA Alumni Convention Giveaway items.)

- Wisconsin FFA Alumni Association

### A Special Thanks

A special thanks is extended to all individuals and organizations that made the auction a tremendous success! This list includes the National FFA Foundation, Ford Trucks, Tractor Supply Company, CNH, Propane Education & Research Council, Cub Cadet, Milton FFA Alumni affiliate, our dedicated volunteers, gracious donors, and the bidders.



Alumni members inspect items up for bid for the National FFA Alumni live benefit auction.

### Local Program Support Grant Recipients

The National FFA Alumni Association annually provides 20 scholarships worth \$1,000 each to local FFA chapters and agricultural education programs. Grant recipients are selected from applicants who demonstrate a need to strengthen or enhance a local program.

#### Chapter/City/State

#### Grant Idea

Northview FFA, Bratt, FL	Horticulture Program Enhancement
Pine Ridge FFA, Deltona, FL	Agricultural Communications Lab
Fannin County FFA, Blue Ridge, GA	Looking to the Future with Technology Upgrades
Franklin County FFA, Carnesville, GA	Increasing Opportunities for Student Improvement
Southeast Whifield FFA, Dalton, GA	RaiderAid
Jasper Middle FFA, Jasper, GA	Barn Restoration
Morgan County FFA, Madison, GA	"Remembering Madison A&M: A Tribute to the Eighth District Ag. & Mech. School"
Perry FFA, Perry, GA	Perry High FFA Nursery Construction
Oconee County FFA, Watkinsville, GA	Promoting Agricultural Awareness and Student Achievement
Eldorado FFA, Eldorado, IL	A Greater Greenhouse
Hiawatha FFA, Hiawatha, KS	O.W.L.S. Schoolyard Habitat
Taylor County FFA, Campbellsville, KY	Taylor County FFA Alumni Photography
Agriculture and Food Science Academy, Vandais Heights, MN	"Greening Up" the Neighborhood
Weir FFA, Weir, MS	Innovation is Incredible!
Pettisville FFA, Pettisville, OH	Expand the FFA Community Recycling Building
North Clackamas FFA, Milwaukie, OR	Technological Documentation of Extended Applications in Agricultural Science
Lexington FFA, Lexington, TN	Student SAE Improvement (SSI)
Decatur FFA, Decatur, TX	Decatur FFA Outreach 2006
Black River Falls FFA, Black River Falls, WI	Creating a FFA Concession Trailer
Tigerton FFA, Tigerton, WI	THS Operation Agriculture Technology 2006

Sponsored in part by 



## Outstanding Affiliate Award Recipients

This award recognizes affiliates for their outstanding accomplishments in supporting and serving agricultural education and FFA.

### Gold

**First:** Denmark FFA Alumni, Denmark, WI

**Second:** Suwannee FFA Alumni, Live Oak, FL

**Third:** Bushnell-Prairie FFA Alumni, Bushnell, IL

Apollo FFA Alumni, Owensboro, KY

Blackhawk FFA Alumni, South Wayne, WI

Stoughton FFA Alumni, Stoughton, WI

## Pioneer Affiliate Award Recipient

This award is designed to recognize newly chartered affiliates, which have been in existence for three years or less, for their outstanding accomplishments in supporting and serving agricultural education and FFA.

### Silver

Wake Forest-Rolesville FFA Alumni, Wake Forest, NC

## Outstanding Achievement Award Recipients

The Outstanding Award is the National FFA Alumni Association's highest award presented to an individual. The purpose of the award is to recognize FFA Alumni members for outstanding service to agricultural education, the FFA, and the FFA Alumni. This very prestigious award is presented on a national level to no more than three people in a given year.

Dale Beaty, Milton, WI

Wally Leander, Hiawatha, KS

Myra Palmer, Ripley, MS

## Distinguished Contributor Award Recipient

The purpose of the Distinguished Contributor Award is to recognize individuals, groups/organizations, or companies for outstanding leadership and service to agricultural education, the FFA, or the FFA Alumni. No more than three awards may be presented on the national level in a given year.

John H. Leiterman, Denmark, WI

## Scrapbook Award Recipients

This contest is designed to encourage affiliates to develop and record their historical background in a systematic, fun and exciting manner throughout the years.

### Gold

**First:** Stoughton FFA Alumni, Stoughton, WI

**Second:** Black Hawk FFA Alumni, South Wayne, WI

**Second:** Jefferson FFA Alumni, Jefferson, WI

**Third:** Cherryvale FFA Alumni, Cherryvale, KS

## Membership Awards

### Overall Percentage of Membership Growth

**First**—Idaho: 94%

**Second**—Connecticut: 88%

**Third**—Pennsylvania: 87%

### Alumni-to-FFA Membership

**First**—Wisconsin Alumni membership reaching 47% of FFA membership

**Second**—Oregon Alumni membership reaching 29% of FFA membership

**Third**—Connecticut Alumni membership reaching 28% of FFA membership

### State with Most Life Members

**First**—Wisconsin

**Second**—Oklahoma

### State with Largest Increase of Members

**First**—Florida

**Second**—Connecticut

### State with Most Members

**First**—Wisconsin

**Second**—Illinois

### Affiliate with Most Life Members

Denmark, Wisconsin

### Affiliate with Most Alumni Members

Denmark, Wisconsin

### States with 100% State Officer Life Membership

Arkansas

Kentucky

Mississippi

Nebraska

Oregon

Wisconsin

## Annual Membership Star System

### Three Star Plus Blazer

Connecticut

Florida

Georgia

Idaho

Illinois

Iowa

Kansas

Michigan

Minnesota

Missouri

North Carolina

North Dakota

Ohio

Oregon

Pennsylvania

Texas

Wisconsin

### Three Stars

Arkansas

### Two Stars

None

### One Star

Tennessee



# Awards Capsule\*

\* For a write-up of each recipient's contributions and a complete listing of convention award recipients in each category, including the Legion of Merit Award, visit the National FFA Alumni website at [www.ffa.org/alumni/](http://www.ffa.org/alumni/).

# FFA Students Attend FFA's Premier Leadership Conference with FFA Alumni Support

In 2006, the National FFA Alumni Association offered direct scholarships to nearly 100 FFA members to attend the Washington Leadership Conference (WLC) held in Washington, D.C., each summer. The proceeds from the association's live and silent benefit auctions held at its annual convention provide the funds for WLC scholarships.

The following information has been provided to help members, volunteers, and supporters understand the magnitude of the FFA Alumni's support for WLC:

- 22 state associations are eligible in 2007 for at least one \$550 WLC Scholarship for a total of 74 scholarships (requires total state membership of at least 500 members)
- 18 state associations are eligible in 2007 for partial scholarships valued from \$39.00-\$365.25 (for total state membership of less than 500 members – 75 cents per member)
- \$550 scholarships will be awarded to Alumni affiliates who had 100 or more life members or 250 annual members

- One-time \$550 WLC scholarships were awarded to seven state associations chosen from a drawing of all states present at the 2006 State Leaders Conference. Conference participants contributed funds for these additional scholarships.

## Obtaining WLC Scholarships

Information packets and required documentation will be mailed to designated state leaders in January 2007. Specific rules may apply, so leaders are encouraged to visit [www.ffa.org/alumni/](http://www.ffa.org/alumni/) for further details. Individual state associations determine how the scholarships are awarded, so local leaders are asked to contact their state representatives to understand how students can apply for a National FFA Alumni WLC scholarship.

## Important WLC Dates, Information

- WLC Registration forms will be available on the FFA website at [www.ffa.org](http://www.ffa.org) beginning March 1, 2007.
- The 2007 WLC runs from Week 1 – June 5-10 through Week 7 – July 24-29.
- The new WLC registration fee for 2007 is \$575.

Three students who benefitted from WLC scholarships in 2006 with their local Alumni representatives (from top): Meaghan Bethea, South Rowan FFA, NC; Tiffany Ragan, Suwannee FFA, FL; Ross Burns, West Bend FFA, IA.



"News You Can Use" is a column designed to keep Alumni members and volunteers informed of valuable and timely information.

## National Convention Survey

The National FFA Organization and its board of directors will be initiating the bid process to select a host city for its annual national convention beginning in 2013. FFA has launched a web survey to collect opinions on important factors related to prospective convention host cities. Survey results will help establish the selection criteria for future FFA and Alumni conventions. Information collected in this survey will not affect the remaining years in Indianapolis. The final host city selection decision will be based on providing the best service and educational value to students and teachers. A scorecard developed from the results of this survey, along with onsite visits by National FFA Board of Directors members and FFA staff, will be the primary tools in selecting the host city. Please take time to complete the 10-minute survey

and share what you believe to be the most important criteria in selecting the next convention host city. Contact others within the agricultural education community and encourage them to participate in the survey as well. The survey will be available through Jan. 31, 2007, and can be accessed at [www.ffa.org/surveys/2013](http://www.ffa.org/surveys/2013).

## Helpful Facts about Agriculture

FFA members gearing up for Food for America presentations and Alumni members looking for ways to bolster support for their programs will want to visit the "Best Food Nation" website at [www.bestfoodnation.com](http://www.bestfoodnation.com). It offers plenty of details about the U.S. food supply to demonstrate it is "among the safest, most affordable and most abundant food supplies in the world." Members of the food and hospitality industries have joined together to tell agriculture's story and share the

positive impact made by each participant along the food chain.

## 2007 All-USA Teacher Team

Nominations are open for the 2007 All-USA Teacher Team, USA TODAY's recognition program for outstanding K-12 teachers. Up to 20 individuals and instructional teams will be featured in the newspaper as representatives of all outstanding teachers. Winners will have their photographs published and their accomplishments noted in the newspaper, and receive trophies and share \$2,500 cash awards with their schools. Teachers can be nominated by anyone willing to describe in writing why they are outstanding; nominees must complete the form explaining how they achieved their success. Nominations are due April 30, 2007. Visit <http://allstars.usatoday.com>.



# Ideas Unlimited

"Ideas Unlimited" is a column designed to provide Alumni members and volunteers with useful ideas, tips, advice to help them build strong Alumni affiliates that support agricultural education programs and FFA chapter.

## Colorado: "Feed Trough"

The Colorado FFA Alumni Association annually holds a prepay barbecue dinner for approximately 500 people during its state FFA convention. The barbecue is held during the state FFA degree dinner, which ensures that other chapter members who will not be attending the dinner with their advisors and degree recipients will eat a good meal without leaving the convention site. Convenience and safety are two major benefits of the "Feed Trough," which has become a huge fundraiser for

Washington Leadership Conference scholarships.

Contact: Shauna Hovey, 970-249-5677 or [shovey@mcsd.k12.co.us](mailto:shovey@mcsd.k12.co.us).

## Oregon: "Regional FFA Alumni Leadership Training Sessions"

The state Alumni association began holding weekend leadership camps; however, time constraints prevented many members from attending. Instead state leaders created new day-long leadership sessions. In 2006, they held two ses-

sions in different parts of the state that covered officer duties, the role of an Alumni affiliate, and the process of training judges for FFA events. Presenters used the new National FFA Alumni Volunteer Development Resource CD-ROM as an aide. The leaders and advisors of FFA chapters without active Alumni affiliates were invited to attend the sessions to learn about the benefits of having one.

Contact: Cindy Ettestad, 503-829-2530 or [cetestad@yahoo.com](mailto:cetestad@yahoo.com).

## LPS Grant Report

### Grant Permits Chapter to Expand FFA Community Recycling Center

A National FFA Alumni Local Program Success (LPS) Grant allowed Pettisville, Ohio, FFA and Alumni leaders to raise the funds needed to complete a 20 foot extension of the chapter community recycling center. Leaders had agreed in late 2005 to expand the center, using donations and Alumni funds for the proposed construction. Leaders submitted a grant in 2006 in order to buy steel for the ceiling, paint for the walls, and collection units. A successful grant allowed them to keep project costs under the previously agreed upon cap of \$9,000 for building expenses.

The center is supervised by Alumni members and operated by the chapter's 50-plus members who are in charge of cleaning, sorting, and collecting recycled products. Student rotations include manning the center for a Saturday and managing the facility with a student partner over a two-week period. While there is no way to determine the number of consumers served by the center, Poulson explains the amount of work routinely keeps 5-7 FFA members and an Alumni supervisor busy for nearly four hours on a Saturday recycling day.

Moreover, Poulson hopes the construction helped teach FFA members specific building trade skills.

### Need Becomes Critical

The expansion will improve the ability of residents to leave their recyclables at any time, not just on designated Saturdays of the month, and make collections more efficient. The decision to build the extension was sparked initially by the need to increase the number of products

collected from seven to 12. For about five years now, the center has been too small for FFA members to sort collected material efficiently undercover. The extension will add extra space for this task.

### Construction on Schedule

As of December 2006, only improvements to the windows, the ceiling, and new signage remain to be completed. Students and Alumni have been using the new addition as a sorting area and as a place for collecting plastics. The expansion permits residents to recycle 14 products, including aluminum and bimetal cans; aluminum foil; cardboard; various clear and colored plastics; newspapers; magazines; clear, green, and brown glass bottles; and used cell phones and printer cartridges.

For more information about the program, contact John Poulson at [pet\\_aca\\_jp@nwoca.org](mailto:pet_aca_jp@nwoca.org).

*See LPS Grant Report continued on page 8*

### Center Integral to Instruction, Community Recycling

In 1995, Alumni and FFA members built the center with grants. The facility is located on school property near a community park, a common destination for families.

The recycling center has been an integral part of the local school curriculum for a decade. As part of the agriscience curriculum, instructor John Poulson teaches several environmental science units, which cover soils, air, water, recycling, forestry, wildlife, and other related topics. The center reinforces the principles learned in the classroom and is tied to the chapter's community service outreach, Poulson adds.



Pettisville agricultural business students help workers from two local businesses pour the concrete floor for the new extension. The concrete was donated. The company that directed the pouring provided discounts on the materials.



Pettisville agricultural science students conduct some final grading by hand of the area in front of the new addition.





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### 2006 Corporate Member

Skip's Western Outfitters, Osteen, Florida

### 2006 Alumni Drawing Winners

- \$1,000 American Degree Scholarship: Fawn Dauer, Springfield, MN
- \$1,000 New/Reactivating Alumni Affiliate: Fessenden-Bowdon FFA Alumni Affiliate, Fessenden, ND. FFA Advisor: Lane Moellenkamp

### 2006 Convention Giveaway Winners

- Cub Cadet Lawn Mower: Ann Runner, Colchester, IL
- iPod: Jerry Huter, Sebring, FL

### Convention Moments

Top Photo (left to right): Newly elected National FFA Alumni President Monte Ladner poses with his wife Mary Lou and National FFA Alumni Executive Director J. Frank Saldaña after he purchased the Ford pickup during live benefit auction for \$29,000.



Bottom Photo: Delegates and attendees share a lighter moment during the awards session at the 35th National FFA Alumni Convention held for the first time in Indianapolis, Indiana.



*LPS Grant Report continued from page 7*

### Scope of Service

Over 43 tons of product have been collected annually and recycled at no cost to the consumer through the Pettisville FFA Community Recycling Center. The estimated annual savings is \$2,100. The Fulton County, Ohio, government runs a recycling program consisting of 7-9 small communities, including Pettisville. Government officials provide containers, pick up the collected products, and deliver them to the Wauseon Recycling Center, which in turn sends a check to the Pettisville FFA Chapter.

### Timeline of Work

- November 2005: Alumni and FFA leaders approve plan and budget.
- February 2006: Professionals draw construction plans, which are then state certified.
- April-May 2006: Construction starts with donations of time and material; an Alumni member who is a contractor agrees to coordinate the project.
- December 2006: Containers delivered and added to the center, which is reorganized.
- November 2007: Payments for work will be completed.

Besides securing an LPS Grant, Pettisville Alumni and FFA leaders also applied for community grants with the Ohio Rural Development Office through the Ohio FFA Foundation and received donations from at least six local businesses.