

Career Development Event Rule Changes

Please be aware that the National FFA Organization has made rule changes to the National FFA Organization Career Development Event Handbook. These changes will be in effect for our 2002-2003 State Career Development Events, both those held at the State Convention and at State CDEs Jun 17 - 18, 2003.

The Local Program Resources Guide 2002-03 CD-Rom that all of you received this summer has the updated version of the CDE Handbook. If you are using this current CD-Rom as your handbook you **do not** need to change anything, it is up to date.

If you currently have the 2001-2005 CDE Handbook in hardcopy form, or have downloaded pages from the 2001-2002 Local Program Success CD-ROM or FFA On-Line www.ffa.org, you will need to remove these pages and replace with the correct ones. Below is an outline of the sections that contain changes this year.

Handbook Section Pages to replace

Introduction

Agricultural Communications 11-18

Agricultural Issues Forum 25-28

Agricultural Mechanics 31-36 and 41-42

Agricultural Sales 43-50

Environmental & Natural Resources 97-98, 100-101, 101.1-101.2 and 102

Food Science & Technology 155-158

Nursery & Landscape 219-228

Parliamentary Procedure 231-236

Poultry Evaluation 239-246

Prepared Public Speaking 249-250

Appendix Index 255-256

Appendix – Score Cards Replace complete section

These changes are available on your 2002-03 CDE Handbook and online at ffa.org.

****NEW**** Please consult the complete list of members you have included on your roster to-date on the second tab marked "Member List". This list is alphabetical by chapter and alphabetical by student within each chapter. Please carefully check for missed students or students who have paid their dues since submission of your original roster. The **"Supplemental/Add-on Excel Membership Template (Zip)"** for adding additional members is now available at the Membership Support Center Website:

This form duplicates the original roster minus the School & Chapter Pages. It is zipped just like the original form, but you are now all experts at unzipping, completing and emailing Excel files. I can also email the unzipped form to you and I will of course be happy to help at anytime.

Utah FFA Advisory Board Meeting

Date: February 19, 2003

Time: 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Place: North Sanpete High School
390 East 700 South
Mt. Pleasant, Utah

The agenda and supporting materials have been sent by a separate e-mail and by mail. If you cannot attend this meeting please find a representative to attend in your absence. Please RSVP that you will or will not be attending. Thank you for all that you do for the Utah FFA Association.

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The Yellow Dog

January 2003
Winter Edition

A Wellpublished
publication.



North Summit High School Ag. Teacher Selected for Educator Award

*Katie Thalman with Tom Hughes of John Deere,
Outstanding Young Member Sponsor*

LAS VEGAS, NEV. – Katie Lynn Thalman, Coalville, Utah, is one of six individuals who received the NAAE Outstanding Young Member Award on December 11 at the NAAE annual conference held in Las Vegas.

Success is what Katie Thalman has achieved during her years at North Summit High School. She was offered the job by the school's administration with one condition: the program must grow and be successful on the local and state level or the program and her job would be gone. That is a lot of pressure for a recent college graduate. Little did the administration know that Thalman had some goals of her own: "to be an effective and inspiring agricultural education teacher and FFA advisor and to be an ambassador the the professional organizations that support agricultural education and the National FFA Organization." Thalman has accomplished her goal.

Thalman teaches her classes with hands-on activities, lectures, student presentations, readings and discussions with an understanding that all students deserve a fair and equal chance to be educated. All of her students participate in supervised agricultural experiences (SAEs) and have the option of attending the summer agriculture program, which awards credits towards their graduation, allows them to work on their SAEs, and allows them to tour different businesses in the state.

Katie Thalman is also active in the NAAE,

serving as the co-chair for the public relations committee. She is an officer for the Utah Vocational Agriculture Teacher's Association. Her success is due to her firm beliefs in what an agricultural education program should be and her persistence in her professional organizations.

Each of the six regional winners received a plaque, cash award, and expenses paid to attend the annual conference in Las Vegas. John Deere sponsors the Outstanding Young Member Award.

Win a trip to Washington D.C.

FFA members can win a trip to Washington, D.C., when they enter the 2003 Risk Management Writing Contest. Encourage your members to write a 1000 word essay on "Risk Management Strategies for your SAE" and submit it to the National FFA Center. All entries must be postmarked by Jan. 31, 2003. Ten lucky winners and their advisors will receive an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C., where they will meet with top U.S. Department of Agriculture officials and tour our nation's capital. A resource guide and contest rules will be mailed to all chapters in December. Contest information and last year's winning essays are posted at ffa.org. Please note the new requirements for 2003.

Contact: Andrea McNeely, <mailto:amcneely@ffa.org>, 317-802-4288. The contest is offered by the National FFA Organization in cooperation with the National Council for Agricultural Education and with funding from the Risk Management Agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

Scholarship guidebook now available: The 2003 scholarship guidebooks and applications have been mailed to all FFA advisors and guidance counselor offices. If you have not received a copy of the scholarship book/application, please contact the scholarship office to request one. Students will also be able to download the application from ffa.org at <http://www.ffa.org/programs/schapp/index.html>. All scholar-

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\$400,000 in scholarships for FFA members

Ford Trucks and its local dealers sponsor over \$400,000 in scholarships for FFA members across the country. Ford matches local dealers' contributions to award \$1,000 scholarships to local high school senior FFA members in their trade areas. The number of scholarships this year (so far) is 472! That number continues to grow daily!

We need your help to make sure every scholarship is awarded. Last year there were certain areas where we did not receive any applicants, and **\$60,000 in Ford Trucks scholarships went unawarded!** Fortunately, most of the dealers who didn't have any applicants for their scholarships have signed on again this year.

A list of participating Ford Dealers can be found on our website, www.ffa.org. Please correspond with chapters in your state between now and February 15 and encourage them to have their students apply for the scholarships. If many scholarships go unawarded again this year, we are in danger of losing this money in the future.

As always, a Ford F-Series Truck will be given to one lucky chapter! To qualify, the chapter must:

1. Be from a participating Ford dealer trade area.
2. Have at least three complete, qualified high school senior scholarship applications. (If a chapter has more than three completed applications, the three highest scores will be used.)
3. All applicants must be FFA members.

If you have questions about the program, please reply to this e-mail or call the toll-free number we have set up for Ford questions - 800-769-3105.

Continued from page 1

Trip

ship applications must be postmarked by Feb. 15, 2003. More than \$2 million in scholarships is available through this program. Do your students have the right combination of community service, FFA involvement, leadership skills and SAE development? Encourage them to apply today! Contact: Carrie Powers, scholarships@ffa.org.

Nominate teachers to test pilot materials: More than 150 agriculture teachers from across the country are needed to test pilot the leadership, personal growth and career success instructional materials being developed through funding by a USDA grant, Leadership for Rural Youth: Essential Leadership Through Agricultural Education and FFA, and sponsorship by John Deere through the National FFA Foundation. Three types of teachers are preferred: first or second year teachers; teachers recognized in your state for developing leadership skills; and teachers with at least five years of experience in a program strong in classroom, SAE and FFA. Please nominate at least three teachers from your state, one in each category. You are welcome to nominate as many teachers as you'd like, and you are welcome to share this notice with any or all of the teachers in your state and have them directly contact FFA. Teachers need to be available to teach six or seven lessons during Feb. 10-21 and participate in a conference call with the writer of the lesson sometime during Feb. 27 March 3.

Contact: Seth Derner, <<mailto:sderner@ffa.org>>, 317-802-4413. To send nominations, contact Kim Henry, <<mailto:khenry@ffa.org>> or send to the National FFA Center directly to Kim.

Ventura. About 4,800 commercial and noncommercial flocks in this area remain under quarantine and will be checked for END.

END does not pose a threat to humans or to food, but it is a foreign animal disease that is deadly for nearly all species of birds. END-infected birds may sneeze, gasp for air, or cough, and develop muscular tremors or paralysis. While some birds may have greenish, watery diarrhea, other infected birds may show no signs prior to death. Infected birds can spread the virus through their droppings or by secretions from their nose, mouth or eyes. The virus can stay alive for several weeks and can be carried to new sites on contaminated shoes, clothing, equipment, trucks, manure or even feathers. That is why bird and poultry movement is prohibited from the quarantine zone, and trucks, equipment and other items must be disinfected prior to movement. Everyone must comply with quarantines.

In addition to complying with movement restrictions, bird and poultry owners can protect their flocks by practicing good biosecurity:

- * Report unusual death losses or illness in the flock to their veterinarian, or state department of animal health.
- * Don't keep pet birds on commercial poultry operations. Employees must not maintain their own birds or poultry, as they could carry bacteria or viruses from their birds to the commercial flock.
- * Disinfect tires and the undercarriages of all vehicles as they enter or leave the farm or premise (no 'germs in,' no 'germs out').
- * Disinfect footwear prior to entering or leaving poultry houses. Wear clean clothes when working with birds.
- * Avoid visiting other poultry operations. Dangerous bacteria and viruses can be transported from one farm to another.
- * Know the health status of the flocks when buying new birds. Keep new birds segregated for 30 days prior to adding them to a flock.
- * Maintain good records on purchases and sales. If a disease problem arises, these documents can help animal health officials track and eradicate disease.

Donald E. Bixby, DVM
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New Utah FFA Website

Thanks to Debra Spielmaker and Yasuko Mitsuoka, Utah Agriculture in the Classroom, the Utah FFA Association has a new and much improved website. The website, the result of a USOE project grant, is very creative and professionally done.

If you haven't seen this website yet check it out at www.utahffa.org. If you can't access it through this URL then simply go to the Agricultural Education website at <http://www.usoc.k12.ut.us/ate/ag/ag.htm> and click on the FFA Student Leadership button. This will take you to the new FFA homepage and all of the FFA information you could ever ask for. If you are still having trouble...just ask one of your students to find it for you.

The new site contains directories, calendar of activities, FFA history and constitution, State Officer pictures, the Utah Recordbook, all required applications, scholarship information, sponsor highlights and links to other FFA and agricultural education sites.

There is also a site called FFA Reconnect. This is a link to the National FFA Homepage, which allows former FFA members to register in the database and reconnect to the FFA Organization and Utah FFA Association. If you are a former member and haven't registered yet please take the time to go to this URL <http://www.ffa.org/reconnect/> and reconnect with the FFA.

Grant Opportunity

These grants are not directly sponsored by FFA, but could be beneficial to FFA chapters or Alumni affiliates. Contact should be with website below.

State Farm Good Neighbor *Service-Learning* Award Available for Youth Service Day Projects

Deadline: February 21, 2003

The State Farm Good Neighbor Service-Learning Award is available to *teachers and youth* (ages 5 to 25) to implement service-learning projects on National Youth Service Day 2003, April 11-13.

National Youth Service Day, the largest service event in the world, mobilizes youth to identify and address the needs of their communities through service; recruits the next generation of volunteers; and educates the public about the year-round contributions of young people as community leaders. *Fifty grants of \$500 are available to youth and fifty grants of \$1,500 are available to teachers.*

Grant recipients will be required to use grant funds to complete a service project on one or more of the designated dates for National Youth Service Day, April 11-13, 2003; post their projects on the National Youth Service Day Web site (); and complete a post-event evaluation form.

Applications are available online at that Youth Service America Web site.

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Alert! Exotic Newcastle Disease

Spreads from California to Nevada 8

On January 16th, Nevada officials announced that Exotic Newcastle Disease (END), a foreign animal disease deadly to birds and poultry, has been confirmed in a flock of 30 chickens near Las Vegas. Since October 2002, when it was detected in the U.S., the outbreak of this highly contagious viral disease had been confined to Southern California. Animal health officials are warning bird and poultry owners to comply with movement prohibitions on birds and related products from the quarantined areas in California and Nevada.

"This disease is a dire threat not only to the poultry industry, but also to poultry conservationists and fanciers," asserts Donald Bixby, DVM, Director of Technical Programs for the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy. "We could see this parallel the disaster of Foot and Mouth Disease in the UK if it is not brought under control."

To stop the spread of disease, state and federal regulatory personnel have imposed restrictions on the movement of birds and poultry products in an affected area. END-infected and exposed birds and flocks must be euthanized and disposed of properly. The premises then must be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected to ensure the virus has been killed.

A task force of more than 700 state and federal animal health employees from across the country are battling END in Southern California, where the federal quarantine has been expanded to eight counties. Nearly 1,250 noncommercial flocks and five commercial poultry operations in this area have been infected or exposed to END. Southern California counties currently included in the quarantine area are Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernadino, Santa Barbara, San Diego and

State FFA Officer Application Information & Forms - Due February 1, 2003

Please carefully consider your FFA members and encourage the outstanding leaders to run for State FFA Office. This will be an outstanding opportunity for them to learn and grow while serving their fellow FFA members.

The State Officer Application Packet includes the following forms:

1. Utah FFA Association State Officer Application
2. Utah FFA Association State Officer Commitment Form
3. Utah FFA Association State Officer Candidate Video Interview Questions 2002-03
4. 2002-03 State FFA Officer Candidate Essay Question

Please review Chapter IV. of the Chapter Guide to State FFA Activities 2001-2005 pg. 10-11 in order to help your State Officer Candidates prepare. This chapter has all of the rules regarding applying for State FFA Office (these pages are included in the attached information).

State Officer Applications are due in the hands of the State Executive Secretary by February 1, 2003.

Brett Evans will gladly take calls to answer questions from potential candidates, parents of candidates or you as their advisor. Please be sure that your students are aware of the opportunity to run for State FFA Office and to serve on the State Officer Nominating Committee.



UVATA officers attend a NAAE convention in Las Vegas. (Why are they smiling?)

Agricultural Education Program

A Vision for Utah Agricultural Education - All Utah citizens will have an appreciation for agriculture and the environment. Agricultural Education students will develop essential career preparation skills through technical and experiential education as well as personal leadership opportunities.

The Mission of Agricultural Education - The mission of the Agricultural Education Program is to prepare students for employment and/or continuing education opportunities in agriculture through technical instruction in the classroom, experiential education through the laboratory and the Supervised Agricultural Experience Program, and leadership and personal development through the FFA.

FFA - The FFA is an integral and necessary component of the overall program. The FFA is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of young people by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. The FFA has 457,278 members in 7,312 chapters across the nation with approximately 3000 of those members located in Utah in 65 chapters. Approximately 35% of the FFA membership in Utah is female. More than 850 FFA members attend our annual State FFA Convention and bring over 200 parents, advisors, school administrators, and guests. Over 51,000 members and guests attended the 2002 National FFA Convention.

Supervised Agricultural Experience Program - The supervised agricultural experience program (SAEP) is an integral and necessary component of the agricultural education program. Here students apply, in real life situations, the concepts that they learn in the classroom and the laboratory. At the entry level the SAEP can be exploratory in nature but as the student progresses in the program, the SAEP should become more occupationally oriented. Quality SAEP are identified by the following characteristics; supervised year-round by the agricultural education teacher, records are kept by the student, and a personal investment of time, energy and/or money are included and essential.

Career Preparation and Economic Development - American FFA Degree: 52 Utah FFA members earned the American FFA Degree in 2002

See Program on page 4

To receive this recognition students must have earned and invested at least \$7,500 in an SAEP. This group reported total earnings of \$1,274,233 for an average of \$24,504 per student. Over the past six years this premier group of 262 students has reported total earnings of \$7,089,116. **State FFA Degree;** Over 200 students earned the State FFA Degree in 2002. To receive this recognition students must have earned and invested at least \$1,000 in an SAEP. **SAEP;** In 1997 the combined total earnings for the American and State FFA Degree recipients was \$2,412,973. This small group of students represents just 8% of Utah's FFA membership and 2.5% of the total number of students enrolled in agricultural education classes. You do the math, agricultural education, FFA, and SAEP is an unrivaled tool for preparing students for employment and/or continuing education opportunities, leadership development and personal growth.

The State of Our Nation's Youth is an annual national survey of the attitudes and beliefs of typical American teenagers conducted by the Horatio Alger Association. The 1999 report was used for comparison in a Purdue University study, which identified the differences and similarities between the typical high school student, as identified in the study, and agricultural education-FFA students. The results of the study indicated that agricultural education students who are also FFA members possess attitudes and exhibit behaviors indicating they benefit more from their personal, academic and career experiences during school than the general student population. This theme is supported by three key messages and corresponding data:

FFA members are more enthusiastic about and attach greater value to their school studies than the average student. FFA members are more actively engaged in school and community activities. (90% of FFA members vs. 77% of typical students.) FFA members are more likely to believe that the harder they study the more opportunities they will have after graduation. FFA members felt that their agriculture courses were much more challenging, interesting and exciting than typical students felt about their classes in general.

FFA members are more likely than the average student to relate personal effort to success and believe it is important do their best. FFA members are more likely to believe the amount of work they do in school is important to their success later in life. (91% vs. 66% of typical students.)

FFA members are more likely to believe it is important to do their best in all of their classes. (93% vs. 73% of typical students.)

FFA members are preparing for post-secondary studies in slightly higher numbers and have more sharply defined career objectives than the average student.

FFA members are slightly more likely to attend two-year and four-year colleges. (86% of FFA members vs. 84% of typical students.) FFA members are much more likely to identify a career goal in agriculture.

FFA members are more likely to identify a specific career rather than a general field.

FFA members are more likely to be employed while in high school. (86% FFA members vs. 61.5%.)

100 Scholarships of \$1,500 each

Available from Monsanto and the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture

The Commitment to Agriculture Scholarship Program, sponsored by Monsanto and the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture, offers high school seniors from farm families assistance with college expenses. To be considered for a scholarship, a student must:

1. Be a high school senior enrolled in the United States
2. Have family actively engaged in production agriculture
3. Not have a family member employed by Farm Bureau or Monsanto
4. Plan to pursue a career in agriculture
5. Enroll in a college or university for the fall semester of 2003
6. Have an average or above average academic record

An impartial selection committee composed of agricultural educators and agribusiness people (excluding the sponsors) will select 100 winners. In evaluating the applicants, the committee will consider leadership in community and school activities, involvement on the farm and responses to essay questions.

Because Monsanto and the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture wish to remain completely impartial in the selection of winners, the National FFA Organization Scholarship Program administers this program. The FFA offers over \$2 million in scholarships, which are described on its web site: www.ffa.org/programs/schapp/index.html

Scholarship

The application for the Commitment to Agriculture Scholarship Program can be accessed at: in both Excel 2000 and Excel 5.0 formats. Complete the form and mail it to the FFA Organization before the February 15 deadline. **DO NOT E-MAIL THE APPLICATION TO THE FFA.** Questions about this scholarship program should be addressed to the National FFA Organization, Indianapolis, IN 317-802-4321.

A Pat on the Back

Katie Thalman

Region One Outstanding Young NAAE Member 2002

Congratulations son, good job young lady, way to go guys, awesome, outstanding, amazing! How many times do we tell our students these things? For some of us it is everyday for others once a week, and for many it is every class period. How many times do we hear these phrases directed towards us as teachers? How many times are we acknowledged for the amazing work we are doing, directing students towards premier leadership, personal growth and career success?

Ag educators teach their students to step out of their comfort zones, by trying something new such as a contest, proficiency award or a Star state award. Ag teachers also encourage their students to run for office, try for nom com or become a committee chairman. If we are working so hard to teach our students about leadership and awards, the best learning tool is to set the example. One way this can be accomplished is by applying for an NAAE award. In December, I had the opportunity to travel to Las Vegas for five, fun-filled and free days of motivating workshops, regenerating sessions and a few pats on the back of encouragement and congratulations from peers as well as strangers. Having been awarded the Outstanding Young Member award has been a great experience and one that is worth the time and effort it takes to fill out the application. Not only is the monetary value worth it, but the pride in being able to say to my students, I did it, why can't you.

I encourage everyone to take a chance to look at the applications. There are programs and teachers in this state better than the ones that are this year's national award winners. You simply need to step out of your comfort zone and find the time to give yourself and your program a pat on the back.

Practice Parliamentary Procedure Contest

Wasatch and Lehi FFA Chapters will be hosting a practice Parliamentary Procedure Contest at Wasatch High School on January 28, 2003. We will begin at 10 a.m. in the Wasatch Mountain Jr. High Auditorium, which is just south of the high school. You can bring as many teams as you wish, for a registration fee of \$5 per team. We will have a preliminary round and a final round, immediately following each other, to get you home ASAP. Please RSVP to jolene.christensen@m.wasatch.k12.ut.us or 435-654-0640 x 3737, by January 24, 2003. Hope to see you there. The new Utah FFA Website <http://www.utahffa.org> website is up and running. If you have problems with this address or the address takes you to the USOE website then you need to delete your temporary internet files and try again. It looks really great thanks to Debra Spielmaker and her Ag In The Classroom crew.