



“Visions of Blue, Hearts of Gold”

Volume 2- Issue 1

December 2007

Colorado FFA Today

From June to December- Six Months to Remember!



2007-2008 State Officer Team at National Convention

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From the nominating committee report at the 2007 State Convention, to meeting over 1,000 members at BIG Conference, and visiting amazing chapters across the state, it's safe to say that this year has been one to remember.

After attending three leadership trainings, the officer team started planning for the 2nd annual BIG Conference. I am elated to report that 981 FFA members attended the BIG

Conference, which is a 20% attendance increase from last year.

In October, several members met in Colorado Springs for MFE/ALD. 340 members dedicated two full days to leadership lessons brought to them from National FFA.

Just three weeks later, we were headed to Indianapolis for the 80th National Convention! We were inspired by keynote speakers, involved in workshops,

and captivated by the city. Thank you all who attended for representing Colorado FFA so well. (For a detailed list of competitors please refer to page 2).

The officer team has had a blast with Chapter Visits. This year the workshops were created using Dr. Tim Elmore's book, Habitudes.

Thank you to all chapters for being so hospitable.

Want to see your Chapter in the Newsletter?

-Send a 150 word article to:
njager@coloradoffa.org

-Be sure to include a photo with each article

Congratulations

CDE Team		Chapter	Placing
Ag. Communications		Weld Central	Bronze
Agronomy		Flagler	Silver
Ag. Issues		Windsor	Bronze
Ag. Mechanics		Fruita	Gold
Ag. Sales		Stratton	Bronze
Creed Speaking	Shelby Cochran	Windsor	Silver
Dairy Cattle		Platte Valley	Silver
Extemp. Speaking	Sarah Clark	Karval	Silver
Farm Business Mngt.		Stratton	Silver
Floriculture		Warren Tech	Bronze
Horse Evaluation		Wiggings	Gold
Job Interview	Lisa Brown	Weld Central	Silver
Livestock Evaluation		St. Vrain Valley	Gold
Meats Evaluation		Moffat County	Silver
Marketing Plan		Douglas County	Silver
Parliamentary Procedure		Douglas County	Gold
Prepared Speaking	Megan Hamilton	Rifle	Bronze
Agriscience Fair	Stratton	Grant Slinger	National Finalist
Proficiency Awards			
Landscape Management		Brian Kailey Merino	National Finalist
National Chapter Awards- Models of Innovation:			
Chapter Development		McClave	National Finalist
Student Development		Liberty	National Finalist
Talent		Danica Baker	Arickaree
Band		Amber Temple	Wiley
Chorus		Josh Gibbs	Fort Morgan

Chapter Happenings

Plateau Valley FFA Off to a Great Start by Kelsi Hill and Ryan Satterfield

Plateau Valley FFA Chapter members know first hand that things are not as easy as they seem. Members are excited about the new addition of an agricultural education program and hope that the new agriculture program will bring new opportunities to the school. The chapter has held three successful chapter meetings and are looking forward to their Christmas party and a trip to Stock Show.

Kelsi Hill and Jeff Jagoda took first and second place in the Job

The Ag Issues team Kelsi Hill, Keisha MacPherson, Kori Muller, Ashley Travis, Megan Hill, and Jeff Jagoda, also took first place.

In addition our chapter is developing CDE teams and educating members about official dress. It may be a lot of work, but this year's officer team is determined in making a strong chapter. The support of our local community has been incredible. At the November Chapter Meeting, the chapter proudly accepted a donation for FFA supplies from the Colorado FFA Foundation.



Pictured above is the Plateau Valley FFA Officer team with State FFA Officers and FFA Foundation Repre-

Hoehne FFA Speaks Up by Mark McDonald, Hoehne FFA Reporter



Pictured above, Hohne FFA members give speeches fighting against the Pinon Canyon Expansion.

The Hoehne FFA has taken a successful and critical role in its community. Our chapter has been very involved in the opposition of the Pinon Canyon expansion. Our members have taken a role to stop this action and to save our community. Recently, members attended a hearing from U.S. Senator John Salazar and from Congressman Mark Udall. Members from the Hoehne FFA chapter shared their feelings about the expansion to the congressmen. Also, members attended a meeting in Trinidad to oppose a striker brigade that would help in the expansion of Pinon Canyon. FFA members have also given speeches to the community to oppose the brigade.

Kyra Aubuchon, and Mark McDonald. While at Convention, the members attended sessions where they heard from speakers such as Rick Rigsby and Mark Sanborn and also received a Three Star National Chapter Award. The members visited the Indianapolis Speedway and Indiana Downs. Hoehne FFA members had the time of their lives and walked away with a life changing experience.

Hoehne FFA is active in the P.A.L.S. (partners in active learning support) program. Every month we have new chairman that creates activities that involve both the FFA members and the second grade class. They work as a t team to teach the second graders the importance of Agriculture.

McClave FFA Wins National Chapter Award by Nicole Idler

To start off the summer the McClave FFA Chapter had the annual officer retreat at the John Martin Reservoir.

During the three days, we worked on teambuilding, goals,

the POA, and even had a little bit of fun.

Later in the summer, the chapter held a family day at the John Martin Reservoir. We invited all FFA members, upcoming freshman, and their families to join us for a day of fun in the sun

We were able to go tubing, swimming, and some even learned how to wake-board. The family day at the lake was a great time of fellowship and was a worthwhile activity.

Convention for the National Chapter Award winners. Four seniors and four sophomores attended the 80th National Convention in Indianapolis.

Colorado Grows Another National Officer

INDIANAPOLIS - When Morgan Parker attended his first national FFA convention, he saw 50,000 FFA members united by not only a blue jacket, but also a common work ethic, enthusiasm for agriculture and determination to succeed. This

ignited a passion in him to reach one of the organization's highest levels of service.

The Limon High School FFA chapter member from Limon, Colo., achieved his goal as he was named the 2007-2008 National FFA Central Region Vice President during the 80th National FFA Convention in Indianapolis. He was among six individuals selected from a field of 40 to hold national office.

He is the son of Kipp and Paula Parker, and his FFA advisor is Cody Weber.

Fulfilling his position will require traveling more than 100,000 miles; meeting top leaders in business, government and education; visiting approxi-

ments made by each student running for office. Nominees must first qualify on the state level to represent their particular state FFA associations. They then submit an in-depth application, detailing their accomplishments and contributions to the community, along with an essay detailing why they desire to be elected to the position. Once at the convention, candidates participate in five rounds of interviews, take an in-depth written test on the organization and agricultural education topics and complete two writing exercises. A panel of nine state FFA officers comprises the nominating committee that proposes the slate of six officers for approval by the convention delegates.

A student at Kansas State University, Parker is a member of FarmHouse fraternity. He also serves as an Agriculture Ambassador and a member of the Kansas State Student Alumni Board.



Services. He also sang in the National FFA Chorus for two years and was a featured soloist.

"My desire to serve comes from my passion for seeing people succeed," he says. FFA member, supporter, advisor and onlooker across the nation has incredible potential."

The FFA organization of 500,823 student members - as part of 7,358 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

For more information, visit www.ffa.org

"My desire to serve comes from my passion for seeing people succeed."

mately 40 states; and

participating in an international experience tour to Japan. His responsibilities will include providing personal growth and leadership training for students, setting policies that shape the future of the organization and promoting agricultural literacy.

The national FFA officer selection process is intense and represents an assessment of years of academic and extracurricular accomplish-

Parker's high school did not have an FFA chapter until his sophomore year; he helped charter the chapter himself by talking with the principal, conducting student interests' surveys and visiting with other FFA chapters in his area. As an FFA member Parker's Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) consisted of four enterprises: Technology Management, Swine Production, Agricultural Communications and Agriculture

This is the first time in history that Colorado has had two consecutive National Officers.



More Chapter Happenings

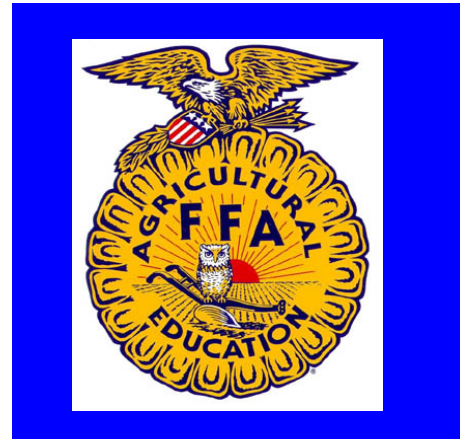
Flagler FFA

The Flagler FFA chapter has had a busy start of the school year. Junior and senior members participated in the state range judging contest on October 3rd and came out with a gold and 1st place overall.

Flagler had many members attend National Convention this year also. Flagler's agronomy team (Weston Charles, Bryant Elrick, Kelsey Burns and Philip Witt) competed at nationals and received silver and 13th overall. Three Flagler High School alumni (Jamie Witt, Jed Michal,

and Emily Craig) received their American degrees at this year's convention as well. Seven other members attended and enjoyed the great experience!

Flagler's freshman members recently participated in their first CDE, the Creed Speaking Contest. In first place was Samantha Lombardo and in second place was Jordan Rogers. Coming up on Flagler's agenda is Prepared and Extemporaneous Public speaking contests. The Parli Pro team has also been practicing up for the district contest.



Show Me the Money!

Do you want to get rewarded for your hard work you put into your Supervised Agricultural Experience or SAE? Do you want to prove how successful your SAE is to the entire state? Does the chance to be recognized on stage at the 79th annual FFA Convention excite you? Do you want to be awarded money? Well, here is your chance to shine!

By filling out Proficiency Award applications, you may possibly be well on your way to victory. For every SAE there is an award application you can fill out. Another bonus to filling out the applications is if your application is one of the top applications in the state, you will receive cash prizes. That's right, cold, hard cash for all proficiency winners. In addition to winning money at the state level, state winning applications are sent in to Nationals for a chance at becoming a national finalist and

winning even more money! Who knew that filling out one application could lead to such honors and riches? Ask your Agricultural Education advisor for assistance in getting the application started; after all you have nothing to lose!

Do you want to prove how successful your SAE is to the entire state?

Dates to Remember!

January 12-27: National Western Stock Show

January 22: FFA Day at the Stock Show

January 29-31: Colorado Farm Show

February 16-24: Colorado Home and Garden Show

February 15: National FFA Scholarship applications due
State Degree applications due

February 16-23: FFA Week

February 28: Hall of Fame Banquet
Governor's Forum on Colorado Agriculture

Look for more upcoming dates on our website: www.coloradoffa.org



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Features in January

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Chapter Updates

Meet two State Officers:

-Stock Show Recap

-
Fun ways to celebrate FFA
Week

We're Online!
www.coloradoffa.org



Contact Your State Officers

State President-

Brianna Bushner

bbushner@coloradoffa.org

State V. President-

Rachel Hornung

rhornung@coloradoffa.org

State Secretary-

Kari Livingston

klivingston@coloradoffa.org

State Treasurer

Kristyn Wagner

kwagner@coloradoffa.org

State Reporter

Nichelle Jaeger

njaeger@coloradoffa.org

State Sentinel

Kenzie Koehn

kkoehn@coloradoffa.org

State Executive Committee:

Nytasha Hueller

nhueller@coloradoffa.org

Dalton Hindmarsh

dhindmarsh@coloradoffa.org

Shannon Werner

swerner@coloradoffa.org

Sadie Saylor

ssaylor@coloradoffa.org