

Corduroy Connections

Minnesota FFA Alumni Association Newsletter
July 2012

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Greetings from President Judy Barka

I can't believe May is done and summer is already here. Kids are done with school and when we start counting there are only 58 days to the start of the Meeker County Fair. 17 days after the our fair ends the Minnesota State Fair Starts and of course on the Tuesday after that school starts. The summer is already flying by.



I want to draw your attention to a couple things: First I encourage all of you to join the MN FFA Foundation's Legacy Club. Legacy Club Funds will:

- ❖ support the development of new and existing chapters;
- ❖ Support presented to chapters throughout the state and
- ❖ Your support provides students an opportunity to explore careers in agriculture while developing into leaders for agriculture and their local communities.

Go to the Minnesota FFA Foundation's website www.mnffaafoundation.org where you can join on-line or download the information.

The MN FFA Alumni is currently looking for candidates for the **Day-Frederick Award**. This award is given in recognition to individuals who have dedicated a lifetime of service to the FFA and FFA Alumni. Recipients do not have to be FFA Alumni members. The award is presented during FFA Day at the Minnesota State Fair. Nominations are due **August 1**. Applications are available on the website www.mnffaalumni.org

Who is that person that always says YES when asked to do something, or that person that is always there lending a hand, encourage a member or giving support. THOSE are the people you should nominate.

Finally we are also looking for chapters interested in taking your school administrator to National Convention. **Bring Your Administrator to National Convention** - Five--grants will be awarded for \$500 each with the understanding that upon return from the convention administrators will give a report to a professional organization such as the (Minnesota School Board

Association, MAAE, etc) and the chapter will give a report to the Minnesota FFA Alumni Association.

I would especially encourage chapters with new administrators – superintendents, principals, etc to invite them to National Convention. To see and experience the sea of blue jackets, feel the energy and interact with the members brings a new perspective on the FFA Program. It becomes more than just your chapter; they can see a bigger picture.

Applications are on the website www.mnffaalumni.org and are due **August 1**. I hope you have a great summer. Don't let it go by so fast that you don't have time to enjoy it.

Sincerely
Judy Barka
MN FFA Alumni President

MN FFA Alumni Council News

Welcome New Members!

By now, your Alumni Affiliate membership renewals and dues should be sent to the alumni association. If you still need membership renewal information or have any new members please email: mnffaalumni@gmail.com. All membership renewals for 2011-2012 are due by September 1.

Nominations for the Day-Frederick Award Now Open!

Do you know someone who deserves to be recognized for their service to the FFA and FFA Alumni? Nominate them for the Day Frederick Award by **August 1**. Applications can be found online at mnffaalumni.org/Awards/DayFrederickAward.

Send Your School Administer to the National FFA Convention

The Minnesota FFA Alumni offers \$500 scholarships to FFA Alumni affiliates to help bring their Administrators to the National FFA Convention. We feel this strengthens the bond between administration and the Agricultural Education department and helps show all the opportunities FFA has to offer. Apply by **September 15** to send your school administrator to the National FFA Convention with your FFA chapter online at: mnffaalumni.org/ScholarshipGrant/SendYourAdministrorttoNatConvention

Some of the affiliates that have participated in the past include:

Buffalo
Dassel Cokato
Foley
Red Wing
Randolph

Minnesota FFA Association News

Minnesota FFA Selects New State Officers

Six FFA members from across Minnesota were elected to serve as the 2012-2013 Minnesota FFA Officers at the fourth general session of the 83rd Minnesota FFA Convention at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

Sentinel- Mitchell Skaar from Albert Lea, Reporter- Jared Luhman from Goodhue, Treasure-Nathan Daninger from Forest Lake, Secretary-Sabrina Kieser from Howard Lake Waverly Winsted, Vice President-Marjorie Schleper from Upsala, and President- Shawna Conrad from Goodhue were voted on by the delegates to represent the over 9,000 FFA members of Minnesota.



The six FFA members were chosen by a nominating committee from a pool of 21 candidates. Each candidate was required to complete an extensive application as well as five rounds of interviews.

The newly elected state officers will go through an extensive training process before putting on different events and conferences throughout Minnesota, as well as visiting with chapters and industry leaders before completing their year by planning the annual convention



Erin Daninger Selected as National Officer Candidate

Congratulations to Erin Daninger who has been selected as a National Officer Candidate. Erin will find out at the National Convention in October if she becomes one of six FFA members to serve on the National Officer team. Good luck Erin!

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Minnesota FFA Alumni Association
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Calendar of Events

National FFA Alumni Development Conference (Bozeman, Montana): July 11-15, 2012

Minnesota State Fair: August 23-September 3, 2012

National FFA Convention: October 24-27, 2012

