

88th Annual Wyoming FFA Convention



April 8-11, 2015
Cheyenne, WY



LARAMIE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Agriculture Department

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Good Luck at the 2015 state FFA convention!

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WELCOME TO THE 2015 WYOMING FFA CONVENTION

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State officers, along with the Wyoming Business Council's Cindy Garretson-Weibel and Donn Randall, cut the ribbon officially opening the Wyoming FFA Museum.



Lacy and Kyle share a laugh during the Wyoming State Fair.



Austin and Caleb discuss FFA and agriculture on the radio during AgVocacy Week.



Caleb and Austin present Mr. Gladson a belt buckle during the 2015 Wyoming State Fair.



Welcome to the 88th Wyoming FFA Convention!

Welcome to the 2015 Wyoming FFA State Convention! We are glad you can join us for the culmination of a year's hard work. Congratulations on your accomplishments so far this year and those yet to come during Convention. We wish all of you the best of luck!

Our theme this year is, "Grow for Gold," and you have helped us show everyone how Wyoming FFA does just that. From community service hours to advocating for agriculture, our members have gone above and beyond. We hope that you continue to "Grow for Gold" through your Career Development Events, award ceremonies, leadership workshops, and industry tours. The Wyoming FFA Convention is a tradition dating back 88 years. Thank you for the important role you play in continuing that tradition and what it means to wear the Wyoming FFA Jacket!

Our team is proud of each and every one of you! Remember — "Grow for Gold" during the 2015 Wyoming FFA Convention!



2014-2015 Wyoming FFA State Officer Team



2014-2015 Wyoming FFA State Officer Team is 'Growing for Gold'



As the 2014-2015 Wyoming FFA Officer Team takes to the stage for the 88th Annual Wyoming FFA Convention, they'll challenge Wyoming FFA members to "Grow for Gold." Lacy Nelson, Wyoming FFA Secretary, created the artwork surrounding the mission statement that has guided the team during its year of service.

The team's journey began with Blast Off, held last May and designed to help the team develop and polish the skills needed to serve as state officers. "Blast Off was important because that's when we first bonded as a team," says Wyoming FFA Reporter Baxter Heinert. "We really got to know one another." The weekend also solidified their action plans for making a positive impact on Wyoming FFA.

Over the course of the last 12 months the team, amidst busy college schedules, visited every chapter in Wyoming. While it's their job to encourage and lead FFA members, the team says that more often than not they found themselves inspired by the members they serve.

"I was amazed by the willingness of chapters all over the state to help those in need," says Quade Palm, Wyoming FFA President. In Powell he participated in a 15-mile horseback ride, held to raise money for an individual in need. In Pinedale FFA members were making quilts for a children's hospital.

"I was impressed by the number of dedicated and passionate young adults who I met along the way," says Kyle Weber, Wyoming FFA 3rd Vice President. From their projects to their service to others, Weber says FFA members and their passion for the goals and dreams they're pursuing impressed him. Friendships made along the way, he adds, will last a lifetime.

"Something what really stood out to me was the hospitality that we received while on our visits," says Weber. That hospitality stretched from the chapters to the families who hosted the state officers in their homes. "I enjoyed visiting with FFA parents," says Weber.



"I was most impressed by the attitude of FFA members," says Nelson. "Their love for FFA and for each other and the people around them was inspiring to me. I really learned a lot from the FFA members and advisors, life lessons that I won't ever forget."

During past years, attending the Wyoming FFA Leadership Camp as a camper, Wyoming FFA 2nd Vice President Tyler Clemetson says he always looked up to the state officers in attendance. "As a state officer, I found myself looking up to FFA members, counselors and directors. It showed me what an awesome group of students I get to serve."

"I'm honored to have had the privilege to serve," says Caleb Green, Wyoming FFA Sentinel.

"The Wyoming State Fair seemed to go by a lot faster this year," says Austin Burkett, Wyoming FFA Treasurer. Whether fulfilling his duties as a state officer or waiting to enter the show ring to compete, Burkett says he enjoyed the opportunity to visit with members. "I really enjoyed meeting so many new people."

As the team's term comes to an end, the 88th Annual Wyoming FFA Convention will mark the final year many of them will cross the stage as FFA members.

"FFA has taught me more than I often realize," says Heather Loraas, Wyoming FFA Vice President, noting the lessons reach beyond leadership and communication. "I guarantee that without FFA I would still be the shy girl with a narrow perception of the world."

The 2014-2015 Wyoming FFA State Officer Team will make its final appearance at this year's State Convention. "Knowing it may very well be my last convention as an FFA member, I think I'm most looking forward to just being surrounded by FFA members and having the feeling of being at home," says Jess Oldham, Wyoming FFA Parliamentarian. "There's just something about being in a positive, happy, and uplifting environment, and part of our Wyoming FFA family. It's great to be unique, but it's also nice to be a part of something. As convention gets closer and my state officer year nears its end, so does a part of my life that has helped define who I am."

Watch for the state officers' caricatures throughout this edition. They've shared their favorite quotes!



Wyoming leaders send well wishes to Wyoming FFA

As excerpted from their letters to the 2015 Convention attendees



"I am one of the millions lucky enough to be a part of the FFA program. Today, I can truthfully say, my career got off to a great start due to my experiences in FFA and the remarkable people who mentored me. To all of you attending, your participation in FFA will provide unique ways to network and get to know like-minded people from throughout Wyoming. Do your best by taking advantage of new technologies and pathways for diversification."

Congresswoman Cynthia Lummis

"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..." The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources stands ready to be your partner in leadership development and acquiring expertise in your chosen field through knowledge, hands-on learning opportunities, and mentorship. My best wishes for a successful FFA convention.



Frank Galey, Dean
UW College of
Agriculture and Natural
Resources

"FFA members also stepped up as spokesmen for ag during the first Wyoming Agriculture Advocacy Week this year. It's a role that makes sense because FFA is an important part in the vitality of agriculture today. You have learned to think critically about tough issues from sustainable production to natural resource management. You have put classroom lessons into practice raising livestock, selling homemade products, organizing conservation projects and more. I am proud of all you have accomplished."



Wyoming Governor Matthew Mead

"Wyoming FFA has established a strong legacy of service throughout the state. Your participation in this special organization is fantastic. As a member, you know that ag is one of Wyoming's leading industries and is essential to the state's economic success. We are so fortunate for your gifts of time, dedication, and hard work. Your positive contributions, both to FFA and your communities, will ensure the continued strength of Wyoming's ag sector for decades to come."



U.S. Senator John Barrasso, M.D.



U.S. Senator Mike Enzi

"Like most things, the more you contribute in terms of effort, the more you will receive in the way of changes and improvements in your life. The impact of your FFA experience will last for years and your membership will pay dividends that you will always remember. Someday, when you look back on your FFA years you will see how they changed your life."

"On behalf of the Wyoming Business Council, I would like to extend our best wishes for a successful Wyoming FFA Convention. It is always a pleasure to observe the sea of blue and gold jackets donning the streets of Cheyenne during this time. We recognize the many hours of hard work FFA members have put forth and applaud all the youth participating in this year's convention. We, too, believe in the future of agriculture and are pleased to support Wyoming FFA members in their efforts."
— **Cindy Garretson-Weibel, Agribusiness Director, Wyoming Business Council**

"Welcome to Cheyenne and the home of Laramie County Community College! Let me be added to one of the many FFA supporters who congratulate you for your commitment to leadership, stewardship, and the support of agriculture as a way of life in America. LCCC and Wyoming's FFA have a long history of partnership and collaboration. I am always impressed by the caliber of students who rise to leadership through FFA, and it gives all of us here at LCCC a great sense of pride when we see FFA students pursue their higher education here at our college." — **Dr. Joe Schaffer, LCCC, President**



Jillian Balow
Supt. of Public Instruction

"Congratulations on being in FFA! You already know the many ways in which FFA enhances your life. Did you also know your school, your community, and the State of Wyoming benefit from your participation in FFA? You are more academically motivated and are more prepared for college and careers. Thank you for your dedication to your organization and the agricultural industry in Wyoming. I encourage you to continue impacting your communities through service, hard work, and leadership."

WYOMING FFA CONVENTION WELCOME DINNER



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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8 • 4-6:45 P.M.

Cheyenne Ice & Events Center • 1530 W. Lincolnway

Greetings from the Wyoming FFA Foundation

Welcome to the 2015 Wyoming FFA Convention. We at the Wyoming FFA Foundation hope your week is filled with success, friendships, lessons and memories that last a lifetime.

The Wyoming FFA Foundation was created in 1958 with the sole purpose of supporting Wyoming FFA and its activities. Each day the Foundation works to maximize the opportunities available to the state's 2,400 plus FFA members. The Foundation is comprised of the individuals listed at the side of this page and the countless donors who enable us to fulfill our mission. They may very well be your biggest fans. It's this group that is behind the travel funds issued for National FFA Convention, over \$20,000 in college scholarships, dollars for classroom infrastructure, the program that purchases jackets for FFA members and much more. They're constantly looking for opportunities to help Wyoming FFA!

Court Schilt, Donn Randall and Becki Dale require a special mention this year. Each of these individuals committed several years to the Wyoming FFA Foundation and just completed terms on our board of directors. If you see them, please take a moment to tell them "THANK YOU!" The time and money they have donated to this program have surely made a positive impact.

We hope you'll someday join the list of lifelong FFA supporters. Whether you're a board member, a donor or volunteer your time to help coach a team, please consider lifelong involvement.

Your FFA career can reach far beyond high school!

Enjoy your week at Convention!



Jen Womack
Wyoming
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Call Kristin at 720.356.3174 to learn about our NEW Dairy Curriculum written specifically for FFA programs.

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Explore the Cowboy State capitol



While you're in town for the Wyoming FFA Convention, don't miss the opportunity to explore Wyoming's capitol city!

First and foremost on the list should be the **WYOMING CAPITOL BUILDING**. Wyoming's early day leaders were undoubtedly optimists as they laid the cornerstone on May 18, 1887, just over three years before Wyoming earned official statehood. The building is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is FREE.

The **WYOMING STATE MUSEUM**, located at 2301 Central Avenue in downtown Cheyenne, is a must see for history buffs and those with an appreciation for all things Wyoming. The museum is open Monday-Saturday 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Admission is FREE.

Located in Frontier Park at 4610 Carey Avenue, the **CHEYENNE FRONTIER DAYS OLD WEST MUSEUM** is home to one of the nation's largest collections of horse drawn carriages. The museum features the history of Cheyenne Frontier Days since its beginnings in 1897. Admission is \$10.

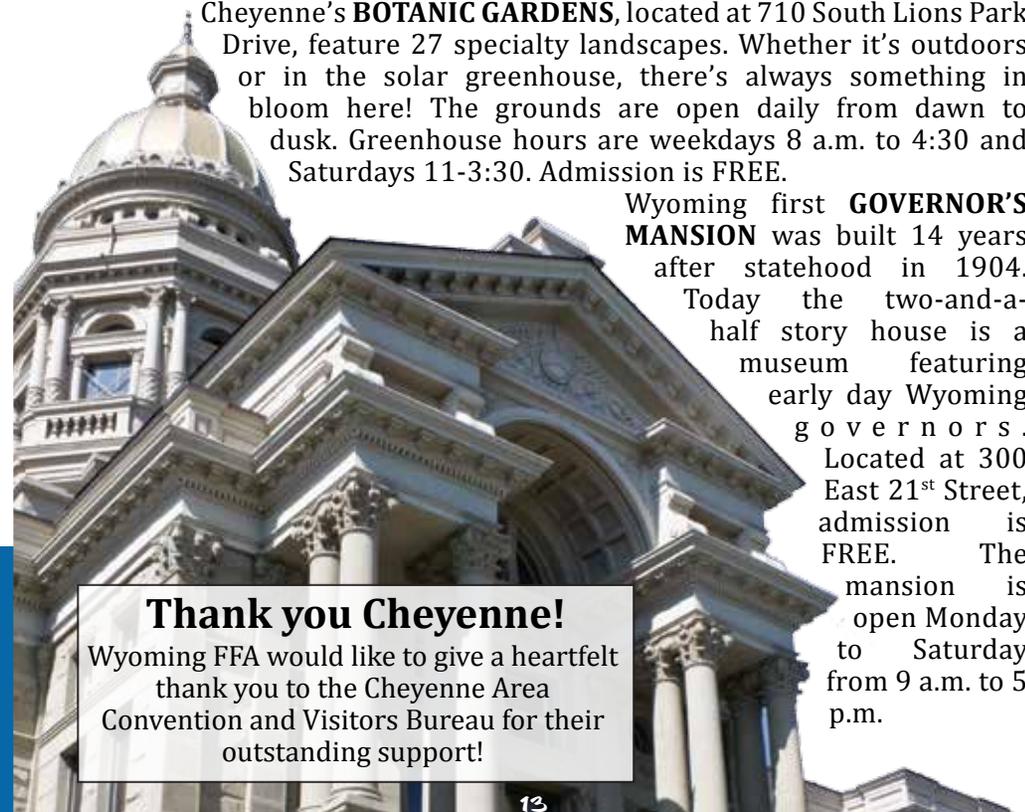
Cheyenne's **BOTANIC GARDENS**, located at 710 South Lions Park Drive, feature 27 specialty landscapes. Whether it's outdoors or in the solar greenhouse, there's always something in bloom here! The grounds are open daily from dawn to dusk. Greenhouse hours are weekdays 8 a.m. to 4:30 and Saturdays 11-3:30. Admission is FREE.

Wyoming first **GOVERNOR'S MANSION** was built 14 years after statehood in 1904.

Today the two-and-a-half story house is a museum featuring early day Wyoming g o v e r n o r s .

Located at 300 East 21st Street, admission is FREE. The

mansion is open Monday to Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Thank you Cheyenne!

Wyoming FFA would like to give a heartfelt thank you to the Cheyenne Area Convention and Visitors Bureau for their outstanding support!

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Brittany Vigil
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Greg Peterson of Peterson Farm Bros to speak



Greg Peterson

Greg Peterson is a 2013 graduate of Kansas State University where he majored in Agricultural Communications and Journalism. He grew up on and still works on a family farm near Assaria, Kansas with his parents, two brothers, and sister. He has always enjoyed working on the farm and being an advocate for agriculture.

In June of 2012, Greg and his brothers released a video on YouTube entitled, "I'm Farming and I Grow It." It quickly went viral, receiving over nine million views. Since then Greg and his brothers have released six more parody videos and are now up to 35 million total views on YouTube. The videos have given Greg and his brothers many opportunities around the country and the world to

talk about agriculture and he is passionate about the future of the industry.

Like the Peterson Farm Bros on Facebook or follow them on Twitter to see their posts aimed at educating the public about agriculture. "Ever since we began producing content, we have continued to realize a need to inform people about what we do in farming and in agriculture as a whole," says PetersonFarmBros.com. "There are many misconceptions about modern day farmers and we feel it is our calling to help correct some of those misconceptions. Aside from our production on social media, we travel around the country to perform and speak on advocating for agriculture. We also blog about misunderstood topics in agriculture and open up our farm for tours. Through all of this we hope to educate the general public on where their food comes from and what a real Midwest family farm looks like!"

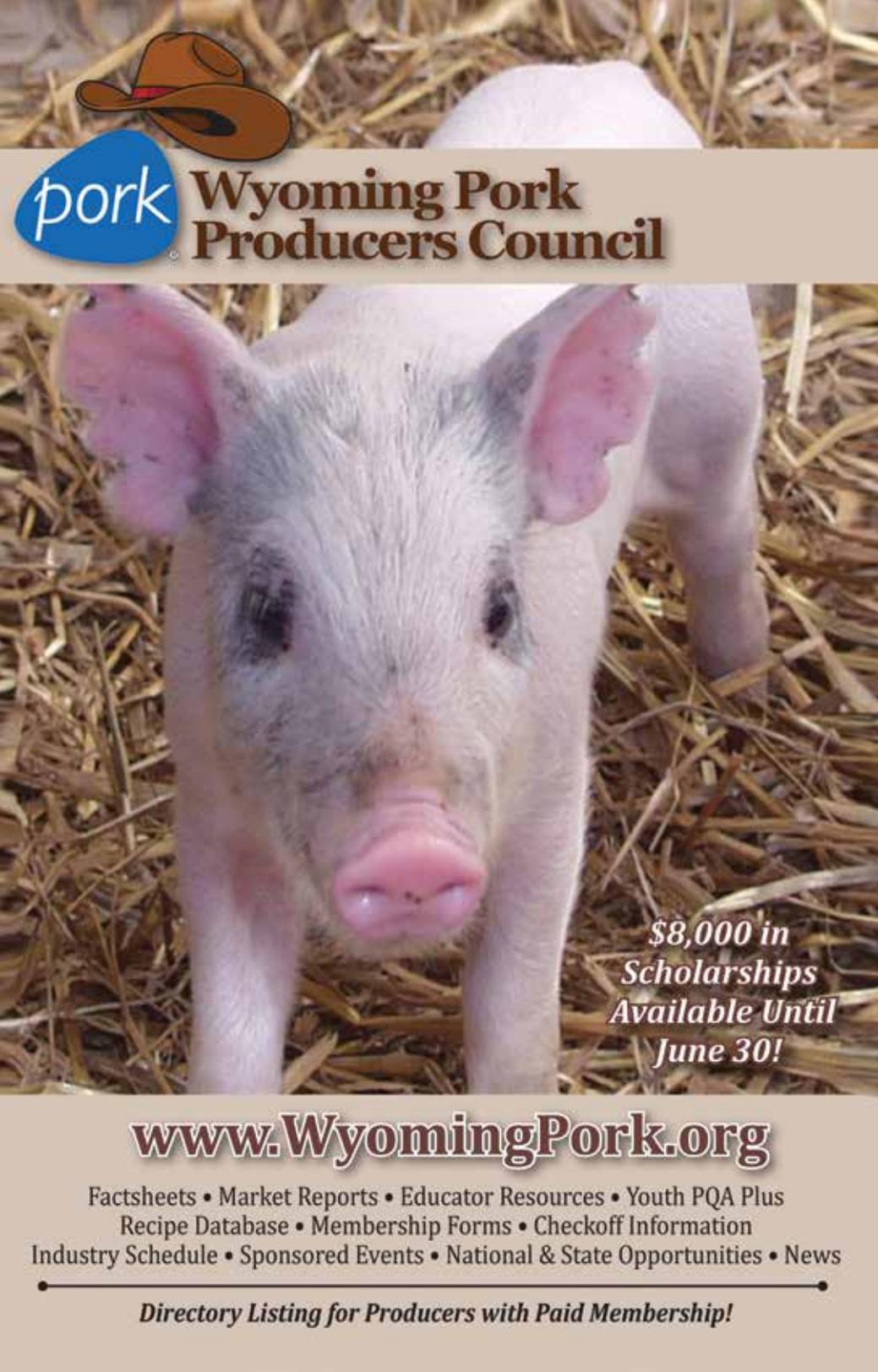


Farm Credit Services of America



Thanks to the generosity of Farm Credit Services of America, Peterson will address Wyoming FFA Convention attendees on the evening of Thursday, April 9.





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National FFA Secretary to attend Wyoming convention



Victoria Maloch

"While all of my ribbons weren't blue, much more of a rainbow of colors actually, the skills I learned were invaluable." — Victoria Maloch

Victoria Maloch was elected to the 2014-15 National FFA Officer team as national secretary at the 87th National FFA Convention & Expo.

Other members of the team are Andy Paul of Georgia as president, Kristen Schmidt of Colorado as Central Region vice president, Stephen McBride of Tennessee as Southern Region vice president, Ruth Ann Myers of Kentucky as Eastern Region vice president and Caleb Gustin of New Mexico as Western Region vice president.

Originally from Emerson, Ark., and an agricultural business and pre-law major at the University of Arkansas, Maloch is a member of Chi Omega Sorority, active on the student alumni board, in Collegiate FFA, with Collegiate Farm Bureau and is a Volunteer Action Center Literacy mentor.

As a student at Emerson High School in Columbia County Ark., she served as Arkansas FFA Association president, chapter president and secretary. Within FFA, she was the Star Chapter Farmer, state prepared public speaking winner and chairman of the state parliamentary procedure team among other great accomplishments.

National officers commit to a year of service with the National FFA Organization. Each travels more than 100,000 national and international miles to interact with business and industry leaders, thousands of FFA members and teachers, corporate sponsors, government and education officials, state FFA leaders, the general public and more. The team will lead personal growth and leadership training seminars for FFA members throughout the country and help set policies that will guide the future of FFA and promote agricultural literacy.

Upon graduation from the University of Arkansas, Maloch plans to combine her love of talking and politics with her passion for agriculture by focusing on agricultural policy or agricultural lobbying as well as legislation regarding hunger and food insecurity. She would also like to serve as an elected official.

"As a national officer, I want to cultivate a passion for our organization and show members they too can have an impact on others, as long as they are placing the focus on other people instead of themselves," she said. "There could be no greater accomplishment than serving as the catalyst for students, lifting them up and turning their spark for FFA into a fire for them to share."

During her year of service Maloch hopes to encourage a more active and diverse membership and inspire passion for the organization in members.



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Wade Allnutt, 2013 College of Agriculture & Natural Resource graduate in Agricultural Business and Animal Science

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go for gold
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Wyoming FFA AgVocates for those who feed America

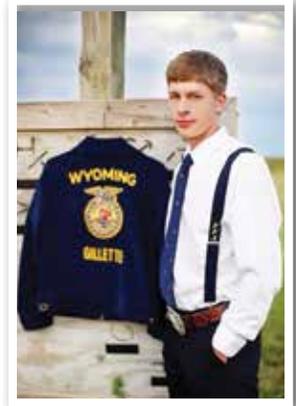
Late January Wyoming FFA members were called upon to speak out for Wyoming and the nation's agriculture industry. They responded with a social media campaign using the hash-tag "#VoiceForAg" and sharing their message with thousands. They were also asked to submit essays on the subject. Gillette FFA member Matthew Winterholler submitted the winning essay, printed here.

Agriculture: not only does it run deep in our nation's roots, but it's also the future of the world's super power. The agriculture industry is the heart of America. As the FFA Creed states, "I believe that American agriculture can and will hold true to the best traditions of our national life," proving that agriculture is still prevalent in today's busy world while also being the rock of America in our modernized society. Just because agriculture holds true to the best traditions of our national life doesn't mean that it isn't modernizing as well. Many new advances in agriculture have led to the American farmer being able to feed 155 people, whereas in 1960, the American farmer fed only 28.5 people. This is the reason why it's important to advocate for agriculture.

Advocating for the nation's largest industry is no small feat. With the hundreds, even possibly thousands, of misconceptions floating around out there, advocating can be a daunting task for any young agriculturist. There are articles like, "10 Reasons to Avoid GMOs," and "Modern Agriculture is Bad for Our Health," skewing the truth about agriculture and the ways that progressive agriculturists have improved agriculture through and through. So how do we, as agriculturists, set the record straight?

There are many tools FFA members can use to persuade people with the positives of agriculture. First, many people need to realize that just because there are extreme activists trying to take down the industry that we love, there are also a lot of people who can be swayed to the pro-agriculture side. In order to do this: start off with a personal story, not a fact or statistic, in order to gain a connection with the person who needs convinced. After the personal story is told, then myths can be addressed. If agriculturists can address the myths of our industry while also making a personal connection with people along the way, the job becomes much easier.

Agriculture advocacy can be tough, however, if FFA members and other young agriculturists work together, myths can be debunked quickly and the industry can get back to what is most important: finding innovative ways to feed an increasingly demanding world. If America's citizens learn the truth about agriculture, along with innovation and technology, the industry that has sparked a fire within many young people will once again be unstoppable.



Matthew Winterholler



Congrats State FFA Degree recipients

The State FFA Degree is given to the top members of a State FFA Association

To receive a State FFA Degree, members must meet the following requirements:

- Received a Chapter FFA Degree.
- Have been an active FFA member for at least two years (24 months) at the time of receiving the State FFA Degree
- Have completed at least 2 years (360 hours) of systematic school instruction in agricultural education at our above the ninth grade level, which includes an SAE.
- Have earned and productively invested at least \$4,000, or have worked at least 2000 hours outside of scheduled class time through an SAE.
- Demonstrated leadership ability by performing 10 parliamentary law procedures, giving a six-minute speech on a topic relating to agriculture or FFA, and serving as an FFA officer, committee chairperson, or committee member.
- Have a satisfactory academic record, certified by the agriculture teacher and the school principal or superintendent.
- Participated in the planning and implementation of the chapter's Program of Activities.
- Participated in at least five different FFA activities above the chapter level.
- Complete at least 25 hours of community service in a minimum of two different activities.

BIG COUNTRY FFA

Shade Frank, Carissa Pickard

BOW RIVER FFA

Shelby Bowen

BUFFALO BILL FFA

Mikayla Billin

BUFFALO FFA

Jaycie Arndt, Cody Ballek, Wyatt Blakeman
Clayton Borgiali, Cahill Ellenwood
Jade Harper, Dalton McCorkle
Connor Oaks, Lauren Rives, Seth Sickler
Seth Thiele

BURNS FFA

Shelby Batson, Rachel Derner
Rowan Fichtner, Tyler Morgan
Hunter Petsch, Claire Streeter
Brook Weibel

CASPER FFA

Clayton Atkinson, Rachel Emery
Sierra Hiser, Kaylen Lewis, Clay Loraas
Korina Potter, Averi Reynolds, Alix Smith
Flannan Stark, Kassi Witt, Bailey Ziehl
Shannon Zumbrennen

CHIEF WASHAKIE FFA

Jessa Mae Clark, Chad Cross, Burk DeBolt
Ricardo Martinez, Josh Miller

CLEAR CREEK FFA

Linzee Adamson, Levi Bircher
Dylan Collins

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Sheyanne Fosheim, Jodi Gantz
Tessa Garman, Hali Ike
Brooke Mills

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EVANSTON FFA

Toby DeGraw, Logan Lester
Kassidy Van Syoc

FRONTIER FFA

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Haley Cole, Halley Jankovsky
Daniel Kindsvater, Madison Lacy
Jordan Simonovich
Jenny Smith, Mikayla Zimmerman

GILLETTE FFA

Miles Geis, Jessie Gillum, Trase Johnson
Erika Prelle, Chancy Templeton
Matthew Winterholler

GLENDON FFA

Evan Wilhelm

HIGH PLAINS FFA

Shannon Burke, Ashton Cloward
Shelby Dial, Bailey Dolph
MacKenzie Klipstein, Colton Lake
Tonie Prego, Brianna Santora
Nicole Stratton

JIM BRIDGER FFA

Logan Ellis, Carli Fenus, Bailey Lupher
Logan Lupher, Madison Vitt

JOHN B. KENDRICK FFA

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Josie Austin, Kelley Largent

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Kelsey Nelson, Jacob Winchester

LITTLE SNAKE RIVER FFA

Kendal Dietrich, Michael Espy
Keaton Jeannerett, Courtney Kudera
Katie Lee, Katelyn Olson, Ryan Wille

LOVELL FFA

Mysen McArthur, Richard Walker

LYMAN FFA

Chaparal Clarke, Cody Ellison, Allie Eyre,
Bailey Gross, Rachelle Harris
Hunter Hewitt

MOORCROFT FFA

Savanah Richter

NEWCASTLE FFA

Nate Pillen, Josie Podio

PAINTROCK FFA

Bree Dooley, Colten Flitner, Marriah Mills

PINE BLUFFS FFA

Dakota Chrystal, Jordan Crouse,
Scott Gross, Mollie Heithoff
Jaden Ragsdale, Preston Thurin, Jesi Zitek

PINEDALE FFA

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Dustin Jakobsen, Fallon Ramsey,
Ryanne Stevie, Kaylum Thayne
Kassidy Williams

POWELL-SHOSHONE FFA

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Aimee Kawano, Hannah Maddox

RIVERTON FFA

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Hank Osborne, Vanessa Powell
Harlee Speyer

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Leigh Ann Hess

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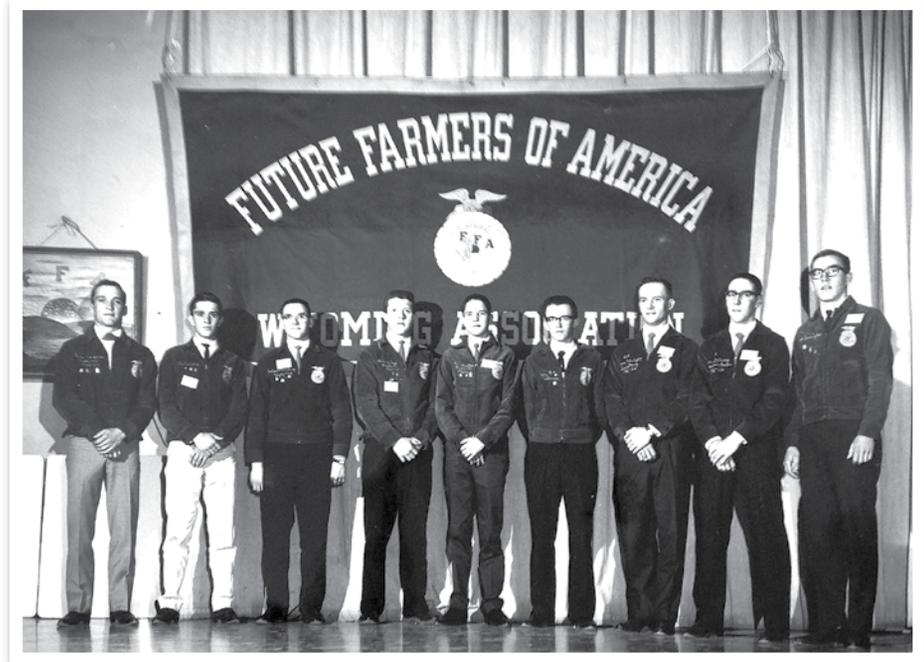
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Wyoming's 1964-65 State Pres discusses FFA's impact

"I went to eight years of a one room country school — eight students in seven grades with most of them my siblings and cousins," recalls 1964-65 Wyoming FFA President Duke Marquiss. It's been 50 years since the team retired as officers.

"We were 42 miles from town and 12 miles to the neighbor on a dirt county road. Needless to say, we were not exposed to much. Going to high school was a very scary deal. I took Vo Ag and was immediately excited about the FFA program. We had an excellent teacher. He not only taught us about agriculture. He taught us about trying things different, like a steak that was cooked to medium and not burnt to a crisp, how to dress neat, keep your hair trimmed, act like gentlemen, shrimp cocktails and crackers with blue cheese. We learned how to speak in front of a group and communicate with strangers, what respect was — how to give it and how to build it. I am sure these were not things that were in a lesson plan or part of the curriculum, but they are the lessons that I remember the most."

Later, Marquiss became an ag teacher and helped teach those same lessons to the next generation. "FFA helped me to be who I am today," says Marquiss.



(Left to right) president Duke Marquiss of Gillette, vice president Lee Hallsted of Greybull, secretary Richard Vonburg of Basin, treasurer Paul Joe Ogg of Worland, reporter Gene Bengston of Lander, sentinel Tom Willmans of Riverton, parliamentarian Tom Wright of Newcastle, delegate-at-large Tom Grieves of Newcastle and delegate-at-large Bob Pennington of Cheyenne. State archives photo



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Chasin' Crazy to play at 2015 Wyoming FFA Convention

Since forming in 2012, Chasin' Crazy has spent the past two years honing their craft, solidifying their bond, touring and writing songs.

Their name, the title of a song written by Hunter, captures the essence of the band at this time in their lives. Each member emphasizes the "crazy" that we all pursue and the band's unflinching and focused desire to establish themselves as an elite country talent.

Chasin' Crazy's organic vocal harmonies have some comparing their sound to that of The Eagles, Little Big Town and Zac Brown Band, a comparison the band finds daunting, yet flattering. But whatever their journey brings — Landon, Travis, Jimmy James, Creigh and Forest will be Chasin' Crazy.

The band will be making a special appearance during the 2015 Wyoming FFA Convention. The event is only open to FFA members who are registered attendees at the 2015 Wyoming FFA Convention.



A special thank you to the Cheyenne Civic Center for making this special addition to the 2015 Wyoming FFA Convention possible!



Landon Parker (acoustic guitar and vocals), Travis Fincher (drums and vocals), Jimmy James Hunter (lead guitarist and vocals), Creigh Riepe (keyboards, guitar and vocals) and Forest Miller (bass, fiddle, mandolin and vocals) are Chasin' Crazy.

2015 Wyoming FFA Convention Schedule



Wednesday, April 8, 2015 "Plant the Seed and Grow to Lead"

- 11:00 am Coaches Meeting UW Animal Science Foyer
- 12:45 pm Ag Technology & Mechanical Systems CDE UW Ag Education Facility
- 1:00 pm Meats Evaluation CDE UW Animal Science Building
- 1:30 pm Agronomy CDE UW Greenhouse
- 1-6:00 pm State Booth Competition Set-Up Civic Center First Floor Lobby
- 4-6:30 pm FFA Member Welcome Dinner, hosted by Wyo. FFA Foundation
Cheyenne Ice & Events Center
- 4:30-6:30 State Officer Nom. Committee Orientation Civic Center, Band Room
- 6:45 pm State Officer Candidate Check-In & Orientation Civic Center, Band Room
- 7:00 pm Convention Session One, Cheyenne Civic Center

- Welcome to Convention
- Day of Community Service Recognition
- Recognition of Range Management winners
- Introduction of State Officer Candidates
- Remarks, Scott Keith, Wyoming Business Council
- Talent performance - Rowan Fichtner
- Gold, Silver and Bronze chapters recognized
- Retiring Address, Jess Oldham, State Parliamentarian
- Proficiency Awards Group I
- Talent performance - Gabrielle Wollert
- Retiring Address, Heather Loraas, State VP
- Proficiency Awards Group II
- Recognition of #1 Chapter
- Keynote Speaker - Victoria Maloch, National FFA Secretary



Thursday, April 9, 2015 "Have no doubt, we're starting to sprout"



- 7:30 am Parli Pro Test, High School and Novice Holiday Inn, Butte
- 8:00 am Env. & Nat. Resources CDE LCCC Ag Classroom Building/Animal Science Lab
- 8:00 am State Officer Candidate Interviews Springhill Suites
- 8-10:00 am State Booth Competition Set-Up Civic Center First Floor Lobby
- 10:30 am State Booth Judging Civic Center
- 8-3:00 pm Career Fair Holiday Inn, Big Horn Room
- 8:00 am Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE Check In Holiday Inn, Sheridan Rm.

- 8:15 am Parliamentary Procedure (Novice) CDE begins Holiday Inn, Rawhide 6th Floor
- 8:30 am Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE Holiday Inn, Yellowstone Room
- 8 am-Noon Leadership Workshops Holiday Inn (South Fork, Laramie & Shoshone)
- 8:15 am Creed Speaking Check-In Holiday Inn, Sheridan Rm.
- 8:30 am Creed Speaking CDE Holiday Inn, Teton Room
- 10:30 am Prepared Public Speaking Check-In Holiday Inn, Teton Room
- 10:45 am Prepared Public Speaking CDE Holiday Inn, Teton Room
- 11-1:30 Buffet Lunch Holiday Inn, Lobby (must purchase with reg.)
- 11 am Parliamentary Procedure (High School) CDE begins Holiday Inn (Laramie, Shoshone, Rawhide rooms)
- 11:45 am Wyoming FFA Talent Competition Dress Rehearsal Holiday Inn, Yellowstone Room
- 1 pm FFA Talent Competition Holiday Inn, Yellowstone Room
- 2:30 pm Delegate Check-In Holiday Inn, Yellowstone Room
- 2:45 pm Delegate Business Session Holiday Inn, Yellowstone Rm.
 - Opening Ceremonies
 - FFA Partner Reports:
 - FFA Foundation
 - FFA Alumni Association
 - Wyoming FFA Camp
 - WVATA
 - Old Business
 - CPC Committee Reports

Austin's favorite quote:
"Life is a climb. The higher you go, the better the view."



Baxter's favorite quote:
"Be somebody who makes everybody feel like somebody."



- New Business
- Closing Ceremony
- 3:45 pm Agricultural Issues Forum CDE Check-In Holiday Inn, South Fork Room
- 4 pm Ag Issues Forum CDE Holiday Inn, South Fork
- 4 pm College Scholarship Reception Holiday Inn, Teton Room
- 7 pm Photo Booth Open Civic Center, upstairs
- 7:00 pm Convention Session Two Civic Center
 - Remarks from Doug Miyamoto, Director of the Wyoming Department of Agriculture
 - Veterinary Science Awards
 - Agriscience Fair Awards
 - State FFA Degree Group I
 - Talent performance — Hannah Fraley
 - Retiring Address, Baxter Heinert, State Reporter

- State FFA Degree Group II
- Talent performance — Quentin Moter
- Retiring Address, Kyle Webber, 3rd VP
- State Star Ceremony
- Champion Ag Teacher Presentation
- Keynote Speaker - Greg Peterson



Friday, April 10, 2015
"Make some room, we're starting to bloom"

- 7:00 am CACVB Breakfast for Teachers LCCC Ag 119
- 7:30 am Livestock Evaluation CDE LCCC Ag Classroom Bldg./Arena
- 8:00 am SO Candidate Interviews Springhill Suites
- 8:30 am Agricultural Sales CDE LCCC CCI 129, 130, 123, and 124
- 12:30-1:15 Greenhand Quiz Bowl Check-In B125
- 1:00 pm Farm Business Management CDE HS 111/113, HS 315
- 1:00 pm Horse Evaluation CDE LCCC Ag Classroom Building/Arena
- 1:30 pm Greenhand Quiz Bowl LCCC, B126, 203, 215 and B127 as waiting room
- 4:30 pm Marketing Plan CDE HS 111
- 4:30 pm State Officer Parent Recognition Dinner Civic Center
- 5:00 pm Poultry Evaluation CDE LCCC Ag Classroom Building/Arena
- 7:00 pm Convention Session Three Civic Center
 - State Booth Award Presentation
 - Greenhand Quiz Bowl Awards
 - Parliamentary Procedure Awards

Quade's favorite quote:
 "If at first you don't succeed, get a bigger hammer." — John R. Erickson

- Retiring Address, Tyler Clemetson, 2nd VP
- Agricultural Issues Forum Awards
- Public Speaking Awards
- Retiring Address, Caleb Green, Sentinel
- Talent Performance — Allison Womack
- Honorary State FFA Degree Ceremony
- Talent Performance — Lacy Nelson
- State Officer Parent Recognition
- Leadership CDE Sweepstakes

9:30 pm Chasin' Crazy Concert Civic Center



Lacy's favorite quote:
 "Go on every adventure."



- Talent finalist #1 Performance
- Retiring address, Austin Burkett, Treasurer
- Agricultural Mechanics Awards
- Agronomy CDE Awards
- Meats evaluation CDE Awards
- Talent Finalist #2 Performance
- Retiring Address, Lacy Nelson, State Secretary
- Farm Business Management Awards
- Poultry Evaluation CDE Awards
- Livestock Evaluation CDE Awards
- Talent Finalist #3 Performance
- Career Events Sweepstakes Awards
- 2015 Talent Competition Awards
- Delegate Business Session Recap
- Retiring Address, Quade Palm, State Pres.
- Recognition of Past State Officers
- Nominating Committee Report
- Convention Slide Show
- Officer Installation
- New President Remarks

- Closing Ceremony
- 1 pm New SO Luncheon Holiday Inn



We hope you've enjoyed your time at the 2015 Wyoming FFA Convention. Have a safe trip home!

Saturday, April 11
"We're ready to shine, it's harvest time"

- 7 am Past State Officer Reunion for teams from 1954-55, 1964-65, 1974-75, 1984-85, 1994-95 and 2004-2005 Civic Center, Upstairs
- 8 am Nominating Committee Work Session/SO Candidate Call Backs Civic Center Band Room
- 8 am Photo Booth Opens Civic Center, Upstairs
- 8 am Closing Convention Session & Talent Competitions Finals Civic Center
 - Remarks from Cheyenne Mayor Rick Kayson
 - Agricultural Sales CDE Awards
 - Environmental Science & Natural Resources CDE Awards
 - Horse Evaluation CDE Awards
 - Marketing Plan CDE Awards

Heather's favorite quote:
 "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain"





Leadership workshops

April 9, 2015 • Holiday Inn

	South Fork	Laramie	Shoshone
8:00-8:45	"Who's the Boss?"	"Who is a future cattle producer of Wyoming?"	"Break the Mold - Defeating Stereotypes"
9:00-9:45	"Who's the Boss?"	"Bringing the Farm to School"	"The Best Leaders are Storytellers"
10:00-10:45	"Can You Hear Me Now?"	"Bringing the Farm to School"	"Options in Farm Management & Rural Appraisal"
11:00-11:45	"Coal Mining 101"		

"Who is a Future Cattle Producer of Wyoming?" (1 session)

A discussion and question and answer period about the Future Cattle Producers of Wyoming program, how it started, what its goals are and who can be involved. This will include a couple of short presentations by current members and what they have gone through to be a Future Cattle Producer, how their projects are going and what it means for their future in the cattle industry.

-Presented By: Scott Keith, Wyoming Business Council, Livestock Genetics Program Manager

"Bringing the Farm to School" (2 sessions)

The Wyoming Department of Education will discuss ideas with FFA members in regards to the various Farm to School and school garden opportunities students can introduce into their classroom and school. They will discuss different ideas and success stories and ways to incorporate those ideas into your schools or districts.

-Presented By: Susan Benning, Wyoming Department of Education, Child Nutrition Programs and Brook Brockman, Wyoming Child Nutrition Programs Consultant

"Options in Farm Management & Rural Appraisal" (1 session)

We will discuss what the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers is, how it assists the student or user in developing into a career and the its benefits.

-Presented By: Wendi McCormick, Co-Chairs of the Wyoming ASFMRA Education Committee and David Bartlett, President of the Wyoming ASFMRA Chapter.

"Who's the Boss?" (2 sessions)

We easily recognize the Nike Swoosh, the Golden Arches of McDonald's, and we immediately think of FFA when we see the emblem. Logos make companies distinctive and those companies take great care in crafting and promoting their brand. Come discover what your personal brand is and take control of your company!

-Presented By: Victoria Maloch, National FFA Secretary

"Can You Hear Me Now?" (1 session)

With over 6,000 languages in the world, there are a variety of means to communicate with each other. But what about what we say when we don't speak? Come explore the new "languages" you didn't even realize.

-Presented By: Victoria Maloch, National FFA Secretary

"The Best Leaders are Storytellers" (1 sessions)

Storytelling is a powerful communication tool. Turn your life experiences into descriptive, engaging stories to connect with an audience and become an influential leader. In this workshop, each participant will construct a short story from their life that conveys their core values and personality.

-Presented By: Jessie Allen, Miss Wyoming and Past Wyo. State FFA Officer

"Break the Mold — Defeating Stereotypes" (1 session)

Embrace the power of self-awareness. Participants will learn constructive ways to face stereotypes and claim power over them. We will discuss the value of embracing new opportunities to become well-rounded leaders.

-Presented By: Jessie Allen, Miss Wyoming and Past Wyo. State FFA Officer

"Coal Mining 101" (1 session)

Coal-based generation has consistently been America's largest and more affordable source of electricity. As the nation's number one coal producer, Wyoming accounts for 40% of the nation's mined coal, and provides over 28,000 jobs. In this workshop, employees of Cloud Peak Energy will outline the coal mining and reclamation process, how coal supports the economy and career opportunities.

-Presented By: Megan Degenfelder, Don Vissat, and Mitch Hackman

WY FFA Multimedia Recording and Usage Policy

The Wyoming FFA Association and Wyoming FFA Foundation staff and its designees may capture photos, video and other recordings of participants before, during and after events at the Wyoming State FFA Convention. Please be aware that all recorded media may be used by the Wyoming FFA Association and Wyoming FFA Foundation in future print materials, online materials (including the websites and facebook accounts) signage, slideshows, podcasts, videos and other uses in physical and digital forms. Attendance of the Wyoming FFA State Convention implies your consent to be photographed, videotaped and otherwise recorded for these purposes.



Regional State Star Candidates

Stars in Agriscience

Region 1 – Carli Fenus, Jim Bridger FFA Carli works at Taponi Animal Therapy, helping special needs kids learn and strengthen their bodies through horseback riding. She started her SAE simply taking care of the horses used in therapy. Soon she was asked to help lead the horses as the kids rode. Today, Carli is entrusted to work one-on-one with students, conducting therapy and teaching horsemanship skills like barrel racing or showmanship. She is also responsible for conducting research on new physical therapy methods and practices to best help her clients. Carli also learned sign language to be able to communicate with deaf clients. Carli plans to use her experiences to become an equine veterinarian.

Region 3 – Matthew Winterholler, Gillette FFA Matthew works at the Campbell County Weed and Pest District. He served on the mapping crew, documenting Russian Knapweed along the Little Powder River from Gillette to the Montana border. He also assisted with leafy spurge spraying on private land. Matthew learned techniques such as GPS mapping and pesticide preparation and application. He's also improved his plant identification and communication skills in dealing with private landowners. Matthew prepared a paper on his experience, conducting research on selecting for native plants that will improve grazing for livestock and wildlife.

Region 5 - Kaylen Lewis, Casper FFA Kaylen's SAE focuses on conducting agriscience experiments and learning scientific concepts. For one project, Kaylen tested three different prototypes for an injection watering system that could be integrated into an existing pivot system. She also tested the feasibility of using milk as a substitute for traditional fertilizer. Kaylen hopes her findings can provide farmers with new solutions in irrigation and fertilizer, saving producers time and money. Kaylen plans to attend college and work toward a doctorate degree in astrophysics.

Stars in Agricultural Placement

Region 1 - Logan Ellis, Jim Bridger FFA Logan Ellis is a third generation rancher. He works on his family's ranch and also for neighboring ranchers, helping with everything from breaking horses to checking cows, fencing and running equipment during haying season. He attended range camp for two years to improve his knowledge of range plants and learn management practices that can be used to improve range conditions and help run cattle in an arid, desert environment. Logan also started working with a local veterinarian, drawing medication, assisting with surgery and helping with routine clinic duties. Logan plans to pursue a career in ranching or beef nutrition.

Region 2 - Colten Flitner, Paintrock FFA Colten's SAE is working on his family's operation, Flitner Ranch LLC, a seventh generation ranch in Shell, Wyoming. He began when he was 11, and has gradually added to his skills and taken on additional responsibilities since then. Colten's duties encompass all aspects of the ranch, from taking care of 1,000 head of commercial cattle and overseeing private and leased land to raising horses and crops. Colten maintains four pivots, ensuring the farm's 1,200 acres stay irrigated. He rakes, bales and stacks the majority of the farm's hay, and has been entrusted with researching and purchasing machinery and equipment. Colton is working toward his pilot's license. He plans to pursue a career in flying and open his own spraying company, eventually returning to the ranch to continue the family business.

Region 3 – Seth Thiele, Buffalo FFA Seth works at the Hall Ranch, a ranch in the Bighorn Mountain foothills. He works with the ranch owner tending cattle, haying, fencing and harvesting oats. He spends the majority of his summer taking care of the ranch's hay, irrigating, raking, baling and stacking. Seth has learned how to set up and manage center pivots, side-roll, gated pipe and flood irrigation systems. He also assists with equipment and machinery maintenance to keep older equipment running and prevent downtime. Seth conducts soil analysis on the ranch's rangelands and hay meadows to monitor crop nutrients. He attended the World Dairy Expo for the past two years, working with the Wyoming Business Council to promote the quality of Wyoming hay to dairy farmers. Seth plans to earn degrees in agriculture education and farm business management, and manage a ranch in the future.

Region 5 - Barry Greenwald, Torrington-Lingle FFA Barry works as an employee at Joe Greenwald, Inc., his family's third generation farm. Barry is responsible for feeding and doctoring cattle, maintaining land, raising crops, and mechanical duties such as servicing tractors and trucks. Today, Barry flood irrigates 200 acres with gated pipe, which he says is half of the farm's acreage. He uses new technologies like GPS and drip tape irrigation systems in his work, and is proficient in the operation of grain bins and auger and says he now understands how to properly preserve silage and other feeds. Barry plans to pursue a degree in farm management and run his own farm in the future.

Stars in Agribusiness

Region 1 – Rachelle Harris, Lyman FFA Rachelle's SAE started as a Christmas present from her father. Her business, Sassy Brass, has become a thriving family business. It sells jewelry created from rifle cartridges, reflecting her family's outdoor and hunting heritage. Sassy Brass has products in 50 stores through wholesale



Continued on next page

supplies. Rachelle is involved in all aspects of the business, from creating the jewelry, to contacting potential clients and marketing her product. She has also worked on hiring and managing employees, experimenting with product design and exploring ways of improving efficiency and cutting product costs. Sassy Brass has also created a fundraising opportunity for FFA chapters or schools to sell their products while raising money. Rachelle plans to continue to be involved in Sassy Brass while pursuing a degree in agriculture education.

Region 2 - Burk DeBolt, Chief Washakie FFA Burk started his SAE mowing a few lawns after school for extra money. Four years later, his SAE has grown into a year-round business, caring for lawns, tending flowerbeds, spraying weeds, and removing snow and leaves for numerous clients in the Worland area. Burk oversees all the business and labor aspects of his enterprise, occasionally employing friends and family as laborers when needed. He's also learned to maintain and repair his own equipment, saving his business time and money. Burk's SAE also includes market steers and an emerging sweet tea business. He plans to attend Sheridan College focusing on business and theater.

Region 3 - Clayton Borgialli, Buffalo FFA Clayton owns and operates CJB Haying, his own custom haying business. He started with a single customer that needed manpower in putting up hay, but word of mouth helped his business grow into a thriving operation. Clayton manages the accounts, equipment and three employees. He offers a full range of services, including swathing, baling, stacking and hauling, and can provide round bales or small square bales for his clients. In addition to running the equipment, he also performs all of his own equipment maintenance and repairs. Clayton has learned how to harvest, handle and store a variety of crops, from alfalfa and grass to barley, oats and millet.

Region 4 - Mikayla Zimmerman, Frontier FFA Mikayla wanted to expand her market hog SAE by learning about artificial insemination and farrowing of pigs. She approached her ag teacher with an idea, and the Pinky Project was born. Mikayla and her classmates brought Pinky the sow into the ag shop. Over the next few months, Pinky was artificially inseminated and gave birth to 11 piglets, all under the watchful eye of Mikayla, her classmates and more than 11,000 viewers across the country via a live webcam set up in the shop. Mikayla also created an educational blog, writing and supervising posts about the care of Pinky and her piglets. She plans to expand her social media outreach, and has hired fellow FFA members for positions within her corporation, so they too can gain real-world experience in areas like marketing, accounting and public relations. Mikayla plans to pursue a career as an agriculture lawyer.

Region 5 - Gabrielle Wollert, Torrington/Lingle FFA Gabby is a member of her family's business, Pleasant Valley Greenhouse. She helps with all functions and duties of the business, from tending to plants, to completing inventory and running the cash register. In the off season, Gabby waters plants, plants seeds and transplants flowers, vegetables, roses, trees and shrubs. She is the main cashier during the summer months, interacting with customers to teach them about plant diseases and proper care. When tomato plants began to wither and die unexpectedly, Gabby completed

water testing and found the cause to be high levels of soluble solids in the greenhouse water supply. She helped install a new reverse osmosis system to help alleviate the problem.

Star Farmers

Region 1 - Logan Lupher, Jim Bridger FFA Logan's SAE is beef production. He owns 8 breeding cows, raises a market steer each year and co-owns 175 more cows with his father. He takes care of all his own vaccinating, breeding and calving for his herd. Logan established an artificial insemination program for his herd to improve the genetics of his cattle. He's also learned to drive teams of horses to mow and rake hay, which saves on fuel and equipment costs. Logan plans to follow the footsteps of his father and pursue a career in ranching.

Region 2 - Bree Dooley, Paintrock FFA Bree's SAE focuses on diversified livestock production, with breeding and market beef, sheep and goats. She started her own herd with money her parents had initially set aside for Bree's college career. With the support of her family, Bree turned that tuition into a successful herd with five cows, three heifers and her own bull. In 2014, Bree participated in the Future Cattle Producers of Wyoming program, and received a heifer she showed at last year's State Fair. She also exhibited a number of sheep and goats she raised from her own herd. Bree plans to attend Northwest College majoring agriculture business, and eventually purchase her own ranch.

Region 3 - Jaycie Arndt, Buffalo FFA Jaycie's SAE has commercial cattle registered and commercial goats and sheep, llamas, poultry and horses. She also works on her family's ranch, assisting with duties like mending fences, lambing and calving. Jaycie sells goats and lambs from her flock to fellow FFA and 4-H members. She has created a sustainable demand for her broiler poultry products that she raises, plucks and processes herself. Jaycie's knowledge of animal reproduction, disease prevention and record keeping will help her pursue a career as a veterinarian in the future.

Region 4 - Hunter Petsch, Burns FFA Hunter is a fifth generation rancher. She has a small breeding cattle herd, and makes decisions like which bulls to use, balancing rations and vaccinations. She also assists with her family's feedlot operation. Hunter's calves she has bred and raised have won accolades at shows such as the Wyobraska futurity show. Hunter's own cattle fitting skills were acknowledged when a commercial outfit asked her to prep and show cattle for them at the National Western Stock Show in Denver. She plans to attend LCCC and work toward a degree in agriculture business.

Region 5 - P.D. Miller PD owns and manages his own club-calf based herd and 3 Mill Cattle Company. His herd is made up of 8 cows and 10 replacement heifers. He pays for his feed, pasture and vet bills by working for his parents at M Lazy Heart Ranch. PD sells his club calves to area youth, and has consigned cattle in Nebraska, calf-traders and online sales to increase his network of potential buyers. PD exhibits his own calves at livestock shows like the NILE and National Western Stock Show. He also works at Miller Cattle and Feedyards, processing cattle and feeding. PD plans to work toward an agriculture law degree and continue his club calf operation or return to manage his family's feedlot.

Congratulations 2015 State Honorary Degree recipients

Jeff Berry

Jeff Berry is an agricultural instructor and livestock judging coach at LCCC. Jeff was a Cheyenne FFA member where he showed cattle and judged livestock. He now serves as the superintendent for the Wyoming FFA Livestock Judging Career Development Event. He is responsible for organizing all livestock and logistics of the competition. Wyoming FFA is thankful for Jeff's involvement, time and efforts and enjoys his positive attitude and the goofy smile he brings with him.

The Butcher Block

Alan and Salli Johnson are the owners of The Butcher Block in Laramie, Wyoming. They have been very supportive of the local Snowy Range and Rock Creek FFA Chapters for many years. They donate products for auctions, cook food for banquets, discount food for dinners, allow CDE teams a practice location and are a source of employment for many placement SAE students. In addition, they are generous supporters of the Albany County Junior Livestock auction. They understand the value of youth and invest time and money into growing futures. Alan is a past member of the Snowy Range FFA Chapter. Salli has helped with numerous events, and their two sons have been and are very active FFA members as well.

Cheyenne Area Convention and Visitors Bureau

The Cheyenne Area Convention and Visitors Bureau has supported Wyoming FFA since the state convention was permanently moved to Cheyenne in 1998. CACVB is instrumental in helping with facilities, room blocks and sponsoring a breakfast and lunch during convention. Wyoming FFA is thankful for the committed staff at CACVB and their help hosting the largest youth convention in Wyoming.

Kelcey Christensen

Kelcey Christensen is a past Wyoming FFA member and holds the Wyoming FFA State Degree. He serves as the University of Wyoming meat lab manager. Kelcey has been instrumental in hosting the Meat Evaluation and Technology CDE and several workouts for FFA members throughout the year. Kelcey's knowledge about the meat industry and meat judging has lent to a high quality state competition and success of Wyoming's teams on a national level.

Kelly Groene

Kelly Groene is the owner of GroBusiness Solutions and wife of Torrington FFA Advisor Jason Groene. Over the last three years Kelly has provided awards, t-shirts and volunteer gifts for Wyoming FFA conferences and events. Kelly is always willing to go the extra mile in helping Wyoming FFA, has made donations for numerous events, and can be counted on to provide a quality product and service. Kelly's service to Wyoming FFA and the local chapter are much appreciated.

Garrett Horton

Garrett Horton is a financial officer for Farm Credit Services in Wyoming and a past Wyoming FFA member. Garrett is instrumental in sponsoring and finding the keynote speaker for State FFA Convention. He also serves as the Agricultural Issues CDE superintendent where he is in charge of finding judges and competition logistics. Garrett also helps coach Paintrock FFA's meat judging team.

Laramie County Conservation District

The Laramie County Conservation District and staff are no strangers to supporting youth and FFA. Over the years they've supported the local Laramie County FFA chapters as well as youth events. They also serve as superintendents and co-host to the Environmental and Natural Resource CDE during State Convention as well as provide other practice opportunities for Wyoming FFA members for this event. Their commitment to educating youth about natural resources and their time and efforts supporting FFA is much appreciated.

Laramie County Fair

The Laramie County Fair has always been supportive of the five local FFA chapters in Laramie County. They also hosted the Wyoming FFA Foundation Blue Jeans Ball last October at the Archer Fairgrounds. Fair staff went above and beyond to provide a facility and atmosphere that proved successful for the fundraising event. Thank you to the Laramie County Fair for their continued support of Wyoming FFA Youth.

Dennis Madigan

Dennis Madigan served as the technical director for the Cheyenne Civic Center for thirty years. In his role at the Civic Center he worked with the Wyoming FFA Association the last 17 years during the Wyoming State FFA Convention. Dennis was an integral part of making sure the technical aspects of the convention stage program was a success. From hanging banners to wiring state FFA officers for their retiring addresses, Dennis ensured the technological requests were completed.

Frosty Malone

Frosty Malone is actively engaged in agriculture activities no matter the day. She works alongside of her husband Bryan at the Woody Ranch in Robertson. Her sons, Ty and Tel, are very active in agriculture, FFA and 4-H. Frosty was instrumental in the Jim Bridger FFA Alumni reorganization and has served on the board for the past 12 years. She has also contributed to activities for the local chapter, including training judging teams, providing show animals, serving as a chaperon and helping with fundraisers. Frosty is a member of the 4-H Council, Pork Council, and Stock Sale Committee. She was a former State FFA Officer in 1992-1993. Thank you, Frosty for your dedication to the Jim Bridger FFA Chapter and Wyoming FFA.

Brice McIntosh

Brice McIntosh is currently the Agricultural Education Instructor and FFA Advisor for the Saddle and Sirloin Chapter in Newcastle. Formerly, he was a member of the Casper FFA and finished his high school career as a member of the Wheatland FFA chapter, where he was involved in Meats Evaluation and Farm Business Management. Brice

began his career teaching in Shoshoni for two years before replacing advisor Mr. Ed Merrill in Newcastle. His passion for agriculture drives him to motivate kids not only in the classroom, but in life. He would like to thank all of the people who have helped him along the way including the numerous Ag teachers but most of all his students as they are the reason he loves his job.

Justin Mills

Justin is a lender with Platte Valley Bank, serving Weston County. He has been involved in agriculture outside of FFA since the day he finished serving as a state FFA officer in 1995. As a college student, Justin helped with the FFA Leadership Camp as a counselor and board member. In every occupation he's held, Justin continued to stay involved with FFA. As a broadcaster for Northern Ag Network, he would attend the Wyoming State Fair each summer and interview FFA students and scholarship recipients for his programs. After taking over at the NILE, Justin continued to invest in youth and agriculture through the NILE Merit Heifer program. Since moving back to Wyoming in 2013, Justin quickly reconnected with his Wyoming FFA roots. The local chapter has been guest wrestlers at the X Ring Ranch's branding, which Justin is currently running with the help of his family. Justin has been full circle, from media support of FFA, to showing opportunities for kids, and now to raising his own kids to be involved in the industry he has given his life to, agriculture.

Phillip Scheel

Phillip Scheel is the owner of Tumbleweed Propane, Inc., in Thermopolis. He has been involved in FFA since he attended high school in Pine Bluffs. He continues to be a very active part FFA by helping found the Thermopolis FFA Alumni Association, where he still serves as president. Phillip spends a lot of time each year helping develop extra activities for people to enjoy during the Hot Springs County Fair, such as the pig wrestling competition, ag olympics and the Over-the-Hill Showmanship competition. He makes himself available to help students with their showmanship, speaking, and parliamentary procedure questions.

Codey and Kody Stocks

Codey and Kody Stocks are both past FFA members and Codey is a past Wyoming FFA State Officer. They own and operate KC Incorporated and Savery Creek Outfitters in Dixon, Wyoming. For the past three years they've provided embroidered and laser engraved awards for state convention, and embroidered gear for the state FFA officers. The Stocks have also donated fishing trips to the Wyoming FFA Foundation for the Blue Jeans Ball. They give back to Wyoming FFA because they understand the importance of developing leadership in our youth and know of no other program that provides what FFA does for its members.

Dr. Monte Stokes

Dr. Monte Stokes has been instrumental in developing and implementing the Wyoming FFA Veterinary Science Career Development Event. As a staff member of Eastern Wyoming College Dr. Stokes is always looking for a way to involve and develop Wyoming FFA members and all young people in the areas of veterinary science and agriculture in general. Dr. Stokes is an honest and hard-working man who believes in the future of agriculture and the leaders of tomorrow.

Lacy Teigen

Lacy has been actively involved with Wyoming FFA since her freshman year with the Snowy Range FFA chapter. Lacy continued using the horse judging skills learned in the FFA by attending LCCC to judge horses and then to the University of Wyoming. Since her freshman year in college, she has helped with many aspects of Wyoming FFA's horse evaluation competition. Lacy is the current Superintendent for the Horse Evaluation CDE. She is the LCCC horse judging team coach and is studying to earn her Master's degree in agriculture business.

Ty Vallier

Ty Vallier was part of the Rock Creek FFA as a member for three years during High School. While in the FFA he was elected to the offices of Vice President and President. He enrolled at the University of Wyoming and graduated in 2012. He then went on to teach in Sutherland, Neb. for two years before coming back to Rock River to be the Ag Teacher and FFA Advisor of the Rock Creek FFA Chapter.

Rick Vonburg

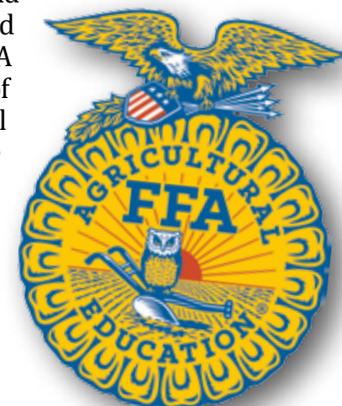
Rick Vonburg is a past member and Wyoming FFA State Officer. Rick is an agricultural instructor and the Business and Technology Division Chair at Eastern Wyoming College. Rick has been instrumental in building a positive relationship between Wyoming FFA and Eastern Wyoming College with his help hosting the Veterinary Science Career Development Event and providing scholarships and sponsorships to Wyoming FFA members.

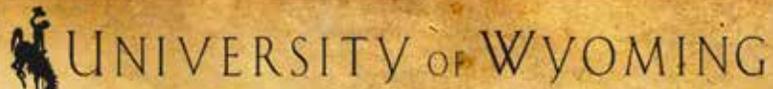
Wyoming Trophy and Engraving, Terry and Judy LaHiff

Terry and Judy LaHiff are the owners of Wyoming Trophy and Engraving in Cheyenne. Wyoming FFA has had a long standing relationship of more than 30 years with the LaHiffs and their business. Trophy and Engraving provides numerous awards for state convention and has donated several awards over the years. Wyoming FFA appreciates the quality of product and service they have provided over the years and looks forward to a continued relationship with them.

Wil Zollman

Wil Zollman is an agriculture education teacher and FFA advisor at Lovell High school. He has dedicated many years of service to students and the FFA organization. Currently in his thirteenth year of teaching, Wil hopes to continue building a successful program at Lovell High School. As a member of the Oregon FFA association, Wil held greenhand and chapter president positions. Through the years as a teacher and advisor, his students in both Idaho and Wyoming have won many awards and have been very competitive in a variety of CDEs.





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Meet Wyoming's 1974-75 State Officer Team

"I felt our team was a very close knit group," recalls Kem Ellis, 1974-75 Wyoming FFA Reporter. "It didn't matter what part of the state we came from, we all worked together for the betterment of the team and doing what we could for the organization.

"Everybody had a car but Jay. So what did our team do? We bought him a convertible jalopy to get around in! It kind of was a joke, but I know that car was around several years later and he was still driving it!"

Ellis says, "We live in a different world today. FFA isn't just about agriculture anymore. There is way more to it than just machinery and livestock! Think of the technology and the data kept on livestock performance. Trends may change but we still need performance in whatever field we may be standing in be it the cornfield, a medical office, a muddy corral or a classroom. I believe the leadership skills learned in FFA helped me in my adult life as an educator and serving on the National Paint Horse Association Board of Directors. FFA has and always will develop character, leadership skills and productive citizens. Boils down to hard work pays off no matter what we choose to do."

After serving as a state FFA officer Ellis became a teacher. He taught in Oklahoma and South Dakota and was recognized as the Outstanding Elementary Teacher of Rapid City Area Schools.

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Frontier FFA

VICE PRESIDENT
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SECRETARY
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TREASURER
Bryce Westlake
Wind River FFA

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Meet Wyoming's '04-'05 State Officer Team

"Our team consisted of three men and six women. The women were tough," recalls 2004-2005 Wyoming FFA President Brendan Thoman. "They kept the men in line. On one occasion when deciding where the team would stay on an evening after FFA camp, a brawl nearly broke out but was stopped short by the tiredness of the late night.

"Together we kept each other honest. When a potato gun was constructed and brought to the summer FFA camp it was determined that the tool would be off limits until the camp was over. Upon camp's completion it was recorded that the gun launched a stuffed 'Big Bird' Donovan had coveted from the mess hall parking area to what appeared to be Cabin 3 when it fell back into the atmosphere."

Thoman continued, "However, the most incredible thing we all endured was the passing of Donovan in 2013. After complications from cancer treatment took his life, we were shown the selflessness that one man could portray. When Donovan's mother asked him in grief why this had to happen to him, he simply answered, 'Why not me?'"

Thoman shares, "Many of the members of our team are mothers and have a start to wonderful families. One is an FFA advisor at the Windy City Chapter in Casper. One has her doctoral degree and graduated from Florida in Animal Production. We are all living throughout the United States, but share the same passion for FFA and passion to serve in whatever capacity wherever we find ourselves."

Thoman says, "FFA becomes more than advanced leadership training. True leadership is service. To serve, people must look beyond themselves and toward the betterment of others around them. In this spirit we grow as an FFA community and as a people. People who work in agriculture derive their livelihood from the ground. They are folks very 'grounded' in the law of nature and of honest dealing. If anything, FFA has taught this — that a background in agriculture is the foundation to go anywhere. The 'foundation' must always be kept in mind, however."

Brendan now works as an engineer and production agriculturist in Riverton. He is currently the president of the Wyoming FFA Foundation.

PRESIDENT
Brendan Thoman
Wind River FFA

VICE PRESIDENT
Donovan Buckman
Chief Washakie

2ND VICE PRESIDENT
Joslyn Ratcliff
Pine Bluffs FFA

3RD VICE PRESIDENT
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Jessie Atkinson
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REPORTER
Clayton Elliott
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Wyoming FFA Association chapter award program

The Wyoming Chapter Award program recognizes FFA chapters that successfully complete an annual Program of Activities and the Chapter Award Application which includes a series of activities designed to encourage its members to grow as individuals, to work as part of a team, and to serve others.

Wyoming's top gold chapter award winners are eligible to compete for the National FFA Star Chapter Awards.

GOLD EMBLEM

Little Snake River FFA • Bow River FFA • Buffalo FFA • Casper FFA
Clear Creek FFA • Frontier FFA • Gillette FFA • High Plains FFA
Kaycee FFA • Paintrock FFA • Powell-Shoshone FFA
Rock Creek FFA • Snowy Range FFA • Windy City FFA
Wright FFA

SILVER EMBLEM

Buffalo Bill FFA • Chief Washakie FFA • Lovell FFA • Meeteetse FFA
Pine Bluffs FFA • Pinedale FFA Riverton FFA • Shoshoni FFA
Rocky Mountain FFA
John B. Kendrick FFA
Torrington/Lingle FFA

Caleb's favorite quote:
When God pushes you to the edge,
trust Him fully. Only two things can
happen. Either He will catch you
when you fall or He will teach you
how to fly.



BRONZE EMBLEM

Big Country FFA • Douglas FFA
Evanston FFA • Jim Bridger FFA
Lander FFA • Lyman FFA
Sundance FFA • Ten Sleep FFA
Thermopolis FFA

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Students compete in Career Development Events

While in Cheyenne for the 2015 Wyoming FFA Convention, the state's FFA members will compete in a variety of Career Development Events. Otherwise known as CDEs, these competitions are designed to simulate future career options and allow students to explore potential disciplines.

We'd like to provide you with a glimpse of the CDE competitions to be held at the 2015 Wyoming FFA Convention. We'd also like to introduce you to the sponsors who will help this year's winning teams make the trip to the National FFA Convention to represent the great state of Wyoming! Each of this year's winning teams will receive a \$1,000 check from the Wyoming FFA Foundation to help offset the costs associated with traveling to compete at the National FFA Convention.

In the **Meats Evaluation and Technology CDE**, competitors' skills and competencies in evaluating and identifying meat carcasses and products are tested. FFA members better know their retail cuts, carcass quality and be familiar with merchandising and more! The champion team will receive \$1,000 from the Wyoming FFA Foundation to help with their trip to represent Wyoming at the National FFA Convention. The second place team will receive funds to support their trip to represent Wyoming at the National Western Stock Show. Thanks to Steve and Jackie Palm, and John and Stacy Broda for sponsoring the second place team.

When it comes to the **Agricultural Sales CDE**, FFA members are called upon to give a sales presentation, ask questions about customer relations and compete as a team.

Know your seeds, insects, soils and crops if you're planning to compete in the **Agronomy CDE**.

Competitors may also be asked to find solutions for a potential challenge in the agronomy field. This year's winning team

will travel to the National FFA Convention with support from the University of Wyoming College of Agriculture.

Do you have the mind for solving environmental and natural resource challenges? Competitors in the **Environmental and Natural Resources CDE** can talk soil profiles, air and water quality, waste



management and environmental analysis. They're also handy with GPS navigation! The Wyoming Rural Electric Association and the Wyoming Natural Resource Foundation are sponsoring this year's winning team.

Contemporary agricultural issues take center stage in the **Agricultural Issues Forum**. Teams must design a presentation addressing multiple viewpoints on an issue of their choosing. Thanks to the Rocky Mountain Farmers' Union and FUSA Insurance Agency for again sponsoring this year's winning team.



FFA competitors in **Farm Business Management** have been sharpening their pencils to apply economic principles and concepts in analyzing farm and ranch business management decisions. A sponsor is currently being sought for this competition.

FFA members competing in the **Marketing Plan CDE** have been developing a marketing plan and polishing their presentation. Their plans focus on introducing new ag products, supplies or services or improving the marketing of an existing product. Thanks to TR Custom Wicking, the Randall Family and Gluten Free Harvest for sponsoring this year's champion team.

Poultry Evaluation CDE competitors can select top quality poultry and poultry products needed for successful production and marketing. Participants judge meat, eggs and live birds.

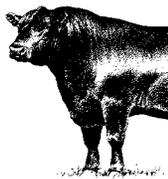


Ag Technology and Mechanical Systems CDE participants have been working on their problem-solving skills, studying machinery and equipment systems and learning about structures, energy and electricity. This year's champion team will travel to the 2015 National FFA Convention with support from Andreen-Hunt Construction of Casper.



From halter to performance classes, FFA members in the **Horse Evaluation CDE** are learning everything equine and preparing to defend their decisions through reasons.

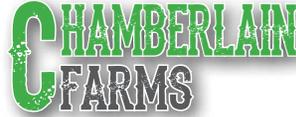
Weaver Ranch of Colorado and Wyoming is a long-time sponsor of Wyoming's champion **Livestock Evaluation CDE** team. FFA members in this competition can judge beef, sheep, swine and goats. They're also prepared to defend their decisions.





Who doesn't appreciate a well-run meeting? FFA members in the **Parliamentary Procedure CDE** can share the ins and outs when it comes to Robert's Rules of Order. Participants must prove their knowledge on a written exam and then demonstrate their skills as a team. Thanks to the Wyoming Farm Bureau for again sponsoring this year's champion team.

Veterinary Science, sponsored by Chamberlain Farms of Casper and Lazy H Large Animal Services, LLC of Gillette, tests students' animal health knowledge and assesses their familiarity with current topics in the veterinary industry.



Delivering the **FFA Creed** allows FFA members to familiarize themselves with the organization's beliefs while developing their ability to communicate in a powerful, organized and professional manner. Sagebrush Marketing, owned by Chris & Jennifer Womack, is sponsoring the 2015 Creed Speaking competition.



Wyoming FFA members will wow you in the **Prepared Public Speaking**. After writing a speech on a topic of their choice, they're asked to memorize it and deliver it in a clear, concise and convincing manner. Northern Ag Network, heard daily on radios across Wyoming, is the sponsor of this year's event.

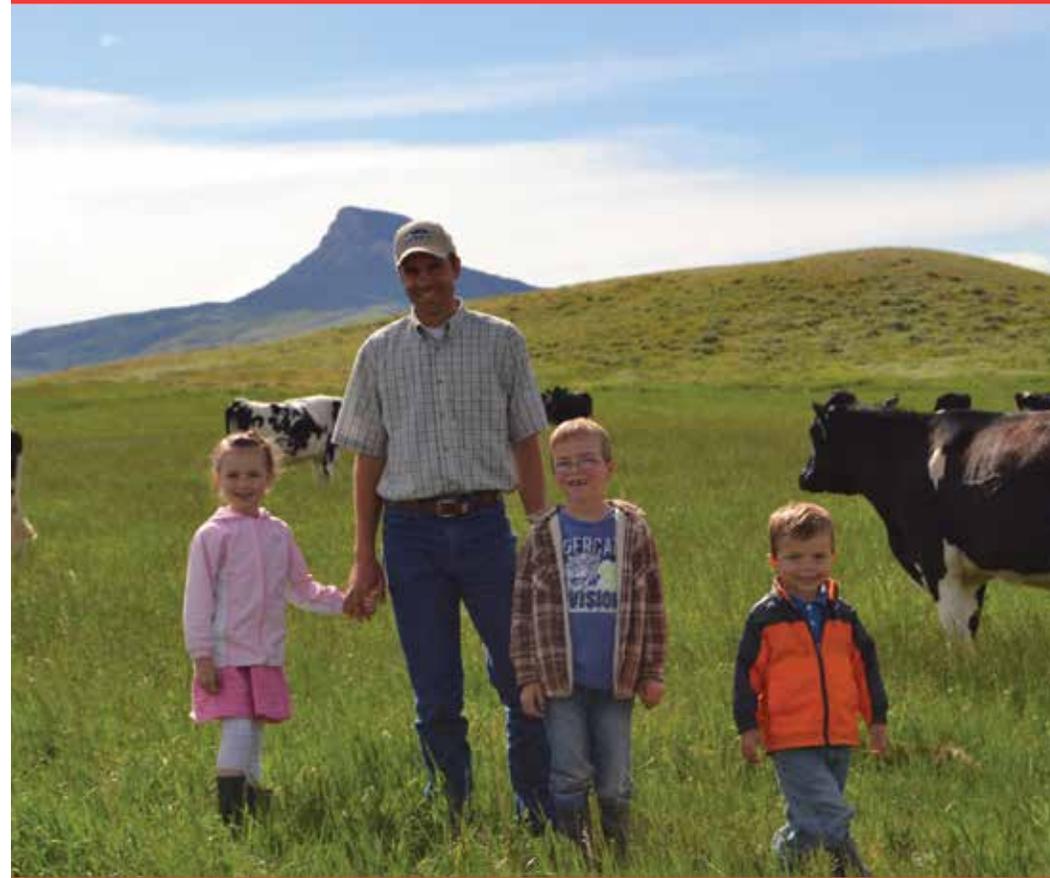


Wyoming's **Extemporaneous Public Speaking CDE** is designed to recognize outstanding FFA members for their ability to prepare and present a factual speech on a specific agricultural issue in a well thought out and logical manner. Members select one topic from a choice of categories, have 30 minutes to prepare a four to six minute speech, and respond to five minutes of questions following delivery. Thanks to Hageman law, P.C. of Cheyenne for sponsoring this year's competition.



The 2015 Wyoming FFA Convention will be busy with FFA members who worked hard in preparation for the 2015 Career Development Events. We wish everyone the best of luck and hope their hard work pays off!

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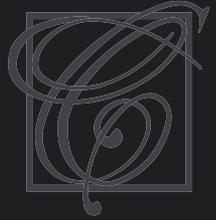
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**For more info. contact:
Heath Hornecker**

hhornecker@caspercollege.edu
307-268-2525 • 800-442-2963, ext. 2525



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