DALTON EASON, JR., FAYETTE
One of Alabama's Four First-place National FFA Proficiency Winners
See Page 4
Alabama Takes National Honors

(1) John Robert Borden, center, Gardendale, first-place national winner in Ornamental Horticulture, is congratulated by his principal, Eddie Pruden, and FFA advisor, S. R. White.

(2) Randy Gillespie, left, Speake, No. 1 winner nationally in Poultry Production, shares a happy moment with advisor J. C. Shewbart.

(3) James Odell, Town Creek, won third in the nation in Placement in Agriculture Production.

(4) Citronelle advisor George Terrell and member Ronald Turner admire their chapter's Silver Emblem in Safety.

(5) Spencer Means, right, Eutaw, receives an "Oscar" from National Vice President Kevin Hall for his speaking at the Convention.

(6) Dalton Eason, Jr., second left, of Fayette and the top FFA Forestry Manager in the U.S., poses with M. F. Carroll, his advisor; Mrs. Mary George Waite, Alabama FFA Foundation Chairman; and Robert Hoskins, Southern Regional FFA Foundation Chairman.

(7) Elton Bouldin, Crossville, shows off his chapter's Gold Emblem won in the National Chapter program.

(8) John Lewis, left, is proud of Alabama's Bronze Emblem, Mechanics team composed of Blountsville's Gary Foust and John Patterson and Citronelle's Ronald Turner.

(9) Cullman advisor K. R. Ball, right, and former student Jerry Whatley are all smiles about Jerry's first-place national win in Placement in Processing.

(10) Three of Alabama's four Honorary American Farmer Ag Teachers honored at the Convention are John Yates, Town Creek; D. P. Whitten, Centre; and Earl Gardner, Centre.

Reporter Honor Roll

Billy Underwood, Ardmore
Richard Hammonds, Crossville
Larry Walls, Douglas
John Summerford, Falkville
Michael Allen, East Limestone
Terrell Leverett, Goshen
Danny Wilson, Grove Hill-Blue
Henry Barron, Maplesville
Charles Marshall, Marengo County Training
Kenny Jones, McKenzie
Phillip Black, Millport
Robert Johnson, Sylvania
Terry Dutton, West Point
Ulysses Smoot, Winterboro
William Lindsey, B. B. Comer "A"
Tommy Glasgow, Waterloo
“Silver And Gold, Have I None”

Sammy Peebles, Past FFA Vice President
Southern Region

Peter and John were like me in one respect, anyway. They didn’t have any money. But, that wasn’t important, because they had something better. Peter is remembered for his: “Silver and gold, have I none, but such as I have I give thee. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.” And the beggar He addressed did! It was a miracle! He was healed! He had a new life because someone was willing to give what they had.

The gift of giving, what an amazing quality. In this year as a National FFA officer lots of folks have given much to me. I owe much thanks to many. First, of course, I thank God above for his concern for one little knucklehead down in the swamps of Brewton, Alabama. I thank my family and five brothers—Tim, Dennis, Phil, Kevin and Cliff (fellow National Officers) for their fantastic friendship. And I thank all of you, each individual, for the laughs and lessons you have given to me. Though this has been the most enjoyable year of my life, I have seen many sad sights. I have seen many people badly in need of gifts. But, just as the lame beggar, they are not really in need of silver and gold.

The gift of giving, what an amazing quality. In this year as a National FFA officer lots of folks have given much to me. I owe much thanks to many. First, of course, I thank God above for his concern for one little knucklehead down in the swamps of Brewton, Alabama. I thank my family and five brothers—Tim, Dennis, Phil, Kevin and Cliff (fellow National Officers) for their fantastic friendship. And I thank all of you, each individual, for the laughs and lessons you have given to me. Though this has been the most enjoyable year of my life, I have seen many sad sights. I have seen many people badly in need of gifts. But, just as the lame beggar, they are not really in need of silver and gold.

The only thing one has to do to hear a lonely voice or see a lonely face is to look and listen.

“Lonely voices crying in the city, "Lonely voices sounding like a child, Lonely voices come from busy people, Too disturbed to stop a little while. Lonely faces—I see them in the subway, Burdened by the worries of the day; Men at leisure, but they’re so unhappy, Tired of foolish roles they try to play.”

“Lonely people do I see. Lonely people on my memory.” Well, there you have it. That’s the way it is yesterday, today and tomorrow—people with problems, lonely people needing someone to care and share. Now, this is where we enter. Vile are the answers. Silver and gold we may not have, but...

The old cobbler stretched and yawned. It had been a good night’s sleep and what a fantastic thing had happened. As he slept an angel came into his dreams and told him that the Lord was coming to his house for supper the very next night. Now the cobbler must get ready for his very special guest. First, he made a fine pair of shoes for his visitor. Next he prepared a most tremendous meal. Then in the late afternoon he began to carefully clean his home. As he was dusting a knock came on his door. He opened it and there stood a most pathetic sight, a husky man with no shoes and bleeding feet. "Could you possibly give me a pair of shoes?" he asked. The cobbler replied that all he had was the pair saved for a very special guest. But, this man was in desperate need, so the cobbler gave him the shoes.

It wasn’t long until another knock came upon the cobbler’s door. This time it was a half starved woman and her baby. The only food in the house had been prepared for the Master, but this woman was in need. The cobbler fed the woman and her child and wondered what the Lord would think when there was no food prepared.

Back to the cleaning he thought, but a third time a knock came. This time it was a crying child upset because he was lost. "Well," thought the cobbler, "the Master will probably come while I’m gone but this little lad is in need." So off went the cobbler and the boy to find his home.

Later that night as the cobbler lay again in his bed he wondered, "Why did the Lord not come? He said he would. Oh, maybe he came while I was gone. I wish I had stayed home. I wish the Lord would have come so I could have served Him." Then out of the darkness strong but quiet words came, "I was hungry and ye fed me, I was naked and ye clothed me. I was lost and ye showed me the way. Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye did it unto me.

Silver and gold we may not have, but what we do have we can give. We must give. Give. And may God bless your gifts.
Four First-Places
Go To Alabama
At Kansas City

Alabama FFA members captured an unprecedented four first-place national awards in FFA proficiency competition at the 45th National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. Judging results from the 15 contest areas indicate Alabama led the nation in turning out winners.

Alabama FFA'ers grabbing top national honors were Randy Gillespie, Speake, poultry production; Jerry Whatley, Cullman, placement in processing; Dalton Eason, Jr., Fayette, forest management; and John Robert Borden, Gardendale, ornamental horticulture.

Additionally, James Odell, Town Creek, placed third in the placement in agriculture program.

First-place winners received $250 premiums while other national winners got $200. In addition, winners received travel allowances.

A big time poultry producer, Randy Gillespie of Speake has a 40 per cent interest in a family-owned layer business in Lawrence County which moves 288,000 eggs daily from hen to carton to market. Eggs are processed on the same farm where they are grown by Gillespie.

Gillespie, who is physically handicapped, uses automatic equipment to offset his disability.

Cullman FFA member Jerry Whatley has converted his interest in a family-owned layer business in Lawrence County which moves 288,000 eggs daily from hen to carton to market. Eggs are processed on the same farm where they are grown by Gillespie.

Cullman FFA member Jerry Whatley has converted training started through an agribusiness education cooperative-type work experience program in meat processing to a managerial role in the same slaughterhouse and meat market where he initiated his on-the-job training. Already a partner in the business, Whatley is working toward ownership.

Dalton Eason, Jr., Fayette’s star lumberjack, has planted over 31,000 pine seedlings during his four years as an agribusiness student and FFA member. He has thinned 135 acres of forest land and has harvested over 785 acres. In the forestry business to stay, Eason has his own pulpwood truck and logging equipment.

John Robert Borden of Gardendale is a successful nurseryman whose first interest in ornamental horticulture was sparked by working in his uncles’ greenhouses. He worked in a local garden center and last year managed the local nursery outlet. Today he has his own full-time greenhouse and nursery business which is returning a good income to its founder.

WELDING PROFICIENCY DEMONSTRATED—Michael Whisenhunt, left, is a welder and he has the project he made in Cullman's agribusiness shop to prove it. K. R. Ball, right, Michael's agribusiness teacher, says: "The project proves the 'un estimatable potential' of modern-day youth."

SAND MOUNTAIN FFA SORGHUM—Taking advantage of the good reputation and ready market for Sand Mountain syrup, Boaz FFA members, under the leadership of their advisor, Marion Jackson, raised and harvested a sugar cane crop on school property. "The crop should net the chapter treasury $500," Jackson said.

COMPLIMENTED—H. N. Lewis, Agribusiness Livestock Specialist, Auburn, was anonymously awarded a Lifetime Membership in the American Vocational Association at this year's Ag Teachers' Annual Conference in Mobile.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDED—Sammy Peebles, left, Alabama's 1972 contribution to the National FFA Officer Team, commends B. P. Dilworth, Montgomery, for his illustrious promotion of FFA.

CENTRE PRODUCES FOUR AMERICAN FARMERS—D. P. Whitten, left, Johnny Williams, Mrs. George Waite, and Earl Gardner comprise Centre's bumper crop of American Farmers. Whitten, Waite, and Gardner got honorary degrees while Williams was awarded the regular degree for active FFA participation. Mrs. Waite was the third woman in the nation and the first from Alabama to be so honored.
Alabama Gets 27
American Farmers

Twenty-seven Future Farmers from Alabama have been tapped as American Farmer Degree recipients by the National FFA Association. Of this number are, front row; Mike Wise, Samson; Robert Paige, Stanhope Elmore; Johnny Williams, Centre; Gerald Salter, Covington; and John C. Sessions, Evergreen. Back row, Horace Lee, Aliceville; Gary Irons, Waterloo; Lowell Hadder, Jasper; James Gottler, Foley; Herbert Brown, Evergreen; Rodney Grace, Jasper; and Randall Forester, Curry.

A DOZEN AMERICAN FARMERS—Twelve of Alabama's 27 American Farmers this year are, front row; Mike Wise, Samson; Robert Paige, Stanhope Elmore; Johnny Williams, Centre; Gerald Salter, Covington; and John C. Sessions, Evergreen. Back row, Horace Lee, Aliceville; Gary Irons, Waterloo; Lowell Hadder, Jasper; James Gottler, Foley; Herbert Brown, Evergreen; Rodney Grace, Jasper; and Randall Forester, Curry.

Leonard Roberson - Clio
Milton Horace Lee, Jr. - Aliceville
“A”
Tommy McBrayer - West Point
Loyd Eddy - West Point
Michael Freeman - West Point
Earl Bludworth - Sylacauga
James Neal Frost - Sylacauga
Johnny Dale Williams - Centre
Lowell Hadder - Jasper
Gerald Vinson Salter - Evergreen
Herbert Ellis Brown - Evergreen
Rodney L. Grace - Jasper
Randall Keith Forrester - Curry
James H. Gottler - Foley
Gary Wayne Irons - Waterloo
Murphy Abernathy - Sparkman
Wayne Culps - Sparkman
James Heard - Sparkman
John Crum Sessions - Evergreen
Jeff McKenzie - Section

In qualifying for their high degrees, these FFA'ers established records in leadership which included participation in state and national level FFA activities, an active involvement in school and community, and an earning of $1000 or more from production agriculture or agribusiness occupational programs.

ALABAMA PARTICIPANTS IN THE 1972 NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION

National Award Winners
Poultry Production—Randy Gillespie, Speak, first
Placement in Agriculture Production—Jerry Whatley, Cullman, first
Ornamental Horticulture—John Robert Borden, Gardendale, first
Placement in Processing—Jeddy Whatley, Cullman, first
Forestry Management—Dalton Eason, Jr., Fayette, first
Chapter Contest—Crossville Chapter
Represented by Elton Bouldin, Gold Emblem
Safety Contest—Crossville Chapter
Represented by Ronald Turner, Silver Emblem
BOAC Competition—Boaz Chapter
Represented by Terry Burk, Gold Emblem

American Farmers (Active Members)
Herbert Brown, Gerald Salter, John Crum Sessions, Evergreen; Gary Irons, Waterloo; Randall Forester, Curry; Milton H. Lee, Jr., Aliceville; Robert E. Page, Jr., Stanhope Elmore; Mike Wise, Samson; James H. Gittler, Foley; Rodney Grace, Lowell Hadder, Jasper; James Neal Frost, Sylacauga; Johnny Williams, Centre; and Kenny Morrow, Red Bay.

National Band
Jim Griffiths, Foley
Greg Hawkins, Pell City
National Vice President
Sammy Peebles, Brewton

National Officer Candidate
Kenny Morrow, Red Bay

Official Delegates
Steve Fowler, Wicksburg; Terry Johnson, Geraldine; Roger Page, Red Bay; and Tim DeLoach, Weogufka.

National Judging Teams
Dairy Cattle—Collinsville (Randy Smith, Bruce Tarrant, Talmage Fowler and Dennis Myers); Livestock—Thomaston (Al Mosley, Rickey Daniels, Ronnie Stokes and Bruce Crocker); Mechanics—Blountsville-Crossville (Gary Foos, John Patterson, Ronald Turner)

Program Speaker
Spencer Means, Jr., Eutaw

Honorary American Farmers
Earl Gardner, D. F. Whitten, Mrs. Mary George Waite, Centre; John Yates, Town Creek.

Distinguished Service
B. P. Dilworth, Montgomery

Degree and Contest Assistants
G. L. White, Ag-Ed Staff, Auburn; Jim Edwards, Alabama Power Co., Birmingham; D. C. Fleming, Evergreen; Earl Gartner, Centre; William Walker, Waterloo.

Coordination of Delegation
C. W. Reed, Ag-Ed Staff, Montgomery; J. C. Hollis, Ag-Ed Staff, Jacksonville; V. S. Eaddy, Auburn University

National Press Room
Cecil Gant, Ag-Ed Staff, Auburn

Teacher Educator Conference
V. S. Eaddy, Auburn University; E. L. Donald, Tuskegee Institute

Alumni Meeting
George Terrell, Citronelle

Guests
Eddie Pruden, Gardendale; Ward Gillespie, Moulton; Mrs. George Terrell, Citronelle; Mrs. W. W. Dulaney, Sparkman; Willie Powers, Donald Edward Drakes, Edward Drake, Tuskegee Institute; Mrs. John Lott, Blountsville; L. B. Whatley, Hanceville.

Other Local Advisors
James Garrison, Alexandria; Sherrell White, Gardendale; W. J. Holland, Stanhope Elmore; Bobby Hanks, Foley; W. W. Dulaney, Sparkman; J. C. Shawbart, Speak, Leonard Moore, Fairhope; J. L. Pritchett, Thomaston; Jack Eldred, Collinsville; John Lewis, Blountsville; E. W. Underwood, Eutaw; and Roy Ball, Cullman.

Other Local Members
Danny Singleton, Centre; Gary Webb, Roger Ruby, Sparkman; William L. Carney, Fairhope; Webb McGhee, Robertsdale; Alan Yalkow, Alexandria; Brett Saxon, Ochotee; Raymond Stokes, Walter Wellborn; and Dennis Cunningham, Millport.
FIRST-PLACE WINNER—The Speake FFA Chapter won top money of $400 at the Alabama State Fair in Birmingham with its exhibit on "Agribusiness Makes America the Best Fed Nation in the World."

FIRST-PLACE WINNER—Goodwater FFA's display, "An Apple a Day . . . The FFA Way," netted the chapter around $275 at the South Alabama State Fair in Montgomery.

FIRST-PLACE WINNER—Cottonwood dressed up its idea depleting FFA as a Builder of Tomorrow in traditional blue and gold to win first in its class at Dothan's National Peanut Festival.

SECOND-PLACE WINNER in Montgomery was Goshen.

THIRD-PLACE WINNER in Montgomery was Clio.

SECOND-PLACE WINNER at the Alabama State Fair was Southside.

SECOND-PLACE WINNER in Montgomery was Chelsea.

SECOND-PLACE WINNER at the Alabama State Fair was Jacksonville.

THIRD-PLACE WINNER in Montgomery was West Point.

THIRD-PLACE WINNER in Birmingham was Lexington.

We Salute
At press time, a number of FFA chapters have subscribed 100% to The Alabama FFA Reporter. The Opp, Jacksonville, Hokes Bluff and West Point chapters have subscribed to 200 or more copies. A special thanks to you.
Guntersville Takes Sears Bull Show

Kenneth Dixon, Guntersville, and his FFA chapter's Brahman bull walked away from the Sears FFA Bull Show last month with top honors. This show was held in conjunction with the South Alabama State Fair.

Clyde Mitchell, agribusiness teacher at Guntersville, says young Dixon not only won with the bull, he trained him. "In fact," Mitchell elaborated, "Kenneth is the only one that can get that close to the bull."

"Not long ago I made a routine check on the bull at Kenneth's home," continues Mitchell, "and in finding Kenneth away, I decided to look the animal over anyway. I won't tell you everything but that bull kept me hemmed in the barn two hours," confesses Mitchell.

"But with Kenneth, the big Brahman's as gentle as a lamb," said Mitchell.

Ricky Canada, Gaylesville, showed his chapter's Polled Hereford bull to good enough advantage for second-place. Clanton was third; Aliceville, fourth; and Sidney Lanier, fifth.

Showmanship honors went to Robert Hand, Sidney Lanier, first; Dwight Blakney, Aliceville, second; and Roger Herrring, Kinston, third.

Other FFA chapters participating in the show were Dozier, Linden, Cleveland, and Priceville.

Dr. W. M. Warren, Animal Science Department, Auburn University, judged the show.

KENNETH DIXON, left, Guntersville, receives credentials from Earl Kitchens, Montgomery Sears Store, for exhibiting the No. 1 bull in the State Show held in Montgomery last month. Sears sponsors the bull program in Alabama.

SPEAKING OF DECISIONS — Psychiatrist: "Do you have trouble making up your mind?"

Patient: "Well—yes and no."

EVERY TIME 10 MEMBERS OF YOUR GROUP EACH SELL 10 CANS OF OLD-FASHIONED PEANUT BRITTLE AT ONLY $1.00 PER CAN!

MAKE $50 CASH

100% MARK-UP
This delicious old-fashioned Peanut Brittle, in new flavor-scaled, easy-open cans, costs your group only 50¢ each and sells for $1.00!

NO INVESTMENT
Your group can order 100 to 1,000 cans today! Take up to 30 days to send payment. When ordering, give your name, title, phone number and complete address, the name, address, etc., of 2nd officer, name of club, school, church or group, quantity desired, and nearest Freight Office (no parcel post). Extras sent FREE to cover shipping cost east of Rockies. Offer Open to Groups Only!
Junior Hog Winners Announced

FFA'er Shows Champion

If there were such a thing as a king of junior hog exhibitors this fall, Ronald Hovey, Slocomb FFA member, would be wearing a triple-crown!

Hovey participated in the Birmingham, Montgomery and Dothan fairs, and in each of these shows he had the Grand Champion and Reserve Champion boars over all the junior show.

His hogs? Premium Chester Whites.

And, they’re not all boars. Hovey’s Swine Exhibition included 16 Chesters which he produced on his own farm. He personally conditioned and trained each animal.

Alabama chapters and members participating in the state’s five Sears-sponsored hog shows were from Slocomb, Hartford, Wicksburg, Straughn, Fairhope, Evergreen, Castleberry, Repton, and Lyeffion.

Showing also were exhibitors from Uriah, J. F. Shield, Bay Minette, Coffeeville, Marshall at Evergreen, McIntosh Union, Citronelle, and Woodland.

Also included were Notasulga, Pell City, Guntersville, Reform, and Autaugaville.

In addition to shows at Birmingham, Montgomery, and Dothan, Alabama FFA’ers participated in the hog shows at the Mobile and Columbus (Ga.) fairs.

CHAMPION HAMPShIRE BOAR exhibitor, Mickey Pinson, Pell City, is congratulated by L. L. Sellers.

CHAMPION Duroc gilt over all the Junior Hog Show in Montgomery was exhibited by Mac Wayne Donnell and owned by Ronnie Outlaw of Hartford. Mac Wayne, right, receives rosette from L. L. Sellers.

CHAMPION AMONG CHAMPIONS—Ronald Hovey, right, Slocomb FFA member, with his fine Chester White boars had both the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion overall in Montgomery, Birmingham, and Dothan. L. L. Sellers, Superintendent of the Junior Hog Show, held in conjunction with Montgomery’s South Alabama State Fair, names Hovey a champion swine producer and exhibitor.
Peanuts Brought Them Together —

Hartford, Ala. And Litchfield, Minn.

Enjoy Unusual Bond

A mutual interest in peanuts has brought together two local FFA chapters and two rural communities, geographically separated by a span of 1350 miles, and fused them in warmest friendship.

This is the Hartford, Alabama-Litchfield, Minnesota story!

It all began one year ago when Bruce Cottington and Ken Stark issued an invitation for an Alabama FFA'er to participate in the first International Peanut Butter and Dairy Festival in Meeker County, Minnesota. Cottington is a big promoter of dairy products and peanut butter, and Stark is an agriculture teacher.

In making their “invite” for Alabamians to make the trip to Minnesota, all expenses paid, the Minnesotans made one prime specification. The boy and his family had to be peanut farmers.

Excited by the offer, Neil Outlaw, Hartford FFA member; his mother and father; and FFA advisor and Mrs. P. C. Dean went north.

At the gala banquet held in conjunction with the agriculture festival, Neil was presented a $200 scholarship and the invitation for an Alabama FFA'er to participate in the first International Peanut Butter and Dairy Festival in Meeker County, Minnesota. Cottington is a big promoter of dairy products and peanut butter, and Stark is an agriculture teacher.

Why, then, is Cottington so sold on peanuts?

“Because,” he said, “I happen to like peanut butter; Litchfield citizens like it, too.”

“As I grew up in a family of 13 kids,” Cottington continued, “we practically lived on milk and peanut butter; when the depression came, we thought times had immediately gotten better.”

“That’s why until this day, I keep a big jar of peanut butter and a supply of crackers in my store so that shoppers can ‘fix their own’ to eat while they shop,” the peanut butter baron pointed out.

So cordial was their reception in Litchfield, the Hartford people made immediate plans to reciprocate. Enlisting the whole Hartford community — town council, civic clubs, school personnel and everybody — the Outlaws and Deans played return host last month to Brent Schultz, a Litchfield FFA member; “Peanuts” Cottington, and Mr. and Mrs. Stark for a four-day goodwill tour of Southeast Alabama.

But what about the peanut growers? It’s not only peanuts that are grown in Alabama. It’s not only peanuts that are grown in Minnesota.

The story is that while Minnesota is a dairy producing state, it is not a peanut producer.

Continued on page 11

FFA ROUNDUP

ARDMORE: Purchased new jig saw for shop; subscribed 20 subscriptions to The Alabama FFA Reporter; eight boys worked in county feeder pig sales; had float in homecoming parade.

ATTALLA: Subscribed to 110 copies of Alabama FFA Reporter; hosted chapter banquet; appointed Greenhand initiation committee; sold mixed nuts; purchased new automotive analyzer; published two peer reviews; had officer picnic at Noxubeha Lake; chose FFA sweetheart; organized string band to enter county contest.

CROSSVILLE: Held two regular business meetings; appointed program of work committees; sold mixed nuts; purchased new power hay saw.

DOUGLAS: Officers made trip to State Fair in Birmingham; initiated Greenhends; president appointed program, recreation and entertainment, flower, arrangement, refreshment, and public relations committees; selling popcorn at football games; planned money-making harvest festival project.

FALKVILLE: Enrolled first two girls in Ag-Ed completed officer training; with president, Gary Byrd; vice president, Tom Ketley; secretary, Don Stifler; treasurer; Bill Heaton; reporter, John Middleton; suggested program, recreation and entertainment, flower, arrangement, refreshment, and public relations committees; selling popcorn at football games; planned money-making harvest festival project.

EAST LIMESTONE: Subscribed to 15 copies of the Alabama FFA Reporter; erected fair booth to raise chapter funds; Ag-Ed students building shelves for school’s walk-in cooler; purchased $500 worth of small hand tools; studied parliametary procedure to improve leadership of students.

GOTHEN: Completed leadership training for officers; subscribed to 80 copies of Alabama FFA Reporter; appointed activity program committees; constructed football goal posts; secured sponsors for two FFA calendars; initiated 25, Greenhends; sold candy to purchase classroom draperies; accompanied FHA to South Alabama State Fair.

HAYNESVILLE: Held Greenhend initiation ceremony with officers selected to raise chapter funds; initiated 31 Greenhends; sold mixed nuts; purchased new power hay saw.

MOORES: President, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Adams; vice president, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Miller; secretary, Mr. and Mrs. James Agee; treasurer, Tommy Seale; reporter, Henry Barron; sentinel, Mrs. Mary Jo Russell; and advisor, Herman Washington.

BENGIO COUNTY TRAINING: Appointed committees for the year; subscribed to 41 copies of Alabama FFA Reporter; elected chapter parliamentarian; made plans to test Mass FFA for 1972-73; submitted state and national dues; published news releases; participated in Decatur District Junior Dairy Show.

BETENZIE: Subscribed to 22 Alabama FFA Reporter magazine; built a four-wheeled corn wagon in shop; published one page on local paper; constructed fair exhibit for county fair.

BIRMINGHAM: Elected officers on highway; all members subscribing to Alabama FFA Reporter; purchased new educational signs on football field; helped erect new advertising signs in football stadium; worked in landscaping and beautifying Millport in cooperation with Chamber of Commerce.

SYLVA: Sent four officers to county leadership program; conducted training sessions for all local officers; provided all first-year students FFA manuals; published six release papers; held two executive officer meetings; subscribed activity program with FFA dues; appointed all members to local committees; subscribed 100% to Alabama FFA Reporter.

WEST POINT: Subscribed to 200 copies of Alabama FFA Reporter; established grass on campus embankment; erected FFA to South Alabama State Fair.

WINTERBORO: Paid dues on 58 members; appointed activity program committees; painted part of shop; completed leadership training for officers; subscribed 100% to Alabama FFA Reporter.

WADSWORTH: “As the night draws on the community of Hartford, Arkansas is picnicking and enjoying the show. The Greenhends are enjoying a well-planned and well-executed program, entertainment, and refreshment. The officers are having a great time and are looking forward to the next meeting."
A Success Story —

GARDENDALE FFA YOUTH IS BUDDING HORTICULTURIST

GETTING ESTABLISHED—John Robert Borden, Gardendale FFA member, tests soil to determine optimum growing conditions for his nursery plants. Borden, who has his own nursery already, is building a promising career for himself in ornamental horticulture.

"John Robert Borden, 19, Gardendale FFA member, has been exposed to landscape plants ever since he was a young 'sapling' himself," says S. R. White, John's agribusiness horticulture teacher at the George M. Rogers Area Vocational Center.

As a youngster, Borden worked for his uncles in potting and digging landscape plants, making cuttings, and transplanting shrubs to the field. As he grew, so did his interest in horticulture.

Having been exposed to the nursery business prior to entering the high school agribusiness education program, Borden was placed in a local nursery for his supervised occupational experience program in agribusiness education. He started "at the bottom doing anything that was to be done," but soon proved himself capable of more responsible jobs. In fact he wasn't at the nursery very many months before he was in charge of a landscaping crew.

During the spring of each year the nursery operated a garden center in a Birmingham store. In 1970 Borden was made assistant manager of the center and in 1971 he was manager. A mighty oak, from the acorn had grown.

The experience at the nursery and instruction he received in the agribusiness classroom stirred Borden's interest to start his own ornamental horticulture business. With the assistance of his teacher once again, John worked out a plan for setting up a business of his own. Finally after many hours of planning and discussion Borden opened his own full-time greenhouse and nursery, which to date is quite a "blooming business."

Borden, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Borden of Gardendale, credits his agribusiness instruction and the work experience program for giving him the know-how to get started. Together these experiences have given him the necessary skills and technical knowledge for growing and selling horticulture products in his community.

In addition, Borden's record of work in horticulture has earned the Gardendale youth the top placing in this year's National FFA Ornamental Horticulture Proficiency program.

His entry in national level FFA horticulture competition was qualified by an earlier first-place win in an Alabama contest jointly sponsored by the Capitol Agricultural Service and Supply Company in Montgomery and the National FFA Foundation.

Other Alabama FFA horticulture winners for 1972 are David Aaron, second, Tanner; David Brasher, third, Chelsea; and Randy Thomas, fourth, Wetumpka.

How Did You Do It, John?

QUESTION: Once you discovered a definite liking for a "hort" career, how did you prepare yourself for it?

JOHN: I enrolled in the ornamental horticulture class at my area vocational school and worked as often as I could to get first-hand experience while saving money for building my nursery.

QUESTION: What is the importance of on-the-job experiences? Do these help you know what to bear down on in classroom study? What are other benefits?

JOHN: On-the-job experiences were worth more to me than classroom study. You learn faster and better if you do a job yourself or something happens to you. In the classroom you should learn types of plants, fertilizers, how to control pests, etc. When you learn by getting your hands dirty, the knowledge sticks with you.

QUESTION: What are the selling points of working in horticulture?

JOHN: Ornamental horticulture is a wide-open field for anybody interested in this business. You don't have to worry about selling plants, just worry about growing them fast enough for the demand.

QUESTION: Do you recommend setting high goals for oneself in FFA and vocationally?

JOHN: Goals can make or break a business man. I definitely recommend...
that people set high goals to achieve success.

QUESTION: Who meant the most to you in giving direction to your program?

JOHN: I owe much to some great people including my "hort" instructor, but one source of help when the times got rough I shall never forget was Mr. Charlie Mey, owner of Gardendale Greenhouses.

QUESTION: Why is horticulture a promising field?

JOHN: Today every town is growing and people are buying more and more plants from nurseries. Therefore, the horticulture field is wide open for anybody that wants to work hard and make money.

QUESTION: In giving advice to a beginning FFA member interested in becoming a national winner in ornamental horticulture as you were, you would recommend that he follow what steps, in order?

JOHN: (1) Have a burning desire to succeed at everything he does in life; (2) Set goals and know them by heart; (3) Use the experienced help of his FFA advisor and people who know the business; (4) Be willing to give up a little time and money for future dividends; (5) Don't be afraid of hard work. Forget about the other four steps if this is disagreeable.

QUESTION: Realizing that getting established in the nursery business can be expensive, how can one work around high finances?

JOHN: The best way I found was to buy heaters, pipe, some lumber, wire, and such supplies that are just a little used. Some things must be bought new. When new items are purchased, talk to people in the nursery business. They usually get good buys.

QUESTION: Looking back over your years of study, participation in FFA, etc., are there things you would have done differently?

JOHN: Other than doing more study and more listening to older, experienced people, not a thing.

QUESTION: What is your ultimate goal in ornamental horticulture?

JOHN: I want to build a complex nursery and florist shop in one location. I want a place to which people can go for all their flower needs, all under one roof. It would work I am sure, and I believe it would be very profitable.

PEANUTS

Continued from page 9

AND THEY BROUGHT SMILES—The Minnesotans present a gift package straight from Litchfield to Hartford's Mayor Hughes, second right. Reciprocating Hartford citi­zens gave a key to the city and a four-day grand South Alabama tour to, from left, Ken Stark, Brent Schultz, Bruce Cottington, and Mrs. Karen Stark.

you, we let them burn!” The Mayor jokingly referred to the disastrous burnout of a local peanut warehouse full of peanuts.

While in Alabama the Minnesota delega­tion visited Governor Wallace; they like him. They also toured a peanut but­ter manufacturing plant, took in Do­than's National Peanut Festival, and got first-hand exposure to peanut produc­tion. It was probably FFA'er Schultz's first-time to see peanuts harvested.

When asked why he chose the FFA instead of other vehicles or youth groups to work with, Cottington beamed, "I be­lieve in it. The FFA is superior to all organiza­tions in rendering better rural development."

FFA Advisor Dean almost said amen to Cottington with his “When you get down to it, aside from inspiring leader­ship, FFA exists to practice brotherhood and honor rural opportunities and re­sponsibilities.”

And that’s what the Hartford-Litchfield relationships are all about.

West End Has Morrow

Kenny Morrow, widely reputed as "Mr. Alabama FFA," appeared before the West End FFA Chapter recently.

Morrow’s remarks on "Your Future in FFA" evoked much inspiration, expanded the soul of FFA, and were personally addressed to each member at­tending the meeting.

Serving refreshments after the meet­ing were Ricky Umphrey, president; Jeff Moody, vice president; Ronnie Kilgo, secretary; Lee Osborne, treasurer; Lee Pierson, reporter; and Mark Williamson, sentinel.

Mr. Wesley Hardman advises West End FFA.

Section Reviews History

The Section FFA Chapter celebrated its tenth anniversary last month. Re­counting its illustrous history, the chap­ter has collected 51 chapter banners and has been recognized nationally as a Gold Emblem chapter six times and made Silver Emblem three times.

Section FFA has placed in the na­tional safety program four times and has had National Winners in Natural Re­source Development, Poultry Production, and Agricultural Electrification.

Embodying the FFA Creed’s concept of self-sufficiency, the chapter has had many fund raising campaigns to im­prove its facilities. The classroom has been remodeled, tile placed over the concrete floor and celotex overhead, paneling added to the walls, a water cooler installed, and last year the FFA financed central air-conditioning for its classroom.

As community builders, the chapter perennially conducts an extensive safety program as a yearly project. Another Section FFA program helpful to the community is the chapter’s mailbox improvement campaign. The chapter is also well known for landscaping projects for churches and homes.

Current officers of the chapter are Johnny Carroll, president; Robin Haynes and Thomas Womack, co-vice presi­dents; Stanley Anderson and Ricky Flynn, co-secretaries; Ray Evans and Dennis D. Hancock, co-treasurers; Ricky Paschal and Bobby Allen, co-reporters; Keith Haynes and Russell Varner, co­sentinels; and Fred Cargill, advisor.
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Douglas Officer Slate

Leading the Douglas FFA Chapter this year are Terry Foshee, president; Steve Foshee, vice president; Kenneth Martin, secretary; Carroll Thacker, treasurer; Larry Walls, reporter; and Roger Ross, sentinel. Advisor is Mr. W. L. Minor.

West Point Initiates 90

West Point FFA membership continues in volume again this year. Some 90 Greenhands became regular members of West Point's two FFA chapters on October 3.

Directing nearly 200 agribusiness and FFA students at West Point are veteran teacher W. D. Strickland and newcomer Royce Porter.

Falkville Adds Feminity—Susan Tarpley, left, and Melinda Dunkin are Falkville's first female FFA'ers. Enrolling in agribusiness is no hoax for these pretty lasses. According to Billy Bryan, their teacher, both are keenly interested in livestock and they pursue agribusiness skill development with diligence.

Gordo Honors Principal—Clifton Homan, Gordo FFA President, bestows the Honorary Chapter Farmer degree on Harold J. Aringer, Principal, Gordo High School.


Auburn Youth Top Livestock Judge

Karl Wolverton of the Auburn High Future Farmers of America Chapter recorded the highest individual score in livestock judging at the annual Chattahoochee Valley Fair in Columbus, Georgia, last month.

Karl competed with FFA members from 40 schools in East Alabama and West Georgia. The contest included judging one class of hogs and two classes of beef cows. Young Wolverton compiled 147 points out of a possible 150.

Karl is the 17-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Wolverton of 1157 McKinley Avenue.

The World’s Finest Chocolate Way

It’s the way that’s been proven the big fund raiser time after time. World’s Finest Chocolate has the best record of success in the fund raising field. Sales of this great selling chocolate have helped young people finance everything from new club uniforms to special activity equipment, to group trips to state capitals—and capitals around the world. Whatever your goal, we’ll help you meet it. With personal, professional assistance. Sales aids. Control sheets. Planning charts. Finance reports. We’ve got the World’s Finest Chocolate and the world’s finest fund-raising team. And we’re ready to put them to work for you right now.

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LEARNING FOR EARNING — Danville student Donald Parker gets a farm truck ready for a new paint job as Agribusiness Instructor Andrew McCay, left, and Superintendent of Education George Nancarrow observe. Spray painting is one of the facets of the broad Morgan County agribusiness program.


A REAL BUSY BEE: Mark Reeder, a Slocomb agribusiness student, has found greenhouse tomato production highly profitable. Young Reeder participates in a family business which uses family labor exclusively to produce tomatoes from seedlings to market in just three months. Selling his produce at a handsome 38 cents a pound gets a healthy grin from this Geneva County youth, too. Mark admits to playing “bee” quite frequently as his tomato blossoms require hand pollination.

CARPENTRY SKILL BUILDERS — Douglas Agribusiness Teacher W. L. Minor, third left, and Marshall Superintendent Frank Reed, second right, verify the productivity of students David Allison, Andy Grimes, and David Pankey.

ELECTRICIAN IN THE MAKING — Larry Whaley, Cold Springs, activates his electrical skills by wiring a local residence.

PRACTICAL IDEA — Tim Kirksey, left, of Castleberry, puts the grease rack he constructed to use as he overhauls engines, reworks transmissions, or services automobiles. John Ward, right, Tim’s agribusiness teacher, says, “When it comes to mechanics, Tim is a crackerjack.”

DOING TO LEARN — Falkville agribusiness teacher Billy Bryan, right, is sold on “hands on” experiences to develop student skills. Student Doyle Hagood employs his teacher’s philosophy in learning oxyacetylene welding.

COOPERATIVE LEARNING BY DOING — Evergreen FFA’ers at Marshall are sharing the responsibility of caring for the chapter-owned Duroc sow. Participating in the “there-as-it happens” hog production project are Thomas Miles, Ronald Johnson, Instructor J. A. Powell, David Maxwell, Derek Spears, and Clifford Moore.

PORK PRODUCER — Gerry Watson, Repton, shows off a fine litter of purebred Chester White pigs he grew for his chapter.

THE ALABAMA FFA REPORTER
WASHINGTON, D.C.: Steve Fowler, President of the Alabama FFA Association, is greeted by Secretary of Agriculture, Earl L. Butz (center) and Wallace E. Wilson, Vice President of General Motors. Steve met with Secretary Butz during the State FFA Presidents’ Conference held in Washington, D.C., under the sponsorship of General Motors.

LANDSCAPERS—Agribusiness horticulture instructor, Bobby Thomas, center, and horticulture enrollees at the Cullman County Area Vocational School have been an asset in landscaping and maintaining campus grounds. Shaping up recently planted shrubs are students Roger Wynn and Jeff Smith.

FUTURE VET—Hollilynn Holley, an agribusiness education enrollee at Etowah High and an aspiring veterinarian, serves as secretary of the Attalla FFA Chapter.

Attalla Enrolls First Girl
Hollilynn Holley is Attalla’s first girl to enroll in agribusiness and become an FFA member. She is also Etowah County’s first female member.
Hollilynn, 15, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rubin Holley of Route 3, Altoona. Born and reared in Florida, Miss Holley moved to Alabama last year.
Living now on a 20 acre farm in the Howellton Community, north of Attalla, Hollilynn’s farm projects include chickens, ducks, rabbits, cats, a dog and two horses.
After graduation from Etowah, Miss Holley plans to attend Auburn University and major in veterinary medicine.
Hollilynn’s course of study in Agribusiness is pre-professional (with concentration in livestock). This course of study will better prepare her for her chosen career.

ADVERTISING PAYS OR COSTS?—A tourist in Alabama saw a large sign on a gasoline station that said “Mississippi Line Two Miles Ahead—Last Chance for 28-Cent Gas.” He pulled in and had his tank filled.
“By the way, how much is gas in Mississippi?” he asked as the attendant was handing him his change.
The Alabamian replied, “Twenty-four cents.”

REASON A PLENTY—“Father,” asked the little fellow, “if it’s polite to let women be first in everything, why did God make Adam before Eve?”
“Because, son,” was the reply, “He didn’t want any advice while he was making Adam.”

A REAL TEST—From the dark came the voice of the sentry, “Halt! Who’s there?”
“An American,” was the reply.
“Is that so? Well, advance and recite the second verse of the Star Spangled Banner.”
“I don’t know it.”
“Proceed, American.”

ARITHMETIC—Teacher: “Jimmy, if your father earned eighty dollars a week and gave your mother half, what would she have?”
Jimmy: “Heart failure.”

CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE—The raw recruits were lined up for their first review and the Colonel stopped before one very sad sack. “Your face is unshaven,” snapped the Colonel. “Your boots are unpolished. Your tunic is unbuttoned. Who told you you’re a soldier?”
Weakly the sad sack replied, “My draft board.”

HE KNOWS HIS HISTORY—Officer (very angry): “Not a man in this division will be given liberty this weekend.”
Voice in Ranks: “Give me liberty or give me death.”
Officer: “Who said that?”
Voice: “Patrick Henry.”

FORGET IT!—Teacher: “What tense is, I am beautiful!”
Junior: “Past.”

ON THE BALL—Eva agribusinessman Larry Coffman demonstrates to J. C. Horton, his agribusiness teacher, his proficiency in bailing the root system of landscape plants before delivery to points of use. Coffman supplements his classroom instruction with on-the-job experiences at a local nursery.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1972
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