Where farm and city families meet...  
By William R. Lynn

"When is the fair coming?"

This is a question Americans have been asking for 214 years — since 1765, before the Declaration of Independence was signed.

The year 1765 was the time of the first fair in this country, the York Interstate Fair at York, Pennsylvania. It is still being held each year.

Now there are some 2,500 fairs in the United States and Canada — 31 in Alabama, held in August, September, and October.

When people ask, "When is the fair coming?" they usually mean when will the carnival roll into town and set up. That's because the public is thinking about the excitement of the bright lights, thrilling rides, and sideshows. Actually, what makes a fair are the things that go along with the midway, like displays of beef and dairy cattle, swine, home canning and sewing, farm products, art, flowers, photography, FFA, FHA, 4-H and community exhibits, space technology, and hundreds of other educational displays.

Most fairs, large and small, do three things: (1) give rural people as well as city residents a place to compete for prizes and ribbons and show their goods and talents; (2) provide a show-case of the economic, social and educational life of a given area, and an opportunity for youth and older citizens to broaden their knowledge and interests; (3) give families the pleasure of enjoying an exciting event together, with wholesome entertainment and fun for everyone.

Fairs started off as trade events, where rural people brought their horses, cows, home and farm products, and handiwork to "show and tell" as well as exchange and sell. For a long time, fairs were largely farm shows. Today, they are farm-city shows of interest to everyone, and great fun for families. And they're growing bigger and better each year!

FFA Foundation Progress Report

As of August 20, 1979

Contributions ........................................ $ 90,055.72

Pledged .................................................. $ 19,281.66

TOTAL .................................................. $109,337.38

William R. Lynn is executive vice president and general manager of the South Alabama State Fair Association, Inc., Montgomery. He has been manager since the fair was started in 1954. Recently he was elected a Certified Fair Manager, the highest recognition accorded by the International Association of Fairs and Expositions. He is one of only 19 fair managers in the United States and Canada to hold this title.

Mr. Lynn, born in West Point, Georgia, graduated from Fairfax, Alabama, High School and Mercer University, Macon, Georgia, majoring in journalism. He formerly was employed by the Birmingham Age-Herald and the Associated Press, and edited trade publications, before establishing Lynn Advertising and Public Relations Agency in Montgomery in 1949. He is an accredited member of the Public Relations Society of America.
Mr. Shewbart has completed 27 years service as agribusiness instructor with the past twenty at Speake High School. Eight of his FFA members have earned the American Farmer Degree and his son Carl was State FFA President. He is the recipient of the National Pfizer Award and the School and Community Award sponsored by the Speake Boosters Club.

Paul B. Holley

Mr. Holley has served 13 years on the State Agribusiness Staff as Specialist and District Supervisor in the Southwest and Southeast Central Districts. Holley has taught vocational agriculture at Five Points and LaFayette in Chambers County; Pine Apple in Wilcox County and Jacksonville in Calhoun County. Holley served as President of the County Classroom and County Teachers Association in Chambers County. Holley has also served as District Vice-President and President of the AVATA and the Alabama Vocational Association. Under Holley’s leadership his FFA members excelled in all phases of the livestock programs, public speaking, judging contests and proficiency awards.

Congratulations!!!
1979 Regional Proficiency Awards

ALABAMA WINS TWO

POULTRY

Tony Cain

Tony is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cain of Route 3, Opp, Alabama. He was a member of the Opp Chapter Livestock Judging and Power Mechanics teams. Tony produces hatching eggs from his 20,500 laying hens. During 1978 Tony increased the size of the family's poultry operation by building two 40' x 400' laying houses. His supervised practice program also included the production of market hogs.

SALES AND SERVICE

John W. Goodwin, Jr.

John is the 18 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Goodwin of Gurley, Alabama. He was the Gurley FFA Chapter President in 1978 and a member of the Land Judging, Dairy Judging and Agricultural Mechanics teams. His sales and service experience was accomplished as he worked in the family feed, fertilizer and equipment sales business.

Rawls Head of Agriculture Education

Byron Rawls, of the U.S. Office of Education, has been named Program Specialist for Vocational Agriculture Education, a position which includes the responsibilities of National Future Farmers of America (FFA) Advisor, Chairman of the FFA Board of Directors, and President of the Board of Trustees for the FFA Foundation, Inc.

FFA Dates to Remember

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>October 1</th>
<th>FFA Dues and Activity Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 4-13</td>
<td>Alabama State Fair - Birmingham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 8-13</td>
<td>Chattahoochee Valley Fair - Columbus, GA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 15-20</td>
<td>South Alabama Fair - Montgomery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 22-27</td>
<td>National Peanut Festival - Dothan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 22-27</td>
<td>Greater Gulf State Fair - Mobile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 6-9</td>
<td>National Convention, Kansas City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 15</td>
<td>Champion Corn Growing Contest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1</td>
<td>Future Farmer of the Year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HONORARY STATE FARMER — Honorable George McMillan, Lieutenant Governor of Alabama, was a guest speaker during the 1979 State FFA Convention. Greg Chandler, 1979 State Sentinel, presented McMillan with the Honorary State Farmer Degree following his address to the 800 delegates and guests.

Each year the State FFA Association presents this degree to approximately 50 teachers and business and professional people that are exceptionally strong supporters of the FFA.

SUCCESS STORY — Harold Reeves, McAdory FFA member, gives a little tender-loving care to one of hundreds of pigs grown as part of his supervised practice program in agribusiness education. Reeves started with one pig early in his agribusiness studies and upon graduation from high school, he was managing a 22 sow operation.

Gray Jackson, Reeves' FFA advisor, is optimistic about the future of America as his students join the ranks of productive farmers that have the ability to feed themselves and 55 other people.

FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTION — Truxton A. Northcutt, (left-center) president, Montgomery Kiwanis Club, recently presented a $2,000 check to Randy Stubbs, Wetumpka High School FFA President. Stubbs accepted the check on behalf of the Alabama FFA Foundation. The $2,000 contribution is from proceeds of the 1978 South Alabama Fair, sponsored annually by the Montgomery Kiwanis Club. The fair will be held the week of October 15-20 this year. FFA is a major participant in the annual event.

Also present during the recent presentation was (left) Bill Lynn, executive president and general manager, South Alabama State Fair, and (right) J. C. Hollis, state advisor, Future Farmers of America.

The Alabama FFA Foundation has a goal of $500,000 to be invested and earnings from these investments are to be used to promote the leadership development programs of the 27,000 FFA members.

FUTURE FARMER OF THE YEAR — Stanley C. Brown (center), of the Citronelle FFA Chapter, was designated 1978 Future Farmer of the Year during the State FFA Convention held in the Montgomery Civic Center.

Brown received a $300 cash award and a trophy for his outstanding accomplishments in FFA, Agribusiness Education and community work. His supervised occupational experience program included 18 beef cows, 40 acres of corn and 25 acres of soybeans.

Representing the sponsors were (left) Ronald Montgomery of the Farm House Fraternity, Auburn University, and (left-center) Wayne Lambert of the Alabama Bankers Association.

Also present for the ceremonies were (right-center) Tommy Odom, FFA advisor at Citronelle High School, and J. C. Hollis, State FFA advisor.