Call to Convention

The 54th Alabama FFA Convention is coming up June 7, 8, and 9. The theme this year is "Educating Through Experience." We, the 1982-83 State Officers, hope you will attend, enjoy, and learn at this year's convention.

The State Convention is the time when those FFA members having put a lot of hard work into their proficiency contests, judging teams, public speaking, etc., will receive awards for their efforts. Everything you do to increase your knowledge will help you become successful in the future. Plato said, "The direction in which education starts a man determines his future life." We each have an opportunity to further our education through experience at the 54th Alabama FFA Convention.

Participation: Your State Convention

It's convention time again, and hundreds of FFA members will be gathering in Montgomery. I would like to take this opportunity to invite your participation in the 1983 State FFA Convention.

In years past, conventions have been very smooth due to member participation. I would like to encourage you to participate in this year's convention. Whether you are involved in a State Contest, serving your chapter as a delegate, receiving your State Farmer Degree or another special award, or if you are just attending every session, you are participating. And by doing this, you make this year's convention YOURS.

National Officer to Speak

Marty Coates of Clarkton, North Carolina, is the National Secretary of the Future Farmers of America. In this position he serves the nearly one-half million members in over 8,000 local chapters nationwide.

Through his Supervised Occupational Experience Program, Marty gained experiences in Agricultural Production, Processing, and Agricultural Sales. He is the recipient of many awards, including Star Chapter Farmer, Home and Farmstead Improvement, Nursery Operations, and Public Speaking.

Marty is majoring in Agricultural Education at North Carolina State University and is an active member of the Agricultural Education Club.
FFA SWEETHEART

Toni Byars

Toni Byars, a 16-year-old sophomore at Millport High School, is the Millport Chapter FFA Sweetheart. Toni has been a member of FFA two years. Toni is also a member of the Millport Band as a majorette and saxophone player. She is also an active member of FHA. Toni is the first sweetheart to be selected by the Millport FFA Chapter. Advisor to the chapter is Stanley McAdams.

Toni Byars

FFA SWEETHEART

The Future Farmers of America is an organization teaching young people, not only in the great State of Alabama but across the nation, to learn by doing. It will not be until we learn what and how to do things on a farm that there will be any future left in agriculture. Many farmers have accepted defeat in this costly occupation of high investment and small profits. Yet, Future Farmers can look to the future with optimism. We have learned to survive in the industry of agriculture, which has and will continue to hold our country together.

Vocational agriculture teachers, parents, community leaders, and FFA sponsors provide FFA members with learning experiences.

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Program
54th Annual FFA Convention
June 7, 8, 9, 1983

Monday, June 6
P.M.
2:00—
Final Interview of Officer Candidates (Civic Center)

Tuesday, June 7
A.M.
8:00-12:00 Registration (Civic Center)
1:00—
Agricultural Mechanics Contest (Auburn)
Building Construction Contest (Montgomery)
Small Engines Contest (Wetumpka)
9:00—
Forestry Judging Contest (Montgomery)
Livestock Judging Contest (Auburn)
Dairy Cattle Judging Contest (E.V. Smith Research Center, Milledgeville)
Land Judging Contest (Montgomery)
Nursery/Landscape Contest (Civic Center)
Floriculture Contest (Civic Center)
Public Speaking Contest (Civic Center)
Quartet Contest (Civic Center)
String Band Contest (Civic Center)
P.M.
12:45—
Entertainment—Second Place String Band
1:00—
Delegate Orientation
1:30—
Opening Ceremony
Inauguration—Patrick Tucker, Vice President
Official Seating of Delegates
Greetings—March Coates, National FFA Secretary
Speaker—
Business Session
Appointment of Committees
Entertainment—Second Place String Band
Retiring Address—Paul Pinian, Sentinel
Proficiency Awards—Crop Production, Dairy Production, Horse Proficiency, Beef Production, Swine Production, Poultry Production, Agricultural Mechanics, Agricultural Electrification, Fruit/Vegetable Production, Nursery Operations, Floriculture, Soil/Water Management
Greetings and Announcements—C.W. Reed, State FFA Advisor
Closing Ceremony
Meeting of all Local Advisors (Civic Center)
Courtesy Corps Meeting following Advisors Meeting

Tuesday Evening
P.M.
7:00—
Entertainment—First Place String Band
7:30—
FIRST GENERAL SESSION
Opening Ceremony
Retiring Address—Tracy James, Reporter
Future Farmer of the Year Award
Honorary Parents and Advisors of 1982-83
State FFA Officers
Entertainment—Second Place Quartet
Address—March Coates, National FFA Secretary
Awards—Forestry Judging, Champion Corn Growing, Nursery/Landscape Judging, Floriculture Judging, Land Judging
Vipers Program—State FFA Officers
Announcements
Closing Ceremony

Wednesday, June 8
A.M.
8:30—
Music—Jeffrey Turney, Falkville FFA Chapter
9:00—
SECOND GENERAL SESSION
Opening Ceremony
State FFA Officers’ Annual Report—Tracy James, Reporter
Retiring Address—John Meacham, Treasurer
Entertainment—Second Place Quartet
Chapter Awards
Crime Prevention Awards
Activity Program
Retiring Address—David Noyes, Secretary
Building Our American Communities Awards
Awards—Building Construction, Agricultural Mechanics, Small Engines
Announcements
Closing Ceremony
P.M.
1:00—
Tours

Wednesday Evening
P.M.
6:15—
Foundation Board of Directors Meeting (Civic Center)
6:45—
Entertainment—First Place String Band
7:00—
Entertainment—First Place Quartet
7:30—
THIRD GENERAL SESSION
Opening Ceremony
Address—John Stallworth, Pittsburgh Steelers
Confering of Honorary State Farmer Degrees
Entertainment—First Place Quartet
Speech—First Place Winner in Public Speaking Contest
Proficiency Awards—Placement in Agricultural Production, Agricultural Sales and/or Service, Agricultural Processing, Horse and Farmstead Improvement, Fish and Wildlife Management, Forest Management
Retiring Address—Patrick Tucker, Vice President
Announcements
Closing Ceremony

Thursday, June 9
A.M.
9:00—
LAST GENERAL SESSION
Opening Ceremony
State Farmer Ceremony
Retiring Address—Robert Weaver, President
Entertainment—“Three on a String”
State Farmer Degree Ceremony
Installation of New State Officers
Presentation of Gavel of Past President
Announcements
Closing Ceremony
New Officers and their Local Advisors Meeting (Civic Center)

John Stallworth
John Stallworth is a 1974 graduate of Alabama A&M University. He was named to the 1973 All American Team and drafted 4th by the Pittsburgh Steelers. Stallworth has played in four Super Bowl games and holds three Super Bowl records: Most Career Touchdowns, Most Touchdowns per Game, and Most Yardage per Catch. He was named the Most Valuable Player for the Steelers in 1979 and Professional Athlete of the Year in Alabama in 1980. During the off-season, Stallworth is a real estate agent and developer. He and his wife, Florastein, and family, John Jr. (7) and Natasha (4), reside in Huntsville.

“Three on a String”
A musical show group doesn’t play to standing room only crowds or receive standing ovations without having something truly unique. Three on a String has been doing just this for twelve years at conventions, festivals, clubs, parties, and on TV all over the Southeast. One publication writes “The best thing about Three on a String is that it is almost impossible to come away from one of their performances without feeling a lot better than when you went in. Part of their effectiveness is the warm feeling they have for the audience.”
Three on a String will be performing at the Convention on Thursday morning, June 9.
Sack of Money

During a recent retirement dinner, Mrs. Frances L. Mizell was presented a "sack full of money." Often during her more than 30 years of service as secretary in the Auburn Agribusiness Field Office, Mrs. Mizell would make plans based on finding a sack full of money. On behalf of many friends, Betty L. Wright, (left) Secretary in the Auburn Office, presented her with such a sack during ceremonies at the Auburn Conference Center. Mrs. Mizell will continue to make her home in Auburn.

State Steer Show Winner

Paul Pinyon, member of the Holly Pond FFA Chapter, placed first in Senior Showmanship during the recent State Steer Show in Montgomery. Paul also exhibited the Middle Weight Champion. The Champion Angus crossbred steer was purchased by the W.S. Newell Construction Company of Montgomery at $1.05 per pound.

NEWS FROM THE COLLEGIATE FFA CHAPTERS

During Winter Quarter the Auburn University Collegiate FFA continued its active service and educational schedule. One of the major community service projects of the Collegiate FFA was developing and planting a small orchard plot at camp ASCCA, a camp for crippled and retarded children on Lake Martin in Tallapoosa County. The FFA bought and planted a variety of orchard plants close to the camp's nature trail. The staff at camp ASCCA plans to use the orchard as an educational tool for these special children.

The Collegiate FFA recently held its Annual Banquet and Awards Night at Gazebo I in Auburn. Excellent speeches were given by Mr. Troy Newton, Executive Secretary of the Alabama FFA, and Mr. Cecil Davis, Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture.

The following special guests were in attendance: Dr. Jack E. Blackburn, Dean of the School of Education; Dr. Robert A. Voitle, Dean of the School of Agriculture; Dr. W. J. Alverson, Assistant to the Dean of Agriculture; Dr. Richard A. Baker, Department Head of Vocational and Adult Education; Dr. Boyd Scobra, Associate Dean of the School of Education; Dr. Harold Williams, Teacher Educator in Distributive Education, and finally, our own Dr. Jim Johnston, Teacher Educator in Agriculture Education.

A coffee and reception was given for the Agribusiness State Staff by the Collegiate FFA. This provided the Collegiate FFA members who plan to be vocational agriculture teachers the first opportunity to meet and become acquainted with these state agricultural leaders. Mr. Reed's comments on what it takes to be a good agribusiness teacher today were greatly appreciated.

Planting of Camp ASCCA Orchard

Planting of the orchard at Camp ASCCA on Lake Martin in Tallapoosa County by Collegiate FFA members was a rewarding experience. Pictured in foreground left to right, Anna Leigh Swift, Chapter Secretary; Jerry Chenault, Chapter Sentinel, and Jeff Mohon, Committee Chairman.