



The Alabama FFA REPORTER

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FORMER TEACHER — — — NOW A SPONSOR

By

J. L. Holmes

I was reared with work ethics similar to the FFA motto, which is "Learning to Do, Doing to Earn, Earning to Live, and Living to Serve."

Since I grew up on a farm in Randolph County, the work ethics of FFA have continued to be an inspiration to me these many years.

After belonging to the FFA for two years in high school, I carried with me the belief in leadership for myself and respect for others. This was a comforting thought during my trying days of Army combat.

Upon being discharged from the Army, I entered Auburn University, studying Agricultural Education. I continued to believe that to live and work on a good farm was always challenging. This thought stayed with me throughout my teaching career which began at Rockford, Alabama, in 1951.

The greatest enjoyment of my teaching career was the development of character in my FFA members. This was made easier for me, as I remembered the aims and purposes of the Future Farmers of America.

I always tried to be an active participant in all FFA activities with my students. They entered the majority of the state-sponsored FFA contests each year during my teaching career. I know for a fact that the experiences and knowledge they received made them better citizens and students. I have lost contact with most of my students, but I feel sure they continue to live by the habits they learned while members of the FFA.

In working with these young students during the years I taught agribusiness education, I received many rewards and inspirations. As I saw these students develop into young men, it made me a better person. Since I have retired, one of the greatest pleasures I have is for a former FFA member to visit me and tell me what my leadership and encouragement has meant to him.

During my teaching career, I chaperoned the state FFA winners in Forestry from six southeastern states to Philadelphia and to the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. While we were in Philadelphia, all the state winners spoke to a large

group of businessmen. After each FFA member had given a ten-minute speech, one of the businessmen said to the other members of their convention, "My faith in the young people of America has been renewed." Many members of the businessmen's convention made statements that they were going back to their respective states and promote their local FFA programs. This is the kind of support that enables the activities of the FFA to go forward.

Since my retirement, I have continued to be active in FFA activities, such as serving on the Agribusiness Advisory Council, judging contests, acquiring sponsors for FFA Contests & Awards Program, and attending meetings and conventions.

As I attend the State FFA Conventions, I feel proud of these young FFA members when they dress to represent all the FFA members throughout the state. It thrills me when I sit in the audience of the FFA Convention and observe the FFA State Officers conducting the business of the FFA. I have heard people who have had no previous connection with the FFA in past years say every student should be required to take agribusiness while in high school. They were amazed as to how the State Officers conducted the meetings and how parliamentary procedure was being used in conducting the business of the Future Farmers of America.

While attending the Future Farmers of America State Conventions, I have observed that new contests have been added. I have noticed how proficient these students are in each contest they enter. This tells me that agribusiness teachers have worked many hard and long hours in their respective agribusiness departments in high schools throughout the state. This is where learning takes place, allowing an FFA member to put into practice those things learned while attending an agribusiness class in high school.

In 1971 it was an honor for me to accept the Honorary State Farmer Degree. This is the highest award that the State FFA Association can award.

I have had close ties with the Future

Farmers of America for the past 40 years. I shall continue the close association with the FFA as long as I am physically able and needed.



About J. L. Holmes

A native of Woodland, Alabama, in Randolph County, Holmes taught agribusiness education at Coosa County High School for twenty years.

Holmes served in the U. S. Army during World War II in the South Pacific. He received two battle stars and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

For ten and a half years, Holmes worked with the State Department of Education as Coordinator of Construction and Equipment and served also as Coordinator of Adult Education.

For the last four years, he has worked with Chambless-Killingsworth, Architects as an educational consultant. Chambless-Killingsworth sponsors the Home and Farmstead Improvement and Wildlife Management Proficiency Awards. Holmes serves as a member of the Agribusiness Education Advisory Committee and has received the Honorary State Farmer Degree from the Alabama FFA Association.

Holmes and his wife Betty have two sons, a daughter, and six grandchildren. The Holmes continue to reside in Rockford.

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The Association for the State of Alabama realizes the vital importance of the preservation of Alabama's soil and natural resources. The Association further realizes that education of our

youth today is an extremely vital role in the continued success for the maintaining of our natural resources. The Association further believes in the FFA program and what it is accomplishing with our youth through its program, as our youth will be the leaders of tomorrow, and the preservation of our natural resources will depend on them.

James H. White, President



FFA is a commitment by its membership to provide a source for our agricultural organizations those individuals dedicated to the improvement and economic welfare of our society. FFA develops leadership, character, high morals, and abilities of its members to assure this country an adequate supply of food and fiber.

Gary M. Byrd, President
 Alabama Council of Farmers Cooperatives



Farmers have never been more concerned about their future. Nor have they ever had more right to be. Just as support of farmers in the marketplace today is critical, support of the Future Farmers of America is also critical. FFA represents the future. We can contribute to the future by supporting FFA now.

John H. Dorrill, Jr.
 Alabama Farm Bureau Federation

MORE FROM OUR SPONSORS . . .



The Alabama Forestry Association is proud to participate and support the education of soon-to-be young adults, particularly those involved in agriculture and forestry. We know that FFA students today will be the

decision makers of tomorrow, and we are grateful that FFA prepares these students with the management skills they will need to become the leaders of the future.

John McMillan
 Executive Vice President



The FFA is quite simple, the future of agriculture. Is there anything that we should support with more energy and enthusiasm? With an eye toward the future prosperity of family farms and agribusinesses, our vision of a healthy Alabama centers on the young men and women working in FFA today.

David Carter

Alabama Power are keenly aware

of the goals and purposes of youth organizations that provide its membership with opportunities to further develop knowledge and skills taught in agribusiness classrooms. Supporters are proud to participate in the awards to members that excel in special interests or skills areas and/or projects.

C. R. Sanders, Manager
 Agricultural Marketing and Development

Alabama Power provides

opportunities for members to further their agribusiness education through more intense skills development in leadership, citizenship, and many of their particular projects or interest areas. FFA permits contributors to support individuals and teams who exhibit knowledge attained as they strive for goals and desires in their special proficiency.

J. R. Edwards, Supervisor
 Agricultural Development



The Alabama Rural Electric Association of Cooperatives regards members of FFA as the future leaders of our rural communities. Because rural electric cooperatives are governed by boards of trustees elected from the membership, we recognize the necessity of keeping highly motivated leaders in our communities. We feel like tomorrow's rural electric leader is today's FFA member.

Darryl Gates, Editor
 AREA Magazine



The Alabama Veterinary Medical Association looks to Future Farmers of America as prime candidates for training as future food animal veterinarians. AVMA members view FFA members as valuable clients because of their knowledge and background in animal nutrition, animal health and management. Veterinarians think that these assets help them in molding these young people into leaders that can better meet the growing pressures of livestock production and farming.

Dr. J. Lee Alley



Alpha Gamma Rho are working to develop these leaders. FFA plays a tremendous part in preparing young people for their college careers. FFA is an excellent training program, and we commend you for your efforts.

Rob Adams, President



The Auburn University Agricultural Alumni Association was founded to facilitate a need for promoting Agriculture and Auburn University. In doing so we try to help sponsor youth in all areas of agriculture. It is great that we can contribute to FFA because these are our future ag leaders which will in turn help us promote Alabama Agriculture.

Galen Grace, President



CaSSco appreciates the opportunity and privilege of having a part in supporting your Contests and Awards Program. I feel we too often become so busy solving problems and looking for new opportunities, we become remiss in not expressing our appreciation for the work that's being done in our Agribusiness Education. We are proud of our Future Farmers and Horticulturist of Alabama.

Floyd Cook, Manager



Through FFA the youth of Alabama and America are given the opportunity and encouragement to achieve excellence. Professional skills are developed which bring about the wise and prudent management of our natural and man-made resources whereby they may be produced for the benefit of all, yet replenished for the future. FFA provides the assurance of success in American agribusiness. Chevron is honored, through its sponsorship of FFA, to be a part of this success.

Robert C. Boone
 Public Affairs Manager

"SPONSORS ARE SPECIAL . . . LET'S TELL THEM"

... MORE SPONSORS



FarmHouse Fraternity was established in 1905 as an agricultural fraternity. Since that time, we have been dedicated to building men. We feel that the FFA has a similar goal, building young people. In support of this goal, it is our distinct honor and pleasure to support the Alabama FFA Association.

Jeff W. Parmer, Chairman
Public Relations



The Federal Land Bank of Jackson realizes that the Alabama FFA members will be our future leaders in agriculture. It is with great pride that we participate in this program and recognize achievements won by outstanding FFA members.

James E. Magee, Sr.
Marketing Officer



FFA means to me that agriculture and agribusiness in the future will be in excellent hands. The leadership ability that I see during my association with FFA members indicates that these industries will have the leadership and management needed to help prevent crisis such as we have today.

Fred Collins
Marketing Manager



Gold Kist is proud to be associated with the outstanding young men and women in America who proudly wear the "blue and gold". Our best wishes to each FFA member, local chapters and to the national organization for a successful 1986.

Jean Rice, Vice President
Member and Public Relations



The National FFA Foundation is made up of 900 companies and 3,000 individuals who contribute financially to FFA. In 1985 over \$2,350,000 was given supporting FFA at the chapter, state, and national level. Over 50% of the national funds are used for local and state FFA activities.

Bernie L. Staller
Executive Director

TRIPLE B NURSERY & GRASS FARM

Triple B Nursery is proud to be a supporter of the Future Farmers of America. We believe in the activities available to the youth of our state through their participation in the FFA. We encourage those in leadership positions to continue their support and dedication to the young people, for in them lies the future.

W. W. Britnell

EDWARD J. WOERNER & SONS

FFA has taught me to set goals and work to achieve them. Working together with others on projects, you can accomplish much more than all working on your own. In our company today, we have five divisions. We employ over 100 full-time people, and we all work together to accomplish our work and our goals.

Eddie Woerner

T & R NURSERIES The FFA, to me, is an outstanding youth club, for students enrolled in Vocational Agribusiness Education. The FFA not only teaches cooperation and leadership, but instills work ethics in young people. In the FFA a student can reach any goal, because the opportunities are available in the many different phases of agribusiness.

Tommy Thompson



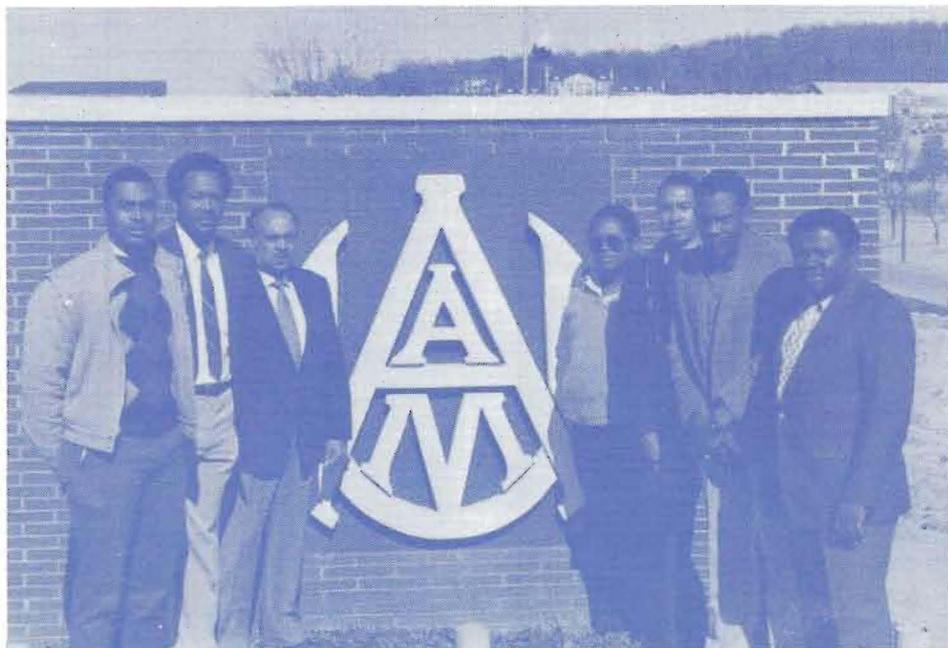
There are over 200 challenging and rewarding careers in agriculture.

NEWS FROM ALABAMA A&M COLLEGIATE CHAPTER

Alabama A&M Collegiate FFA Chapter is basically a leadership orientated organization. It is used as a means to prepare competent secondary chapter advisors. To function as a competent secondary advisor, good leadership is essential. The Alabama A&M Collegiate FFA Chapter holds an annual leadership development conference. The conference was held at Flamingo Park in Triana, Alabama, during the fall. Mr. W. A. Rice, District Agent of Cooperative Extension, and Dr. Prince Preyer, Jr., Chairman of the Department of Agribusiness Education at Alabama A&M University, were guest speakers.

The Alabama A&M Collegiate Chapter members are involved in various activities. The FFA enters a float in the annual Homecoming Parade and has a track record of winning first place. They also sponsor an annual fruit sale to raise funds to support the chapter. The FFA has an annual picnic where all honorary members and agribusiness faculty and staff participate.

The leadership skills learned and the qualities developed by participation in various educational experiences out of the class are invaluable in everyday life and will assist collegiate FFA members in becoming better teachers of Vocational Agribusiness Education.



ALABAMA A&M UNIVERSITY COLLEGIATE FFA OFFICERS—pictured left to right are: Charles Anthony, member; Mr. Remus Shade, Chapter Advisor; Dr. Prince Preyer, Jr., Chairman, Department of Agribusiness Education; Kennedy Howard, President; Ervin Hunter, Secretary; Winfred Logan, Vice President, and Dr. Willie Cheatham, Associate Professor, Agribusiness. Not pictured are Kenneth Gamble, Reporter; Lloyd Nathan, Treasurer, and Donald Gardner, Sentinel.

STATE JR. MARKET HOG SHOW AND SALE



LIVESTOCK JUDGING TEAM—The R. C. Hatch Livestock Judging Team won first place in the team judging contest held during the 1986 Jr. Market Hog Show in Birmingham. For their efforts, they received a plaque and belt buckles provided by the Alabama Pork Producers Association and Salsbury Laboratories, Inc. Pictured are (l-r) John H. Heard, III, Chapter Advisor, Petro Johnson, Sam Early, Jr., Howard Anderson, and Frank Gibson.

? FUTURE FARMER OF THE YEAR ?



Sandy Fields
Falkville

It is a goal that all Alabama FFA members share—being named Future Farmer of the Year. This year there are six outstanding members competing for this coveted honor. The award to the number one FFA member in Alabama is being presented by Chevron USA Inc. and the Auburn Chapter of FarmHouse Fraternity.

Sandy Fields has an SOEP consisting of wheat,



Tab Garrison
Mt. Hope

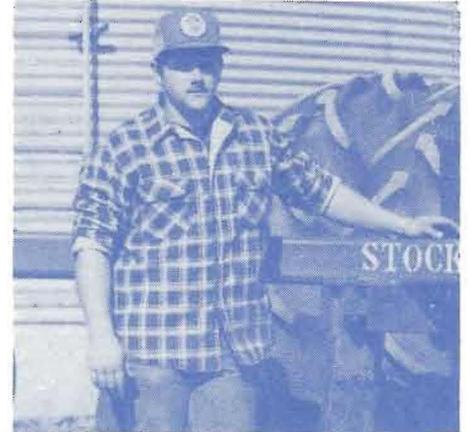
soybeans, milo, and a Hereford/Angus cattle operation.

Tab Garrison's SOEP includes swine enterprises, as well as work experience as a meat cutter.

Jim Thompson has an SOEP consisting of soybean, corn, cattle, and swine enterprises.

Mike Duke's SOEP includes brood cows, feeder calves, soybeans, and wheat.

Stephen Kliewer's SOEP includes truck crops

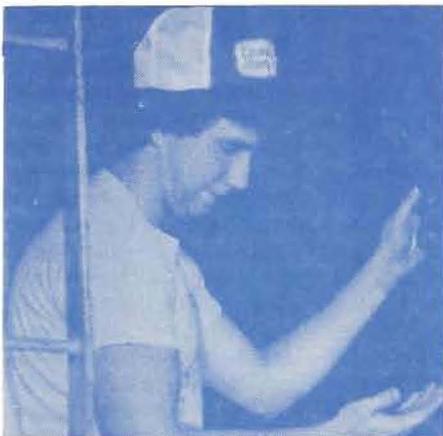


Mike Duke
Munford

and a worm bed. Stephen also works as assistant manager at the Geneva Seed Cleaners.

Chris Thompson has an SOEP consisting of peanuts, soybeans, cabbage and greens.

Although only one will be named Future Farmer of the Year at the 1986 State FFA Convention in Montgomery in June, each of the six applicants are winners as they are beating the odds in agriculture today.



Stephen Kliewer
Geneva



Jim Thompson
Ider



Chris Thompson
Dale Co.