



THE ALABAMA FFA REPORTER

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ALABAMA FFA ASSOCIATION

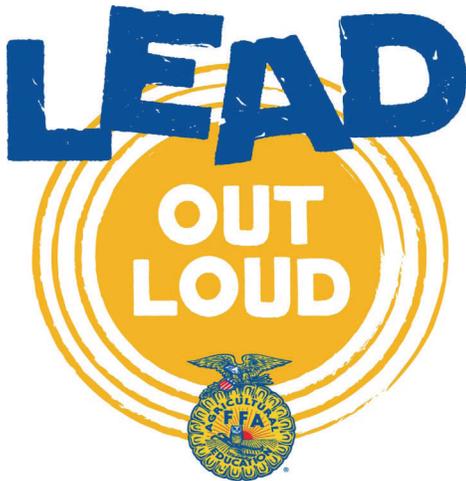
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CONVENTION ISSUE

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Hunter Garnett
State President

I'm sure that anyone reading this article has had trouble parking while at State Convention. You either end up with a ticket or you have to park half a mile away. I know it drives me crazy. I got a ticket during state officer interviews. Needless to say, it's very frustrating to get done with hours of interviews, then to walk to my car and find a \$50 ticket waiting on me.

The Executive Committee set out this year to find the ideal location for our State Convention. We looked at multiple facilities and then sent a survey to all the ag teachers. To our surprise, the ag teachers were overwhelmingly in favor of staying in Auburn, so we decided that we would respect their wishes. We still had a reservation in Auburn, so we assumed that

we would be able to have it there again; however, we found out that the athletic program had pushed us out.

After this, we began to look for a new home for our State Convention. After hours of research, we narrowed our choices down to the Davis Theatre in Montgomery and the Montgomery Renaissance. We weighed all the positives and negatives of each facility, but, eventually, we decided to hold it in the Montgomery Renaissance.

The Renaissance Theatre is breathtaking. I cannot even begin to describe it. I'd like to encourage every member to try and attend. It should be a very memorable State Convention. I truly believe that every member, teacher, and parent in attendance will remember this State Convention for years to come.



Mary Helen Jones
State Vice President

Hello, Alabama FFA Members! I hope that this Convention Issue of the FFA Reporter finds you and your chapter preparing for CDE's, Proficiency Awards, and officer interviews. I can't begin to express how excited I am about seeing all of your faces at State Convention in June! This year's convention will be held at the Renaissance Hotel and Montgomery Performing Arts Center in beautiful Montgomery, Alabama. However, all CDE's will still be in Auburn on the



2009-2010 STATE FFA OFFICER TEAM

L to R, Sentinel - Joey Stabler, Treasurer - Kacey Colquitt, Vice President - Mary Helen Jones, Reporter - Patrick Howard, Secretary - Wiley Bailey, and President - Hunter Garnett

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STATE OFFICERS 2009-2010

President **Hunter Garnett**
Danville Chapter
Vice President **Mary Helen Jones**
Wetumpka Chapter
Secretary **Wiley Bailey**
Sand Rock Chapter
Treasurer **Kacey Colquitt**
Marbury Chapter
Reporter **Patrick Howard**
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Deputy Superintendent.. **Eddie R. Johnson**
Career/Tech Ed Director..... **Sherry A. Key**

AgriScience State Staff

State Advisor **Mickey Humphries**
Exec. Secretary **Jacob Davis**
Ed. Specialist..... **Philip Paramore**
Ed. Specialist..... **Petro Johnson**
Graphic Arts..... **Kenny Boyd**
Admin. Asst. **Pam Kilpatrick**

University Campus. Remember that if you will be receiving an award or will be on stage for ANY reason at this year's convention, you are required to be wearing Official Dress. We hope that this requirement will add prestige to Alabama FFA's favorite time of the year... State Convention!

I cannot believe how fast this year has flown by. I have enjoyed every second of this year - from my first moments as a state officer when my name was called as State Vice President to the last few seconds when we will announce the 2010-2011 Alabama FFA State Officer Team. I have had the privilege to meet with many chapters, members, and advisors. This year has also afforded me the opportunity to be a part of an absolutely AMAZING officer team. Whether prom dress shopping with Kacey, leaving Wiley at a gas station in Daphne, singing "Every Rose Has It's Thorn," taking walks on the beach in 30-degree weather, taking tons of crazy pictures, or meeting members across the state, our team has definitely made the most out of this experience. I can honestly say that we started as teammates and will leave this year as a family.

Alabama FFA members, it has been a joy and privilege to serve you this year as your 2009-2010 Alabama FFA State Vice President!! See you in June!



Wiley Bailey
State Secretary

Wow! It seems like just yesterday that I was elected as Alabama's State FFA Secretary. This year, I have experienced some of the most amazing times of my life. I got to participate in programs like Blast Off, the National Leadership Conference for State Officers, the State President's Conference, and be a part of the very first FFA float in the Rose Bowl Tournament of Roses parade. I have had an awesome year, and the best part is not even here yet.

The 81st Alabama State FFA Convention is going to be a storm of excitement as we celebrate our year back in Montgomery. I remember how excited I would get when I was younger, weeks before convention even started, and this year is no different. A few changes have been made to convention this year that everyone needs to be aware of. The convention will be held in Montgomery at the Renaissance Hotel instead of at Auburn. The whole state officer team and I are extremely excited about this new opportunity to use the wonderful facilities of the Renaissance Hotel; we were in complete awe when we took a personal tour of the convention hall.

Another important change this year at convention is that every student who walks across the stage must have official dress on. We trust that Ag teachers will cooperate with this new rule, and we look forward to seeing the Blue and Gold worn proudly throughout convention.



Kacey Colquitt
State Treasurer

It is difficult to believe that the 2010 Alabama State FFA Convention is rapidly approaching. This time last year my fellow teammates and I were most likely studying for our state officer interviews and anticipating the end of the school year. Now, the six of us are about to surrender our positions to six individuals willing to dedicate their year to the Alabama FFA. This year has truly been the greatest experience of my life. There is nothing more rewarding than serving 15,000 FFA members statewide and giving back to the people who give to the FFA. I have been exceptionally blessed to have the honor of representing the Alabama FFA Association. The other officers and I have attended conventions, hosted workshops, and become the best of friends.

I am ecstatic to say that this year the state convention will be returning to our state capitol. The convention will be held at the new and beautiful Renaissance of downtown Montgomery. Also, members and advisors should be aware that any member on stage must be in official dress. You should break out that old blue corduroy and walk with pride across the stage to receive a state FFA degree, participate in a career development event, play in a string band, or even as a state officer candidate. I have been thinking about being a state officer since I was a young kid. I have anticipated this convention for such a long time and in a few short weeks it will be time to give up my office to one of the candidates. I have tried to think of many ways to describe how the end will be and the best I can find is bittersweet. This year has given me the opportunity to offer myself to the Alabama FFA and serve it just as it has served me. I would like to thank all the FFA members of Alabama and the nation for dedicating their time this year. I would also like to extend thanks to the people who make it possible for us members to keep the FFA alive, the agriculture teachers. The advisors sacrifice so much for the members everyday, and they never receive

PROGRAM
81st ANNUAL ALABAMA STATE FFA CONVENTION
Montgomery Performing Arts Centre
June 2-4, 2010

Wednesday, June 2

1:30 p.m.
2:00 p.m.

PRE-SESSION ACTIVITIES
OPENING SESSION
Opening Ceremony
Presiding Officer-Hunter Garnett, President
National Anthem
Invocation-Zachary Jones, Spring Garden
State Advisor's Challenge-Mickey Humphries
Greetings-

- Alabama Farm Credit, Alabama Ag Credit
- Chase Rose, National FFA Central Region Vice President
- Gary Kendrick, Alabama FFA Alumni

Introduction of 10-11 State & National Officer Candidates
Introduction of 09-10 District Officers
Wall of Honor Inductees-Past State Officers' Alumni
Keynote Speaker-Patrick Grady
Closing Ceremony
Adjourn



Delegate Business Session following the opening session on the convention floor.

7:00 p.m.
7:30 p.m.

PRE-SESSION ACTIVITIES
SECOND SESSION
Opening Ceremony
Presiding Officer - Patrick Howard, Reporter
National Chapter Awards
Retiring Address - Kacey Colquitt, Treasurer
Star Farmer Ceremony
Honorary State FFA Degrees
Retiring Address - Mary Helen Jones, VP
Future Farmer/Agribusinessman of the Year Award
Mindy Stringer Memorial Scholarship Award
Hunter Keel Memorial Scholarship
Closing Ceremony
Adjourn

Thursday, June 3

8:00 a.m.
8:30 a.m.

PRE-SESSION ACTIVITIES
THIRD SESSION
Opening Ceremony
Presiding Officers - Mary Helen Jones, VP
 Kacey Colquitt, Treasurer

Crime Prevention Awards
Retiring Address - Wiley Bailey, Secretary
100% Chapter Membership Awards
M. K. Heath Animal Health Award
Retiring Address - Joey Stabler, Sentinel
CDE Awards-
Proficiency Awards-

Quartet Contest
Closing Ceremony
Adjourn

11:30 a.m.
1:00 p.m.
2:00 p.m.
3:00 p.m.
3:30 p.m.

FOOD COURT OPENS (Exhibit Hall B)
CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS - TBA
CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS - TBA
AL FFA ALUMNI MEETING (Riverview 7)
DELEGATE BUSINESS SESSION 2 (If Needed)

5:30 p.m.
6:00 p.m.



PRE-SESSION ACTIVITIES
FOURTH SESSION
Presiding Officer - Joey Stabler, Sentinel
Address - Chase Rose, National FFA Central Region Vice President
Awards-Quartet Contest
Entertainment-1st Place Quartet
Awards-String Band
Entertainment-1st Place String Band
Concert - Brinley Addington
Closing Ceremony
Adjourn

Friday, June 4

8:00 a.m.
8:30 a.m.

PRE-SESSION ACTIVITIES
FIFTH SESSION
Opening Ceremony
Presiding Officer-Wiley Bailey, Secretary
Retiring Address-Patrick Howard, Reporter
Honor Parents of State Officers
Honor Advisors of State Officers
Retiring Address-Hunter Garnett, President
State Officers' Year in Review
Election of 10-11 Officers
State FFA Degree Ceremony
Installation of 10-11 State Officers
Closing Ceremony
Adjourn



Alabama Ag Credit and Alabama Farm Credit are proud corporate sponsors of the Alabama FFA Convention.



the credit they deserve.

I hope this convention exceeds the high expectations the state department and the state officer team have for it. I am so grateful to all the members, advisors, parents, and everyone who loves the FFA just as much as I do. I look forward to the convention and hope that it is just as worthwhile for you as it is for me.



Patrick Howard
State Reporter

Wow, I can't believe this year is almost gone. It seems like yesterday I was standing backstage waiting and hoping for my name to be called so I could be a part of the 2009-2010 Alabama state officer team. Then, finally, my name was called, and they announced that I was the 2009-2010 Alabama state reporter. The next week, it seemed like a dream. I was getting to go to all these conferences that I wanted to go to like Blast Off and the National Leadership Conference for State Officers, which is also known as NLC SO. So here I was, a few days after state convention, meeting up with my newly elected state officer team mates, and we were getting ready to start Blast Off. This is a conference where we get to know our teams and learn a little bit for what we will be doing as state officers. Then, with a blink of an eye, that week was gone. So I got to go home for the weekend and let it soak in that I was finally a state officer and I have reached what I have been trying for.

So my short weekend was over, and I had to be in Prattville that Sunday night. By the end of the day, I was really excited to get there because we finally get our new FFA jackets. That Monday comes and we leave our hotel and head to Raymond, Mississippi for NLC SO. I did not know what to expect when we got there. We get into our rooms for the week and we

meet other state officers from other states like Mississippi, Louisiana, and Puerto Rico. At this conference, we have two national officers that host the conference, and those two national officers were Riley Branch from Texas and Regina Holiday from Georgia. If I had to describe this week in a few words, I would say it was the best week of my state officer year so far.

After we finished NLC SO, we went home to get ready for our workshop that we would put on for the district officers in Columbiana, Alabama, at the 4-H Center in a few days. After we finished those workshops, our summer was pretty much over. We went back to our districts and helped the district officer team put on workshops for the members in different locations throughout the state. Then it was time for school to start shortly after that. For the rest of the year, except for a few weeks, I haven't seen my state officer team much. I saw them at National Convention, which was amazing. So tonight I am sitting in my room thinking about my state officer year so far and wishing the time would not have flown by so fast. I hope to see all of you at state convention this year. I am really excited to talk to you all at convention and here about the year. So don't blink because it's going to be here before you know it.



Joey Stabler
State Sentinel

Convention time is just around the corner! This is the biggest highlights and a memorable activity of the year for Alabama FFA. I would like to take a moment to inform everyone on a few topics for the state convention. Our convention will be held in

Montgomery, Alabama, rather than Auburn, Alabama. This might resemble a great transition since we are relocating from a college town, but this will not affect the motivational and fun activities that we will participate in. We are simply in a different building if you will allow me to say that. I strongly believe this year's convention will be top notch!

The State Officer team would like to challenge and encourage each member to wear official dress. Our blue jackets symbolize our organization in its entirety, and it reveals to the community of who we are and what we FFA members are about! I personally challenge each member to have their jackets worn and zipped up to represent the greatest organization there is! This is your organization, have pride in it! If any member is planning to go on stage at convention be sure to wear official dress to that session at least. This was passed by the delegate body at the preceding state convention.

On a lighter note, take the time before convention and get ready to have the time of your life! I also want to challenge members and nonmembers alike to lead out loud before convention, during convention, and after convention! This is something that we can do as a person to help someone who might have an outstretched arm. Remember our motto: Learning to do, Doing to learn, Earning to live, Living to serve. Carry out our motto and serve your community! Serve a person who needs it! Get ready for The 81st Alabama FFA State Convention; it will be here before you know it!

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