

16-17 North District Officers



Your 2016 Alabama FFA North District Officer Team

North District FFA Newsletter

Summer, 2016

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District Officer Leadership Conference

By Kaitlyn Williams

The Alabama FFA Associations District Officer Leadership Conference was held July 12- 14. The Leadership Conference was a huge success. The state officers held workshops that focused on helping district teams learn how to cooperate together, understand their positions better, and learn how to properly use social media for positive reasons. District officers also communicated and bonded between themselves. Many friendships were created that will last a lifetime. Personally, I gained communication and leadership skills that I can use in everyday life. This conference was highly successful in preparing the district officers for their year of service.



Jackson County Outdoor Seminar

By Jodi Shotts

The North District Officers have had a pretty eventful summer starting out as a team. On June 26-27, different chapters, as well as the North District Officers, attended the Jackson County Outdoor Seminar in Scottsboro, AL. This was our first time getting together for a few days other than planning day, which was held on June 16th.

During our time spent in Scottsboro, we put on our first workshops as North District Officers. Students from different chapters participated in our workshops and activities very well. Not only was it a learning experience for them, but for us as well. Other events included hearing from a guest speaker on different state laws, completing a compass course, and getting to compete in rounds of corn hole.

Jackson County Outdoor Seminar was definitely one for the books. We came to know each other better as a team, learned together, and most of all, laughed plenty.





Chapter Officer Leadership Conference

By John Crawford

The 2016 Chapter Officer Leadership Workshop was a huge success! Counties all over the North District attended workshops at both Albertville High School and Hartselle High School with an ambition to learn and grow as officers for the upcoming year. In total, six workshops were presented with the central theme of "Around the World with FFA". These seminars contained a various amount of topics; nevertheless, they all wrapped back into what we find in our mission statement: "premier leadership, personal growth, and career success".

On behalf of all the North District Officers, we each had a great time meeting all of you and were encouraged and ecstatic to see your love for agriculture and this great organization! We know you are going to do great things in your chapter and much more; the future of agriculture looks bright and promising! We as a team look forward to getting to know you further and are extremely excited to hear and see what's in store for you and your chapter this upcoming year.



Jackson Harris Workshop

By Kailee Johnson

The North District Officers had an officer retreat in Cullman, AL August 5th-6th. We met with Jackson Harris, 2013-2014 National FFA Southern Region Vice President. Jackson facilitated a workshop for the officer team. Creating a chapter visit speech was Jackson's main focus in this workshop.

We had a chance to bond as a team and have one more get together before we all started school. While it was loads of fun, we also worked super hard in the two days we were in Cullman. We learned more about our teammates and their specific qualities. The 2016-2017 North District Officer Team is a very diverse team. We all have different characteristics that we bring to the table. We learned how to respect and appreciate each other's way of thinking.

Jackson taught us about goal setting. He gave us the basics of SMART goals (Specific, Measureable, Attainable, Realistic and Time Bound.) We set team goals for this year. Our goals included: Going to the Joe Diffie concert in Hokes Bluff together, having a total of twelve chapter visits completed by December 20th, and encouraging a younger member to compete in a CDE strictly for 7th-9th graders. With Jackson's help, the North District Officers are better able to plan out what we want to accomplish. Jackson's main focus was on creating a memorable speech. He taught us a 'magic formula' to improve our speech writing skills. We were given a scenario for which we had to assemble a speech. We each had to present our speech before we left on Saturday. We can use this formula to assist us in preparation for chapter visits.

All-in-all, Jackson's workshop was very beneficial to the North District Officers. We learned about each other, set goals, and wrote a speech to keep in our back (or jacket) pocket. We became closer as a team and had heaps of fun. We learned how to be better officers from a past officer himself. We will use the things we learned from Jackson to better serve the North District for the 2016-2017 School Year.



Chapter Challenge

By Coleman Lett

Living in a diverse society, often times one has a different agenda or likes than his or her peers as a high school student. Most of the time, we as FFA members have friends who know nothing about FFA or agriculture. Agriculture and FFA is not everyone's "cup of tea," but that cannot hinder us from advocating for the most beneficial industry for life and the largest student led organization in our nation. I challenge you, FFA members to do two things: first, do not let the negativity of others keep you from serving or growing as a leader. Secondly, raise awareness for agriculture and encourage your classmates to join FFA. One thing people cannot discount or show disbelief towards is your story, the ways the FFA has had a lasting impact on your life personally. Throughout high school I seem to have always eaten lunch with the same group of friends. Most of these friends have not been FFA members, but that did not keep me from telling the awesome stories of how it has influenced my life. Over the years these friends have shown more interest for my endeavors with the FFA. This year over five of these friends joined FFA for the first time. In saying this, we as FFA members have a voice--let this voice be heard and TRANSFORM FFA!



88th Annual FFA State Convention

By Eason Reece

The 88th Annual Alabama FFA State Convention was held on June 7th-10th. During this time, over 1,600 FFA members from all across the state of Alabama met to conduct business, compete in many CDE events, receive their state FFA degrees, receive proficiency awards, attend workshops and select new state officers. We learned lots, made memories, and received the products of their toil from the year of hard work on their CDEs and SAEs. On June 7th members who were competing in CDE events met in Auburn to compete in events ranging from Poultry Evaluation to Aquaculture to show off how hard they had worked and what they had learned in the previous year. On the days of June 8th through the 10th, members met in Montgomery to conduct business, hear the retiring addresses of our 2015-2016 state officers, and hear from the 2015-2016 National FFA Western Region Vice President Sarah Draper. It was an awesome convention and the North District was represented proudly.



Alabama State Department of Education, Philip C. Cleveland, Ed.D., Interim State Superintendent of Education

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