

Convention was held in Kansas City for the last time with record-breaking attendance of 49,240 members, guests, and supporters.

The National FFA Center was moved from Alexandria, VA to Indianapolis, IN. It houses the National FFA Organization, Foundation, and Alumni Association. Approx. 1,000 guests attended the dedication ceremonies on July 20, 1998. Much like the 1959 dedication, members participating in the State Presidents' Conference placed a cup full of soil from their respective states at the base of the flagpole.

Jose Santiago is elected to national office; he is the first member from Puerto Rico to serve as a national FFA officer.

**1999**

National Convention is held in Louisville, KY and will remain there until 2005.

**2000**

FFA Discovery Degree becomes available to middle school members.

**2003**

Javier Moreno, Puerto Rico, is elected national FFA president; he becomes the first Puerto Rican and the first person with a native language other than English elected as national FFA president.

**2005**

National FFA launches Seeds of Hope, a fundraising campaign to help rebuild Gulf Coast states' agricultural education and FFA programs following Hurricane Katrina; \$835,699 in donations is distributed to affected programs.

FFA Foundation breaks the \$10 million mark in raising money for FFA programs and services.

**2006**

The National FFA Foundation receives its first million dollar donation, from the Ford motor company.

National Convention is held in Indianapolis, IN for the first time

**2007**

Membership breaks the half-million mark with 500,823 members in 7,358 chapters.

**2013**

National Convention moves back to Louisville, Ky.

### Alabama FFA History

**1880**

Booker T. Washington establishes an agricultural school for young black farmers in Tuskegee consisting of a one-room schoolhouse and 100-acre farm.

~~1889~~

The Alabama legislature establishes Congressional District Agricultural Schools.

**1917**

Smith-Hughes National Vocational Education Act passes, providing support for Ag Ed. However, many schools

1919 ✕

Alabama holds a state livestock judging contest for vocational agriculture students, 10 years before the establishment of the Alabama FFA Association

1927

Agricultural supervisors and teacher trainers at the Southern Regional Conference of the Agricultural Education Service call for the organization of future farmers clubs for vocational Ag students in the region.

Alabama becomes one of the first states to organize a New Farmers of America Association, an organization for African-American Ag students

1928

The Southern States Regional Conference calls for a regional federation of state future farmers clubs known as the Future Farmers of Dixie. Though it was never established due to the rapid development of the Future Farmers of America, the 4 degrees of membership were incorporated into the FFA

1929

The Alabama Association of the Future Farmers of America is organized in July and the first state officers are elected. Nine members from the Uriah, Ozark, Reform, Isabella, and Collinsville chapters become the first recipients of the State Farmer Degree (now State FFA Degree).

The Alabama FFA Association receives a charter on December 10<sup>th</sup>, the 36<sup>th</sup> chartered association.

1930

Earl Solomon of Uriah, Alabama's first state FFA president, becomes the first Alabama member to receive the American Farmer Degree (now American FFA Degree).

At the end of 1929-30 school year, Alabama has 1,249 members in 69 chapters.

The first state convention is held at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute (now Auburn University).

The Alabama FFA begins printing an official publication, News Letter.

✕ 1932

The Alabama Future Farmer replaces *News Letter* as the official publication of the association.

1934

Several chapters organize districts to encourage cooperation and friendly competition among chapters; all chapters eventually join district organizations.

1935

The National New Farmers of America is organized at a national conference held in Tuskegee. David Simmons of Alabama is selected as the first national president.

✕ 1938

Bradley Twitty of Cherokee is selected as Southern Region VP, Alabama's first national FFA officer

**1941-45**

During WWII, AL FFA members sell \$758,753.21 in war bonds, collect nearly 6 million pounds of scrap metal and grow 20,866 victory gardens. Nearly 2,400 active members served in the armed forces and 156 active and past members were killed.

**1942**

Alabama FFA members begin a massive tree planting project, resulting in 5 million pine seedlings are planted by 1952.

10 years

**1945**

Alabama FFA sponsors its first quartet contest; won by Hanceville.

**1947**

State convention is held at Phillips HS in Birmingham

The State Advisor, Robert E. Cammack and *Progressive Farmer* editor H.O. Coffey are the first Alabama recipients of the Honorary American Farmer Degree.

**1948**

State Convention returns to Alabama Polytechnic Institute

**1952**

Honorary State Farmer Degree Recipient John Sparkman receives the Democratic vice Presidential nomination

**1954**

Alabama FFA 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**1958**

Former AL FFA member and *Alabama Future Farmer* editor Wilson Carnes becomes editor of the *National Future Farmer*, a position he holds for several decades

**\* 1965**

The New Farmers of America merges with the Future Farmers of America

AL FFA expands its officer team to six officers; with the exception of 1945 and 1946, every team had five.

**1968**

Jerry Batts of Clements is selected as National FFA Secretary

**1969 \***

State convention moves from Auburn to Montgomery's Garrett Coliseum

**1971**

Sammy Peebles of the W.S. Neal chapter becomes Southern Region Vice President

**1972 \***

The *Alabama FFA Reporter* replaces the *Alabama Future Farmer* as the official publication

1973

Walter Means of ~~Bollee~~ is selected as State Treasurer, Alabama's first African-American state officer.

Carver

\* 1974

The office of State Second Vice President is established, expanding the s.o. team to 7. The office is abolished in 1977.

1975

Elton Bouldin of Crossville is chosen as the Southern Region Vice President

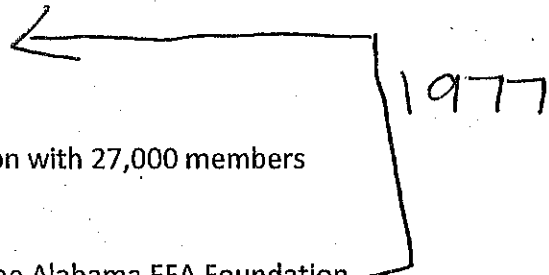
1976

Tony V. Pollard becomes the first Alabama member to be recognized as National FFA Star Agribusinessman.

Pamela Tate of Semmes is elected Second State Vice President, becoming the first female state officer.

1977

State convention moves to the Montgomery Civic Center.



\* 1978

At FFA's golden anniversary, AL is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest association with 27,000 members

\* 1980

FFA supporters, led by State Advisor J.C. Hollis, establish the Alabama FFA Foundation.

1985

Robert Weaver of Falkville is elected Southern Region Vice President.

1986

Jaime Feary, also of Falkville is selected Southern Region Vice President. Falkville is the first FFA chapter in the nation to have back-to-back national officers.

1989

Kim Sanders of Marbury becomes Alabama FFA's first female State President.  
Brad Lewis of Elkmont is selected Southern Region Vice President.

1991

Shane Black of Clements becomes Southern Region VP

1995

Clara-Leigh Horn of the Ashville chapter is selected as Southern Region VP

1996

Charlie Jones of the Billingsley chapter becomes Southern Region Vice President

1997

Amber Miller of Louisville is chosen as Southern Region Vice President.

1999

State Executive Secretary Troy Newton organizes the first state FFA career show at state convention.

2000

Jennifer Edwards of Gaston becomes National FFA Secretary

2001

2001 X

Thomas Hall of Isabella launches the original Alabama FFA website.

2002

Alabama FFA mandates the use of an electronic membership roster.

X 2003

Alabama State Legislature passes HJR3, officially designating the week of Feb 22 as FFA Week

2004

State convention moves back to Auburn University

X 2005

The State FFA Officers Alumni Association opens membership to all former FFA members.

State officers Matt Wilson of Jacksonville and Jordan Hamilton of Sand Rock reestablish the AL FFA website.

2006

Jennifer Himburg of the Ariton chapter is selected Southern Region Vice President.

2009 X

Delegates to the state convention vote to allow high school graduates to serve as state officers.

2010 X

State convention moves back to Montgomery

2012

Wiley Bailey becomes National FFA Southern Region Vice President.

Past State FFA Advisors:

1930-1946

R.E. Cammack

1946-1957

J.C. Cannon

1957-1970

T.L. Faulkner

1970-1972

B.P. Dilworth

1972-1975

H.W. Green

1975-1982

J.C. Hollis

1982-2000

C.W. Reed

2000-2008

Troy D. Newton

2008-2010

Mickey Humphries

2010-2012

Collie Wells

2012-Present- 2019

Jacob Davis

2019-2021

Andy Chamness

2022-Present

Collin Adcock

2018: Jordan Stow  
Elected as S.R.V.P

\* Membership  
over 15,000  
in 2019  
via AL FFA  
15,286 members