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SC FFA Leadership Center

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From Our SC FFA President



Greetings from Branchville, S.C.

My name is Thad Wimberly, and I am a fifth-generation farmer from Orangeburg County. Farming has been in my blood since birth. I'm looking forward to serving as your president of this great organization this coming year. Our family farm consists of a row crop operation as well as a commercial trucking company.

We grow cotton, corn, soybeans, peanuts, oats and hay. We raise Black Angus Cattle on our farm as well as hogs.

I graduated from Clemson University in 2000 with a degree in Agricultural Mechanization and Business. I have been married to my wife, Jennifer, for almost 18 years and we have two sons: Harrison (15) and Benjamin (13). Life with two teenage boys keep us on the go.

I am a member of the Branchville chapter of the SC Farmer and Agribusiness Association, and we are a fairly new chapter consisting of 28 members. I also serve on our county Farm Bureau board, and I am the county FSA committee chairman.

I am employed with the South Carolina Forestry Commission as the Orangeburg-Dorchester sector Fire Management Officer. I completed my law enforcement training in June of 2018 and have been with the commission for 20 years. Forestry has provided me with an opportunity to serve the needs of land owners throughout our great state.

My vision and goal for this year as your president is to increase participation in the awards offered at our state convention. I would love to see more of our state farmers highlighted and showcased for the unwavering work they do to conserve the land while continuing to provide food and fiber to the people of our country. I would also like to continue to promote Agricultural Education and FFA to the consumers in our state to improve awareness. There is no better person to share the story of agriculture than the American farmer.

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SC FFA Officers



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South Carolina Farmer and Agribusiness Association 72nd Annual Convention

By Troy Helms



The South Carolina Farmer and Agribusiness Association held its 72nd Annual Convention at the Doubletree Resort in Myrtle Beach, S.C., Jan. 31 - Feb. 1. The convention was well attended with over 200

attendance. An evening of laughter and fellowship was a great way to kick off the convention.

On Saturday morning, the convention started with the annual business meeting of the SC Farmer and Agribusiness Association. Nancy McCannon, Abbeville County Chapter advisor, gave a report on the Abbeville County Summer Tour, which they hosted in 2019. James Ulmer then announced the Summer Tour schedule for the 2020 event, which will be held in Orangeburg County. The events on Saturday continued with outstanding workshops. The Saturday Luncheon provided opportunities for numerous Farmer and Agribusiness Association members to be recognized for outstanding yields and production practices. Saturday evening provided a conclusion to the convention with a banquet to honor the Farmer of the Year, Agribusiness Person of the Year as well as other outstanding award winners. In addition, the new slate of officers was presented and the newly elected State President, Thad Wimberley, outlined his goals for next year. The evening concluded with an auction that raised money for the Association.

The SC Farmer and Agribusiness Association holds its annual convention in the winter of each year. Plans are already being made for next year's convention and information will be announced soon on the dates and location. Please plan on attending and taking advantage of this wonderful networking and educational opportunity provided by the association.

The SC Farmer and Agribusiness Association is an affiliate of the National Young Farmer Education Association, whose mission is to promote personal and professional growth for all people involved in agriculture.

advisors and guests in attendance. The highlight of the convention was the presentation of awards to deserving farmers and agribusiness persons from around the state and the recognition of the State Farmer of the Year and the State Agribusiness Person of the Year. Convention attendees were able to visit and network with industry exhibitors and attend educational workshops, such as Dicamba training, CAMM, Hemp Facts, Ag in the Classroom, Estate Planning and learn about John de la Howe School for Agriculture.

On Friday, the convention kicked off with a teacher's meeting and a time for attendees to spend talking with exhibitors. The evening concluded with entertainment provided by Glenn Strange, a comedian and magician. Strange kept the audience laughing and on the edge of their seats as he performed tricks and told stories that amazed everyone in

Mills recognized by State Farmer and Agribusiness group

Provided by SC Agri-News Service
By John W. Parris

Edward H. Mills of Blackstock was recently honored by the South Carolina Farmer and Agribusiness Association for 70 years of distinguished service as a member and secretary-treasurer of the Blackstock Farmer and Agribusiness Chapter. He was recognized at the state conference of the organization in Myrtle Beach.

Family members accompanying Mills to the state conference included his wife, Frances, son Tommy and wife Shannon, daughter Amy Whitfield and husband Swain, nephew Tim McSwain and wife Mary Beth and grandson Hunter Whitfield.

Agricultural educator Kip Beam, advisor and director of educational services to the Blackstock Chapter, attended the conference along with member John W. Parris.

At 91, Mills is a successful beef cattle producer and tree farmer in the Blackstock area. Additionally, he and his wife are retired from the South Carolina Forestry Commission.



Kip Beam (left), advisor to the Blackstock Farmer and Agribusiness Chapter, is shown with Blackstock President Tim McSwain, Vice President of the State Farmer and Agribusiness group, who recognized Edward H. Mills and presented him with the plaque during the state conference in Myrtle Beach.

Mills, an active member of the South Carolina Farm Bureau, served as president of the Fairfield County Farm Bureau for 31 years.

"The Blackstock Chapter is an active affiliate of the South Carolina Farmer and Agribusiness Association," Kip Beam said. "Tim McSwain, president of the Blackstock Chapter, presently serves as vice president of the state organization and Tommy Mills, vice president of the Blackstock group, is a former president of the state group," Beam added.

SC FAA Award Winners for 2020

Irrigated Corn Producer of the Year:

William Jameson, Edisto Chapter
Sponsored by Pioneer



Peanut – Clark Stillinger, State Winner, Edisto Chapter with David Simmons, State President



Cotton Yield – Jeff Sandifer, Americot with Jimmy Farmer, State Winner Darlington Chapter

Non-Irrigated Corn Producer of the Year:

Brad Elliott, Green Sea Floyd Chapter
Sponsored by Pioneer

Soybean Producer of the Year:

Brad Elliott, Green Sea Floyd Chapter
Sponsored by Scoular Company

Cotton Producer of the Year:

Jimmy Farmer, Darlington Chapter
Sponsored by Americot

Peanut Producer of the Year:

Clark Stillinger, Edisto Chapter
Sponsored by the SC Peanut Board



Energy Efficiency – Tim Faulkner, State Winner Laurens Chapter with David Simmons, State President



Corn Yield – Irrigated – William Jameson, State Winner, Edisto Chapter, with David Simmons, State President

Beef Producer of the Year

William Bowman, Crescent Chapter
Sponsored by Nance Tractor

Energy Efficiency Farmer of the Year:

Tim Faulkner, Laurens Chapter
Sponsored by Mid-Carolina Electrical Co-Op

Conservationist of the Year:

Ben Choate, Lancaster County Chapter
Sponsored by SC Conservations Districts Foundation

Farm Shop of the Year:

Jim Jarrard, Crescent Chapter
Sponsored by Agri-Supply



Horticulture – Kyle Penland, State Winner Laurens Chapter with David Simmons, State President



Farmer of the Year – Ricky Varnedeux, Arbor One Farm Credit with John Davis Crescent Chapter.

Continuing Education Scholarship Winner:

Kinsley Miller, Edgefield Chapter

Advisor of the Year:

Beth Tolson, Lee County Chapter

Chapter President of the Year:

Henry Herndon, Colleton-Bamberg Chapter

Chapter of the Year:

Colleton-Bamberg Chapter

Farmer of the Year:

State Winner from Region I: John Davis, Crescent Chapter

Agribusiness Person of the Year:

Region III Winner: Carey Middleton, Darlington Chapter
State Winner from Region II: Reggie Padgett, Saluda Chapter



Agribusiness Person of the Year – Maxcy Frye, Region III VP, Carey Middleton, Region III Winner Darlington Chapter, Bert Beasley, Darlington Chapter Advisor

SC Farmer and Agribusiness Association State Agribusiness Person of the Year – Reggie Padgett

By Jason Gore

The 2020 Farmer and Agribusiness Association State Agribusiness Person of the Year is **Reggie Padgett** from the Saluda Chapter.

Padgett is the plant manager for Hickory Hill Milk located in Edgefield. As plant manager, he supervises staff in the production of gallon, half-gallon and pint whole, chocolate and buttermilk. All milk comes from a 190-head milking herd and is low temperature pasteurized and non-homogenized. As part of his duties, Padgett sanitizes and provides maintenance on all production line equipment including cooling tanks, pasteurization vats and bottling equipment. He assists with packaging all products and storing all orders in on-site coolers he helped to build and wire. He is also responsible for the operation inventory of



2020 S.C. Farmer and Agribusiness Association Agribusiness Person of the Year Reggie Padgett (r), Saluda, S.C.

jugs, labels and shipping materials. Padgett ensures that the production line is properly calibrated and set for a variety of products and hopes to be able to add a bagging operation to expand institutional sales. He also organizes and schedules product orders and deliveries, records and maintains all sanitation records for DHEC and USDA requirements, and provides quality customer service and response.

Padgett and wife Daphne have two children, Wesley and Maddie. He is a member of Richland Springs Baptist Church and a volunteer firefighter with the Midlands Fire Department in Saluda. He is a past Farmer and Agribusiness Association executive committee member and an active member of the Saluda Farmer and Agribusiness Chapter where Amanda Crouch is his advisor.

SC Farmer and Agribusiness Association State Farmer of the Year – John Davis

By Jason Gore

The 2020 Farmer and Agribusiness Association State Farmer of the Year is **John Davis** from Iva, S.C.

Davis is the owner of Davis Farms, a purebred Charolais cow-calf operation specializing in producing elite show heifer prospects. Over the course of the last 16 years, Davis has expanded Davis Farms from one female that was locally competitive into a herd of top-notch, purebred Charolais and other multiple breed donors that produce nationally competitive show calves. To benefit the operation, he also successfully completed Artificial Insemination school and is implementing his new skills into the breeding program.

Davis finds joy in being involved with the youth livestock industry and generously supports the growth of youth programs as he assists local 4H and FFA chapters with securing cattle to exhibit as well as clipping and fitting cattle for livestock shows. He also promotes



2020 SC Farmer and Agribusiness Association Farmer of the Year John Davis, Iva, S.C.

the industry through providing cattle for juniors to show and supports every opportunity for them to exhibit cattle at the local, state and national level.

Davis's resume is filled with various honors, awards and accolades that prove his years of hard work and success through breeding and selecting cattle. To date, his highest achievements are winning Reserve Grand Champion Charolais Female at the North American International Livestock Exposition in 2017 and Fourth Overall Purebred Female at the 2019 Shorthorn Junior National Show.

In Davis's free time he enjoys judging livestock shows across the southeast, spending time with his family and passing along his love of raising, fitting and showing cattle to his son, Trey. He is a member of the Crescent Farmer and Agribusiness Chapter where Caroline Snellings and Brantley Caldwell are his advisors.

SC Farmer and Agribusiness Members Attend NYFEA Institute in Pennsylvania

By Troy Helms

More than 20 members from the SC Farmer and Agribusiness Association traveled to Lancaster, Pa., to attend the NYFEA Institute in early December. These members joined with other members from across the nation to learn more about the history and agriculture of Pennsylvania and to attend agricultural education and leadership development programs.



Members of the SC Farmer and Agribusiness Association attended the NYFEA Institute in Lancaster, PA

The conference kicked off with registration, NYFEA Board Meeting and a delegate meeting at the host hotel, The Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square. That evening, attendees from across the nation got to enjoy a special treat as “A Taste of Pennsylvania” reception and Ice Cream Social was hosted by the Pennsylvania Young Farmer Association. While a lot of tasty and delicious food was enjoyed, it was also a great opportunity to network with other members and business leaders from across the nation. From the moment attendees arrived until the time they left, they were treated to scrumptious meals showcasing the culture of Pennsylvania Dutch Country.

Tours began on the second day as members were shuttled to Chester County to see a variety of agricultural operations. These tour stops included a mushroom farm, Herr’s Angus Farm, winery, the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, Oregon Dairy Organics and several others. These stops gave attendees a chance to see the diversity of the agricultural industry in Chester County.

Lancaster County was the destination for tour stops for the next day. Attendees were shuttled throughout Lancaster County as businesses and agricultural operations opened their doors to share the history of their company and show the day-to-day operations of their businesses. Tour stops in Lancaster County included Kreider Dairy Farms, Binkley and Hurst equipment dealership, Green Dragon Farmers Market, New Holland Plant and Liberation Tiny Homes.

The South Carolina Farmer and Agribusiness Association was very well represented at the Institute. South Carolina’s very own Tim Faulkner, from the Laurens Chapter, was elected as the president of NYFEA. Students from Central High School and Cheraw High School also attended and competed in the Ag Communications Competition against students from across the nation as well. These students did a great job in representing South Carolina.

Next year, the NYFEA Institute will be held in Fort Wayne, Ind. Dec. 2-5. The event will offer attendees the opportunity to participate in some outstanding tours to learn about agriculture in Indiana. For more information, visit www.nyfea.org. Make plans now to join other members from across the nation in Indiana.



Tour stops included Kreider Dairy Farm and a tour of their carousel milking parlor.

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Pendleton FFA Team Takes First Place Honors

Provided by SC Agri-News Service
By John W. Parris

The Pendleton FFA Wildlife Team took first place honors in the 2019 National Wildlife Habitat Education Program (WHEP) Competition held in Junction City, Kansas. Team members Sydney Gambrell, Julianna Hernandez, Chance Parker and Chase Greene were coached by Blake Berry, Agri-Science instructor and FFA advisor at Pendleton High School.

“The National Wildlife Habitat Education Competition is designed to measure student knowledge of wildlife management practices, habitat development and species conservation,” Berry said. “They are required to get out in the field, identify plants and animals, assess a tract of forest or wetland for habitat improvement and even create their own wildlife management plan.”

The location of the national competition was outside Junction City in the heart of the Flint Hills Region, home of the largest expanse of unbroken Tallgrass prairie in the United States.

For the Pendleton students, Kansas was especially challenging since the focus of the competition was in the Tallgrass prairie eco-region. The landscape consisted of few trees, four main grass species, ground nesting prairie chickens and roaming herds of cattle and bison. Totally different from the mixed hardwood/pine forests and Coastal Plains of South Carolina where the Pendleton students had prepared for the state competition a few months earlier.

Berry has trained nearly a dozen FFA teams that have brought home state championship titles in wildlife biology and soil and water conservation but the National Championship Wildlife Habitat Education Competition Team was the first national championship team for the Pendleton FFA or the South Carolina FFA Association. This national



Pendleton FFA team member Juli Hernandez is shown in front holding plaque. Other team members standing (left to right) are Chance Parker, Chase Greene and Sydney Gambrell. Blake Berry, Pendleton Agri-Science instructor and team coach, is shown at right.

championship title demonstrates a new level of commitment by Pendleton FFA members to learn natural resource conservation.

Funding for the students to attend and participate in the national competition was provided by the College of Agriculture, Forestry and Life Sciences at Clemson University and Dr. Greg Yarrow, Chair of the Forestry and Environmental Conservation Department.



FOR CONTINUING THIS JOURNEY

we thank you!



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LOANS FOR LAND, FARMS AND HOMES

South Carolina FFA Convention Makes Historic Move

By Jillian Lash

The South Carolina FFA Convention has seen exponential growth over the last 10 years. It was not too long ago that convention attendance barely reached 500 members, and we now host approximately 1,000 members each June. With growth comes change. It is an honor to announce that the 2020 SC FFA Convention is moving to the Greenville Convention Center in Greenville, S.C. The convention will be held June 9-11.

As one of South Carolina's largest venues, the Greenville Convention Center hosts many large events, including the Southern Home and Garden Show, Clemson University – Men of Color National Summit, the South Carolina RV Show plus many more. By having the SC FFA Convention at a large venue, it will offer more opportunities for FFA members, advisors, school administration and the S.C. agriculture community to attend this exciting event.

The State Convention will continue to recognize those outstanding FFA members and chapters for their accomplishments on stage during four general sessions. In addition, the 93rd South Carolina FFA Convention will host multiple student workshops on exploring careers in agribusiness and finance, food safety and packaging, small animal care, natural resources and horticulture. Additional workshops will include “how to get into college,” leadership development, social media, developing your SAE plus others.

This year, Tuesday night's entertainment will be Jim Wand, world renowned hypnotist. Wand has been involved in the area of hypnotic entertainment for 16



years. Prior to that, he operated a clinic that specialized in “hypnotherapy” for eight years. He is one of the only hypnotic entertainers in the world who has a doctorate in the area of psychology.

Each year he does over 150 programs throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico and Europe. In addition to his evening performance, Wand will offer a self-hypnosis workshop Wednesday morning.

Moving the State FFA Convention will allow for the expansion of the Convention Expo. In addition to local organizations and colleges, FFA members will have the chance to meet with representatives from Mississippi State University, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, St. Andrew's University and many others.



South Carolina FFA plans to expand the convention each year to include a day of service and agriculture tours in the future.

Hypnotist, Dr. Jim Wand





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SCHOOL FOR AGRICULTURE

A Bold New Residential High School for Agriculture in South Carolina

John de la Howe School for Agriculture to Open This August

By Hayley Belton, Director of Marketing and Public Relations, John de la Howe

Located in McCormick, S. C., the John de la Howe School is one of the oldest learning facilities in the state, having been established in 1797 through the will of Dr. John de la Howe, a French physician. His will provided the establishment of an “agricultural seminary” for 12 poor boys and 12 poor girls – with the provision that they study the basic courses, agriculture and related subjects. For many years, it was known as the “state’s orphanage.” This mission continued Dr. de la Howe’s desire for children in need to have a home and receive an education in an agricultural setting. In the 1980s, the school served as an alternative school with a mission to offer a haven for children to grow, heal and make lasting changes.

In 2017, a feasibility study was conducted that found that the school could become the nation’s first residential high school focused on preparing students for careers in agriculture, forestry and land management. Currently, there is pending legislation to name the school the “Governor’s School for Agriculture at John de la Howe,” placing South Carolina on the cutting edge of modern agriculture. Under the direction of Interim President, Sharon Wall the school is undergoing dramatic changes to prepare for its opening. Changes range from renovating campus buildings and residence halls to implementing new technology and security measures to meet the needs of future students. The end goal is to one day host over 200 students, including out-of-state students. “We are very excited to be opening Aug. 17, 2020 to serve students who have a genuine interest in agriculture. We will be training students with modern technology who will be college and career ready upon graduation,” said Wall.

While all general education courses will be ag-focused, students will have the opportunity to choose from three pathways: Environmental and Natural Resources Management, Horticulture, and Plant and Animal Systems. Students will receive hands-on training in their



desired field, utilizing the 1,310 acres of forest and farmland, greenhouse operation, sawmill and working farm. The John de la Howe farm is composed of Polled Herefords, Yorkshire hogs, goats and horses. Students will also be able to participate in the production, advertisement and sale of agricultural goods. More recently, the John de la Howe administration hired three agricultural education teachers for the upcoming school year. These teachers along with five general education teachers will officially come on board in July.

For the 2020-2021 school year, the school will accept 80 rising high school sophomores and juniors, both residential and day students. These students

will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in all school activities, farm responsibilities, and events. Director of the Education Center and incoming President Timothy Keown has led efforts to recruit students from all counties of South Carolina. “The incoming students will have the absolute best high school experience. Our students will be able to participate in extracurricular events such as livestock shows, rodeo events, bass anglers, sporting clays, and archery. We are also offering membership into FFA, 4-H, and South Carolina Farmer and Agribusiness Association”, said Keown. Admissions Applications and more information is available online at www.delahowe.sc.gov.

Spartanburg Community College

School of Horticulture



SCC's School of Horticulture concentrates on the ornamental side of the industry, teaching everything from greenhouse/nursery production to landscaping and farm-to-table intensive agriculture. Thanks to a widely respected campus arboretum with many gardens, greenhouse production facilities and a center for sustainable agriculture on our campus, SCC students gain hands-on experience with plant production, landscaping, nursery operations, greenhouse management, intensive agriculture and more. SCC's horticulture department has a partnership with Clemson University for students to transfer and receive a bachelor's degree.

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**SPARTANBURG
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SC Ag Teachers Travel to California for NAAE Convention

From NAAE News Release

The 71st annual convention of the National Association of Agricultural Educators was held on Dec. 3-7 in Anaheim, Calif.

At the NAAE convention, more than 700 agricultural educators came together to determine the direction of the national association for the upcoming year. Attendees participated in committee meetings and general sessions to learn about the current state of agricultural education and participated in continuing education workshops developed by peers and agricultural education leaders that brought attendees up-to-date on current teaching practices and innovations in agricultural education.

Also during the NAAE convention, the association recognized agricultural educators and supporters for their outstanding contributions to the profession through a variety of awards.



l-r: Jason Kemp, NAAE President; Nassar Dean, Bayer; Lee Petitgout, agriculture teacher Nations Ford High School; Stanley Scurlock, NAAE Region 5 vice president

“In my opinion, the best professional development sessions I have attended allow me to bring a new concept, method or best practice back to my classroom,” said Jason Kemp, NAAE president. “I can say without a doubt that every session or agriculture program I visit while attending the NAAE convention has allowed me to do just that. In fact, when I tell my students I am leaving for NAAE convention, they usually comment that we will be trying something new when I return home. To me, that speaks volumes of the impact that NAAE has on our members and the students they serve.”



l-r: Jason Kemp, NAAE president; Abigail Hess, National Geographic Learning | Cengage Learning; Robert Bollier, agriculture teacher Lexington Technology Center; Stanley Scurlock, NAAE Region 5 vice president

The South Carolina delegation in attendance included Agriculture Teachers, Clemson University faculty, Clemson University Agricultural Education students and Agricultural Education staff. Several teachers were recognized at the convention, including: **Lee Petitgout** as the Outstanding Post-Secondary Agricultural Education Program, **Robert Bollier** as the Ideas Unlimited award winner and **Ben Teal** for the Teacher Turn the Key award.

NAAE is the professional organization in the United States for agricultural educators. It provides its more than 9,000 members with professional networking and development opportunities, professional liability coverage, and extensive awards and recognition programs. The mission of NAAE is “professionals providing agricultural education for the global community through visionary leadership, advocacy and service.” The NAAE is located in Lexington, Ky.



l-r: Jason Kemp, NAAE president, Ben Teal, agriculture teacher McBee High School.



Feeding the World. **Finding Your Place.**



Brodie had always loved the outdoors, plants — and FFA. When he came to Clemson he found that all his interests could come together in one even bigger passion — feeding the world.

At Clemson, Brodie conducted research on plant pathology with professors who shared his goals. He then applied that research to the campus' Tiger Gardens where he also taught nutrition and sustainability. Brodie is now in graduate school, with plans to travel to third-world countries to help them solve their food crises.

It's a big task. But with knowledge, enthusiasm and the support of his mentors, Brodie is up to the challenge.



    @ClemsonCAFLS
Email us at CAFLS_recruit-L@clemson.edu

Learn more about Brodie's story at
clemson.edu/moments.



SC FFA Members Experience the 2020 SC AgriBiz & Farm Expo

By Jillian Lash

The Eighth annual South Carolina AgriBiz & Farm Expo drew over 3,500 agriculturalists, FFA members and advisors to the Florence Civic Center in January. FFA members and attendees connected with South Carolina exhibitors, attended educational programs and participated in the FFA leadership workshop hosted by the State FFA Officers.

The Expo included a farm show with a wide variety of equipment, farm products and farm service agencies representing farms, both big and small. Exhibitors included Clemson Extension, SC Farm Bureau, Carolina Agri-Power, Americot and many others.

Over 100 FFA members from around the state participated in a workshop focusing on the FFA Mission: Developing a student's potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success. Members put on skits, discussed ways to develop career skills and worked in improving soft skills.

The Ninth Annual SC AgriBiz & Farm Expo is scheduled for Jan. 20-21, 2021.



Exhibitors at the 2020 AgriBiz Expo.

State Officers Plan to Impact the State in 2020

By Jillian Lash

On the weekend of Jan. 25-26, the six officers came together to reenergize and prepare to make an impact on members across the state as they reached the half way point of their term in office. A trainer from the National FFA Association guided the officers on team building, public speaking and speech writing. The officers spent the rest of the time planning leadership programming, banquet addresses and started their process of planning the 93rd SC FFA State Convention, which will be held this June. (See pg. 8)

With training like this, the officers are more ready than ever to visit with the over 8,000 FFA members in the state and prepare them for success in their FFA journey.



The State Officers and National FFA trainer, Lauren Fillebrown, prepare for the second half of the State Officers year of service.

Did you know?



By Cooper Brown

Did you know Barnwell County FFA chapter raffles off a charcoal grill every year? With the funds, they donate all of it to breast cancer research.



By Jake Faulkner

Did you know on Nov. 22, 2019, the Calhoun Falls FFA Chapter hosted their annual Poverty Awareness Dinner? At the event, we learned about different levels of poverty world-wide, and we had the wonderful opportunity to pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child



By Sydney Gambrell

Did you know each year, the annual McCallum Scholarship Dinner is held within Fort Mill, S.C. to provide opportunities for students within both the Fort Mill and Nation Ford Chapter? This dinner is held in memory of their agricultural education heritage. In the future they plan to add further funds for members at Fort Mill's newest school, Catawba Ridge High.



By Kylie Cathcart

Did you know Pickens County Career and Technology Center hosts an annual Farm Safety Day? This event teaches elementary school students the importance of safety and how to avoid possible agricultural hazards



By Virginia Kackley

Did you know Clover Middle School received their FFA charter this year at the state fair? This year they're excited to begin working on a pig enclosure to go alongside their chicken coop and 16 garden beds.



By Matthew Brownlee

Did you know the Wagener-Salley FFA chapter helps each year with the Annual Chitlin Strut by cleaning and preparing the food for the event?

ON OUR COVER - 2020 SC Farmer and Agribusiness Association State Officers

Tim McSwain - Region II VP, Blackstock Chapter
 David Simmons - Past President, East Clarendon Chapter
 Mike Ulmer - Region IV VP, Colleton, Bamberg, and Barnwell Chapter
 Scott Bodie - President Elect, Laurens Chapter
 Thad Wimberly - President, Branchville Chapter
 J.T. Tolson - Region III VP, Lee County Chapter
 Edwin Terry - Region I VP, Woodmont Chapter (Not Pictured)



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