



VATAT

News

A publication of the Texas Agricultural Education Family ☆ 2011 Volume II, Issue VI

"Words with Friends"

By: David Reiley, Seguin

Patience - This month's article is a continuation of the January newsletter. Please see the previous issue for the first part of this column.

The plane shows up about 3:00 p.m. which is not going to facilitate our new 3:05 p.m. departure time. So, we wait a little longer until we are allowed to board. It is now after 3:20 p.m. when we get on the plane. I am calm and patient as I walk down the aisle, since there is at least one person on every row all the way back to row 23. Why couldn't these single passengers all sit together? Now our little party of three, that were among the first to board, had to go all the way to the back of the plane to sit together. I hate sitting in the back of the plane.

Ok, let's get this thing rolling; let's go to Vegas! Zach is by the window, I'm in the middle and Mary is on the aisle; everyone is happy. Well sort of, I would rather have the window, but hey that is ok. We are all together, right? So, we sit there for about 20 minutes when the pilot comes out to talk to us. "Ok, we have a problem with the plane." Oh wait a second, that does not sound good at all! "They are working on the plane and it will take a few minutes to get it fixed. It is not an engine problem; it is with the struts on the plane." Ok, that is

better news... I think? "The problem is there is not enough pressure in the struts to support the plane and when landing it could create a problem; it is out of FAA specifications." Hmmm that could be a problem. So, after about 20 minutes more the pilot returns; I am thinking we are good to go.

Well not so fast there buddy. He tells us, "There is a problem with the tools (air chuck) on the nitrogen system, and they can not fill the struts to the proper pressure. They are going to get a new tool to complete the job." Ok, I am sure there is an Airport NAPA store nearby, I think I saw one on the way in, right next to the New and Used Strut shop.

The pilot then comes over the intercom and offers free tours of the cockpit for anyone on board who would like to see his office. I am thinking we will be here for a while if they are giving tours, since it is a one way aisle on this plane and it will take forever for everyone to meander up and down the aisle one person at a time.

I was right; 20 minutes later they are still giving tours and still no solution to the strut problem. By now, there are some mean and nasty people on board who are saying some things that were not nice. They



were mad at the situation and taking it out on the pilot and crew. One lady even asked, "Why did they not fix this d@*n thing before they got to Austin?" I wondered that myself. I mean they can refuel a plane in flight, why not recharge the struts in flight? Just lower the gear, drop Bruce Willis out of a plane with a nitrogen backpack and presto you're done. I wanted to turn around and tell her, "Here's your

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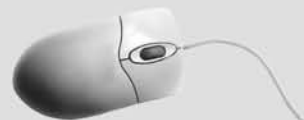
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“Words with Friends”

Continued from page 1

sign!”

Still waiting, the pilot reappears; this time he is bringing more good news, right? He starts off each explanation with, “Ok, we have a problem with....” This time was no different. He said, “The problem now is there is too much weight on the struts with the plane fully loaded. We need everyone to get off the plane.” I had already mentioned this little scenario to my wife about 30 minutes ago, and sure enough now they make the call to have all of us get off the plane.

So here we go, one by one we march up the jet way back to Gate 7. I started thinking about how they are going to keep everyone together, and how about a boarding pass to get back on? No big deal, just stay close to the gate was our only instruction. This time it only took about 15 minutes to fix the problem, and we were allowed to re-board the plane. We were pushed back from the gate and taxied rapidly to the runway where we were given clearance to take off. I glanced at my watch thinking this is the time we should be touching down in Las Vegas.

The flight to Vegas was about as smooth as it gets, no turbulence, clear skies and fairly quiet on board. It did seem to be the slowest flight ever and it felt like it was about five hours long. Finally, the lights of Vegas show up outside my window on the left side of the plane. Great weather, smooth descent, picture perfect landing. Both times! I looked at Mary and said, “I don’t think the struts are fixed.”

The plane touched down in what started as a textbook landing, but then it felt like it just kept getting lower to the ground even after the wheels had contacted the runway. It continued to sink further down and then the struts bottomed out. That action caused a reaction and that was to send the plane back skyward as it bunny hopped down the runway. This created another problem; with no wheels on the ground, there is no real effective way to STOP the plane!

Once the plane had all three sets of wheels on the ground, the pilot hit the brakes hard and heavy to get the thing to stop. By the sound of the squeals, I think they will need to check the brakes along with the struts. Success! We are on the ground and everything is still in one piece. But then, we stop, right out in the middle of the tarmac, nowhere close to a terminal.

After about 10 minutes of this, we move forward a bit and then we hear the plane just shut off. We are still

a long way from a gate. Then, the pilot comes on the intercom and announces the gate we are going to is one we can not taxi up to; we have to be towed to the gate. So now, we are waiting for a tow vehicle to come rescue us. We get to the gate and as soon as we stop the stewardess comes on the intercom and yells, “Get out!” They still had a sense of humor, but there were many people on board who were not amused. I personally thought it was funny.

Patience. I needed a little that day... and night. We made it to Vegas, so what if we were about five hours behind schedule on a direct non-stop flight from Austin to Las Vegas? Life is good.

As you prepare for the stock show season, have some patience as you travel up and down the road. Remember, our students, parents and the public are watching our every move. Let’s set a great example for all to follow. See you at the stock shows.



VATAT Update

Gerald Young, VATAT Executive Director

Leadership Institute:

The third annual Leadership Institute will be held June 21 - 24, 2011. Applications will be available by the time you read this article and will be due March 18th. Each year, 30 teachers are selected to participate in this event.

Conference:

We had a conference planning on January 3rd. The staff is in the process of contacting the workshop presenters who were recommended at that meeting. We will have a number of workshops dealing with our

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courses that can count for graduation requirements. This year, we will not have tours during the week. With the cost of buses and the number of no shows for our tours the last two years, we have decided to discontinue the tours for now.

Future Articles:

I plan to do a series of articles in March, April and May on schools and the people involved. The March article will be on teachers, the April article will be on administrators and the May article will be on elected officials.

Mentors:

The future of our young teachers staying in the profession is very dependent on the Mentor Program. The association is putting together a list of things a mentor should agree to do and accomplish as a mentor. We will have a workshop on Thursday for mentors and mentees to visit and make plans for the year. Do not commit to being a mentor unless you are willing to do what it will take to be successful.

Legislative Session:

With the deficit projected at 27 billion for the next biennium, public education will be cut along with other state agencies. There still has not been a proposal as to how that will be done. We will let you know once that is decided. We will need teachers, parents and supporters to make contact with their legislator. Weighted funding is very important to our program as well as other CTE programs. In 2003 and 2005, a total of 19 CTE courses were selected to not receive weighted funding. The intent was to save the state money, but what happened was the school did not offer those courses. Weighted funding will help keep our program.

VATAT *Scholarship*

The Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association offers VATAT scholarships to members' children upon their graduation from high school. Scholarships are awarded to all eligible applicants as long as VATAT membership requirements are met, and the application meets all scholarship requirements.

Download a scholarship application at www.vatat.org under Association>VATAT Awards. The completed application and supporting materials must be postmarked on or before April 1, 2011, and sent to the VATAT office. Late applications will not be accepted.

Best of Texas Awards



The Best of Texas Awards are given by the Texas Career and Technology Council to recognize outstanding senior career and technology education students, alumni and community members.

VATAT members are encouraged to nominate one or more of their students for Best of Texas Awards. Scholarships are awarded to student winners and runners-up in each division. Download an application under Associations>VATAT Awards. Best of Texas applications must be postmarked on or before March 1, 2011.

Do You Know Your Password?

Make registering for tours and workshop easier this summer by knowing your email address and password for the VATAT Online System. VATAT members will also renew their membership through VATAT Online, so it is imperative you know the required login information. The Association cannot see your personal password, so in the event you cannot remember your login information your password will have to be reset.

Conference Timeline

MARCH 15th
Reserve Conference Housing
Register for Pre-Conference
Workshops and Tours
Pay 2011-12 VATAT
Membership Dues

A New Face in the Ag Ed Family



Melanie Mooney, VATAT Intern

Melanie Mooney is the spring VATAT intern, and she is a recent graduate from Texas State University, San Marcos with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Relations. As a student, she obtained valuable communication and design skills within the School of Journalism and Mass Communication and gained event planning experience with her internship at The Center for the Study of Latino Media & Markets. Melanie was also a statistics tutor for two years and treasurer of the first Texas State chapter of Social Media Club. She hopes to pursue a career in environmental or children's advocacy. Melanie was born in Victoria, Texas and has lived in San Marcos for the past two years. However, she is looking forward to making Austin her future home.

VATAT AWARDS ARE ONLINE!

The VATAT Awards process has been upgraded for 2011! The new award applications and procedures are available on the VATAT Web site! Check out the following award categories and make plans to apply or nominate someone! ***Area winning applications must be submitted by the VATAT executive committee member at the spring board meeting, May 21-22, 2011.***

Outstanding School Administrator
 Outstanding Cooperation Award
 Outstanding Newspaper
 Outstanding Radio Station
 Outstanding Television Station
 Teacher's Media Award - **NEW!**

Teacher's Chapter Publicity & Promotional Award - **NEW!**

Ideas Unlimited - **NAAE Eligible**

Texas Turn the Key Award - **NAAE Eligible**

Teacher Mentor Award - **NAAE Eligible**

30-Minute Club

Resources To Help You Encourage Your Students To Teach Ag



GOAL - self guided course for potential ag teachers. A good resource is ***growouragleaders.com***. It is a self-guided, online course created by Luke Beam, an agricultural educator in North Carolina. It is a course designed to help students understand what being an ag teacher is all about. **Visit <http://www.naae.org/teachag/#mentor> for more resources related to teaching ag education.**

The information included on this page can be found on the NAAE Web site. It is intended to be useful for anyone who wishes to get a degree in agricultural education or who wants to help promote agricultural education as a career. If you have questions about this information, contact Julie Fritsch at jfritsch.naae@uky.edu.

TEXAS FFA News *moved online!*

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BBQ Admission Ticket *(Valid Only Feb. 24 - 26, 2011)*

Adult (Age 13 & over)	\$10
Child (Age 3-12) {2 & under free}	\$5

Reliant Park Admission *(Valid Only Mar. 1 - 20, 2011)*

Adult (Age 13 & over)	\$7
Child (Age 3-12) {2 & under free}	\$4

Season Pass *(Valid Feb 24-26 & Mar. 1 - 20, 2011)***\$25**

Half-Price Carnival Packs may be used during the BBQ (Feb 24-26, 2011) or the Show (Mar 1-20, 2011). Rides and game require multiple tickets. To enter the carnival during the BBQ, you must have a BBQ Admission Ticket or a Season Pass. To enter the carnival during the Show, you must have a Reliant Park Admission Ticket, Season Pass or Rodeo/Concert ticket for that day. Admission Tickets and Season Passes are not valid for Reliant Stadium or Rodeo Uncorked events. **BBQ and Reliant Park Admission tickets are not interchangeable and are only valid for the specified dates.**

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Click "Buy Now"

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Select name: **JIM SOULE** or direct link

<https://secure.rodeohouston.com/carnivaltickets/?salescode=1076585>

Mail Orders must be postmarked by **Wed. Feb 16, 2011**

Internet, Phone & Fax Orders accepted through **Fri. Feb 25, 2011**

Allow 5-7 business days for processing

This information is being distributed as a community service. This school or ISD is not a sponsoring organization for this activity. Please do not contact the school to buy tickets.

The Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.



Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo

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Carnival Pack

\$10 Carnival Pack _____ @ \$10 each = \$ _____
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BBQ Admission Ticket *(Valid Only Feb. 24 – 26, 2011)*

Adult (Age 13+) _____ @ \$10 each = \$ _____
 Child (Age 3-12) _____ @ \$5 each = \$ _____

Reliant Park Admission *(Valid Only Mar. 1 – 20, 2011)*

Adult (Ages 13+) _____ @ \$ 7 each = \$ _____
 Child (Ages 3-12) _____ @ \$ 4 each = \$ _____

Season Pass *(Valid Feb 24-26 & Mar. 1 - 20, 2011)* _____ @ \$25 each = \$ _____

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 Attn: Carnival Ticket Sales Committee

Fax order form with credit card payment to:

Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, fax (832) 667-1064

For more information, please contact HLSR volunteer:

Contact: JIM SOULE - Phone: 832-287-3528, Fax: 832-201-9928
 Email: jims_halfpricecarnivaltickets@yahoo.com

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Foundation Update

Word of Mouth and Our Heroes

Aaron Alejandro, Texas FFA Foundation Executive Director

Are People Talking About Your Program?



A great way to lay the ground work for contributions from your community (cultivation) is to raise awareness and profile of our local chapter programs. Networking with community leaders – people who know more people – is a great way to create a “buzz” about the local FFA chapter’s efforts. We want all Texans speaking in a positive way about what agriculture education and FFA provide our state’s economy, universities, business, industry, international trade and policy makers. Here are few tips to help tell that story and find influencers.

- **Who’s Talking?** Find people who believe in your program, what it does and its benefit to the community and have them speak to civic groups, blog and arrange for their peer group to come and speak to your members.
- **What’s the Point?** Identify a reason for people to talk about your local FFA program. An upcoming event, development, competition or classroom experience is a great point to discuss.
- **Use Today’s Tools.** Today’s technology affords us the chance to spread the word more quickly. With email, blogs, handouts, message boards and other online forums allow us to communicate in real time and to a broad community audience.

• **Are Your FFA Members Part of the Choir?** Join the conversation and see what people’s perception of your

program are. Create a “tweet” follow a “tweet” or find ways to engage local FFA students in the discussions of our FFA program in the community.

- **Monitor.** Keep track of what people are saying and who’s saying it. You never know when you’ll capture a “nugget of gold” by listening to what others are saying about the local FFA program.

If you do not drive the message and perception of what you want others to know about your program, don’t be disappointed if they create their own perception – and possibly one that is not accurate and a stereotypical rendering of what they think our program is. Take charge of the message and be proactive in establishing a positive, and public image, of what agriculture education and the Texas FFA mean to our Lone Star state.

Who are Our Heroes?

Take the following quiz.

- Name five of the wealthiest people in the world.
- Name the last five Heisman Trophy winners.
- Name the last five winners of the Miss America contest.
- Name 10 people who have won the Nobel or Pulitzer Prize.
- Name the dozen Academy Award winners for Best Actor.
- Name the last decade’s worth of World Series winners.

How did you do? The reality is the fore mentioned people were the best in their fields. They were all no second rate achievers, yet they are yesterday’s headlines. Awards tarnish. Accolades and certificates are buried with their owners.

Flip Side

- List a few teachers who aided your journey through school.
- Name three friends who have helped you through

a difficult time.

- Name five people who have taught you something worthwhile.
- Think of a few people who have made you feel appreciated and special.
- Think of five people you enjoy spending time with.
- Name a half dozen heroes whose stories have inspired you.



People who make the most difference in our lives are not always the ones with the most credentials, the most money or the most awards. They are the people who care about us.

Traditions are created and last because of the people closest to us. We appreciate our agriculture education teachers being a "hero" to many of our Texas FFA members.



SAE Marketplace is an online resource designed specifically for agricultural science teachers and FFA members to locate livestock sales and breeders, purchase equipment and supplies and find the perfect Supervised Agricultural Experience project.

The SAE Marketplace is a venture of the VATAT and is simple and easy to use. It is divided into three categories which contain agricultural products and services including: The Show Source, Ag Service and Supply Shop and the Greenhouse.

Advertising on SAE Marketplace is a great way to target Ag Ed Family members! Advertisements run for 12 months and include up to 50 word of text, company logo, Web site and e-mail links--all for only \$100 per year!

Visit SAE Marketplace at www.saemarketplace.com to find your next SAE project or to advertise one!

www.saemarketplace.com

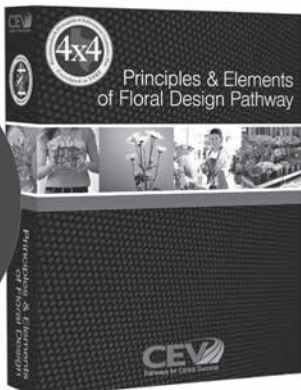
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Texas Young Farmers Update

From the President's Pen

Janet Bulger, Texas Young Farmers President

We had a great time in Monterey, California at the National Young Farmer Institute. This was mine and Kenny's 7th consecutive institute to attend. There were seven of us from Texas who were able to attend. I would love to see more from Texas attend next year. These institutes are not just fun trips, but very educational. I have learned more about agriculture in the last seven years than I did all the other years of my life. We have toured green houses, dairy farms, tree farms and watched peanuts being harvested, just to mention a few of the tours. I have seen big tractors, little tractors and tractors that plow on hillsides. This is all very educational and interesting. We also formed some close relationships with fellow Young Farmers from other states.

In California, we toured a Dole Salad Plant. We were able to watch the process lettuce goes through from the time it is brought to the plant until it is packaged and leaves the plant. Having never seen this process before, I found it to be quite interesting. The two things that impressed me the most at this plant was the fact that the water used to wash the lettuce is recycled (water is a precious commodity), and after the lettuce is packaged, each bag goes through three different metal detectors before it is put on trucks and sent out.

One of the other tours we went on was of an artichoke farm where we were instructed on the procedure of harvesting the artichokes, treating and preventing insect infestations, and the economics of this crop. At Gills Onion Farm, the onions were harvested the day before we arrived, but we were able to go through the plant where the onions were unloaded from

the trucks bringing them from the fields. After the onions are unloaded, they are put on a conveyer and from there they go into the plant, move along more conveyers, are sorted by size and eventually end up in crates ready to ship.

The Young Farmer National Institute is scheduled to be in Texas in December, 2013. The committee is working to find the perfect city with the perfect tours and perfect food. As we progress with the plans, I will give you updates. We would love to have a big turnout in 2013 from our Texas Young Farmers.

The purpose of the State Association of Young Farmers of Texas is to provide educational programs designed to meet the needs of men and women with a vested interest in agriculture. I am privileged and excited about being President of Texas Young Farmers and it is my goal to fulfill this purpose. These interests include, but are not limited to: leadership training and experience for leaders and good citizens; participation of families in civic and community service work designed to improve the way of life in their community, state and nation; cooperation with FFA Chapters and their activities; cooperation with other organizations and agriculture agencies in programs benefitting agriculture; and, recreation for families.

Todd Staples, Commissioner of Agriculture for Texas, recently said, "The roots of agriculture run deep in Texas – and not just in the fields of our farmers and ranchers. At this very moment, agriculture is helping build homes, save lives and boost our community. Agriculture feeds us, clothes us and gives us shelter. It contributes to science, medicine and education. It keeps us healthy. It adds color to our world, it's a dynamic industry that reaches across the farmers fence and into our daily lives. Agriculture is everywhere. Agriculture is Your Culture".

I am looking forward to working with the members of this organization. Please send me ideas and suggestions on what you think our organization can do to help achieve the purpose of this organization.



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YOUNG FARMERS' Fun Facts

Every year, producers, agriculture associations, corporations, universities, government agencies and countless others across America join together to recognize the contributions of agriculture. This year the National Ag Day will be celebrated on March 15, 2011 and Ag Week during the week of March 13-19, 2011. As the world population soars, there is an even greater demand for the food and fiber produced in the United States. Yet, fewer Americans understand how their food is produced and delivered. That is what Ag Day is all about: helping everyone understand the amazing role agriculture plays in our everyday lives.

Fun Facts: About the Food We Eat

- Popcorn pops because water is stored in a small circle of soft starch in each kernel. As the kernel is heated, the water heats, the droplet of moisture turns to steam and the steam builds up pressure until the kernel finally explodes to many times its original volume.
- The same chemicals that give tart cherries their color may relieve pain better than aspirin and ibuprofen in humans. Eating about 20 tart cherries a day could reduce inflammatory pain and headache pain. There are about 7,000 cherries on an average tart cherry tree. It takes about 250 cherries to make a cherry pie, so each tree could produce enough cherries for 28 pies.
- Lettuce is a member of the sunflower family. Darker Green lettuce leaves are more nutritious than lighter green leaves. Americans eat about 30 pounds of lettuce every year. In the United States, lettuce is the second most popular fresh vegetable.
- The plant pigment that gives carrots and other vegetables their vivid orange color is Beta-Carotene. Fruits and Vegetables that are yellow/orange in color contain Beta-Carotene and carrots are one of the richest in this nutrient. Our bodies convert Beta-Carotene into Vitamin A. The bright orange color of carrots tell you they're an excellent source of Vitamin A which is important for good eyesight, especially at night. Vitamin A helps your body fight infection, and keeps your skin and hair healthy.
- There are over 500 different types of bananas. That means if you ate a different kind of banana everyday, it would take you almost a year and a half to eat every one. Although generally regarded as a tree, this large tropical plant is really a herb. That means it does not have a woody trunk like a tree. The stalk is composed of leaf sheaths that overlap each other and grow from an underground stem called the rhizome. The banana plant can grow as high 20 feet tall. That is as big as a two-story house. Bananas are about 99.5% fat free. Bananas are a great source of potassium. Potassium helps build muscle power and keeps your body fluids in balance.

AG TRIVIA

1. Texas leads the nation in the Production of which below commodity?
 - a. cattle
 - b. cotton
 - c. hay
 - d. all of the above
2. If you spend a single dollar on food, what percentage of the dollar spent would go to the actual farmer?
 - a. 19%
 - b. 25%
 - c. 30%
 - d. 50%
3. What is the largest student-lead agriculture organization?
 - a. 4-H
 - b. Farmhouse
 - c. FFA
 - d. Texas Beef Council

Answers will be published next month.

National Institute

Monterey, California



Pictured above from left to right: Sharon Beene, Don Beene, Clint Ward, Tommy Ketchum, Bill Ward, Clovia Ketchum, Kenny Bulger and Janet Bulger.



WHAT IS NATIONAL TEACH AG DAY?

National Teach Ag Day is a campaign to encourage agricultural education advocates, especially current agricultural educators (middle school, high school, post-secondary, pre-service programs, etc.) to share with others the great career opportunities in agricultural education and encourage them to consider careers as agricultural educators. It is also a day to recognize the contributions of current agricultural educators.

WHO IS IT FOR?

National Teach Ag Day is for anyone who wants to share the story of agricultural education and encourage students to consider careers as agricultural educators. Anyone who wants to participate can find a variety of resources to help them talk about ag education on that day, including a video and activity ideas at www.naae.org/teachag.



WHAT HAPPENS ON NATIONAL TEACH AG DAY?

Agricultural educators and agricultural education advocates will engage in a variety of activities to promote the career of agricultural education. These activities may include capitol rallies, special lessons, community activities, and more. The Teach Ag website is a clearinghouse of resources to help teachers teachers and advocates introduce the topic on that day, including a video, suggested teaching activities, games, and giveaway items.

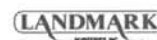
HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?



- Write the Teach Ag Day date on your calendar and plan to include a lesson on March 24th about the opportunities in agricultural education.
- Tell everyone you know that March 24th is National Teach Ag Day
- If you are a postsecondary student ag education organization, plan to participate in the "How Did You Celebrate National Teach Ag Day" contest.
- For more information, visit www.naae.org/teachag

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR TEACH AG DAY?

National Teach Ag Day is a component of the National Teach Ag Campaign, an initiative of the National Council for Agricultural Education, led by the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE). It is sponsored by Landmark Nurseries as a special project of the National FFA Foundation and by Delmar Cengage Learning.





Texas FFA Alumni

Update



Each year, FFA members from all over the United States travel to Washington, D.C. to attend the Washington Leadership Conference (WLC)

During the five-day event, attendees learn how to become effective leaders by teaching them to know their purpose, value people, take action, and serve others. This is no ordinary leadership experience. You will spend a week putting these skills into practice as you make new friends from across the United States, tour our nation's capitol and visit with members of Congress. This action-packed week will help you gain self-confidence and leadership skills to take back to your FFA chapter and share with other members. They leave WLC with the knowledge and the confidence to act in ways that help their schools, community, and their country

The Texas FFA Alumni has traditionally granted four (4) \$500.00 scholarships to deserving FFA members whose local affiliate are in good standing with the Texas FFA Alumni. Eligibility and deadlines are as follows:

- Only one FFA member per chapter can submit an application for the WLC scholarship.
- The WLC scholarship covers \$500.00 of the registration fee for an FFA member to attend the WLC conference. Travel to and from the WLC conference site and incidental expenses are the recipient's responsibility.
- Recipients must attend a WLC workshop for the year the scholarship is awarded.
- Applications are due postmarked by February 15 of each year. WLC scholarship recipients will be announced by March 1st and winners notified by March 15th.
- Each recipient is expected to attend the Texas FFA Alumni Association's Annual Meeting in July. (The FFA

Alumni Association Annual Meeting is held in conjunction with the State FFA Convention.)

Applications can be found online at <http://texasffaalumni.ffa.org> under Applications.

More info about the Washington Leadership Conference can be found at www.ffa.org. Don't forget state and national FFA Alumni dues are due by February 15th to be considered for this scholarship. Register at <http://texasffaalumni.ffa.org> to receive information about deadlines & other Alumni news.

Start an FFA Alumni Affiliate Chapter

Former FFA members and interested adults are a natural resource of help and support for FFA advisors and their students. A National FFA Alumni Affiliate Chapter helps to rally the local community around agricultural education and FFA activities. Alumni Affiliates also provide a helping hand to FFA advisors in coordinating activities for the local FFA chapter. To charter as a National FFA Alumni Affiliate, your chapter must:

1. Have at least 10 members who have paid National FFA Alumni member dues and State FFA Alumni dues, where applicable.
2. Have a written constitution and bylaws that works in harmony with the National FFA Alumni Constitutions and Bylaws.
3. Have a council of elected officers.
4. Complete the Application for Local Charter.
5. Submit the completed Application for Local Charter, your Constitution and Bylaws, a completed membership roster to your State FFA Alumni Association.

Your State FFA Alumni Association will forward all forms and documents to the National FFA Alumni Association. Upon receipt of all items, the National FFA Alumni Association will officially charter the new affiliate by issuing an affiliate number, a charter certificate and a scroll.

Source: <https://www.ffa.org/GetInvolved/Alumni/Pages/StartaChapter.aspx>



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Teachers Association of Texas
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TEXAS AG ED FAMILY EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2011

3rd - 20th - San Antonio
Livestock Exposition - San
Antonio

5th - Southwestern Exposition
& Livestock Show Ends - Fort
Worth

13th - SALE Public Speaking
Contest - San Antonio

22nd - Day at the Capitol - Austin

21st - 25th - National FFA Week

MARCH 2011

1st - Spring Semester FFA Dues
Deadline - Austin

1st - 20th - Houston Livestock
Show & Rodeo - Houston

7th - State Tractor Technician
CDE - HLSR, Houston

11th - 26th - Star of Texas
Livestock Show & Rodeo - Austin

13th - Agricultural Public
Speaking & Preliminaries - HLSR,
Houston

14th - Agricultural Public
Speaking Finals & Results - HLSR,
Houston

18th - Mechanics Project Show -
HLSR, Houston

26th - CDE Clinics - Texas A&M,
College Station

TBD - Tarleton State Invitational
CDEs - Stephenville

31st - Texas Tech Invitational
CDEs - Lubbock

TBD - Texas FFA Board of
Directors Spring Meeting - Austin

APRIL 2011

1st - West Texas A&M
Invitational CDEs - Canyon

2nd - Clarendon College
Invitational CDEs - Clarendon

TBD - Stephen F. Austin
Invitational CDEs -
Nacogdoches

4th - Regular Swine Tag Order
Begins (State Fair) - Austin

9th - Texas Tech Invitational
Area CDEs - Lubbock

9th - Sam Houston State
Invitational CDEs - Huntsville

Vocational Agriculture
Teachers Association
of Texas

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