

# Vision of Virginia

FALL 2021



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## UPCOMING events

### JANUARY

28-30: Young Farmers of Virginia Convention

### FEBRUARY

18-20: Virginia Young Farmer Expo

### MARCH

11-12: State Parliamentary Procedure

25-27: Virginia Coop Conference

# BASE Camp

by Emma Jackson – VA FFA 2021-2022 State Vice Secretary

On Tuesday, June 29th, the newly elected Virginia FFA State Officers made their way to Blacksburg Virginia to kick off their very first training! The team had the amazing opportunity to learn from a trainer brought to us from National FFA, Evan Davis. Their training included multiple team-building exercises and activities, as well as tools the officers can use to become stronger leaders throughout their year of service. Their fun week of training concluded Friday, July 2.



State Sentinel, Sammy Leach, shows his excitement for facilitation training.



Virginia FFA Officer Team photographed with their National FFA Facilitator, Mr. Evan Davis.

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# STATE 4-H/FFA Livestock JUDGING CONTEST

by **Charlie Moser** – VA FFA 2021-2022 State President

The Virginia State 4-H and FFA Livestock Judging Contest was held on Tuesday, June 29, 2021, at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds. Both FFA and 4-H members from across the state came to compete. During this event, participants evaluate classes of sheep, goats, hogs, and cattle. Once the classes have been judged, students are asked questions for 2 of the classes. Following questions are reasons. During reasons, participants explain their placing for a particular class to a judge. Each of these parts of the contest is combined to calculate the overall score of the participant. After a year filled with uncertainty surrounding COVID-19, participants were excited to get back to normal. Quinna Molden from the Sherando FFA chapter, who also competed with Frederick County 4-H said “After not being able to compete in the FFA division last year because of COVID, it

was so nice to be able to compete in both the 4-H and FFA divisions and have a sense of normalcy while judging. I think the state livestock judging contest was a great success!” Emily Klein, from the Wilson Memorial FFA chapter, competing with Augusta 4H said “I really enjoyed that we were able to compete in person and celebrate our achievements with others, which is something we have not been able to do for a while, bringing back a sense of normalcy.” Isaac Miller from the Rural Retreat FFA chapter, who also competed with Wythe County 4-H said “I’m really thankful for all the volunteers as well as the people in charge who ensured the contest ran smoothly and efficiently. I really appreciate all those who sponsor and support the young people who believe in the future of agriculture.” Maegan Cash from the Liberty FFA Chapter said “I thought it was great how organized the competition was, especially considering the new location and guidelines. I also appreciated the welcoming atmosphere within the contest.” Virginia FFA is incredibly grateful for all those who ensured a safe and efficient contest. A big thank you to all the judges who provided critiques for each class and listened to reasons. ***Congratulations to all those who competed! The top 3 individuals and teams from the FFA division are as follows.***



## HIGH JUNIOR TEAMS

**State Winner - S. Gordon Stewart Middle FFA**  
**Team Members - Landon Marshall,**  
**Bradley Craun, Emory Seal,**  
**and Dean Grogg** (not pictured)  
 2nd - Turner Ashby FFA  
 3rd - Rural Retreat FFA



## TOP 10

**Carrie Miller** (Turner Ashby FFA), **Abigail Miller** (Rural Retreat FFA),  
**Landon Marshall** (S. Gordon Stewart Middle FFA), **Nathan Paris**  
 (Chatham Middle FFA), **Glen Foster** (Turner Ashby FFA, not pictured),  
**Emory Seal** (S. Gordon Stewart Middle FFA), **Emma Wisecarver**  
 (R. E. Aylor Middle FFA), **Clay Jackson** (Smith Mountain Middle FFA),  
**Bradley Craun** (S. Gordon Stewart Middle FFA), **Sarah Craun**  
 (Wilbur S. Pence Middle FFA)

## HIGH JUNIOR INDIVIDUALS

**State Winner - Sarah Craun**  
 Wilbur S. Pence Middle FFA  
**2nd - Bradley Craun**  
 S. Gordon Stewart Middle FFA  
**3rd - Clay Jackson**  
 Smith Mountain Middle FFA



## HIGH SENIOR TEAMS

**State Winner - Liberty FFA**  
**Team Members - Makenna Garrett, Maegan**  
**Cash, Kevin Painchaud, Charlie Moser**  
 2nd - Buffalo Gap FFA Team B  
 3rd - Fort Defiance FFA



## TOP 10

**Danielle Tuck** (Smith Mountain FFA), **Ellie Vicent** (Clarke County FFA),  
**Emily Taylor** (Rural Retreat FFA), **Mackenzie Hinton** (Riverheads FFA),  
**Kevin Painchaud** (Liberty FFA), **Emma Jackson** (Smith Mountain FFA),  
**Kennah Kerns** (James Wood FFA), **Quinna Molden** (Sherando FFA),  
**Charlie Moser** (Liberty FFA), **Isaac Miller** (Rural Retreat FFA)

## HIGH SENIOR INDIVIDUALS

**State Winner - Isaac Miller**  
 Rural Retreat FFA  
**2nd - Charlie Moser**  
 Liberty FFA  
**3rd - Quinna Molden**  
 Sherando FFA

# FFA Leadership Camp



Campers, past state officers, and the newly elected officers gathered at the end of camp to take a group picture.

by Emma Jackson – VA FFA 2021-2022 State Secretary

The Virginia FFA Leadership Camp took place this year at Graves Mountain Lodge in Syria Virginia from July 11th-16th. In past years the camp took place over a week's span with students packing their bags and spending multiple nights at Graves Mountain. However, this year due to Covid-19, camp looked a little different.

Instead of having students and advisors spend the night we came to a safer conclusion to have a day camp. Each day we had different counties and chapters that traveled from all over the commonwealth of Virginia to Graves Mountain, where we enjoyed a full day packed with fun, fellowship, and growth. The Past State Officers including Faith Dellinger, Austin Funk, Andrew Seibel, Ryan Altis, Hunter Carson, Josh Powers, Madeline Moore, Megan Day, and Jeremy Petrie did an amazing job running this year's camp. Additionally, the Past State Officers lead different small groups based on age groups. Within those small groups there was a

multitude of fun team building activities, competitive games, and leadership activities and discussions.

Aside from the amazing small groups, there were also different activities students could choose from including, fishing at the Graves Mountain Pond, baking campfire apple pies, and learning how to tie neckties, just to name a few. To make this camp ever better, each

meal was graciously provided to us by the hard-working Graves Mountain Lodge Staff!

We can't thank Mr. Trice and Tess Seibel enough for coordinating this camp! Leadership camps would not have been possible without their dedication, countless hours, and extreme passion for this organization!

Newly elected state officers, Charlie Moser, Emma Jackson, Jackson Lohr, and Ellie Vance, take a selfie with their fresh face paint before campers arrive.



# STATE OFFICER *Summit*



by **Charlie Moser** – VA FFA 2021-2022 State President  
and **Emma Jackson** – VA FFA 2021-2022 State Secretary

During the week of July 18th-22nd, Emma Jackson (State Secretary) and I had the incredible opportunity to attend the State Officer Leadership Summit held in Washington, D.C. While in D.C we were able to meet State Officers from across the country, as well as tour the amazing sights of our Nation's Capital. During Summit we met so many incredible state officers from across our nation. Whether we were learning about Beet Pulp production in Montana or the Spanish Speaking Creed in Texas, we quickly realized that each state association offers different CDEs, SAEs, and LDEs. This only cements the fact that the National FFA Organization is incredibly diverse not only when it comes to members, but agriculture as well.

In addition, our teammates Jackson Lohr (State Vice President), Ellie Vance (State Treasurer), Lauren Rhodes (State Reporter), and Sammy Leach (State Sentinel) attended the event via zoom with other officers from across the Nation! State Officers from across the country had the opportunity to attend either virtually or in person. Each National Officer led a small group throughout the week. Emma and I really enjoyed meeting the National Officers and discussing their year of service. In our small groups we further discussed and reflected on the impact advocacy can have on others. As state officers, we're advocates for not only agriculture and FFA, but pioneers for positive change and growth within our organization. During the week we each joined a committee to



(Above) Emma with Adam Loker, the FFA State President of Illinois and Miriam Hoffman, the 2020-2021 National FFA Eastern Region Vice President!  
(Below) Emma with Wyatt Halvorson, the FFA State Vice President of Minnesota and Ellie Wanek, the State President of Nebraska!



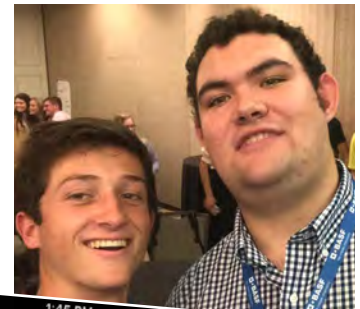
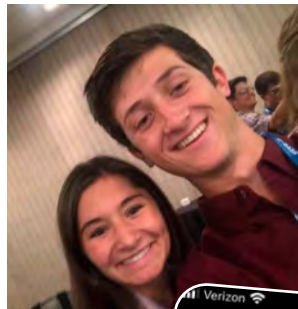
serve on and come up with recommendations for our specific topic for the National FFA Organization. In each of our committees we learned that we would be serving as leadership delegates at the 94th annual National FFA Convention and Expo. Over the span of the next 3 months, we would begin gathering research and meeting with our fellow leadership delegates on a regular basis. In our meetings via zoom, we would continue to develop recommendations for positive change in the National FFA Organization.

But whether it was a tour of Arlington National Cemetery or the Tuesday night dance, each day was made even more exciting by a large group event. But of all the activities throughout the week, the hands down best part of the summit was making new friends. All our teammates agreed, making connections with other state officers from across the country was truly amazing! Summit was such an incredible, eye-opening experience to all the diversity the National FFA Organization and agriculture industry provides. Sparking new bonds and making friendships that will last a lifetime with other State Officers from across the country was awesome! Learning about the different opportunities each State Association offers was not only eye opening, but it further embodies the fact that this organization provides endless opportunities to students across the nation.



(Above) Charlie with Doster Harper, The National FFA President! Charlie with Emily Gossett, the FFA State Secretary of New Mexico and Marc Cabeliza, The FFA State President of California!

(Below) Charlie with Tessa Erdmann, the State FFA President of South Dakota and Greg Gipe, the State FFA Vice President of Pennsylvania!



The Virginia FFA State Officer Team, whether they were virtual or in person, had an amazing time during State Officer Summit!



by Hope Showalter – VA FFA 2019-2020 State Reporter

Do you ever wonder what your agriculture teacher is doing during the summer? Ag teachers continue their learning throughout their career and life! Every year, the VAAE holds a summer conference filled with professional development activities and workshops! Just like their students, ag teachers strive to continually learn more about the agriculture industry, even on their summer days off! This past July, agriculture educators from across the state met in Staunton, Virginia to learn more about how to get “Back on Track” following a year of virtual and hybrid teaching. The workshops and tours offered teachers the opportunity to discuss and forge new ways to integrate back into a regular school year. These workshops included topics on inclusion in the classroom, the use of AET, SAE for All, idea shares, floriculture, plumbing, vet science, and more! Teachers were also able to obtain industry certifications ranging from

Virginia Greenhouse Growers to Beef Quality Assurance.

The VAAE Summer Conference not only serves as a learning opportunity for educators, but also provides a way to be recognized for all their hard work and dedication to teaching future agriculture leaders within the Commonwealth. At this year’s award banquet, Mrs. Christy Huffman-Kerr from Fort Defiance High School was recognized as the Outstanding Teacher. Mrs. Jennifer Neil from Buffalo Gap High School was recognized as the Outstanding Early Member. Central High School was named as the Outstanding Secondary Program. Ms. Makenah Roberts from Louisa County High School was awarded the Teachers Turn the Key Award.

Special recognition was given to Mrs. Cindy Blaha who was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award and Mr.

Eric Fitzgerald who was awarded the Outstanding Cooperation Award. We extend special thanks to these two outstanding members for their support of Virginia Agriculture Education!

After a year of virtual teaching and learning, VAAE President Mrs. Susan Hilleary left Virginia Agriculture Educators with the following words: “We have had our ups and downs. For every success we have had loss, So, we mourned the losses, but we’ve embraced the struggle. We grew. We’ll be better teachers next year because of what we’ve endured this year and the connections we have made.” This year’s VAAE Summer Conference was full of learning, joyfulness, and hope for the future, not only in the classroom, but also for our world.



VIRGINIA  
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# FARM BUREAU Young Farmers SUMMER EXPO

by Charlie Moser – VA FFA 2021-2022 State President

The Virginia Farm Bureau Young Farmers held their annual Summer Expo in Fauquier, Virginia from. Highlights from this event include getting to attend a Gubernatorial Forum where attendees were able to listen to a short speech and then asked questions of the two Virginia governor candidates. We also heard from our keynote speaker, Dr. Marissa Hake, a veterinarian, mother, and advocate for agriculture from Edon, Ohio.

Through the weekend, some Farm Bureau members competed in Discussion Meet, a contest where competitors have a round table discussion on potential solutions for issues facing agriculture. 4-H and FFA members also came to compete for the Outstanding Young Agriculturist Award. In this contest, students wrote speeches about the future of agriculture. The winner was Jack Hammock of Pittsylvania County, and the Runner-Up was Regan Jackson of Clarke County.

For others who were able to join, the highlight may have been the roundtable discussions they were able to have with Virginia legislators, or the farm tours taken around Fauquier County. Farms included Cool Lawn Dairy, Battlefield Angus, a hydroponic lettuce operation, and a bison farm.



Many FFA members competed in the OYA (Outstanding Young Agriculturist) Contest where participants presented a speech on the future of agriculture.



Virginia FFA State Officers meet with Gubernatorial Candidates, Mr. Glenn Youngkin (pictured above) and Gov. Terry McAuliffe (pictured below).



FFA officers learned about niche markets like Bison production during their trip to Warrenton.



# 2021 State Fair OF VIRGINIA



State officers registering members at the State Fair.

by **Charlie Moser** – VA FFA 2021-2022 State President

The State Fair of Virginia was held from September 23rd to October 2nd, in Doswell, Virginia. Over 1,000 FFA members from across the Commonwealth came to compete in various Career Development Events, ranging from Lawn Tractor Operators to Junior Foresters and everything in between!

FFA members competed in the Lawn Tractor Operators, Small Engines, Tractor Troubleshooting, and Junior Dairyman's contests on Friday, September 24th. During the Lawn Tractor Operators Contest, students completed a written exam based on knowledge of the landscaping industry as well as rules about the safe operation of lawn tractors. Following the test, members identified lawn tractor parts and drove a lawn tractor through an obstacle course. At the small engines contest, members took a test on the components of a small engine. Then, students were each given a small engine with a problem they had to identify and repair. There was certainly fun to be had at the Tractor Troubleshooting CDE as well, as the top team from each area earned their place to compete that day. These members completed a test with topics involving tractor safety as well as the components of a diesel engine. Every team was then given 15 minutes at each tractor around the room to identify two problems with each machine. After this part of the contest, teams picked a tractor and then had to fix the problems to the

best of their ability. Many students also competed in the Junior Dairyman's CDE. During the competition, students identified dairy products, feeds, equipment, and judged two classes of dairy cattle. Some FFA chapters also competed in the Hay Bale contest where members created a decorated hay bale with some examples including a cow and tractor, just to name a few. The most creatively designed Hay Bale was crowned champion towards the middle of the week.





On Monday, September 27th, Forestry Field Day took place. This is an event held each year at the Virginia State Fair. This contest helps increase students' knowledge of the forestry industry while helping to inspire the next generation of foresters! During this event, students competed in five competitions in hopes of gaining as many points as possible for their team. From water accuracy, the log toss, and the bow saw to the log roll and crosscut saw, there was something for everyone. At the end of the competition, the top three individuals and chapters from both the junior and senior divisions were recognized.

Students arrived for the Horticulture Demonstration and Junior Foresters contests on Tuesday, September 28th. For the Horticulture Demonstration event, members created a presentation on a plant-based topic. Each presentation was given a 12-minute time limit. The demonstrations were judged based on content, delivery, and their interaction level with the judges. After their presentation, they answered questions

in regard to their project. This contest gives students the opportunity to strengthen their public speaking skills as well as conducting research to learn more about their topic. Aside from Horticulture Demonstration, students also competed in the Junior Foresters competition. During this contest students identified tools and trees found in the forestry field, took a written exam, and measured logs using a Biltmore stick. The top three individuals and teams from both the junior and senior divisions were recognized.

On Thursday, September 30th, FFA members competed in Crops Judging, Agriculture Demonstration, and even the Agriscience Poster contest. For the Crops Judging CDE, students looked through samples to determine which crop sample was the most ideal. Students also had to identify 25 different plants as part of the contest. Meanwhile, the agriculture demonstration event saw members give 12-minute presentations on an agriculture-based topic which they were passionate about. The event was judged on content, delivery, and the students' interactivity with the judges. Once they completed their presentation, members answered the judges' questions regarding their project. Competing in this contest helps students strengthen their public speaking skills as well as allowing them to conduct research to further their knowledge of the topic they chose. Aside from these CDEs, FFA members also competed in the agriscience poster contest. During this competition, students displayed their scientific research from an experiment they conducted involving the following areas: animal systems, environmental services/natural resource systems, food products and processing systems, plant systems, power/technical/ structural systems, and social systems.

The next day, Friday October 1st, students came to compete in the Livestock Skillathon as well as the Hippology contest. During the Livestock Skillathon, members tested their knowledge on the 4 main species of livestock (hogs, cattle,

Members participating in Log Roll during Forestry Field Day contest.



goats, and sheep). Each participant was allowed to compete in one or all four species divisions. Every species division consisted of a written exam, meat, equipment, and breed identification as well as judging a class of that particular type of animal. While some members attended Livestock Skillathon, other FFA members were competing in the horse hippology contest. The components of this contest involve a written exam, the identification of both tack and feed, as well as judging two classes of both haltered and performance horses.

On behalf of Virginia FFA, we want to send a big thank you to all the judges and volunteers who made the 2021 Virginia State Fair contests such a success. Without these people, our contests would not have been possible. Virginia FFA is grateful for these individuals who believe in the future of agriculture. *The results are posted below! Congratulations to all those who competed!*

# State Fair Results 2021



**AG DEMO**

*Junior Teams*

- 1st - C.L. Payne FFA  
Aly Ryman
- 2nd - Auburn FFA
- 3rd - Kettle Run FFA



**AG DEMO**

*Senior Teams*

- 1st - C.L. Payne FFA  
Salem Sifford
- 2nd - Tunstall FFA
- 3rd - Dinwiddie FFA



(Not Pictured)

**AGRISCIENCE POSTER**

*Junior*

- 1st - Chatham Middle FFA
- 2nd - Rappahannock High School FFA
- 3rd - Fauquier FFA



(Not Pictured)

**AGRISCIENCE POSTER**

*Senior*

- 1st - Halifax County FFA
- 2nd - Brentsville FFA
- 3rd - Rappahannock FFA



**CROPS**

*Senior Teams*

- 1st - Randolph-Henry FFA  
Colby Cary, Hannah Geesaman,  
Emily Geesaman, and  
Mason Hamlett
- 2nd - Nelson County 4-H
- 3rd - Central FFA



**CROPS**

*Seniors High Individuals*

- 1st - Randolph Henry FFA Team B  
Ben Geesaman
- 2nd - Nelson 4-H  
Katie Powell
- 3rd - Randolph-Henry FFA  
Hannah Geesaman



**CROPS**

*Junior Teams*

- 1st - Charlotte Central Middle FFA  
Azailah Wilson, Kaylee Pillow,  
Adyson Metts, and Virginia Davis
- 2nd - Nelson County Middle FFA
- 3rd - Sherando FFA



**CROPS**

*Junior High Individuals*

- 1st - Charlotte Central Middle FFA  
Adyson Metts
- 2nd - Nelson County Middle FFA  
Hannah Baker
- 3rd - Nelson 4-H  
Wyatt Campbell



**HORTICULTURE DEMO**

*Category A*

- 1st - Nelson County FFA  
Rylee Truslow and Katie Powell
- 2nd - Northern Neck FFA
- 3rd - Wilson Memorial FFA



**HORTICULTURE DEMO**

*Category B*

- 1st - Tunstall FFA  
Riley Edwards
- 2nd - Rappahannock High School FFA



**HORTICULTURE DEMO**

*Category C*

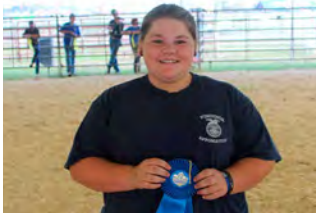
- 1st - C.L. Payne FFA  
Meredith Day and  
Grace Page (pictured)
- 2nd - Millbrook FFA
- 3rd - Wilson Memorial FFA



**HORTICULTURE DEMO**

*Category D*

- 1st - Randolph-Henry FFA  
Grace Geesaman and  
Rayah Edelson
- 2nd - Nelson County FFA
- 3rd - James Wood FFA



**HORTICULTURE DEMO**

*Category F*

- 1st - Appomattox Middle FFA  
Savannah Jones
- 2nd - Auburn FFA
- 3rd - Nelson County Middle FFA



**HIPPOLOGY**

*Senior Teams*

- 1st - Massanutten Technical FFA
- 2nd - Hanover FFA
- 3rd - Fauquier Team B



**HIPPOLOGY**

*Senior High Individuals*

- 1st - Massanutten Technical FFA  
Kaylee Hill
- 2nd - Caroline Triple Crown  
Cora Hoemann
- 3rd - Loudoun Canterlopers  
Alexis Musselman



**HIPPOLOGY**

*Junior Teams*

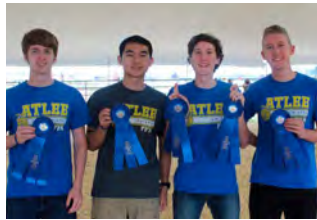
- 1st - Gretna FFA
- 2nd - J. Frank Hillyard Middle FFA
- 3rd - Beverly Manor Middle FFA



**HIPPOLOGY**

*Junior High Individuals*

- 1st - Pegasus Horse and Pony Club  
Emma Ranson
- 2nd - Caroline Triple Crown  
Rebecca Hoemann
- 3rd - Nelson County Middle FFA  
Madeline Morgan



**JUNIOR FORESTERS**

*Senior Teams*

- 1st - Atlee FFA  
Ben Huffman, Andrew Farrell, Ethan Ye An, and Jake Huffman  
(not in order)
- 2nd - Nelson County FFA
- 3rd - Henry County FFA



**JUNIOR FORESTERS**

*Senior High Individuals*

- 1st - Atlee FFA  
Jake Huffman
- 2nd - Carroll County FFA  
Aidan Hill
- 3rd - Atlee FFA  
Ben Huffman



**JUNIOR FORESTERS**

*Junior Teams*

- 1st - Buckingham Middle FFA  
Sarah Bryant, James Gilliam, Grace Martin, Alexandra Morris  
(not in order)
- 2nd - Nelson County Middle FFA
- 3rd - Charlotte Central Middle FFA



(Not Pictured)

**JUNIOR FORESTERS**

*Junior High Individuals*

- 1st - Buckingham Middle FFA  
Team B - Andrew Dorrier
- 2nd - Buckingham Middle FFA  
Sarah Bryant
- 3rd - Buckingham Middle FFA  
James Gilliam



**HAY BALE CONTEST**

- 1st - Northern Neck FFA
- 2nd - Green Clover Kids
- 3rd - Caroline Middle FFA



**STUDENT GARDEN CONTEST**

- 1st - James Wood FFA
- 2nd - Hermitage FFA Tech Center
- 3rd - Northern Neck FFA



**LAWN TRACTOR CONTEST**

- 1st - Appomattox FFA  
Thomas Wilson
- 2nd - Rappahannock High School FFA - William Perrey
- 3rd - King William FFA  
Derek Bagnall



**TRACTOR TROUBLESHOOTING CDE**

- 1st - Fort Chiswell FFA
- 2nd - Appomattox FFA
- 3rd - Turner Ashby FFA



**FORESTRY FIELD DAY**

*Senior Teams*

- 1st - King William FFA
- 2nd - Broadway FFA (tied)
- 3rd - Amherst FFA (tied)
- 4th - Amherst FFA



**FORESTRY FIELD DAY**

*Junior Teams*

- 1st - Carroll County Middle FFA  
Bowman Ayers, Sam Brown, Ethan Sechrist, Brady Ayers, Silas Warren, and Ephraim Bunn
- 2nd - King William Middle FFA
- 3rd - Amherst Middle FFA



**SMALL ENGINES CDE**

- 1st - Wilson Memorial FFA  
Chris Brown
- 2nd - Christiansburg  
Foster Williams
- 3rd - Luray FFA  
Jesse Lang

# C.O.L.T CONFERENCES



Enjoy a few highlights from this year's Area COLT Conferences.

by **Sammy Leach** – *VA FFA 2021-2022 State Sentinel*

In the fall each area around the state holds an area leadership conference. The state officer team as well as other leaders had the wonderful opportunity to present workshops at these conferences. The state officer team met and had a discussion on what workshops should be presented at these conferences. We wanted to provide a different variety of topics that would catch the attention of students. The goal this fall for these workshops is to build leadership skills of members and to better prepare them to serve their own chapters and communities to the best of their ability. Many members attended these conferences to better those areas of leadership. These members are ready to represent this organization well this coming year!

The South Ridge Area COLT (Chapter Officer Leadership Training) was held on September 9th at Falling Creek Park in Bedford County. While there, the members got to interact with fellow members in their area. Workshops were presented on accepting others and Perceptions vs. Reality. The state officers

are ready and excited to see what these members accomplish this year.

The Appalachian Area COLT was on September 15th at the Higher Education Center in Abingdon, VA. Workshops presented were Superheroes vs. Sidekicks and Inclusivity. Members were able to also mingle with the state officers and ask questions for the upcoming year.

The Northern Area COLT was held on September 21st at Strasburg High School. Members were split into high school and middle school groups. The

middle school group participated in FFA Basics, and the high school group participated in Superheroes vs. Sidekicks. Other FFA members, FFA Advisors, and other individuals also presented workshops that helped members develop personal growth and agriculture industry awareness.

The Southeast Area COLT was held on September 22nd at Dinwiddie High School in Dinwiddie, VA. While at this conference members got the opportunity to participate in FFA Basics, Superheroes vs. Sidekicks, and Situational Leadership.



These Workshops developed personal growth as well as identifying mentors in life.

The Central Area COLT was held on October 6th at Eastern View High School in Culpeper, VA. Members got to participate in a workshop about accepting others, FFA recruitment, and communication. These skills will further better the members ability to recruit and communicate on a team. The state officers cannot wait to see the bright things that are to come!

The Blue Ridge Area COLT was held on October 13th at Buffalo Gap High School. The members had the opportunity to divide into their respective officer positions, improve their skills as an officer, and collaborate with officers from other schools. These workshops will further develop the duties that they will have this upcoming year.



    
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**VISIT**  
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**DONATE**  
to the Virginia FFA Foundation



# 2021 STATE FAIR Dairymen's CONTEST RESULTS



by Ellie Vance – VA FFA 2021-2022 State Treasurer

The State Dairymen's contest was held on September 24th, 2021, at the State Fair in Doswell, VA. Both Senior and Junior divisions from 4-H and FFA competed by completing a written test, identifying varying equipment, and ranking classes of cattle. The event began at 10:45 AM and lasted most of the day, officially ending at 2:00 PM. The students who competed in this event made Virginia FFA and Virginia 4-H very proud of their efforts and skills that were demonstrated at this event! Virginia FFA would also like to thank Mr. Dave Winston, an extension dairy specialist at Virginia Tech who conducted this contest for all of the time and dedication he spent planning this contest. It was because of him and several Agriculture advisors that helped tally up results that made this event possible!

### TOP JUNIOR TEAMS:

1. J. Frank Hillyard (Team A)
2. Wilson Middle (Team A)
3. Wilson Middle (Team B)

### TOP SENIOR TEAMS:

1. Rockingham 4-H
2. Sherando FFA (Team A)
3. Rockbridge County FFA

### TOP JUNIOR INDIVIDUALS:

1. J. Frank Hillyard (A)  
Maggie Toothman
2. Clarke County 4-H  
Emily Vincent
3. J. Frank Hillyard (A)  
Taylor Arbogast

### TOP SENIOR INDIVIDUALS:

1. Rockingham 4-H  
Hayley Daubert
2. Broadway FFA (A)  
Herschel Hoffeditz
3. Clarke County 4-H (A)  
Regan Jackson



# 2021 STATE 4-H/FFA Dairy Youth FIELD DAY



by Ellie Vance – VA FFA 2021-2022 State Treasurer

The Dairy Youth Field Day was held on August 6th, 2021, at the Rockingham County Fairgrounds. Students started off this event by completing a set test that challenged their knowledge on the care and handling of dairy cattle. This sector was then followed by students ranking six classes of dairy cattle, ranging from yearlings to five-year-olds. As the students recorded their placings and cuts, they also had to begin the process of formulating a set of reasons. By short definition, reasons are a descriptive explanation written in a concise fashion that explains to a judge why they ranked a class in a particular order. Many would describe giving a set of reasons as similar to extemporaneous public speaking. These students competed very well and should be proud of their efforts! Virginia FFA would like to extend a special thank you to Mr. Dave Winston who facilitated this Field Day and to all the volunteers who made this event possible!

## TOP TEAMS IN REASONS:

1. J. Frank Hillyard (Junior FFA)
2. Broadway (Senior FFA)
3. Rockingham (Junior 4-H)
4. Rockingham (Senior 4-H)

## TOP TEAMS OVERALL:

1. J. Frank Hillyard (Junior FFA)
2. Riverheads (Senior FFA)
3. Rockingham (Junior 4-H)
4. Rockingham (Senior 4-H)

## TOP JUNIOR INDIVIDUALS:

1. J. Frank Hillyard FFA  
Maggie Toothman
2. J. Frank Hillyard FFA  
Ayla Janney
3. S.G. Stewart Middle FFA  
Hunter Wampler
4. J. Frank Hillyard FFA  
Karly Sonifrank
5. S.G. Stewart Middle FFA  
Emory Seal

## TOP SENIOR INDIVIDUALS:

1. Clarke County FFA  
Hayley Daubert
2. Broadway FFA  
Herschel Hoffeditz
3. Clarke County FFA  
Regan Jackson
4. C.L. Payne FFA  
Herschel Hoffeditz
5. Fort Defiance FFA  
Regan Jackson





# MEDIA DAY Training

The State Officers learned ways to strengthen their advocacy skills for Virginia FFA and agriculture.

by **Charlie Moser** – VA FFA 2021-2022 State President

On Wednesday, September 29th, the team and I spent the day at Virginia Farm Bureau Federation in Richmond learning how to properly handle a media interview. We began our day by learning the ins and outs of what it takes to conduct a good interview. Mr. Norm Hyde instructed us for this portion of our training and conducted practice interviews with each of us. Following our interview sessions, we received feedback from both Norm and our other teammates on ways to improve. We are excited to showcase our new skills in future interviews throughout the year! After the interviews, we enjoyed lunch, courtesy of Virginia Farm Bureau. Throughout the remainder of the afternoon, Mr. Andrew Smith and Mrs. Stefanie Taillon taught us about the importance of advocacy within agriculture and how we can strengthen our advocacy efforts during our year of service. As state officers and young agriculturists, it's our responsibility to advocate for farmers and leaders within the agriculture industry. On behalf of the Virginia FFA Association, we would like to send a BIG thank you to Mr. Wayne Pryor, Virginia Farm Bureau President, for allowing us to stop by! Mr. Hyde, Mr. Smith, and Mrs. Taillon, thank you so much for making our day so insightful! We really enjoyed our time at the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, and we're excited to showcase what we learned throughout the year!



It's always good to see Mr. Pryor! We are grateful for his unwavering support of VA FFA!



Mr. Andrew Smith helped organize and lead our training! He is a rockstar for Virginia Ag!



The state officers had a phenomenal time at the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation!



# Hokie VILLAGE

by Ellie Vance – VA FFA 2021-2022 State Treasurer

The FFA State Officers were given the opportunity to attend Virginia Tech’s annual “Hokie Village” event on October 16th. Partnering with Virginia Farm Bureau, the state officers were able to meet with Virginia Tech football fans and advocate for farmers and agriculturalists alike. Playing fun rounds of cornhole, giving out Farm Bureau items to recognize Virginia Agriculture, and having meaningful conversations are only a few ways to describe such a great experience. Teaching families about Virginia agriculture was nothing short of amazing. The FFA State Officers encourage anyone who has a passion for agriculture to come out to the next “Hokie Village” event and advocate for the industry. This day was not one to disappoint given the amazing connections made and the strengthening of Virginia Agriculture.



**VIRGINIA**  
FFA ASSOCIATION

# Sunbelt EXPO



The State Officer team meeting with 2017 Farmer of the Year, Mr. Robert Mills.

by Jackson Lohr – VA FFA 2021-2022 Vice President

From October 18th to the 21st, 2021 the Virginia FFA State Officer team traveled to Moultrie, Georgia for the Sunbelt Ag Expo. The week started off with State officers Lauren Rhodes and Ellie Vance singing the national anthem to open the expo. Each year the expo selects one state from the sunbelt region to be the “showcase state” to highlight local agriculture within that state, this year that state was Virginia. With the slogan “Virginia agriculture, 400 years of progress” the exhibit highlighted the commonwealth’s significance in agricultural history dating back to 1614 with events such as the invention of the reaper and the founding of the Future Farmers of Virginia. The exhibit also focused on the modern agriculture of our state and the strides being made in agricultural technology. In addition to the regular exhibits the expo is also host to the Swisher/Sunbelt Expo Southeastern Farmer of the Year Award. At a Luncheon recognizing the state winners

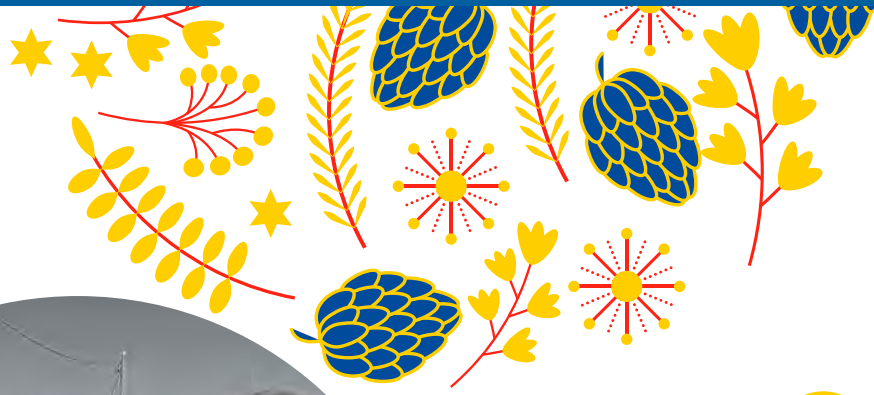


The State Officer team with former Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue.

and the Farmer of the Year Virginia FFA’s State President Charlie Moser was given the opportunity to speak alongside individuals such as the Governor of Georgia. Charlie’s speech focused on his experience in agriculture and how it impacted him. The remaining time at the expo was spent experiencing the entire show from live in field demonstrations of farm equipment to meeting with Georgia FFA State Vice President Erynn Allison. The Virginia State Officer team would like to thank all those who made this event possible, the experience was unmatched.



Virginia’s spotlight state building at the Sunbelt Expo.



# **GIVE** **THANKS**

**For all the opportunities  
earned and received through  
your time in the jacket**

# **GIVE** **BACK**

**To ensure that future  
members can build on  
your successes**



**Virginia FFA Foundation**  
**SupportVAFFA.org**