

# California FFA NEWS

FALL 2016

VOL. 5 • NO. 1

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*We want to hear from you...*

We are always looking for great stories about members and alumni around our state. Know of a story that we should feature in CA FFA News? Please email news@californiaffa.org.

Submission deadlines:  
Fall..... June 1st  
Winter..... September 1st  
Spring ..... December 1st  
Summer..... March 1st

*Stay in touch...*  
"California FFA"



**californiaffa**  
We are having a blast at the CATA Conference! Thank you to the ag teachers who are the rocket boosters to our growth and learning!

**Tell us about an ag teacher who boosted you to success?**

**avacado100** Ms. Tulloch boosted me by encouraging me to seize every opportunity, believing in me when I didn't believe in myself, and helping me to constantly continue to grow. She has definitely given me another person to look up to and I will never be able to thank her! I have had so many accomplishments because of her and so many losses turned into wins because of her! Thank you, MT!

**jesus\_the\_lone\_nut** Mr. Lopez, who I have had the privilege of having for three years going on four, he has been my motivation and inspiration in my FFA career.

He has helped me not in just the classroom but also given me some of the best advice that I follow everyday. I never thought I was capable of doing things that I thought were impossible, but through his guidance I have flourished. He has inspired me in a way no other teachers have and like I said has helped me in FFA. Because of him I am the Riverside Section VP and plan on going for state office he is the reason I have a "DASH" thank you Mr. Lopez for helping me and listening to my constant "am I even good enough."  
**@uniqueagteacher**

**\_madison\_mccartyy\_** Stroud, she was my first Ag teacher my sophomore year. She made me feel so welcomed in her classroom. I was a shy sophomore not wanting to get involved in anything. I just had

one ag class. I never wanted to speak in front of the class, or in front of anyone in general. Junior year was my year I became involved, all thanks to her. I had two ag classes, I joined her CTE floral team, started a SAE project with a lamb and now I am the 2016-2017 Red Bluff Reporter. She pushes me to the greatest extent. She's there when I need a little guidance. She's the one that believes in me when I don't believe in myself. I never thought I would be speaking confidently, and serving on the officer team. I've had so many great memories spent with her that I can add to my "DASH". She's the best. Thanks, Stroud. Ag teachers rock. **@redbluff\_ffa**

**ranchocordova\_ffa\_chapter** My Ag Teacher, Mr. Harnden from Cordova High School, always pushes me to do my best, no matter the circumstance. He also pushed me to become an officer this upcoming school year so we can grow as a team.

**kellenhabib** Mr. Wenstrand, Mrs. Tweedy and Mr. G from Caruthers FFA provided me with the opportunity to grow in my time with them. They motivated me to succeed and instilled the concept of service leadership in me. Without their tireless work, I would not have been successful in my life to this day. I could never thank them enough. •

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**SEP • 1-2** GLC - Modesto **7-8-9** GLC - Bakersfield **13-14-15-16**

GLC - Colusa **13-14** GLC - Menifee **15** GLC - Lakeside **15-16**

GLC - Fresno **16** GLC - Imperial **20-21-22-23** GLC - Tulare

**28** GLC - Petaluma **OCT • 4-5** GLC - Redding **4-5-6-7**

GLC - Lodi **11-12-13-14** GLC - Paso Robles **17&18** National

Delegate Trip **19-22** National FFA Convention & Expo **22-25**

Washington DC Tour **NOV • 5** State Cotton Judging Contest

For a list of current FFA events please visit

***www.CalAgEd.org***

**5,318 MEMBERS**  
**620 ADVISORS**  
**650 GUESTS**  
**324 CHAPTERS**

# 2016 State Leadership Conference Recap

Over 6,000 people attended the 88th Annual California State FFA Leadership Conference in April! Attendees witnessed state officer retiring addresses and were entertained by State Choir and Talent, while delegates shaped the future of the organization, and all were "Electrified" by the experience. Thank you once again to the Boswell Foundation for their generous FFA Foundation donation allowing members to attend conference at a discounted rate. With another school year, comes another State Officer Team, visit page four to learn more about this year's team.

## STREET BEAT

### #ELECTRIFYFFA

**briana.may** Seriously missing State Conference already. Had a great time being with my friends and learning new things. FFA is seriously one of the best things in my life.

**cheyenn99** This years 88th California State Convention was amazing. Getting to spend time with the amazing people in my chapter as well as old and new friends. Bre and Sydney I will

truly miss you and thank you for everything you taught me. Also congrats to the new elected state officer team. **#FFA #electrifyffa #stateconvention #placerffa**

**oreomilkshake84** This year has been a huge leap forward for my Chapter. Our first Sectional Officer, our first Regional public speaking winner, and our first ever regional officer. The pride I get, wearing the corduroy, cannot be put into words. At the 88th annual California State

FFA Convention, we said hi to some friends, and goodbye (for now) to others. Thank you Joelle, Sydnie, Breanna, Trevor, Danielle, and Tim. Your passion for our organization has been felt, and your part in this inspiring task has pushed so many of us to become better. Thank you to Nick Baker and Taylor McNeil, it was an honor to see and meet you amazing individuals, and your influence can be felt everywhere corn is grown, and FFA members meet. Thank you to my Chapter,

for all the laughs, and the beauty of friendship we so dearly hold on to from each other. And thank you to my amazing Regional team, you guys are my second family, and I can't wait to electrify FFA in our own way. **#ffa #family #superiorregion #electrifyffa #stateconference**

**monacheffa** We all enjoyed the concert last night and the last session today! What an awesome State Conference!! **#electrifyffa #monacheffa**

## Saluting the Champions of California FFA

**CREED RECITATION**  
Lili Steele, San Luis Obispo



**PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE NOVICE**  
San Luis Obispo



**PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE ADVANCED**  
O'Neals - Minarets



**EXTEMPORANEOUS PUBLIC SPEAKING**  
Andrew Skidmore, Atwater



**IMPROMPTU PUBLIC SPEAKING**  
Camille Pryde, Anderson



**PREPARED PUBLIC SPEAKING**  
Allisa Hasfite, Tollhouse-Sierra



**JOB INTERVIEW CONTEST**  
Amber Bierre, San Luis Obispo



{ Continued on page 6 }

# MEET YOUR NEW

# State Officer Team

With the passing of the State FFA Leadership Conference, comes another energetic and passionate team of newly elected officers! CA FFA News caught up with the 2016-17 State Officers to learn a little bit more about these leaders behind the corduroy.



## What are you looking forward to most this year of service?

**ANDREW** This next year I hope to learn more about California agriculture and about what makes FFA so uniquely special (hint, it's all of you!). I'm excited to travel the state and show the world what the FFA believes in.

**LAUREN** I am looking forward to experiencing new things and traveling up & down our state to meet the talented members of California FFA!

**AMANDA** I am most excited to truly get to know all of you both in and out of the jacket, because there is so much to learn from your vast knowledge, skills, and experiences. I can't wait to show you my crazy energy and make memories that will last a lifetime!

**SAMUEL** Being able to travel around the state, visiting industries and seeing California agriculture. I also look forward to meeting members at chapter visits, conferences, and having the opportunity to hear their different stories.

**CONNER** I'm looking forward to traveling up and down the beautiful state of California. I

am also excited to meet every member in the California FFA.

**JACE** The first thing I'm very excited about this year is learning the difference between urban and rural agriculture industries and how members within FFA impact those respective areas. The second thing I can't wait to do is meet the over 83,000 members within our association and see all of California for the first time in my life.

**SAMUEL** "It's America, you have choices!"

**CONNER** "We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone." by Ronald Reagan

**JACE** "The best way to find yourself, is to lose yourself in the service of others." by Mohandas Gandhi

## What is your career goal?

**ANDREW** I hope to obtain my B.S. in Agricultural Engineering and ultimately serve as a CEO of an agribusiness company.

**LAUREN** I plan on majoring in Agricultural Communications and Agricultural Business so that I may serve as an advocate for an industry that I love dearly!

## Favorite quote

**ANDREW** "Just be you."

**LAUREN** "Do what you feel in your heart to be right - for you'll be criticized anyway." by Eleanor Roosevelt

**AMANDA** "Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined." by Thoreau

### State FFA President **ANDREW SKIDMORE**

*Birthday:*  
April 9, 1998

*Home Chapter:*  
Atwater FFA

*Parents:* Denise and Scott Skidmore

*Siblings:* Amanda Skidmore

*SAEs:* Breeding & Market Goats, and Agriculture Entrepreneurship

*CDEs:* Extemporaneous Public Speaking, and Agricultural Mechanics



### State FFA Vice President **LAUREN MILLANG**

*Birthday:*  
March 13, 1998

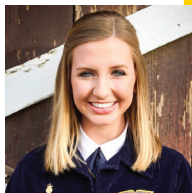
*Home Chapter:*  
Woodland-Pioneer FFA

*Parents:* Stacy & Herb Millang

*Siblings:* Austin & Zach Millang

*SAEs:* Market Lamb, Ag Business Placement – Accounting Assistant, and Woodland Stallion Station Horse Boarding Trainer's Assistant

*CDEs:* Light Horse Judging, Job Interview, and Prepared Public Speaking



### State FFA Secretary **AMANDA SKIDMORE**

*Birthday:*  
April 9, 1998

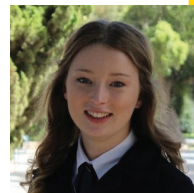
*Home Chapter:*  
Atwater FFA

*Parents:* Denise and Scott Skidmore

*Siblings:* Andrew Skidmore

*SAEs:* Dairy replacement heifer, Poultry, Breeding goats, Fair Awareness Campaign to Teach, Multiple Work Experience

*CDEs:* Market Plan, Dairy Cattle Evaluation, Dairy Products, Agronomy Judging, Cotton Judging, Parliamentary Procedure, Prepared Public Speaking, Job Interview, and Creed



{ Continued on page 5 }

**AMANDA** I hope to pursue a career as an International Agricultural Marketer traveling the world while spreading the message of global agriculture.

**SAMUEL** After my year of service I plan on attending Fresno State University to pursue a degree in Agriculture Education.

**CONNER** To become an Agriculture Teacher and have my own sheep and hog operations.

**JACE** My career goal includes attaining my Master's Degree in international agriculture business and eventually working for a company that allows me to travel the world advocating for American agriculture and joining forces with international agriculture.

**Share your most memorable FFA experience.**

**ANDREW** My ag mechanics team had just had a hard loss at a field day and my teammates piled their hats in the center console of our suburban. It was an unspoken moment of reconciliation, and knowing that everything is going to be okay because of the people that surrounded me.

**LAUREN** Attending the Washington Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. is one of many highlights! I learned about the ultimate sacrifice that American men and women have made, and continue to make, for our freedom.

**AMANDA** Tons of experiences flood my mind when it comes to the FFA, but my favorite would have to be when my FFA chapter taped their name tags from a field day to my back (without me noticing) and as I went up to receive my award the entire auditorium busted out laughing. It made for an entertaining and quite embarrassing day.

**SAMUEL** My most memorable FFA experience would be going to Sacramento

Leadership Experience. Having the opportunity to debate on the California Senate floor, working inside the committee rooms and having the opportunity to learn more about the government process. It was an unforgettable experience.

**CONNER** Being a national delegate, because I met so many great individuals even some that I'm serving with this year.

**JACE** My most memorable experience in the FFA would be the very first time I put on my FFA jacket to show my market hogs at the California State Fair.

**What is your favorite app and why?**

**ANDREW** BBC News - I love learning about everything in the world as soon as it happens and BBC has a generally accurate, unbiased account of the globe in a concise manner.

**LAUREN** Pinterest - I just can't avoid the inspirational quotes and DIY crafts that never turn out exactly like the pictures...


**AMANDA** I'm not one to use a bunch of apps, I actually don't even have Snapchat, but my favorite app would have to be Pandora because I love listening to music and belting out the lyrics when I'm alone.


**SAMUEL** I really have two, Instagram and Snapchat. Instagram because of the great captions and amazing pictures you can find. Snapchat because of the funny filters and the funny stories from people.


**CONNER** Snapchat, because I look forward to using the new filters daily.


**JACE** According to my phone, my favorite app is Snapchat, but I disagree because I enjoy clicking on my picture's app and reminiscing on all of the memories I've made in my life so far. •


Favorite emoji


**ANDREW** 

**LAUREN** 

**AMANDA** 

**SAMUEL** 

**CONNER** 

**JACE** 

**State FFA Treasurer**  
**SAMUEL LOOPER**

*Birthday:*  
July 24, 1998

*Home Chapter:*  
Apple Valley FFA

*Parents:* Lisa & Donald Looper

*Siblings:* Tawny Peckham, Courtney Looper, and Shelby Looper

*SAEs:* Market Steers

*CDEs:* Job Interview



**State FFA Reporter**  
**CONNER VERNON**

*Birthday:*  
June 5, 1998

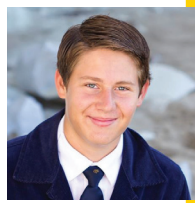
*Home Chapter:*  
Nipomo FFA

*Parents:* Rosemary Cummings and Scott Vernon

*Siblings:* Kyler Vernon and Carli Rose Cummings

*SAEs:* Sheep and Swine Production

*CDEs:* Livestock Judging



**State FFA Sentinel**  
**JACE NEUGEBAUER**

*Birthday:*  
September 5, 1997


*Home Chapter:*  
McArthur - Fall River FFA

*Parents:* Theresa & Rick Neugebauer

*Siblings:* Jessica DeCoito and Jonathan Neugebauer

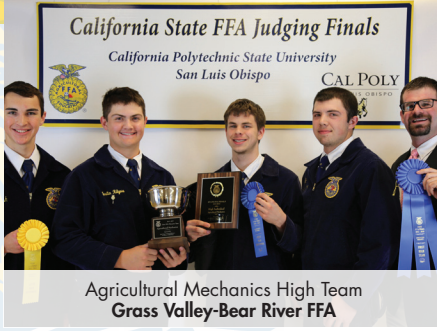
*SAEs:* Market Hogs and Cattle Breeding Program

*CDEs:* Creed, Impromptu, Job Interview, and Parliamentary Procedure



**STAR FARMER**

Andreo Thomas, Colusa



Agricultural Mechanics High Team  
Grass Valley-Bear River FFA



Agricultural Welding High Team  
Galt-Liberty Ranch FFA

**STAR IN AGRIBUSINESS**

Nirfin Gupta, Tulare



Agricultural Mechanics High Individual  
Grass Valley-Bear River FFA



Agricultural Welding High Individual  
Galt-Liberty Ranch FFA

**STAR IN AG PLACEMENT**

Paul Barcellos, Tulare



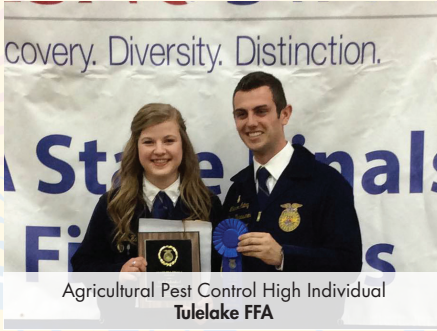
Agricultural Pest Control High Team  
Tulelake FFA



Agriculture Fair Competition High Team (Advanced)  
Elk Grove FFA

**STAR IN AGRISCIENCE**

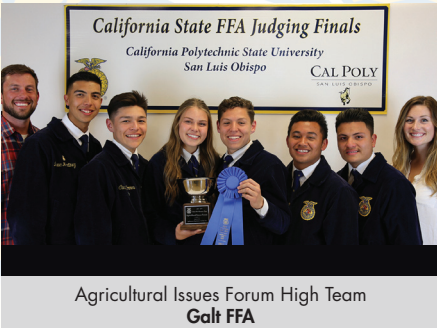
Halley Lauchland, Lodi



Agricultural Pest Control High Individual  
Tulelake FFA



Agriculture Fair Competition High Team (Novice)  
Elk Grove FFA



Agricultural Issues Forum High Team  
Galt FFA



Agricultural Sales High Team  
Elk Grove FFA



Agronomy High Team  
Woodland FFA

{ Continued on page 7 }

# Scholarship Winners

## Actagro Scholarship

Sponsored by Actagro  
Kent Norman, Ripon  
Alondra Novoa, Santa Maria

## Almond Board of California Scholarship

Sponsored by The Almond Board of California  
Alexa Aufderheide, Modesto - Gregori  
Sarai Briseno-Calderon, Santa Maria - Righetti  
Austin La Salle, Firebaugh  
Bradley Livingston, Eureka

## Jerry L. Biggs Memorial

Sponsored by California Association FFA  
Amanda Simonich, Tracy

## Betty Bushong Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by Bushong Trust  
Ethan C. Francis, Bakersfield - North  
Preslee Moore, Tulare

## Jerry T. Davis Honorary Scholarship

Sponsored by California Association FFA  
Riley Nilsen, Nipomo

## Friends of the FFA Scholarship

Sponsored by Jeff & Nicolina Alves  
Alondra Valle, Santa Paula

## Paul Freitas Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by Freitas Family  
Madison Morgan, Oakdale

## Hartford Insurance Company Scholarship

Sponsored by Hartford Livestock Insurance  
Mark Borges, Hughson  
Fallon Harmon, Exeter  
Carly Olufs, Petaluma

## Mabel W. Jacks Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by The Jacks Foundation  
Mckenzie Carvalho, Maxwell  
Jace Neugebauer, McArthur - Fall River  
Gabrielle Ribeiro, Tulare

## Byron J. McMahon Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by California Association FFA  
Lauren Millang, Woodland - Pioneer

## Dorothy McMillan Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by California Association FFA  
Angel Carillo, Perris

## Dean McNeilly Scholarship

Sponsored by Mr. Dean McNeilly  
Andrew Skidmore, Atwater

## Jaimie Lynne Pettey Memorial Scholarship

Sponsored by The Jaimie Lynne Pettey Family  
Hunter Andrade, Tracy  
Madison Goss, Nicolaus - East Nicolaus  
Lara Macon, Auburn - Placer

## The Willey Family Scholarship

Sponsored by Steve Willey & Patricia Sandor  
Julia Pitman, Tulare  
Bryce Umbarger, King City

## Zenith Insurance Company Scholarship

Sponsored by Zenith Insurance Company  
Kayla Erath, Santa Ynez  
Emma Manoukian, Healdsburg  
Amanda Skidmore, Atwater  
Wade Joseph Sousa, Tulare



Agronomy High Individual  
Hughson FFA



Computer Applications High Individual  
Escalon FFA



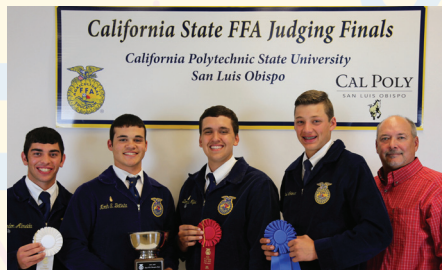
Best Informed Greenhand High Team  
Madera-South FFA



Cotton Judging High Team  
Hanford FFA



Best Informed Greenhand High Individual  
Madera-South FFA



Dairy Cattle Judging High Team  
Hilmar FFA



Citrus Judging High Team  
Tulare FFA



Dairy Cattle Judging High Individual  
Turlock FFA



Computer Applications High Team  
Woodlake FFA



Farm Business Management High Team  
Elk Grove FFA



# NATIONAL BLUE CORN GOLD *White House*



{ Continued on page 9 }



## TALIE CLOUD, A MEMBER OF SANGER FFA WAS CELEBRATED AT A WHITE HOUSE EVENT FOR STUDENTS WHO EXCEL IN SCIENCE.

Article courtesy of National FFA Organization Press Release dated April 12, 2016

Talie Cloud, 15, was invited to participate in the sixth annual White House Science Fair. It was the last science fair under President Barack Obama's administration and was held on Wednesday, April 13. The science fair celebrated the accomplishments of student winners in a broad range of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) competitions throughout the United States.

Cloud won first place in the category of Animal Systems at the 2015 National FFA Agriscience Fair, an annual competition sponsored by Cargill, John Deere and Syngenta as a special project of the National FFA Foundation during the National FFA Convention & Expo. The fair features the research and results of FFA members who plan on pursuing careers in the science and technology of agriculture. This accomplishment earned her the special White House invite.

Her project explored the effects of *Momordica charantia*, or bitter melon seed, on the reproductive rate of *Drosophila melanogaster* after four generations of exposure. The purpose of the project was to determine whether the bitter melon seed could be used as a potential organic insecticide.

Her findings determined that with more investigation on the chemical makeup, ideal concentration mixture, environmental impact and application method, *Momordica charantia* would be a cost-efficient and effective agricultural insecticide that acts upon the reproduction of the pest, rather than the mortality rate. •



Talie with House Speaker Paul Ryan



Farm Business Management High Individual  
Petaluma FFA



Floriculture High Team  
Galt-Liberty Ranch FFA



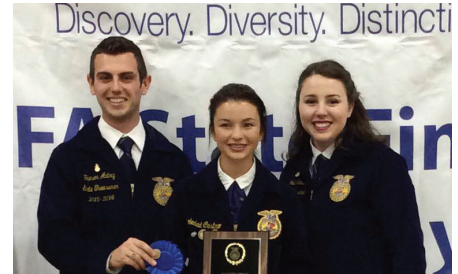
Grapevine Judging High Team  
Tulare FFA



Farm Power and Machinery High Team  
Lodi FFA



Forestry High Team  
O'Neals Minarets FFA



Grapevine Judging High Individual  
Clarksburg-Delta FFA



Farm Power and Machinery High Individual  
Lodi FFA



Forestry High Individual  
O'Neals Minarets FFA



Light Horse Judging High Team  
Santa Maria FFA



Farm Record Book High Team  
Elk Grove FFA



Fruit Tree Judging High Team  
Modesto-Johansen FFA



Light Horse Judging High Individual  
Santa Maria FFA



Farm Record Book High Individual  
Elk Grove FFA



Fruit Tree Judging High Individual  
Modesto-Johansen FFA



Livestock Judging High Team  
Oakdale FFA

## Proficiency Winners

Agricultural Communications  
**Jeanette Furlong, Tomales**

Agricultural Education  
**Cort Rowley, Visalia - Golden West**

Agricultural Mechanics Design/Fabrication  
**Dustin Suttles, Lakeside - El Capitan**

Ag. Mechanics Repair/Maintenance Entrepreneurship  
**Amanda Morrison, Pine Valley - Mountain Empire**

Ag. Mechanics Repair/Maintenance Placement  
**Jose Rios, Santa Maria**

Agricultural Processing  
**Jessica Brown, Tracy**

Agricultural Sales Entrepreneurship  
**Kenneth Watkins IV, Linden**

Agricultural Sales Placement  
**Michaela Vindel, Merced - Golden Valley**

Agricultural Services  
**Augustus Macy, Tulelake**

Agriscience Research – Animal Systems  
**Tatiana Woliung, Lakeside - El Capitan**

Agriscience Research – Integrated System  
**Shelby Clifford, Elk Grove**

Agriscience Research – Plant Systems  
**Halley Lauchland, Lodi**

Beef Production Entrepreneurship  
**Anna Miller, Linden**

Beef Production Placement  
**Samantha Yates, Lodi**

Dairy Production Entrepreneurship  
**Hannah Van Dyk, Tulare**

Dairy Production Placement  
**Jerry Teixeira, Tokay**

Diversified Agricultural Production  
**Amanda Thomas, Colusa**

Diversified Crop Production Entrepreneurship  
**Blake DeBernardi, Santa Maria - Righetti**

Diversified Crop Production Placement  
**Gissel Neri, Greenfield**

Diversified Horticulture  
**Juan Lemus, Fallbrook**

Diversified Livestock  
**Andrea Thomas, Colusa**

Environmental Science/Natural Resources  
**Steven Nunez, Santa Paula**

Equine Science Entrepreneurship  
**Jessica Baxter, Elsinore**

Equine Science Placement  
**Sara Sullivan, Lucerne Valley**

Fiber/Oil Crops  
**Lauren Lydick, Holtville**

Food Science and Technology  
**Kaitlyn Cubre, Madera - Liberty**

Forage Production  
**Daniel Moules, Tokay**

Forest Management/Products  
**Kendall McBride, Ferndale**

Goat Production  
**Tyson Brem, Strathmore**

Grain Production Placement  
**Devin Lee, Maxwell**

Home and/or Community Development  
**Taylor Richardson, Healdsburg**

Landscape Management  
**Keith Wright, Atwater**

Nursery Operations  
**Madelyn Vigo, Kingsburg**

Outdoor Recreation  
**Aaron McCranie, Lakeside - El Capitan**

Pomology Production  
**Janeen Moore, Nipomo**

Poultry Production  
**Savanna Alexandre, Del Norte**

Sheep Production  
**Sydney Miller, Arcata**

Small Animal Production and Care  
**Paige Cloyes, Lemoore**

Specialty Animal Production  
**Daysee Magana, Fallbrook**

Specialty Crop Production  
**Hattie Faccinto, Madera - Liberty**

Swine Production Entrepreneurship  
**Clayton Sheehan, Madera**

Swine Production Placement  
**Adrianna Begley, Santa Rosa**

Turf Grass Management  
**Danny Fonseca, La Habra - Sonora**

Vegetable Production  
**Vincent Rodriguez, Arroyo Grande**

Veterinary Medicine  
**Jason Sousa, Ponderosa**

Viticulture Production  
**Mark Cavallero, Madera**

Wildlife Management  
**Kailey Lemon, O'Neals - Minarets**



Livestock Judging High Individual  
**Atascadero FFA**



Marketing (Co-ops) High Individual  
**Elk Grove FFA**



Meat Judging High Team  
**Madera-South FFA**



Marketing (Co-ops) High Team  
**Elk Grove FFA**



Marketing Plan High Team  
**Atwater FFA**



Meat Judging High Individual  
**Madera-South FFA**

# Chapter Scoops



## **BAKERSFIELD-NORTH FFA** **Bringing Back Traditions**

*Submitted by Natalie Ryan*

The North High Bakersfield chapter is attempting to bring back history with an

Ag Communications class project. It was tradition to hang a framed photo of each American Degree recipient in the agriculture department. Unfortunately, during the remodeling of classrooms the framed pictures of all past members who had earned their American degrees were lost. The class is teaming up to search and contact all fifty-four alumni members ranging as far back as 1993. As a class we hope to not only honor our alumni, but also set an example of what can be achieved by our current members.



## **MENIFEE-HERITAGE FFA**

### **Vegetables For Everyone!**

*Submitted by Kelsi Cisney*

This year the Menifee-Heritage FFA embarked on a mission to follow healthy eating trends and grow the best looking vegetables in all of Southern California! Our leadership class built wooden planters to grow vegetables and then filled them with soil to accommodate the needs of the plants. After weeks of hard work, we finally planted the seeds that would soon grow into delicious veggies, such as zucchini, swiss chard, tomatoes, and even corn! In only a few short months, the crops were ready to be harvested! Afterwards, they were given out to staff members and teachers in our school for them to eat. The harvested veggies will be replaced with new seeds so we can continue to have a flourishing vegetable garden and once again be able to enjoy tasty garden-fresh salads!



## **SUTTER FFA** **Improving!**

*Submitted by Jake Wheeler*

It has been a long road and we (Sutter FFA) are very excited that we have a new and improved livestock barn and show ring! Renovations began in October 2015 and are now complete and full of animals! FFA students along with the three FFA advisors all had a hand in redesigning, building, and

painting the renovated barn and the new fence. Work that was done includes new concrete, panels, paint, and all the electrical being brought up to date and a brand new show ring! All of the updates were made possible by the 22-acre student-operated almond orchard, amazing administration, and the overwhelming community support! With fair a few weeks away, everything is running smoothly and the all hogs, sheep, goats, chickens and steers are very happy to have such an awesome home!

{ Continued on page 13 }



## MODESTO-CENTRAL CATHOLIC FFA Living to Serve

Submitted by Josephine Henderson

Central Catholic FFA has been a chapter for only two years, but that hasn't stopped us from becoming highly active, enthusiastic FFA members! This year, just like last, we were given the chance to help work at Ott U-Pick Blueberry Farms. Five years ago, Ott Farms started off as a small business owned by a local farmer and her husband. It grew to the point where Ott's owner couldn't manage or work there alone. So she turned to Central Catholic FFA to help manage the business. This year, two student managers from Central are in charge of 25 CC FFA members who choose to work eight hour shifts

every weekend. When we asked Ott's owner why she chose FFA members, she said "The FFA students have given us the opportunity to expand our business even more. This year, we have more than doubled the amount of customers, because we have been able to provide the community with a friendly atmosphere with FFA kids who are excited to teach the public about the importance of agriculture... Not only do the students get paid for their hard work, they also get hours that go towards their State and American FFA Degrees and they get direct work experience, which is priceless!"



## BAKERSFIELD-HIGHLAND FFA Lip Sync Battle

Submitted by Madelyn Lara

This year our chapter had its very first Lip Sync Battle. We had teams of teachers and students from our chapter compete for awards such as: Best Costume, Best Song Choice, Best Dance Moves, and Best Overall Performance. Our auditorium was filled with FFA members and non-FFA members alike, and it was a fun way to get people excited about chapter events. It was also a great way to get kids out of their comfort zone and perform in front of their peers. We had some amazing entries and chapter members are excited to participate, and see amazing performances next year.



## SANTA ROSA FFA YouTube Challenge

Submitted by Karen Lopez

This was our first time doing the YouTube Challenge, thinking it

was good way to motivate our chapter members, and allow them to become more involved. This activity consisted of different nationwide known YouTube challenges in which members participated. These challenges were the Baby Food Challenge, in which you got blindfolded and had to guess the type of baby food you were given. The What Is It Challenge, where you got blindfolded, were given an item, and had to guess what the item was. Finally, the Skittles Straw Challenge where you were given a handful of skittles and had to transfer them from the napkin to your Dixie cup in 30 seconds, with the catch that you could only use a straw and your ability to inhale air to transfer them over.

## SANTA MARIA-RIGHETTI FFA New Year, New Accomplishments!

Submitted by Koby Ernst

As the school year comes to an end, new officers got elected for the 2016-17 school year. Our officer team for Righetti FFA Chapter wants to bring back Greenhand Bootcamp, and make our annual Kinder Patch bigger and better this upcoming year. The new officer team wants to accomplish a lot of new and exciting things this year! We know that this year's officer team will accomplish great things! Stay motivated officers!





## **McFARLAND FFA** **Ag Bash**

*Submitted by Gabriel Parra*

Ag Bash is a fun event where chapters in the neighboring cities of Bakersfield get together to compete in agriculturally related games. This year we were fortunate to host it at our campus in McFarland. We had four main contests during this event. The first was the FFA Ag knowledge test where FFA members took a test to determine how much they know about agriculture. The second was an obstacle course where members raced to finish a course including a hay bale toss, corn eating, and milking components. The third contest was the welding contest where members welded a pressure box. The fourth contest was Egg Roulette where the advisors would choose from a bowl of eggs and break them on their heads hoping it wasn't raw but hard boiled. The chapters with the most points ended up to be Shafter FFA and Delano FFA and then they battled for the champion title in a tractor pulling contest. Delano took the Ag Bash Champion title home this year and we had a great time hosting. It is definitely one of our favorite events.



*Your Chapter* **FFA**

## **Let Us Know Your Chapter's Scoop!** **Here's how...**

### **1) Submit a 100-150 word article about your chapter's recent activity.**

- Please do not include members or advisors names within the article.
- The article should be about an interesting/unique type of FFA activity. This is an opportunity to showcase new and innovative chapter activities.

### **2) Attach a GREAT quality digital photo.**

- Photos should be in color and help further explain the submitted article.
- Photos must include members with appropriate clothing & behavior.
- Photos must be sent as individual jpeg files.

### **3) Email the above information to [news@californiaffa.org](mailto:news@californiaffa.org).**

The subject of the email must include your chapter's name. In the email, please include the author of the chapter scoop and title of the article.

### **4) Please reference page two for CA FFA News Submission Deadlines**



## **HUGHSON FFA** **Camp Sylvester**

*Submitted by Michelle Borges*

At the end of May our chapter had an experience of a lifetime. We attended a chapter officer leadership conference at Camp Sylvester. At the conference, chapter officers from the Tri-Rivers Section and Stanislaus-Tuolumne Section met with other chapter officers and shared chapter event ideas. Seventeen chapters attended, including 160 students, all under the supervision of over twenty advisors. The Hughson FFA officer team learned the duties of our positions, competed in multiple team building activities, and learned many ways to better our FFA Chapter. A key moment of the camp occurred during the team building activities. We learned how to work as a team,

the importance of communication, the ability to help out others, and how to step up as a leader. We can't wait to take all of the new ideas, team building activities, and leadership qualities and implement them into our chapter! •



Milk Quality and Dairy Foods High Team  
Atwater FFA



Poultry Judging High Team  
Galt FFA



Small Engines High Individual  
Ripon FFA



Milk Quality and Dairy Foods High Individual  
Atwater FFA



Poultry Judging High Individual  
Santa Maria FFA



Soil and Land Evaluation High Team  
O'Neals Minarets FFA



Natural Resource Management High Team  
Tollhouse-Sierra FFA



Program of Activities High Team  
O'Neals-Minarets FFA



Vegetable Crop Judging High Team  
Santa Maria FFA



Nursery/Landscape High Team  
Hanford FFA



Scrapbook High Team  
Atwater FFA



Vegetable Crop Judging High Individual  
Tulelake FFA



Nursery/Landscape High Individual  
Hanford FFA



Small Engines High Team  
Hilmar FFA



Veterinary Science High Team  
Clovis FFA

# CALIFORNIA FFA HAS A LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

# for you!



## Greenhand Leadership Conference (GLC)

**What:** Introduction to Agricultural Education, Career Success  
**Who:** Freshmen  
**When:** One Day Conferences held in August, September, and October

Introduces students to the benefits and opportunities in Agricultural Education, including SAE and FFA. This conference is the "hook-line-and-sinker" to get students to buy into Agricultural Education throughout their four years in high school.

#ffaGLC



@taycoster



@joshua5234



@yaay\_meee\_



@iackaitken



@californiaffa



## Made for Excellence Conference (MFE)

**What:** ME: Student Development, Personal Growth  
**Who:** Sophomores  
**When:** Two Day Conferences held in January and February

Personal development starts with the individual. Self-discovery of talents, strengths, interests and personal character are emphasized as the individual is channeled to discover their passion in life. This conference focuses on "Student Development and ME: one's personal skills and development of the ability to be successful."

#ffaMFE



@ally\_highfill



**hollister ffa** LEADERSHIP, EXCELLENCE, and CRAZY CAR RIDES - OH MY! These 8 students expanded their leadership skills and opportunities within the FFA. The past 24 hours have taught these students how to exert positive influences in the Hollister FFA. #ffaMFE #ffaALA



@neverfeltstronger



## Advanced Leadership Academy (ALA)

**What:** WE: Chapter Development, Personal Growth  
**Who:** Juniors  
**When:** Two Day Conferences held in January and February

Once a leader is comfortable with their own self and self-purpose, they can discover how to work with others and establish a goal. The process for analyzing program needs and planning a project or event is the focus of this conference as students discover how to be teams of innovative leaders in their chapter. This conference about "WE: the individual leader, their relationships with others and how to establish common vision."

#ffaALA



@kendall\_wilson3



@coleibbotson



**gustineffa** 20 proud Gustine FFA members attended the Made for Excellence and Advanced Leadership Academy conferences this past weekend in Modesto. There, they learned different strategies and methods used in order to ensure they make the best out of their FFA experience. Congrats everyone! #ffaMFE #ffaALA #GustineFFA



## Sacramento Leadership Experience (SLE)

**What:** SERVE: Community Development, Personal Growth  
**Who:** Seniors  
**When:** Four Day Conference held in March

Students step into the role of one of California's State legislators, are assigned a specific California district and spend four days in Sacramento. SLE is all about the role of government, agricultural policy and advocacy. This conference focuses on Community Development and SERVE: the ability to grow and develop others and serve your community."

#ffaSLE

**falfal 98** What an amazing week it has been at SLE, from debating bills to lobbying agriculture education to our local district representatives. It was truly unforgettable. #ffaSLE

**z\_davis1313** Last week I had the time of my life at SLE!! Thank you to the counselors at the conference for teaching me the importance of our government and how I can make a difference advocating for agriculture and FFA. #ffaSLE #ffa #californiaffa #foreverblue

**jerkuh** This past week, I had the opportunity to take on the position of our state legislature. Not only was I able to debate serious issues regarding agriculture on the floors of our state Capitol, I was also able to meet various political figures, as well as some extremely influential members of the agriculture industry. I am so incredibly thankful for this experience... #ffaSLE