

Blue Jacket Journal

The official newsletter of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter

June to August 2020

State Career Development Events Wrap Up

The Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter members recently competed in the Ohio FFA State Career Development Events. These teams have been practicing for several months and participated in invitational competitions and practices as much as possible.

The Dairy Cattle Team placed 7th in the state. The team was led by Michael Bair who was 21st, Braden Zekas was 25th, Carter Gilbert was 30th, and Elizabeth Bair was 31st. Additional team members were Makayla Brittain and Keyara Davis. The team took a test, completed a pedigree and sire selection exercise and evaluated four classes of dairy.

The Poultry Evaluation Team placed 7th in the state. The team was led by Braden Zekas who was 14th, Rylee Puthoff was 18th, Sarah Blocher was 43rd, and Leann Vernon was 48th. An additional team member was Ashlee Deaton. The team graded poultry carcasses, evaluated and graded exterior of eggs, placed classes of hens and broilers, and took a test. A special thanks goes to their coach Brad Lokai.

Kendal Staley and Sara Rush competed in the State Equine Management Career Development Event. Staley was 57th and Rush was 60th overall in the state. The team took an online test and identified horse equipment and feedstuffs. They placed six classes of equine and answered questions on the classes.

The Meats Evaluation Team placed 5th in the state and earned a banner for the agriculture classroom. The team was led by Emma Sutherly who placed 9th. Dottie Everett placed 19th and Samuel Sutherly was 21st. Additional team members competing were Braden Zekas, Jillian Niswonger, and Katelynn Dill. They placed retail and wholesale classes, took a knowledge test, and identified retail cuts.

The General Livestock Evaluation Team placed 10th. High individual from Miami East was Chloe Gump who placed 14th in the state. Lauren Wright was 44th and Ethan Paulus and Adam Bensman both tied for 96th. Additional team members were Paige Pence, Dustin Winner, Ethan Fine, Trenton Maxson, and Isaac Beal. The team placed classes and answered questions on the animals, took a knowledge test, and competed a market grid exercise.

Miami East-MVCTC FFA Recognized by National FFA

The National FFA Organization recently announced the results of the National FFA Evaluations. Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter was selected as a 3-Star National Chapter for the National FFA Chapter Award Program. A 3-star is the highest award a chapter can be recognized for in the National Chapter process. In order to be considered for such an honor, the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter had to place in the top 10% in the state of Ohio. In May, the chapter learned that they were in the Top 10 in the state and would have their application forwarded to national evaluations.

This is the 20th straight year that the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter will be recognized at the National FFA Convention in their National Chapter Award program. Due to the pandemic, the 2020 National FFA Convention will be held virtually. The chapter will be recognized during one of the broadcasted general sessions of the convention.

The National FFA Chapter Award program recognized FFA chapters for developing and conducting a detailed Program of Activities (POA). These activities and projects provide opportunities for members to achieve in the areas of student, chapter, or community development. Every year, chapters are recognized as having earned a one-, two-, or three-star rating on their National Chapter application.



Michael Bair will be recognized for being a National Proficiency Finalist. He has placed in the Top 4 in the nation in the area of Poultry Production. Bair started Michael's Pastured Poultry in which he raises meat chickens and markets them through social media and other outlets. He also has job placement on his family's organic farm. He will submit a video of his business in order to vie for the title of National Proficiency Winner. He will earn a cash prize, plaque and recognition during the Wednesday, October 28, 7pm nationally broadcast convention session.

Liza Bair, Kylie Blair, and Zach Kronenberger will receive the American FFA Degree. This is an honor that over 4,000 FFA members across the country will accomplish. Their applications were forwarded to the National FFA because they have been a successful leader, been involved in various community service activities, earned at least \$10,000

from their Supervised Agricultural Experience program, and been an active member of the FFA.

Additionally, the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter is guided by strong leadership provided by the 2020-21 officer team. The team met over the summer in a Summer Officer Session to plan for the upcoming school year and FFA activities. The officers are: President Lauren Wright, Vice President Emma Sutherly, Secretary Carter Gilbert, Treasurer Paige Pence, Reporter Libby Carpenter, Sentinel Adam Bensman, Student Advisor Chloe Gump, Chaplain Isaac Beal, and Historian Samuel Sutherly.



Local Farmer Supports ME FFA Through Bayer Fund

Local farmers John and Diane Yingst recently directed a \$2,500 America's Farmers Grow Communities donation, sponsored by Bayer Fund, to the FFA Chapter at Miami East High School.

The Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter will use the funds to purchase learning materials to help prepare for Career Development Events and to broaden the understanding of production agriculture in its 80 FFA members.

"As an FFA members, it is a pleasure to work with the Yingst family and the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter is very appreciative of their support of agriculture education and the agriculture industry," said, Luke Brunke, second year member of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA.

Since 2010, the America's Farmers programs have awarded more than \$57 million to nonprofits, aspiring ag students and public schools across rural America. Farmers know the needs of their communities best, so the America's Farmers programs rely on them to help identify the most worthy causes.

The Grow Communities program partners with farmers across the country to provide nonprofit organizations with resources to strengthen their local communities. Each August, farmers can enter for the

chance to direct a \$2,500 Grow Communities donation to a local eligible nonprofit of their choice. Farmers have directed donations to food banks, emergency response organizations, schools, youth agriculture programs and many others that reflect the spirit and support the vibrancy of rural America.

"Farmers truly understand the needs of their communities and where the opportunities to strengthen them exist. We partner with them to identify the nonprofit organizations that benefit from Grow Communities donations," said Al Mitchell, Bayer Fund president. "Each donation shines a light on the organizations

that are making a positive difference in rural communities across the country. Bayer Fund is proud to partner with farmers to give back in rural America."

To learn how you can be an America's Farmers Grow Communities recipient, visit www.AmericasFarmers.com. The America's Farmers Grow Communities 2021 program will kick off on August 1, 2020, and farmers will once again have the opportunity to enroll for a chance to direct a donation to a local eligible nonprofit of their choice.



Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

Besides Remind.com, FFA will be posting announcements to 1) Twitter (@MiamiEast_FFA) and 2) FaceBook (Miami East FFA Alumni & Supporters). Please feel free to follow and like these pages for updates!

Alumni Needs Help!

The Alumni is in need of new members. Anyone can get involved, regardless of your enrollment at Miami East or previous membership of FFA. The Alumni was started in 1971 and is open to anyone interested in supporting FFA and Agricultural Education. Annual dues are \$20 (for local, state, and national). Lifetime dues are \$200.

Additionally, the Alumni are collecting empty 2- or 3-liter bottles. They do not need to be cleaned out but do need the lids. If you have any please drop them off in the Ag Room.

The Alumni is supportive to the FFA through financial support and physical labor. If you are interested in participating talk to Les Kinder by phoning him at 937-368-2569.

Chapter T-shirts For Sale

The 2020-21 Chapter T-shirts have been ordered! In the meantime, we have a limited supply of several past chapter shirts. Sizes available are small through XL. Any ME FFA members, parents and supporters can order. Contact the Ag Room to make a purchase.

The blue and white shirts are \$10.

The navy, white and gold are \$10.

The gray front and back are \$15.



FFA Jackets For Sale

"Only Blue Will Do," seems to be what FFA Chapters are saying nationally. Through the 90+ years of FFA the once national blue has seemed to turn to more of a shade of purple. The once corn gold of the jacket has now turned to a shade of orange.

The jackets style has been revised. FFA jackets can be purchased for a cost of \$40.00. The same jacket can be worn all the years of agriculture education. Make checks payable to Miami East FFA



Contact Mrs. Carity!

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Mrs. Carity (mcarity@miamieast.k12.oh.us or cellphone 937-417-3087).

Remind Reminders

ME FFA has a Remind.com account for texting reminders for parents and members. Please join!



**State FFA Degree Minimum Standards
2019-2021**

1. I have earned the Chapter FFA Degree.		
2. I am a current dues paying member of the FFA and enrolled in an agricultural education program or I have completed all of the agricultural education coursework at my high school.		
3. At the time of the Degree, I have satisfactorily completed 1.5 years (270 hours) of systematic secondary school instruction in an agricultural education program or have completed the program of agricultural education offered at the school last attended or completed 1 year of a secondary agriculture education and .5 year of a post-secondary agriculture program at a technical school or university.		
4. Applicant has maintained records to substantiate an outstanding SAE program that exhibits comprehensive planning, managerial & financial expertise.		
5. I am a junior, senior or high school graduate.		
6. I am familiar with the state and national FFA constitutions.		
7. I have assisted in the development of our FFA Chapter's Program of Activities.		
8. By my own efforts from my SAE, I have: Option 1: a. Productively invested at least \$2,000 (Line H4) b. Total SAE Earnings at least \$2,500 (Net Profit) (Line G3) Option 2: a. Productively invested at least \$500 (Line H4) b. Placement SAE Earnings (Paid) \$500 (Line G1) c. Paid Placement Hours at least 100 d. Unpaid hours allowance + SAE Earnings at least \$3,000 (Line I3 + G3) Option 3: a. Productively invested at least \$500 (Line H4) b. Total SAE Earnings at least \$500 (Net Profit) (Line G3) Unpaid hours allowance + SAE Earnings at least \$3,000 (Line I3 + G3)		
9. I have participated in at least two different state sanctioned Career Development Events (CDE). (different is defined as content specific, for example General Livestock and Public Speaking)		
10. I have demonstrated ten abilities of parliamentary procedure.		
11. I have given a six-minute speech.		
12. I have been a chapter officer, committee chairperson or a participating member of a major committee.		
13. I have participated in eight (8) FFA activities above the chapter level. At least two of the activities must come from the following list: FFA Camp, Ohio Leadership Camp, Fall Camp Programs, 212/360 Conference, Washington Leadership Conference, Ohio FFA Association Leadership Nights, Ohio Legislative Leadership Conference, National FFA Convention, Ohio Youth Capital Challenge, Ohio FFA Convention, Ohio FFA Agriscience Fair, National FFA Agriscience Fair, National Career Development Events and International Events sponsored by Ohio or National FFA Associations. ~Examples of above the chapter level activities – ag promotion, county fair activities and competitions, invitational CDE, FFA cooperation with local farm or community organization, CDE events that are not state sanctioned, Food for America and other ag literacy programs, activities that support the Ohio FFA Foundation, Ohio FFA Alumni, and other FFA related activities.		
14. I have participated in at least one school or professional organization activity.		
15. Candidate has recorded at least 25 hours community service and at least 2 different activities.		
16. I have a GPA equal to or greater than 2.00 (should be non-weighted on a 4.0 GPA scale).		
17. I have a 93% or better school attendance rate or a GPA equal to or greater than 3.00.		
18. If I have graduated, I have a 2.00 or greater GPA, as certified by the school guidance counselor.		