

Blue Jacket Journal

The official newsletter of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter

June to September 2021

ME 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 21st straight year that the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter will be recognized at the National FFA Convention in their National Chapter Award program. The chapter will be recognized on stage at the 2021 National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana in October.

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.

Elizabeth Bair, Michael Bair, Ethin Bendickson, Luke Gilliland, Savannah Holzen, and Kearsten Kirby 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 2021-22 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 Isaac Beal, Vice President Emma Sutherly, Secretary Adi Richter, Treasurer Alaina Helsing, Reporter Kendal Staley, Sentinel Samuel Sutherly, Student Advisor Katie Larson, Chaplain Luke Brunke, and Historian Ayla Gilbert.



DUTCH DOUBLES
\$30 PER COUPLE



OCTOBER 16th @ 6:00

RAFFLES & 50/50

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TRUE LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH
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FFA Members Attend FFA Camp

The week of June 21, 6 members of the FFA Chapter at Miami East High Schools attended the second session of Ohio FFA Camp Muskingum, Carrollton, Ohio. There were over 100 campers in attendance with additional State FFA Officers, a National FFA Officer, FFA Camp Staff, and several of FFA Advisors from across the state. FFA Camp Muskingum is located on Leesville Lake and is owned and operated by the Ohio FFA Association.

Members attending from Miami East-MVCTC FFA included Keyara Davis, Katelynn Dill, Ashlee

Deaton, Michael Hohenstein, Devan Nix, and Thomas Wallace.

The 2021 theme was “Jurassic Park.” During the



camp members had the opportunity to participate in water activities such as canoeing and motor

boating and ranges such as rifle, shotgun, and archery. Each morning, before breakfast, campers had the opportunity to plunge into the lake or take a sunrise walk. During the first day members met fellow members in their camp chapters, learned camp rules, and participated in a dance. The evening key note speaker was Mr. Dave Kahoot and his message that “Talk Is Cheap.” The day ended with a reflections of the accepting the challenges and opportunities at camp.

The second day included team building activities and line dancing lessons, members rotated through various environmentally-related workshops, a team scavenger hunt and team building workshops by the State FFA Officers. The day ended with a dance and a campfire challenging campers to take advantage of life’s opportunities whenever they are available. The week ended with a morning cleaning of camp and a send-off by the State FFA Officers.

Highlights of the week were the many friends and challenges that campers overcame. Members enjoyed the experience to meet FFA members from across the state and connect back to nature.

Soils Judging Teams Finish Judging Season

On Thursday, September 23, members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter competed in the District 5 Soils Judging Contest in Shelby County at the Hickory Hill Lakes near Fort Loramie.

The Urban Soils team consisted of Rhylee Eichhorn, Adrien Comer, Violet Hazard, Blake Boggess, Lydia Durst, and Myah Jefferis. The team placed 12 out of 21 teams. Rhylee Eichhorn was the highest placing individual from Miami East



placing 30 out of 111 individuals.

The Agriculture/Rural Soils team consisted of Wyatt Black, Connor Maxson, Evan Demmitt, Karley Prosser, Dalton Schreadley, Kat Niswonger, Julia Couser, and Cora Moore. The team placed 8 out of 32 teams.



Wyatt Black was the high individual from Miami East placing 6 out of 206 contestants.

The contest consisted of evaluating three soils pit for

slope, erosion, drainage, depth, and soil texture and structure. Also, the contestants took a written test and answered questions from the soil survey.

Previously, the teams had competed at the Miami County Soils Career Development Event coordinated by the Miami Soil and Water Conservation District. Participants included on the Urban Team Rhylee Eichhorn, Lydia Durst and Myah Jefferis. On the Rural Team were Wyatt Black, Julia Couser, and Karley Prosser.

Big Ears Means Big Yields

Recently, members from the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter were challenged to participate in the annual Chapter Corn Contest. The rules of the contest were to bring in one ear of corn and earn a prize. Winners were presented an FFA T-shirt from the FFA Chapter.

A winner is chosen based on the predicted yield of the corn. The grand prize winner was determined by the highest yield estimate, based on plant population per acre. Agricultural Education students in Plant and Animal Science classes took time in class to figure the predicted yield of corn ears as part of their continuing education of agronomy.



The overall winner was Katelyn Hall. Her corn was predicted to yield 367 bushels to the acre with a 37,500 seed population per acre. Her corn was a Phoenix

corn product. Second place went to Cora Moore who presented an ear of corn that is predicted to produce 362.1 bushels per acre with a 37,500 seed population per acre. Hers was also a Phoenix corn product. Third place went to Matthew Osting with an ear of corn predicted to yield 345 bushels to the acre with a 37,500 seed population per acre. His was a Seed Consultants product. His was the longest ear presented at 9 inches. Fourth place went to Keira Kirby with a yield of 343.9 bushels to the acre. Isaac Beal placed fifth with a predicted yield of 288.4 with an Ebberts product with a population rate of 35,500 kernels per acre.

Sixth place went to Wyatt Black with a 287.3 bushels to the acre. Rhylee Eichhorn placed seventh with 261 bushels per acre. Elisabeth Norman was eighth with an average of 242.5 bushels per acre. Connor Maxson was ninth with a 227.6 average. Rounding out the top ten was Abigail Maxson with a predicted yield of 196.5 bushels to the acre.

As a whole, the contest yielded an average of 282.6 bushels per acre. This is 14 bushels to the acre lower than last year's results. Participants included Isaac Beal, Wyatt Black, Rhylee Eichhorn, Katelyn Hall, Keira Kirby, Abigail Maxson, Connor Maxson, Madison Maxson, Cora Moore, Elisabeth Norman, and Matthew Osting.

Seatbelt Check Encourages Drivers To Obey Laws During Farm Safety and Health Week

On Tuesday, September 28, as part of National Farm Safety and Health Awareness Week, the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter held a Seatbelt Awareness



Activity. As students exited the parking lot at Miami East High School, the drivers were stopped and their seatbelts were checked.

All student drivers and passengers were inspected for wearing their seatbelt. They received a "LifeSavers" candy because seatbelts save lives. Any student drivers or passengers not wearing their seatbelts were instructed to put on their seatbelt immediately.

Results of the event proved that a majority of the drivers at Miami East High School do wear their seatbelt. Over 65 drivers and passengers were presented candy with 6.1% of drivers were not wearing their seatbelt and 93.9% wearing the seatbelt. Similar results as were collected last fall when 5.4% of drivers were not wearing their seatbelt.

The first seatbelt was in a Volvo vehicle in 1849. On February 15, 1885, the seatbelt patent was given to Edward J. Claghorn. By the 1930s doctors were requesting

the vehicles be equipped with the restraining device. By the 1950s they were seen regularly in automobiles. And legislation in 1966-1968 made them mandatory for all cars.

The FFA's Safety Committee would like to encourage all drivers to slowdown and wear their seatbelt. Committee members involved in this activity were Samuel Sutherly, Kendal Staley, and Chloe Gump.

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!

Congrats Members of the Month!

September 2021 – Chloe Gump

October 2021 – Jadyn Bair



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.

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.

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).

Chapter T-shirts For Sale

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.



FFA Sponsors Farm Safety Day for Second Graders

Approximately 100 second graders at Miami East Elementary learned the importance of proper farm safety from the members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter. On Tuesday, September 28 in the afternoon the third and fourth year students hosted the elementary students to an afternoon of stressing the importance of following good safety on the farm. The day was in awareness of the National Farm Safety and Health Week.

During the day, students in Tami Mumford, Ashley Demmitt, Amanda Riley, and Patty Gentis's classes learned about four aspects of farm safety. The FFA



members taught stations about ATV/ lawn mower and equipment safety, grain safety, chemical safety, animal safety, large farm equipment safety, and hand signals used on the farm.

The FFA members teaching Grain Safety station shared that in less than five seconds a child playing in a hopper wagon, used to move grain, will be swallowed by the corn or soybeans and will be unable to call for help or be removed from the hopper wagon. The high school students then followed it up with having the students remove a wooden disc at the bottom of a rope in a barrel full of 150 pounds of corn. Students were unable to remove the disc. This stressed the fact that the weight of the corn makes it virtually impossible to rescue a person in a wagon or silo that is full of grain.

The FFA would like to thank Miami Valley Feed and Grain for the use of grain, the Miami County Farm Bureau and Miami East Farmers Matthew Osting and Craig Hughes for the use of equipment.

Tire Recycling Day

On Thursday, September 16, members of the chapter helped recycle almost 2,000 tires. It was a dirty and beneficial day.



Safety Committee Sponsors Farm Safety Poster Contest

The Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter recently sponsored a farm safety poster contest at Miami East Elementary. The competition was coordinated by the Safety Committee and its members, Chloe Gump, Kendal Staley, Samuel Sutherly.

Students in the second grade were given poster board and had to create a farm safety promotion poster. FFA members evaluated the pictures and awarded first place to each homeroom. The results are as follows:

Mrs. Patty Gentis – Nina Battista
 Mrs. Ashley Demmitt – Jacob Custer
 Mrs. Amanda Riley – Gavin Gorman
 Mrs. Tammy Mumford – Molli Duff



Each student participating received a gift from the FFA Chapter, including candy and a pencil. The first place poster in each homeroom

was also awarded special prize. Congratulations to the winners!

Members Attend ME FFA Greenhand Conference

The second annual Miami East-MVCTC Greenhand Conference was recently hosted for first-year FFA members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter. The purpose of the conference was to build upon and challenge the FFA awareness and knowledge that the new members held.

During the conference leadership workshops were offered on FFA leadership opportunities, teamwork challenges, goal setting, and FFA opportunities.

Additionally, Career Development Event roundtables were held to share and explain various competitions FFA members can participate in.



Upcoming Events

These are as of the time of printing. Plans will change. As events evolve we will share with students, parent emails, and social media.

October 2021

8 – Fruit Sales begin
 16 – FFA Bowling Tournament, Troy Bowl, 6pm
 19 – Online State Food Science CDE
26 – FFA Meeting Halloween Costume Night (Freshman Families (Officers and all ANFR only) at 6pm, meeting at 7pm)
 27-30 – National FFA Convention

November 2021

9 - District Food Science CDE (Twin Valley South)
 11 – FFA sponsored school wide speaker for Veteran's Day
 15-23 – Canned Food Drive for Fletcher Food Pantry
 17 – State Leadership Night at UVCC
 18 – District Job Interview CDE (Brookville)
 22 – County Parliamentary Procedures CDE
22 – FFA Meeting FFA (Blue & Gold) Attire Night w/ Greenhand Degree Ceremony, 7pm
 30 – District Parliamentary Procedures CDE at Covington HS

December 2021

4 – State Food Science and Job Interview CDEs
 6 – Fruit Arrives
 20&21 – Record Book/FFA Award Application work days

