

Blue Jacket Journal

The official newsletter of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter

October – December 2018

Chapter Inducts New Members

On Monday, November 26, 2018, the Miami East-MVCTC FFA awarded 29 new members their Greenhand FFA Degree. The Greenhand Degree is awarded to first year members of the FFA, and is the first award that can be received. Each member awarded received a pin to be worn on their FFA jacket and a certificate of achievement. Kalyn Strahley, State FFA Treasurer of the Ohio FFA Association, was the guest speaker.

In order to receive the Greenhand FFA Degree the members must be enrolled in an agriculture class, have plans for a Supervised Agricultural Experience Program, learned and explained the FFA Creed, Motto, Salute, Mission Statement, Code of Ethics and uses of the FFA Jacket, Colors, and Emblem, and demonstrated an understanding of the FFA's history, chapter constitution and by-laws. The Greenhand FFA Degree is the first of four degrees that an FFA member can earn.



The students earning the degree were Courtney Bair, Ian Ellis, Gwyndalynn Ferryman, Austin Francis, Jayden Gates, Chloe Gump, Sunnee Hazel, Abigail Henderson, Haley Horne, Grayson Jacobe, Sierra Johnson, Kaylin Joseph, Katie Larson, Evan Massie, Ethan Ott, Skylar Phillips, Rylee Puthoff, Anthony Putnam, Cadence Ray, Kris Richey, Kaitlyn Roop, Cael Rose, Marisa Savini, Summer Sizemore, Gretchen Stevens, Lexi Stevens, Elias Strubler, Emma Sutherly, and Samuel Sutherly.

Members Attend National FFA Convention

"Just One" was the theme of this year's National FFA Convention. 16 members of the Miami East FFA chapter were in attendance at the convention in

Indianapolis the end of October. Those members included from Miami East-MVCTC FFA were Elizabeth Bair, Ethin Bendickson, Kylie Blair, Makayla Brittain, Jayden Gates, Carter Gilbert, Luke Gilliland, Chloe Gump, Savannah Holzen, Maci Krites, Paige Pence, Rylee Puthoff, Summer Sizemore, Emma Sutherly, Jarrett Winner, and Lauren Wright. Also joining the members during the trip was



the Arcanum-MVCTC FFA Chapter and the Milton Union-MVCTC FFA Chapter and its members.

Almost 70,000 members, parents, and

guests were in attendance at the National FFA Convention. Previous conventions were held in Kansas City, Missouri and Louisville, Kentucky.

Convention activities included attending several convention sessions where members were inspired by motivational speakers such as the 2018-19 National FFA Officers and motivational speakers Kyle Scheele and Mary Lapp. Attendees enjoyed attending the Garth Brooks concert, Hypnotist Show by Dr. Jim Wand, Buckeye Bash Dance, and attending the FFA Shopping Mall and Career Show.

The Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter was recognized as a Top 10 Chapter in the National in the area of Growing Leaders Division. Additionally, the chapter received a Three-Star National Chapter Award, the highest award bestowed to an FFA Chapter. The chapter was selected for this honor based on its activities during the previous school year, in the areas of student, chapter and community development.



Miami East FFA Alumni Member, Mr. Les Kinder, was named a 2018 Recipient of the Honorary American FFA Degree. Mr. Kinder has been an enthusiastic supporter of FFA and Agricultural Education for many years. He was recognized on stage and received a plaque.

Thank you to Dr. Todd Rappold and Miss Brenna Loxley for chaperoning the trip.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter

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



Soils Team Competes at State CDEs

On Saturday, October 13 several members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter competed in the



Ohio FFA State Urban and Agricultural Soils Career Development Events. The State Contest was held at Dawes Arboretum,

east of Columbus, Ohio. Each event required participants to evaluate four soils sites and take a written test and soil survey test.

During the Urban Soils event the contestants evaluated land for building houses with basements, septic systems construction and maintenance, building of local roads and driveways, and landscaping. Competing from Miami East in the Urban Soils Event were Zach Kronenberger, Carter Gilbert, Emma Sutherly, and Rylee Puthoff. The team placed 25 in the state out of 47 schools. Highest individual from Miami East was Zach Kronenberger placing 68 out of 177.

The Agricultural Soils event required students to evaluate land for farming purposes through risk factors such as soil erosion, soil compaction, water quality, and soil health limitations. Additionally, they made suggestions on best management practices that would be implemented. The team placed 32 out of 49. Team members were Cael Rose, Samuel Sutherly, and Kris Richey. The highest placing individual from Miami East was Cael Rose at 57 out 183.

Members Receive FFA Jackets from Donors

Recently, Beck's Superior Hybrids of Atlanta, Indiana and Mr. Joe Hoerst of Harrison, Ohio donated FFA jackets to two members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter. The jackets were made available through a special project of the Ohio FFA Foundation. The Blue

Jackets Program was founded to help new FFA members earn their first FFA jacket. Participating FFA members pledge to meet the Blue Jacket Program requirements and the jackets will be awarded to them.

Requirements of the Blue Jacket Program include attending two FFA events, completion of 10 hours of community service, submission of satisfactory plans for a Supervised Agricultural Experience Program, service on an FFA Program of Activities committee, completion of a high school agricultural education course, and attendance at 80% of the FFA chapter meetings. Additionally, the members selected agree to maintain a positive and cooperative attitude.

Selected from

Miami East-MVCTC FFA were Rylee Puthoff and Gretchen Stevens. Rylee and Gretchen are first year FFA members at Miami East High School. They have attended numerous FFA activities including FFA



Meetings, the State Greenhand Conference and preparing for the Novice Parliamentary Procedures Career Development Event. Rylee is the daughter of Jim and Cheryl Puthoff of Conover. Gretchen is the daughter of Nathaniel and Janet Stevens of Troy.



THANK YOU!!!

Thank you for your help with our recent Fruit Sale Fundraiser. We appreciate your support and willingness to help our members. All funds raised will support chapter events,

agricultural education outreach, and member benefits.

We do have a bit of nuts and BBQ sauce left. If you need anything please let us know. We will have them until they sell out.

Congrats to our top fruit seller – Jarrett Winner. Jarrett sold over \$2600 worth of fruit. Additional members selling over \$1000 were: Kearsten Kirby, Kaitlyn Hawes, Liza Bair, Kylie Blair, Ethin Bendickson, and Paige Pence.

Congrats FFA Members of the Month

November 2018 – Cael Rose

December 2018 – Abigail Covault and Kearsten Kirby

Members Compete in District Job Interview CDE

In November several members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter competed in the District 5 FFA Job Interview Career Development Event held at Versailles High School.



The Job Interview
Contest consists of designing a resume and cover letter, completing a job application, performing an interview, and composing a typed follow-up thank you note.

Kearsten Kirby competed in the Division 3 (junior year) interview competition. She placed 12th in the district. There were 30 participants.

Abigail Covault competed in the Division 2 (sophomore year) contest and placed 5th in the district. There were 21 participants.

Gretchen Stevens competed in the Division 1 (freshman year) contest and placed 14th in the district. There were 24 participants.

Success at the District Food Science & Technology CDE



In mid-November the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Food Science and Technology Team competed in the District 5 Contests hosted by Coldwater High School.

Food Science and Technology Contest contestants included Elizabeth Bair, Liza Bair, Michael Bair, Ethin Bendickson, Kylie Blair, Jakob Brunke, Jessica Copeland, Jessica Gillum, Luke Gilliland, Kaitlyn Hawes, Tyler Heckman, Brookelyn Hermann, Savannah Holzen, Abbey Koontz, Maci Krites, Zach Kronenberger, Lane Mergler, Cody Niswonger, and Brailyn Tarcea.

Miami East students placed 4th out of over 35 teams. The highest placing individuals from Miami East were Jessica Gillum, who second overall in the contest, and Zach Kronenberger, who placed third overall in the contest. There were 134 individuals in the contest.

During the contest the team members were asked to complete a product development scenario in which they calculated the nutritional facts for a new food product and design a new package. Also they completed

an aroma identification section, responded to customer inquiry scenarios, identified sanitation errors in the food industry and common equipment used in a food production facility, and completed a taste sensory test and flavor identification.

FFA Competes in County, District Contests

Recently members of the Miami East-MVCTC FFA Chapter recently participated in the 2018 FFA County and District Novice Parliamentary Procedure Career Development Events. The County Competition was hosted at Miami East High School and the District competition was hosted at New Bremen High School.

Participating was Novice Period 4 - Team Blue were team members Chair Cadence Ray, Vice Chair Sunnee Hazel, Austin Francis, Haley Horne, Ethan Ott, Kris Richey, Cael Rose, Elias Strubler, and Samuel Sutherly.

Participating was Novice Period 4 – Team White were team members Chair Summer Sizemore, Vice Chair Evan Massie, Grayson Jacobe, Sierra Johnson, Skylar Phillips, and Anthony Putnam.

Participating in Novice Period 5 – Team Blue were team members Chair Emma Sutherly, Vice Chair Marisa Savini, Courtney Bair, Gwyndalynn Ferryman, Abigail Henderson, Kaitlyn Roop, and Gretchen Stevens.

Participating in Novice Period 5 – Team White were team members Chair Lexi Stevens, Vice Chair Rylee Puthoff, Ian Ellis, Jayden Gates, Chloe Gump and Katie Larson.

The students showed their knowledge of Parliamentary Procedure by holding a mock meeting and giving quality discussion on motions. Participants were given two minutes preparation time and asked to demonstrate parliamentary procedure abilities including FFA Opening and Closing Ceremonies in a 15 minute time period.

Advancing to the District Competition at New



Bremen High School was Novice Period 5 – Team Blue. Representing Miami East-MVCTC FFA were Chair Emma Sutherly, Vice

Chair Marisa Savini, Courtney Bair, Gwyndalynn Ferryman, Abigail Henderson, Katie Larson, Kaitlyn Roop, and Gretchen Stevens. The team placed seventh. Thank you to Mrs. Shelly Bair for chaperoning the event.

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.

Upcoming Important Dates

January 2019

3&4 – Record Book/FFA Award Application work days

28 – FFA Meeting with Chili Cook-Off, 7pm

29 – County Evaluation, 4pm (Mrs. Carity only) at Covington

29 – Online TTS and Ag Sales Exams (during class)

31 – Regional Evaluations at Greene Co. CC (Mrs. Carity only)

February 2019

1 – National FFA Scholarships due (online)

1 – Strawberry Sales begin

5 – District Ag Sales CDE, Brookville HS, 4pm

6 – County Public Speaking CDE, 4pm at UVCC

8 – Chapter Officer Applications due with interviews later

8 – District Tractor Trouble Shooting CDE in Preble Co Fair

9 – OSU Buckeye Meats Invitational, Columbus

12 – District Public Speaking CDE at Shelby County, 4pm

15 – Chapter Proficiency Award Applications due

16 – VikingFest SAE marketing opportunity

19-22 – MEHS celebrates National FFA Week

21 – State Evaluations at Ohio FFA Center (Mrs. Carity)

25 – FFA Meeting with officer elections, 7pm

26 – Online Grain Merchandising Exam (during class)

March 2019

2 – Marysville Invitational/State Public Speaking CDEs

5 – Online Livestock and Dairy Cattle Exams (during class)

5 – State Ag Sales CDE, Marysville, 8am

9 – Miami Trace Invitational, Washington Court House

15 – Agriscience Fair Research Reports do to State

15 – National Chapter Evaluations, FFA Center (Mrs. Carity)

16 – Mercer County Invitational, Celina

19 – Dairy Cattle & Livestock Online Exam (during class)

20 – National Agriculture Day

23 – State Spring CDEs (horse and livestock), Ohio Expo Center

28 – State Dairy Cattle CDE, Ohio Expo Center

Chapter Hosts Motivational Speaker for MEHS



This opportunity was available through grants from the Miami East Education Foundation, Miami

County Ag Leadership Ag Leadership Fund and financial support from Principal Gentis. We appreciate their support.

On Monday, November 19, Miami East High School hosted Gian Paul Gonzalez and his message about being “All In.” Mr. Gonzalez encouraged students to give all their talents and efforts to their most desired outcome – academics, arts, passion, athletics.



Chapter Supports Fletcher Food Pantry During ‘Love One More’ Campaign

In the past month FFA members have supported our community-based food pantry located at in the Fletcher United Methodist Church. Our efforts were led by member Lauren Wright. She coordinated a Donkey Basketball benefit and raised over \$1,000 for the food pantry.

Additionally, the chapter participated in the #10GallonChallenge to by purchasing 10 gallons of milk and



donating it to the food pantry. This was done to support dairy farmers and the extremely low milk prices. The Plant & Animal Science classes raised 50 meat chickens and donated 170

pounds of chicken to the food pantry. Finally, the Human Resources Committee coordinated a Schoolwide canned food drive. Over 600 cans were collected and delivered to the food pantry.

The recipient of the gift card for the canned food drive drawing was Cody Niswonger. Congrats, Cody!