

Area FFA chapters win top national awards

ALEXANDRIA, VA. — Twelve Pennsylvania FFA chapters have won emblems in the National Chapter Award Program and the Building Our American Communities (BOAC) Program.

The awards will be presented at the 54th National FFA Convention scheduled Nov. 12-14 in Kansas City, Mo.

Gold emblems for superior performance in comprehensive chapter programs were earned by two Lancaster County chapters and one Lebanon County chapter in the National Chapter Award Program.

The gold went to Cloister Chapter, of Ephrata, and Grassland Chapter, New Holland, in Lancaster County and Northern Lebanon Chapter at Fredericksburg in Lebanon County.

A silver emblem in the chapter competition goes to the Conrad Weiser Chapter at Robesonia.

Bronze emblem winners include Cedar Crest Chapter, Lebanon; Eastern Lebanon County Chapter, Myerstown; H. G. Parkinson Chapter, McDonald; Lehigh County Chapter, Schnecksville; Lower Dauphin Chapter, Hummelstown; and Mifflinburg Chapter, Mifflinburg.

The silver emblem winner in the BOAC Program is Northern Lebanon Chapter.

Bronze BOAC emblems were won by Apple City Chapter, Biglerville; Conrad Weiser

Chapter and Twin Valley Chapter, Elverson.

In all, 109 of the nation's most active FFA chapters will receive the gold emblem in the National Chapter Award Program at the upcoming convention in November.

A total of 376 of the country's more than 8000 chapters will receive the gold, silver or bronze emblems.

The program encourages FFA chapters and members to participate in a wide variety of activities in vocational agriculture from the local to the national level. The awards are sponsored by the National FFA Foundation, Inc.

Chapters earn the awards for activities in 11 areas of involvement. These areas include supervised agricultural experience; cooperation; community service; leadership; earnings, savings and investments; conduct of meetings; scholarship, recreation; public relations; state and national activities; and Alumni relations.

Many of the chapters are also involved in community activities.

The BOAC awards will be presented to 180 chapters at the national convention. During the convention, one of the chapters will be awarded a national citation for BOAC activities.

The BOAC program is used to enhance agricultural economic development of communities by identifying jobs and creating

coalitions that discover new areas for agricultural employment. It helps prepare future community and national leaders, instills a sense of community responsibility within chapter members and encourages them to become involved in the community development process.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the program designed to recognize FFA chapters whose efforts and achievements in community development are the most outstanding in the nation.

The silver emblem won by the Northern Lebanon Chapter recognized chapter efforts in grading, seeding and building of a new softball field on school property, along with a backstop.

The project was started last September. Dugouts for the school's baseball field were also constructed in cooperation with the vocational arts department.

At Conrad Weiser, chapter members participated in several activities. Work continued on the historic Dry Road Farm, including the planting of apple trees in the restoration of the orchard and pine trees along the farm's border.

An energy tips program was

conducted over the local cable TV and a glass recycling center was established. Some 2500 trout were once again stocked in cooperation with the Cocalico Watershed Association.

During the coming year, Conrad Weiser will be conducting a home energy audit program in cooperation with Pennsylvania Power and Light Co.

Twin Valley's BOAC projects included sponsoring a pumpkin program in the elementary schools in which seeds are distributed in spring and the pumpkins are judged in the fall. During Farm-City Week, third graders at the

three elementary schools were taken on tours of local farms and in the Spring a Food for America program was conducted. Work also continued on the landscaping of the Medical Arts Building at Morgantown.

At Biglerville, the Apple City Chapter had four projects. They included landscaping the Adams County SPCA property, continuing restoration work in the Gettysburg National Park, planting of silver maple and locust trees in the Oaks Community Park at Biglerville and fruit demonstration plots.

Chester elects officers

OXFORD — The Chester County Future Farmers of America have selected their officers for the upcoming year.

They are: President, William Wylee, from the Oxford chapter; Vice-President, Tom Roth, from the Owen J. Roberts chapter; Secretary, Sue Dougherty, from

the Oxford chapter; Treasurer, Steve March, from the Owen J. Roberts chapter; Reporter, Larry Landis, from the Octorara chapter; Sentinel, Mike Peters from the Octorara chapter; Adviser, Bill MacCauley, from the Octorara chapter and Chaplin Alven Geller, from the Octor Chapter.



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