

New Jersey FFA'ers honored at state convention

NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ — As the 55th State FFA Convention closed at Cook College, Rutgers University, 300 members across New Jersey traveled home with new offices and awards.

The highlight of the convention was the election of the 1984-85 State Officers, who will serve a one-year term, visiting over 1,500 members in 37 FFA Chapters across New Jersey. They will also travel to other states to meet with FFA members and officers, all sharing a common interest-agriculture and agribusiness.

The 1984-85 Officer Team is as follows: Kenneth S. Ingalls, state president, from Cream Ridge; Deborah Pomroy, state vice-president, from Stewartville; Robert K. Byrne, vice-president - Central Region, from New Egypt; William J. Hudson IV, vice-president - Southern Region, from Bellmawr; Melissa A. Hajdu, vice-president - Northwest Region, from Phillipsburg; Kathryn Ann Smylie, State Treasurer, from Wrightstown; Thomas A. Butler, Jr., State Reporter, from Burlington; and Buddy F. Hahola, State Sentinel, from Pittstown.

Nearly 30 students received the Garden State Farmer Degree. This degree is the third of four degrees in FFA. William J. Hudson of the Camden Tech - East Chapter, Sicklerville, received the Star State Agribusinessman Award, and Thomas Hartung of the Belvidere Chapter received the Star State Farmer Award for their outstanding accomplishments in vocational agriculture/FFA.

Four highly-motivated agriculturalists were selected as American Farmer Degree Candidates. Steven P. Gruenberg, North Hunterdon Chapter, An-

nandale; Janet Johnson Duckworth, Belvidere Chapter; David Pool, Woodstown Chapter; and Deb Wooster, West Essex Chapter, all have continued their agriculture involvement and will continue their occupations in the field of agriculture.

Steven P. Gruenberg, past state president, will represent New Jersey as a 1984-85 National Officer Candidate at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri in November.

In the area of Proficiency Awards, the following people received a certificate, a \$100 check, and a chance for their application to be reviewed at the Regional and National levels of competition. They are Tracy Sloan Hitchner, floriculture, Cumberland Chapter; Patricia R. Rupell, sales and service, Warren Hills Chapter; Richard S. Yurkovitch, home and farm stead, Warren Hills Chapter; John H. Burdge, agricultural mechanics, Belvidere Chapter; Susan Semanchik, dairy, Hackettstown Chapter; Lee Curto, poultry, Warren Hills Chapter; Leah Hetzell, div. livestock, Cumberland Chapter; Ross Mills, beef, Hunterdon Central Chapter; Kathryn Smylie, sheep, Northern Burlington Chapter; Robert Hampton, crop, Cumberland Chapter; Susan Albertson, horse, Belvidere Chapter; and Mark Lucas, placement in agriculture, Belvidere Chapter.

Many students competed in public speaking contests at the convention. First-place students in the extemporaneous and six to eight-minute contest will speak at the Tri-State Contest and in the Regional Contest in Massachusetts.

In the extemporaneous public speaking contest, Carole Schanzlin of the Belvidere Chapter, placed first; Lee Curto, Warren Hills Chapter, placed second; and Beth Bull, Oakcrest Chapter, placed third.

In the public speaking six-eight minute contest, Kim Zar of the Camden Tech East Chapter, placed first; Ronald Vassallo, Woodstown Chapter, placed second; and Lee Curto, Warren Hills Chapter, placed third.

In the public speaking five-minute contest, April Hickey of the Oakcrest Chapter, placed first; and Richard Stigale, Gloucester Chapter, placed second.

In the public speaking three-minute contest, Stephen Madara of the Oakcrest Chapter, placed first; Amy Rogers, Northern Burlington, placed second; and Tina Santini, Warren Hills Chapter, placed third.

In the creed contest, Ann Andrews of the Northern Burlington Chapter, placed first; Robert Masseur, Hackettstown Chapter, placed second; and Vicky Milford, Woodstown Chapter, placed third.

In the demonstration contest, Amy Rogers and Beth Weyman, both from the Northern Burlington Chapter, won second place as a team. Nancy Fieumenero from the Middlesex County Chapter placed second in individuals and William Emerson from the Gloucester Chapter placed third in individuals.

In the parliamentary procedure contest, the Allentown Chapter placed first in the state. The Oakcrest and Northern Burlington Chapters followed their placings. This contest tests the members' ability to conduct a business meeting using parliamentary pro-

cedures.

Superior chapter awards went to Cumberland, Woodstown, Warren Hills, West Essex, Oakcrest, Belvidere, Allentown, North Hunterdon and Hunterdon Hills Chapters.

Allentown and North Hunterdon FFA Chapters will be considered for a National emblem in Kansas City, Missouri, at the National FFA Convention. The Gloucester County Vocational School received the award for Most Improved Chapter in New Jersey.

In the Chapter Safety Contest, Cumberland County Regional received a gold emblem for their plaque; Gloucester received a silver emblem and Belvidere received a bronze emblem. The top two schools will be recognized at the National FFA Convention.

The Warren Hills Chapter, Washington, received first-place recognition in the FFA week contest with Allentown and Hunterdon Hills following.

The Allentown Chapter, Warren Hills Chapter and Belvidere Chapter placed first through third in the public relations contest.

The Middlesex County Chapter, East Brunswick, received the first-place award in the chapter scrapbook contest, and Dawn Duckworth, Belvidere Chapter, placed first in the chapter secretary's book. Becky Rice, also from the Belvidere Chapter, received the award for the best Chapter Treasurer's Book in New Jersey.

Kathy Smylie of the Northern Burlington Chapter, Columbus, received the Harry Schnieber Scholarship for her academic and agriculture accomplishments.

The Gloucester County Chapter received a plaque for the first

place-exhibit at the State Convention.

The Building Our American Communities (B.O.A.C.) Award was sponsored by R.J. Reynolds, Inc. The first place chapter was the Cumberland Chapter. Belvidere and Middlesex Chapters placed second and third. Wayne Beal, committee chairperson of the Cumberland Chapter, received the Achievement in Volunteerism Award, which includes a trip to Washington, D.C., to attend a National B.O.A.C. Conference. Beal was also selected as Outstanding Member-of-the-Year in New Jersey.

Patty Rupell of the Warren Hills Chapter received a gold award in the record keeping contest and Bonnie Grunow, Oakcrest Chapter, received a silver award.

In the new computers in agriculture award contest, William Perez, Oakcrest Chapter, Mays Landing, received a gold rating and will attend a National Computer Conference in August.

The 1984-85 State FFA Sweetheart was crowned after a very competitive contest. Carole Schanzlin of the Belvidere Chapter will travel to Kansas City to compete in the American Royale Competition. Melissa Hajdu, Phillipsburg Chapter, and Jackie Hoyer, Northern Burlington Chapter, were the first and second runners up in the competition.



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