

FFA Officer Goals: Lead Members To Positive, Prosperous Year

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Lancaster Farming Staff
STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) — It's a tall task: guide 8,000 state FFA members to a year of success, confidence in themselves, achievement, and prosperity.

But that's the goal set by 11 new state FFA officers, selected recently by the Pennsylvania FFA Association at the 1997 Summer FFA Convention held at Penn State earlier this month.

Here is a compilation of each of the officers: where they came from, what they've done, and where they're going.

President

Joy Hess, 19, daughter of John and Bonnie Hess of Gettysburg, was elected state president of the FFA for the 1997-1998 term.

Since eighth grade, Joy has been an active member of the New Oxford FFA Chapter. In her local chapter, Joy served as class representative, chaplain, vice president, and president.

On the state level, Joy won high individual in the 1995 dairy judging contest. In 1997 she received the State Dairy Proficiency Award.

Joy's supervised agricultural experience (SAE) projects include dairy herd and work experience. Graduated from New Oxford Senior High School in 1996, Joy is the youngest of five brothers and sisters. They include Jennie, Josie, John, and Jayne. Joy is employed on her family's dairy, JoBo Farm. She's in charge of calf feeding, breeding, and milking.

In her free time, Joy enjoys collecting Mary Moos, drawing, making people laugh, working with animals, and spending time with her family.

Joy noted that she hopes to move the Pennsylvania FFA toward a more cooperative effort in improving the future of agriculture. She is looking forward to working with Pennsylvania FFA and plans to lead the officer team, she noted, toward a prosperous year.

Vice President

Dale Thomas, Jr., 18, is the son of Dale and Debbie Thomas of Orangeville, Columbia County.

The new state vice president, Dale is a member of the Central Columbia Chapter, supervised by Doug Brown. Dale was secretary of his chapter for two years. His SAE project was working at a local car dealership. He served as an FFA exchange student to Russia and was a Russian exchange host.

Dale has two older sisters, Jennifer and Gayle. Jennifer lives at home and attends Bloomsburg University. Gayle lives in Charlotte, N.C. and works for Bobbie Allison Motorsports.

After serving as state vice president, Dale plans to attend Penn State to major in agricultural education. In his Keystone recipient information published in January in *Lancaster Farming*, Dale indicated that he enjoys FFA because of the "possibilities you have to go anywhere and do anything." He wants to make members aware of all the possibilities FFA offers and how to take advantage of them.

Eastern Region Vice President

Philip Eby, 18, the son of Dennis and Ellen Eby, Gap, is the new state eastern region vice president.

Phil is a member of the Hans Herr Chapter at Lancaster Mennonite High School. He has served as chapter sentinel for two years. His SAE projects include working his family's poultry farm and beef production. He works for a local farm equipment dealer.

Phil is the oldest in his family. He has two brothers, James and Matthew, who enjoy playing a variety of sports, including soccer, street hockey, and basketball. Phil also enjoys outside activities such as canoeing and hiking. He is an active member of his church and in his church youth group. Philip, featured in the Keystone Award recipient section of *Lancaster Farming* in January this year, served as chairman of the recreation committee at Hans Herr. He was honored with the state bronze award in agronomy and ag mechanics.

Phil's goals for the years include team unity and making a positive difference in the lives of those he meets.

Western Region Vice President

Joanna Wilson, Wilmington FFA Chapter, will serve as western region vice president.

Joanna, 18, Volant, Lawrence County, lives with her mother, Linda, and two of her brothers: Brad, 22 and Robert, 13 on a 100-acre dairy farm. She also has another brother, Craig, 23.

Joanna's SAE projects include dairy herd, swine finishing, and work experience. During her high school years in the FFA, she served as chapter secretary. Joanna noted that she enjoys track and field, soccer, swimming, volleyball, and just having fun.

She indicated that she enjoys public speaking and participating in many other contests. "The thing that stands out the most, though, is all the new friends and the many people I've had the opportunity to meet through the FFA," she told *Lancaster Farming*.

Joanna plans to attend Penn State to major in dairy and animal science. Her goals for the year include making a difference in the lives of others and showing the community what FFA involves.

North Central Region Vice President

Joshua Heeter, 18, is the new Pennsylvania FFA north central regional vice president.

The son of Joe and Christine Heeter, Beavertown, Snyder County, Josh lives with his parents, his younger sister Kate, and his grandmother on the family's beef farm. The West Snyder FFA member has served as chapter treasurer and president. He also served as the SUN Area FFA treasurer.

Josh's SAE projects include beef growing, on-farm work experience, and off-farm work experience as a part-time instructional aide at West Snyder School.

He noted that his greatest accomplishment has been serving as president on his chapter's parliamentary procedure team, which placed first at states last year. Josh noted that he enjoys meeting new people through various FFA contests. After serving as state officer, Josh plans to attend either Delaware Valley College or Bloomsburg University to major in political science.



Eleven new state FFA officers were selected recently by the Pennsylvania FFA Association at the 1997 Summer FFA Convention held at Penn State earlier this month. Front row, from left, Bobbie Jo Cauffman, south central region vice president; Jessica M. Whiting, state treasurer; Joy Hess, president; Joanna Wilson, western region vice president; Nicole Over, secretary; and Cathy Jo Fyock, reporter. Back row, from left, Dale Thomas, Jr., vice president; Joshua Heeter, north central region vice president; Phillip Eby, eastern region vice president; Jeremy Hackenburg, chaplain; and Kenneth Martin, sentinel.

In his spare time, Josh enjoys playing and coaching soccer, basketball, and golfing.

South Central Region Vice President

Bobbie Jo Cauffman, 19, daughter of Glen and Faye Cauffman of Millerstown, Perry County, was chosen to serve as the south central region vice president.

Bobbie Jo, Greenwood FFA member, was graduated from Greenwood High School in June 1996 and has completed her freshman studies at Penn State, majoring in agricultural education.

During her four years in Greenwood FFA, Bobbie Jo has served as chapter secretary and vice president. She has competed in more than a dozen public speaking contests. She served as the Cumberland, Dauphin, and Perry Area vice president. Her SAE projects include swine finishing, lamb finishing, corn production, and work experience.

She is a 1995 graduate of the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Agricultural Sciences. At Penn State, Bobbie Jo is active in Collegiate FFA, where she served as the Agricultural Student Council representative, Coaly Society, Agricultural Advocates, and the Agricultural Student Council. She noted to *Lancaster Farming* that he enjoys meeting people and being around other motivated students.

Future plans are to be an ag teacher. Bobbie Jo's hobbies include singing and dancing, which allowed her to perform with the Penn State singing Lions and travel around the country. She plans to be graduated from Penn State in 2000 and make a career as a teacher.

Secretary

Nicole Over, 19, daughter of Derry and Aldine Over, Woodbury, Bedford County, was selected state secretary.

Nicole, Northern Bedford FFA member, resides and works on her family's fifth generation dairy farm, where they milk 60 registered Holsteins. Nicole's oldest brother Dan, his wife Brenda, and

their son Brendan are also dairy farmers. Her older brother James is an agricultural science teacher. He and his wife Karla reside on the family's home farm.

Nicole was graduated from Northern Bedford High School in 1996. During her four years in the Northern Bedford FFA, she served as chapter president and secretary. Her SAE projects include market hogs and farrow-to-finish projects.

Nicole has just completed her freshman year at Penn State Altoona Campus. "Discovering opportunities in the agricultural field" was one of the highlights of membership in FFA, Nicole noted in *Lancaster Farming* last year. She wants to pursue a career in the dairy ag business. After completing her term as a state FFA officer, Nicole plans to finish her education at University Park, where she majors in dairy and animal science. After graduation, she wants to obtain a position in a dairy-related cooperative.

Nicole enjoys playing and coaching soccer, traveling, gardening, showing pigs, and spending time with family and friends.

Treasurer

Jessica M. Whiting, 17, daughter of David and Denise Whiting, was named FFA state treasurer.

Jessica was graduated from Wilmington Area High School, where

she was actively involved in the FFA chapter and in tennis and softball. While in the chapter FFA, she served as president, vice president, and treasurer. Her SAE projects include dairy herd, market hogs, market, sheep, and market steers.

At home on the farm, Jessica enjoys working with her sisters Maggie, Bridget, and Lane. She is also involved in a 4-H horse and pony club.

Some of her future goals include having a successful year serving the Pennsylvania FFA, attending college, and someday owning a dairy herd of her own.

Reporter

Cathy Jo Fyock, daughter of John and Jean Fyock, Penn Run, Indiana County, was named reporter for the state FFA.

Cathy has two younger sisters, Sarah and Carolyn, and a younger brother, Seth.

Since 1992 Cathy has been an active member of the Penns Manor Area FFA Chapter, where she has served as secretary, reporter, vice president, and president. Since 1994 she has been Indiana County Conservation Public Speaker of the Year and holds that distinguished honor. The past year, Cathy Jo has represented Indiana county as fair queen.

Cathy's SAE projects include

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Fifth Annual Fore FFA Golf Tournament Set

DENVER (Lancaster Co.) — If it's July, it's time to golf!

The Hoss's Fifth Annual Fore FFA Golf Tournament is scheduled for Monday, July 14, at two courses this year — the Foxchase course and the Hawk Valley Golf club.

The golf sponsorship categories are grand champion, \$2,000; the hole-in-one contest is \$1,500, the driving range sponsor contest is \$1,250, and show champion is \$1,000. The 19th Hole Sponsor is \$750, Refreshment Cart Sponsor is \$500, and par three contest is \$400. Putting contest or longest drive

contest is \$3,000 and hole sponsor is \$250. Team Awards Sponsor is \$150.

Participating golfers cost \$85. The funds include a contribution to the FFA, a complimentary mulligan, a bucket of driving range balls, lunch, refreshments on course, contests and prizes, and a complimentary "happy hour" in addition to the dinner and auction.

Money raised at the auction will be used for Pennsylvania FFA Foundation activities.

For more information, call (814) 353-9230.