

New President Wants To Let Others Know About FFA

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bership may be declining in some areas, according to Cole, the message about the largest youth agriculture organization in the world continues to be broadcast.

This year, that broadcast may be stepped up a bit, as chapters continue to communicate FFA's message.

Here's a rundown on the 10 new officers.

President

New Pennsylvania FFA President Luke Zerby is a 1998 graduate of West Snyder High School.

The son of Nevin and Isabel Zerby, Beavertown, Zerby works on the family's 150-acre Zerby Farms sheep operation, which includes 150 head of Southdown, Dorset, and Shropshire sheep.

Zerby has served as West Snyder FFA president and was SUN Area president. He was chapter vice president of community development. Zerby has completed projects in sheep breeding, finishing, swine finishing, beef breeding, beef finishing, corn for grain, and alfalfa hay. The family farms a total of 225 acres, including rented ground.

A 1998 Keystone Degree recipient, Zerby noted he plans to attend Penn State to major in dairy and animal science.

While he was still in the midst of orientation to the new position as state president, Zerby knows some of the activities he will be involved in during the following months. He will help out at the Ag Progress Days display and attend the Hoss Fore FFA Golf Tournament, scheduled Monday, July 20 at the Foxchase Golf Course in Stevens.

He will also speak to various chapters.

The number one accomplishment as a chapter officer was hosting a team-building weekend at a cabin owned by a member in Beavertown last month. The goal as a county leader was to get the officer team involved in helping disseminate information to the public about FFA.

Zerby continues a family tradition. Two older siblings, Matt, 1990, served as state reporter. Jenny, 1994, served as state president.

Vice President

Herb Hoffeditz, from the Conococheague Chapter, as state vice president, hopes to pass on his knowledge of agriculture and the FFA to members.

The focus of Herb's supervised agriculture experience (SAE) has been on growing a dairy herd of registered Holsteins and Guernseys, which includes five milking cows and seven heifers.

Hoffeditz is the only member of the state officer team who attended a year of college at Penn State Mont Alto campus before running for office.

He believes his biggest accomplishment through the FFA was when he helped lead his farm business management team to a first place finish at the state level. The three members on his team also held the top three individual scores. Hoffeditz had the first place individual score.

After his term is complete, Hoffeditz plans on continuing his college education and graduating from Penn State with a degree in agriculture education. He decided on this career path after being inspired by his agriculture teacher's dedication to improving their FFA program and increasing membership.

Eastern Region Vice President

Britina Robinson, Solanco FFA chapter, is the new state eastern region vice president.

Robinson, daughter of Boyd and Jean Robinson of Drumore, serves as second vice president of the Solanco FFA chapter. She has also served as president and secretary.

Robinson's SAE projects have included beef finishing, raising and selling Holstein steers, and off-farm work experience.

She has won awards for public speaking proficiency. Besides being an active member of FFA, Robinson enjoys participating in the shot put and discus contests on her high school track team.

She has also shared her choral talent in many high school drama productions.

After her term as a state officer, Robinson will continue to pursue a major in agricultural engineering at Texas A&M.

Golf For FFA

DENVER (Lancaster Co.) — It's the 6th Annual Fore FFA Golf Tournament, coming here July 20.

It's time to set aside the pens, pitchforks, and skid loaders for an afternoon of fun on the links, as the Pennsylvania FFA Foundation hosts its annual fundraising event at the Foxchase Golf Course, near Denver, and the Hawk Valley Golf Club, near Bowmansville.

Because of the overwhelming participation, like last year, the shotgun-start tournament will be held at the two golf courses. Registration and lunch will be from 11 a.m.-12:45 p.m. at the Foxchase Golf Course. The shotgun scramble begins at 1 p.m.

Immediately following the tournament, hors d'oeuvres will be served at the Foxchase pavilion. A dinner and awards ceremony will follow. Included is the special auction to also raise money for the foundation.

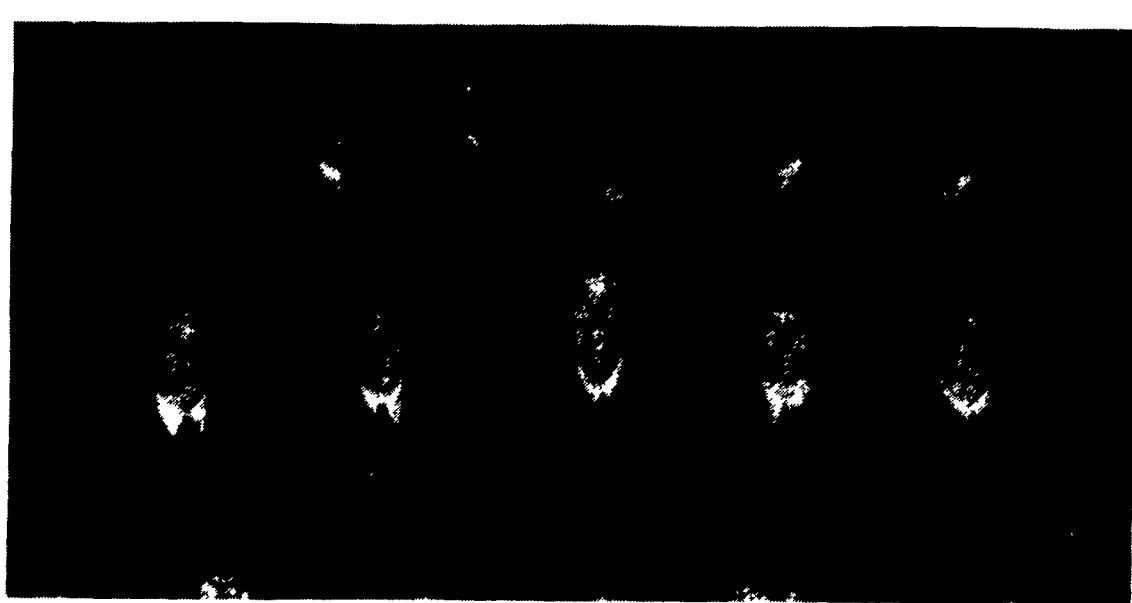
Cost for participating golfer is \$85, which includes a contribution

to the future of FFA, a complimentary mulligan, golfing, a bucket of driving range balls, lunch, the 1 p.m. shotgun scramble, refreshment carts on course, contests and prizes, a complimentary "Happy Hour," and the dinner and auction.

There are several sponsorship categories, including the grand champion, for \$2,000; the Hole-In-One Contest for \$1,500; the Driving Range Sponsor, at \$1,250; the Show Champion Sponsor, for \$1,000; the 19th Hole Sponsor, for \$750; the Refreshment Sponsor, for \$500; the Par Three Contest, for \$400; the Putting Contest or Longest Drive Contest for \$300; Hole Sponsors, for \$250; and Team Awards Sponsor for \$150.

More than 8,500 state FFA members benefit from participation in the tournament.

To sign up, contact the Pennsylvania FFA Foundation, P.O. Box 10493 Calder Square, State College, PA 16805. For information, contact Kerry Hoffman at (814) 353-9230.



The 1998-1999 state FFA officer team, front row, from left, Karen Reed, western region vice president; Jennifer Witmer, south central region vice president; Danielle Cowden, treasurer; Laurle Bish, secretary; and Allyson Cole, reporter. Back row, from left, Travis Donough, sentinel; Herb Hoffeditz, vice president; Luke Zerby, president; Daniel Kreider, chaplain; and Britina Robinson, eastern region vice president.

Western Region Vice President

New western region vice president is Karen Reed.

Reed, daughter of Kenny and Jana Reed, Derry, is the president of Derry FFA.

Reed noted that she hopes to show other FFA members the opportunities, fun, friends, and leadership skills that the organization can bring. She noted that she has been involved with agriculture all of her life.

Her projects included working with beef projects. She won a bronze state award for her beef production record-keeping.

Outside of FFA, Reed has been involved in 4-H, track, basketball, reading, and hiking. She plans on attending Delaware Valley College to major in agricultural education after serving as state officer. She then hopes to teach agriculture in a school with an FFA chapter.

South Central Region Vice President

Jennifer Witmer is the new Pennsylvania FFA south central region vice president. From the Cumberland Valley FFA, Witmer raises, shows, and sells sheep and swine for her supervised agricultural experiences. She also obtained a black belt in Tae Kwon Do.

Witmer was motivated by the enthusiasm of past state officers to run for a state office. She hopes to give back to the FFA and have the same impact on the current FFA members that other officers have had on her.

After completing her term as a state officer, Witmer plans to attend Penn State university to major in an agricultural field.

Secretary

Having the opportunity and the chance to get involved round out the main reasons Laurie Bish, East Berlin, the new state secretary, enjoys FFA.

Her philosophy when she applied to become a state officer is interesting: "What you put into something is what you are going to get out of it."

She has served as York County's FFA president and as Dover FFA's vice president. She also served as York County's treasurer.

Influenced by her older brother to join FFA, she was inspired by her adviser, Nick Stollar, and the past state officers.

While in the FFA, she completed projects in market swine. She raised and has shown and sold market hogs for her SAE project.

After her term is over, Bish plans to attend Delaware Valley College and work toward a career in the field of large animal science.

Treasurer

When she first saw the state convention in ninth grade, Danielle Cowden, from the H.G. Parkinson (Fort Cherry) FFA, knew she wanted to become a state officer. She is the new state treasurer.

Cowden also competed on the first place parliamentary procedure team at the state convention. For her SAE, Cowden raises beef and swine and also shows and sells them.

Outside FFA, Cowden has attended the 1997 Governor's School for the agricultural sciences. She was also involved in cheerleading, student council, and various community service projects.

After her term as state officer, Cowden plans to attend Ohio State University to major in ag business and economics. She then hopes to become an agricultural attache in Eastern Europe or Japan.

Reporter

Allyson Anne Cole, 17, is the daughter of N. Jean and Edward T. Cole, Littlestown. She grew up on a 15-acre farmette with a small herd of Longhorn cattle.

The Littlestown FFA president has served on all committees at the chapter and has trained horses.

She has completed projects in horse and swine production.

Cole noted she worked at The Land Of Little Horses in Gettysburg.

Also, Cole noted she has worked closely with the local newspapers and statewide farm papers in providing information about the chapter. She believes that is important.

Cole noted that statewide FFA membership is declining. She believes in the importance of "getting more people interested" in FFA through the work of communication.

She is in charge of setting up displays about the state association, including the one at this year's Ag Progress Days in Rockspring.

Named NPLC Officer

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. — Robert Schull, executive secretary of the Ayrshire Breeders' Association was elected to the National Pedigreed Livestock Council (NPLC) at its annual meeting in St. Joseph, Missouri.

The National Pedigreed Livestock Council, is an organization of various non-profit breed associations of dairy, horse and pony, sheep, goat, swine, beef and specialty species, held its annual meeting May 6-8, at the American

Sentinel

New state sentinel is Travis Donough from Manheim.

Donough, son of Ed and LaRue Donough, Manheim, has completed various SAE projects, including market swine, market steers, sheep production, and work experience on a dairy farm.

Travis noted he had aspirations of running for state office since eighth grade. His advisers at Manheim FFA also encouraged him to run and were one of his main inspirations. He is also looking forward to meeting new people, traveling, and the public speaking opportunities as state sentinel.

After serving as state sentinel, Donough plans to go to college and major in an agricultural field. He plans to pursue a career in agriculture.

Chaplain

Daniel Kreider, a beef farmer with a herd of Angus crossbred cattle, was recently elected as state chaplain.

Kreider, Cedar Crest FFA member, is the son of Harold and Barbara Kreider, Lebanon. He served as Cedar Crest vice president and president and county reporter and president.

Kreider has completed projects in beef finishing and on-farm employment. He received awards in forestry proficiency and wildlife proficiency for three straight years, first in the county creed contest, first in the county extemporaneous public speaking event two years in a row, and second in the area extemporaneous contest in 1997.

Kreider's other interests include baseball, softball, basketball, hunting, and fishing.

One day, he plans to operate his own beef cattle farm in Lebanon County.

Editor's Note: Next week, *Lancaster Farming* will include a photo story on the winners from the summer convention.

Angus Association headquarters in St. Joseph, Missouri.

A total of 50 CEOs and guests attended the event which was sponsored by the American Angus Association. Among the highlights from this year's meeting was the election of officers and directors for 1998-1999.

The Ayrshire Breeders' Association is the national organization for the registration and promotion of Ayrshire cattle and is headquartered in Brattleboro, Vermont.