

State FFA Auction Fundraiser Raises More Than \$10,000

ANDY ANDREWS
Editor

STEVENS (Lancaster Co.) — Three "H's" were in effect Monday: hot, humid... and honorable.

About 288 golf enthusiasts, including many agri-industry representatives, went bravely to the links Monday afternoon for a great cause — raising money for FFA.

The largest intercurriculum group in the world, FFA, raised money for the state foundation through the annual Hatfield Fore FFA East tournament conducted at two courses — Fox Chase Golf Club in Stevens and Galen Hall and Country Club in Werner-ville.

Afterward, an auction of donated items brought in \$10,500. The fundraising event sponsors and coordinators were still counting up the total take from the tournament as of presstime.

Lancaster Farming was a hole sponsor and contributed to the event.

For individual accomplishments during the sweltering tournament, Bill Shuey Jr. had what could only be called "cruel luck." Shuey won two closest-to-the-pins awards, but narrowly missed (by an eighth of an inch, he said, at the lip of the cup) a hole-in-one for the free car at Fox Chase.

First-place winners at Fox Chase with a score of 58 were members of the team sponsored by M.H. Eby Inc. They included Pete Fredrickson, Mike Christoffel, Menno Eby, and Craig Hartranft.

First-place winners at Galen Hall, with a score of 59, were members of the Saul Ewing Company team, including Patrick Wolfe, Cathy Devlin, John Bisordi, and Nick Nastasi.

Second-place Fox Chase winners, with a score of 62, were the team from First Union, including Ted Bowers, Bill Hughes, Scott Hausman, and Blaine Fessler.

Second-place Galen Hall team, with a score of 61, included Rich Schwarzman, Elizabethtown School District; Tony Grimes, Tony's Pizza; Dirk Madison, Cumberland School District; and Vic Madison.

Third-place Fox Chase team included Steve Moran, Herr Foods; Dave Huston, U.S. Postal Service; Gary Robinson, G&F Carpet; and Scott Gold, Oxford High School.

The third-place Galen Hall team included Bobby Jones, Ag Choice Farm Credit; Darrell Curtis, Ag Choice Farm Credit; Ron Stahl, friend of Ag Choice Farm Credit; and Larry Shirk, Wenger Feeds.



Wengers of Myerstown sponsored a special quartet, "Sanctuary," from Jacksonville, Fla. to sing the National Anthem. Members included, from left, Brad Weeks, Dusty Weeks, Doug Warren, and Richard Henderson, with sound engineer Loran Crews (not pictured).

Willie Sole, state FFA Foundation president, noted the work of the funding branch for the State FFA Association.

Sole, store manager of Tractor Supply Company, Indiana, noted the many items placed for auction to support FFA. He spoke about the supreme work ethic of FFA members, who crafted many items for sale at the auction after the tournament.

FFA students "learn personal responsibility and responsibilities as part of a team," said Sole.

One of those items included a lamb donated by Dr. Robert Herr of Nix Besser Livestock. Sarah Nolt, daughter of Charlene and Gene Nolt, New Holland, will exhibit the lamb.

Sarah, in the 11th grade, at the end of the show season will donate 50 percent of the sale amount to the FFA Foundation and the other half to the R.D. Herr Scholarship Fund for Grassland FFA at Garden Spot High School.

"She, in turn, is learning to give back to the FFA," said Sole.

Some of the items for sale at the auction included:

- A wooden doghouse constructed by the New Oxford FFA
- A patio table and stools donated by a Foundation supporter
- Seven cherry and apple pies donated by Mrs. Zerby, West Snyder FFA
- An Arnold Palmer-signed golf course tractor cart model
- Paintings by renowned wildlife artist Greg Yoder from Grassland FFA.

Other items included a barbecue station cart, tractor models, birdhouses, a cord extension base, woodworking (Octoraro FFA made several wooden benches and stools), cigar sets, a Joe Paterno-autographed football, a hand-sewn quilt, and other items.

Auctioneer was Glenn Wenger.

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The next fundraising event for the FFA will be the Hoss's Fore FFA West at the Scotch Valley Country Club in Duncansville on Monday, Aug. 12.

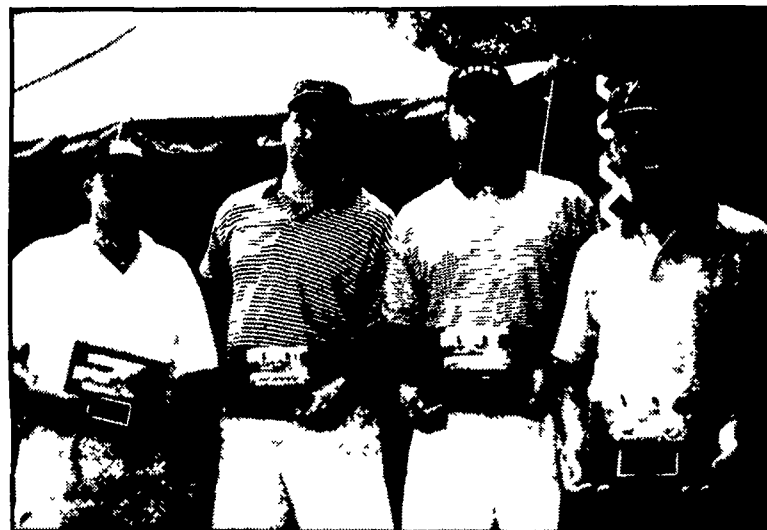
For more information, call (814) 867-9230.

State officers on hand for the tournament Monday included David Bittner, president; Drew Cowden, western vice president; Mark Fulton, treasurer; Andy Alwine, sentinel; Courtney Miller, eastern region vice president; Anthony Seymore, chaplain; Mary



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Strasbaugh, south central vice president; Jon Lauver, north central vice president; Emily Grove, secretary; Julie Flinchbaugh, reporter; and Timothy Leshner, vice president.



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