



# News- O-GRAM

FLORIDA FFA FOUNDATION, INC. • [www.flaffafoundation.org](http://www.flaffafoundation.org)

May 2011

## 8th Annual ..... **BEAST FEAST & AUCTION** ..... *A Great Success!*

WOW! What a day! The weather could not have been better for a day of food, fun and fundraising at the Florida FFA Leadership Training Center on Saturday, March 26.

More than 500 people turned out to enjoy the festivities including an amazing array of food booths sponsored and prepared by more than 25 FFA Chapters from all over Florida. The food included rarities like gator, turkey, fried dill pickles, catfish, venison and frog legs along with home made potato salad, ice cream, fried Oreos, strawberry shortcake, fresh lemonade and much more.

Along with the great food, FFA Chapters also provided "good sports" for the Dunking Tank and a very cooperative calf for the amazingly popular Cow Chip Bingo.

Our competitive bidders enjoyed bidding on more than 100 Silent Auction items



President William Hamm (left) took time during the Live Auction to thank long-time Board Member Gilbert Bowen (right) for his support of the Beast Feast and his major efforts in selling tickets for the event.

*"We wish to recognize and thank Mr. Bowen for his continuing support of the Florida FFA, the Florida FFA Foundation and the Florida FFA Leadership Training Center," Hamm said to the 450+ crowd.*

donated by various businesses, FFA Chapters and individuals.

When the Silent Auction closed, it was time to move on to the Educational Building for the Live Auction. Volunteer Auctioneer Randy Kincaid was helped by the 2011 State FFA Officers to auction off more than 75 items. There were lots of

laughs and good natured bidding for items from spreaders and chicken coops to fine art and furniture.

All-in-all, it was a very good day for supporters, friends and of course, the Florida FFA Foundation and Leadership Training Center who benefited from the proceeds. Special thanks to all of you who attended and supported the Florida FFA by attending the 2011 Beast Feast.



.....  
*Plant City Collegiate (left) provided the Strawberry Shortcake and the State FFA Officers (right) "helped" with the Live Auction.*

*All photos by Ron O'Connor*

*Florida FFA Foundation, Inc.*  
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## **GET YOUR TAG!**

**Contact your nearest Tag Agency**

The proceeds from the sale of this tag will benefit Florida's 15,000 FFA members, agricultural education, students and teachers.

## **Shop On-Line SUPPORT FFA**

If you normally order your supplies, make purchases or search on-line, please consider using the **"Good Search"** link on our website. The Florida FFA Foundation will benefit from your search or purchase. As you know, the Foundation is always searching for new ways to raise funds so that we can better serve the 15,000 Florida FFA members and their teachers. **The process is simple:** go to [www.flaffafoundation.org](http://www.flaffafoundation.org) and click on **Good Search** on the home page. Then enter Florida FFA Foundation under "who do you search for?" You can see the amount raised to date and watch it grow with your searches and purchases. Coupons are available on the same page to be used when shopping at your favorite online stores.

*Please share this information with your friends  
and support the Florida FFA Foundation.*

## **Schedule Your Next Meeting with Us!**



*Whether you are planning your next company meeting, youth training program, summer camp, church or organization retreat, family, military or class reunion ... turn it into an experience.*

*Bring your group to tranquility ... enjoy the dramatic sunsets on Central Florida's beautiful Lake Pierce or simply relax and watch the wild turkeys roam the grounds.*

*You won't be sorry! We appreciate the opportunity to serve you.*

**For additional information call 863-439-7332  
or visit our web site at [www.flaltc.org](http://www.flaltc.org)**



# BEAST FEAST & AUCTION



*Ed Swindle,  
Beast Feast  
Chairman,  
welcomes the  
450+ guests.*



*(Left) Volunteer Auctioneer Randy Kincaid sold more than 75 items at the Live Auction.*



*FFA Foundation President Bill Hamm with some of the 2011 State Officers (above)*



*Bartow-Kathleen FFA, FFA Federation, and Frostproof FFA joined to make the very best Homemade Ice Cream ever! (right)*



*The Dunking Booth and Cow Chip Bingo were a great hit with the crowd!*

## *Thank You! Beast Feast Sponsors*

### **Platinum Sponsors**

Land O'Lakes Purina Feed LLC  
Mosaic Fertilizer LLC

### **Gold Sponsors**

ARMAZZ Custom Chemicals  
Farm & Ranch News  
Florida Farm Bureau Federation  
Southern Salvage  
Ed & Mrytle Lou Swindle  
Hank & Patricia Varnum

### **Silver Sponsors**

Chemical Dynamics  
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Farm Credit  
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Publix Super Markets Charities  
Wishnatzki Farms

### **Bronze Sponsors**

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Lykes Brothers, Inc.  
Plant City Rotary Club  
Pool Works  
Poppell Insurance, Inc.  
Seminole Feed  
SunTrust Bank



*Ed Osborne  
Fred Williams  
Todd Lawrence  
(L to R)*

# STATE FFA CONVENTION

## *Set for June 14-17*

The Florida FFA Association will be hosting its 83rd Annual State FFA Convention on June 14-17 at the Caribe Royale Orlando. The theme **"History in the Making"** will commemorate over 80 years of Florida FFA history and still maintaining its traditions including agriculture, leadership, hard work, dedication and career success. Nearly 4,000 members and guests will be challenged to move forward with a sense of pride for our industry, service for their community and leadership for our organization.

The four-day convention will be jam packed with excitement, motivational speakers, award presentations, exhibits, workshops and entertainment. Approximately 1,500 students will receive awards and honors for outstanding achievement with SAE projects, career development events and academic excellence.

For more information on the convention, please visit the Florida FFA Association website at [www.flaffa.org](http://www.flaffa.org).

### Expanded CAREER & TRADE SHOW ~ EXHIBITOR INFORMATION ~

#### *Exhibit Set-Up:*

Tuesday, June 14 ~ 12-6 p.m.

#### *Show Times:*

Wednesday, June 15 ~ 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Thursday, June 16 ~ 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

#### *Teachers Only Reception:*

Wednesday, June 15 ~ 4-5:30 p.m.

#### *Tear Down:*

Thursday, June 16 after 4 p.m.

## *State Officer Screening Yields Candidates*

### *Presidential Candidates*

Charlie Brown, Avon Park FFA  
Haley Webb, Charlotte FFA

### *Area I Candidates*

Karis Smith, Blountstown FFA  
Sydney Stone, Sneads FFA

### *Area II Candidates*

Kaitlin Donaghy, Middleburg FFA  
Taylor Langford, Trenton FFA

### *Area III Candidates*

James Barringer, New Smyrna Beach FFA  
Julia Morgan, Pine Ridge FFA

### *Area IV Candidates*

Nathaniel Lawson, Kathleen FFA  
Shelby Oesterreicher, Bartow FFA

### *Area V Candidates*

Brittany Coleman, Durant FFA  
John Modrow, Riverview FFA

### *Area VI Candidates*

Ricardo Muniz, Coral Reef FFA  
James Sharpe, Okeechobee Brahman FFA

In April the State Officer Screening Committee met at the Florida FFA Leadership Training Center and selected the following student members as candidates for state office. Thirty-two student members took part in the 2011 Screening Process. These student members were challenged with an individual interview, written exam, individual problem solving activity, group problem solving activity, SAE interview, Agricultural Education Interview, and conversational exercise.

The primary responsibility of a state officer is to serve the Florida FFA Association, Agricultural Education and Agriculture as an ambassador in local, state and national activities in a way that will inform, motivate and inspire FFA members, advisors and others to embrace and uphold the FFA mission. The selected candidates will seek election at the 83rd Florida FFA State Convention.





Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

# Mark Your Calendar!

June 19-22 FOA • June 22-25 FLA • Aug. 7-10 FLA • Aug. 10-13 FOA



It's time to start planning your participation in the most exciting career and leadership conferences in the nation. These conferences are conducted by accomplished college students who have excelled in all phases of leadership and communications training. Be assured your students will be inspired, challenged and motivated to lead your chapter to new heights and expectations for the coming year. More information regarding these exciting conferences can be obtained by visiting our website at [www.flaltc.org](http://www.flaltc.org).

Leading the (FLA) Florida Leadership Adventures Conferences is Hannah Crossen, 2009 National FFA Vice President from Ohio who will serve as conference director. Regina Holiday, 2009 National Vice President from Georgia and Austin Courson, 2010 State FFA Vice President from Pensacola, will serve as conference presenters. This conference theme **"Tag Yourself As A Leader,"** will focus on developing leadership, communications and employability skills training.

Leading the (FOA) Florida Outdoor Adventures Conferences will be Andy Mason, 2008-2009 State Vice President who will serve as Director. Caitlyn Pritchard, 2009-10 State FFA President and Heath Huesman, former District III President will be Presenters.

The theme **"Reel Leadership"** was chosen to partner Florida FFA's greatest tradition "leadership" with Florida's "great outdoors." FOA will focus on outdoor careers, shooting sports, team building programs, leadership and the 16th Annual FFA Bass Tournament.

Florida FFA Foundation, Inc.

## WOW! STATISTICS

- ✓ Has raised over \$4.3 M for awards, scholarships, and services at no charge to FFA Members and Chapters.
- ✓ Has provided over 175,000 awards for student achievement and academic excellence.
- ✓ Has distributed over 90,000 press releases recognizing student accomplishments.
- ✓ Has provided over 275 academic scholarships and over 600 conference scholarships.
- ✓ Has registered over 202,000 guests at the Florida FFA Leadership Training Center.
- ✓ Has registered over 58,000 FFA members and teachers at the LTC.
- ✓ Has provided discounted rates for FFA lodging and meals and adopted a no charge policy for many conference services at an annual savings to FFA at \$45,000 per year.



# *Advancing The Vision*

SunTrust  
Pool Renovations



New Kayaks & Canoe Rentals



Renovated  
Mosaic Marina & Dock



**Mosaic Maintenance Building**



**New Ben Hill Griffin Lodge Furnishings**



**New Lodge Furniture**

## ***Future Projects Awaiting Funding***

### ***Capital Needs***

Lodge Annex #1

Lodge Annex #2

Villa #7

Villa #8

Villa #9

### ***Renovation Needs***

Villa #1

Villa #2

Villa #3

Villa #4

Villa #5

Villa #6

### ***Endowment Needs***

Academic Scholarship Endowment

Teacher in-Service Endowment

LTC Preservation Fund



# Yes! *I want to support the Florida FFA Foundation*

## FFA ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT SPONSOR CARD

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☐ Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ Please charge my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my Mastercard/Visa/Amex

☐ \$2,500

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☐ \$500

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☐ \$50

☐ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Yes, my employer will match my gift

Please make checks payable to Florida FFA Foundation, Inc. • Contributions are tax-exempt to the full extent of the law.  
Please return coupon with check to the Florida FFA Foundation, Inc. • 5000 Firetower Rd. • Haines City, FL 33844  
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**Visit Our Websites  
at**

**[www.flaffafoundation.org](http://www.flaffafoundation.org)  
[www.flaltc.org](http://www.flaltc.org)**



Find the latest  
information regarding  
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**CAN YOU HELP?**

**Special Project Sponsors** are unique in that we have partnered with certain organizations and industry to fund specific awards, scholarships, conferences, and meal functions to recognize academic excellence and superior achievement. Anyone interested in becoming a Special Project Sponsor should contact the Executive Director of the Florida FFA Foundation at (863) 439-7332 x 6321.

Should you wish to view the entire list of existing sponsors and those projects available for sponsorship, please visit our website at **[www.flaffafoundation.org](http://www.flaffafoundation.org)** and click on Fundraising and drop down to Special Projects.

