



Jefferson Middle AGRICULTURE

2015-2016 Vol.6

Learning to do, Doing to learn, Earning to live, Living to serve.

Jefferson Middle FFA members attend Poultry Training at the University of North Georgia– Gainesville

On January 30, 2016 Jefferson Middle FFA members Serrianna Smith, Jacob Price, and Hayden Mays attended the University of North Georgia Poultry Training at the Gainesville Campus. These students were able to evaluate interior egg quality by candling, grade broken out eggs, grade exterior egg quality, evaluate Ready to Cook chickens, and identify cuts of meat. During the one day training, students were able to tour the campus and learn about careers in poultry science and avian biology. These FFA members will compete on February 9th in the Area II Junior Poultry Judging FFA Career Development Event.





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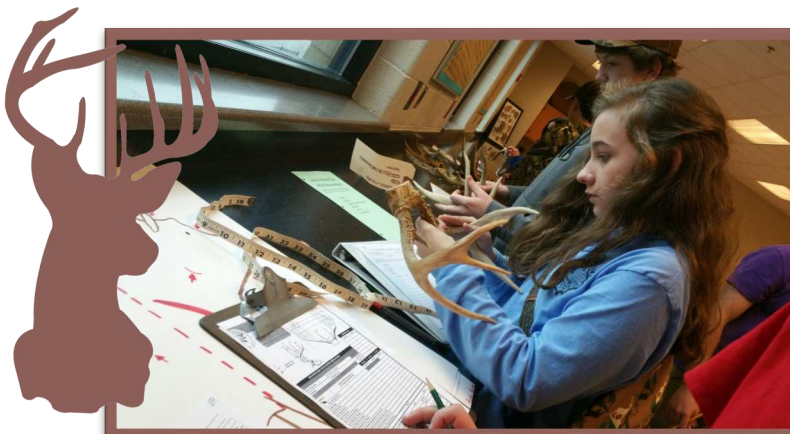
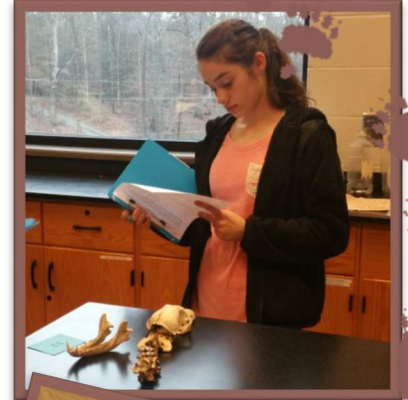
Learning to do, Doing to learn, Earning to live, Living to serve.

Jefferson Middle FFA members prepare for Wildlife Competition

On January 28, 2016 Jefferson Middle FFA members Kaytee Lee, Bracey Courchaine, Emily Edwards, Luke Forrester, and Crissy Griffith attended the Area II Wildlife Career Development Event Training at Madison County High School. Lee is preparing for Whitetail Deer management where she will measure deer antlers and look at a hunting scenario to determine whether to harvest or keep certain deer. Courchaine is getting ready for the General Wildlife area of the contest where she will identify tools, tracks, furs, trees, plants, and other items as well as take a general wildlife exam. Representing JMS in the Aquatics division is Edwards, who will identify tools, fish, and plants as well as take a pond management test. In the Game Bird portion of the CDE, Forrester and Griffith identify game bird calls and take a management exam over game birds.

Jefferson FFA Alumni Vice President, Jimmy Mock, organized a practice competition for JMS and Jackson Trail Christian School Wildlife team members on February 2, 2016 with the help of Mr. Bill Lott. Mr. Lott is the manager of Thompson Mills Forest Arboretum in Braselton and an avid supporter of FFA programs. Mr. Mock is a retired Agriculture Teacher and is currently the Jackson Trail Cristian School FFA Advisor.

These FFA members will compete on February 9th in the Area II Junior Wildlife FFA Career Development Event.





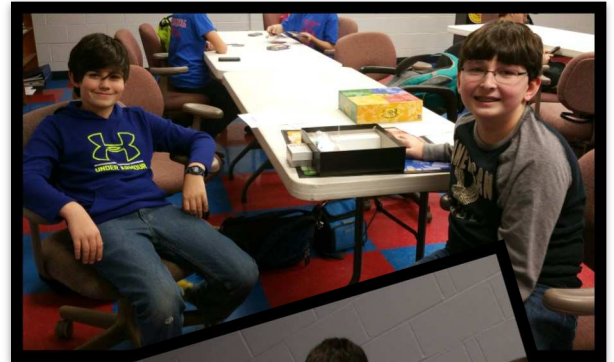
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JMS FFA January Meeting: “Souper” Game Night

The January meeting for JMS FFA was held on January 26th at the Jefferson Ag Barn. FFA members enjoyed delicious soup prepared by Ms. Teresa Lee, Ms. Holly Courchaine, and Ms. April Edwards. A special thank you goes out to Ms. Sandra Mock for helping set-up and serve soup. Everyone had a great time playing Spoons, Uno, Jenga, and ag trivia games. Join us for our next FFA meeting on February 23rd!



Carter Places at Athens Show

Seventh grade FFA member Jake Carter exhibited his swine project, Smoke, at the Jackson County Young Farmers Showing Showdown at the UGA Livestock Arena held on December 19-20, 2015. Jake placed second in his class. Jake is working hard to get prepare for the Jefferson FFA Alumni Show and the Georgia Junior National Livestock Show in Perry. Jake is a member of the JMS Agricultural Mechanics Career Development Event Team.





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Jefferson Middle FFA Members Attend Discovery Conference

Members of the Jefferson Middle FFA chapter attended the Georgia FFA Association's Discovery Conference on January 21-22, 2016, at the Georgia FFA-FCCLA Center in Covington. The Discovery Conference is designed for middle school students and allows them to meet other members from across the state and get excited about the opportunities that FFA has to offer.

At the conference, FFA members were challenged to expand their comfort zones, set goals, and realize the importance of agriculture in today's world. Members learned about the history of the FFA, took part in an FFA quiz competition and met with nearly 300 members from across the state of Georgia. The Georgia state FFA officer team presented the conference and said they worked to show young agricultural education students the many benefits of becoming a member of the FFA.



"The Discovery Conference is an amazing opportunity for young FFA members," said State FFA Secretary, Ian Bennett. "The conference provides an engaging, interactive experience for students that attend, and we hope it will ignite their involvement in the FFA throughout middle and high school."

Those Jefferson Middle FFA members attending the conference included: Katherine Law, Alexia Escobedo, Emily Edwards, Bracey Courchaine, Kaytee Lee, Jacob Price, and Logan Griffin.

With more than 38,000 members, the Georgia FFA Association is the third largest state association in the nation. The mission of the FFA organization is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.





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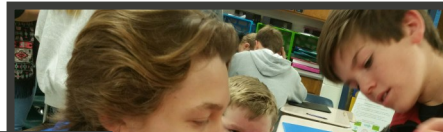
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Ag In Action: What AG-xactly are we learning in JMS Agriculture class?

6th and 7th grades...

learned about Georgia agriculture, agriculture products (and had an awesome day playing Minute To Win It: Ag Edition), and explored the National FFA Organization. 6th grade has moved on to learning about plants while 7th grade is reviewing the methods of science and kicking off their agricultural innovations project (Shark Tank: Ag Edition).



8th grade...

explored the National FFA Organization, wrapped up their agricultural innovations project (Shark Tank: Ag Edition), and has begun learning about plant science and horticulture.





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Summer Leadership Camp

May 30– June 3, 2016



What is FFA-FCCLA Summer Leadership Camp?

Summer Leadership Camp is a week-long camp for FFA and FCCLA students from all over Georgia. The purpose of the week is to have fun while building leadership and teambuilding skills. Activities include competitions, dances, ropes course, assemblies, talent shows, free recreation, leadership training, and much more! Summer Camp is held at the Georgia FFA-FCCLA Center in Covington. Food and lodging are included in the registration fee as well as a camp shirt. **For more information you can visit the Website at www.GeorgiaSLC.org and see pictures and updates at facebook.com/GeorgiaSLC.**

This is a chance for your student to build relationships, develop teamwork and leadership attributes, and have a great time! I encourage you to support your student to commit to attending Summer Leadership Camp.

All forms should be turned in along with the registration fee of **\$80 by February 17th**. *The total cost of FFA Camp is \$170. This includes lodging, camp t-shirt, and all meals. The remaining balance of \$90 will be due on May 18th. There will be NO refunds once a student has paid his or her deposit.*



Georgia FFA State Convention

April 28-30, 2016

Macon Centreplex

The Georgia FFA State Convention is a leadership conference where students hear from powerful motivational speakers and members and leaders are recognized for their achievements. JMS will be recognized for our new chapter charter and as a 100% membership chapter. There are over 6,000 FFA members, advisors, and guests in attendance each year. It is held at the Macon Centreplex/Coliseum.

We will leave with JHS FFA on Thursday the 28th, stay in a hotel on Thursday and Friday night, and return on Saturday evening.

JMS FFA members who wish to go will need complete FFA Official Dress for the convention session. Information on ordering an FFA jacket, tie, or scarf was emailed to FFA members.

The total cost will be \$100. This includes a convention t-shirt, hotel, and registration for the convention. A \$50 deposit is due on March 30th. Spots for State Convention are limited, so please see Mrs. Brown early if you plan to attend.



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FEBRUARY

What Ag-xactly is happening in February...

- 8- am/pm CDE practice
- 9- am CDE practice
 - FFA picture for the yearbook
 - Ag Mechanics, Wildlife, and Poultry Contests @ Banks County High
- 10- am/pm CDE practice
- 11- am/pm CDE practice
- 12- No School
 - County Hog and Steer Show @ Jackson County High
- 13- Jackson County Cattlemen's Show @ Jackson County High
- 15- No School
 - Jefferson City Hog and Cattle Show @ Ag Barn @ 6 pm
- 16- am/pm CDE practice
- 17- FFA Summer Camp Deposit & Forms due (\$80)
 - am CDE practice
 - officer meeting until 5:00 pm
- 18- am/pm CDE practice
- 19- am CDE practice
- 22- FFA WEEK
 - am CDE practice
- 23- FFA WEEK
 - am CDE practice
 - FFA Meeting after school until 5 pm
- 24- FFA WEEK
 - after school with PLUS Program (not definite yet)
- 25- FFA WEEK
 - am CDE practice
 - Creed and Public Speaking CDE @ Madison County High
- 26- FFA WEEK
 - FFA Challenges in Ag Classes
 - Blue and Gold Day
- 29- am/pm CDE practice





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JMS FFA T-shirt: Designed by

Christy Page at Goofball Graphics

T-shirts are available for \$10

Contact Mrs. Brown to order yours!

How to join JMS FFA:

**Bring a completed
membership form AND
\$25 cash or check
to Mrs. Taylor Brown.**

Your \$25 includes a JMS FFA t-shirt, a subscription to the New Horizons FFA magazine, and your local, state, & national membership dues.

Jefferson City FFA Alumni



From NationalFFA.org: Agriculture teachers rely on FFA Alumni to help them get more support from the community for their agriculture programs and to give them more time and freedom to do what they do best - teach kids. FFA relies on alumni members for help with recruiting students and raising funds for chapter activities and scholarships. FFA Alumni also assist at FFA camps and conferences, the National FFA Convention & Expo and other personal development programs. Through their commitment to FFA and agricultural education, FFA Alumni help guide the students in their communities down the path to success.

Jefferson City FFA Alumni meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Jefferson Livestock Barn. Annual dues are \$20.

JMS FFA

Monthly Activities, CDEs, & Dates

Month	Meetings & Dates	Activities & Dates	CDE (Contest) Dates
August	Water Wars- 13 -after school until 5:00 pm -water games (bring a towel) -Guest Speaker- FFA Officer -CDE sign-ups Living to Serve project -Help JHS with Jackson EMC BBQ	State Floral Design training- 15-16 North Region Rally forms & payment (\$40) due- 21	
September	Fall into FFA: Goin' Showin'- 15 -after school until 5:00 pm -learn about exhibiting livestock and enjoy a pancake supper Living to Serve project -livestock facility clean-up	FFA Officer applications due- 4 FFA Officer interviews- 9 North Region Rally- 10-11 Georgia National Fair Projects due to Brown- 21 FFA Day at the Fair forms & payment due- 25	CDEs- 24 - Jr. Land Judging - Jr. Meats Judging FFA
October	Ag Olympics- 22 -after school until 5:00 pm Living to Serve project -letters to military- Big Thank You	Jefferson Invitational Hog Show- 3 National FFA Convention- 27-31	CDEs-1 - FFA Quiz - Jr. Environmental Nat Resources - Jr. Floral Design
November	FFamily Supper- 19 -6:00-7:00 pm -Potluck supper with family & community Living to Serve project -thank you letters to supporters & leaders	Livestock Judging Clinic- 6	CDEs- 10 - Jr. Floriculture
December	Ugly Sweater Christmas Party- 10 -after school until 5:00 pm Living to Serve project -floral arrangements for elderly	Discovery Conference forms & payment (\$45) due- 11	CDEs- 8 - Jr. Livestock Judging State CDE Day- 5 -Jr. Dairy Judging in Tifton- 5
January	"Souper" Game Night- 26 -after school until 5:00 -chili /soup meal and games Living to Serve project -livestock facility clean-up	FFA Camp Info State Convention Info Discovery Conference- 21-22	Jr. Wildlife Training- 28
February	Fall in Love with FFA-23 -after school until 5:00 pm -nacho bar for supper -team building and leadership games Living to Serve project -ag awareness at elementary school	FFA Camp forms & first payment (\$70) due- 19 FFA Week activities- 22-26 -Living to Serve project -Faculty & Staff, Bus Drivers, BOE, etc Appreciation -Ag Education activity -Member meeting- 23	State CDE Day- 2 CDEs- 9 -Jr. Ag Mechanics -Jr. Poultry Judging -Jr. Wildlife CDEs- 25 -Prelim Jr. Prep Public Speaking -Prelim Creed Speaking
March	Movie Night- 7 -after school until 5:30 pm -pizza, popcorn, and a movie Living to Serve project -canned food drive for State Convention	Officer Books due to Region- 10 Agriscience Project Reports due to Brown- 8 State Convention forms & first payment (\$50) due- 11 Agriscience Fair (local)- 22 Middle School Record Books due to Brown- 24 Oconee Forestry Field Day- 29	CDEs- 3 -Finals Jr. Creed Speaking -Finals Jr. Prep Public Speaking -Jr. Parliamentary Procedure CDEs- 10 -Jr. Lawnmower Driving -Jr. Nursery Landscape State CDE Day- 19
April	Dodgeball Tournament- TBA Living to Serve project -canned food drive for State Convention	Middle School Record Books due to Region- 1 Agriscience Project Reports due to Region- 1 State Convention final payment (\$50) due- 15 State FFA Convention- 28-30	CDEs- 12 -Jr. Forestry State Forestry- TBA State Agriscience Fair- 28
May	Wrap Up the Year with a Splash- 10 -after school until 5:00 pm -Ag Olympics games Living to Serve project -animal shelter supplies collection	2016-17 FFA Officer Applications due- 6 2016-17 FFA Officer Elections - 10 Area II FFA Banquet- 12 FFA Camp forms & final payment (\$70) due- 13 JMS FFA Banquet- TBA	
June/July		Summer Leadership/FFA Camp Officer Training/Retreat	

*Dates for meetings are tentative and subject to change.



JMS FFA

Membership Form

\$25=

FFA dues (local, state, & national)
& a chapter t-shirt

Please return completed form & \$25 payment to Mrs. Taylor Brown

Name: _____ Grade (circle one): 6 7 8

Address: _____

Birthday: _____ Homeroom Teacher's Name: _____ T-shirt Size: _____

Student Phone Number: _____ Student Email: _____

Parent/Guardian (P/G) Name(s): _____

P/G Phone Number: _____ P/G Email: _____

FFA members can participate in as little or as much as they want! We will send monthly newsletters to members about upcoming activities.

Parents/Guardians:

- Yes No I understand that some FFA events will be held during the school day at JMS, during the school day away from school (when necessary and permission forms given), at the livestock barn, and/or after school.
- Yes No I recognize that as an FFA member my child's picture may be taken and used in the monthly newsletter, websites, social media, and/or submitted to the newspaper.
- Yes No I give permission for my child to converse with the FFA Advisor, Taylor Brown, on FFA matters through email, text messaging (when necessary) and telephone.
- Yes No I agree that I will pick my child up on time from after school events (or make proper arrangements ahead of time).
- Yes No I agree that my child may participate in FFA fundraisers and receive the benefits from them.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

FFA Members:

As a member of the JMS FFA, I agree to abide by all school rules and the FFA Code of Ethics whether I am on campus or away from school. I understand that as an FFA member I am a representative for the JMS FFA Chapter, my school, and FFA as a whole, and I will work hard to be a model FFA member.

FFA Member Signature: _____ Date: _____



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At Jefferson Middle School, we are very excited about our new Agricultural Education Program and FFA chapter. The mission of Agricultural Education is to prepare students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems. Jefferson Middle School will have an active, involved Agriculture Education Program and FFA chapter where students can grow and develop as leaders, serve the community, and learn about agriculture. The following are the program goals for the 2015-2016 school year:

- 1- To have at least 100 FFA members
- 2- To have an FFA officer team made up of at least six FFA members
- 3- To conduct a monthly Living to Serve community service project
- 4- To have members prepare for and participate in at least six FFA Career Development Events
- 5- To have ten chapter FFA meetings throughout the year
- 6- To have each student enrolled in Agriculture complete a Supervised Agricultural Experience Project
- 7- To have four students complete Middle School Supervised Agricultural Experience Record Books
- 8- To have six students attend State FFA Convention as chapter representatives and delegates
- 9- To hold a year-end awards banquet with at least 75 members, parents, and community supporters present
- 10- To have ten FFA members attend Summer Leadership Camp at the Georgia FFA-FCCLA Center

We would appreciate your support as we begin the year, charter the Jefferson Middle FFA Chapter, and work toward achieving our goals. We are asking for donations to cover the cost of chapter meetings and activities, a chapter set of FFA jackets and scarves/ties, an FFA chapter banner and officer station markers, our officer retreat and shirts, leadership award application folders and notebooks, contest materials, and other expenses are part of starting and operating a successful FFA chapter. Please consider being a sponsor. If you are interested in supporting JMS FFA financially or through the donation of supplies, please contact Mrs. Taylor Brown at Jefferson Middle School.

Cost of Needed Items

Official Dress

FFA jacket	\$50
FFA scarf	\$10.50
FFA tie	\$12.50
Chapter set of 10 jackets	\$475
<u>Chapter Materials/Activities</u>	
Chapter banner	\$99
Officer station markers	\$279-299
FFA gavel	\$39.50
Chapter scrapbook notebook	\$29.50
FFA Leadership award notebooks	\$5
FFA Award application folders	\$2
Discovery Degree pins	\$1.25
Officer pin set	\$15.50
Food & supplies for 1 chapter meeting	\$50-150
Officer training/retreat	\$250
State FFA Convention Registration	\$250
Chapter banquet plaques and awards	\$300

Career Development Event (Contest) Materials

Poultry Judging Carcass ID Cards	\$150
Poultry Judging Cuts ID Cards	\$125
Poultry Judging External Egg ID Cards	\$50
Poultry Judging Internal Egg ID Cards	\$50
Poultry Judging Products ID Cards	\$50
Forestry Tree ID Cards	\$125
Wildlife Skulls and Furs ID Cards	\$100
Wildlife Tracks and Prints ID Cards	\$100
Jr. Floriculture ID Cards	\$125
Jr. Nursery Landscape ID Cards	\$125
Floral Design practice materials	\$150
Wiring Tools ID Cards	\$50

Class Activities/Projects

Raised Bed Gardens	\$200
Shovels/rakes/garden tools	\$75
Electrical wiring labs	\$150
Floral design labs	\$400
Agriscience Fair Projects & Awards	\$200