

News & Views

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End of the Trail for the Lone Ranger

Stefan Knudsen, 2004 NAAE Summer Intern

How many times have you wanted to get your students more involved only to hear them say things like, "Somebody else will do it," or, "It's just one assignment, who cares," or perhaps, "The team doesn't need me, what good can I really do?" These attitudes of insignificance and apathy can be pretty frustrating. This summer it has been my experience that getting people to realize their role in public policy is much like getting students to realize their full potential in academics and leadership. It is when we all take responsibility in our nation's policy-making that we truly see the results that we want.

I am currently a senior at Iowa State University studying Public Service and Administration in Agriculture, and this summer my internship with the NAAE was a less traditional one. My office was located at the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. I worked with NAAE Executive Director, Jay Jackman, to lobby Congress about the Carl D. Perkins Act reauthorization, an essential program, which we all know is the primary federal funding for career and technical education, including agricultural education.

Throughout the summer my responsibilities included over 50 meetings with the offices of United States Senators and Representatives. At the beginning of almost every meeting I was asked, "What part of (enter your state name here) are you from?" I would explain that I was not from their home state, and then we would continue our meeting. They ask that question for a simple reason; because they care about the people of their districts. People like you. Why? The big reason is votes. You re-elect them when the time comes, and therefore what matters to you really does matter to them, however directly or indirectly. Since you hire them or fire them every few years, they are much more receptive to your opinions than somebody from outside their state or district. Think of a principal or administrator from another state coming into your classroom and telling you how to do your job. You can imagine how persuasive that would be!

In addition to your vote, being from their state opens up endless avenues of connections. You pay taxes in the state, perhaps you own a small business, or as an agricultural educator you might have a large impact in your community. Chances

are you both know a few of the same people! If it is a "small world after all," then think how small your state or Congressional district is. You are probably better connected than you think, and you are certainly more influential than any person from another state, regardless of how much they know about policy.

It is because you have so much more influence on your Members of Congress that often times the success or failure of important legislative battles hinge upon the ability of many individuals sending a message to their respective representatives. Contrary to popular belief, it is not

(... continued on page 2 ... see "Lone Ranger" ...)



NAAE Intern, Stefan Knudsen (right) on a Capitol Hill visit with Legislative Aide James Rice of Iowa Senator Charles Grassley's office.

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2004
NAAE Convention
December 7-11, 2004
Las Vegas, NV
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and
Las Vegas Convention Center

Ideas Unlimited

Using Technology in the Classroom

Jason Larison of Holton High School in Kansas looks forward to the day when video equipment will be used as an agricultural education tool just as easily integrated as welders, greenhouses, computers, and overhead projectors, and maybe that day isn't too far off. Last spring Larison's students developed their own recruitment video complete with interviews from present members and FFA alumni. Using the Apple software, I-movie, the students produced a finished video in DVD and VHS format that included transitions, rolling credits, and name pop-ups.

The video was such a success that Larison already has plans for all students in his horticulture class next year to make an I-movie over a plant process for the class to learn from each other. In the future Jason's students have also made plans to make an 8th grade recruitment video, a year-end report, and small videos to play on the chapter website.

For more information about this innovative idea, contact **Jason Larison**, 2003 Ideas Unlimited Region II winner, at (785) 364-2181 or by e-mail at jarison@holtonks.net. For more information about the NAAE Ideas Unlimited award program, contact the NAAE office by calling (800) 509-0204 or by sending an e-mail to NAAE@uky.edu. The Ideas Unlimited Award Program is sponsored by **Delmar Thomson Learning**.



Jason Larison, KS (right), received the 2003 NAAE Region II Ideas Unlimited Award. **Dave Rosenbaum, Delmar Thomson Learning** presented the award.

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“Lone Ranger...”

(continued from page 1)

the heroic effort of a “Lone Ranger” by which things happen, but by the unified effort of many.

This is why having an attitude of insignificance or apathy will surely squelch any hopes of reaching those legislative goals that are so important to us all, such as Perkins reauthorization. The good news is that your letters, phone calls, and e-mails are a great way to make your message known. Many times your Senator or Representative will reply to your concern. To encourage NAAE members to stay active in the public policy process, you can be sent updates about moving legislation. There is even a page in the NAAE website devoted solely to the purpose of helping you write a letter to your Members of Congress.

The responsibility to be informed and involved in our government's actions isn't just a civic duty, nor is it reserved for the elite or politically powerful. Rather it is an opportunity to make things better and to influence the decisions that shape our country. One person can do much, but they can't do it all. Remember, your biggest chance to influence America comes in November at the polls, and in the words of Andrew Lack, “Bad officials are elected by good citizens who do not vote.”

NAAE Associate Executive Director

NAAE is very pleased to introduce **Samantha Alvis** as the new NAAE Associate Executive Director. Samantha recently graduated from the University of Arizona with a Masters Degree in Agricultural Education. Samantha was a communications intern with NAAE during the summer of 2003, working with NAAE during the transition from Alexandria, Virginia to Lexington, Kentucky.

The National Council for Agricultural Education is contributing \$75,000 to NAAE this fiscal year. The Council is supporting NAAE's role in promoting the agricultural education profession nationwide with federal decision makers, agriculture-related commodity organizations, education groups, and others who support agricultural education or who need to be educated about agricultural education.

Thanks to The Council's support, NAAE has created this new associate executive director position to take on many of the day-to-day responsibilities (membership management, meeting planning, communications, and other areas) of the organization. This will allow the NAAE executive director to devote more time to advocacy for agricultural education.

We are very excited that Samantha has joined the NAAE and agricultural education team!



Samantha Alvis, NAAE Associate Executive Director

The View from My Front Porch

Jeff Maierhofer, NAAE President Elect

The view from my front porch has a different glow to it recently. Due to recent advances in technology, I can type my thoughts on this cordless laptop and then e-mail it out over the wireless Internet that now envelops this house. The indigo reflection off the white siding at night can be seen from the road and has probably left some questions in the minds of the late night travelers. I can now get my work done in the privacy of my favorite room without the threat of flying balls as Levi prepares for the big leagues. I don't have to hear The Wiggles sing about Emus or Hot Potatoes (if you haven't seen The Wiggles, you need to increase your catchy tune collection). The view looking in from my front porch at a one and one-half year old is comforting as I ponder the changing world.

I wonder what my great great grandfather would say if he knew I could chat with someone in Minnesota, send pictures to someone in Idaho, and get the weather for anywhere in the country all while sitting on the porch he built. In 1880, he would have had to travel by horse a few miles to talk to someone, he probably didn't own a camera, and just looked at the western sky for the weather report.

As I review the NAAE web page and light-seeking bugs scamper across my screen, I see reference to all the changes that are occurring now. I wonder what was it like in 1980 or 1990? What decisions did those leaders make that still affect us today? How are the changes that we are making today going to be viewed in 2020?

Whether we're visioning on the front porch or in a NAAE board room, decisions have to be made that may not be popular for all involved. I can look out now and see some Norway Spruce that my father planted along part of the field last year for a

windbreak. At the time I disagreed with him for the need or the expense and let my feelings known. In his wisdom, he said just wait, they will grow and you will see their purpose and the cost will be justified. As this board made the decision to re-merge the ACTE and NAAE conventions, we envisioned a time when all of career and technical education will have a united front, much like the protection those spruces will provide, to solicit funds and advocate a positive view of career and technical education. We knew that, just like paying taxes for the privilege of owning the land that spans before me, it would, unfortunately, come at a cost. We realize that this decision is not favorable for every individual, but we feel it's best for the agricultural education profession.

One thing that I can see clearly from the porch is the constant passion that agricultural educators have for their students, a deep concern for their profession and an appreciation for agriculture. It's that passion that shines through as a tough decision is made and evaluated. As one gentleman told me in Colorado, "We may not always agree with each other, but in this profession, we're going to leave here friends and do what it takes to make it work."

I don't hear The Wiggles any more; I better go see if Levi wants to watch another show. Oh wait, he already knows how to change the DVD.

The picket fence has been painted and ready for anybody to drive up and share some time on the porch. I'll get the beverages while you check your e-mail.



Jeff Maierhofer,
Seneca, IL, NAAE
President Elect

Teacher Spotlight

If you asked **Ray Caviness, Amy Kidd and Marguerite Field**, teachers at **Eastern Randolph High School** in Ramseur, North Carolina, what they teach, you might expect the answer to be agriculture, but the answer you would get is "students." All three would agree that the vehicle that they use to do this is agriculture, but their ultimate concern is teaching students life lessons.

Changing the program at Eastern Randolph from traditional agricultural practices to cutting edge agriscience concepts has allowed the three instructors in the program to prepare students for an active role in their local community as well as careers in agriculture. With the addition of greenhouses, a small research lab and an outdoor classroom, students are able to apply skills learned in the classroom. With the help of grants secured by the program, students will soon have the opportunity to learn about aquaculture and bioponics.

Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects add to the success of the students. Over 90 percent of the students have a project, ranging from work study experience to raising livestock and landscaping.

Eastern Randolph High School was named as the 2003 Region V Outstanding Middle/Secondary School Agricultural Education Program. The NAAE Outstanding Middle/Secondary School Agricultural Education Program Award is sponsored by **Case III**. To learn more about the program at Eastern Randolph, contact **Ray Caviness** at (336) 824-4710 or via e-mail at rcaviness@randolph.k12.nc.us.



Ray Caviness (middle), NC, received the 2003 NAAE Region III Outstanding Middle/Secondary Ag Ed Program award. **Dennis Hann, CNH**, and **Sarah Osborn Welty, 2003 NAAE President**, presented the award.

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Agricultural Education Advocacy Update

With encouragement and assistance from **The National Council for Agricultural Education**, NAAE has increased its efforts in advocating for the agricultural education profession. It is important that we recognize that "advocacy" means much more than "lobbying" decision makers for supportive legislation and funding; however, lobbying is one aspect of advocacy.

Our advocacy goal is to get our elected officials and other persons of influence to understand and appreciate agricultural education's role as one large portion of career and technical education (CTE). There are many influential persons who value agricultural education and the FFA. We must teach them that federal support for agricultural education flows through CTE and that CTE funding comes from the Perkins legislation.

In the past few months, NAAE staff and board members have had opportunities to visit personally with elected officials in the United States Congress, with national agriculture-related groups, and with groups within the agricultural education profession.

One of our many great accomplishments was working with **Senator Sam Brownback** (KS) and **Senator Larry Craig** (ID) in sending a letter to all United States Senators encouraging them to support federal funding for CTE. In that letter, the two Senators, who are both past national FFA officers, reminded their colleagues in the Senate that agricultural education is an important part of CTE.

We were also fortunate to have the opportunity to write an editorial piece for the **American Farm Bureau News**. This piece encouraged Farm Bureau members nationwide to visit with their

federal elected officials about agricultural education and its relationship with the Perkins legislation. A number of state Farm Bureau Federations picked up this piece and distributed it locally, which resulted in local press coverage of this important issue.

The National Grange has encouraged its members to get involved in advocating for agricultural education as well. The Grange will be with us at the NAAE convention in Las Vegas in December 2004 helping with an advocacy workshop.

The National Association of Wheat Growers and the National Grange have joined NAAE in signing on to the CTE Coalition Principles, a document that is shared with the U.S. Congress highlighting our goals and desires for the Perkins reauthorization.

We have also met with groups within the agricultural education profession including the National FFA Alumni State Leaders Conference, conducted a traveling advocacy seminar with graduate students from North Carolina State University, and presented to undergraduate and graduate students at other universities.

Even with the activities that the NAAE board and staff are doing now, our profession still relies on our individual NAAE members to communicate effectively with decision members. If you are not a subscriber to the U.S. Ag Ed Listserv, please subscribe now at <http://www.naae.org> and take advantage of the "Contact Congress" section of the NAAE website. The true strength of our advocacy efforts rests with each and every local agricultural educator. Please make a choice to be involved in advocating for agricultural education.



Federal Legislation Update

We are all aware that the two big issues facing us now are: 1) the **reauthorization** of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act; and 2) the federal **appropriations** for career and technical education for FY 2005. As a quick recap, the reauthorization is done every five or six years or so; however, the appropriations issue has to be addressed

every year. Given what we were hearing from the Administration regarding both the reauthorization and the FY 2005 appropriations, we've been quite concerned since February 2004 when the President's budget proposal was released.

Fortunately, the United States Congress, both the House and the Senate, have for the most part ignored the Administration's plans for career and technical education. It is great that our profession has many supporters as members of the U.S. Congress.

At the time of this writing, the House version of the Perkins reauthorization (H.R. 4496, the "Vocational and Technical Education for the Future Act") has been passed by the House subcommittee and committee and is awaiting approval by the full House. The Senate version of the Perkins reauthorization (S. 2686, the "Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2004") has been approved in committee, but full Senate action is pending. We are hopeful for movement on the Perkins reauthorization during this session of Congress.

Both the House and Senate reauthorization bills are much better than we expected given the interests of the Administration. Again, we are pleased to have many career and technical education supporters in Congress. The Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) has completed excellent summaries of the House and Senate bills. You can review these summaries at http://www.acteonline.org/policy/legislative_issues/Perkins_resources.cfm.

We are also pleased that, in spite of the Administration's request for a 25 percent cut in federal funding for career and technical education, the House has approved a \$20 million increase for Perkins programs in FY 2005. The Senate has approved level funding for Perkins programs for FY 2005. It is unclear when a conference committee will be convened on the appropriations issue or if the appropriations bill will be completed during this session of Congress. If the appropriations bill is not completed, the Congress can enact a continuing resolution (that would maintain funding at the current levels) or pass an omnibus appropriations bill that would include many of the 14 appropriations bills in one piece of legislation.

The National Grange Ag Ed and NAAE Partners

The National Grange is currently working with the National Association of Agricultural Educators (NAAE) and FFA in advocating for the reauthorization of the Perkins Act.

Last year the Grange passed a resolution at its 137th annual convention in Burlington, Vermont that supports the federal government's continued investment in career vocational-technical education by reauthorizing the Perkins Act. "With funding allocated through the Perkins Act, states are able to support programs like the FFA that are instrumental in providing students at the secondary and postsecondary levels with the required academic, technical and employability skills necessary to be successful in the workforce," National Grange Master William Steel said. "That's why it is important for the Grange to continue encouraging the federal government to strengthen this legislation."

Last April, the Grange asked its members to urge their Members of Congress to reauthorize the Perkins Act at the level of \$1.34 billion. Two months later when the H.R. 4496, the Vocational and Technical Education for the Future Act, was introduced in the House, the Grange once again encouraged its members to urge their Members of Congress to co-sponsor the legislation.

The National Grange will continue to work towards strengthening agricultural and career and technical education programs.



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Regional Updates

Region I

Greetings from Region I, I hope that your new school year has gotten off to a bang and that your year is successful. Thanks to the Nevada and Arizona Associations for hosting me at their summer conferences.

Congratulations to all the state winners in the NAAE award categories. I know that the applications are time consuming and we don't like to blow our own horns. But consider now as the time to get those filled out for next year. Many of you deserve to be Regional Winners. Get those applications filled out.

Region I will be choosing new leadership in December. My term expires as the regional VP and I have committed to run for president elect. So, we will be electing a new Secretary and a new VP. Please check the NAAE web page for the MOU that should accompany your nomination.

I hope that many of you are planning on attending the NAAE conference in Vegas December 7 thru 11 at the Riviera Hotel. The board has planned an excellent conference. The 2005 Region I conference will be held in Arizona in the last week of April. I look forward to seeing you in Louisville and/or Vegas. Remember that I am elected to follow the wishes of the membership. Feel free to contact me and visit about issues in which you are interested.

-Allan Sulser

Region IV

Greetings from Region IV. Another summer has flown by and we are back in the classrooms for another exciting year. Just as farmers are anxious to sow another crop and watch it grow in the spring, we as agricultural educators are anxious to watch our new crop of students grow each fall. We know the year will be filled with opportunities and challenges for both us and our students, but with determination and perseverance an outstanding crop will be grown. Good luck to each of you as you sow the seeds of learning in your students.

Congratulations and thank you to Kevin Kremer, Tim Niemeyer, and the Ohio Association for providing an outstanding Region IV Conference this summer in Sandusky.

Next year we will be in the Amish Country of Nappanee, Indiana. Chad Berger and company will be heading up the conference at Amish Acres on June 27 - 29.

Start making your plans to attend the 2004 NAAE Convention that will be held in Las Vegas, December 7-11. While attending, you will have the opportunity to attend joint activities with the ACTE including the trade show exhibits and legislative and advocacy workshops. NAAE will still be conducting business as usual with professional development workshops, committee meetings and business sessions, as well as recognizing our award winners. I hope to see you there.

-Harold Eckler

Region II

A big hello from Region II! We had a terrific Region II meeting in Glenwood Springs, Colorado. I very much appreciated our discussions and our thinking. I know that everyone's goal was to help make the NAAE stronger.

Go ahead and put it on your calendar - the next Region II meeting will be in Thibodeaux, Louisiana, June 19-22. The headquarters hotel is the Howard Johnson's in Thibodeaux. Our hosts have an outstanding program on tap for us, so start planning now!

This has been a busy summer for me. A tip of the cap to the teachers from New Mexico and Arkansas for the warm receptions they gave me at their summer conferences.

I look forward to seeing many of you in December at the NAAE convention. I believe that we have a great program planned for you, and I hope that you are planning to attend.

My best wishes to all as we begin another school year. I trust that your summer has been fruitful, and you are ready and raring to go to motivate your students to excellence for another year. Agricultural education is the best education program going, but we don't always tell people about it. Remember, it isn't bragging if you can back it up.

-Bill Hunter

Region V

With the days passing like the speed of light, I wonder where the summer went. I hope each of you have had a relaxing and fulfilling summer. It has been a busy one for me.

We had a great Region V Conference in Black Mountain, North Carolina. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the North Carolina delegates and Roger for the warm hospitality they showed us during the conference. Thanks to each of you that attended for the hard work and dedication you put into the work we had to do during the conference. All of you did a great job.

Please send in an ACCURATE list of officers with correct e-mail addresses after your respective conferences. I want to be able to contact you with information about our association as the need arises. As school begins and we get back to the grind, keep in mind what we are there for the education of young people in the field of agriculture, which is vital to our existence. I know getting started back is a hassle but it is worth the effort when we see the accomplishments our students make in the field.

If I may be of any assistance to you, don't hesitate to contact me any time. I will be in contact with you as we near time for our conference.

Have a great year and be safe.....

-Lee James

Region III

Greetings Region III. I am sure your summer has been full of busy days of student visits, fairs, workshops and conferences and hopefully a nice vacation with your family. I hope I don't need to remind you of the importance of taking some time and getting away from the aged world with your family to renew yourself and share time with the important people in your lives.

It was great to see many of you at the Region III Conference in Chaska, Minnesota. I would like to send a special thanks to Pam Koenen and the rest of the Minnesota Association for hosting an outstanding conference.

Next year's conference is already well organized and planned for Beulah, North Dakota, June 21-23. Please make a note of the later date for next year. Neil Halley and the North Dakota Association have several tours planned and there will be lots of activities for families. Hopefully many of you can venture to North Dakota. Watch for more details from North Dakota.

The joint NAAE/ACTE National Convention in Las Vegas is coming up fast. This conference is always full of opportunities to learn new skills, meet new friends, and renew old acquaintances. The new format will allow us to be active in two conventions in one location. We can collaborate with our CTE colleagues and still conduct our important NAAE business. I hope many of you will head west to the neon lights and excitement of Las Vegas, Dec. 7-11.

As always, if I can assist anyone or any state in any way, do not hesitate to contact me. Thanks for all you do to make Ag. Education great in your state.

-Paul Larson

Region VI

Agriculturists across the country have again this summer labored hard and dealt with many adversities to provide the food and fiber needed to support the population of this country and beyond. What an awesome responsibility and incredible career area filled with opportunities for our students! We are so fortunate to be able to prepare young people with the necessary skills needed today to accomplish this daunting task. However, we often find ourselves in a political environment that does not always recognize or understand the importance of our work.

We must remember that before others will value our work, they must first have a complete understanding of what we do, including the comprehensive goals we have for our students. It is our responsibility to provide the public and our elected representatives with an understanding of the context that each of our student activities occur. I challenge each of you to visit the NAAE website and click the link that provides direct connection to your representatives. You CAN make a difference by keeping your representatives informed about your program and the positive impacts it has on the lives of young people in your community.

It was great to see many of you at the Region VI conference in Danville, VA. Thanks to our friends from Virginia who organized an outstanding conference and showed us some real southern hospitality.

If you have not already registered for the ACTE/NAAE Convention, Dec 7-11, in Las Vegas, do it TODAY! You'll be a guaranteed winner if you take advantage of the excellent programs that are being offered.

As always, I'd be happy to support your state association's efforts in any way I can assist.

-Terry Hughes

2004 NAAE/Delmar Thomson Learning Upper Division Agricultural Education Scholarship Winners

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of **Delmar Thomson Learning**, the NAAE board of directors is pleased to introduce the following university students as the recipients of this year's Agricultural Education Upper Division Scholarships:

Debi Anne Batini – California State University, Chico
Amanda Ellen Beals – Caly Poly, San Luis Obispo
Kara Shayne Butters – Michigan State University
Jessica Dale Catlett – University of Arkansas
Elio Chiarelli, Jr. – Pennsylvania State University
Jamie Lynn Christiansen – Iowa State University
Allyson Anne Cole – University of Wyoming
Shari Jean Crawford – Texas A&M University
Christy Forkner – University of Missouri, Columbia
Lindsey Ann Hausvik – South Dakota State University
Crystal Dawn Matthews – University of Missouri, Columbia
Antoinette Lynn Saso – University of Illinois
John Matthew Simpson – Western Kentucky University
Karie Marie Smith – Oklahoma State University
Linda Kay Woods – University of Illinois

Each of these student members of NAAE received a \$750 scholarship. They will also be recognized with an award certificate at the Collegiate Student Teacher Conference and Alpha Tau Alpha Conference held in conjunction with the National FFA Convention in October 2004 in Louisville, Kentucky.

The application instructions and forms for the 2005 program will be available from the NAAE office about February 1, 2005. The deadline for submitting applications for the program will be May 15, 2005.

In addition to the Delmar Thomson Learning sponsorship, funds for this scholarship program are generated each year by a fundraising activity at the NAAE convention.



If you want to stay up-to-date with all the current information in agricultural education and NAAE, subscribe to the US Ag Ed Listserv!

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Teacher Mentor

2003 marked the second year of the NAAE Teacher Mentor Award Program sponsored by CEV Multimedia. Teacher mentors are those special experienced teachers who go the extra mile to assist early career teachers. An effective mentor/protégé relationship can be the difference in an early career teacher becoming an experienced mentor teacher himself/herself or leaving the agriculture teaching profession prematurely.

The 2003 Region III winner was **John Hobert** from Riverland Community College in Kenyon, MN. The role of being a mentor is not new to John Hobert. During 23 years of teaching at the high school level, Hobert mentored 20 student teachers from the University of Minnesota and University of Wisconsin-River Falls. In his current position at Riverland Community College, he currently works with over 140 students and farms that are enrolled in the Farm Business Management program.

Hobert, in cooperation with the University of Minnesota's agricultural education department, created the Professional Excellence Program (PEP) for beginning farm business management instructors in 2000. Through PEP, beginning teachers are mentored and prepared with the skills they need to be successful and to survive their first year on the job. In the three years of its existence, PEP has grown to be recognized as one of the premier mentoring programs in the country.

For more information about successful teacher mentoring ideas, contact John by calling (507) 789-8801 or by sending e-mail to jhobert@frontiernet.net. For more information about the NAAE Teacher Mentor award program, contact the NAAE office. **CEV Multimedia**, Lubbock, Texas, sponsors this award program.



John Hobert, MN, received the 2003 NAAE Region III Teacher Mentor award. Clayton Franklin, CEV Multimedia, presented the award.



www.cevmultimedia.com

(800) 922-9965

Florida Citrus New Freshman Scholarship Winners

NAAE is pleased to announce the 2004 class of new freshman scholarship recipients. This scholarship program is sponsored by the **Florida Department of Citrus** and **Florida Citrus Growers**. These students will be majoring in agricultural education with intentions to become agricultural educators after graduation.

This is the eighth year that this program has been sponsored by the Florida Department of Citrus. We received nearly 30 applications for these awards this year. Officials from the Florida Department of Citrus selected ten of the applicants to receive the scholarship. Each scholarship winner has been awarded a \$1,000 scholarship! Thank you, Florida Department of Citrus and Florida Citrus Growers.

Congratulations to these deserving students and their agriculture teachers!

Logan Boyd, Floyd County High School, Floyd, VA; Teachers: **Bruce Caldwell** and **Dan Hubbard**

Amanda Gamble, Parkway High School, Rockford, OH; Teacher: **Alan Post**

Jami Graham, Nelson County High School, Bardstown, KY; Teachers: **Stacy Vincent**, **Josh Mitcham** and **Daniel Mattingly**

Daniel Manzer, Northeastern High School, Winfall, NC; Teachers: **Robert Manzer** and **Edward Manzer**

Callie McIntyre, Turner Ashby High School, Dayton, VA; Teachers: **Brian Crickenberger**, **Mendy Bowman** and **Eric Fitzgerald**

Ann Ochs, East Richland High School, Olney, IL; Teachers: **Mark Steber** and **Jamie VanDyke**

Julie Roop, Catoctin High School, Thurmont, MD; Teachers: **Robert Beavan** and **Susan Trice**

Ashley Ross, Meade County High School, Ekron, KY; Teacher: **Darryl Matherly**

William Shaw, Clinton High School, Clinton, NC; Teachers: **Becky Shaw** and **Ronnie Warren**

Casey Simpson, Nettleton High School, Jonesboro, AR; Teacher: **Doug Ward**



What's New for the 2004 NAAE Convention?

Decision of the NAAE Board of Directors

At the February 2004 NAAE Board of Directors meeting, the board voted to merge the NAAE convention into the ACTE convention in years 2004 and 2005. This decision was made after much discussion and after consulting and negotiating with Jan Bray, ACTE Executive Director. The board understands that no decision regarding the future of the conventions would be pleasing to each and every member of NAAE. This is a major issue. Some NAAE members want the conventions to be together; others want the conventions to be separate. The board believes merging the conventions is the best decision for the agricultural education profession, especially given the current status of federal support for career and technical education and the importance of agricultural education maintaining its presence as a major component of career and technical education nationwide.

Program

Merging the two conventions allows NAAE members, at a registration cost of attending only one of the conventions, access to all ACTE convention programming (including three keynote speakers, ACTE breakout sessions, and the ACTE Career Tech Expo) and all NAAE convention programming (including general sessions, regional meetings, committee meetings, professional development breakout sessions, and a networking opportunity with NAAE organizational members and partners). Since NAAE already had a hotel contract at the Riviera Hotel and Casino for 2004, NAAE members will be staying at the Riviera. Some of the NAAE/ACTE Ag Ed Division sessions will be at the Riviera Hotel and other sessions will be at the Las Vegas Convention Center. The two venues are walking-distance apart. Specifics on the NAAE convention may be found on the NAAE website at <http://www.naae.org/convention/schedule.htm>. Specifics on the ACTE convention program may be found on the ACTE website at <http://www.acteonline.org/convention/index.cfm>.

Registration Process

All registration will be processed by ACTE. You can register on-line now at https://www.acteonline.org/registration/event_reg/convention-regform.cfm. It is critical that NAAE members click "Agricultural Education" under Field of Specialization on the on-line registration form. ACTE will pay a rebate to NAAE for everyone who registers under agricultural education – this is how NAAE will generate revenue to pay the expenses for the NAAE convention. ACTE is set up to process convention registration now. Register before November 1 to get the advance registration rate of \$305 (more on registration fees below). Registration after November 1 or on-site will be \$385.

Registration Fees

By registering for the ACTE convention, members will have access to all programming for the ACTE convention and NAAE convention. There will not be separate fees for the two meetings. For the 2004 convention, everyone who registers as an Ag Ed Division person (for the NAAE/ACTE combined conventions) will be eligible for the ACTE member rate (even non-ACTE members). However, for the 2005 convention, ACTE will honor the member registration rate only for current dues-paid ACTE members.

Hotel Reservations

Hotel reservations must be made at the Riviera Hotel and Casino by calling (800)634-6753 or (702)794-9412 and making reservations for the NAAE CONVENTION. It is important that NAAE members use the Riviera and book their rooms under the NAAE block to avoid attrition penalties (such as ACTE had to pay last year in Orlando). Room rates are \$79 plus taxes per night for single or double occupancy. The reservations cut-off date is November 5, 2004.



New Organizational Members

NAAE is very pleased to welcome four new Organizational Members.

Design Imaging Group

Holtsville, NY

www.designimaginggroup.com



National Grange

Washington, DC

www.nationalgrange.org



US Rubber Reclaiming

Vicksburg, MS

www.usrubberreclaiming.com



**USRUBBER
RECLAIMING**

Ward's Natural Science

West Henrietta, NY

www.wardsci.com



Be sure to go to the NAAE website at <http://www.naae.org>, click on Organizational Members, and visit the websites of all of our organizational members.

DRAFT — 2004 NAAE/ACTE Ag Ed Division Convention Schedule — DRAFT

December 7-11

Riviera Hotel and Casino and Las Vegas Convention Center — Las Vegas, Nevada

Tuesday, December 7

8:00a.m.–5:00p.m.	NAAE Board of Directors Meeting
1:00–7:00p.m.	NAAE Convention Registration
2:00–5:00p.m.	NAAE Teachers Turn the Key Professional Development Sessions I & II (by invitation only)
2:00–5:00p.m.	Optional Off-site Tours (tickets sold in advance)
6:00–9:00p.m.	NAAE Award Dinners (Outstanding Middle/Secondary School Program, Outstanding Postsecondary/Adult Program, and Outstanding Teacher – by invitation only)

Wednesday, December 8

7:00a.m.–5:00p.m.	NAAE Convention Registration
7:00–8:15a.m.	NAAE State Presidents' Breakfast (by invitation only)
8:00–9:00a.m.	NAAE Spouses' Meet-and-Greet
8:30–10:15a.m.	NAAE Regional Meetings I
10:30a.m.–12:00p.m.	NAAE Committee Meetings I
10:30a.m.–12:00p.m.	NAAE Professional Development Breakout Sessions
10:30a.m.–12:00p.m.	NAAE Teachers Turn the Key Professional Development Session III (by invitation only)
1:00–3:00p.m.	NAAE/ACTE Ag Ed Division General Session I (ACTE Reorganization Plan; Outstanding Teacher, Outstanding Middle/Secondary School Program, Outstanding Postsecondary/Adult Program, Outstanding Young Member, Ideas Unlimited Awards)
3:30–5:00p.m.	NAAE Regional Meetings II
6:00–7:00p.m.	NAAE John Deere Reception (in honor of the Outstanding Young Members)
7:00–9:30p.m.	NAAE Outstanding Young Member Award Dinner (by invitation only)

Thursday, December 9

8:00a.m.–5:00p.m.	NAAE Convention Registration
8:30–10:30a.m.	ACTE Opening General Session
10:30a.m.–12:00p.m.	ACTE Career Tech Expo (dedicated time to network with exhibitors)
1:00–4:00p.m.	ACTE Professional Development Breakout Sessions (Mega Issues—Legislation, Advocacy, etc.—and Exhibitor Workshops)
6:00–7:30p.m.	ACTE President's Reception

Friday, December 10

8:00a.m.–5:00p.m.	NAAE Convention Registration
8:30–9:30a.m.	ACTE General Session
9:45–10:45a.m.	NAAE Ideas Unlimited Exhibits at ACTE Career Tech Expo
11:15a.m.–2:00p.m.	NAAE/ACTE Ag Ed Division General Session II and Awards Luncheon (NAAE Teacher Mentor, Teachers Turn the Key, Lifetime Achievement, Outstanding Cooperation, Outstanding Service Awards, ACTE Ag Ed Division Leadership Recognition; Past National Officer Recognition; NAAE President Elect Candidate Speeches; NAAE Professional State Association and Membership Awards)
2:30–3:45p.m.	NAAE Committee Meetings II
2:30–3:45p.m.	NAAE Professional Development Breakout Sessions
4:00–5:00p.m.	NAAE Regional Meetings III
5:00–7:00p.m.	NAAE Organizational Members and Partners Reception

Saturday, December 11

8:00a.m.–2:00p.m.	NAAE Convention Registration
8:30–9:30a.m.	ACTE General Session
10:00–11:30a.m.	NAAE Professional Development Breakout Sessions
12:30–2:30p.m.	NAAE/ACTE Ag Ed Division General Session III and Business Sessions (NAAE Business Session; ACTE Ag Ed Division Business Session; NAAE Officer Elections)
3:00–4:00p.m.	NAAE Board of Directors Meeting
4:30–6:00p.m.	ACTE Assembly of Delegates
7:30–10:30p.m.	ACTE Wrap Party

2004 NAAE Convention

December 7-11, 2004

Las Vegas, Nevada

Lodging and Registration

Registration

The 2004 NAAE Convention schedule and the 2004 ACTE Convention schedule have been planned carefully such that NAAE members may attend sessions at both conventions. NAAE members will pay one registration fee and have full access to both conventions.

All registration fees for the NAAE and ACTE conventions will be processed by ACTE. You may register for the conventions now at https://www.acteonline.org/registration/event_reg/convention-regform.cfm.

IMPORTANT: It is imperative that you select "Agricultural Education (AGR/NAAE)" on Part C of the registration form. The NAAE convention registration fee will be rebated from ACTE to NAAE for all registrants who check "Agricultural Education (AGR/NAAE)" on Part C of the registration form.

Advance Registration (\$305) is open until November 1, 2004. Register NOW and save \$80 from on-site registration!

For the 2004 convention, ALL NAAE MEMBERS are eligible for the ACTE member convention registration fee rates.

Lodging

Riviera Hotel and Casino

**2901 Las Vegas Blvd. South
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109**

**\$79 per night (plus taxes)
single or double occupancy**

For Reservations:

(800) 634-6753 or (702) 794-9412

(specify National Association of Agricultural Educators Convention)

Reservations Cut-off Date: November 5, 2004

ACTE Convention — December 9-12, 2004
Las Vegas, Nevada

News & Views

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ADVOCACY FACT:

NAAE board members and staff made personal visits to over 30 offices of U.S. Senators and Representatives during the July 2004 NAAE board meeting. Have you contacted your U.S. Senators and Representative lately?

Connecticut's 2004 Teacher of the Year William P. Davenport

William P. Davenport is an agriscience teacher at Nonnewaug High School in Regional School District #14, Woodbury, where he teaches animal science, plant science and agricultural mechanics.

In his 18 years of teaching, Mr. Davenport has been the Woodbury FFA Advisor for 17 years. As the advisor to this co-curricular leadership development portion of the agriscience program, he has coached his chapter to many local, state and national awards. During his tenure he has coached 52 judging teams to state championships with over 200 individual students competing at the national level.

Go to <http://www.state.ct.us/sde/dtl/curriculum/ctoy2004.htm> for more information.

West Virginia Ag Teachers Make an Impact!

Jason Hughes, an agriculture teacher at St. Marys High School, was named West Virginia's 2005 Teacher of the Year. He will represent West Virginia in the National Teacher of the Year competition.

"As an agriculture science teacher and FFA advisor, I get the unique opportunity of having many of my students in class for up to four years," said Hughes. "Four years in the classroom and lab setting, along with countless FFA events allows my students and me to form lasting relationships."

Agricultural education was well represented with **Larry Watson**, agriculture teacher at Marion County Technical Center, also featured as one of the six finalists for the award.

NAAE Board

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Terry Hughes, Region VI VP

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Dates & Events

National FFA Convention — October 27-31 — Louisville, Kentucky

NAAE/ACTE Convention — December 7-11, 2004 — Las Vegas, Nevada