

# Young Farmers of Virginia Newsletter

Fall 2005

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Kenny and Karen Will, Jeremy Holloway and Gary Moyers work together to demonstrate how to safely extricate a "person" that has been trapped under a combine head. They used air bags to lift the combine head high enough to get the victim out. The Rockingham County Farm Extrication Team performed this demonstration during the State Field Day.



The nutrient management system at Stoney Run Dairy included this manure separator that separated the solids from the liquids for ease in spreading on fields.



T.B. Pallet Company hosted the group at their facility to show how they recycle used pallets. Here, a few Young Farmer women are admiring the colored mulch.

The **3rd Annual State Young Farmer Field Day** was held Thursday, July 28<sup>th</sup> in Southern Rockingham and Northern Augusta Counties and hosted by the Spotswood Association. Over 60 people attended. The first stop was Stoney Run Dairy Farm in McGaheysville. This 1,000 cow dairy is owned by the Smith family and they milk 23 hours a day! The family also shows at the Rockingham County Fair and grows corn, hay and small grains. They utilize a manure separator to handle animal waste. The second stop was Grottoes Pallet Company, started in 1967 by the Jim & Barbara Begoon family. Here, the pallet shop builds new pallets and delivers sawdust and pallets locally. They use a Nailer-Viking 505 machine that can build up to 2000 pallets per day using computer programming. Then, the group visited TB Pallet Company owned by Tommy and Tammy Begoon. Here the pallets are repaired and colored mulch is made from used pallets. They use 40 trailers to pick up and deliver products. Lunch was served by Log Cabin Barbeque at Grottoes Town Park. The meal was sponsored by Farm Credit. The rain held off long enough to get to the last stop at Maple Lane Dairy for a rescue demonstration by Rockingham County Farm Extrication Team. They showed first aid steps and how to handle a farm accident situation. Many thanks go out to the sponsors, bus drivers, tour hosts and Spotswood Young Farmers and Advisors for organizing this year's summer tour.

## Message from the President's Tractor Seat

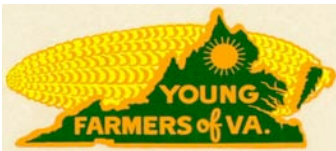


Greetings from the Young Farmers of Virginia. I literally have been sitting on my tractor seat feeding cows and finishing up field work on the farm! Our executive committee has been busy planning the 56<sup>th</sup> State Convention which will be held at the brand new Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center January 27-29, 2006 in Blacksburg, VA. Come to the state convention and enjoy this new facility. I am sure all you HOKIES will be glad to come to Blacksburg for a weekend to see all the new roads, buildings on campus and other changes. Be prepared to show your Tech spirit at the Spokesperson banquet with a surprise guest following the meal. Take an active part in the contests and awards available to our members and associations. We have great sponsorships for these awards and want to continue the successful tradition.

The Spotswood Young Farmers hosted our state tour for 2005. It was an interesting day for everyone who attended. I will be on my way to Denver, Colorado this week to serve as a delegate and attend tours at the NYFEA Institute. The Virginia group is really looking forward to the trip out West! I hope that everyone continues to have a safe and healthy year. Happy Holidays to you and your family!

-Tom Lam

Log onto  
[www.vayoungfarmer.org/](http://www.vayoungfarmer.org/)  
for up-to-date news, forms and information  
about The Young Farmers of Virginia. We  
look forward to hearing from you!



Newsletter  
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NALC REPORT:

The Bailey and Lam families traveled to Buffalo, New York July 6 – 10<sup>th</sup> for the NYFEA annual leadership conference. Tom and Craig served as delegates at the committee business session. Approximately 80 participants attended which started off with a special tour of Toronto, Canada and the CN Tower. With birth certificates in hand, we crossed the border a few times for tours and of course to spend time at the wonderful Niagara Falls. Everyone enjoyed riding the Maid of the Mist to get a close up look at the Falls. The group also toured an orchard and vineyard in Western New York. A guest speaker from the NY Farm Bureau Federation discussed current agriculture issues, especially trade policies between Canada and the U.S. The Buffalo Food Festival was also going on at this time, so that was interesting and delicious! What a great trip for the family!

A wagon ride around the NY orchard



Welcome to Canada!

The Bailey family poses at the Falls



⇒ *Join us for the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Young Farmers of Virginia Convention!* ←  
*January 27-29, 2006*

The convention will be held at the Inn at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA. Take I-81 South to the Virginia Tech/Blacksburg Exit (460 W). Get off the Prices Fork Road exit to the Inn on the right (where a golf course used to be). Young Farmers from across the State will be participating in contests, bidding on auction items, attending tours, socializing and having fun at this convention. The Spokesperson Banquet will be on Friday evening at 7:00 p.m. at the hotel. Following that banquet, everyone is invited to the hospitality suite for the President's reception.

On Saturday, there will be tours to the new state-of-the-art Virginia Tech Dairy Center and Beef Center, Vet College, Swine Center, and the new Agroforestry building. The annual business session will follow the tours along with the awards banquet at 6:30 p.m. We also plan to have a **trade show** this year set up outside the banquet hall so members can visit with supporters and sponsors. Additionally, official charter certificates will be presented to new associations.

Dr. David Kohl, agricultural economist and former professor at Virginia Tech will be part of the banquet to discuss current agricultural issues and trends. You won't want to miss his entertaining presentation. Mr. Earl Brown, a local disc jockey, will provide us with entertainment after both the live and silent auctions. Don't forget about the Agco tractor lease!

Sunday morning will begin with a breakfast buffet followed by an inspirational message and the second business session before adjournment.

**\* PLEASE REMEMBER\***

Sign up to be a State Officer Candidate or Spokesperson for Agriculture, participate in the stewardship and agribusiness contests and bring Auction Items and/or Door Prizes!

2005 NYFEA Institute “All Roads Lead to Colorado”  
December 1-3, 2005

- **Good Luck** to J. Darrell Steege from the East Augusta YFA as he competes in the AGCO Spokesperson for Agriculture Contest
- Official VA delegates will be Past President Mark Deavers and President Tom Lam
- Many others from Virginia are planning to go to participate in other contests, tours and attending banquets and receptions (to try to win that nice John Deere lawn mower tractor) in DENVER. We wish safe travel for everyone and their families!
- 2006 NYFEA Institute to be held in Columbus, Ohio and 2007 Tuscan, Arizona

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

There will be **NO** Northern Area Young Farmer Banquet this year. It is usually held the first Monday in December and several members involved with the banquet will be just getting back from the Institute, so we decided to cancel it for this year. There has been some discussion to have one in January 2006. We will keep you posted.

Plans are underway to have the *2007 State Convention* in the Lynchburg area with the help of the Liberty Young Farmer Association.

We are still looking for a **Host for the 2006 State Summer Field Day**. Please let us know if your association or area may be interested in setting up some interesting tours in July!

**Award Applications** (Corn/Soybean Growing, Outstanding Young Farmer, Agricultural Stewardship, etc.) are **DUE by FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.** They may be found on the website—[www.vayoungfarmer.org/](http://www.vayoungfarmer.org/) or in the VA Agricultural Curriculum Guide for Continuing Education. It is important to get them to Terry Lam by the deadline. You can email them to [yfv5@aol.com](mailto:yfv5@aol.com), fax them to 540-828-3287, or mail them in an envelope to P.O. Box 221 Bridgewater, VA 22812.

A **registration form** for the 2006 State Convention is enclosed in this newsletter. Be sure to stick it on the refrigerator or somewhere handy so you don't forget to register and reserve a hotel room by the **January 13<sup>th</sup> deadline**. The officers and others have put a lot of effort into making this a great convention and they would love to have you join them. Bring your friends and family!



Chris Grove and Craig Bailey visit with agriculture teachers and others at the Virginia Association of Agricultural Educators Conference held in Harrisonburg in July. Mark Deavers, Scot Lilly, and Terry Lam also helped represent the Young Farmers of Virginia at the event.