

Young Farmers of Virginia Newsletter

Summer 2005

www.vayoungfarmer.org

Volume 8, Issue 1

State Officers:

Past President:

Mark Deavers
8984 Phillips Store Rd
Broadway, VA 22815
540-833-4144

President:

Tom Lam
77 Tory Farms Lane
Bridgewater, VA 22812
540-828-3287

Vice President:

Scot Lilly
1990 Creekside Court
McGaheysville, VA 22840
540-289-6864

Secretary:

Craig Bailey
4498 Greenmount Rd
Harrisonburg, VA 22802
540-833-8315

Treasurer:

Chris Grove
1566 Moffet Branch Rd
Churchville, VA 24421
540-350-4103

Reporter:

Jon McDonald
520 Walkers Creek Rd
Rockbridge Baths, VA
24473
540-348-5485

Sergeant At Arms:

James "Lucky" Graves, Jr
970 Quaker Run Road
Syria, VA 22743
540-923-4921

Directors:

Stuart Melton, Jr.
11097 Rockville Rd.
Rockville, VA 23146
804-749-3823

Pamela Lowe
1816 Flanagan Drive
Christiansburg, VA 24073
540-382-0668



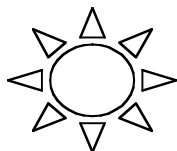
From left to right, front row:

Tom Lam, Pam Lowe, Stuart Melton, Jr., Craig Bailey

From left to right, back row:

Lucky Graves, Jon McDonald, Scot Lilly, Chris Grove, Mark Deavers

JOIN US FOR THIS YEAR'S YFV SUMMER TOUR!



A day of fun, food and fellowship



WHEN: Thursday, July 28, 2005

WHERE: Rockingham County

HOSTS: Spotswood YFA

SCHEDULE:

8:00-8:30 a.m. Registration-Spotswood High School
Route 33, East of Harrisonburg (Penn Laird, VA)

STOPS:

Grottoes Pallet, T.B. Pallet, Shreckhise Nursery, Stoney Run Farm (1,000 cow dairy farm), catered barbeque lunch at Grottoes Town Park, Maple Lane Dairy (Kegley Farm for farm extrication demonstration, first response emergency care and tour), return to Spotswood H.S. at 3:00 p.m.

Registration:

For meal planning purposes, please R.S.V.P. for the tour by emailing advisor Rebecca Begoon at rbegoon@rockingham.k12.va.us by Monday, July 25th or call Spotswood H.S. 540-289-3100 and leave a message for her.

Message from the President's Tractor Seat



Hello everyone. Mark your calendars now for the summer tour coming up on **July 28th**. Also, we are busy planning next year's State Convention to be held at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, at the brand new "Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center". The dates are January 27-29, 2006 and we are excited to have a special surprise guest joining us for Friday night's Spokesperson banquet. Congratulations to Mark Deavers on a great 2005 State Convention in Fredericksburg. On July 6th, State Secretary, Craig Bailey and I head north to Buffalo, NY for the National YF Agriculture Leadership Conference. We are looking forward to the delegate meetings, Niagara Falls and visiting Canada. If you would like any State officers to visit your Young Farmer group, please let us know. We recently purchased technology equipment with the help of Willard and Lorna Lutz from the Broadway-Timberville Association and Ralph Hall from Syngenta Corporation. Thank you so much for your support. Have a safe and relaxing summer!

-Tom Lam

National Young Farmer Educational Institute

The 2005 NYFEA Institute is only a few months away, so mark your calendar for November 30-December 3. This year's institute will be held in *Denver, Colorado*. There will be lots of exciting tours, contests, food, and a chance to meet old friends and make some new ones. If you need registration information for the convention, please email yfv5@aol.com or visit NYFEA's website.

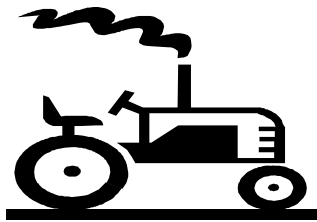


Young Farmer News
 Terry P. Lam
 P.O. Box 221
 Bridgewater, VA 22812

**Mark Deavers of Broadway
Purchases**

AGCO Tractor Lease

Mark Deavers of Deaver's Lime and Litter Company, was successful in acquiring a 200 hour or six month lease on a tractor up to 180 horsepower donated by AGCO Corporation/Web Enterprises of Dayton, Virginia. The Young Farmers of Virginia would like to THANK both AGCO and Web Enterprises for sponsoring this lease. It was auctioned at the State convention in Fredericksburg. The proceeds help fund the Executive Coordinator position for the Young Farmers of Virginia.



NEW ASSOCIATIONS/PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Tom Lam and Chris Grove traveled to Wytheville to meet with a prospective agriculture group and discussed becoming affiliated with the Young Farmers of Virginia. The Young Farmer group from Wilson Memorial High School was officially started this year and we welcome them and encourage the members to become involved in the State activities and opportunities.

YFV State officers will also be visible at the Virginia Agriculture Teachers Conference to be held in Harrisonburg on July 12. The new display and other information will be available to new and veteran agriculture educators from around the Commonwealth!

President, Tom Lam will be greeting State FFA Degree recipients at the annual FFA convention, Wednesday, June 29 and inviting them to join the Young Farmers of Virginia They will receive their first year of membership FREE!!

Soybean Growing, Corn Silage, and Corn Growing Awards:

With the planting season behind us and the harvesting season not too far off, it is time to START filling out a State Young Farmer award application! We have some generous sponsors for our awards and would like to see a competitive contest. Maybe even schedule a work night for these applications at a monthly meeting this year so your advisor and an extension agent can help you complete them. Also, don't forget to start researching information for your speech in the Spokesperson For Agriculture Contest. Give it a try...it would be great to have several participants next year at the contest to be held in Blacksburg!

Completed award applications will be due by Friday, December 9, 2005

Scot Lilly announces the results of the 2005 Spokesperson for Agriculture Contest.



J. Darrell Steege of the East Augusta Association placed first in the Spokesperson for Agriculture Contest and will present his speech "Food for Thought" to judges at the NYFEA Institute in Denver, Colorado this fall. Thank you to Houff's Feed and Fertilizer for sponsoring this award.

2004 Outstanding Agribusiness Person Award



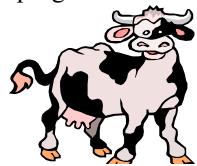
Dwight Wm. Newman from the Spotswood Association earned a plaque and \$200 from the Virginia Council of Farmer Cooperatives for completing his application to win the State Agribusiness award.



What are other Young Farmer Associations doing?

On April 2nd, the Rockbridge Association held a *Progressive Farmer* Safety Day Camp at the Virginia Horse Center in Lexington. *Progressive Farmer* and other National companies have sponsored this event in communities across the U.S. and Canada for the past ten years. They hold training sessions for the camps at various locations around the U.S.. They then provide all camps with a commemorative T-shirt, goody bag and items to put in the bag. Local businesses donated both monetarily and gave specific items for the goody bags. The Virginia Horse Center donated the facility and Leisure Time Food catered the event. Eighty youth and adults participated in the twenty different areas of farm safety. These areas included ATV, tractor, fire, electrical, food, bike, chemical, chain saw, small animal, PTO, tractor rollover and many more. Over seventy-five people donated their time and expertise to help make the camp a success. The Rockbridge Young Farmers planned the entire camp. Our main goal was to educate not only “farm kids”, but urban kids as well. Ann Smith, an active member, says “We feel if we can save one person from getting injured, we will have done our job.” Planning is already underway to host the camp again next year. Come and learn about safety in a fun and positive way!

On February 18th, the Rockingham County Young Farmers in conjunction with the Cooperative Extension Service hosted a *Winter Seminar* at Evers Family Restaurant in Mount Crawford. It is an annual event and open to the public. Many local high school agriculture students were in attendance. The program began at 10:00 a.m. with “**Farm Transition and Planning**” by Alex White (Agriculture and Applied Economics Department) from Virginia Tech. He emphasized sitting down and asking the ‘tough’ questions to help farm families plan for the future. Steve Hopkins, the extension agent in Orange County, then presented an informative **livestock identification update**, emphasizing everyone to start getting a ‘Premise I.D.’. A dutch treat lunch followed. The next presentation was given by Eric Bendfeldt, Rockingham extension agent and seminar facilitator, about the local “**Produce Auction Development and Update.**” Finally, an entertaining Jesse Richardson from the School of Public and International Affairs at Virginia Tech discussed “**Farmland Preservation and Development Rights**” which is a hot topic in many areas of Commonwealth right now. The day wrapped up at 2:30 p.m. with several questions for the speakers. *Thank you* to Farm Credit for donating the juice, coffee, and pastries for the morning registration time and Ed Long, Jr., Rockingham County Young Farmer coordinator and everyone else involved in the planning of this educational program!



On April 4th, the Floyd County Young Farmers Association hosted the **17th Annual Farm Show**. This was the first year it was co-hosted by the FFA. It took place from 6 to 9:00 p.m. in the Floyd County High School gym. There were thirty farm related exhibitors representing farm machinery, animal health supplies, farm trucks, seed, hardware, financial representatives, fencing, tires, feed, A.I. supplies, insurance, farm buildings, ATVs, and dairy equipment. The *Young Farmers of Virginia* booth also made the trip to Floyd County. Over 300 people, including the general public, attended the show, making it one of the largest single day shows in Virginia. If you want more information about how to be a part of this farm show, contact Young Farmer advisor, Bruce Caldwell at 540-745-9450.