



2006-2007



ILLINOIS FFA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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**2006-2007
Illinois FFA Alumni
Executive Council**

President:

Dean Olson
22236 Grange Rd.
Geneseo, IL 61254
(H) (309) 944-4472
(F) (309) 944-4472

olsonacres@geneseo.net

Vice President:

Jim McCray
604 N 1600 East Rd.
Claytonville, IL 60926
(H) (815) 457-2209
(C) (815) 258-4011
(F) (815) 457-3345

jmccray@illicom.net

Secretary:

Sally Kittinger
3305 Cottonwood Rd.
Eldorado, IL 62930
(H) (618) 273-7127
(F) (618) 273-6911

sally729@yahoo.com

Treasurer:

Bill Brown
150 Ande Road
Eldorado, IL 62930
(C) (618) 926-9200

Reporter:

James Shelby
16530 East Knox Rd.
Mt. Vernon, IL 62864
(H) (618) 755-4352
(C) (618) 214-8914

jshelby92000@yahoo.com

District I Director:

Pat Hennenfent
2260 Knox Road 600 East
Wataga, IL 61488
(H) (309) 375-6111
(C) (309) 368-0747

khennenfent@grics.net

District I Director:

Loran Wilken
9441 North Adeline Road
Leaf River, IL 61047
(H) (815) 938-9039
(C) (815) 541-2986

diamondauto@frontiernet.net

2005-2006 Annual Meeting January 27-28, 2006 Northfield Inn, Springfield, IL

This year's annual meeting was one of the most successful in recent history. Money raised through the silent and live auctions, added with outright donations totaled \$ 20,479 which is a conference record for our annual scholarship fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who either purchased items or donated money for our youth. Also, the council appreciates every person or company who donated items that were sold in the auction this year.

Attendees at this year's conference enjoyed the entertainment of the country group "Me Too". Chapters and Individuals were recognized for their accomplishments and service to our youth. Jay Runner hosted a Community Action Workshop about Advocating for Agriculture Education through contacting your legislators. Meredith Byers presented information on A+ Illinois. Members then met in District Caucuses discussing local concerns and voted on District Directors and Section Chairmen. Then the voting members present selected the 2006-2007 Officer Team.

The Illinois FFA Alumni Council extends it's deep gratitude to Ron Byers who has served us greatly for so many years. Ron, you have been a great servant and an excellent leader. Your presence on the council will always be remembered and we will try our best to live up to your example. Thank you!

The following chapters were recognized:
New Charters: Galatia, Greenfield, Okawville, Pontiac, VIT, and Orangeville. **Most New Members:** ROWVA – 41, Hamilton County – 19, Kansas – 17, Central of Clifton – 14, and Waterloo – 14. **Most New Life Members:** Orion – 10, Forreston – 5, Mount Vernon – 5, Morton – 5, Normal – 3, Leroy – 3, Wayne City – 3, and West Richland – 3. **Largest Affiliates:** Leroy – 130, Roseville – 128, Normal – 116, Waterloo – 106, and Woodland – 93. (Continued Next Page)

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District II Director

John Riordan
117 South Shelly
Reddick, IL 60961
(H) (815) 365-4593
(C) (815) 545-9324

District II Director

Dean Kregel
1449 East 1000 North Road
Milford, IL 60953
(H) (815) 457-2017
(C) (217) 304-0118

District III Director

Dick Myers
1210 Harrison Plaza
Quincy, IL 62305
(H) (217) 222-2482

sdmyers@adams.net

District III Director

Bill Crone
63 Holiday Lane
Riverton, IL 62561
(H) (217) 415-7483

District IV Director

Jaye Snyder
26789 North 1150th Street
Chrisman, IL 61924
(H) (217) 269-3005
(C) (217) 822-7726

jsnyder2@stu.parkland.edu

District IV Director

Lynn Rohrscheib
Fairmount, IL 61841
(H) (217) 896-2040
(C) (217) 369-1965

farmin-83@yahoo.com

District V Director

Ted Hughes
Route 1 Box 76
Cisne, IL 62823
(H) (618) 835-2531

District V Director

Steve Yandell
9235 US Highway 45. N
Tunnel Hill, IL 62972
(618) 658-9270

yfour@accessus.net

Annual Meeting Continued...

One for One Chapters: Bushnell-Prairie City, Clinton, Geneseo, Heartland, LeRoy, Mendota, Morton, Pecatonica, Rockridge, Roseville, Tri-Point, Union, and Woodland. **Outstanding/Pioneer Affiliate:** Bushnell-Prairie City – Gold, Mount Vernon – Silver, Leroy – Silver, Seneca – Bronze, and Prairie Central – Bronze.

ATV RAFFLE

The Illinois FFA Alumni has proudly arranged with Bombardier to raffle off an ATV this year to be given away on Thursday June 15 at the State FFA Convention.

The ATV this year is a 400 Hi Output X-T. The winning ticket buyer will have his/her choice of color with choices of Red, Yellow, or Green. The donation for the tickets is \$5.00 per ticket or 3 for \$10.00. 40% of the money raised goes back to the local chapters. The rest of the money goes in to the Illinois FFA Alumni's General Fund. The 2005 Arctic Cat brought in \$31,000!!!

For additional information or tickets, you may contact Jan at the FFA Center (217/753-3328) or Jim McCray (217/258-4011).

“SPREAD THE WORD”

As State Reporter, it is a pleasure to serve by keeping the local affiliate members informed. That being said, I would appreciate receiving your local news. Articles and photos can be sent to:

James Shelby
16530 East Knox Road
Mount Vernon, IL 62864
jshelby92000@yahoo.com

All articles will be reviewed and edited at the council's and my discretion. Please include a contact person and phone or email address. The following are the article submission deadlines.

April 30th for the May newsletter
July 31st for the August newsletter
October 31st for the November newsletter

Please get in those articles.

Developing FFA Members' Potential by James Shelby—*Illinois FFA Alumni Reporter*

Dr. Myles Monroe said that “Leadership is the capacity to influence others through inspiration motivated by a passion, generated by a vision, produced by a conviction, ignited by a purpose.” It was awesome to see one of our Alumni members' years ago team up with a couple of State FFA officers as they traveled around the Mount Vernon area to inform the local businesses about the FFA Foundation. As an Alumni member, it feels great to know I can make an impact. One of our FFA members told me that she always was encouraged by the letters I would write to her. We as Alumni should always be excited to bear the burdens of our Agriculture Programs through judging contests, chaperoning events, and advocating for our programs. The work you put in at bake sales, scholarship barbecues, livestock fairs, and annual banquets is not in vain. You are impacting tomorrow's leaders with your passion today. THANK YOU!!!