



# Elmwood FFA Newsletter

## FFA Hosts Fall Festival for Elementary Students

### Elmwood FFA:

- Celebrating 60 years of our FFA Chapter!
- Be sure to check out Facebook and Twitter for updates on FFA events and classroom activities.
- Save the Date: 2020 Annual FFA Banquet is April 18th, 2020!

When the boys drive tractors to school and nearly everyone is out of class, it means that it's one of two days: Fall Festival or FFA Week. Friday, September 27th was the annual Fall Festival hosted by the FFA members for the entire elementary school. Elementary students, ranging from Kindergarten to fourth graders, participated in a variety of fun, yet educational, planned activities.



Picture: Noah Veryser (left) and Nathan Abke (right) conducted a station on Quail. They explained the differences between male and female birds along with how the Bobwhite Quail got its name.

This year, the FFA took a more educational approach and focused on teaching third and fourth graders more about agricultural sciences, while the younger elementary students, spent most of their time enjoying petting and learning about the livestock animals. Although the event only took place over one day, all those attempting to organize the day had spent many hours beforehand preparing. Not only high school students, but also those in the community, like the Portage Valley Gleaners and Wood Soil and Water Conservation District contributed with activities for young kids.

Students were able to learn about soil erosion through a hands on lab,

discover different animal behaviors, characteristics and even were able pet different animals such as draft horses, rabbits, beef and dairy cattle, and even quail. A station was also set up with a tractor to teach the kids about harvesting and how a combine works along with key tractor safety information.

Students also had the opportunity to make their very own ice cream with a friend of their choice using

minimal ingredients. Students had to shake a bag with ice cubes in it with another bag inside that had all the ingredients in it. When the ice cream thickened up that was an indicator that it was ready to eat. As expected the Fall Festival was an enormous success! Even though it's put on for elementary kids, it's no secret that high school kids have just as much fun hosting this for the elementary kids.

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Senior, Savanna Walter is ribboning subsoil to determine the soil texture and characteristics for the soil site.

## Soil Judging Success

The Elmwood FFA recently sent a rural and urban soil judging team to the Wood County Soil Judging Contest. The rural soil judging team placed 1st in the county with Zane Hagemeyer, Anthony Wise, and Zach George placing in the top for our chapter. The urban soil judging team placed 2nd with Savanna Walter, Garrett Ziegler, and Anna Meyer placing in the top on our team. At the District 1 soil judging CDE the Rural team took 3rd

overall with Anthony Wise, Adam Meyer, Zane Hagemeyer, and Zach George leading the team. The urban team placed fifth overall at the district level. Leading the team were Savanna Walter, Anna Meyer, Garrett Ziegler, and DeAnn Chamberlain. The urban and rural teams both advanced to the State level.

## FFA Members Earn Chapter FFA Degree's



Members who attended the Wood County Chapter FFA Degree Ceremony:

Pictured are: Back Row (left to right), Tyler Shaffer, Jacob Carpenter, Nathan Abke, and Devan Lloyd.

Front Row (left to right), Jaylin Dilsaver, Machenzie Maraches, and Riley Olea.

Elmwood FFA members recently traveled to Otsego High School to receive their Chapter FFA Degrees on September 30th. Otsego hosted a ceremony for second year FFA members in Wood County that met all requirements to receive this degree.

The chapter degree is

the second degree that an FFA member can obtain. In order to receive this degree, members must be enrolled in their second year of Agricultural Education, have completed at least 10 hours of community service, and be actively working on an approved Supervised Agricultural Experience Project.

The Elmwood FFA members that earned this degree were Nathan Abke, Jonathon Bodner, Madisen Boyer, Jacob Carpenter, Tyler Cleaves, Jaylin Dilsaver, Eli Fouty, Erin Harris, Jade Hathaway, Devan Lloyd, Machenzie Maraches, Riley Olea, Tyler Shaffer, Aaron Smith, Dakota Smith, Grace Tienarend, and Ashley Walter.

## Member of the Month

The Member of the Month award is given to an FFA member who goes above and beyond during a specific month. The nominations are made by the Elmwood FFA Officer Team and then voted on by the

members at the monthly meeting.

This year's Member of the Month:

1. Summer of 2019: Devan Lloyd
2. October 2019: Noah Veryser

3. November 2019: DeAnn Chamberlain

Congratulations to these members for being recognized for their outstanding work!

## State Parliamentary Procedure C.D.E.

The Elmwood FFA had another successful year in its Parliamentary Procedure Career Development Event where they competed at the county level and advanced to the district contest. The road to the state contest began all the way back in the beginning of September when both teams began practicing. Each team would hold practices two times a week before school and even had some evening practices. The initial contest occurred at Eastwood High School where both teams participated in the Wood County Parliamentary Procedure Contest and they both placed 1<sup>st</sup>. They traveled to Northwest State Community College for the district contest on Thursday, December 5, 2019, resulting in victory. The advanced team composed of members: Savanna Walter, Anthony Wise, Noah Veryser,

Zach George, Zane Hagemeyer, and Grace Tienarend were successful and placed 1<sup>st</sup> overall, which advanced them to the state contest. The novice team, made up of only freshmen, had members: Tanner Pennington, Anthony Veryser, Madison Feehan, Anna Meyer, Adam Meyer, Thomas Veryser, Gregory Wise, Cara Frank, and Garrett Ziegler. They placed 1<sup>st</sup> as well, which means they also advanced forward. At the state Novice Parli Pro contest on Saturday, December 14th, the Novice team placed 4<sup>th</sup> in their room in the Preliminary Round. At the state Novice Parli Pro contest on Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, the Advanced team placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in their room in the Preliminary Round.

Initially at the state contest both teams compet-

ed in the preliminary round in the morning. With that portion of the state contest, the top 20 teams are divided into one of five rooms. There, each team performs a meeting demonstration with given requirements, answers oral questions on parliamentary procedure at the conclusion of their meeting, and each member takes a "Roberts Rules of Order" Reference Test. In addition to this, teams had to take an online test about parliamentary law prior to the state contest. The scores from the online test are also factored into the final scores in the preliminary and final round. The winning team from each room advances on to the finals portion of the state contest. Congratulations to both teams, for they all have put in numerous hours of hard work and dedication.



**Novice Parliamentary Procedure Team members: Back Row (Left to Right) Thomas Veryser, Garrett Ziegler, Tanner Pennington, Gregory Wise, Adam Meyer, and Anthony Veryser. Front Row (Left to Right) Cara Frank, Madison Feehan, and Anna Meyer.**



**Advanced Parliamentary Procedure Team members: Back Row (Left to Right) Zane Hagemeyer, Zach George, Anthony Wise, and Noah Veryser. Front Row (Left to Right) Grace Tienarend and Savanna Walter.**

## FFA Members Attend Ohio FFA State Leadership Night

On Monday, November 25, 2019, the Elmwood FFA chapter developed their leadership and teamwork skills at the Ohio FFA Leadership Night hosted by Bowling Green FFA. Over 15 FFA members attended this workshop where they were able to gain life skills that may be used

in their everyday life. With help from the state officers, FFA members learned they are capable of making choices to increase and build their own potential, and increase knowledge of leadership. All of those who attended left with a positive attitude and overall better under-

standing of personal self worth. FFA members grow everyday into smarter, more knowledgeable leaders, and with the help other members in FFA they can increase their potential.



**Members enjoyed the evening practicing their teamwork skills and learning how to be better leaders within our FFA chapter and the community.**



Freshmen, Uriah Miller is helping load up a cart full of food, toiletries, laundry soap, etc. to take to the families cars in the school parking lot.

## Elmwood Local Schools Holiday Food Drive

The annual food drive conducted by the school proved to be successful yet again as 25 different families were able to take part in the event. Many organizations and individuals contributed towards the activity and provided an array of food items, health products, household goods, and miscellaneous entities. The families picked up their items on Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 4:00pm -6:00pm. Over 2 dozen

people helped separate, sort, and package all of the items for each family. Many thanks go out to those who aided in the Food Drive. A huge thank you to all those who help with this project: High School Student Council, Middle School Student Council, Elementary Student Council, The Portage Gleaners, Elementary PTO, Elmwood Administrative Council, Faith United Methodist Church, Elmwood FFA, Lloyd Miller Foundation, and numerous staff

members. The sorting of the goods took lots of time and was conducted by High School Student Council members and High School Art Club members along with their advisors. On top of the items collected, over \$1000 in cash donations were received and aided in the securement of additional items for each family. It is the wishes of the school that each family had a joyful holiday season.

## Members Compete in Job Interview C.D.E.



Job Interview Participants: from Left to Right, Sophie Piper, Jaylin Dilsaver, Madison Feehan, Savanna Walter, Erin Harris, and Keirsen Hummel.

Throughout the year several contests arise in the FFA. One contest that takes skills in leadership, communication, and determination, is the job interview contest. This year several students participated in the county contest. For the freshmen division: Sophie Piper and Madison Feehan, sophomore

division: Erin Harris and Jaylin Dilsaver, and the senior division: Savanna Walter. At the contest each student must fill out a job application and go through a mock interview, after the interview they type up a follow up letter. Prior to the contest each student must submit a completed cover letter and resume.

Congratulations to all participants! This contest is not simple and requires a lot of work and practice. This year we had two students advance to district contest. Those students were Savanna Walter and Erin Harris who both placed second in county contest. Congratulations!

## Classroom News: Senior Ag. Capstone Class

During the last few weeks of school before Winter Break, the Capstone students have been trying out our new woodworking tool to make wooden bowls. These students are learning new shop skills

and are excited for the final products. Stay tuned to our Facebook and Twitter pages for their final projects!

## Annual Fruit Sale Fundraiser

The largest and only chapter fundraiser of citrus along with the sale of Apples from Moore's Orchard, Ohio Signature Beef, Florida's Best Nuts, DB Yummers BBQ Sauce, and Pure New York Maple Syrup occurred in December. Each member is asked to sell fruit and other products in October through early November. Once all the members' orders are totaled, a chapter order is placed with the delivery of products in early December. When the prod-

ucts are delivered, members spend class time hand making all Apple-Citrus Mixes and Bushel and Peck Baskets. Once those are made students pick up their orders and begin the delivery process! This year, the chapter reached its sales goals, which every chapter member had a part in it! At the conclusion of the sale, the chapter made donations to three local charities that helped families within our local communities. The chapter will use the money raised

to help students attend leadership trainings, conduct community service activities, and special projects for the chapter.

A huge THANK YOU to everyone who purchased fruit sale products from our FFA members! We appreciate your continuous support of our members and our chapter. Thank you for helping us make a positive difference in the school, community, and our FFA chapter!



Members are hand making the Apple-Citrus Mixes and the Bushel and Peck Baskets for our customers.

## Classroom News: Ag., Food, and Natural Resources (AFNR)

The students in AFNR completed a new project for our FFA Chapter this year! While students were learning about the FFA Organization they were given the "FFA Emblem Project". Students had to create an FFA Emblem with the following requirements:

1. Must include ALL parts of the emblem
2. Half of it must be 3-D
3. Needs to be creative
4. You CANNOT pay anyone to do the project for you (this includes your parents too)
5. You CANNOT purchase the finished product from someone else or another business
6. Must explain all parts of the emblem on the

due date.

Students set the bar high with their creativity, artistic and baking abilities! Be sure to check out the showcase outside the Ag. Department where their projects are being displayed! Also check out our Facebook page for pictures of all their projects!




# Thank You!

## For supporting the Annual Elmwood FFA Fruit Sale!

This fundraiser allows us to make a positive impact in our community, school and chapter. We appreciate your







## Benschoter and Kreais Earn American FFA Degree



Colleen Kreais and Mason Benschoter proudly displaying their American FFA Degrees.

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 Elmwood FFA members Mason Benschoter and Colleen Kreais received the American FFA Degree.

In order to achieve the American FFA Degree, FFA members must be at least 12 months removed from high school, must have completed numerous FFA and Community Service activities, and must have earned a minimum of \$10,000 from their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects. Less than 1% of FFA members receive this degree, the highest a

member can earn.

**Benschoter** is the son of Rex and Annette Benschoter. His SAE consisted of working for Miller Dairy Farm. Mason participated in FFA CDE's such as Soil Judging, Dairy Cattle Judging and , Ag. Mechanics. He has served as the 2017-2018 Elmwood FFA president his senior year. Mason attends The Ohio State University- Agricultural Technical Institute majoring in Animal Science.

**Kreais** is the daughter of Michael and Doreen

Kreais. Her SAE consisted of working for Bur-Lee Racing where her main responsibilities were to care for and help train race horses. Colleen was a very active FFA member; She participated in numerous CDEs, including Parliamentary Procedure, Rural Soils, Job Interview, and Equine Judging. She served as the 2017-2018 Elmwood FFA Vice President. Colleen attends The Ohio State University- Agricultural Technical Institute majoring in Agriculture Education.

## Members Attend the 92nd National FFA Convention and Expo



Traveling all the way to Indianapolis, the Elmwood FFA Chapter attended the 92<sup>nd</sup> National FFA Convention and Expo in October, 2019. Members who attended this transforming experience were, seniors, Zach George, Anthony Wise, Savanna Walter, Audrey Vanscoder, Noah Veryser, and Makaila Paynter and juniors, Zane Hagemeyer and DeAnn Chamberlain.

The chapter started on the journey to Indiana by attending the first session of National Convention. While attending convention members were able to visit the career show where colleges and companies set up booths that allow all members of the FFA to gain insight into

the college or job of their choice.

On Thursday we heard the retiring address from Shea Booster, National FFA Western Region Vice President. During convention sessions, the National Band, Choir and Talent Acts perform for all the attendees. Friday, we arrived at the convention center early to participate in the pre-session festivities such as mingling with various State FFA Officers, dancing and participating in FFA/Ag trivia. The FFA opening ceremonies was spoken in Spanish for the first time at National FFA Convention and we were sitting right behind the National FFA Officers for this special event. We then heard the retiring

address from Jordan Stowe, National FFA Southern Region Vice President. We finished Friday with attending the National Parliamentary Procedure Contest Finals. We saw 5 teams compete for the first place prize! Saturday morning, two Elmwood FFA members received their American FFA Degrees, those members were: Mason Benschoter and Colleen Kreais.

The 92<sup>nd</sup> National FFA Convention, held in Indianapolis, Indiana was a learning experience to Elmwood FFA members. They were educated in job careers, leadership, and character, which they will utilize for years to come.



Members enjoyed National FFA Convention! We took a few moments to capture a few group pictures! Attending leadership sessions where National FFA Officers give a retiring address was one of the highlights of the trip!



### Elmwood FFA Chapter

7650 Jerry City Road  
Bloomdale, Ohio 44817  
419-655-2583



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@ElmwoodFFA1



twitter

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@ElmwoodFFA

## Did you Know??

FFA is not just for students who want to be production farmers; FFA also welcomes members who aspire to careers as teachers, doctors, scientists, business owners and more. For this reason, the name of the organization was updated in 1988 after a vote of national convention delegates to reflect the growing diversity and new opportunities in the industry of agriculture.

**FFA Mission:** FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

### Facts:

1. National FFA Organization membership– 700,170 members in 8,612 chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.
2. 2019 National FFA Convention Attendance– 69,944
3. The National FFA Organization gives \$2.7 million in scholarships annually.
4. 2019-2020 National FFA President, Kolesen McCoy, is from Ohio!
5. There is a TV show on RFD TV called “FFA Today” that features the latest and greatest FFA stories. It airs on Saturdays at 7:30am or Sundays at 6:30pm.

## Upcoming Events and Activities

### January

16th– All State and American FFA Degree’s and Proficiency Awards Due!

22nd– Wood County Public Speaking CDE

24th– Ag. Mech. Engineering RFP Due.

27th– FFA Chapter Meeting and Recreation

27th– Elmwood FFA Alumni Meeting at 7:30pm.

28th– Ag. Power and Grain Merchandising Online Tests.

28th– All State and American Degrees, Proficiency Awards, and Officer Books DUE!

### February

10th– District Public Speaking CDE

14th– District Ag. Power CDE

22nd-29th– National FFA Week!

25th– Outdoor Power, Greenhand Quiz, and Farm Business Mgt. Online Tests.

March

2nd– District Outdoor Power and Ag. Mechanics CDE

6th– State Ag. Power CDE

7th– State Public Speaking CDE

9th– District Spring Skills CDE

16th– FFA Chapter Meeting and Recreation

16th– Elmwood FFA Alumni Meeting at 7:30pm

### April

3rd– State Ag. Mechanics CDE

17th– FFA Banquet Setup– After school

**18th– ELMWOOD FFA BANQUET @ 6:00pm**

21st– State Outdoor Power CDE

30th– May 1st: State FFA Convention

### May

6th– District 1 FFA Banquet and Officer Leadership Training

18th– Chapter FFA Meeting and Recreation

18th– Elmwood FFA Alumni Meeting at 7:30pm.

Other activities and events may be added or eliminated based on member participation. Please check social media for more information!