

FFA Alumni Report for 2005-2006

By: Thomas Dobbins

This has been a very productive and busy year for the FFA Alumni and FFA Alumni Board. My year started at the State Leadership Conference in Ohio, the board met for two days prior to the conference. We had five major highlights this year:

- \$100,000 – Pledged to Ag Ed Opportunity Fund

\$10,000 - Seeds of Hope Campaign

\$6,000 – NAAE Legislative Action Center

\$5,000 – National Council for Agricultural Education

\$7,500 – Collegiate Scholarships & National Postsecondary Agricultural Student Association

The board voted to contribute to the Ag Ed Opportunity Fund over the next 5 years. Because of sound financial management, the FFA Alumni has pledge \$100,000 second largest pledge. The FFA Alumni Board and it members donated \$10000.00 to the Seeds of Hope Fund at the FFA National Convention. The board is looking forward to this year's SLC to be held in Nashville, Tenn. TSC will be a major sponsor of this year's event and is one of our largest sponsors.

State to State Mentor Program

We are presently working with two State to State Mentor Programs which include the following states:

Mississippi & Louisiana
Oregon & Washington

Financial:

Financial Summary

Jan 2006

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Variance	Last Yr YTD	Annual Budget
60901 Alumni - General	116	(32)	148	(1)	23
60902 Alumni - Convention	34	14	20	44	9
60903 Alumni - Auction	84	85	(1)	72	19

60904 Alumni -Newsletter	(5)	(4)	(1)	(15)	(9)
60907 Alumni-State Leaders Conference	2	0	2	0	3
TOTAL: ALUMNI	231	63	168	100	45

**Financial Summary
Feb 2006**

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Variance	Last Yr YTD	Annual Budget
60901 Alumni - General	45	(43)	88	(11)	23
60902 Alumni - Convention	32	22	10	43	9
60903 Alumni - Auction	79	82	(3)	69	19
60904 Alumni -Newsletter	(11)	(4)	(7)	(15)	(9)
60907 Alumni-State Leaders Conference	2	0	2	0	3
TOTAL: ALUMNI	147	57	90	86	45

**Financial Summary
March 2006**

	Actual YTD	Budget YTD	Budget Variance	Last Yr YTD	Annual Budget
60901 Alumni - General	57	(39)	96	(33)	23
60902 Alumni - Convention	29	20	9	43	9
60903 Alumni - Auction	76	80	(4)	67	19
60904 Alumni -Newsletter	(12)	(5)	(7)	(15)	(9)
60907 Alumni-State Leaders Conference	2	(1)	3	0	3
TOTAL: ALUMNI	152	53	97	62	45

At the end of March 06 we are at \$152,000 compared to the end of March 05 which was at \$62,000. National FFA Alumni's portfolio at the end of March 06 was at 2,854,305.40.

Convention

Auction

\$\$\$\$\$ BIG CELEBRATION! \$\$\$\$\$

Jan Farris, Team Leader for the Marketing & Sales Development, with the National FFA Foundation secured an In-Kind Contribution of a Ford F-150 XLT valued at about **\$32,000.00**. Please send Jan a thank you for her dedication towards the National FFA Alumni Benefit Auction. .

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jfarris@ffa.org

Jana Kennelly, Regional Director, with the National FFA Foundation once again hit a home run at TSC store managers meeting and because of her leadership we were able to secure **4 semi-trucks** of items valued at around **\$30,000.00** for our National FFA Alumni Benefit Auction. Please also take the time to send her thanks for her continued dedication to the National FFA Alumni Association.

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J.R. Peterson, Regional Director, with the National FFA Foundation is also working hard and has secured a contribution from Danaher Professional Tools Division. Delta Consolidated makes truck tool boxes and is another division of Danaher. The donation which includes various tool boxes, set of tools and other tools valued at about **\$15,000.00** for our National FFA Alumni Benefit Auction. Please also take the time to send him thanks for his continued dedication to the National FFA Alumni Association.

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Building Partners

Lynn Campbell, Manager for Major Accounts, with the National FFA Foundation has also provided her leadership to help fund over **\$200,000.00** of National FFA Alumni Programs by partnering with Toyota. This is a proposal that is in front of Toyota which will be decided on sometime this year. Please also take the time to send her thanks for her continued dedication to the National FFA Alumni Association.

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2006 Hypnotist Shows

Wednesday, October 25th

Show #1:	6:00 - 7:30 pm	Sagamore Ballroom 3,4,5 (seats 1500)
Show #2:	8:00 - 9:30 pm	Sagamore Ballroom 3,4,5 (seats 1500)

Thursday, October 26th

Show #3:	5:30 - 7:00 pm	Sagamore Ballroom 3,4,5 (seats 1500)
Show #4:	7:30 - 9:00 pm	Sagamore Ballroom 3,4,5 (seats 1500)
Show #5:	9:30 - 11:00 pm	Sagamore Ballroom 3,4,5 (seats 1500)

Friday, October 27th

Show #6:	2:00 - 3:30 pm	ICC 206-207 (seats 400)
Show #7:	4:00 - 5:30 pm	ICC 206-207 (seats 400)
Show #8:	6:00 - 7:30 pm	ICC 206-207 (seats 400)
Show #9:	8:00 - 9:30 pm	ICC 206-207 (seats 400)

2006 State Leaders Conference

“Power of Partnership” Dream Big....We’ll help you get there!

The 2006 SLC will be hosted by the TN FFA Alumni Association and will be held in Nashville, TN on July 11-15, 2006.

Council Up-Dates

Ronnie Ansley - Southern Region Representative

As spring and summer approach, I am in the process of setting speaking engagements to various groups in the Southern Region about the FFA Alumni and volunteerism. We are also working with States both in and outside of the Southern Region on idea exchanges on several topics ranging from FFA Camp Programs to information delivery systems to local and State members.

I am open to ideas on how to better serve the organization and am available to speak, attend, and/or present at workshops. Please feel free to contact me if I can help in any area or State.

Amanda Cloud – National FFA Representative

All is well here in MT, just keeping busy, mainly with school, not that state convention has concluded. I am helping with the new state officer initial training here in a few weeks, so that should be a good time, but now on to the things you really want to know about. I just recently went to a local chapter's annual Alumni dinner, auction and dance, and they raised about \$5,000 after costs, so that is a huge plus, they made about \$2,000 more than last year, so they must be doing something right. I spoke at the MT state Alumni meeting that were held in conjunction to the state convention, I also was able to address the whole audience on Friday night, and then a few more at a delegate session, so I suppose we will see if I made any impact. Let's see what else, I have been in contact with Les Purcella and Kim Obyrne from New Mexico and Miles Williams from Maine, and we are working on a plan for me to come out to both state conventions and hopefully start an Alumni in Maine, since they only have a Foundation, and then Kim from New Mexico has asked me to help them with the Mentor program and do some workshops while I am down there as well. So, there is my quick update, just a few things. I hope all is well with you and all of the other Alumni members.

Norman Gay – President

At the end of January Sonny, Monty, and I attended the FFA Board meeting followed by In Service in Indianapolis. In February you, Ronnie and I attended the Wisconsin State Convention. In March I attended the National Council of Agriculture Education in D C where you and Kristina joined me for the latter part of this meeting. I have had a number of conference calls as a member of the executive committee of the National Council of Agriculture Education.

New Awards for State FFA and FFA Alumni Basket Contest!

The Georgia FFA Alumni Association has recently approved new awards for the State Basket contest at the State Convention.

First place FFA Chapter Basket will receive a \$550 Washington Leaders Conference Scholarship to be used by one of your FFA Chapter members this summer. This would be a great way to send an additional member or to send a member who did not win one of the WLC scholarships.

First place FFA Alumni Basket will receive a \$400 scholarship for one of your Alumni members to attend the National FFA Alumni State Leaders Conference July 11- July 16 at Nashville, TN or a \$550 Washington Leaders Conference Scholarship to be used by one of your FFA Chapter members this summer.

Georgia FFA Alumni Council recommends changes to bylaws

The National FFA Alumni Association recently made changes to the National FFA Alumni constitution and bylaws. In an effort to stay in line with the National FFA Alumni Association, the Georgia FFA Alumni Association Council recently approved recommended changes to the bylaws submitted by the Bylaws Committee. The revised bylaws will be voted upon by members at the State FFA Alumni Convention in Macon, April 29. Click [here](#) to view the recommended bylaws or visit the Georgia FFA Alumni website at <http://www.ffaalumni.org/>.

Georgia FFA Alumni Council approves monetary assistance for National State Leaders Conference

The Georgia FFA Alumni Association Council recently approved \$1,000 towards monetary assistance for Georgia FFA Alumni members interested in attending the National FFA Alumni State Leaders Conference, July 11-16, 2006 in Nashville, Tenn. More information on the conference is available by downloading the [Invitation](#) and [Registration Form](#). Download the [application for assistance](#). Applications are due to the Blane Marable by Friday, April 21. The application n can also be found on the Georgia FFA Alumni website at <http://www.ffaalumni.org> .

Please let me know if you have questions on any of these two areas.

Kim Miller - National FFA Representative

Here in Wisconsin, we are trying to really work on certain areas of the state that seem to need a little "boost" compared to other, more active portions of the state.

While at Indianapolis, we were approached by both ND and SD about pursuing the mentoring program. We are working diligently with Gretchen Sharp in South Dakota to try and get things rolling and haven't heard any word from ND.

Sam Atherton – Central Region Rep.

Hi Frank: In January I went to Neb. State Alumni Convention and spoke and put on a workshop. I also Attended Kansas FFA Alumni Convention in Garden City. I attended Team Ag ED Syp. In your Town & the National FFA Alumni Council meeting. Attended Blast off in Junction City Ks and helped judge Kansas proficiency awards in March. Went to Erie Ks and talked to FFA supporters about restarting alumni. They are going to a two teacher department. Held our 15 annual Cherryvale FFA Alumni Consignment auction April 8, turned out real good with over 100 bidders signing in.

Monte Ladner – President Elect

We will have a MS FFA alumni Council meeting here in Carthage, MS on April 22, 2006. We have invited representatives from LA to join us as part of the Alumni State to State Mentor Program. They are planning to send 3 to 4 people to attend our meeting. We look forward to them joining us.

National FFA Alumni Staff Up-Dates

Betsy – National FFA Alumni Staff

1) The Excel membership system is being tested. Blane Marable of Georgia, Lexie Poulson of Ohio, and Jayme Buttke of Wisconsin agreed to participate in the pilot. They are currently working with the Excel rosters and should be returning them to National by April 28. We will be running these rosters in a test area as a parallel study. The pilot states must submit the identical rosters in both paper format and excel format. The paper

rosters will be entered the usual way into our membership system and the excel rosters will be entered in the test area using the new program. Once entered in both systems, the results will be compared. If all works as planned – the results should be identical.

2) SLC registration has begun and we already have several returns. Council members were sent the registration form in March. Please remember – council members planning on attending should submit their registration form and the \$150.00 registration fee by June 1. Alumni will cover the balance of the conference fee. The registration fee is waived for our FFA Representatives and Past National Officers. Please take a few minutes to fill out the brief bio for our “Who’s Who” booklet. I will be happy to resend the registration form if you need it.

3) WLC Alumni scholarships were mailed to state representatives in February. If anyone has any questions regarding the number of scholarships awarded to their state and who received the information within their state, the listing is posted on our website. All documentation for the scholarship must accompany the student’s registration form. No refunds will be issued for documentation received once a registration has been processed.

4) Membership rosters are arriving daily -- within the last two weeks we have received over \$60,000 worth of membership!

Amber – National FFA Alumni Staff

2006 FFA Alumni Benefit Auctions: Come join us - we don't want to hog all the fun!

The 2006 auction mascot will be a pig so be on the lookout for items to solicit for the auction! Be sure to start promoting the auction and state basket contest to the Alumni you come in contact with, the donation form is available on the web at http://www.ffa.org/alumni/html/alumni_auction.html.

The new Volunteer Development module materials have been posted on the website at http://www.ffa.org/alumni/html/alum_volunteerism.htm.

Minnesota FFA Alumni Conference:

- Provided Alumni Updates at annual meeting
- Presented workshop on overview of volunteer management materials & a module

Tractor Supply Company Sales Manager Meeting:

- Solicited auction donations from vendors
- Met with store managers on the value of partnering with local FFA chapters

PAS Conference:

- Set up Alumni booth, recruited members
- Brought greetings on behalf of FFA Alumni as event sponsor during general session
- Judged two contests
- Assisted PAS staff with event tasks

Idaho FFA Convention:

- Set up Alumni booth, recruited members, distributed brochures and Forever Blue cards

Touched base with Ag teachers with current Alumni affiliates

Frank – National FFA Alumni Staff

Jan 30 – Feb 1

National FFA Organization Board Meeting in Indianapolis, IN

Feb 2 - 4

National Ag Ed In-service – Alumni/Volunteer Track Training in IN

Feb 2 - 5

National FFA Alumni Council Meeting in IN

Feb 10 -13

Wisconsin State FFA Alumni Convention – Alumni Up-Date & Volunteer Training

Feb 19 -22

TSC Store Managers Meeting – Building Relationships & Securing Products for benefit auction in TN

March 5-7

National Ag Ed Council Meeting & Advocacy Task Force in DC

March 24- 28

OR State FFA Convention – Met with the leadership of OR and WA to work on the state to state mentor program. Volunteer Training & gave welcome to the OR State FFA Convention & State FFA Alumni.

March 31- April 1

Toyota Project in San Antonio, TX and did the Alumni/Volunteer Training. They will be sending 6 individuals to 2006 SLC

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER (Postmark dates due to National):

May 15 Rosters due to National to qualify for awards & delegate counts

May 15 *Legion of Merit Applications due to National

June 1 State Leaders Conference Registration due to National

July 1 *Local Program Support Grant Applications

July 1 *Outstanding/Pioneer Affiliate, *Outstanding State Affiliate,
*Outstanding Achievement Applications,
*National Distinguished Contributor and *Scrapbooks due to National

July 1 Council Nomination Applications due to National

July 15 Auction Items to appear in Catalog

July 11 - 16 State Leaders Conference – Nashville, Tennessee

Oct 25– 27 Alumni Silent Auction

Oct 26 & 27 Alumni Convention

Oct 27 Alumni Live Auction

AAE Report submitted by Thomas R. Dobbins