

A Year in Review

2024

Written by: Averí Stitzel

The Greenon FFA chapter has had a very successful year with members participating in numerous Career Development Events (CDEs), and fundraisers. The Greenon FFA Chapter has 108 members and Advisor Sara Casto said it is a reward to see the impact young people are making in the schools and community. "These students are learning teamwork and communication skills out of their comfort zones, planning events and activities, developing a work ethic, and earning awards for their efforts and passions. It is exciting to see their success, as both individuals and as a whole," she said. "These students are hard workers, communicators, problem solvers, and helpers and they'll keep you laughing along the way."

The various career development events members participated in included job interviews, public speaking, equine, dairy cattle, and livestock judging, food science and technology, and Agriculture power diagnostics. Notable awards included: In the Public Speaking CDE, Sara Jewell and Kaylee Smith advanced to the district competition. Sara placed 5th at districts in the extemporaneous competition. Kaylee placed 8th at the district in the advanced prepared speaking competition. Our fundraisers were very successful this year. Our fundraisers include our fall fruit sale and spring strawberry sale - Thank you to our community who supports our fundraisers! In November, Greenon FFA members traveled with county FFA chapters to attend the National Convention. Students toured agriculture companies, explored career opportunities, celebrated the successes of FFA members across the nation, and heard motivational speakers. Graduate FFA Members Kacie Sizer, Macy Timmons, and Kaylynn Wilhelm earned their American FFA Degrees!

We celebrated our FFA chapter's achievements at our 68th Annual FFA banquet on March 20, 2024. Key awards included - Star Greenhands: Lorelei Wilhelm and Tucker Timmons; Outstanding upperclassmen students were: Kaylee Smith, Sara Jewell, Allie Hundley, Sydney Hartley, Jaydlynn Auckerman, Hailey Paulus, and Chloe Hupp. Star Chapter Farmer was awarded to Ethan Cunningham. Blue & Gold Gierke Award, named after retired FFA Advisor, Collin Gierke, was awarded to Allie Hundley and Syndey Hartley. FFA members annually elect individuals who have rendered outstanding service to the Greenon FFA. Recipients included: Sara Brewer, Jereme Best, Amber Zeunen, Cooper Chaffin, and in memory of Mike Taylor. Retiring Officers were awarded for their work over the past year and included: President Allie Hundley, Vice President Sara Jewell, Secretary Syndey Hartley, Treasurer Ethan Cunningham, Reporter Kaylee Smith, Sentinel Jaydlynn Auckerman, Student Advisor Paige Bromegan, and Chaplain Caleb Tener. The 2023-2024 Greenon FFA Officers were installed: President Sara Jewell, Vice President Kaylee Smith, Secretary Kai Ricks, Treasurer Olive Hobson, Reporter Averí Stitzel, Sentinel Kylie Barker, Student Advisor Skylar Stoliker, and Chaplain Tucker Timmons.

As we approached the end of the school year, FFA Members planned and hosted a Farm Day for our elementary students and attended the State FFA Convention. At this year's State

Convention Sydney Hartley, Ethan Cunningham, and Kaylee Smith were recognized for earning gold ratings on their officer books. Nathan Boysel, Ethan Cunningham, Sydney Hartley, Allie Hundley, and Kaylee Smith received their state degree. Greenon FFA will be recognized as a Bronze-Rated Chapter! Each year, chapters complete the National Chapter Application (NCA), highlighting 15 activities the chapter and its members have completed over the past year, Casto said. The NCA program is designed to recognize FFA chapters that actively implement the mission and strategies of the organization and chapters are awarded for providing educational experiences for the entire membership. During Farm Day, FFA members taught Greenon elementary students in grades preschool through fourth grade about the agricultural industry!

FFA members are starting their Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs) which will be completed and evaluated this summer. They will also be exhibited at the 2024 Clark County Fair July 19th-July 26th. FFA members will have both non-livestock and livestock projects at the fair, including rabbits, poultry, dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, goats, and pigs at the fair this year! We hope our community will come out and support our students at the Clark County Fair!

FFA members are also preparing for additional summer activities including FFA Camp, Summer FFA Meeting, and the Officer Retreat. We are looking forward to all that is in store for our FFA chapter this year and in the many years to come!

