

Summer 2023

Newsletter

NYS FFA Alumni & Supporters

Dear NY FFA Alumni and Supporters,

Greetings from the NYS FFA Alumni & Supporters Association! As we approach the beginning of the upcoming school year, we are thrilled to connect with all our esteemed alumni and supporters. Your dedication and continued support have played a pivotal role in empowering the next generation of agricultural leaders and fostering their growth in various fields.

Supporting Advisors: Guiding the Leaders of Tomorrow

Let us not forget the invaluable role of FFA advisors in shaping the lives of our students. As we look forward to the new academic year, it is essential to extend our unwavering support to these dedicated educators. They play a pivotal role in nurturing the passions and potential of our FFA members. By providing resources, mentorship, and recognition for their efforts, we can ensure that they have the tools they need to create a positive impact in the lives of students.

Creating Opportunities for Students: Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders

Our primary focus remains on the students - the heart of the FFA organization. Together, let's strive to create more opportunities that foster leadership, personal growth, and career readiness.

From organizing workshops and conferences to facilitating industry partnerships, our aim is to ensure that students have access to a diverse range of experiences that will help them develop the skills and knowledge required to thrive in agriculture and related fields.

Fundraising: Investing in the Future of Agriculture

As we gear up for the new school year, fundraising remains a crucial aspect for many of our local Alumni and Supporter Chapters. Your contributions of time, resources, and funds have a direct impact on your students and chapters. Whether your raising funds to help send students to events, buy a member their first jacket or support classroom curriculum – keep up the great work!

We invite all alumni and supporters to actively participate in our events and activities. Your involvement, whether through mentoring, speaking engagements, or financial contributions, is what keeps our association vibrant and thriving. Together, we can make a significant difference in the lives of our future agricultural leaders. Stay informed about our upcoming events and the impact of your contributions by following our social media channels and visiting our website regularly.

Thank you once again for your unwavering dedication to the NYS FFA Alumni & Supports Association and the students we serve.

Wishing you all the best,

NYS FFA Alumni Association Board of Directors

Meet the Board of Directors

Seth Browe, President

A former Granville FFA Member, Seth has recently moved into the role of President on the State Board of Directors. Serving on the Board for the past 5 years, he is well versed in the work of the Alumni and looks forward to his term in office. With a strong FFA, grants, and industry background, Seth is well positioned to continue the work of his predecessors. Seth is currently a Commercial, Industrial, & Agribusiness Energy Efficiency Representative for National Grid.

Roger Barkman, Vice-President

A familiar face in the NY FFA and AgEd world, Mr. Barkman will continue serving as the Vice-President on the State Board of Directors. Taking the path less traveled, stretching from the dark waters of Camp Oswegatchie to the far reaches of the Maine wilderness, Roger has always been a consistent face with the Alumni and a driver of this years National FFA bus trip and many of the past Toy Auctions. Mr. Barkman's currently the Agriculture Educator at Richfield Springs CSD.

Tina Douglas, Treasurer

Serving on the board for several years, Tina transitioned into the role as Interim Treasurer at the beginning of the year. Jumping in headfirst and guiding us through tax season, several events, and scholarship disbursements, Tina has since officially been appointed to the position of Treasurer. Tina is the Co-Owner and Operator of Old Homestead Farms and has worked in the finance industry for the past 30 years.

Heather Perry, Secretary

Heather has been serving as the board's secretary for nearly seven years and in her tenure has seen a lot of changes to the association. Her guidance and dedication have proven to be an invaluable asset to the Alumni and Supporters and her work is instrumental in all activities of the Association. Heather is a Special Education Teacher at Adirondack CSD.

Other Happenings...



Victoria L. Pinney Gregory Scholarship & Bob Watson Memorial Scholarship

Congratulations to Brooklin Drake for receiving the 2023 Victoria L. Pinney Gregory Scholarship. Open to current undergrad students working towards their master's degree in Agriculture Education, or those who are currently teaching and need to complete their master's degree. This Scholarship will be awarded in 3 parts with the first \$500 given when the scholarship is awarded. The next 2 installments will be given before the beginning of each semester if the student maintains a 3.0 GPA for the prior semester. Applicants must be accepted into an accredited college.

Bob Watson Memorial Toy Auction at the NYS Farm Show

Post-covid, The Bob Watson Memorial Toy Auction made a full recovery as a premier international event. Money raised will benefit scholarships and FFA members across the state. We look forward to hosting again at the 2024 NYS Farm Show.

2023 Student Activity Scholarship

The Student Activity Scholarship is for Middle and High School Agriculture Students who require financial support to attend an FFA related activity. The pre-approved activities are National and State FFA events that promote leadership and encourage personal growth while exposing students to the agricultural industry. Award amounts will not exceed \$200.