

Quarterly Newsletter

Ag Teacher by choice, not by chance!

Fall 2018

Letter from the President



Dear Florida Agriculture Teachers,
Welcome back to another great year as an Agriculture Educator. I hope you have had a restful and revitalizing summer. I am Buddy Coleman your new FAAE President. I am honored to get the opportunity to serve you and this organization this year.

At Convention this year we recognized our State Award Winners for their excellent work. All of the Florida winner advanced to the regional level. These winners were:

Outstanding Early Career Educator: Brittany Coleman
Outstanding Agriculture Educator: Matthew Dettloff (National Winner)
Teacher Turn The Key: Amanda Forstater
Outstanding Secondary Program: Buddy Taylor Middle School
Teacher Mentor: Marcia Smith
Ideas Unlimited: Wendy Schepmen
Lifetime Achievement: Alex Smith
Outstanding Cooperation: Andrea Stevenson
FAAE Outstanding Student: Artha Jonassaint

I am pleased to announce that Matthew Dettloff and Amanda Forstater will be advancing to the National Awards, which will be announced at the NAAE conference in San Antonio, Texas in November. We had 10 FAAE members attend the NAAE Region V Conference in Asheville, North Carolina in July. This conference was very fun and informative. Start making plans now to attend next years Region V conference in Charleston, South Carolina.

There were 75 people were in attendance at the FACTE Conference this summer at the Omni at Champions Gate Hotel and Conference Center. We had excellent presenters from Florida, Virginia and Tennessee and all gained more knowledge from them. Members experienced an excellent behind the scenes tour of the Sealife Aquarium in Orlando.

Our New Teacher continuum is off to a great start. Our first workshop was held at Turkey Creek Middle School with 25 people in attendance. Our next new teacher workshop is September 18th in Ocala at Van Guard High School. These workshops are designed for teachers are in year one through three of teaching. Thank you for joining your professional organization. Membership continues to increase and we are working hard to make sure you are getting the services you need through professional development. Dues are only \$150 and can be paid at professional gatherings or at the FAAE website www.flaged.org. The benefits for belonging to your organization are great, but getting involved in FAAE is truly how you benefit most. If you have not joined this year, please reach out to a FAAE member and discuss what membership has to offer. Please note that FAAE Mid-Winter Conference dates are January 4-6, 2019. Additionally we will have our third New Teacher Continuum on January 3, 2019 at the Leadership Training Center in Haines City, FL. Look for registration online and grant opportunities to attend this exciting professional development event.

Thank you for everything that you do for Florida agriculture education. Without your hard work our programs would not be growing throughout the state. I wish everyone a wonderful and productive school year. If you have any FAAE questions or concerns don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely, Buddy Coleman

Area Updates

Area 1 Representative Stan Scurlock

Overloaded classes, not enough books, principal wanting more certification passes, summer seems to be the only season anymore, etc., etc. This is the story many of us can relate to. But as I told my kids this morning I love my job so these are just some of the small inconveniences that come with it. My wish to everyone is that you love your job as much as I love mine.

To my Western Area 1 colleagues I hope the storm spared you any damage. The most we had on the east side was a lot of rain and some minor damages such as fallen trees. But it tis the season. With that said if anyone did receive major damages and it has created any type of economic burden please let me know. The NAAE has a relief fund that assists fellow ag teachers with a monetary donation to help.

Just a reminder that mid-winter registration is around the corner. Please plan to attend. The dates are January 4th-6th with new teacher conference on the 3rd. We are attempting to put together an agenda that will have something for everyone. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at stan.scurlock@jcsb.org.

One last thing, I want to thank Dr. Osborne and the UF staff for implementing the new teacher school visits across the state. I had the privilege to sitting in on one as an expert teacher and it is amazing at how eager these teachers are to learn. So if you have the opportunity to be an expert teacher at one please take it.



Area 2 Representative Kaitlin Van Heusen

Welcome back to another amazing and exciting school year. Welcome also to all of our new teachers in our Area! I hope all of us are off to a great start in our first and second weeks of school. Please feel free to reach out to me at any time with questions you have or anything exciting. I love to hear about the amazing things happening in your programs across Area 2.

So far this year has kicked off with a great start for many chapters as their alumni members and high school students attended the Alumni Conference in Haines City, FL. Thank you for all you do with your alumni chapters in this state. I know many chapters are getting geared up to host their open houses and first fundraisers of the year. We are looking forward to Chapter President's Conference as well as other events this fall. I hope to see many of you at our COLT Conference on October 4. Have a great school year!

Area 3 Representative Farrah Johnson



Welcome! I hope everyone has kicked off a fantastic new school year! I know we have many new teachers across the area and I am excited for the awesome opportunities you will have and help students achieve this year! I proudly represent Area 3 as the FAAE Director. I have been teaching Agricultural Education at Deltona High School in Volusia County for 18 years. Through my time I have certainly seen many changes take place in education. Some have been for the better and some, well I'll let you fill in the blank. 😊 I know we have some new teachers coming in from industry and others coming directly from finishing their University studies. I highly recommend all teachers join the Agricultural Education Discussion lab on Facebook as well as NAAE's Communities of Practice. Both provide free resources and forums to post questions. Even as a seasoned teacher, I am constantly checking

both resources to see what is new and who is doing something better than me. In Ag Education, we beg, borrow and steal with the best of them!

September 20th is National Teach Ag Day! This is a chance to toot your own horn and promote our profession to your students! Check out NAAE for more details and activities related to Teach Ag Day!

I want to do a shout out to 2 Area 3 teachers who were recognized at FACTE! Congratulations to Lisa Gaboury from Heritage Middle School! She was recognized by FACTE for Carl Perkins Community Service Humanitarian Award for her efforts in her chapter and program and their community service efforts. Also congratulations Amanda Forstater from Pierson Taylor! Amanda will be representing Florida at the NAAE Convention as our Teacher Turn the Key winner!! Woo hoo!! Every FAAE member is eligible to apply for FACTE and NAAE awards. Winning Award packages often include prize money or trips so look for more information on the NAAE website and FACTE website!

Area 3 teachers- please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns. I will do my best to help find an answer! fljohnso@volusia.k12.fl.us

Area 5 Representative Brittany Coleman

Hey Area 5! I hope everyone is getting off to a great start this school year. One of the countless benefits of being a part of FAAE, FACTE, and NAAE are the chances to partake in professional development from all three organizations. This summer I took part of the NAAE book study. This was an immense opportunity to gain professional development points over our summer. The organization broke the book up into chapters with small assignments due each week. It was a great chance to meet other Agriculture Teachers from all across the United States who are also members of NAAE. It was interesting to learn about others' programs, and experiences they were having as we participated in discussions with one another. I am not a giant fan of reading, however the book was great and I feel like it gave me the boost I needed to start the new school year off motivated and encouraged.



Another opportunity I learned about this summer was that FACTE offers online courses for professional development. I just completed a "Teaching Students with Disabilities Course" through FACTE. FACTE is for all CTE teachers in Florida. The course I just completed had 3 online live sessions where we got to share information about our programs. Having a course designed just for CTE teachers was great because they can relate back to some of the struggles and successes we have. Furthermore, since this course was designed for CTE teachers I felt like the information was tailored to our programs instead of towards general education teachers. FACTE offers courses in Fall, Spring and Summer so look for these opportunities' coming up.

The last opportunity I want to talk to you about is our yearly FAAE conference coming up in January on the 4th-6th. Mid-Winter conference is not only a great opportunity to get agriculture related professional development, but to also fellowship with other agriculture teaches from across the state. I hope to see many of us who reside in Area 5 at this conference. It is worth cutting your winter break a few days short. If you have any questions about Professional Development offered by FAAE, FACTE, or NAAE please let me know. I am looking forward to a year of wonderful successes from Area 5!