



# FAAE Newsletter

Winter 2017 Issue

## FAAE Board

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## FAAE President's Report

Happy New Year

FAAE members!

I hope this message finds you well and that you had a successful fall semester. With the spring CDE season rapidly approaching, I know we are busy preparing teams and prepping state officer candidates. Let's not forget our FAAE goals for the year: 1) work with your local legislators to promote our LBR—remember you will be affected directly as a classroom teacher if our bill is successful; 2) we're hoping to highlight your awards—though I realize this is often overlooked to focus on student achievements, but remember, what you do is important and deserving of

recognition. FAAE

award applications will

be coming out soon

and we hope you will

consider completing

an application; 3) we

continue to strive to

offer the highest quality

professional development

in the state—our

next opportunity

for professional development

is at FACTE

Conference July 16-

19, 2017 in Orlando—

be sure to keep

checking our website

for more

Information—

[www.flaged.org](http://www.flaged.org); 4)

help us spread the

FFA story through

your support of the

Agriculture Education

(FFA) license plate—

FAAE receives a

portion of the

revenue that allows us

to support the needs

of our members—buy

yours today!



Congratulations for taking advantage of the opportunities FAAE offers—membership is up and we are excited about new members as well as seasoned owls. Please reach out to any board member and provide insight into any potential professional development that you are interested in. Remember, we are here to serve you, our members.

Have a wonderful spring semester and I look forward to the excitement of State Convention.

~ Keitha Hall



**Ashley Thoron**  
Trenton FFA

## Area 2 Happenings

FFA District III President Robby Sistrunk of the Williston Sr. FFA chapter and Secretary Ainsely Peterson of the Lafayette Sr. FFA chapter hosted the District III Annual Christmas party. FFA members within District III joined together for a night of fun playing corn hole and enjoying a bonfire. As a part of the party members brought in canned food items to donate to the local food bank.

Upcoming events in January for Area II include the JM Everett Memorial Cattle Show hosted by the Trenton FFA Chapters. The event will be held January 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at the Suwannee River Fair grounds in Fanning Springs, Fl. It is open to all 4-H and FFA members to exhibit market/feeder steers and heifers. Awards will be given for grand and reserve champion as well as showmanship. Please contact Ashley Thoron ([thorona@mygcsd.org](mailto:thorona@mygcsd.org)) or Heather Rucker ([ruckerh@mygcsd.org](mailto:ruckerh@mygcsd.org)) for more information. Additionally, the Santa Fe FFA chapter will be hosting the Santa Fe Showdown on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 at Santa Fe High School. The show is open for heifers, steers, cow/calf pairs, bulls, sheep, and goats. Contact Keith Kirby ([kirbykl@gm.sbac.edu](mailto:kirbykl@gm.sbac.edu)) for more information.



**Farrah Johnson**  
Deltona High

## Area 3 Happenings

The East Coast FFA Federation works with District VI to hold leadership workshops, fun friendly competitive events and social events for members in Flagler and Volusia Counties. In addition, each year the Federation and District officers put together community serve events throughout the year. This year, members were encouraged to bring Toys for Tots to the Winter Dance in December. We are excited that members brought in 89 toys for this year's drive.

Toys will be donated in the community to help families in need. In January the Federation and District are hosting a leadership retreat for members at the FFA Leadership Training Center in Haines City. Future events include the D6 pageant in February and a fun game/bowling night in March. We encourage all chapters in Volusia and Flagler Counties to get involved and participate in Federation and District events! District and Federation officers are available to visit chapter events. Please feel free to invite them to activities for your chapter!

District President- Taylor Proctor- [tayp12321@yahoo.com](mailto:tayp12321@yahoo.com)

District Secretary- Olivia Doyle- [oliviakd92@gmail.com](mailto:oliviakd92@gmail.com)

Federation President- Nina Defiore- [ninadefiore@yahoo.com](mailto:ninadefiore@yahoo.com)

Federation Vice-President- Frangelica O'Connor- [frangelica144@gmail.com](mailto:frangelica144@gmail.com)

Federation Secretary- Ustina Guirguis- [guirgum@yahoo.com](mailto:guirgum@yahoo.com)

Federation Treasurer- Kaley Urban- [kaley.marie.urban@gmail.com](mailto:kaley.marie.urban@gmail.com)

Federation Reporter- Cody Martin – [codym2190@gmail.com](mailto:codym2190@gmail.com)

## NAAE National Award Applications

### National Geographic Learning / Delmar Cengage Learning Upper Division Scholarship

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of [National Geographic Learning | Delmar Cengage Learning](#) and proceeds from the ticket raffle at the NAAE convention, NAAE will award scholarships to students who are majoring in agricultural education and who will be completing their student teaching in the fall 2016 or spring 2017 semesters. Previous recipients of the NAAE Upper Division Scholarship are not eligible.

### National Agriscience Teacher of the Year

The National Agriscience Teacher of the Year award recognizes teachers who have inspired and enlightened their students through engaging and interactive lessons in the science of agriculture. Teachers who have previously been selected as National Finalist or awarded the National Agriscience Teacher of the Year award are ineligible to apply.

### NAAE Outstanding Agricultural Education Teacher Award

This program distinguishes NAAE members who are at the pinnacle of their profession — those who are conducting the highest quality agricultural education programs. The award recognizes leadership in civic, community, agriculture/agribusiness and professional activities. Outstanding agricultural educators are innovators and catalysts for student success in agricultural education. Individuals may receive the regional award only once; previous regional winners are not eligible to apply.

### NAAE Outstanding Young Member Award

As a means of encouraging young teachers to remain in the profession and to encourage and recognize participation in professional activities, the NAAE Outstanding Young Member Award program is sponsored by [John Deere](#) as a special project of the [National FFA Foundation](#). NAAE members who have completed at least three but not more than five years of teaching are eligible to apply for this award; members who are currently in their sixth year of teaching are eligible to apply. Individuals may receive the regional award only once; previous regional winners are not eligible to apply.

### NAAE Outstanding Secondary/Middle School Program Award

A goal of NAAE is to promote outstanding programs in agricultural education and effectively communicate success stories. The Outstanding Middle/Secondary School Ag Ed Program Award promulgates that goal. Agricultural education programs in middle schools and secondary schools are eligible to participate in this recognition program.

### NAAE Outstanding Postsecondary/Adult Education Program Award

The Outstanding Postsecondary/Adult Ag Ed Program award recognizes exemplary 2-year postsecondary institutions and full time young farmer and adult agricultural education programs. Qualifying young farmer and/or adult ag ed program staff must devote at least 50 percent of their teaching time to this level of instruction. Previous regional winners may reapply for this award every five years if they choose (that is, programs that won the regional award in 2013 may reapply in 2018).

### NAAE “Teachers Turn the Key” Scholarship Application

Agricultural education is continually faced with a shortage of qualified teachers. Unless those who have been trained enter and remain in the profession for a period of several years, the shortage of qualified teachers will prevail. As a means of encouraging young teachers to remain in the profession and to encourage and recognize participation in professional activities, NAAE offers the Teachers Turn the Key Scholarship.

NAAE members who are currently in their second, third, or fourth year of teaching are eligible to apply for this award. Applicants must be a member of NAAE during the year of application (2014-2015) and be a member of NAAE at the time of the convention at which they receive their scholarship (2015-2016). Applicants must not have attended the NAAE convention previously. All state winners must agree to attend the entire NAAE convention.

### NAAE Teacher Mentor Award Application

If you ask agriculture teachers what motivated them to enter and stay in the teaching profession, predominately they will attribute their decision to another agriculture teacher who encouraged them. Many state agricultural education associations have recognized the importance of positive relationships between beginning and experienced teachers by creating formal organizational structures to connect beginning and experienced teachers. This award program will provide additional incentives for experienced teachers to become mentors for beginning teachers, and it will provide beginning teachers a way to say thank you to the experienced teachers who have influenced them.

## NAAE Award Application Process/Recommendations

Although the finalized applications for 2017 haven't yet been posted on the NAAE website, it is the recommendation of the board to encourage members interested in completing an application, to begin gathering information, while waiting for the official 2017 application to be posted. The supplementary material should be the same on all applications and this is the most important and lengthy component. Don't delay, start today!!

### Application Preparation Process

Step 1 : Visit [www.naae.org/resources/awards/index.cfm](http://www.naae.org/resources/awards/index.cfm) to access the application information for each application you are interested in applying for,

Step 2 : Begin gathering pictures, newspaper articles, letters of recommendation and the like, for the supplementary section of the application.

Step 3 : Work gradually through the application. Don't expect to complete the application in one evening. A quality application will take time.

Step 4 : Have someone proofread your work. We are all teachers, use the English/Language Arts teacher to proof for grammar/spelling errors. Ask a fellow agriculture teacher to read through your application and give any recommendations. Make changes.

Step 5 : Edit, again.

Step 6 : Final printing and signatures.

Step 7 : Mail completed application and supporting documents to :

Chris Wilder  
Williston Middle/High School  
350 Robert Philpot Way  
Williston, FL 32696

Due Date: March 31st, 2017