



# Blue Ridge Horizons

January/February 2014

## A 2014 Blue Ridge FFA Recap

It's hard to believe that 2014 is over. Blue Ridge FFA students received a new agriculture teacher and a new FFA advisor; competed in many CDEs like Agronomy, Food Science and Dairy Foods Contest, and enjoyed the good food and entertainment at many FFA meetings. A highlight of the year is when the chapter participated in a statewide fundraiser for Hayden Schaumburg, Watseka FFA Chapter President, and raised over \$600 "It's been a good year," Ms. Blackford said. "We got a lot accomplished and I'm very happy with all my students." Everyone is excited to see what 2015 will have in store, hopefully 3 State Degree recipients, more ribbons from CDEs, and more fun.



## Blue Ridge in the News



### Fun Fact:

The FFA Creed, originally written by E.M. Tiffany, has been revised twice since it was adopted.



**212 Conference**

**What temperature does water boil at?**

**Answer: 212 degrees.**

And that’s exactly what temperature Victoria Medernach, Parker Otto, and Dylan McGehee were at from January 30-31<sup>st</sup> at the The 212 Conference in Schaumburg, IL.

For those of you who don’t know, the 212 Conference is a conference offered for freshman and sophomores in the FFA to learn more about the opportunities that lie within the FFA.

“I was really excited about going,” said Victoria Medernach. Parker Otto, a freshman, said that he was looking forward to meeting other FFA members, seeing what they do in their chapters and find ways to make our chapter better. “I really enjoyed going to the seminars and hearing people talk about their experiences,” Dylan said.



# Treasurer's Report

Currently, our chapter has been able to collect \$1,450 for the annual Illinois Foundation FFA Drive.

Our chapter would like to thank the following people and businesses for donating to the Illinois Foundation FFA. If you are interested in donating still, please contact Kirsten Blackford at [kblackford@blueridge18.org](mailto:kblackford@blueridge18.org) by February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

- Bellflower Feed Mill
- Paullin Farms
- Plunk Farms
- Swigart Farms
- Hieronymus Farms
- Leroy Fertilizer Services
- Kirk Builta
- Young's Ye Olde Hair Shoppe
- Medernach Farms
- Day Drainage
- Terry & Teri Emmerson
- K&S Furniture
- William & Judy Wallace
- Collin's Heating and Cooling
- Donald & Connie Warsaw
- Robert & Diane Wolf
- Birkey's Farm Store
- Arends & Sons

# Upcoming Events

- **2/6:** State Degree Interviews
- **2/6:** Section Star Greenhand Interviews
- **2/16:** DeWitt Farm Bureau Acquaintance Day Trip
- **2/22-2/28:** FFA Week
  - **2/22:** "Knight" of Fun with 8<sup>th</sup> grade Ag. Students
  - **2/24:** Truck and Tractor Day
  - **2/25:** FFA Teacher Appreciation Day
  - **2/27:** Petting Zoo
  - **2/28:** Breakfast with Alumni



## Congratulations!

The Blue Ridge FFA congratulates the following members on a job well done at the Section 16 Public Speaking contest. Parker Otto received 4<sup>th</sup> place in Creed Speaking, Vanessa Mattingly and Victoria Medernach, the chapter's JV extemporaneous speakers placed 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively, and our varsity speakers, Gabby LeBaube and Katrina Medernach placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> respectively. Gabby will compete at the District 4 competition in April.

Good luck!

## Calling all FFA Supporters!

Do you support the agriculture industry? Do you have a child that is an agriculture student? Did you ever wear the blue jacket? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you should join the Blue Ridge FFA Alumni. All you have to do is sign up. You do not have to been an FFA member to be in the Alumni and you don't have to have a career in agriculture. All that matters is that you want to support the Blue Ridge FFA.

If you are interested, the Blue Ridge FFA Officer Team would like to invite you to the FFA Alumni Breakfast being hosted in the Ag. Shop on February 27<sup>th</sup>. You don't have to be a member yet.

Contact Kirsten Blackford for more information at [kblackford@blueridge18.org](mailto:kblackford@blueridge18.org).

## A Note from the Reporter

Hello again everyone! Sorry it's been a while. I'm really excited to be keeping everyone up to date on the ongoing activities in the Blue Ridge FFA. With a new year started, it's sure to be exciting. Once again, if you have any comments or you want to see anything particular covered in our newsletter, my email is [katrinamedernach@gmail.com](mailto:katrinamedernach@gmail.com).

In the meantime, check out our FFA Website at [blueridgeffa.weebly.com](http://blueridgeffa.weebly.com) or our Blue Ridge FFA Facebook page for more frequent updates.



## Save The Date!

The Blue Ridge FFA Banquet will be on  
Monday, April 20, 2015!

Come and show your support for our FFA Chapter!