



Refusing to Follow

Citrus Sales 08-09

-By Calvin Crowley

The citrus sale for the year of 2008-2009 was a great year. We sold a lot of fruit including Grapefruit, Tangelos, and Navel oranges. The FFA sold samplers, which were new this year, mixed boxes and cases of one kind of fruit. This year the Fremont FFA sold 77 cases of Grapefruit, 110 cases of Navel oranges, and 60 cases of tangelos. We made about \$800 worth of profit. There were about ten people that stayed after school to help with the sales. Kids were helping sort out the fruit so there were no bad ones in the cases that were sold to customers. In the next few years we hope to sell more than what we did this year but overall it was a good year. Thank you to everyone that helped!

Region V Fun Night

-By Jason Smith

On Friday, February 6, our regional officer team planned a regional fun night at Craig's Cruisers in Grand Rapids. The event was a remarkable success, with over 140 members from many different chapters around Region V showing up for the fun. Fremont of course was among those chapters, bringing 8 of our members along for the ride. David Flynn, Kyle Beagle, Audrey Jansma, Jason Smith, Matt Carlson, Andrea Flynn, Scottie Flynn, and Kendall Clark were among the many FFA members having a blast at Craig's Cruisers. We ate some great food, played a game of laser tag, and drove go-karts; all of the members who attended had an awesome time.



President's update

-By Matt Carlson

This year membership participation is through the roof. I am so glad to see all of our members getting involved. Just remember that the year isn't over. We still have plenty of events to stay involved with like Ag skills contests, running for chapter or regional office, tractor day, general meetings, the end of the year fun night, and of course the 81st Fremont FFA Banquet. The Banquet will be on Saturday, May 2nd at 6:00. Also, I would like to thank everyone that participated in National FFA Week. It was a huge success due to all the members that stepped up and helped. If you see me in the hallways be sure to give a shout out. My two words of advice for this trimester: Stay Involved!

Step Up Stand Out!

National FFA Week Overview

“I think that it went really well and we should do stuff like this more often.”
- Missy Gaiser

The 2008-2009 National FFA Theme is “Step Up Stand Out,” and that is exactly what the Fremont FFA did. The week of February 21-28 was one of the most successful weeks for giving back to the community that the Fremont FFA has ever seen. The chapter officers set up different community service projects throughout Fremont. After school Fremont FFA members of all grades volunteered to join in, and give back to the community. These young volunteers proved that just a few people can make a huge difference. The FFA is always eager to try new ideas, and this one seemed to work very effectively. The amount of hard work that the members demonstrated was empowering. The Fremont FFA completed a total of 118 hours of community service! Thank you to everyone who volunteered for your hard work! Great Job!



Tuesday, February 24. The members of the Fremont FFA volunteer at the NCCS Food Pantry and bag oat meal for needy families.

The Schedule:

On Monday, February 23, the Fremont FFA volunteers helped Fremont High school in transporting 8 pallets of salt bags. This salt is to be used around Fremont Public Schools on icy mornings.

On Tuesday, February 24, the members went to the NCCS Food pantry and assisted Mrs. Johnson in organizing the Food Pantry and bagging oats to be given to needy families.

On Wednesday, February 25, there was no community service activity scheduled, so the members got the chance to either wear their official dress to school, or their chapter t-shirt.

On Thursday, February 26, the Newaygo County Recycling Center was in need of a few helping hands to sort recyclable materials, so the Fremont FFA members volunteered to sort plastics, metals, and cardboard.

On Friday, February 27, the Fremont FFA members brought some critters to the Newaygo County Medical Care Facility. The animals featured were a calf, two rabbits, a cat, a dog, a bird, a snake, and a gerbil. The residents were thrilled to see all the animals.



Friday, February 27. The Fremont FFA members bring their own petting zoo to the Newaygo County Medical Care Facility.

District/Regional Highlights

Jason Smith Places 1st in District and Regional Competitions

Jason Smith has always incorporated perseverance into everything that he set his mind to, the Job Interview contest is one of them. Jason was coached to success by Sarah Hruby, who was State winner in Job Interview last year. With this advantage Jason practiced with mock interviews everyday leading up to District Competitions. As the date approached Jason was becoming more and more prepared for victory. He ended up winning District Competition. With two more weeks to get ready for Regional's, Jason continued interviewing with as many people as possible. During these mock interviews, there were times that he felt he didn't give his best responses, but that didn't stop him; he brushed himself off and went at it again. At Regional competitions he wasn't too sure of his performance in the contest room. He pulled through and won Regional Competitions as well. He advanced on to the State level where he once again came out of his interview not sure of how well he did. Then on Friday March 13, 2009 Jason Smith was awarded the title as State Job Interview runner-up. Congratulations Jason Smith!

Jr. High Conduct of Meetings Team

This years Junior High Conduct of Meetings Team was definitely qualified to compete in this competition. The team consisted of Dusty Grabill, Frank Strubel, Knox Powers, Graciela Sanchez, Mary Sovinski, Bobbi Jones, Jessica Pell, Erika Vandermeer. The team was coached to success by Caite Grabill, a Sophomore at Fremont High School. Practice was held a couple times a week in the Ag room to help the Junior High team brush up on their Parli Pro skills. These young FFA members won District Competitions and earned the place of runner up at Regional Competitions. This team was highly dedicated and extremely hard working. The Fremont FFA is excited to see what this group of people does in the FFA further down the road. Congratulations to the Junior High Conduct of Meetings Team!



Fremont FFA Stars!

(November 08-January 09)

Max Kempf works for his family's business, Cushman Meat Processing, which handles beef, lambs and hogs. Max has a wide range of jobs; he runs the grinder the vacuum sealer and label making machines, and cuts, cleans and inspects meat before it is packaged for the customer. He already holds the Greenhand and Chapter FFA Degrees. Max also served as a Delegate for the Fremont FFA at the State FFA Convention.

Calvin Crowley has been a very active FFA member during his Freshman year. During the Fall Trimester he participated in the Fremont FFA Fryer Fest and raised the 3rd largest birds in the chapter. Calvin also raises laying birds and plans to add to his flock this spring. Calvin stepped up for the Greenhand Conduct of Meetings Team serving as the Treasurer, during district competitions.

Brooke Matthews stands out in the classroom because of her hard work, polite attitude and her willingness to try new things. Brooke has taken Agricultural Skills, FFA, Zoology and Small Animal Care over the past two years and has always received an A in all four classes. Brooke has found a way to incorporate her love for small animals into

Scottie Flynn has always been eager to help. During the Citrus Sales this year, Scottie stepped up and set an example of how to represent the FFA. He demonstrated excellent phone skills during pre-sales, and he stayed after school everyday to help sell Citrus. He is running for chapter office in April. Scottie is well on his way to becoming a true FFA leader.

On November 13th, at the Greenhand Degree Ceremony, **Chris Eck** recited the FFA Creed in front of more than 50 FFA members and guests. Chris was named the 2008 Creed Speaking Champion of the Fremont FFA and earned a FREE FFA Jacket for his efforts. At the first ever Fremont FFA Fryer Fest Chris was very helpful. He volunteered 4 hours of his time and was the "beginning of the end" on the disassembly line.

Abby Spickerman is always very attentive in class and never hesitates to volunteer. Her enthusiasm in class is what encourages other students to get involved. Abby is considering running for chapter office at the end of the year. She excelled at Parliamentary Procedure in Leadership class, and is eager to accept the challenge of the issue at hand. She has a great amount of potential and is excited to see how far she can go in FFA.

Travis Bennett's Farm raises standard bred horses and replacement gilts for Valley View Pork. In addition, they farm 1,800 acres of corn, oats, wheat, soybeans and alfalfa hay. Travis is responsible for a majority of the tillage work and also helps with the new custom baling business. He is also responsible for the night chores in the new 4,000 head hog barn. He has competed on 2 District Winning Jr. High Conduct of Meetings Teams and attended the State FFA Convention.

Tianna Snyder is always lending a helping hand. This willingness to volunteer was first seen at the Hill & Bale race; but that was just the beginning. Since school has started Tianna has helped set up and clean up from the FFA Hog Roast, organized the banquet room for the Greenhand Initiation and made several phone calls during the FFA Citrus Sales. As a first year FFA member Tianna has attended every FFA meeting, the Greenhand / Chapter Degree Ceremony and rode on the FFA float.

Caitlin Pell is a sophomore, but has already developed a very impressive Supervised Agricultural Experience. In 7th grade she had earned enough responsibility to start bringing home a paycheck. Today, Caitlin milks a 220-cow herd in the double-12 milking parlor. She also raises dairy steers and market lambs for the Newaygo County Fair. In November she won the Fremont Fryer Fest, with a bird average of 6 lbs 4.7oz in 8 weeks.