



Shepherd FFA Recognized as National 3 Star Chapter

This year the Shepherd FFA chapter was recognized as one of Montana FFA's top 8 Chapters of 2007. This honor gave us the opportunity to send our application on to the National Level for recognition.

The National Chapter Award is based on a chapter's involvement in activities and the development of their program of activities, which is the roadmap for the chapters year ahead. There are 3 areas of participation; Student Development, Chapter Development and Community Development.

This year our chapter was honored as a National 3 Star Chapter, which is the highest level of recognition a chapter can attain. We

are very proud of this accomplishment. This is also the first time we have ever been recognized as a chapter at the National Level.

Our members have worked hard each year to develop fun and educational activities, prepare and compete in Career Development Events, and help our members gain new leadership skills that can be used in their futures.

Tenille Oedekoven, Shepherd FFA President and Greg Goggins, Shepherd FFA 1st Vice President accepted this prestigious award at National Convention. Members also attended an awards recognition dinner held specifically

for those chapters being recognized at the National Level.

Our chapter is currently working hard to develop another Program of Activities that would be able to meet the needs of our chapter members to excel in the coming year of FFA.



Members at Nationals with 3 Star Chapter Plaque

Members Fair Well at the NILE

This year we had 3 teams compete at the NILE Stock Show and Rodeo. Our Horse Judging Team consisted of: Alaina Rekdal, Dustin Sorlie, Blaze Simonson and Ashley Hajek. The team placed 9th High Overall with Alaina

Rekdal placing 11th High Individual. The Livestock Team placed 10th High Overall, 3rd High in Beef Cattle with Shelby Skaug being named High Individual overall for Beef Cattle.

Other members on the livestock team were: Taylor

Lepley, Mick Mosher & Kayleen Goggins.

The Sales & Service Team placed 21st overall with members Ashley Cray, Emma Spratt, Ashley Hajek, and Zach Edward. Great Job to all members competing.

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2007—2008 Chapter Officers

President—Tenille Oedekoven
1st Vice President—Greg Goggins
2nd Vice President—Emma Spratt
Secretary—Jessica Wolff
Treasurer—Ethan Harris
Reporter—Ashley Cray
Sentinel—Emily Kading
Parliamentarian—Mick Mosher
Historian—Ashley Hajek

80th National Conve

The 80th National FFA Convention was held on October 24th—27th in Indianapolis, Indiana. Over 53,000 members were in attendance.

16 members and adults from Shepherd made the trip this year. Our trip began on Monday October 22, 2007 departing Billings Logan International Airport. Tuesday was spent touring some great attractions in Louisville, Kentucky; the Slugger Museum, Joe's Crab Shack, the Kentucky Derby Museum and Churchill Downs. Wednesday we toured the NCAA College Hall of Champions, Opening Session of the Convention, and the Hypnotist. Thursday was filled with students competing in the Job Interview Contest, Britt Harris, and the Agri-science Contest, Ashley Hajek, as well as others viewing



Members at the Indy Speedway

the National Career Fair with over 500 exhibitors including colleges from across the nation, attending workshops, watching national finals contests and attending general sessions, a highlight for many was going to the Beach Boys Concert on Thursday night.

Friday was the last day to enjoy the

career fair, we also attended awards functions and more general sessions. The keynote speaker Friday was Henry Winkler who was fantastic and a real inspiration.

Saturday took us to the Indianapolis Speedway, and to the final session of convention. Sunday was spent doing a bit of shopping and Monday we returned home.

Other members attending were: Ashley Cray, Greg Goggins, Kayleen Goggins, Emily Kading, Hank Kading, Mick Mosher, Taylor Lepley, Tenille Oedekoven and Emma Sprott. Adults in attendance were: Stacy Dietz, Jeff Mosher, Melinda Oedekoven, Linda Goggins, and Kristin Lepley.

Members Competed at the Hobson Livestock Contest

On Thursday October 4, 2007 several members from our chapter competed at the Annual Hobson FFA Livestock Judging Contest at the Stevenson Angus Ranch in Hobson. We had 15 members attend this event with 6 of those being Jr. High Members.

Members participated in judging 6 classes of livestock, taking a test, tool id, and 3 sets of oral reasons. This was a

great contest to start the year of competitions off. Members had a great experience. Members who attended were:

Goggins, Kayleen, Kading, Hank, Sorlie, Dustin, Lepley, Taylor, Simonson, Blaze, Skauge, Shelby, Hajek, Ashley, Hajek, Laureen, Wolff, Jessica, Lepley, Mackenzie, Covington, Morgan, Brumfield, Chase,

Brumfield, Morgan, Goggins, Machaela and Erika, Erickson.

"This was a great contest to start the year of competition off!"

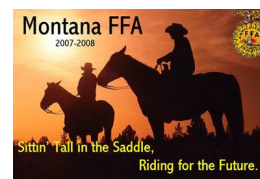
District Leadership School Held In Hysham

This year the District Leadership School was held at Hysham High School. This is the 1st leadership conference of the year. The State FFA officers put together a theme skit for all in attendance to introduce their state theme and to get students motivated for the year ahead.

Members are separated into older and younger sections where they play games and set goals for the coming year.

This activity gives students an opportunity to meet other members in our district, develop and set new goals for the year and get to know some of our state FFA officers.

Our members had a good time and came back with new ideas for the coming year.



The State Theme for the 2007-2008 year.

Raising Money for the Chapter by Working Jr. High Concessions

For the past 2 years our chapter has committed to working all of the Jr. High Concessions. This has turned out to be a great fundraiser for our chapter.

Members must sign up to work these concessions and can earn point toward the chapter high point award by helping out with the concessions. Now that basketball session is about to start for the High School, we are going to need extra help to get the Jr. High games covered.

If members are not able to help, we ask that parents lend a helping hand. We have had several parents that have jumped in and helped out a great deal, but we could use more. So, if you have time to help out with any of the Jr. High Concessions, please let us know either by calling Mrs. Dietz or telling your students

to sign you up.

Again, there are many opportunities to help out and members can earn points for their help.



The following is the schedule for Jr. High games coming up:

December:

8—Jr. High Girls Basketball
11—Jr. High Girls Basketball

January:

9—Jr. High Boys Basketball
12—Jr. High Boys Basketball

We need your help to cover these games!!

Christmas Party to be Held at Town & Country Lanes

This year the chapter members voted to hold a Christmas party at the Town & Country Lanes in Shepherd on Saturday December 22, 2007 from 4—6 pm.

Members will be treated to a game of bowling and pizza. Also members are to bring a \$5 gift item for the gift exchange.

This year the officer team is holding a secret Santa activity for the week of De-

cember 17—22. Officers choose names of other officers and have a \$10-20 limit on their gift exchange for the week.

Any member wishing to attend the Christmas party must sign up in Mrs. Dietz's classroom by the 19th of December. This does include all of our Jr. High Members

"Christmas Party to be held on
December 22, 2007 at the Town
& Country Lanes"

as well.

We are looking forward to having a great time!!



State Floriculture held at Billings Career Center

The State FFA Floriculture contest was held on Saturday December 1, 2007 at the Billings Career Center. This was a well attended event with over 120 members competing from across the state.

Our chapter had 3 members compete in this event; Ashley Cray, Ashley Hajek, and Jessica Wolff participated in this event. Teams competed in several areas including: a team problem where they

made swags, a test, plant identification, job interview, one on one selling, computer skills, a floral arrangement, pinching and planting.

Our members did a great job and learned a great deal as well. Ashley Hajek and Jessica Wolff placed 35 and 36th overall out of 120 students in the competition.

Great job and we look forward to

fielding another team next year.





A member of the National
FFA Organization

SHEPHERD FFA

P.O. Box 8
Shepherd, MT 59079
406-373-5300
Advisor—Stacy Dietz

Blue Jackets, Bright Futures

We're on the web at
www.shepherd.k12.mt.us

Calendar of Events

December:

11—Junior High Concessions—3:30

22—Christmas party at Town & Country Lanes

January :

12—Junior High Concessions—8:30 am

15—Junior High Concessions—3:30 pm

29—FFA Meeting—Lunch

*****This calendar is subject to change*****

SENIORS: It is not too early to begin applying for scholarships. The National FFA Scholarship is online at www.ffa.org Get started early and get it turned in on time.

FFA Dues:

In order for our chapter to be in good standing and compete above the chapter level, we must have our members pay their dues.

We still have several members that have not yet paid their dues this year and need to do so immediately!!

If you have not paid your dues, please get them in ASAP to Mrs. Dietz. If you are not sure, check the list in Mrs. Dietz's room.

Dues are \$25.00 per person.

Practices for Contests

Many of our teams are getting started with preparation for the spring contests and events. There will be several teams meeting at lunch for some initial training. However, there will be a need to meet after school or in the evenings sometimes.

If you are unsure of which contest you are going to participate in, please visit with Mrs. Dietz. Each student in the FFA should participate in at least one contest area each year. These contests are a great opportunity for our members to showcase the skills they have learned.

Fair Animals:

Just a reminder to our members; if you are planning on showing a steer at the fair this year the tagging date will be Saturday, February 2, 2008 at PAYS. If you are planning to show a steer you must have him tagged that day.

Also if you need to attend a quality assurance training there will be one at both tagging days as well as a few other times during the year.

If you would like to show a pig or a lamb and need help finding one, let Mrs. Dietz know. She can help you find a good one.