

# SECTION CONNECTION

*Section I Newsletter - September/October 2017 Edition*



## DEAR ADVISORS AND FFA MEMBERS

Fall is here and along with changes in weather come changes in the FFA season! Now that summer is officially over, and we are 9 weeks into the school year, it is time to look into how we can become more involved in FFA. Trying new contests is one way members can become more involved. There are multiple contests in which members can compete in the fall season! Some of these contests include Parliamentary Procedures, Crops, and Entomology.

Another great way to increase member participation includes hosting a chapter party! With the holidays upon us, It is the perfect time of the school year to throw a Halloween party, Thanksgiving Feast, and even a Christmas celebration. Get creative and play games. Having food at a meeting/party is also a plus. I would recommend that every chapter try a bake off. It is an innovative way of having friendly competition while also having a yummy snack. If none of these options sound interesting to your chapter, then consider having a chapter trip. My favorite FFA trips consist of driving to my home away from home; the Indiana FFA Leadership Center.

Speaking of the center, there are two weeks in November that it will be open to welcome members attending camp. FIRE, (Foundations in Reaching Excellence) is a conference held in November for older FFA members (11-12, 10th if they are mature enough). The conference this year is about Present Excellence Focus (Being a mentor, Setting Goals, Taking leadership to the next step, etc.) The camp includes lodging in the cabins, dancing the night away with friends, listening to powerful reflections, three days of learning, and, of course, a banquet! If your chapter has not attended a conference this year, I would highly recommend checking this one out! I hope everyone has an amazing season filled with fall breeze and autumn leaves!

Sincerely,  
Ally Laker

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### DATES

November 9th:

District 1 Chapter Meeting

November 10th-12th:

FIRE Conference #1

November 15th:

District 2 Chapter Meeting

November 17th-19th:

FIRE Conference #2

November 20th:

District 3 Area Crops Judging

November 29th:

District 3 Chapter Meeting

December 5th:

Section I Chapter Meeting Contest

December 12th:

District 1 Winter Contest

Please let me know about the different activities that

your chapter or district participates in!

Contact Ally Laker at [lakeralexandria@gmail.com](mailto:lakeralexandria@gmail.com) or (260)570-8504

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# AN INSIDE LOOK AT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Indiana FFA Executive committee is comprised of the seven state officers, four section directors, twelve district presidents, one state band president, and one state chorus president. The committee kicked off the year with an opening session to meet each other, obtain leadership training, and layout strategy for the upcoming year. This year's training started with a trip to Elanco, an animal nutrition company, located in Indianapolis. While at Elanco, the committee members had the opportunity to learn not only about the company, but the agricultural challenges the world faces. We also learned how communication varies depending on the person. We all took a test that assessed our communication preferences. We were then put into color groups depending on what style worked best with our personality. Our committee also learned how to effectively carry out duties as officers, leaders, and role models. We divided into three sub-committees; Public Relations, Member Success, and Internal Logistics.

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## DISTRICT KICKOFFS

### District I



On September 14th, I was able to attend kickoff at Twin Lakes High School. The night was filled with skits featuring all district officers, multiple games facilitated by district and state officers, and a pizza party that concluded at the end of the night. Thanks D1 for the amazing time!

### District II



On September 18th, Bremen High School hosted kickoff. The event started with dancing to some tunes, promoting Pay it Forward, breaking out into groups for games, and finally finished with revealing the District T-shirt design and playing "guess the officer" game. Big hive five to D2 for hosting a creative kickoff!

### District III



On September 19th, I traveled to my home district kickoff at Carroll High School. The night started out with a powerpoint featuring all D3 officers, an information session with Ivy Tech, and an introduction to state chorus. We played games with the state officers and enjoyed dessert. Good job D3!

# SECTION I NATIONAL CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS



- National STAR in Agriscience finalist: Leah Hefty, DeKalb
- National Chapter Recipient: Woodlan
- Marketing Team: National Bronze, Tri-County
- Horse Judging Team: National Bronze, Tri-County
- Livestock Evaluation: National Champions, Rensselaer



- Livestock Evaluation Top Individual overall: Zach Wamsley, Rensselaer
- Prepared Public Speaking National Bronze: Abbi Schrader, Columbia City
- Agriscience National Gold: Emily Kilmer, Tri-County
- Agriscience National Silver: Gabe Hefty, DeKalb
- Agriscience Reserve National Champion: Sydney Hefty, DeKalb



- National Champion Creed Speaking: Blayne Vandever, Tri-County



- Parliamentary Procedures Team: National Gold, Tri-County
- Food Science Team: National Gold, DeKalb
- All Section I recipients of the American Degree
- Farm Business Management: National Silver, Tippecanoe Valley
- Veterinary Science Team: National Gold, Northwood

