

THE GEHRKE GAZETTE



2024-2025 WISCONSIN FFA
STATE OFFICER TEAM

September 2024
Volume 1

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CONNECT!!



tgehrke@wisconsinffa.org



(608) 988-6548



Wisconsin FFA - Section 4



[wi_ffa_section4](#)



[wisconsin_ffa](#)

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF FFA
TURN IT UP

2024-2025
STATE THEME!!

MEET YOUR STATE OFFICER

What's up Section 4!

My name is Tyson Gehrke and I am from the Fennimore FFA Chapter. I am excited to serve this year as your State Treasurer, and cannot wait to work with you all throughout the year!

I am a 2024 graduate of Fennimore High School and I am attending Iowa State University majoring in Agricultural Business. I am taking classes online during my year of service, before heading to Ames after my time as a State Officer. Once I am finished with college, I plan to use my degree to enter a position in agricultural sales, before ultimately going into the field of agriculture financing.

Growing up I was constantly surrounded by agriculture, as my dad and grandpa operated a grain and steer farm together. My first Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) however did not start until my sophomore year of high school. My first SAE was in Agricultural Services as I started a seasonal job in the office of a grain company. I loved seeing the business side of agriculture and it shifted the way I think about agriculture as a whole. After my junior year I started my second SAE, Dairy Production, when I started milking cows at a nearby dairy farm.

When I was not busy in the Ag Room, I was participating in Future Business Leaders of America, Forensics, Student Council, National Honor Society, playing baseball, and finally being active in the Youth Apprenticeship program, where I worked at a local bank as a teller throughout high school. You can see me outside of FFA this year golfing, watching sports, being active outdoors, and watching movies.

I am stoked to be working with all of Section 4! I want this to be an amazing experience for everyone this year! If there is anything I can do to help please feel free to call, text or email me. Let's have a phenomenal year Section 4 as we embark on this journey together!



STATE CONVENTION SPOTLIGHT

STATE DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Black Hawk

Allyse Troemel
Makayla Kammes
Lilly Schultz

Cuba City

Morgan Van Schyndle

Darlington

Alexis Murray
Aubrey McCarthy
Carter Murray
Calan Meylor
Lexi Olson
Erica Meylor
Alyza Johnson
Mazie Crist
Madeline Eaton
Jackson Boatman
Braelyn Grossen

Dodgeville

Jake Scheckel

Fennimore

Riley Foreyt
Wesley Winch
Tyson Gehrke
Malaina Graney

Iowa-Grant

Elyse Linscheid

Ithaca

Logan Anderson
Violet Dilley
Josie Laue

Lancaster

Jamin Crapp

Mineral Point

Estella James

Pecatonica

Nathan Burkeland
Emi McCarville
Talen Havens

Potosi

Erin Potter

River Valley

Ashton Hillebrand
Taya Hatfield

Riverdale

Stella Bieri
Rylee Wanek
Caleb Tracy
Wyatt Storms

Seneca

Tanner Kilburg

Shullsburg

Camden Russell
Faith Burgess

Wauzeka-Stuben

Blake Mitchell



STATE CONVENTION SPOTLIGHT

STATE WINNERS

Proficiency Awards

Kyra Chrostowski - Pecatonica - Agricultural Processing
Joseph Robinson - Mineral Point - Agricultural Mechanics Repair & Maintenance - Entrepreneurship
Luke Schubert - Mineral Point - Fiber & Oil Crop - Placement
Talena Sprecher - Ithaca - Swine Production - Entrepreneurship



Leadership Development Events

Symone Cirian - Richland Center - Extemporaneous Public Speaking



Career Development Events

Teams

Agricultural Sales - Fennimore: Britton Allen, Riley Foreyt, Tyson Gehrke, Eden Richter

Livestock Evaluation - River Ridge: Hadyn Ferretti, Brendan Jentz, Leah Patterson, Luke Patterson

Meats Evaluation & Technology - Mineral Point: Michael Edgington, Aidan Patterson, Cameron Patterson, Luke Schubert

Veterinary Science - Fennimore: Roselyn French, Maggie Horsfall, Matthew Winch, Wesley Winch

Individuals

Sophie Volenec - Iowa Grant - Floriculture

Taylor Durst - Dodgeville - Horse Evaluation

Luke Patterson - River Ridge - Livestock Evaluation

Iris Adams - Cassville - Meats Evaluation & Technology



STATE CONVENTION SPOTLIGHT

State Honors Band

Dalton Linneman - Fennimore - Percussion
Alayna Barth - Plattville - Baritone Sax
Lydia Mason - River Ridge - Trumpet
Hailey Woodruff - River Ridge - Trumpet
Colton Moris - River Ridge - Euphonium



State Honors Chorus

Gavin Smith - Black Hawk - Bass
Aspen Tesdahl - Plattville - Soprano
Allison Barth - Plattville - Soprano

Three Star Leaders

Makayla Kammes - Black Hawk
Carlee Chappell - Boscobel
Wesley Winch - Fennimore
Emma Anding - River Valley



3-STAR LEADER AWARD



Public Relations Team

Izzy Dannenberg - Mineral Point
Payton Heins - Mineral Point
Ava Forde - Prairie du Chien
Stella Bieri - Riverdale
Camden Russell - Shullsburg



STATE CONVENTION SPOTLIGHT

Pride Awards

Belmont
Black Hawk
Fennimore
Highland
Iowa-Grant
Lancaster
Pecatonica
Prairie du Chien
River Valley
Shullsburg

National Chapter Awards

Boscobel - Silver
Black Hawk - Silver
Fennimore - Silver
River Valley - Silver

Talent Contest

2nd - Samuel Turpin - Darlington



Membership Award

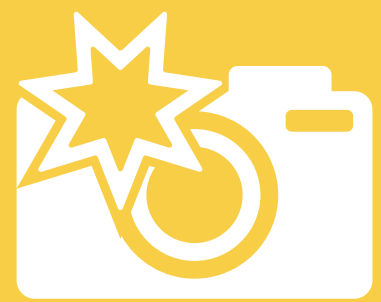
Prairie du Chien
+101 Members

Middle School Essay Contest

4th - Willow Ackerman - Cassville



SUMMER'S SNAPSHOTS



Base Camp

The week following State Convention, the team headed off to Base Camp in Marshfield! We spent an amazing week, joined by Ms. Kenzie Bastian of National FFA, learning our leadership styles, and how we can work together as a team. We also had different team activities to get to know each other!

WAAE Conference

After base camp the team had the opportunity to meet FFA advisors from across the state at WAAE Conference! It was awesome to be able to introduce myself in front of the sectional advisors, and get to know them. On the side, the team was able to have productive work time and training sessions!



Checkpoint #1

We traveled back to Marshfield for Checkpoint #1 during the second week of July! We were joined by Ms. Amelia Hayden who worked with us on creating workshops and Fall Leadership Workshop Speeches. The team also had plenty of time to bond and come together as a team by participating in an escape room!

State Officer Summit

We spent a week in Washington DC this summer at the State Officer Summit! This was a great opportunity to connect with state officers from across the country. Additionally, we learned how to become better advocates for agriculture and FFA, and even put those skills to the test as we spoke with legislative assistants!



State Fair

The team split up to conquer the State Fair. State fair was filled with fun times and hard work. We enjoyed walking around the fairgrounds to discover all of what the Wisconsin State Fair had to offer when we were off. We worked in the Compeer Financial Discovery Barnyard where we had fun teaching about pollination and animals!



Farm Tech Days

An adventurous three days were spent at Farm Technology Days! The team worked in safety booths demonstrating safety tips for ATV/UTVs, underground utilities, and grain. We powered through the heat and rain over the days to promote safety! We also enjoyed team time at Luke's house playing volleyball and having a meal.



Jag Lake

The team ended off the summer going to FFA Camp at Jag Lake! We had a great week of good times and productivity. We had fun playing volleyball, swimming and a campfire! The team also powered through the days finalizing details involving Fall Leadership Workshops, F.I.R.E Conferences, and other details about the year. After Jag Lake, we are ready for a great year Section 4!





Events Coming Soon



Fall Leadership Workshops



Join us for the Section 4 Fall Leadership Workshop on September 30th at Fennimore High School! It starts at 4:00 with registration starting at 3:30!



F.I.R.E. Conferences

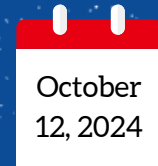


Join us for F.I.R.E. Conferences this Fall and Spring! The conference is open to members in fifth through ninth grade.



October 5, 2024

FVTC - Appleton



October 12, 2024

UW - River Falls



October 11, 2024

UWSP - Marshfield



February 28, 2024

SWTC - Fennimore

National FFA Conferences

National FFA will be hosting conferences on November 15th and 16th in Stevens Point! These conferences will be focused around growing the leadership skills of FFA members!

Chapter Visits

Chapter visits are coming up! I am so excited to visit all of your schools and interact with your students! Please remember to fill out the pre chapter visit form as soon as possible. All chapter visits will begin after FLWs

Other Events

Have a chapter event you would like the team or I to attend? Let me know and we will try our best to make it work!

Promote Section Four!!



Member of the Month

Know of an outstanding member in your chapter?! Nominate them for the Section 4 member of the month! Nominations can occur at any time and nominee is announced on the 25th of every month. Scan the QR code below to nominate a member!



Teacher Appreciation

Know of an outstanding agriculture teacher and advisor?! Nominate them to be posed on Wisconsin FFA social media pages for teacher appreciation! Scan the QR code below to nominate an advisor!



National Convention Preview

National Proficiency Finalists

Joseph Robinson - Mineral Point
Agricultural Mechanics Repair and
Maintenance - Entrepreneurship
Luke Schubert - Mineral Point
Fiber and Oil Crop Production

National Band Participant

Colton Moris - River Ridge



NATIONAL
CONVENTION THEME!!

American Degree Recipients

Olivia Adams - Cassville
Allison Ihm - Cassville
Jonah Hoeper - Iowa Grant
Julia Searls - Iowa Grant
Bekka Shemak - Iowa Grant
Evie Whitaker - Iowa Grant
Talena Sprecher - Ithaca
Joseph Robinson - Mineral Point
MaKenna Burkeland - Pecatonica
Bryce Johnsrud - Pecatonica
Carissa Swenson - Pecatonica
Jessica Patterson - River Ridge
Haylee Scharmer - River Ridge
Madison Russell - Shullsburg
Ella Woodworth - Shullsburg

2024 - 2025 State Officer Directory

Section 1

Emma Johnson
State Parliamentarian
Amery FFA
ejohnson@wisconsinffa.org

Section 2

Amalia Draxler
State Vice President
Glenwood City FFA
adraxler@wisconsinffa.org

Section 3

Jazmin Wagner
State Secretary
Melrose-Mindoro FFA
jwagner@wisconsinffa.org

Section 4

Tyson Gehrke
State Treasurer
Fennimore FFA
tgehrke@wisconsinffa.org



Section 5

Cheyenne Johnson
State Vice President
Oregon FFA
cjohnson@wisconsinffa.org

Section 6

Abel Kooima
State Vice President
Waupun FFA
akooima@wisconsinffa.org

State President

Jescey Thompson
G-E-T FFA
jthompson@wisconsinffa.org

Section 7

Luke Schraufnagel
State Vice President
Thorp FFA
lschraufnagel@wisconsinffa.org

Section 8

Taylor Maroszek
State Reporter
Pulaski FFA
tmaroszek@wisconsinffa.org

Section 9

Crystal Anhalt
State Vice President
Mishicot FFA
canhalt@wisconsinffa.org

Section 10

Alyssa Schauer
State Sentinel
East Troy FFA
aschauer@wisconsinffa.org

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF FFA



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Wisconsin FFA Foundation

for everything that they do



Leadership Partners

Platinum



Gold

AgCountry Farm Credit Services
American Foods Group
Collegiate FFA, UW-Madison

Silver

Pioneer Hi-Bred
International, Inc.
Wisconsin Public Service

Bronze

BMO Harris Bank
Jennie-O Turkey