

PERSPECTIVE

August 9, 2024

OKFB YF&R members travel to Tulsa area for annual summer conference



More than 50 Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers joined together in Tulsa for the 2024 YF&R Summer Conference July 26-28.

Farm Bureau members ages 18-35 had the opportunity to tour local agricultural facilities and network with fellow farmers and ranchers during the three-day event.

Tommy and Chalaynna Salisbury welcomed the group Friday evening for dinner at their sale barn, where Meggie and Jake Gibbs shared financial resources and opportunities for farmers and ranchers.

Saturday morning began at the Tulsa

Port of Catoosa, where members had the opportunity to tour the port while learning its history. Tour guide Shelia Shook shared how the port allows for international commodities to become local.

Members had opportunity to visit the Public Service Company of Oklahoma power plant in Tulsa before rounding out their evening in Claremore at A Bar Ranch. Here, the Armitage Family shared their story of how their ranch began and their traditional approach to ranching.

“One of the reasons of being involved in YF&R is the networking,”

said Tommy Salisbury, YF&R District 9 representative. “You get to meet people from all over the state. You’ll use that networking further in life, and if you stay involved in agriculture, you’ll end up needing it.”

Jamie Stevenson concluded the conference Sunday morning sharing a devotion with the group.

For more information about the Young Farmers and Ranchers program contact **Burton Harmon** at (405) 523-2419

OKFB hosts fourth-annual FFA Communications Conference in Edmond for nearly 90 students



Students had the opportunity to take head shots of each other during one of the breakout sessions about photography.



During the design session, students worked together to create graphics for social media.



State FFA Advisor Scott Nemecek spoke to students about the importance of sharing their FFA story.



Six students won prizes during the event by submitting their work completed during the conference.

Oklahoma Farm Bureau hosted nearly 90 FFA members at the organization's fourth-annual FFA Communications Conference Tuesday, July 23, at the Hilton Garden Inn in Edmond.

The one-day conference gave FFA members the opportunity to learn from various professional speakers in several segments of communications and elevate their overall skills to use to promote their FFA chapters in the most professional way.

FFA members were split into breakout sessions where they heard from speakers who are professionals in the agricultural communications field. There were a total of four breakout sessions the topics included design, writing, social media, photography and videography.

The design session was taught by Taylor Gazda, who owns Gazda The Brand, a full-service agricultural

marketing company. She focused on the importance of creating clean, creative and consistent graphics. She also walked students through several design platforms they can use for their FFA chapter communications work.

Ruth Inman of Ruth Inman Creative Services led the social media session, where she taught students what to post and what not to post on various social platforms. She also gave the students tips and tricks on how to write captions and how to use social media graphics.

The writing session was taught by Kirsten Hollansworth, public engagement specialist for the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry. She taught students how to write a press release and other news-related content. She also had the students write a press release of their own about the event.

Ariel Scholten and Jono Horry of Neat

Media House taught the photography and videography session. Ariel and Jono explained to students the art of taking photos and recording video footage. Students also had the opportunity to learn how to capture quality photos and videos and the equipment they could use.

During the morning session, FFA members heard from Oklahoma FFA advisor Scott Nemecek about the importance of sharing the FFA story. Ron Hays with the Radio Oklahoma Network spoke to students about sharing the agriculture story through radio.

OKFB's own Dustin Mielke presented the final session at the FFA Communications Conference. He shared with FFA members his agricultural communications story and showed examples of how FFA members can effectively share the agriculture story.

OKFB WLC promotes Farm Bureau, agriculture at statewide conferences



Left: Cyndi Mackey District 5, Paula Sawatzky District 2, Jan Marie Long District 8, Karen Dodson WLC Secretary District 3, and Marcia Irvin WLC Coordinator. WLC members hosted a booth at the Oklahoma Women in Agriculture Conference. During the first week of August the WLC attended multiple conferences where they promoted Oklahoma Farm Bureau and Oklahoma Agriculture. They attended the State Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom conference Tuesday, July 30; Women in Agriculture Conference Thursday, August 1; and the School and Community Gardening Conference Friday, August 2.



State Ag in the Classroom Conference



Oklahoma Women In Ag Conference



State Ag in the Classroom Conference



Oklahoma Farm Bureau Legal Foundation

Water Summit

OKFB Legal Foundation to host water summit Sept. 6

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Legal Foundation is set to host the first-ever water summit on Friday, Sept. 6, at the Conoco Phillips Alumni Center in Stillwater.

The summit is scheduled from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and will feature information on Oklahoma's water law and water regulations, new water technologies, the future of water in Oklahoma and more. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from a panel of

water experts during the event.

The summit is free to attend, but registration is required. Lunch will be provided. Space for the event is limited **use the link below** to fill out the form to register by Sept. 1 to reserve your spot.

Schedule highlights will be posted as details are made available.

For more information about the OKFB Legal Foundation Water Summit, contact Marla Peek at (405) 523-2300.

OKFB to host public meeting on private property rights in Lincoln County

Oklahoma Farm Bureau is set to host the first of several public meetings on private property rights Wednesday, Aug. 14, from 6-8 p.m. at the Lincoln County Fairgrounds in Chandler.

The educational meeting will focus on the importance of private property rights in Oklahoma – a longstanding priority issue for Farm Bureau members.

The push comes as recent wind farm developments in Oklahoma have stirred many residents to call for zoning and land-use restrictions, which have the potential to significantly affect family farmers and ranchers.

The meeting is free and open to the public. Lincoln County Farm Bureau is located at 802 Manvel Ave., in Chandler. For more information, contact Kinsey Westwood at (405) 523-2300.

Register for the OKFB Legal Foundation Water Summit at okfb.news/watersummit24

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Upcoming August Area Meeting schedule:

OKFB kicked off their first August Area meeting in Enid the Thursday August 1. Members will have the opportunity to draft and discuss resolutions to update the organizations policy positions. Please plan on attending an August Area meeting in your district from the list below.

District 2 - Hobart

Thursday, August 15 • 6 p.m.
Western Tech Center
1000 S. Bailey St., Hobart

District 3 - El Reno

Monday, August 12 • 6 p.m.
Redlands Community College
1300 S. Country Club Rd., El Reno

District 4 East - Ardmore

Monday, August 26 • 6 p.m.
Murray Event Center
106 E. Main St., Ardmore

District 4 West - Lawton

Tuesday, August 27 • 6 p.m.
Comanche County Farm Bureau
502 SW 11th St., Lawton

District 5 - McAlester

Monday, August 19 • 6 p.m.
Southeast Expo Center
4500 West US - 270, McAlester

District 6 - Pryor

Tuesday, August 13 • 6 p.m.
Mayes County Event Center
2200 NE 1st St., Pryor

District 8 - Byars

Thursday, August 29 • 6 p.m.
Odell Farms
17261 US Hwy. 177, Byars

District 9 - Kellyville

Thursday, August 22 • 6 p.m.
Creek County Fairgrounds
17808 OK-66, Kellyville

**OKFB kicked off August
Area Meetings in Enid**



OKFB District Seven Directory Stacy Simunek welcomes Farm Bureau members to the district seven August Area Meeting in Enid on Thursday, August 1.



OKFB members discussed agricultural issues during the district seven August Area Meeting in Enid as the kickoff to OKFB's grassroots policy development season.