

OCTOBER 2019

IAAE-PURDUE NEWSLETTER

*Dedicated to Improving the Future of Agriculture
through Young Minds*



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SPOTLIGHT

Events to Look Forward To

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Applications due

November 6th: Officer
Interviews

November 12th: Ag Ed
Recruitment Day

November 15th-17th: Collegiate
Exchange

November 21: IAAE-Purdue
Cookoff

December 6th: Holiday Party



Interview with IAAE President, Hank Carson

By Kendra Fuelling

When did you attend Graduate School at Purdue University?

I attended graduate school through the 1990's.

How long have you been an Ag teacher? Did you ever doubt that you made the right choice?

I am currently in my 34th year of teaching agriculture. I have no doubts that this career is the right choice for me.

How would you suggest individuals new to the idea of FFA become involved in college?

When I was in college, I was on the Purdue soil judging team. This helped me understand the high school soil judging contest better and made me excited to coach a soils team as an ag teacher.

Do you have any advice you would give to students and ag teachers?

- Stay organized! Keep all lessons and materials organized on your laptop so that they can be easily and quickly located.
- Ask for help from other agriculture teachers when needed. The more experienced teachers have all been where you are at one time.
- Review your planner and calendar every day!
- Be an active member of the IAAE.
- When accepting a position at a new school do not randomly throw out everything left by the previous teacher. There have been many times I have heard of situations where a new teacher tossed useful materials into the dumpster. If you are not sure if something is useful, ask another Ag teacher.
- Update and revise lesson plans each year. Nothing should be carved in stone.
- Stay in contact with the parents of FFA members as much as possible. Email and social media makes this much easier to do than it was when I began teaching in 1986.



Ag Teacher Spotlight- Blair Orme

By Karley Yager

How long have you been teaching?

I have taught 31 years at Rushville Consolidated High School.

Why did you want to become a teacher?

It was my favorite subject in school and I found a level of success in Agriculture especially in FFA. I also had an excellent teacher and student teacher, which made Agricultural Education a good choice.

What was it like when you first started teaching vs what it is like today?

In 1989 the name of FFA changed the same year I started teaching, and the numbers in Agricultural Education and FFA were at an all-time low. As an organization, FFA was trying to find a place in Agriculture to reinvent themselves. The 90's was very difficult to teach because we had to sell, sell, sell the program because people had to see a purpose in it. Now Agricultural Education and FFA are stronger than ever and has very high numbers.

Was it difficult teaching older students that were used to the previous teacher?

Yes, human nature is to reject change. It is up to you to navigate through waters in order to find a medium for 2-4 years. It is difficult to jump straight into a program with both feet and not expect there to be no splash.

What is your teaching philosophy?

A lot of people think I'm unorganized and unphilosophical, but you have to have structure. The worst thing ever invented was a rubric because it is up to the teacher not the student to create. Success is about doing your best, but doing your best is different for everyone. Teachers have samples to come up with grades like tests, quizzes, or homework, but there are other components that give success. Most students only work just to pass instead of gaining skills such as speaking skills, self-awareness, and other skills employers want. Just like sports, they can be good for students; however, when coaches only want to win it takes away from success.

IAAE Member Spotlight

By Brianna Slonaker

Senior: Hannah Harrell

Your inspiring moment that lead to you to be an Agricultural Education Major?

My Ag teacher in 8th grade saw potential in me and pushed me the next five years to be the best student and FFA member I could be. Mr. Jones, is the reason that I am studying Agriculture Education and hope to make the same impact on my students someday.



Best Memory at Purdue or with IAAE?

I have loved all of my study abroad trips during my time here at Purdue. I have been fortunate enough to travel to Jamaica, Ireland and Italy to study abroad.

Favorite Animal?

Beef Cattle

Your best joke?

What is a pigs favorite karate move? Pork Chop

What is one thing you would tell the freshman and incoming students?

Attend all your classes and be involved in many different activities as you can handle. Don't fill your plate too full.

Junior: Jonathan Andrews

Favorite Ice Cream?

Blue Moon

Best Joke?

What do farmers use to make crop circles? A protractor

Most exciting experience at Purdue or with IAAE?

Winning second place with my Cary Racing grand prix team

What made you choose this major?

Having the ability to educate our future on a subject that will affect their lives everyday

What is one thing you wish you could tell your younger self?

My football coach told me when I was younger you'll always wish you were older while your young, and always wish you were young when your older. I would tell my younger self to take the time to enjoy the journey towards the rest of my life.



Sophomore: Emily Evers

Best Joke?

What did the farmer say when he lost one of his cows? What a miss-steak

If you could travel to one place where would it be?

Everywhere! Purdue has given me so many opportunities to travel to other places to study. If I had to pick one, it would be New Zealand. I actually just applied to study abroad there this summer so fingers crossed!



Why agricultural education?

I have a passion for agriculture and I love working with people. I think Purdue's agricultural education program helps you learn about many different aspects of agriculture, and prepares you to be able to teach no matter where you end up.

Favorite Professor?

Dr. Corey Gerber, he taught my AGRY 105 Crop Production class. Dr. Gerber remembered my name and always took the time to make sure I understood the concepts.

Freshman: Ruth Stoner

Best Joke?

What do you call a cow with no legs?
Ground beef.

Why Agriculture Education?

I chose Agriculture Education because I believe I have a calling to teach and being able to teach something that I love would be rewarding every day.

What are you looking forward to most at Purdue?

I am looking forward to basketball season!

Best class so far?

Horticulture, because it is exciting to be able to see what we are being taught.

Favorite movie?

Mulan

