

❖ REPORT CARD ❖

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Have you ordered your agriculture plates? See page 4.



MIGHT YOU BE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON CFA'S BOARD? MEETINGS ARE SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY, MARCH, MAY, SEPTEMBER & NOVEMBER. MEETINGS ARE FROM 11:00 TO 2:00. LUNCH IS PROVIDED. THE LOCATION CHANGES, SO CONTACT:
 Bette
 970-881-2902
 if you would be interested in attending.

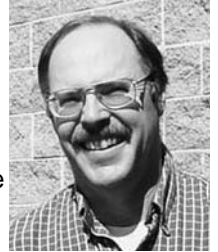
To Contact CFA

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 P.O. Box 10
 Livermore, CO 80536
 970-881-2902
 Fax 970-881-2587
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 bblinde@growingyourfuture.com

WEBSITE

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President's Comments



Does hamburger come from McDonalds, or does it come from the grocery store? What about the other food we consume? What about the fiber products we use in our daily lives? Do these items come from the store? The answer is yes and no. As consumers, we typically obtain our finished products from the stores. However, these products don't originate in the stores but are the result of agricultural production. The production of our food and fiber provides a foundation that many industries rely upon. This production allows us to sustain our lives and economy, but is often overlooked in our daily lives. Educating the public of these issues is why I support the Colorado Foundation for Agriculture.

I have served on the Colorado Foundation for Agriculture board for the past four years. I have found it to be a rewarding experience to be involved in, and I enjoy educating the public about the importance of agriculture and its impact on our daily lives. As our population moves more and more generations away from the farm, the recognition of agricultural

importance tends to diminish. I feel it is important to educate the public about the role that agriculture plays, and its impact on their daily lives. The technologies used by producers as well as their care for the environment are often not considered. A small percentage of our population is involved in production agriculture, but produces the food and fiber for the majority. The Colorado Foundation for Agriculture, through its *Colorado Reader* program, summer teacher institutes and other educational materials provide agricultural literacy education to Colorado students. It is grade level based and meets standard curriculum requirements. I am grateful I have had the opportunity to serve on the CFA board and be involved in the promotion of agricultural literacy. I encourage others to become involved as well.

You can contact the CFA or any of the board members for additional information.

Steve Sterkel

Science Fair Winners



Every year CFA provides a special award to the Colorado Science and Engineering Fair for the project(s) that best represents agriculture. Jack Fenwick presented these awards on behalf of CFA to Bussell, Crescent Miller, Rafe Paulson, Andrew Fritzler and Heather Messick.

Science Convention: SUMMARY OF THE PRESENTATIONS

On Friday, November 19th, the agriculture community hosted over 600 science educators to a pizza party. While the teachers enjoyed their lunch, representatives from various segments of agriculture presented information about agriculture and educational resources that were available to bring agriculture into their classroom.

WE WANT TO THANK EVERYONE WHO HELPED WITH THE SCIENCE CONVENTION OR WHO SPONSORED LUNCHES FOR THE EDUCATORS.

Things We Can Learn from A Cow and A Worm

Jody Davis



from the Colorado CattleWomen shared how both earthworms and cattle play a positive role in the environment by recycling and reusing resources effectively. Classroom activities challenge students to consider good environmental stewardship in their daily lives.



Mini Greenhouses

Tom Fey from CSU Cooperative Extension presented an opportunity for students to learn the importance of plants to people, what

plants need to live, and functions of plant parts. The program is designed for primary grades and includes kits and teacher guides. The seeds provided are Indian corn, Anasazi beans and sunflowers so teachers can relate to Native American social studies.

Irradiation

Jo Stanko from the Colorado CattleWomen explained that America has one of the safest food supplies in the world. Food irradiation is one more important tool for ensuring the safety of our food. This session provided the basics of food safety, the process of irradiation and products that are currently being irradiated.



Will the Dust Bowl Return to the Eastern Plains?

Artie Elmquist, Bob Clifton, Trish and Jerry Hergenreder from St. Vrain Young Farmers held a discussion on water issues facing Colorado's eastern plains.

Farming

Rob Sakata from Sakata Farms shared information about farming in Colorado, what it costs to improve water efficiency on the farm and some of the things agriculture producers are doing to improve production and protect water quality.



Science and Our Food Supply: Investigating Food Safety From Farm to Table

was presented by Julie Moore from the Beef Council. This exciting curriculum, sponsored jointly by the National Science Teachers Association and the Food and Drug Administration. It includes an interactive video, "Dr. X and the Quest for Food Safety" and the comprehensive "Food Safety A to Z Reference Guide."

Choices & Consequences

Heather August from CFA explained Choices and Consequences, a unique, interactive curriculum that teaches conservation, problem solving and decision-making, and provides opportunities for learning applications in the standards areas of economics, biology, geography and civics while learning about the watershed in which you live.



What if We Were Naked and Hungry?

Laural Brownell, Colorado Young Farmers spokesperson of the year discussed how agriculture applies to educators and their students' lives every day.



Circle of Life

Teresa, Oriana and Darryl Beemer from Thompson Valley Young Farmers illustrate how to use sheep to define the circle of life! They will explain how the science of raising sheep and how that has evolved into a never ending circle of connections. The latest connection being with over 100 students knitting due to a community service project Oriana started at her Loveland high school.



Food, Land & People

Glenn Sanger and Dan Parker from Project Food, Land & People demonstrated how FLP helps minds grow by educating people about the connection among agriculture, the environment and people of the world.

Science on the Cob

Jared Fiel and Beth Weibert, Colorado Corn



showed the many uses for corn: cereals, sweeteners, starch, etc. But grain corn is also on the cutting edge of many scientific advancements. Ethanol -- produced primarily from corn -- is a more powerful, cleaner and domestically manufactured fuel for vehicles throughout the country. The corn genome is one of the most studied and makes it a perfect area for genetic advancements to increase yields, dramatically reduces the need for pesticide spraying and can even for the manufacture life-saving pharmaceuticals.

If you would like to help with next year's Science Convention, please let us know. It will be on November 18th.

Would You Provide A Scholarship?

The 2005 AgriCULTURE in the Classroom Summer Institutes will be held in Steamboat Springs on June 21-25 and in Fort Collins on June 14-18. This is a five-day course providing hands-on experience, great resources and materials to help educators integrate agriculture and natural resource topics into their academic curriculum. We even put these educators to work on a farm or ranch for a day. Upon completion of the Institute, participants earn 2 graduate-level continuing education credits from Colorado State University.

We need your help! The cost per person to attend the Summer Institute is \$250.00. Through donations we offer scholarships to teachers to help cover this cost. If you are able to provide full or partial scholarships, please fill out the back page of this newsletter and return it with your donation today. Our goal is to provide a scholarship to every teacher attending the Summer Institute.

If you know of an educator who might be interested in attending, please share the following information with them.

Would you like to help?

- Stuff mailings first Thursday of every month at the Greeley Tribune.
- Serve on Summer Institute Committee for Ft. Collins.
- Serve on the Summer Institute Committee for Steamboat Springs.
- Help with the Reading Convention - FEB. 2-4
WED 2ND FROM 5:00 PM TO 8:00 PM
THUR 3RD FROM 9:00 AM TO 6:00 PM
FRI 4TH FROM 9:00 AM TO 6:00 PM
- Serve on CFA's Board of Directors or Advisory Board.

Food, Fiber and More Summer Institute

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS

JUNE 20-24

Steamboat Springs offers many entertaining adventures. You can enjoy rafting, horse back riding, hiking, golf, fishing and much more. But it also has a rich agricultural heritage. At the Food, Fiber and More AgriCULTURAL Summer Institute, you will learn about this heritage from farmers and ranchers making their living from the land. You will visit and talk to producers raising cattle, sheep, hay and more.

FT. COLLINS AREA

JUNE 13-17

This front range community is growing rapidly, yet it still has very diverse farming and ranching operations. At this Food, Fiber and More AgriCULTURAL Summer Institute you will learn about the issues and challenges facing today's producers. You will talk to feedlot operators, sugar beet growers, corn growers, ranchers, veterinarians and others making their living in production agriculture. You will visit CSU crop and livestock research facilities.

There are many excellent hotel accommodations in Steamboat and Ft. Collins or some educators may have the opportunity to stay with a ranch or farm family as we have a few producers willing to provide you a place to stay while you attend this Institute. Let us know early if you need these accommodations.

SITE SELECTION:

- Steamboat Springs area - June 20-24, 2005
- Ft. Collins area - June 13-17, 2005

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

COUNTY: _____

SCHOOL AND LOCATION: _____

GRADE LEVEL(S): _____

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE*:

DAY 1 HANDS-ON MATERIALS

featuring background and history of Colorado agriculture. Food safety, environmental concerns, wildlife, biotechnology, resource materials and more. There are fun and creative ways to integrate food and fiber topics with academic curriculum to reinforce Colorado Content Standards. (8:30 am to 5:00 pm)

DAY 2 TOUR farms and ranches. Learn issues and realities of agriculture production from the trenches. Natural resources, including water, and the environment are among the topics covered... (8:30 am to 5:00 pm)

DAY 3 TOUR and BBQ

LOOK, VISIT & LEARN - tour of farms, ranches and food production facilities.
MEET THE PEOPLE INVOLVED: Evening barbeque to meet your hosts for Thursday. (9:00 am to 8:00 pm)

DAY 4 - WALK IN ANOTHER PERSON'S BOOTS

What, irrigation boots? You can be a farmer or rancher for one day; hands-on...really, hands on. This is an opportunity for you to interact one-on-one, learn by experience. Former institute participants say this is the best day. You will meet your host(s) at the Wednesday evening barbeque and determine time and location. (Times vary)

DAY 5 - FLP Workshop A natural conclusion to the week with the Food, Land & People program and resources. (8:30 am to 3:00 pm)

- Consider this application for the scholarship program.
- I understand the institute cost is \$250. Enclosed is \$75 deposit to reserve space. (The balance is due the first day of class).
- I need information about housing.



Fill out completely and mail to Colorado Foundation for Agriculture
P.O. Box 10,
Livermore, CO 80536 •
Phone 970-881-2902 •
Fax 970-881-3466

OVER 1650 LICENSE PLATES HAVE HIT THE ROAD

The cost to put these plates on your vehicle is \$50 (\$25 goes to CFA; \$25 goes to the state at the time vehicle registration fees are paid).

It's an inexpensive, easy way to show your support of agriculture.

A certificate issued by CFA is needed to purchase the plates. The cost is a minimum donation of \$25 (per license plate set) to CFA plus a one time \$25 fee payable to your county motor vehicle department for each set of plates. Your regular owner and license fees are in addition to these costs.

To order the plates use the form below, or you can simply send a check and write on the memo portion of your check that it is for the agriculture plates. We will return your certificate to the address on your check.

Colorado Science Convention



November 24, 2004

Dear Agriculture Community,

The Colorado Science Convention would like to sincerely thank you for your participation at our annual convention. We feel that what you do is an added benefit to our teachers, because you demonstrate the application of science.

We also appreciate the support that you give us to provide lunches for our teachers. We hope that you will continue to join us in our annual convention. It will be the same weekend next year, which will be the 17th and 18th of November.

So again thank you very much from the Colorado Science Convention committee. We look forward to our continued relationship.

Sincerely,
Elnore Grow and Jean Carpenter
Co- chairs

October 26, 2004
Dear Rancher: Thank you for giving us food. I like eating steak and chicken. I would like to be a farmer when I grow up.
Sincerely, Rachel

CFA Board

President:

Steve Sterkel 970 330-4071

Vice President:

Robert Warner 303 659-6195

Secretary/Treasurer

Erin Barkey 970 686-5215

Members:

Jody Davis 719 541-2763

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Alexa Lamm 720 733-6940

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Chad Steven 719 478-2082

Liaisons to the Board

Julie Moore 303 830-7892

Patty Kenny 303 749-7506

Jack Fenwick 970 491-6907

Tom Fey 303 637-8100

Dorothy Mergelman ... 970 856-6676

Bette Blinde, CFA, P.O. Box 10, Livermore, CO 80536, phone 970-881-2902. Website: www.growingyourfuture.com

YES! I want to support the Colorado Foundation for Agriculture and the Ag in the Classroom programs!

Enclosed is

- \$60 Adopt a Classroom
- \$15 Donation
- \$50 Donation
- \$100 Donation
- \$250 Donation
- \$500 Donation
- \$1000 Donation
- Other \$ _____

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

- Send classroom sets of *Understanding Water* – \$75 per classroom set.Number of sets _____ x \$ 75 = \$ _____
- Send classroom sets of *Wildlife Activity Book* – \$35 per classroom set.....Number of sets _____ x \$ 35 = \$ _____
- Send classroom sets of *Wool & Sheep Activity Book* – \$35 per classroom set.Number of sets _____ x \$ 35 = \$ _____
- Provide scholarships to the AgriCULTURE in the Classroom Institute – \$250 per teacher.Number of scholarships _____ x \$250 = \$ _____
- “Growing Your Future” License Plate Certificate – \$25 per set of plates. ...Number of license plates _____ x \$ 25 = \$ _____
- Sponsor “A River’s Journey” CD Set to a ClassroomNumber of CD sets _____ x \$ 15 = \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

PLEASE MAIL CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO: **Colorado Foundation for Agriculture**
P.O. Box 10
Livermore, CO 80536

Questions? Comments! Call Bette Blinde **970-881-2902**; Fax **970-881-2587**; Email bblinde@growingyourfuture.com

The Colorado Foundation for Agriculture is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit educational corporation. Your tax deductible donation is appreciated.