

**Tennessee Association of Agricultural Educators**  
**Program of Activities**  
**2011-12**

**TAAE Officers**

President	Terry Shartzter
East TN Vice-President	Stena Meadows
Middle TN Vice-President	Mike Akridge
West TN Vice-President	Jason Kemp
Secretary	Bill Newsom
Treasurer	Jerry Wood
Past-President	Dale Tucker

**Division I: Finance**

**Purpose of the Committee:**

Operate an effective, efficient and responsible organization by employing effective financial practices.

**Committee Members**      Robert Pearman  
                                         Emily Marshall  
                                         Dan Smith

**I.A.**    To secure sponsorships for award winners to offset costs of the organization and it's members.

**Current Sponsors Include:**

- a. Outstanding Young Member – Tennessee Farmer's Co-Op
- b. Outstanding Teacher – Farm Credit Services
- c. Outstanding Program – Learning Labs, Inc.
- d. Teacher Mentor – Tennessee Farm Bureau
- e. Ideas Unlimited – River Brite Citrus

**I.B.**    To continue the collection of legislative funds during CTE Conference registration to be used to support legislative issues pertaining to our organization and profession.

- a. Donate \$1000 each year to the "Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom". (This donation will serve as a partnership with Tennessee Farm Bureau and lobbyist fees)
- b. Allocate \$500 to support "Ag on the Hill" (These funds will be utilized to purchase flowers for the senators and representatives)

**I.C.**    To establish a TAAE Scholarship Program.

1. To be given to a senior in agriculture education.
2. To be selected through the TN FFA Foundation Scholarship Program using their application and review process and announced with other foundation scholarships.
3. The scholarship amount shall be set at \$500.
4. To establish a line item at registration for donations to the scholarship fund.
5. To rename the Retired Associate Life Account to the TAAE Scholarship Account as a starting fund for the scholarship. When the account reaches \$5000 the funds are to be transferred to the TN FFA Foundation for administration.

**6.** When needed, additional fundraising shall be administered.

## **Division II: Member Services**

### **Purpose of the Committee:**

Provide recognition, services, fellowship programs and benefits.

**Committee Members**      Linda Baxter, Chairman  
                                         Brad Partin  
                                         Chris Cummings

- II.A.** To present retiring TAAE members with a gold watch for their years of service.
  - a.** Any individual with a minimum of 20 years in Agriculture Education; and who has maintained cumulative TAAE membership for 20 years or any individual with a minimum of 10 years in agriculture education, and 10 years in administrative position such as CTE director, Assistant Principals or Principals and who have maintained cumulative TAAE membership for 20 years.
  - b.** Any individual who has taught Agriculture Education for 20 years; then entered another occupation, but continued TAAE membership through the payment of dues.
  - c.** Extenuating circumstances such as catastrophic illness, or injury shall be considered by the executive Committee of the TAAE.
  
- II.B.** To provide pocket calendars to all TAAE members.
  - a.** CEV – sponsors calendars
  
- II.C.** To include a download folder on the teacher’s page of the Tennessee FFA webpage to include an archives of Ideas Unlimited.
  
- II.D.** To have a drawing for a free TAAE membership at the TAAE Banquet for all paid new members that attend the banquet to encourage agriculture teachers to join our organization.
  
- II.E.** To have a drawing for a free TAAE membership on the last day of conference to all paid members to encourage agriculture teachers to join our organization.
  
- II.F.** To establish a formal mentoring committee for new agriculture teachers organized by the District Advisors.
  
- II.G.** To provide teacher photos to State Department of Education for use in the State Directory.

## **Division III: Marketing**

### **Purpose of the Committee:**

Employ effective marketing practices to communicate the brand image of agricultural educators, promote the benefits and value offered by agricultural educators to the general public and to increase membership through participation and effective communication.

**Committee Members**        Mary Ellen Pautler  
                                         Tommy Green  
                                         Ashley Bringle

- III.A.** To have information available on the teacher portion of the website that will educate members and potential members about the organization.
- III.B.** To sponsor a booth at Tennessee FFA State Convention to market and recruit TAAE members as well as FFA members to pursue agriculture education as a career.
- III.C.** To develop two shirts designs each year that members and students can purchase to help promote TAAE.
- III.D.** To establish a committee of three appointed by the president to oversee these projects.
- III.E.** To establish a Collegiate FFA Program that will help to bridge the gap between high school and our profession.
  - a. To select two TAAE Interns to run the TAAE Booth and Teach Ag Campaign at State FFA Convention.
    - 1. The Interns must be majoring in Agriculture Education at one of the Universities within the State of Tennessee.
    - 2. Applications for Internships will be due at the Tennessee FFA Alumni Convention.
    - 3. The Interns will receive paid registration to the Convention.
    - 4. The Interns will have a paid motel room provided during their convention stay to be funded by t-shirt sales.
  - b. To host a Teach Ag Booth at State FFA Convention that will provide FFA member interaction.
  - c. To establish a Collegiate FFA “Teach AG” t-shirt contest.
    - 1. Applications and Designs will be due at the Tennessee FFA Alumni Convention.
    - 2. The winning design will be produced and sold during State FFA Convention and events throughout the year.
    - 3. Proceeds from t-shirt sales will go towards funding the Collegiate Program and additional profits will be utilized in funding the Region V Conference to be held in Tennessee in 2013.
- III.F.** To have a TAAE representative speak at the new teacher meeting about the benefits of joining their professional organizations.

- III.H.** To have a TAAE representative speak with the teacher educators to discuss the implementation of student membership at the universities and to offer a student membership to TAAE and dues be set at \$10.
- III.I.** To continue the production of the Tennessee Flash Cards.
1. Cards will be available for sale at State Officer Prep Courses, Alumni Convention, State Convention, and Ag Teachers Conference.
- III.J.** To design a TAAE logo as well as develop a one line slogan to be used on TAAE promotional items.
- III.K.** To purchase TAAE promotional items such as pens, lanyards, mugs, bottles, etc.
1. Items will be passed out at registration at CTE conference when dues are paid.
  2. Items will be used in TAAE booth at state convention to market our profession to students.
  3. Some items will be sold to raise funds and the money will be used where it is most needed.

## **Division IV: Public Policy**

### **Purpose of the Committee:**

To develop clear positions on public policy issues reflecting the interests of the profession as well as influence legislators, regulators and administrators to support agricultural education.

**Committee Members**            Melinda Jessee  
                                                 Tina Fletcher  
                                                 Lynsey Butler

- IV.A.** TAAE will identify public policy issues important to agricultural education within Tennessee.
- a. TAAE will coordinate meetings during which public policy positions may be developed or discussed.
  - b. Promote public policy positions to membership for individual involvement.
- IV.B.** Influence legislators, regulators and administrators to support agricultural education.
- a. TAAE will provide information and support to key state agencies.  
          TAAE representatives to serve on the following committees:  
                  State Department of Education Agriculture Joint State Staff  
                  Tennessee FFA Board of Directors  
                  Tennessee FFA Alumni Council  
                  Tennessee FFA Foundation Board of Directors
  - b. A TAAE Legislative Committee will be established to advocate for agricultural education.

## **Division V: Strategic Planning**

### **Purpose of the Committee:**

Enhance the well-being and impact of the agricultural education profession.

**Committee Members**      Matt Crisp  
                                         Bryan Cole  
                                         Pam Farmer-Walker

- V.A.** Maintain a State Program of Activities to be review each year at Conference by the standing TAAE Committees and be posted on the teachers portion of the tnffa website.
- V.B.** Have each region to nominate candidates for the NAAE professional awards and turn those awards in at State FFA Convention to be judged by the TAAE Regional Vice-Presidents and the award winners to be announced at the TAAE meeting or a general session of the Tennessee FFA Convention.
- V.C.** Prepare a package for first year teachers to be given at conference to include our TAAE Constitution, Program of Activities and any other professional material to enhance membership development.
- V.D.** Send out pre-registration forms via e-mail before conference for teachers. This would speed up registration and get numbers and addresses correct.
- V.E.** The outgoing president of TAAE or their designee shall be responsible for presenting during the new teacher workshops about the benefits of joining our professional organizations, what opportunities are available through TAAE and other activities during conference.
- V.F.** Host a Social Event each year at conference.

## **Division VI: Policy & Bylaws**

### **Purpose of the Committee:**

Employ effective human resources and administration practices and to evaluate the TAAE Constitution and By-laws on an annual basis.

**Committee Members**            Glenn Goulder  
                                         Kathryn Ingram  
                                         Kristal Rose

- VI.A.** Maintain a portion of the Tennessee FFA website for teacher news and information.
- VI.B.** Send copies of the TAAE Newsletter to the membership electronically. The newsletter will be generated by the President with the Secretary validating the emails.
- VI.C.** Send a news release to local publications of all TAAE award winners.
- VI.D.** Provide a press release for chapters to utilize after a legislative visit.
- VI.E.** Send a news release to local newspapers of each TAAE officer to include: a picture, the office to which he or she was elected, and a brief description of what TAAE is and does.
- VI.F.** The Secretary's signature should become part of the financial records at the bank chosen by the TAAE in the event of accident or illness.

## **Division VII: Professional Growth**

### **Purpose of the Committee:**

Provide professional development opportunities.

**Committee Members**      DeWayne Webb  
                                                 Jessie Hartle  
                                                 Teresa Crouse

- VII.A.** Maintain a sound working relationship with the Tennessee Legislature while continuing to evaluate and adjust the Quality 12 Month Agriculture Education Program Reporting Instrument.
- VII.B.** Members will be made aware of relevant, innovative technologies through workshops and other means sponsored by local universities as well as business and industry.
- VII.C.** Promote NAAE Communities of Practice during CTE Conference by presenting a break-out session on COP at the 2012 CTE Conference, possibly to be team taught by a TN Ag teacher who uses COP and a regional NAAE member..
- VII.D.** Encourage members to take advantage of NAAE Webinars.
- VII.E.** Work with State Staff in developing CTE Conference workshops.
- VII.F.** Encourage members to attend Region V and NAAE Convention.
- VII.G.** To establish a TAAE Exchange Program to help gather ideas and information for conference planning and ideas would be included in the TAAE newsletter or website.
1. Have one teacher attend another State Conference.
  2. Ask the cooperating state to send one member to Tennessee conference.
  3. Establish a CoP incentive contest to be held at conference and end the 1<sup>st</sup> day of conference. For the TAAE member with the most posts to CoP during that time, TAAE will pay the TAAE dues.
- VII.H.** To schedule a TAAE Committee meeting time during conference on Tuesday to allow for the TAAE President to explain the process, answer questions and initiate discussion on issues for the organization.

## **Division VIII: Legislative**

### **Purpose of the Committee:**

Maintain a presence in the state legislature and a method of handling legislative issues.

**Committee Members**      Harvey Burniston, Chairman  
                                         Terry Shartzter  
                                         Dale Tucker  
                                         Bret Piatt

### **VIII.A. Legislative Visits:**

- a. “FFA Day on the Hill” – held Wednesday during National FFA Week.
  1. Jill Shrum will coordinate the flowers.
  2. Chapters will be encouraged to attend but especially Middle TN Chapters.
- b. Individual Chapter Visits – conducted throughout the year to maintain a constant presence among Capital Hill.
  1. A legislative calendar will be established on the tnffa website to aid chapters in scheduling chapter visits to ensure that all chapters are not attending the same week.
  2. Chapters will be encouraged to bring a gift to their Senator or Representative. (Ex. Flowers, Plant, Produce, Honorary Chapter Degree, etc.)
  3. Chapters will be encouraged to also visit the Tennessee Department of Education and the Tennessee Department of Agriculture while in Nashville.

**VIII.B.** Encourage all teachers, Programs, and Alumni chapters to use the NAAE website to maintain contact with their legislators. Examples include: Inviting them to chapter banquets, letters concerning Perkins Legislation, or support of agricultural bills.

**VIII.C.** Recognize legislators with Honorary degrees or appreciation awards to help build advocacy.

**VIII.D.** To encourage teachers to educate their students of their legislators names and faces.

**VIII.E.** Recommend that each teacher contribute at least \$10.00 to the legislative fund.

**VIII.F.** Pursue the reinstatement of the 6 Regional Agriculture Consultants.

**VIII.G.** Continue to support efforts to maintain the \$500,000 that the Governor has funded to the FFA Foundation.

**VIII.H.** After the Electoral Primary the two candidates for Governor will be visited to discuss Agriculture Education Issues in Tennessee.

**VIII.I.** Provide a link to the NAAE legislative website and TN legislative body to aid chapters in becoming familiar in contacting their congressmen.