

## President Announces Convention

Time has come for us to once again gather in Daytona Beach for the annual convention of the Florida Association, FFA. Although this year has passed by unbelievably fast, I can look back and see that much progress has been made in our state.

Our membership increased this year, and if you check the records you'll find that to be quite uncommon for any State FFA Association. We have had great chapter enthusiasm this year, and

more individual involvement than I can ever remember.

So, my recollections of the past year, and those of my fellow State Officers, are good ones indeed. We have been invited to many chapters and have enjoyed the visits we were able to make. Let me assure you that the ones we did not accept were regretted, but it was just not possible to be everywhere. But those places we were able to visit received us with open arms. And on behalf of the entire group of State Officers, may I thank you for your hospitality and for your thoughtfulness in inviting us.

Not only did Florida FFA chapters open their doors to the State Officers, but also to an international exchange student from Cambridge, England, Desmond Merrill, who many of you came to know as a friend. You also received Sammy Peebles, National Vice-President from the Southern Region, with the same "Sunshine

State" hospitality.

For all your wonderful cooperation, participation, and friendship, may I extend to you a personal invitation to the 44th Annual Convention of the Florida Association, FFA to be held June 12-16 in Peabody Auditorium. Our convention headquarters this year will be the Daytona Plaza, so we won't be so far away from Peabody Auditorium.

May I congratulate all of you on your many accomplishments this year and challenge you to never stop your steady climb upward to successful and progressive leadership in the FFA and the Agricultural world of tomorrow.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in Daytona. So is National Vice-President Sammy Peebles, who will be our special guest this year. Don't forget! June 12-16.

Jimmy Alvarez, State President  
Florida Association, F.F.A.

## FFA Veep from Alabama to be Convention Guest

National FFA Vice President Sammy Peebles will be the Honor Guest at the Forty-Fourth Annual State Convention and Leadership Conference of the Florida Association, June 12-16, Daytona Beach. Many members throughout the state have come to know Sammy during the past year. He made several trips to Florida to participate in many activities.

Vice President Peebles will address the convention on Thursday morning, June 15. A major part of his convention speech will be devoted to the issues of increasing membership and involvement in the FFA program. Sammy will outline a plan of action to unite FFA members and advisors in a nationwide effort to build a stronger FFA Organization.

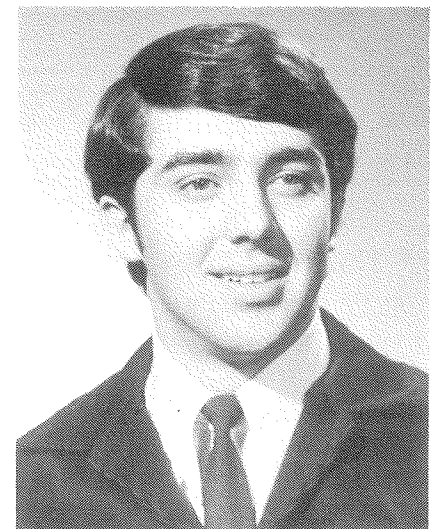
Sammy was elected at the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, last October.

Sammy, 19, of Brewton, Alabama, is a sophomore at Jefferson Davis, Junior College in Brewton. He is the

son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Peebles and has an older sister living away from home. His farming program includes 144 acres on which he presently has 11 acres of corn, five polled Herefords and ten hogs.

A member of the East Brewton FFA Chapter at W.S. Neal High School, Sammy has been president of both his local FFA Chapter and the Alabama FFA Association.

In 1970 Sammy was a summer intern for the White House Conference on Children and Youth. He also served as a Freshman Senator in Student Government at Jefferson Davis College. Other organizations and activities in which Sammy has participated include membership in the Alabama Junior Cattleman's Association where he served as a voting delegate and director. He is also a member of both the American Polled Hereford Association and the American Hereford Association. In high school Sammy earned two letters in varsity basketball, served as



class president and class salutatorian and was a member of the FFA judging team for four years.

Sammy will be in Daytona for the entire week and will participate in many convention activities.

## Electrification Award Sponsored

Sponsorship of the Agricultural Electrification Proficiency Award by the Electric Energy Association was announced recently by the National FFA Foundation, Inc. The signing of an agreement, by Electric Energy Association president, John H. K. Shannahan, was done at EEA headquarters in New York City with National FFA President, Tim Burke of New Hampton, Iowa, representing the Future Farmers of America.

The Agricultural Electrification Proficiency Award is one of 15 FFA award programs recognizing achievements in activities leading to careers in farming and related agribusinesses. The award is presented at local, state and national levels to FFA members who have demonstrated significant achievement in educational and work experience activities in the application of electricity to agricultural and home use.

According to Shannahan, Electric Energy Association's goal is to encourage the application of electric energy to tasks that will continue to improve living standards of the nation and all society.

"It is for this reason that we are proud to have an opportunity to sponsor the FFA Agricultural Electrification Proficiency Award," he said.

"We are certain that this educational activity which encourages

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THE FLORIDA ASSOCIATION, FFA. Sponsored by State Department of Education, Floyd Christian, Superintendent of Public Instruction; Carl W. Proehl, Director of Vocational, Technical, and Adult Education, Tallahassee, Florida.



John Folks, right, of Flower Power receives the first Edison Electric Institute award from Bud Morphis of Oklahoma Public Service, for Florida Power's youth program, judged best in the country. (See story next column).

students to learn about the application of electricity in the home and on the farm will benefit youth and will help our association achieve its goal."

As sponsor of the award program, the Electric Energy Association will provide funds for certificates, plaques and cash awards as well as underwriting some administrative costs of the FFA Agricultural Electrification Award program. As a special project sponsor the Electric Energy Association joins four other companies that have recently agreed to fully sponsor FFA Proficiency Awards.

The FFA Foundation is an organization of businesses, associations and individuals that have joined together to provide funds for incentive awards to FFA members.

The FFA Proficiency Awards, which are sponsored through the FFA Foundation, Inc., by special project sponsors like EEA, encourage FFA members to prepare for careers in the industry of agriculture. Awards in Agricultural Electrification are designed more specifically to encourage students in vocational agriculture to translate classroom instruction in electricity into profit making practical application in the home and on the farm.

All members of the FFA who complete supervised experience programs in agricultural electrification as part of their vocational agricultural training are eligible to apply for the award.

Awards are presented at the local level in the form of a medal. At the state level, the first place winner receives a plaque and a check for \$100.

State winners then compete for recognition in each of the four FFA

administrative regions where the regional winner earns a check for \$250 and a plaque plus partially paid travel expenses to the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. Here his or her agricultural electrification program is judged against winners from each of the three other regions.

During the National FFA Convention a plaque and a check for \$500 is presented to one of the four regional winners judged to have made the most progress toward a career in agricultural electrification.

The State Agricultural Electrification Awards are sponsored by Florida Power Corporation, Florida Power and Light Company, Tampa Electric Company and Gulf Power Company. They also contribute to the EEA Program on the national level.

### John Folks Is Saluted

The Florida Association, Future Farmers of America, salutes John Folks, Director of Agricultural Affairs, Florida Power Corporation, St. Petersburg, for being recognized as having the nation's best youth program in the electric power industry.

Mr. Folks is a past state officer of the FFA, in Florida, 1938-39, from the Williston Chapter and represented the Florida Association at the 13th National Convention in Kansas City as an official delegate.

As Director of Agricultural Affairs, Florida Power Corporation, Mr. Folks works very close with the Florida Association in the areas of electrification, vegetable judging, demonstration contest, cooperation with agriculture teachers in Florida and serves as a true friend of the FFA.

### Bob Hinton Heads to Europe

Robert Hinton, 1970-71 State President of the Florida Association, will depart for a three month tour of Europe on June 6. Bob will visit England and Scotland, where he will work on a farm for two months. He will then tour the United Kingdom, France, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland, and Belgium.

Bob will be representing the Florida Association, FFA, on an International Student Exchange Program.

### Exchange Students To Visit Florida

For several years, Florida has taken an active part in the International Exchange Program sponsored by the Future Farmers of America and the Young Farmers' Clubs. This affiliation has proven itself to be valuable not only to the exchange student, but to FFA members in Florida. The exchangee comes to the United States so that he may learn more about our agricultural practices and the American way of life at the same time, we become acquainted with the European people's life-style and agriculture.

This year we will have two international visitors to Florida. These same two will also visit Indiana during their stay in the United States, staying half their time in each place. They will arrive in the United States in time for the State Presidents' Conference in Washington, D.C., beginning July 24. They will then go directly to their host state.

Accompanying our State President home will be Robert Benson, 24, of Agingdon, England. Robert lives at home on a 360 acre farm. His farming includes mainly dairy, beef, and crops. He has been in the Young Farmers' Club for over 14 years, and is an international committee member on the national level. He attended the Berkshire College of Agriculture where he took a general agricultural course.

Traveling home with Indiana's State President will be Colin Manson, 21, of Forres, Scotland. Colin lives on a 600 acre farm, 300 of which are used for crops. On the other 300 acres he has 130 brood cows, 200 ewes and 40 sows. He has been in the Young Farmers' Club for several years and has competed in Livestock Judging and Public Speaking. He is at present studying for his National Diploma in Agriculture at the North of Scotland College of Agriculture.

During the first part of September, Robert and Colin will exchange places and Colin will then remain in Florida for the duration of his stay in the United States. Both Robert and Colin will attend our National FFA Convention in Kansas City so that they may become more familiar with the Future Farmers of America.

If you are interested in hosting one of these students for a few days, please contact our Executive Secretary, Mr. Joe Kirkland, at the State FFA office in Tallahassee.

## FFA Alumni Program Told

The personal experiences of thousands of youth during their FFA days have been immeasurable in preparing them for their future and in making agriculture the dynamic industry it is today. Many men realize the value of those experiences and want to make sure that youth—today and tomorrow—have the same opportunity they had.

The need for public understanding of agriculture's role in our national life and support for education in agriculture becomes greater every day. Those who have been members of the FFA and have entered farming or have gone on to another position in agri-business, or to another field, comprehend this need.

Former members of the FFA and NFA realize more than any one else what the FFA means to youth, and the opportunities it offers to young people in developing leadership, character, and good citizenship—as well as knowledge in agriculture. Many of them have expressed the desire to help assure that others are aware of the contributions of the FFA, and with the future of agriculture depending on today's youth, that the program receive the support it must have. This is particularly important now, with the number of young people enrolled in vocational agriculture classes increasing, while public understanding of the need for making agricultural education and FFA activities available to young people has not kept pace.

The desire of those who have been members of the FFA in the past to become involved and join together in a united effort—to help educate others in agriculture and generate support, to help build confidence in today's FFA members and provide inspiration, to be kept informed about the FFA and to share experiences and ideas with others—has led to the establishment of the Florida FFA Alumni Association.

Florida was the 27th state to be chartered by the National FFA Alumni Association.

### Membership

Membership is open to former active, collegiate, or honorary FFA or NFA members and both present and former professional vocational agricultural educators. National membership dues are only \$4.00 per year—around a penny a day. Life membership dues are \$100.00. Membership dues will enable the

Alumni Association to perform the needed services. In line with the FFA tradition, the FFA Alumni Association is expected to be self-supporting. No state alumni dues are required to be a member in good standing as long as national dues are paid.

### Purposes

The purposes of the FFA Alumni Association are:

1. To support and promote the FFA organization, FFA activities, and vocational agriculture on the local, state and national levels.

2. To provide a tie to the FFA and to assist FFA and agricultural education personnel to involve former members in worthy activities.

3. To promote a greater knowledge of the agricultural industry and support education in agriculture.

4. To cooperate with the National FFA Board of Directors, National FFA Foundation Board of Trustees, and the National FFA Foundation Sponsoring Committee.

### Activities

As a member, you will have an opportunity to participate in organizational activities planned to fulfill the FFA Alumni Association's goals. These activities may be planned and carried through from both chartered state and local affiliates as well as on the national level. Each will plan and coordinate projects and meetings to meet their area needs.

If you are proud of FFA, if you want to help youth, if you want to join with others with the same goals and ideals, then the Florida FFA Alumni Association can help you satisfy those desires.

Don't Watch us Grow—Help Us Grow!

Contact the State Office in Tallahassee if you are interested in additional details about the Alumni Association, Department of Education, Florida Association, FFA, Knott Building, Tallahassee, Florida 32304.



## FFA Conference At Washington

National FFA Washington Conferences are for FFA Officers and Advisors. The program is operated by the National FFA Organization in cooperation with the U. S. Office of Education, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D. C.

The function of the Washington Conferences is to further develop leader confidence and skills. Chapter and Area FFA officers will meet face to face in round table discussions with Senators, Congressmen, National FFA Officers, Washington agricultural leaders, and other FFA Chapter Officers from across the nation.

Officers will gain a first hand appreciation of our nation's great heritage through special visits and programs at historical sites and memorials in the Nation's Capital.

Emphasis will also be placed on obtaining new ideas for chapter action, including fund raising, public relations, community development and the effective use of state and national FFA activities and services. Participants will visit the FFA Supply Service, the National Future Farmer Magazine headquarters, and discuss their chapter needs with the staff at the National FFA Center.

How to Apply — The conference will be held at Alexandria, Virginia at the Olde Colony Motor Lodge just outside of Washington, D. C. near the National FFA Center. Each conference will begin at 8:00 p. m. on Monday and end at 8:00 a. m. on Saturday.

Cost for each conference representative, advisor or wife will be approximately \$98.00 for all expenses while in the Washington area. Travel to and from Washington is the responsibility of the chapter. Advisors are encouraged to attend. Reserve space for your chapter representatives now.

## FFA Dates to Remember

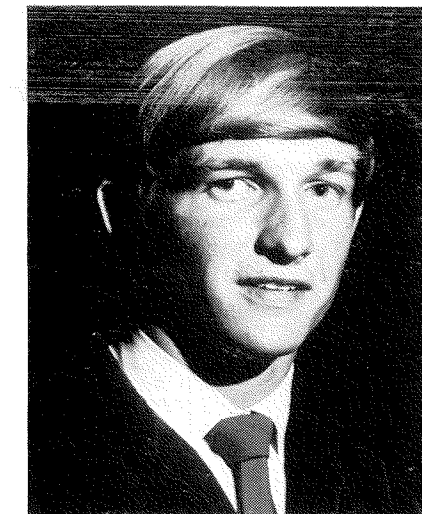
June 12-16	State Convention, Daytona Beach.
June 19-24	Washington Conference, Leadership.
June 26-July 1	Washington Conference, Citizenship.
July 9-14	Forestry Camp (Districts VI-IX).
July 16-21	Forestry Camp (Districts I-V).
July 10-15	Washington Conference, American Heritage.
July 17-22	Washington Conference, Patriotism.
August 17-20	State Leadership School and FFA Operation Up-Date Workshop, Gainesville.
October 9-13	National FFA Convention, Kansas City.

Applications are available in the State Office.

Upon receipt of the Chapter Application and a \$20.00 deposit, for each chapter participant, additional conference information and individual registration cards will be sent to your chapter. The deposit is refundable up to June 15.

The dates for the programs are as follows:

- Leadership — June 19-24
- Citizenship — June 26-July 1
- American Heritage — July 10-15
- Patriotism — July 17-22



Jimmy Alvarez, state FFA president, will preside at Daytona convention.

## Exec Committee Feb. 4 Minutes

The meeting was called to order (at Tampa) by President Jimmy Alvarez with the official opening ceremony. All officers were present. Also present were: Joe Kirkland, John Denmark, James Brown, Jim Knight, Freddie Garner, J. M. Everett, Helen Jones, Sandy Pace, and Carol Wilkes.

President Alvarez introduced the officers, secretaries and guests. Lenn moved that the minutes of the last Executive Committee Meeting be approved as read. Jerry Tarrents seconded the motion. Carried.

Jimmy introduced Bill Weinkauff, chairman, Promote Agriculture Committee, Florida Student Agricultural Council of the University of Florida. Bill discussed their new promote agriculture campaign through distribution of the bumper sticker, "Agriculture Your Life Support System."

All members of the Executive Committee agreed that the campaign should not be used by chapters as a money-making project, but rather that the stickers be purchased at cost and distributed in communities by local chapters as part of their public relations program. At this point Lester Wells moved that the State Association support the program to distribute the stickers during the 1972-73 school year. Eugene Yancey seconded the motion. Carried.

Ed. Note—Space does not permit printing remainder of minutes.

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