

MISSOURI YOUNG FARMERS

**Click To See Features
Inside Our Special
Online Issue**

***Featured Newsletter
Supporters:***

Farm Credit Services 2
Nodaway County Agri-Leaders 5
MFA 13

Featured Articles:

President's Message 3
Summer Tour Recap 4-5
2013 Photo Contest Winners 6
Photo Contest Registration 7
Seller Beware 8
2014 Convention Preview 8
Scholarship Winners 8
2013 National Institute 9-10
Meet Your State Officers 11-13
Missouri Ag Calendar 13





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The President's Pen

I sure like the feeling of a good plan being drawn up and executed. That's just what happened this past July 28 during the summer tour. When I was told that the Maryville chapter was to host the summer tour I was a bit scared of what the results might be and I had a lot of questions. Who was going to help, who would donate enough money for us to at least break even, which farms and businesses would let us tour their facilities, would we get enough participants to make the event worth our time and donors money? I found out the answers over the past several months.

The Nodaway County Agri-Leaders has seen a large change in membership since I started attending meetings in 2000. Many of the old regulars I started with have faded away and new faces have taken their places. I was worried that old members would not come back, and the new ones would not want to help, but I was very wrong. We started out in December with a small group of members that came up with a general plan and a handful of places to stop. I was shocked when we had about a 90 percent success rate with our list of stops.

My question about who would let us tour their place was answered. We continued our meetings up through July and our crew just kept growing. I never knew who might be at the next meeting. We had former members who had not participated in the past several years show up as well non-members who just wanted to help out their friends and neighbors. I was amazed to see how personal connections worked to the committee's advantage. Someone on the committee knew the right person to get a donation, a meal, where to find people to cook and serve meals, host tour stops and so on.

The donors thought we had a good program in the makings and several companies wanted to jump on board with us. We ended up receiving enough donations to make some money; I imagine we will start our scholarship program up again. I am thankful for the support the local and state businesses gave us with their generous donations. I am also proud of our local members that helped make the 2013 tour a success.

I learned to have faith in those around me and surround myself with team players. Everyone on our team had a niche and we used those niches to our advantage. I felt we put together a great tour and I heard several positive comments during the tour to back that up. We ended up with more than 150 participants so I needn't have worried about who would want to come. It turns out we organized a great plan and executed it.

Thanks to all of the committee members, donors, helpers, and those who attended the 2013 tour.

Sincerely,

*Nathan Honan,
President*



Missouri Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives EXECUTIVE BOARD

Nathan Honan, President (NW)
10897 120th St Elmo, MO 64445
660-541-5693 nehonan@iamotelephone.com

Derek Lowrey, Vice President (NW)
321 SE 60th St Trenton, MO 64683
(660) 654-1643 sarah.lowrey@mo.usda.gov

Fred Weiker, Past President (NE)
201 N Howard Fayette, MO 65348
(660) 728-3700 fweiker@att.net

Jordan Yoder, Vice-President/Treasurer (NE)
RR1 Box 216 Novelty, MO 63460
(660) 341-3294 jjyoderian@gmail.com

Jody Bergman, 1st Vice President (C)
207 N Waverly, PO Box 69 Alma, MO 64001
(660) 580-0128 jtbergman@almanet.net

Tony Miesner, Vice-President/Sentinel (SE)
241 Pebble Ln Perryville, MO 63775
(573) 768-2541 tonymiesner@att.net

Jacob Bachmann, Vice-President, Secretary (SE)
21003 Hwy C Perryville, MO 63775
(573) 768-5719 jbachmann6@gmail.com

Jennifer Thogmartin, Vice-President/Reporter (SW)
11737 Norway Road Neosho, MO 64850
(417) 437-5823 thogmartinjennifer@neosho.k12.mo.us

Lucas Thogmartin, Vice-President (SW)
11737 Norway Road Neosho, MO 64850
(417) 825-3684 thogmartinjennifer@neosho.k12.mo.us

Representing DESE

Leon Busdieker, Advisor
PO Box 480 Jefferson City, MO 65102
(636) 338-1002 leon.busdieker@dese.mo.gov

Lisa Evans, Executive Secretary
PO Box 480 Jefferson City, MO 65102
(573) 680-4107 lisa.evans@dese.mo.gov

Representing FBMA

John Sponaugle, Adult Instructor
Boonslick Tech Ed Center
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(660) 882-5306 jsponaugle@boonville.k12.mo.us

Joanie Baker, Adult Instructor
Knox Co R-1 High School
Rt 3, Box 59 Edina, MO 63537-9603
(660) 397-2231 bakerj@knoxr1.us

Representing MVATA

John Morgan
Agricultural Education Instructor
Lex-La-Ray AVTS
2323 High School Dr Lexington, MO 64067-1525
(660) 259-2264, ext 219 morganjohnh@hotmail.com

Newsletter Staff

Jennie Bedsworth
(573) 291-7315 jennie.bedsworth@gmail.com

State Tour Shows Off Northwest



Northwest Missouri State University was the base of this year's Missouri Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives State Tour. The tour was hosted by the Nodaway County Agri-Leaders on July 28-30.

We started out with a BBQ pork meal and entertainment by Andrew McCrea. Dessert was homemade ice cream churned 13 gallons at a time by a belt from an antique tractor.

On the 29th we started out with breakfast and then headed south of Maryville aboard Heartland Motor Coaches. The stops on this route were Byergo Angus, Barmann Sod Farm, and Kawasaki motors.

The Byergos welcomed visitors with drinks and doughnuts followed by a presentation in their personal sale ring facility. They also had some stock on display. The first rain in more than a month altered the Barmann's plans to demonstrate sod cutting; instead they displayed their equipment in a machine shed and gave a talk about their sod business. The final morning stop was Kawasaki Motors where attendees were able to see how they build lawnmower engines.

After a quick meal the buses headed north of town. The first stop was the Stiens Land and Livestock feed yard. Mr. Stiens talked about his cattle feeding and grain operations. Dr. Freuh and Silver Spur Salers were invited to Steins to display stock and give a presentation.

Buses then headed on up the road to Hopkins to see the poly tanks built



Top Photo: Visitors relaxed at Honan Family Farms. Above: Hurst Greenery welcomed tour-goers.

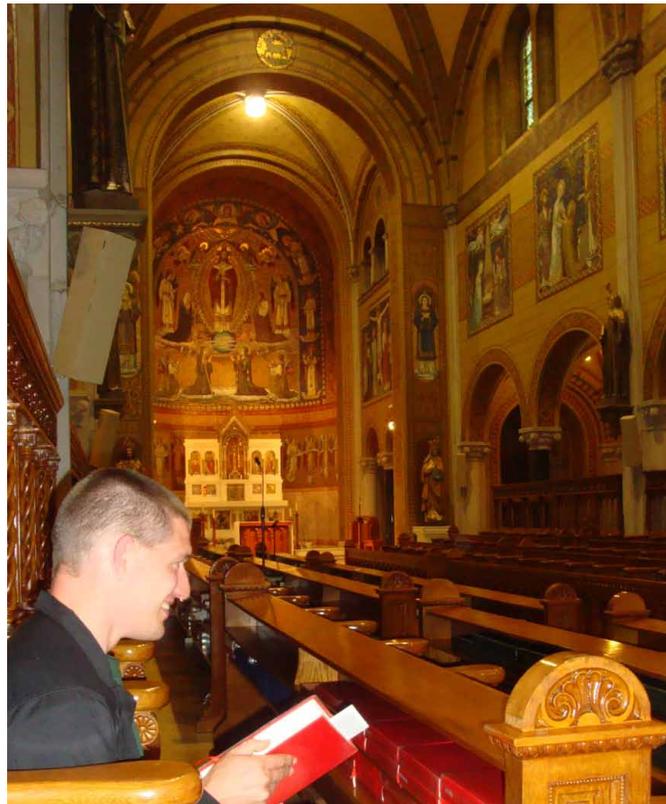
at J.L. Houston Co. From there, the buses rolled across one of the poorest blacktops in Northwest Missouri which made some riders sick.

They arrived at Honan Farm where visitors had cookies, tea and lemonade. They listened to a presentation by the MYF/YFW President Nathan Honan about Honans' century farm that produces corn, beans, clover, oats and yearling steers. Nathan's parents, aunts and uncles were also on hand to answer questions.

The final stop on Monday was Blake Hurst's family greenhouses. Blake and his family displayed equipment that makes their jobs slightly easier, and Blake gave a history lesson about their operation. Some took an alternative tour to see the Monastery in Conception and the Sisters of Perpet-

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NWMSU Foundation
Fastenal Company
Heart of America Tractor Cruise
Dexter Barmann
Mizzou Mini-Pulling Tractors



*Photo far left: Members toured the Byergo Angus Farm.
Left: Attendees on the alternative tour visited Conception Abbey.*

Thanks to our 2013 Tour Hosts

Department of Agricultural Sciences, NWMSU

NWMSU Arboretum

Benedictine Convent of Perpetual Adoration

Conception Abbey

Honan Farms

Victorian Rental Getaway

Silver Spur Salers

Stiens Grain and Livestock

Houston Polytank Steel

Fabricator

Missouri Moisture Analyzers

Byergo Angus Farm

Barmann Sod Farm

Honan Farms

Hurst Greenery

Kawasaki Motors

Manufacturing Corp.

ual Adoration in Clyde. That group also got to see beautifully restored house in Maryville that is now a bed and breakfast.

Monday evening a pork loin supper was served by Missouri Farm Bureau. Most went back to their hotel rooms soon after because it was cold and windy.

Tuesday was Northwest Day. Rod

final presentation by Missouri Moisture Analyzers which make grain testing equipment and Chlorophyll which produces different styles of chip board out of sorghum.

Northwest faculty served sandwiches and chips for lunch and then the state officers made some announcements and the 2013 summer tour adjourned.

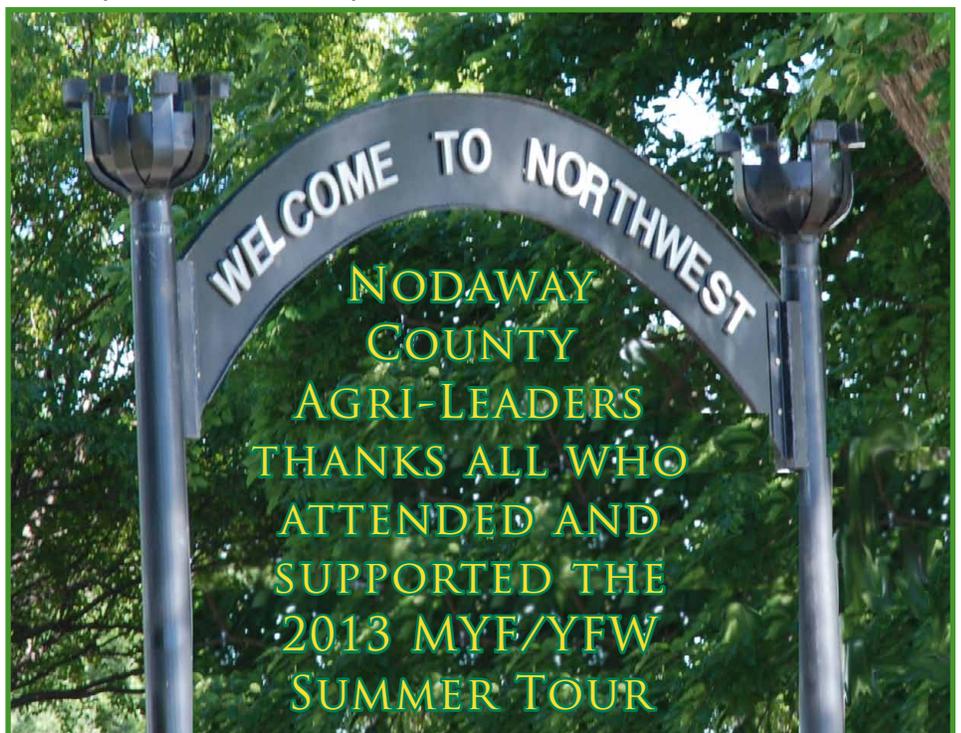




Photo contest highlights rural life for young farmers



A photo contest was introduced for the first time at the 2013 Missouri Young Farmers/ Young Farm Wives State Convention. To enter the 2014 contest, see the entry form on page 7. Congratulations to this year's winners. They include:

- Animals Category: **Treena DeVault** (Photo top left)
- Rural Work Day: **Ted DeVault** (Photo top right)
- Landscape: **Ted DeVault** (Photo Above)
- People: **Steve Yates** (Photo left and featured on cover)

Click on each category above to see a full screen image.

Enter the 2014 MYF/YFW Photo Contest

Join the 2014 MYF/YFW Photo Contest! The purpose of the Missouri Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives photo contest is to showcase amateur photography of rural and agricultural Missouri. Below are the contest rules and instructions.

Categories: Landscapes People Rural Workday Animals

Entry Criteria:

1. The Missouri Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives photo contest is open to all members who are amateur photographers (one who receives less than half of their disposable income from photography).
2. All photos must be taken by the entrant.
3. Entrants may submit multiple photos per category.
4. Entrants may enter all four categories if desired.
5. A complete entry form must accompany each photo. Do not staple or paper clip; the form taped to the back of the image is fine.
6. Photos must be taken within the last two years.
7. Color and black and white photos are eligible.
- *8. If identifiable persons are included in a photo, a release must accompany the entry.
9. Youth entries must include the signature of a parent or guardian on the entry form.
10. All photos must be submitted in print at the state convention. Photos must be 8x10 and displayed in a frame when submitted.
11. All entries submitted become the property of Missouri Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives, giving MYF/YFW permission to use them in publications, promotions, calendars or displays, with proper credit given to the photographer.
12. Entries may not be returned, however frames will be returned.

To Enter: You must deliver your photo to the State Convention held in Columbia.

Judging:

1. Judges will be member of the Missouri Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives Executive committee.
2. Judges may move a photo to a new category if it is more suitable.
3. A photo can be disqualified if it does not meet all the requirements.

Deadline: Entries must be delivered by Feb. 7, 2014. No late entries.

Winning Notifications: Winners will be announced at the Missouri Young Farmer and Young Farm Wives Annual Convention, February 9, 2014, in Columbia.

Contest Contact: Jennifer Thogmartin (417) 437-5823 thogmartinjennifer@neosho.k12.mo.us

*Note: Photo release(s) may be required (see above). The release(s) should state: "I, _____, do hereby acknowledge that the individuals in the photos understand the sponsoring organization claim the rights to all photos, including the rights to publish, upload on the internet, or televise, for use in promoting a positive message for agriculture and that their name, likeness, or image may be used. I agree to release and hold harmless the sponsoring organization from and against any claim, expense or liability arising from or related to submission, participation in the contest, and appearance on the program and/or acceptance of any prize," followed by a signature and the date.

Missouri Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives 2014 Photo Contest Entry Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Select Photo Category: ___ Landscapes ___ People ___ Rural Workday ___ Animals

Description of your photo with date, location, persons, season, etc: _____

Deadline: Entries must be received/delivered by Feb. 7, 2014. No late entries.

Mark your calendar: 2014 MYF/YFW State Convention is Feb. 7-9

Things are already coming together for the 2014 Missouri Young Farmers State Convention. It hopes to be a big fun event for everyone this year. The convention will be held at the Courtyard Marriot in Columbia on Feb. 7-9.

Pre-registration is \$35 to \$50 at the convention with kids 12 and under for half-price. Don't forget to get ready for the photo contest, toy show, and craft show. Speakers are being booked for another great set of seminars. After all the fun had last year the mini tour will be back again. On Friday before the convention there will be a tour of locations in and around Columbia for a fun afternoon. Click here to see the photo entry form on page 7. Be sure to watch for the winter edition for registration and more details.

Member advises: 'Seller beware'

Buyer beware is a pretty common saying, but when talking about hay sales, I think buyers and sellers should beware.

My younger brother and I had a negative incident with hay sales this summer. We had baled hay for one of our landlords on shares. Said landlord had been selling hay to a customer for a few years, so we did not communicate with the customer and let the landlord negotiate for us. The landlord and customer had agreed on a price and our landlord delivered the hay.

When we received our check, it was for only 2/3 of what it should have been, based on the landlord's and customer's agreement. I called the customer and said there was a mistake, and I either needed the rest of the money, or I could come and get the hay if he didn't want to pay



Scholarship supports future ag teachers

The Missouri YF/YFW awarded six scholarships to college students preparing to become agricultural education teachers. Winners were announced at the 2013 MYF/YFW Summer Tour held in Maryville on July 28-30, 2013. The recipients were each nominated by one of the five universities in Missouri that train agricultural education teachers. To be eligible for the scholarship, students needed to plan to teach agricultural education in Missouri upon graduation, complete the application and attend the MYF/YFW Summer Tour. While at the tour they were interviewed by the scholarship committee. The silent auction at the State MYF/YFW Convention each February helps to fund the scholarships.

Winners are shown with MYF/YFW committee members in the photo above from left to right: Jordan Yoder, committee member; Tony Miesner, committee member; Lydia Holland – Southeast MO State University (Sullivan); David Slater – Northwest MO State University (Trenton); Ryan Carr – Missouri State University (Webb City); Jill Blakenship – University of MO (Barnett); Justin Mauss – MO State University (Bois D'Arc); Jessica Murphy – Northwest MO State University (Maryville); Lucas Thogmartin, MYF committee member; Fred Weiker, MYF committee member.

what was agreed upon. He decided he wouldn't pay the remaining balance, and said that we would be arrested for stealing if we tried to repossess the hay. At this time, we felt very fortunate the hay was only 30 miles away, and not in another state. It was agreed between the landlord and my younger brother and I that something had to be done. Small-claims court seemed to be the best option. We won our small-claims case thanks to the landlord's involvement as a witness.

The proof in small-claims was tough without the aid of a written agreement.

This sale was done like most deals we make. It was agreed to with a "hand shake". This is how most farmers do business – oral contracts. I would strongly encourage if you are doing business with someone new, to have something in writing, whether you are the buyer or seller, to prevent situations such as this.

- Contributed by Derek Lowrey

2013 NYFEA Institute
December 4th – 7th, 2013
San Antonio, Texas

NYFEA Registration Form

Hotel: **Omni San Antonio Hotel at the Colonnade**, 9821 Colonnade Boulevard, San Antonio, Texas 78230.

Phone: (210) 691-8888, Fax: (210) 691-1128. See hotel information on page 8 .

Note: NYFEA attendees let the hotel know you are with NYFEA Institute group.

Schedule: See the brochure link on page 9 of the MYF/YFW newsletter.

- ❖ **Wed., Dec. 4th** – King Ranch Tour – Leaves Hotel @ 7:15am and returns @ 4:45pm. (includes lunch) (\$75.00 per person payable to Texas Young Farmers separate from the NYFEA Institute)
- ❖ **Thurs. Dec. 5th** – Breakfast at Hotel, Morning - Mission San Jose and James Madison High School Tours, Lunch, Afternoon – Downtown San Antonio (Alamo, Mexican Market and The Riverwalk), “Taste of Texas” at the Hotel from 6:30pm – 9:30pm.
- ❖ **Friday, Dec. 6th** – Breakfast at Hotel, All Day, Lunch included, Tours of the “Hill Country” (Wildseed Farm, Becker Vineyards, LBJ Ranch and Johnson City). Followed by dinner at Luckenbach, TX with a dance.
- ❖ **Sat., Dec. 7th** – NYFEA Institute Activities at the Hotel. Noon – Luncheon followed by a Texas Style Scholarship Auction. Other NYFEA Activities will be noted in registration packet.

Costs:

- ❖ **\$75** - King Ranch Tour (This is separate from the NYFEA and sponsored by TYF.) See details on the Texas Young Farmer homepage (link is on page 8)
- ❖ **\$275** - Registration for NYFEA Members for all days listed payable through NYFEA.

Register online at NYFEA website – see links on page 8 of the newsletter.

If a computer is not available, you can mail this Registration Form and Registration Fees (payable to NYFEA) to:

NYFEA: P. O. Box 20326, Montgomery, AL 36120

Early Bird Registration Deadline: October 15, 2013

Name(s): _____ YF State: _____ Area: _____ Chapter: _____

Address: _____ City, State and Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Phone: (____) _____ - _____

All Texans attending as NYFEA attendees

please register through NYFEA for all NYFEA events:

King Ranch Special Tour on Wed. Dec. 4th \$75 each **(Use Registration Form on Texas Young Farmer Website)**

NYFEA Attendance to all events: \$275 each # _____ @ \$275 = _____

NYFEA Daily Rate is \$100 each day Thursday # _____ @ \$100 = _____

NYFEA Daily Rate is \$100 each day Friday # _____ @ \$100 = _____

NYFEA Daily Rate is \$100 each day Saturday # _____ @ \$100 = _____

NYFEA Student Rate is \$239 all events # _____ @ \$239 = _____

(Students must attend AG Communication & YALE Pgm)

TOTAL DUE: _____

Credit Card Information: Number: _____ **Exp Date:** _____

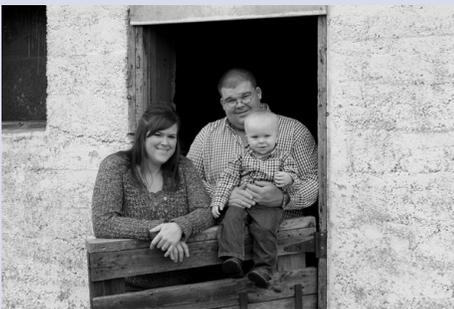
Signature: _____



Photo below left: Jennifer, Lucas and Mack Thogmartin pose for a family photo. Left: Mack gets an early start at the show cattle business. Below: Nicki and Nathan Honan show off little ones Brewer and Addison.

Get to know your state officers

We asked some members of the state executive team to answer a few questions to help members and other readers get to know them better. Here's what they had to say.



Jennifer Thogmartin, Vice-President Southwest District

How are you involved in Missouri Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives?

I live in Neosho and have been a part of the East Newton Young Farmers for the past 4 years. I have attended the state convention and summer tours the past few years, as well as the National Institutes in Memphis and Kansas City.

Are you involved in other areas of Missouri agriculture?

My husband and I raise corn, soybeans and wheat. We also have a commercial cow/calf operation and background our calves and sell as yearlings. Along with our farming operation, we own and operate a custom agriculture

spraying business and I am an FFA Advisor and Agriculture Teacher at Neosho. Agriculture is a very important part of our lives. My husband and I are both fourth-generation farmers and are passing our love of agriculture on to our son Mack, who is 2. Mack truly loves farming and being around cattle. He is his happiest when he is able to "go farm with dad."

What are some favorite MYF/YFW memories?

My favorite part of being involved in Young Farmers is the opportunity to network with other people who have the same mindset as you. Being able to visit with them and talk about how they have overcome challenges and obstacles is good motivation to keep working towards your goals and preserving American agriculture.

What's the best part of Missouri Young Farmers and being involved in Missouri agriculture?

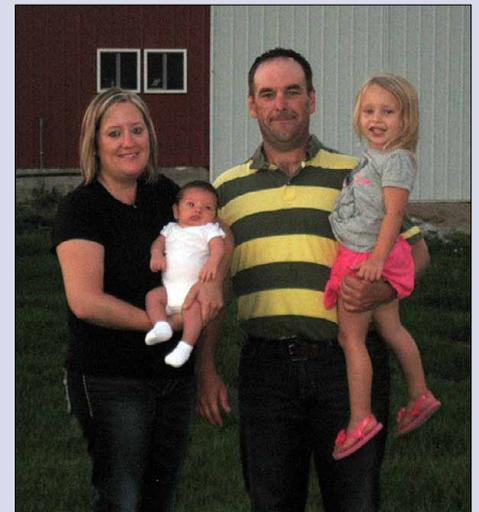
I think it is a great time to be involved in agriculture and the best part about our Young Farmer chapter is the members. We have members that span over 50 years and it is a great resource to be able to look to

those older members for advice.

What would you like to say to readers?

Now, more than ever, it is important to network with other producers and those involved in agriculture. We need to be able to have those connections to tell our story and protect our industry. Young Farmers is a great way to make those connections with others from across the state, and nation, and be able to work together to promote the industry we all care about so much.

Nathan Honan, President Northwest District



How are you involved in Missouri Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives?

I've been a member of the Nodaway County Agri-Leaders in Maryville since 2000. I've attended the state convention, run the farm show booth and the summer tour for the first time this summer, the national convention in Kansas City as well as local and district meetings.

Is your family involved as well?

My wife Nicki is a past district and state officer and an ag teacher at South Nodaway High school and an FFA advisor. Our three-year-old daughter Addison goes to all the MYF meetings and events with us.

How else are you involved in Missouri agriculture?

I am a 5th generation Farmer from Elmo. We grow corn, waxy corn, soybeans, oats, clover for hay and seed, and background cattle on silage and hay through winter and then on grass-only through the summer months.

Do you have a favorite MYF/YFW memory?

I was tour guide during the National Institute in Kansas City. This event sold me on being involved beyond the local level. I will never forget it because of the new friends I made and all the people who told me what a good job I did and asked questions about life in Northwest Missouri after the tour was over.

What else would you like to say to readers?

I really enjoy the annual local meeting because I get to visit with guys that I don't see the rest of the year because of the distance I live away from the rest of the members. I also get to find out information from others' experiences or learn about equipment that I am looking at purchasing for the coming year.

**Jody Bergman,
Vice-President
Central District**

What's your home chapter?

I am from the Santa Fe Agri-Leaders Chapter of Missouri Young Farmers. I live in Alma, within part of the consolidated school district know as Santa Fe R-X School District.

What activities are you a part of?

I have been actively involved in the Santa Fe Agri-Leaders Chapter since it was chartered. My state and regional activities have included the MYF/YFW executive board, 2011 National Institute in Missouri Committee and the Central District Representative. Local activities include founding charter president, multiple chapter board roles, the Grain Symposium Committee, Crop Demonstration Plot Committee, Summer Tour Committee, Annual Meeting Committee, Win-

ter Seminar Series Committee and the Outreach/Networking BBQ team.

Is your family also involved in Missouri Young Farmers/Young Farm Wives?

Yes. My wife Tiffany, my parents and brother are founding members of the local chapter. My Brother Jeff has been the local and state president not to mention served on numerous committees. My mother, Mary Jane, has catered for the local chapter, state tour and numerous committee functions. My three sons, Caleb, Connor, and Caedon, have participated in local, state and national functions to the degree that they can since we could carry and/or hold their hands to an event. My wife, Tiffany, and I are expecting a fourth son in December.

How else are you involved in agriculture?

I actively farm within a family operation than now spans four generations and includes row crop, hay, custom-farming and cow-calf operations. I also maintain a fulltime position as the Parks and Recreation director for the City of Concordia.

What are some favorite MYF/YFW memories?

It has been a great honor and exciting experience to be a part of a group of like-minded men, women and families that came together to start, maintain and grow a local chapter of Missouri Young Farmers. This has included successfully hosting a true family event with the Summer Tour and then taking that same neighborly comfort to the next level in a successful National Institute in Kansas City.

What else would you like to say to readers?

Thank you to all those that have shown a lifetime of support to Missouri Young Farmers. Share your own stories of sweat, pride and enjoyment with someone new so they and you won't be a stranger to this organization. Each of you has something, maybe several things, to offer. Volunteer those talents to build upon what we have.

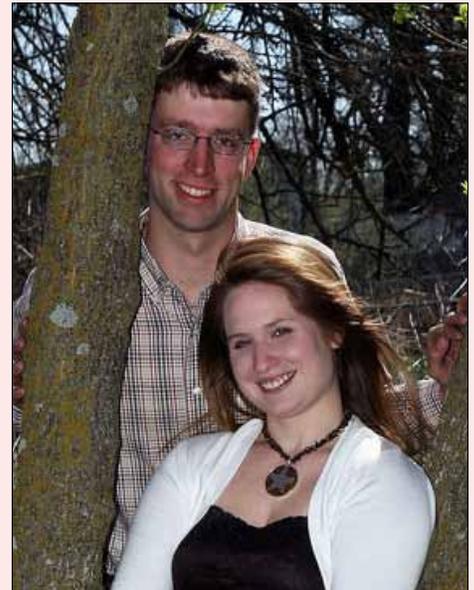


Photo: Derek Lowrey poses with his wife Sarah; both are members of Chillicothe Young Farmers.

**Derek Lowrey, Vice-President
Northwest District**

Tell the readers a little about your involvement in MYF/YFW.

I have been a member of the Chillicothe Young Farmers Chapter for three years. I live near Trenton in the north central part of the state. I went two years at North Central Missouri College before transferring to Northwest Missouri State University where I graduated with a Bachelor of Technology in Agriculture. I worked at the University dairy farm, which is where I met my wife Sarah. We have been married for just over three years.

Is your family also involved in agriculture?

Sarah is a farm loan officer for Farm Service Agency. We also farm with my dad and younger brother. Our farming operation consists of corn, soybeans, wheat, oats, and we also background several head of heifers. In addition, we custom farm quite a bit in our area.

What other activities are you a part of?

In my free time, I enjoy collecting and restoring John Deere two cylinder and new generation tractors. I also collect any old equipment and have a large collection of new old stock parts. We use all these tractors on our farm including anything from a 1937 John

Deere A all the way up to my 1973 John Deere 7520.

What's your favorite thing about being involved in MYF/YFW?

My favorite part of Young Farmers is getting to talk to other farmers in my area. It is interesting to discuss operations that are similar to mine and see how they deal with situations. It is good to talk with both established farmers and young farmers just starting, like me. These meetings provide a great source of information.

Watch future newsletter issues for more about the state MYF/YFW officers.

Upcoming Missouri Ag Events

MISSOURI AG CALENDAR - CLICK ON EVENT FOR DETAILS

Provided by Missouri Department of Agriculture

2013

September 21: South Farm Showcase at South Farm Research Center, Columbia

September 25: Forage Systems Field Day at Forage Systems Research Center, Columbia

October 4: Wurdack Field Day at Hugo Wurdack Research Center, Cook Station

October 5: Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Center Field Day, New Franklin

2014

January 23-25: Heart of America Dairy Expo, Ramada Oasis Hotel and Convention Center (formerly Missouri Dairy Forum), Springfield

February 7-9: Missouri Young Farmers State Convention

February 8: Missouri Nut Growers Assn. Annual Meeting Community Center (After Jan. 1, visit: www.missourinutgrowers.org), Nevada

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