

Vienna FFA attends National Convention

By Thomas McDonald,
Assistant Reporter

On Thursday October 31st, 2002, sixteen member of the Vienna FFA Chapter went to Louisville Kentucky to the National FFA Convention. The sixteen members include: Heather Shanks, Chris Shanks, Kyle Miller, Thomas McDonald, John Green, Nick David, Crissy Harris, Bradly Robbins, Becky Hood, David Hutchison, Jeremy Smith, Jacob Cahill, Michael Hutchison, chaperones; Dewayne Shanks, Pat Hutchison and Advisor Alan Freeman.

After arriving to the convention center we met with David Hutchison our National FFA Chorus member for group pictures and then checked into the hotel and had dinner at Cracker Barrel. Returning to the Convention Center we

attended the third convention session. The third session included an introduction to the National FFA Foundations Sponsor's Board, Recognition of sponsors for 50, 35, 25 and 15 years of sponsoring the FFA and the Retiring Address by Robin Niehaus, National FFA Secretary. After the session we had some fun as we attended the Steve Holy and Brad Paisly concert.

Friday we headed our for some "Mystery Stops". They included the Patton Museum of Calvary and Armor at Fort Knox, Kentucky. They had tanks and armaments from throughout history with the most recent being from the Persian Gulf War. We then went to the Schmidt Coca-Cola Museum in Elizabethtown.

They had memorabilia from a s far back as 1892. After the mystery stops we went to the convention and entered the Career Show. Agricultural businesses, colleges, and universities from all across the country had booths setup to help explain what they do and who they want to hire. We met to make our way to the 6th Convention Session, the sixth session features national FFA Proficiency Award winners from Wildlife Production and management to Agricultural Communications. We then attended the National FFA Band and Chorus Concert where we were able to watch David Hutchison perform. The seventh session included the retiring address by Barrett Keene, National FFA Vice President; National Creed Speaking Award and National Public Speaking Awards. The Keynote Speaker was Mamie McCullough - motivational speaker.

At 5:30 a.m. it was time to getup ad check out of the hotel for the last day. We left for convention and met with Mr. and Mrs. Doug Cahill, Bonnie Cahill, Nathaniel and Jacob Cahill, prior to the American FFA Degree Ceremonies. It was awesome to see the first two members of our chapter to ever receive the American FFA Degree. We took some time to get pictures afterwards and then spent some time in the FFA Mall. The Ninth Session included the retiring address by Abbie Kammerzell, National FFA Vice President and the national Career Development Event Results. The keynote speaker for this session was Mr. Baxter Black, Cowboy Poet. As the day continued we attended the Tenth and Final Session on the 75th national FFA Convention with Dane White - National FFA President retiring address, "Your Turn", and the Installation of the 2002-2003 National FFA Officer Team. We met David Hutchison and headed for Vienna. With National Convention coming to a close our last stop was for diner in Evansville, Indiana.

The Outskirts

Monday thru Friday
11 am - 1 pm

Hot Beef Sandwich \$2.99

Knights of Columbus Chicken Dinner

K of C Hall
Argyle, MO

Sunday, November 24

11:30 am - 6:30 pm
Adults \$6.50 Children \$3.00

Amusements & Games
of skill for all

Quilt raffle - Country Store

Deer Hunters Welcome!

We would like to express a big thank you to Mr. Dwayne Shanks and Mrs. Pat Hutchison for their time and efforts.