

Sonora FFA

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Agriculture Back-to-School Night

Thursday October 22, 2009, from 6-8 Sonora Agriculture hosted their first annual Ag Back to School Night, and it was a great success! Even our guest, Principal Mr. Peterson, enjoyed the festivities. We started the night off with dinner, hamburgers, chips, cookies and soda then continued with informative booths. Each booth represented different projects or classes available in the agriculture program. A student involved in the project or classroom answered questions along with passing out information to parents and students. Several students were mentioned as excellent representa-

tives of their booths for their ability to answer questions clearly and be most informative. We would like to thank David



Romero and Aishlyn Hannah for their hard work. The students were required to get a card stamped by each section to receive credit and ensure that they visited every booth. Once the cards were collected, a

random card was chosen to reward that person for their participation. Sergio Gonzales was a lucky winner of an Ag t-shirt. The event was held for a couple hours to allow parents and students more time to get all the information available. There was also a booth where parents can learn how to get involved. At the table there was a sample of the new Ag t-shirt for this year available for parents and students to order. Our first Agriculture Back to School Night was a great sensation, and we can only hope it will flourish as well next year.

- Breean Fry

MFE / ALA

Are you a leader? If you are and you are enjoying agriculture, then you should go to MFE/ALA. MFE stands for Made for Excellence and it is for sophomores. They teach you how you can be a leader and they have workshops to help you get into groups with other students and you learn about F.I.R.E. and many

other things. ALA is about the same as MFE, but it is for juniors and seniors. ALA teaches you almost the same things as MFE, but you learn a little more in dept about leadership skills in the FFA. MFE and ALA will take place over a weekend in January and you must wear your FFA uniform. Make sure you pack for an over night trip

because you will be staying at the hotel where MFE and ALA takes place. MFE and ALA is a wonderful experience and any student who goes will learn a lot and have fun. This year we have 5 students who will be attending MFE and 2 who will be attending ALA.

- Chelsea Harper



Student of the Month:

For this month I have chosen Olivia Bertesien for student of the month. She is a sophomore in my Agriculture Biology class. This is Olivia's first years in the Agriculture Program.



She is also an active member of the volleyball team here at Sonora High School. Olivia has already attended several FFA leadership activities/events. This year so far she has attended the swim meeting and Halloween meeting. She also attended "OSLC" (Orange Section Leadership Conference) which is a FFA leadership conference for sophomores. Olivia is looking forward to attending the next leadership conference in January "MFE" (Made for Excellence) which is a FFA leadership conference. At this conference she will become more knowledgeable about leadership and the FFA. Olivia is a positive young lady, who is excited to learn about FFA and all its opportunities it has to offer. Olivia is the type of FFA member that is a pleasure to have in class. This is definitely the ideal FFA student members who want to become a leader and an involved member.

-Mrs. Quintana

Steers are HERE!

The steer project is the first livestock project to start at the farm. Mr. Hunt is currently picking steers for the whole district from different farms in the mid west and in northern California. They should be arriving by the 30th of October. Mr. Gary Hunt is the steer project advisor. This year there will be two options where you sell your steer, first, the La Habra Valley Community fair, or second the Orange County fair (mid July-mid August). There is an auction at both of the fairs. This project involves feeding your animal twice a day, unless you have a pen partner who will feed one time and you will feed the next shift. It also involves time after school to work with your animal, practice showing, ordering feed and also cleaning the animal which should happen every other day if not more. The steer project is great if you want to enjoy the fun of having an animal and learning the responsibility of taking care of a living creature that is dependent on you. If you do everything you are supposed to do, you have a high chance of making a profit at the fair auction. You will not regret the choice of raising a steer.

- Chris Barlow

California Speedway – Fundraiser

One of the biggest sports in California is Nascar. This year at California speedway, the Agriculture program and the Sonora football boosters have joined together to run a fundraiser, hoping to replace the hassle of selling poinsettias in the fall. This event was on October 11th-12th all day. The agriculture program took the responsibility of running one of the food booths, and two separate stands in the concession area. Everyone ran like a well oiled machine. In the beginning we had Mr. Campbell and Pacia on the grills. Mr. Barlow later took over; many of parents and kids created an assembly line. Agriculture parents such as Mrs. Hale,



Mrs. Halverson and Bruce Welch served as wondering hosts to take peoples orders. At times you could hear all the men in our booth calling out the combos one after another, trying to lure more customers, "Hot dog Combo's." At the end of a twelve hour day, everyone was tired, sore, and smelled like sliders and hot dogs. But the hard work paid off even though we were not able to take a break until the last thirty laps. Overall we had lots of fun, had loads of customers and look forward to doing it again in the months to come.

- Michael Halverson

Splash into FFA

As all the officers helped plan this activity it turned out better than last years pool party. Our very first FFA activity was a fun and exciting event that took place down by the agriculture farm. This involved students from agriculture earth science, agriculture biology, art and history of floral design, small engines, woodshop and ect. to join together and meet new people. As these enthusiastic teenagers piled in, they were social with one another and got to know different and new students. We served hot dogs,



chips and soda for dinner that night. As we filled out a list of different activities people were involved in, we learned more about others. After dinner, we all were able to meet at the

schools pool and swim. The diving boards were open, and some brave students took the challenge to jump off and do flips. This activity was held on October first from 6-8 p.m. and about 200 students participated and earned an FFA credit for being there. As all the officers helped plan this activity it turned out better than last years pool party. Thanks for all those who helped set up, clean up and participate!

-Kelsey Amaral

Ag In the Classroom

The Agriculture Department welcomes all new and old students into this active and outstanding program. We currently have 138 freshmen who are divided into four classes. They are learning about the importance of Agriculture earth Science and the hard work into raising an animal. The Sophomore class holds 68 students currently learning about agriculture biology. As the 65 juniors are learning how to inject medicine into a sick animal, they are doing their best. The class of 2010, has 47 hardworking Seniors who are learning the business of working in the world. As the agriculture program is continually growing with a total of 318 members, we encourage strongly all agriculture students to attend the various activities throughout the year. All agriculture students are required to attend ten FFA events per semester. Our goal is to mingle with others and make new friends with other students from the different schools. The hardworking students are trying their best to get things done and are patiently waiting for their SAE (Supervised Agriculture Experience) projects to arrive. These projects require: hard work, responsibility and fun. Steers will be arriving soon, pigs will come in April and goats and lambs will arrive the middle of March. We have a great group of excited FFA members, and I hope they will work their hardest throughout these next few years.

- Lindsey Hatori



Orange Section Leadership Conference –OSLC

On October 13th, 18 several of Sonora's sophomores joined the other schools in the Orange Section to attend for the conference. This event was hosted by the Orange High School/ FFA. The Conference started out with a skit by the Orange Section officers about making "leadership soup" by gathering the ingredients for greatness. After Opening Ceremonies, the new section constitution was voted on and passed with no opposition.

The Conference then broke into small groups and FFA members went to different classrooms to learn

more about the "ingredients for greatness." A few of the workshops that the students attended were communication, First Impressions, Conflict Resolution, and Ice Break-



ers. The students not only learned about each of these topics, but they learned how to apply them to the different situations in everyday life. Each workshop was fun, informative,

and practical.

Once all the groups had rotated through the various workshops, then ate pizza. During dinner, prizes were raffled off to several FFA members. All the students had a great time at the Orange Section Leadership Conference this year.

If you are a freshman this year, then you get ready to attend the Orange Section Leadership next year.

- Rose Nordine

Ms. Seaman

Ms. Seaman's favorite quote, "The difference between 'involvement' and 'commitment' is like an eggs-and-ham breakfast the chicken was 'involved' the pig was 'committed'".

The teachers we have in our agriculture department are fabulous, hardworking and helpful. We all know Mr. Hunt, Mr. Pacia and Mrs. Quintana from recent years, but they have selected Ms. Seaman as an outstanding individual to help assist them. She teaches the Veterinary class full of juniors wanting to learn and the new freshman learning about the importance of Earth Science. She has also been working with the six freshmen who have been chosen to compete against other schools for Opening and Clos-

ing Ceremonies. Her student teaching skills are incredible as she makes and presents power points and different labs to the class. She has done a great job teaching the importance of the individual subjects the students need to be taught. Ms. Seaman currently attends college at Cal Poly Pomona and is now working on her two credentials for single

subject and Agriculture specialist. She is also working on her masters in agriculture science. She would

like to teach veterinary science, agriculture biology and is looking forward to agriculture economics in the next few years. Ms. Seaman was in agriculture (Future Farmers of America) for five years at Sunny Hills High School and earned her state FFA degree.

- Lindsey Hatori



Fall Festival

On October 20th our chapter held a Fall Festival for the monthly chapter meeting. This was our second chapter meeting of the year! The officer team decided to change this meeting this year to make it more successful. The Fall Festival is a Halloween themed event which around 200 people attended. If you dressed up and brought a treat you were able to get in free or two dollars if you did not bring a treat or dress up. This event consisted of a haunted house run by Victor Hallman located in the temporarily empty greenhouse. Inside of the

haunted house was a maze with fog machines, strobe lights for the FFA



members to go through and enjoy. We also did something different this

year was that one of our chapter members David Romero, was the music DJ to give our members a variety of music to listen as they mingle with others. At the end of the meeting there was a costume contest consisting of different categories that people could win. For each person who won a category received a goody bag with candy and other prizes inside. This year's Fall Festival was an overall successful and a fun event for everyone.

- Kayla Welch

Work Experience

Work Experience is also a choice of one of the projects other than raising an animal. This project is for the many students who are to busy with sports, church, tutoring, and many of the other activities teenagers are involved in. This project requires 60 project hours for the whole school year. This project means helping the greenhands, by cleaning, organizing and working down on the farm. Just make sure your ready to help and get down and dirty. This year Mr. Hunt and



Ms. Oogjen is leading Work Experience on Wednesday and Thursdays from 3pm- 5pm. She is always

open for helpers to make Sonora High Schools farm beautiful and updated. You are also allowed to talk with

your advisor and find out if you can help at veterinary hospital or an animal shelter. But this requires permission from your teacher. Another choice is the school fish hatchery

where we have raised rainbow trout this year we are looking forward to getting Koi fish. This project is located outside behind the greenhouse.

- Lindsey Hatori




FFA MOTTO

Learning to Do,
Doing to Learn,
Earning to Live,
Living to Serve.

Schedule of Events

- 3— Orange Section Opening and Closing Ceremonies @ Mission Viejo 4:30 pm
- 6—Quarter Ends
- 7—So Cal Leadership Conference
- 10— After School work Day 3-5 pm
- 11— No School
- 23—"Turkey Time" @ 5-7pm
- 21—Officer Dinner @ Pacia's House 6pm
- 26—No School
- 27— No School

November 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3		4	5	6
7		8	9	10	11	12
13	14			15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25		26	27		
28	29	30				

Schedule of Events

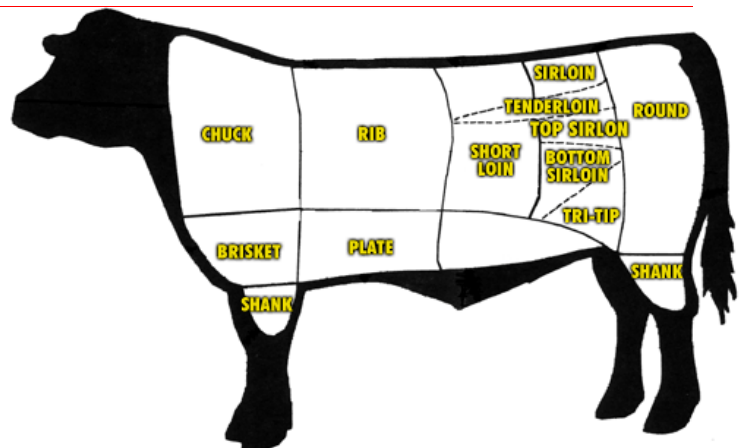
- 9— FJUHSD Greenhand Conference @ Cal Poly 9am
- 12— Officer Dinner at Mike's house
- 16— Orange Section Ice Skating Social
- 17—Holiday Bash @ 6-8:30 pm
- 18— Last Day of School
- 18—Set up for food drive
- 19—Food Drive
- 26-29— Rose Parade float decorating
- More info. See Pacia
- 21— Jan 4—Winter Break

December 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9		10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26						
27	28	29	30	31		

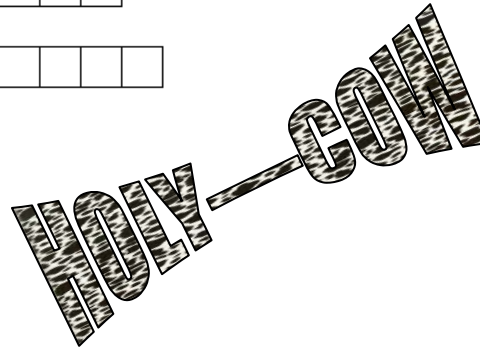
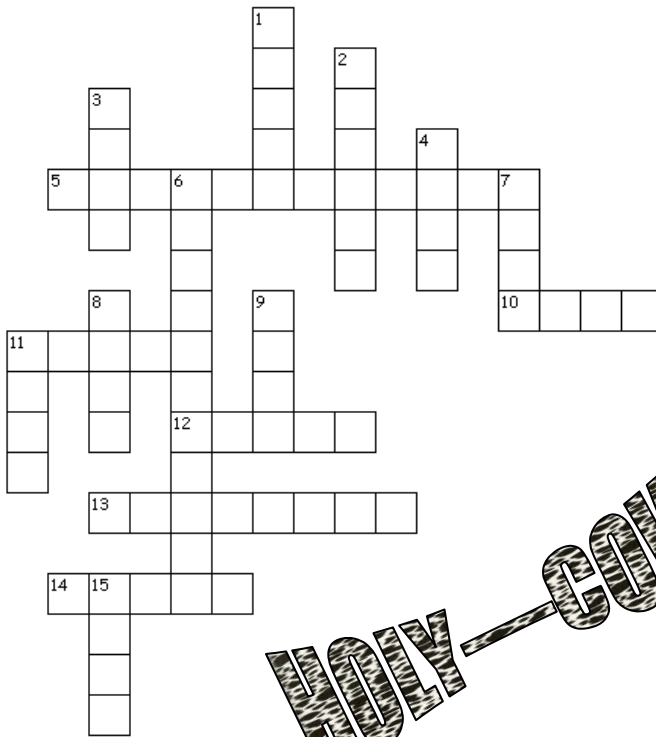
Tri-Tip: Home Friday Night Football Games

Mr. Hunt's famous tri-tip sandwiches, is a great way to start off a exciting game of football. This is our first year selling sandwiches to raise money for the agriculture / FFA (Future Farmers of America) program. These sandwiches are made and sold at home footballs games for only \$5. So next time your at a HOME GAME make sure to stop by and try one. Come and support us as we sell tri-tip at the football games.



- Mr. Pacia

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Don't Forget
 Turkey Time November
 23th @ 5pm
 Holiday Bash December
 17th @ 6:00pm

Words— Head – Shoulder Blades – Chest – Back – Loin –
 Mid-Section – Hips – Tail – Hooves – Udder – Teats –
 Mammary Veins – Neck – Flank – Skin –Bone

Across

- 5. - long, tortuous, and branching; udder veining desirable.
- 10. - Long and lean, blending smoothly into shoulder; clean cut about the throat, dewlap, and brisket.
- 11. - Uniform size, of medium length and diameter, cylindrical, and plumb; from side view teats placed in centre of each quarter; from rear view teats slightly closer to inside than out side of each quarter.
- 12. - Wide floor, resulting in ample width between legs.
- 13. - refined, caring out level with backline and set slightly higher than pins.
- 14. - Deep and refined.

Down

- 1. - symmetrical, of moderate length, width, and depth.
- 2. - Short and well rounded, with deep heel, toes slightly spaced.
- 3. - Broad muzzle with large, open nostrils; jaws meeting properly; strong lower jaw, broad forehead.
- 4. - Wide but not prominent; slightly higher than pins.
- 6. - Long ribs highly and widely sprung, with depth and width bending to increase toward rear.
- 7. - Lose and pliable; hair fine
- 8. - Strong and straight, with vertebrae well defined.
- 9. - Flat, strong, and clean cut.
- 11. - Long and slender.
- 15. - Broad and slight arched, vertebrae well defined; attachment to hip bones

How many students in Agriculture are in the class of 2010?

- 37
- 50
- 47

Where does Ms. Seaman currently attend college?

- Mt Sac
- Cal Poly
- Long Beach

How many hours for work experience to equal a project?

- 15 Hours
- 30 Hours
- 60 Hours

This year ____ is leading work experience.

- Mrs. Kuster
- Mrs. Oogjen
- Mr. Pacia

Tell us what you think!

Please fill out the response form below to help the Sonora FFA better the news letter . Thank you!

Comments:

Student Name _____

Student Teacher and Class Period _____

Parent Signature _____

Sonora Agriculture Due: **December 17th** and worth **1** FFA credit **ONLY** signed and answered

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Sonora Agriculture



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To: Parents
From Sonora FFA

It's Okay to Think!!

Were on the web!

www.sonoraffa.org

Dairy Cows — Ag Facts

- Cows are referred to as the foster mothers of the human race because they produce most of the milk that people drink.
 - The first cow on America arrived in Jamestown colony in 1611. Until the 1850's, nearly every family had its own cow. The first regular shipment of milk by railroad was between Orange County, New York, and New York City and began in 1841.
 - In 1856, Gail Borden invented the condensed milk process. This process removed some of the water from milk so it would take up less space. Refrigeration came into use in 1880, and the first pasteurizing machine was introduced in 1895.
 - Dairying has improved through the years. Today, one cow can produce the milk that it once took 10 cows to produce.
 - Around 9.2 million cows are being milked on 110,000 farms in the United States. More than 99% of all dairy farms are family owned and operated.
 - Cows are milked for an average of 3-4 years. A cow must have a calf in order to produce milk. Calves are fed milk until they are 8-9 weeks old.
 - The average cow is 2 years old when she has her first calf. Calves are fed milk until they are 8-9 weeks old. A young female cow is called a heifer.
 - Before milking machines were invented in 1894, farmers could only milk about 6 cows per hour. Today, farmers use machines to milk more than 100 cows per hour.
 - Cows are ruminants, which are cud chewing mammals. Sheep and camels also are ruminants
 - A cow chews her cud (regurgitated, partially digested food) for up to 8 hours each day.
 - Dairy cows provide 90% of the world's milk supply. The best cows give over 25 gallons of milk each day. That's 400 glasses of milk! U.S. cows give an average of 2,000 gallons of milk per year. That's over 30,000 glasses of milk!
 - Cows drink about a bathtub full of water and eat around 40 pounds of food a day.
-