



Wyoming FFA 2014 Honorary State FFA Degree Recipients

Over the last year, Wyoming FFA has been fortunate to have the help of agricultural education teachers, sponsors, parents and supporters. We're proud to recognize a few of those individuals who've made a difference for Wyoming FFA chapters and members. A special thanks goes out to Wyoming's Honorary State FFA Degree recipients.

JARED BOARDMAN

Jared Boardman is in his third year of vocational teaching and advising the FFA chapter at Riverside High School. He has been a large asset to the Basin/Greybull area, increasing enrollment in the FFA chapter from 20 to 45 FFA members within these three years. As a member of the Junior Livestock Sales Committee of the Big Horn County Fair, the State FFA Board of Directors, Case Curriculum Committee and the Big Horn County Awards Board, Jared has enriched the lives of many youth he has come in contact with and developed an FFA chapter that the area is very proud of. He has also coached a mechanics team to a state championship. Jared has been involved in agriculture all his life as he was raised on a ranch outside of Frannie. He and his wife continue with agriculture production through raising commercial cattle and club lambs.

SHANE BUCHOLZ

Shane Buchholz is the agriculture teacher and FFA Advisor at Upton High School. For the past three years Shane has worked with his community to foster the growth of the young Upton FFA Chapter. During that time the position has grown from half time to full time. Additionally, students have started a business selling metal art and powder coating services. Shane has worked with the Junior Livestock Committee to strengthen opportunities for youth in Weston County. He is most proud of working with area agriculturists to help his students residing in town raise and sell market animals at county fair. Shane is a former chapter president of the Chugwater FFA.

LARRY BRANNIAN

Larry Brannian first became involved with FFA as a member of the Brooklyn, Iowa, chapter in 1955. Larry's first SAE was a summer job where he earned \$80, which he invested in a herd of sheep. After a few years of sheep production he sold the remaining bunch for \$82. At that time his granddad told him, "You can shear a sheep several times, but you can only skin him once." Larry has remembered that philosophy throughout his 44 year career as a professional auctioneer. Larry has volunteered his time to auction livestock at the Johnson and Sheridan county fairs for the past 34 years. He has also provided his services over the years for numerous FFA fund raisers in the area. Larry is a two-time winner of the title

“Wyoming State Champion Auctioneer” and was inducted into the Wyoming Auctioneer’s Hall of Fame. Larry and his wife Eva live in Buffalo.

DOUG ZALESKY, WENDY CECIL, SCOTT SCHELL, LARRY MUNN

Doug Zalesky, Wendy Cecil, Scott Schell and Larry Munn are all employed by the University of Wyoming and serve as superintendents of the Wyoming FFA State Agronomy career development event. Wyoming FFA would like to thank them for the many hours they’ve dedicated to writing tests, gathering materials and hosting the state agronomy career development event. Through this event, students are able to learn forage, commercial grain and soil evaluation, as well as entomology and plant and seed identification. Their dedication and commitment to Wyoming FFA is much appreciated.

SHAWN STEFFEN

Shawn Steffen is the Regional Operations Manager at Stallion Oilfield Services in Riverton. He has been a part of agriculture since he was a young boy, raising and showing livestock and dairy cows. He was a four-year active member in the Wind River FFA, and is currently an FFA Alumni. Through Stallion Oilfield Services, Shawn has donated more than \$40,000 to the Fremont County Fair for improvements to the hog barn, including new panels and pens. Furthermore, Shawn has been a major contributor at the Fremont County Junior Livestock Auction spending more than \$10,000 each year since 2006. Shawn has also donated Fremont County Spring Fling Jackpot show for awards and prizes, and partnered with Stallion and the Wyoming FFA Foundation to sponsor a 4-wheeler for the give-a-way at State Fair. Stallion Oilfield Services, by way of Shawn, currently holds the sponsorship on the Wyoming State Fair hog barn and donated to the 2013 hog show itself. Shawn also donates a beef and a hog every year from the Fremont County Junior Livestock Auction to be raffled off by Shoshoni members, which serves as one of Shoshoni’s biggest fundraisers. He is a major contributor and supporter of agriculture and youth in our state.

JAMIE MARTIN

Jamie Martin is a past member of the Buffalo Bill FFA. She continues to be a big supporter of FFA and 4-H programs. Jamie volunteers as Swine Superintendent at the Park County Fair. Jamie works very hard to make sure county fair happens without a hitch. She also helps many students with their swine and beef projects. Jamie’s dedication to FFA and agriculture is greatly appreciated.

TERRY VIKTORIN

Terry Viktorin owned and operated Z&W Mill with his family in Torrington since 1992. During that time period, Terry and Z&W Mill were tremendous supporters of agriculture youth across the state, especially in the Wyo-braska region. They supported the Torrington/Lingle FFA and Southeast FFA Alumni progress shows for a number of years and were always strong supporters of FFA members at numerous county fat stock sales. Terry was always the first to congratulate local FFA chapter members on their accomplishments anytime they came to the mill. Tragically Terry died July 4, 2013 in an accident during a family outing to the mountains above Worland, where Terry was raised.

Because of his contributions to Wyoming FFA members, it is with great honor that we posthumously bestow the Honorary Wyoming FFA Degree to Terry Viktorin.

JESSIE SCHELL

Jessie Schell has served as the agriculture teacher at Kelly Walsh High School in Casper and Windy City FFA chapter advisor since 2011. Jessie grew up with a love for agriculture. She raised sheep, and eventually built her own club lamb business, selling lambs to other 4-H and FFA members. She was very active in the Casper FFA, participating in many CDEs

but focusing on livestock judging. Livestock judging even sent her overseas where she had the opportunity to visit five foreign countries to judge internationally. She also served as the 2004-2005 Wyoming State FFA Treasurer. Jessie started her post-secondary education at Casper College and received her Agricultural Education degree from the University of Wyoming.

DUANE LLOYD

Duane Lloyd has been instrumental in developing and conducting the Wyoming Environment and Natural Resources career development event. In 2013, he even traveled to Kentucky for the National FFA convention to see first-hand how the event is conducted at the national level. Duane's dedication to creating a quality competition at our state level has been a major part of why our state is able to create such competitive national teams. Duane is currently the Education Specialist at the Laramie County Conservation District in Cheyenne where he enjoys teaching individuals about responsible uses of our natural resources. Duane lives in Cheyenne with his wife, Tandra, and his two kids, Tyler and Savannah.

JORDANS WESTERN DINING

Since opening in 2013, Jordan Fischer and her father John Fischer, along with their team at JORDANS Western Dining in Gillette, have been outstanding supporters of Wyoming FFA. Each Wednesday the restaurant donates a portion of its burgers sales to Wyoming FFA. In February the Fischers hosted a branding for FFA, encouraging area ranchers to place their brands on the wall and make a donation to Wyoming FFA. The fund raiser grossed over \$32,000 for Wyoming FFA programs and provided FFA members the opportunity to meet former Vice President Dick Cheney. In November JORDANS welcomed over 200 FFA members to learn about the food service side of agriculture during the annual FFA industry tour. The Fischers have made a tremendous positive impact on Wyoming FFA this past year!

DURHAM BUFFALO RANCH

John and Gaylynn Flocchini of the Durham Buffalo Ranch have been ongoing supporters of Wyoming FFA, but in 2013 made an even bigger positive impact on the program. Durham Ranch sponsored the annual Wyoming FFA industry tour. They were also among the biggest supporters during the fund raiser at JORDANS Western Dining. The Flocchinis are always great when it comes to sharing opportunities for Wyoming FFA members to learn about the bison production aspect of American agriculture, like the bison judging competition held at the National Western Stock Show.

CLOUD PEAK ENERGY

Cloud Peak Energy has been an outstanding supporter of Wyoming FFA for several years running. In 2013 the Wyoming based coal company hosted FFA members during the annual industry tour and sponsored the day's lunch. The company was also among the top supporters at the February 2014 fund raiser branding at JORDANS Western Dining in Gillette. Wyoming FFA appreciates Cloud Peak's support in helping Wyoming FFA produce career ready leaders!

WYOMING PORK PRODUCERS COUNCIL

Dedication to Wyoming FFA comes to mind as we thank our friends at the Wyoming Pork Producers Council. From helping purchase much-needed supplies for the Wyoming FFA Leadership Camp to buying a mobile swine hut for Southeast FFA, Anne Miller and the Board at the Wyoming Pork Producers Council have made a tremendous impact on Wyoming FFA. The group is among the sponsors of this year's convention and is on hand to share facts and information about the pork industry's presence here in the Cowboy State!

CURT & DIANE COX

Whether it's ensuring FFA has a presence in the *Wyoming Livestock Roundup* or lending Diane's financial expertise, Curt & Diane Cox have been very generous toward Wyoming FFA with both their time and talent. Both are past members and Diane serves on the Wyoming FFA Foundation Board of Directors.

L&H INDUSTRIAL

Mike Wandler and the team at L&H Industrial rolled out the red carpet for Wyoming FFA during the annual industry tour this past November. FFA members learned about new jobs in welding, engineering and more. They also left L&H with a new appreciation for the ambition and innovation that exists in Wyoming businesses!

FOREMAN TRAILER SALES

Warren Foreman and the team at Foreman's Trailer Sales made a substantial gift to Wyoming FFA this past fall when they contributed a two-horse Miley trailer to be sold at the annual Blue Jeans Ball. The trailer raised over \$4,500 for Wyoming FFA programs with an emphasis on scholarships and helping Wyoming's National Officer Candidate obtain the necessary training to represent Wyoming at the National FFA Convention. A special thanks to Foreman's for their generosity!

KELLY BROWN, WYOMING NATURAL RESOURCE FOUNDATION

Behind the scenes at the annual golf tournament hosted by the Wyoming FFA Foundation and the Wyoming Natural Resource Foundation, is someone who keeps it all organized. For the past five years Kelly has helped keep track of sponsorships, register golfers and help with everything necessary to host a successful tournament. A special thanks to Kelly for all she does to ensure this event is a success and help Wyoming FFA!

TRAVIS HAKERT

Travis Hakert volunteered his time to Wyoming FFA on two key occasions this past year. The first was in August when he worked hard to ensure the golf carts were in Douglas and in place for the golf tournament. He stepped up and helped again when he volunteered to "run the irons" during the branding fund raiser at JORDANS Western Dining. Travis placed over 130 brands on the wall over the course of a day and then spent numerous days afterwards touching things up to ensure the project was in tip-top shape. Travis' efforts made a huge positive impact on Wyoming FFA!