
CENTRAL VALLEY CHRISTIAN FFA



On A Mission To Grow The Tradition

As the school year has come to a close, the Central Valley Christian FFA Chapter can officially say it has survived the qualms that it has encountered. Not only has the Chapter pushed through the first year but it is thriving under the instruction of Ms. Calac, whose dedication to the program is evident to all involved. Before the school year started, Ms. Calac was hard at work preparing for students arrival, upon the first Officer meeting of the year the Officer team discussed the idea of themes. They decided it was fitting to make it "On A Mission To Grow The Tradition" as the first Officer team strives to create a legacy for future classes to grow from. Even the greatest of trees started from a small seed.

"Teaching Ag is a passion, not a job in my opinion" Ms. Calac

The Teacher

Ms. Calac is one of the newest staff members at CVC and she has already shown her ability within the FFA program and through the classes she teaches. In Her teaching career she has now taught for three and a half years; however, her involvement in the Agriculture community been a lifelong experience. Originally from Valley Center, California, Ms. Calac grew up participating in 4-H and FFA. Post high school Ms. Calac attended Fresno State and received her teaching credentials from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo.

For this upcoming school year, 2017 - 2018, Central Valley Christian hired a second Ag Teacher, Mr. Orique.

Biography

I am currently finishing up my second year teaching in the classroom. Prior to this I was a partner in Amaral Dairy Service in Tulare for 24 years. My wife Sandy and I have been married for 32 years. We have a son Dominique who graduated from Fresno State and was married to his wife Melissa two years ago, who also graduated from Fresno State. Our daughter Sarah is currently working towards her Master in early childhood behavior at Fresno State. I was fortunate enough to have Leonard De Ruiter as one of my Ag. Teachers at Hanford High school. I showed beef cattle both market and breeding, was on the 1978 state champion meats team. Judge Livestock at West Hills Community college and show team. Worked towards being part of the livestock judging team while attending Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Currently working on my Masters in Ag. Education at Cal Poly. I enjoy teaching fabrication classes, because of the look of accomplishment and pride in a job well done I see in students when project is completed.

The Officer Team

The officer team was selected by current high school students enrolling in FFA classes for the following year at the end of the 2015 - 2016 school year. Over the summer the Officer team had a chance to meet with Ms. Calac and plan events and discuss various issues concerning the upcoming school year. Throughout the year the officers had the chance to develop their leadership skills, serve the community, bond as a team and develop the FFA program at



Ms. Calac



Jaclyn te Velde - President



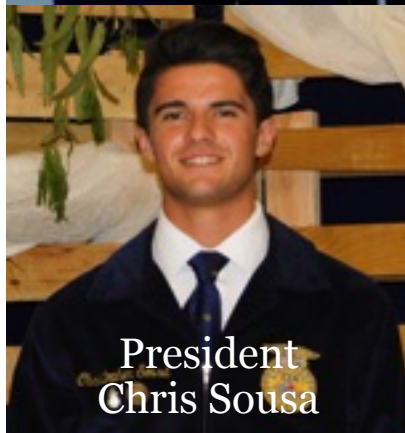
Dane Nelson - Vice President



Serena Schotanus - Secretary

CVC. It has been an honor serving on the team and the senior officers (Jaclyn te Velde, Dane Nelson, Brandon Lemstra, Alexa Pinter, Mariah Westra) will leave the program with gifts they did not previously possess and a love for the FFA program as they continue into college.

The 2017 - 2018 Officer Team Elect



Brandon Lemstra - Treasurer



Alexa Pinter - Reporter



Simon te Velde - Sentinel



Abbey Colburn - Historian



Reporter
Amy Daggs



Sentinel
Simon te Velde



Historian
Emma Lemstra



Chaplain:
Garrin Schaap



Parliamentarian
Willem DeBoer



Mariah Westra -
Parliamentarian



William Van Beek - Chaplain

Incoming Reporter

Amy Daggs

Hi CVC FFA I'm Amy Daggs your 2017-2018 chapter Reporter. I believe that this year is going to be great. With all the great accomplishments that we had this year; a state finalist at state for Proficiency (Jaclyn Te Velde), 1st place high individual at state for citrus judging (Abbey Colburn), and a sectional officer (Chris Sousa). There is no telling what is yet to come next year and I'm excited to see what great new accomplishments we can achieve.

With possible new opportunities coming up like Ag Mechanics classes, more CDE teams, and new members coming up to high school we can make our chapter bigger and better than ever. Let's make the 2017-2018 FFA year a one to remember!

Teams and Competitions

Citrus Judging Team - Dane Nelson

This year was the first year CVC had an FFA program and one of the teams was a citrus judging team. The team consisted of Kyle Howard, Dane Nelson, Abbey Colburn, Brant Miller, Brody Miller, Ty Dodge, and coached by Kevin Howard. We started practicing in December preparing for competitions in a February. We practiced judging oranges, lemons, grapefruits, mandarins, and nursery trees. We learned what qualities are good and what are bad. We also had to give reasons on why we judged them that way. It was a great experience and we learned so much about the citrus industry!



Results:

At the Winter State Finals in Fresno the A-Team placed 12th, While B-Team placed 6th. Abbey Colburn received 1st High Individual in the B-Division. Ty Dodge placed 3rd in the Orange and Grapefruit class of B-Division.

Farm Power - William Van Beek

The CVC Farm Power CDE Team, led by coach Tim Van Beek, had a very successful first year of competition. There were several practices in which we learned everything from how to backup a tractor through an obstacle course to identifying parts and tools. The team attended six different field days this year in which we took general information tests, operated equipment, identified parts and tools, and troubleshooted tractors. At these competitions the team managed to get several team awards, including a 2nd place finish at West Hills College Field Day. Cole Danell, Rick Schotanus, Carson Scheenstra, and Karson Oliver all won individual awards at several competitions. At state finals, the CVC team consisting of Karson Oliver, Cole Danell, and Rick Schotanus achieved 8th place out of nearly 40 teams. Now the team looks forward to competing and doing even better in next years competitions.



Results:

At their State Finals in Fresno they placed 8th out of 39 teams with Cole Danell, Karson Oliver, and Rick Schotanus all receiving the Silver Award at State Finals.

Dairy Judging - Griffin Kroes

Our dairy judging coaches Mike Kroes and Lauren Osborn were very helpful in teaching us what to look for in a cow and how evaluate dairy cattle. We practiced at least once a week at various dairies around Tulare and Visalia. For our first year as a team participating, we did outstanding at all of our contests. I learned about why it's important for dairy cattle to have certain traits and how those traits impact their production. Cal Poly State Finals was a great experience for our team and I expect that this team will get even better in the coming years.

Results:

The Dairy teams competed in Cal Poly's State FFA Finals and placed 11th out of 38 Teams. Griffen Kroes and Matthew Brasil received a Silver Award for their individual placings and Cornelis de Jong and Serena Schotanus received the Bronze Award for their individual placings.



Dairy Products - Emalee Pate

This first year of FFA was a great year for our chapter. Not only was it great for our chapter but also our CDE teams like dairy products. I got the chance to be apart of this team along with Reagan Bosma, Paige Kroes, and Rylee Neese. Dairy Products might be a hard competition but it really is a great experience. We as a team worked hard and by the end of the season and after 4 competitions we ended up getting 7th in the state competition. The competition consists of 4 classes of 5 milks, 10 types of cheeses we have to taste, milk fats, and telling if certain by-products are real or artificial.

Results:

They competed in Cal Poly's State FFA Finals and placed 7th out of 19 teams. Rylee Neese took home the Silver Award for placing 19th individually. Reagan Bosma, Paige Kroes, and Emalee Pate were awarded the Bronze Award for their individual placings.



Speaking - Julia Bleeker

On February 22, Mariah Westra, Alexa Pinter, Taylor Neese, and Julia Bleeker, participated in the Tulare Kings Section Job Interview contest. In order to prepare for the contest students were required to create a resume and cover letter for an agricultural related job. They then were interviewed by CVC high school staff, and the top applicants were selected to compete in the section contest. The contest was good practice for the future, and was helpful in learning how to create an effective resume and cover letter. We also were taught how to properly prepare for an interview, which is a great skill to have for future job interviews. The competition was a lot of fun, and it was a very good experience. We were able to meet students from other chapters, and grow in our speaking abilities.

Results:

Paige placed 6th at the section level in Creed.

Alexa placed 4th and Mariah placed 5th at the section level in Job Interview. Alexa continued on to regional level.



Proficiency - Jaclyn te Velde

I submitted a proficiency application in Ag sales and entrepreneurship and finished as a state finalist. Although I didn't win, I learned many valuable lessons. Some of these lessons include learning how to communicate efficiently, presenting myself in a professional manner, and writing effectively. The skills I learned from this application will help me as I grow and mature and have helped me feel better equipped to take on the next phase of my life!

Results:

CA State Proficiency Finalist in Ag. Sales/Entrepreneurship awarded to Jaclyn teVelde. She was recognized on stage at the CA State FFA Conference in April.



Livestock Judging - Jenna Schmidt

2016-2017 Livestock Team involved Morgan Spiro, Petra Vander Goot, Jenna Schmidt, Shelby Longmire, and Delaney Shaw. This year has been hard but we have become better as a team and have grown our speaking, evaluation, and practical judgment skills. It has been an amazing experience to be able to see the same people at competitions get better, as we get better as well. Ms. Calac has been a huge help and a major support for our team, and we are all so thankful for her dedication to livestock judging. This year we attended three field days and state finals which included: Modesto Junior College Field Day, Reedley College Field Day, Fresno State Field Day and State Finals at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo. Even though we never came home with a ribbon, we still enjoyed every minute of practices, studying for tests, long van rides in Pearl (the van), adding up our scores after a critiques, and arguing over who had the best set of reasons. We enjoyed every part of this season and we can't wait to see what next years has in store for us all. Maybe next year we'll come home with a ribbon.

Results:

They also competed in Cal Poly's State FFA Finals and placed 36th out of 45 teams. Individually, Morgan Spiro, received the Bronze Award.



Shows - Serena Schotanus

Many kids in CVC's new FFA chapter have shown dairy cows this past year. Representing and showing in the blue corduroy jacket has been fun. All of the showmen have worked hard this past year to be their very best at all their shows.

Travis Lemstra, Paige Kroes, David Fagundes, Reagan Bosma, Willem DeBoer, Griffen Kroes, Alexa Pinter and Serena Schotanus participated in the Tulare County Fair in September. All did very well in their heifer and cow classes and showmanship rounds. Most of the showmen participated in the Dairy Heifer Replacement Sale and sold their two-year project during the sale on Friday night.

Serena Schotanus and Morgan Spiro also exhibited their heifers at the Western Classic Junior Dairy Show in March as individuals. They did well in all their classes and they got a chance to learn about other dairies around the state.

This past year has been very successful for the CVC FFA Dairy Show Team and they look forward to showing again next year!



Marketing Plan - Erika Roeloffs

This past year in FFA I had the opportunity to create and present a marketing plan for The A-MAIZE-ing Corn Stand along with Jonna Lemstra and Jaclyn Te Velde. We worked for about 3 months creating the written plan and 2 weeks creating and finalizing the presentation and visual aspects with the help of Dani Avila. We had the opportunity to present our marketing plan on May 6, 2017 at Cal Poly SLO to a panel of 3 judges. We finished with an overall place of 2nd in state and through the entire process we have learned many aspects of marketing that will carry on into our future careers and our college courses to come. We couldn't have done it without the knowledge and assistance of Dani Avila. Although it took a lot of time and effort, this marketing plan was the highlight of our senior year and so beneficial to the years to come.

Results:

Cal Poly's State FFA Finals 2nd overall. 2nd High Team in the Presentation Sub Contest. They will be receiving a pin that goes on their FFA Jacket and a certificate of achievement.



Fundraising

Tri Tip BBQ - Alexa Pinter

On Monday, March 27, 2017, the CVC FFA hosted its first ever tri - tip Dinner with meals for 4 selling for \$40. However, not only was the tri tip dinner an opportunity for the chapter to raise money but also to bond and interact with the community. With over 20 students in attendance assisting to prepare and serve food everyone there had the opportunity to be involved. To process did not go off without a hitch and it was necessary for students to work together in improvise when running out of supplies or being hit with a rush of orders. The fundraiser would not have been possible had it not been for the Colburn families contribution. Once the event was said and done the CVC FFA chapter was able to make a \$7,537 profit to be returned to the chapter.



Events

Regional Meeting - Jacob de Jong

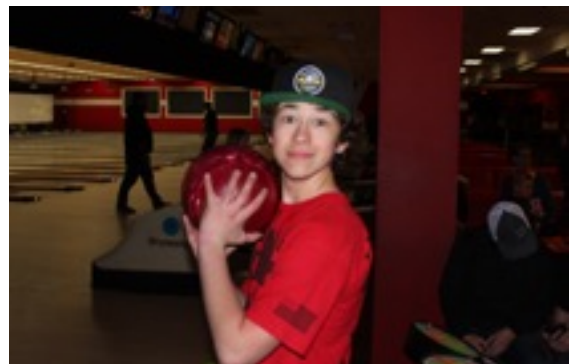
The San Joaquin Regional Meeting was something that is surprisingly both fun, and useful. The meeting consisted of three main things. First, there was an update on how our region is currently doing. Second, we decided on the regional officers after listening to their entertaining speeches and personally talking to them. The last thing the meeting consisted of was an explanation and update of motions that will be decided upon at FFA State Conference. All of this may not sound enjoyable, but for the most part it was entertaining and useful.

On February 25th, 5 students attended the meeting at Mission Oak High School and the two voting delegates were Jaclyn the Velde and Jacob de Jong with 3 members observing the proceedings.

Chapter Meetings - Alexa Pinter

This semester, with the combined complications of students involved in other school activities as well as a busy FFA schedule led the chapter to only host a few chapter meetings. One night was a bowling night where the students had the opportunity to compete against each other for 2 hours, eat pizza and have fun.

Additionally, we hosted a Greenhand meeting where qualified members were given their pin and certificate as well as placing their green hand on a paper. Since the chapter was new this year nearly every member, freshman through senior had the chance to partake, including nearly all of the officer team.



POA Trip - Travis Lemstra

The POA Trip brought fear, excitement, and joy to the kids of the CVC FFA. I had the privilege to attend Magic Mountain for the POA Trip. POA points are points that you can get by going to events and activities that our FFA puts on. So the top 15 kids with the most POA points were able to attend Magic Mountain. The trip that we took, was super fun because we got to ride roller coasters all day with friends. The Best part about the Trip was Luke Van Gronigen screaming at the coaster next to us and making them terrified yet happy! The POA Trip was a blast and I hope we take the same trip next year. And a big shout out to my boy Luke for making me laugh all day long.

State Banquet - Chris Sousa

The State Degree Banquet was a huge success. Dinner was first then there was awards after for State Degrees, Proficiencies, and Advisor Awards. Christopher Sousa received his State Degree for his steer project SAE and Jaclyn te Velde received her Regional Proficiency Award in Ag Sales.



State Conference - Shelby Longmire

Having this be the first year going to state conference as a whole chapter, I feel like everyone loved it, it impacted all of us in a positive way. I had the opportunity to represent our chapter in being a delegate. As a delegate I voted on passing several bills and of course the new officer team. This made me realize that the way I acted not only affected myself but affected the whole chapter. When people asked Alexa and I "what chapter are you from," and we replied "Central Valley Christian." Not only were we representing ourselves on how we acted but we were representing God. People will generally look at Christians differently and be held at a higher standard. Alexa and I were blessed to have the opportunity to represent not only ourselves and the chapter but God as well. Don't think twice on going, it is a great experience, you will meet new friends and hopefully have life long lasting relationships in and out of our chapter.



MFE/ALA - Ms. Calac

Made for Excellence (MFE) and Advance Leadership Academy (ALA) FFA Conferences are designed for sophomores to seniors in FFA to learn and grow as leaders. CVC FFA had five students participate; Morgan Spiro, Serena Schotanus, Seth DeJong, Ty Dodge, and Amy Daggs. MFE participants spent the weekend learning about their strengths and how to stay sharp as a leader: physically, intellectually, spiritually and socially. ALA helped students and chapter officers hone in on

the purpose and vision of the National FFA Organization as students gain clarity on the fifteen areas of the program of activities in the three divisions of growing leaders, building communities and strengthening agriculture.

Website Launch - Alexa Pinter

As a new chapter, our availability to the public is an integral part of developing the program. Many of the more grounded chapters have well developed websites that allow for members and anyone interested in learning more about the program to easily find information. Beginning in January, I had the chance to design and develop the chapter website for students and guests. The website is nowhere near as developed as some other chapters but it is a starting place for a new chapter. The active pages at the moment include:

Welcome, Officer Team, About (Advisor, Classes, Ag Education, Chapter Story, POA), Calendar, Events (Blog), Applications, Newsletter, Links, Degrees and Contact/Donate.

The website was officially published in the beginning of March 2017 and will be maintained the coming school year by Reporter Amy Daggs and Historian Emma Lemstra. It can be found at <https://cvcffa.wixsite.com/cvcffa>, by searching Central Valley Christian FFA or by finding the Ag link on the CVC website.

End of the Year Banquet

On May 22 the CVC FFA hosted its first ever end of the year banquet. The Ag Sales and Marketing class had the opportunity to plan and prepare for the event. Various committees were formed and jobs assigned to each student in order to have a smooth running banquet. The day of the event numerous students showed up to assist in setting up and when the event started the following people and groups were recognized (see next page).

Upcoming Events

7/11 Shop Clean Up

Students and Parents who are able to help can RSVP to Mr. Wojczynski (gwojczynski@cvc.org) and Mr. Orique (orique@cvc.org)

7/13 - 7/15 2017 - 2018 Officer Retreat

8/12 - 8/13 Officer Team SJR Bootcamp

*** The Calendar will be updated late May - early June on the CVC FFA website. For *** calendar updates and further information on the above listed events, please check there.

**American Farmer Sponsor
(\$10,000):**

Double J. Dairy
Land O' Lakes
Western Milling
Zoneveld Dairies
Animal Health

CDE Teams:

Citrus Judging

Dane Nelson
Kyle Howard
Brody Miller
Ty Dodge
Abbey Colburn
Brant Miller

Coach, Mr. Kevin Howard

Farm Power

Cole Danell
William VanBeek
Karson Oliver
Carson Scheenstra
Seth DeJong
Rick Schotanus
David Lemstra

Coach, Tim VanBeek

Dairy Judging

Serena Schotanus
Willem DeBoer
Matthew Brasil
Cornelis DeJong
Griffen Kroes

Coach, Mike Kroes

Coach, Lauren Osborn

Coach, Willem DeBoer

Livestock Judging

Delaney Shaw
Morgan Spiro
Petra VanderGoot
Jenna Schmidt
Shelby Longmire
Coach, Ms. Calac

Milk Quality & Dairy Products

Reagan Bosma
Rylee Neese
Emalee Pate
Coach, Mike Pitman
Coach, Kellie Kroes

Marketing Plan

Jaclyn te Velde
Erika Roeloffs
Jonna Lemstra
Coach, Dani Avila

Creed Speaking

Paige Kroes
Reagan Bosma
Willem DeBoer

Job Interview

Julia Bleeker
Taylor Neese
Mariah Westra
Alexa Pinter

Star Greenhand

David Lemstra

Chapter Star Farmer

Brody Miller

Chapter FFA Degree

Matthew Brasil
Amy Daggs

State Degree

Christopher Sousa

Honorary Chapter Degree

Mr. Chris Nelson
Mr. Kent McNiece
Mrs. Kellie Kroes
Mr. Ron Colburn
Mr. Mike Pitman
Mr. Joel Bleeker
Mr. Art VanBeek
Mr. Josh Zonneveld
Mr Doug DeGroff
Mr. Mark Pate
Mr. Willem DeBoer
Mr. Greg Wojcznski
Mrs. Kris Costa
Mr. Beau Williamson &
Mr. Leornard DeRuiter

Seniors

Julia Bleeker
Jesse Chlouber
Jacob de Jong
Kyle Howard
Griffen Kroes
Brandon Lemstra
Jonna Lemstra
Brody Miller
Dane Nelson
Alexa Pinter
Erika Roeloffs
Jaclyn te Velde
Mariah Westra

DEKALB

Griffen Kroes

Certificate of Merit

Brandon Lemstra

Brian Faria Scholarship

Alexa Pinter