



# Bullhorn

Volume 22, Issue 3

To build future rural leaders through self-help & community betterment

Fall 2011

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## JFAO Golf Tournament Report



Golfers from the Farm Credit Canada team were the top foursome overall at JFAO's 5th Annual Charity Fundraising Golf Tournament held on August 5 at Guelph Lakes Golf and Country Club. With a scattering of clouds amongst the sunshine, the team of Angus MacKinnon, Lloyd Davenport, Gary Aubin, Rick Kellya won with a score of 62. Finishing in second, one stroke behind, was the local team of Harry Janssen, Marty Molengraaf, Van Campbell and Jerry Schmidt.



Seeds) and Bill Emmott for Closest-To-The-Cow (sponsored by Dekalb). Hole 10 offered \$10,000 from KOOL FM and KFUN FM to whomever could get a hole-in-one. Unfortunately, there were no winners. The early bird registration draw went to Gary Aubin. A full list of winners can be viewed on JFAO's website.

Sixty-four golfers representing 18 counties and regions from across Ontario participated in the tournament that brought together past and present Junior Farmers as well

as supporters from Ontario's agriculture sector. Again, this year each participants' contribution doubled in value as Scotiabank matched funds raised during the tournament up to \$5,000.

*(continued on page 3)*

## On Your Calendar

**Autumn Profile**  
**Markham, York Region**  
**October 22, 2011**

**Alumni Formal Ball**  
**Huron County**  
**November 19th, 2011**

**Ontario Young Farmers' Forum**  
**Toronto**  
**November 20th - 21st, 2011**

**Sing Swing**  
**Wellington County**  
**November 25th -26th, 2011**

**New Year's Masquerade**  
**Ancaster**  
**December 31st, 2011**

**Shannon Kelly's Roast & Toast**  
**Ripley, Bruce County**  
**January 7th, 2011**

[www.jfao.on.ca/events](http://www.jfao.on.ca/events)

**Alumni—Keep in Touch by contacting**  
**info@jfao.on.ca or**  
**519-780-JFAO**

Other contest winners included Scott Boese (for the second straight year) and Barb Keith on the Mens and Ladies Longest Drive, Jeff McNabb and Amanda Dick for Closest-To-The-JFAO -Logo (sponsored by Corwhin Herbs), Angus MacKinnon for Closest-To-The-Pin (sponsored by Investors Group), Don Baudour for Closest-To-The-Tractor (sponsored by Pride

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# President's Message



## A Time for Giving Thanks

Here we are coming into what I like to think of as my favourite season of the year. The beautiful fall colours on the trees, the aroma of freshly baked pies, and the yummy turkey dinners as families prepare to come together to give thanks. I would like to share with you a poem that I came across called *The Farmer*. When I was reading this poem it reminded me of how fortunate we are to have such hard working farmers who put in long hours of physical labour to be successful ensuring you and I have quality, healthy, and fresh food on our tables each day.

*The Farmer, without delay he's up each day before the crack of dawn. After breakfast, a kiss from his wife, he yawns and pulls his work boots on. Out the door he stands with pause to smile at the golden blue sky. The rooster crows and the man steps off with purpose in his stride for there is work to be done. His list of chores has no end for there's a hungry world to feed.* ~ Written by Debbie. B ~

As we come together this Thanksgiving I encourage all of you to take the time to speak to a local farmer in your community. It may be your dad, brother, uncle, cousin, aunt, sister, mom or friend. Whoever it may be, do take the time to talk to these farmers, become educated about what they do and take the time to thank them for all of their hard work. JFAO had a very exciting summer with Leadership Camp, our Annual Golf Tournament, and a visit from our 2011 international delegates. As we enter the Fall season we will be coming together to take part in our provincial events starting off with Autumn Profile in October, hosted by York County, and Sing Swing in November, hosted by Wellington County. I hope to see everyone there! There will be lots of fun and great learning opportunities for all as we work together to build leadership skills.

I would like to take this time to welcome Sarah Harrigan, elected at the Summer board meeting to be JFAO's new Director of Membership, as well as Alex Mitchell, our new 4-H Representative. We are very excited to have both Sarah and Alex join our team and know that they will do an excellent job.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and remember to thank a farmer!

*Camille Black, 2011 JFAO President*



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# Golf Tournament



*(continued from page 1)*

The 2011 Golf Tournament committee would like to thank all of the golfers who participated, the partners, donors, and the volunteers who came out to help, including representatives from Farmers Feed Cities, Ontario Agri-Food Education Inc., and Scotiabank. Guelph Lakes Golf and Country Club once again showed us great hospitality and it was a pleasure to work with them. We look forward to seeing everyone again at next year's annual fundraiser!

**TOP:** (from left) Team Scotiabank— Brian Holt, Mark Johnson, Dane Rushmere, and Mike Appleton.

**BOTTOM:** (from left) Rob Cunningham, Jeff Schiek, Gerry Horst, and Hilary Cameron (Northern Ireland exchange delegate).



## Roast & Toast

January 7, 2012

Come out and celebrate Shannon Kelly's success as JFAO President in 2010. The dinner and dance will be held at the Ripley Huron Community Centre. Save the date!

Details to come!

*Get Ready for the Roastin' and Toastin'!*

## Huron Alumni Ball

November 19, 2011

Join the Huron Junior Farmers at their Alumni Formal Ball at the Blyth Community Centre. Tickets for dinner and dance are \$30 until November 5<sup>th</sup> and \$35 until November 12<sup>th</sup>. Dance at 9:00 p.m. – Tickets are \$10 at the door or \$8 for JFAO members.

# SAVE THE DATE!



Ontario Federation of Agriculture



Canadian Young Farmers' Forum  
La Table pancanadienne de la relève agricole

## 2011 Ontario Young Farmers' Forum

“From Farm to Fork”

Sunday Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> - Monday Nov. 21<sup>st</sup> 2011

Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Toronto Airport



*Open to all young farmers and people interested in agriculture age 18-40*

*Join us to hear & network with representative producer, processor, & consumer groups  
...And have a great time meeting delegates and exhibitors at the OFA Convention*

Registration forms & more info will be available soon at [www.oyff.ca](http://www.oyff.ca)

Early-bird Registration by Oct. 14 / Final Registration Deadline Nov. 14

For more information contact Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario at 519-780-JFAO (5326) or e-mail [info@oyff.ca](mailto:info@oyff.ca)

# SPREAD THE WORD!



# International Exchanges a Success!



## Wales

*At March Conference Colin Macfarlane of Peterborough County and Samantha Klaver of Huron County were awarded the privilege of representing their counties and provincial organization on exchange to Wales. Colin Macfarlane offers a report of his adventure.*

When packing your bags for a trip overseas, it is hard to imagine needing a heavier jacket when the weather here is humid and almost 38°C. I thank Julia Smith from Wentworth Junior Farmers, 2010 delegate to Wales, for all of her advice prior to my departure. "Wellies," or rubber boots, are not just a fashion accessory - they are a must in Wales. It is not a matter of if it will rain that day but when.

While a guest in Wales I stayed with two families. First was the Evan family of Elan Valley. Colin Evan and his family operate a sheep farm in the hills. The farm operates on generator power and gas propane stoves to cook on. The farm is very beautiful with green hills and hedges for fence lines. I had a chance to learn how to shear sheep and wrap the wool. The approximately 900 sheep were waiting in holding pens. While with the Evans I attended a sheep auction facility, baled hay and visited a new layer barn. The layer operation was free range and the chickens had a paddock that let them roam a hill behind the barn. I was amazed that the sound of a whistle at night brought them all back in to roost for the night.

It was time for the annual carnival in Rhayader and I was a guest on the Young Farmers Club float in the parade. There were some great events. Hair stylists and sheep shearers team up to compete to see who can create the best "makeover" on a sheep, called sheep dressing. One example was a bride and groom pair. Wheelbarrow races had teams racing to eight different pubs. It looked like a tough physical challenge with many roads being up hill. The big event of the carnival is a race up a hill that looked never-ending.

The second family I stayed with was the Price family. Garrith Price is a surveyor. While staying with them I was taken to see a windmill farm. At Pagan's peak you can see the four highest points in Wales. Wales has numerous castles and I got to visit Carreg Cennen Castle in Dyfed, Wales. There was a medieval festival going on and guided tours explained what life was like during that period of time. I also spent a day at the beautiful coastal area of Swansea.

The highlight of the trip was the four day extravaganza of the Royal Welsh Show. The finest of Welsh agriculture comes together to compete. It was an honour to be an international delegate and lunch in the international delegate lounge. Coming from a beef operation, I was certainly interested in the breed competitions. The British Blue and Welsh Black breed bulls are massive. Showmen wear white lab coats, shirts, and ties. Many beef breeds have their own clubhouse at the sight and the Welsh Black breed opened their new facility at this year's show. The British Blue catch your attention because of their double muscling, the animal is bred to be very lean meat. The show has sheep sheering competitions, horse shows, dogs, pigs, poultry, goats and rabbits. Just like our outdoor farm shows in Ontario they also have equipment displays. Farmers stay in caravan sites, much like the trailer parks at our plowing matches.

An exchange is not only visiting new and exciting sites, it is an exchange of culture and ideas. I was questioned about prices, yields, and many other aspects of Canadian agriculture—including our winters. I wish to thank JFAO for this opportunity and would encourage other young people to get involved in Junior Farmers and take advantage of it's many opportunities.

*Colin Macfarlane*

*Peterborough County Junior Farmers*



## Austria



I traveled to Austria for six weeks with the JFAO Exchange Program. I lived with four different host families as well as touring around Austria on my own. I learned all about Austria including their traditions, unique customs, food, language, the way they farm, and so much more!

The first weekend I arrived I was introduced to the coordinator Gerlinde from the Land Jugend (the Young Farmer group in Austria) and other members of the group. The Land Jugend has approximately 90,000 members and the majority of them do not come from farms, but they enjoy being part of the group. The Land Jugend is different and more broad-based than JFAO.

I arrived at my first host family in Glodnitz on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, living with them until the morning of the 15<sup>th</sup>. They are beef farmers and their farm is located up in the mountains. They were a nice family and I enjoyed learning how they farmed on the

mountains. I learned how to rake hay on the side of the mountain and about what machinery they use to cut hay. They pasture their cows in different areas on the mountains. Hay is made and stored for winter feeding. They also toured



me around a bit and I visited a very old castle called Hochosterwitz. An adventure I will not forget was rafting down one of the big rivers with mountains on either side.

I then toured around a bit of Austria on my own. I stayed in Friesach for a couple of days which is a medieval town. Around this town was a moat, a lot of medieval things, and old churches—it is a neat little town. I then toured Graz for four days. It is known for the famous clock tower that was saved instead of being destroyed by enemy take over. Graz is also known for contemporary architecture. The “Kunsthau Gallery,” also known as the “Friendly Alien,” is the building that really catches your eye when you are there. I toured “the Murinsel Island” and other museums and learned about the history. The food was fabulous and I ate very well indeed!

My next stop was Austria’s capital, Vienna. Some of the highlights were a bus tour of the city, St. Stephan’s Cathedral, a tour of the Spanish Riding School, the opera house, and Schonbrunn Palace. I really enjoyed my time in Vienna.

After Vienna, I stayed with a young farmer named Andy and his family. He lives on a beef farm and took me to a Land Jugend Conference. The conference was held near the town of Klagenfurt and I participated for three days. The conference included young people from Spain, Italy, Poland, Romania, Turkey and Austria. I got to hear and see each country’s traditional dances and customs as well as tasting a wide variety of traditional food from each country. The conference had a lot of fun sessions on real world issues. At the conference we walked over hot coals which was definitely new and interesting to me. The purpose of that exercise was to be able to stay focused and believe in yourself.

I then traveled to Oberkruzstetten where I stayed on a dairy farm that milks 17 cows in a parlour and grows potatoes and wheat. The family toured me around and showed me their fields and the local area with some history mixed in as well. The farm was set up like a little courtyard from the street with their fields behind the town. My host family also produced their own wine and had their own wine cellar. There were about 30 wine cellars in a row on a cobble street at the back of town. This is also where I ate my first pig’s blood and foods made from pig’s fat.

I decided to take a couple of days and tour Salzburg Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> to

Aug 4<sup>th</sup>. Most of the people in Austria who do not live in Salzburg really do not know much about the “The Sound of Music” movie. Salzburg is also known for being the birth place of Mozart. I saw many places where the “Sound of Music” was



filmed and saw the house where Mozart was born and where he lived after he was seventeen until he moved to Vienna. Salzburg gets its name from

“white gold” - salt, and Salzburg has a lot of salt in the mountains. The weather is rainy most of the time but I had two great days of sun while I was there!

On August 4<sup>th</sup> I got back on the train and travelled to where I stayed with my third host, Gerhard. He lives on his family farm but does not farm himself. It is still used as a beef farm. He toured me around and showed me the local towns and talked about the history. We also went for a two hour motor bike ride. This was fun and I saw a lot of landscape including one of the first iron ore pits in Austria. Here I had the chance to talk with some other young farmers at a gathering where we had a BBQ, music and dancing.

My final host family lives on a pig, beef, and egg farm. Both parents grew up on farms. I was toured around the local co-op feed mill, an agriculture college farm, and a larger dairy farm for Austria which had three owners. He also showed me his friend’s dairy farm. They have their own little shop where they sell yogurt and schnapps. I had a sample of each!

*(continued on page 6)*

## Interesting Facts about Austria

Smoking is part of the culture in Austria.

The ring finger in Austria is on the right hand.

They enjoy eating ice cream, drinking sparkling water and of course have schnitzel often. Also, crepes are a traditional thing to eat.

Every male person has to join the army or do social work for 8 months to a year. It’s the law!

Lunch is their main meal of the day.

Red Bull came from Austria.

A lot of families make their own schnapps or apple wine.

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(continued from page 5)

When many people think of Austria, they think about pork schnitzel and the movie “The Sound of Music,” but Austria is so much more than that! The people are very friendly and the main language is German. They learn English in school and most young to mid-age people know how to speak English. As I am a non-German speaking person, it was an interesting learning experience as well as a challenge at times.

When speaking of Canada to Austrians, most think Canada is very large—both the county and farming size. Quite a few of them think it is cold all year round.

The landscape of Austria is like a patchwork of fields, mountains, buildings, churches, castles, farms, towns, and cities. The view of the mountains, as well as from them, is a gorgeous sight!

It was a new experience for me to live with other families and live in their world. I would like to thank JFAO and the Land Jugend from Austria for giving me this truly memorable opportunity. It was one I will never forget and would encourage others to apply for.

*Brent Piercey  
Peel County Junior Farmers*



## Prince Edward Island



This summer I had the opportunity of a lifetime! It is with new-found knowledge of different agricultural industries, red-stained running shoes, and amazing memories that I headed home after spending two weeks in Prince Edward Island!



For the first week Carey and Jeff Wood of Rose Valley, PEI, were my hosts. They have a vegetable and greenhouse operation. They are currently running Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) with 20 full shares and a

Veggie Box program in the Town of Cornwall. I had the pleasure of being able to help Jeff on the farm with planting, transplanting, seeding, weeding and harvesting. Since Carey is working off the farm in Charlottetown I was able to help them out a lot and get caught up. I learned a lot about how they got started with their CSA and Veggie Box program. In all honesty, before this trip, I would not have known the difference! Now, not only do I know the difference between the selling strategies, I know and can tell most of the different vegetables apart even from a young stage. Vegetable farming is something that was very new to me and I am glad that I could learn from Carey and Jeff.

After staying with Carey and Jeff, I moved to spend a couple of days with Patrick Dunphy of Cherry Valley, PEI. Patrick has a very interesting operation - he manages approximately 2100 acres for investors from the United States. They only cash crop corn and soybeans. I was able to learn a lot about the cash cropping that is done on the Island from Pat. I learned that the government runs all of the grain elevators on the Island, therefore they do not work overtime hours, as is expected in Ontario. Soybeans are also a new crop that is being grown on the Island so farmers are still getting familiar with them and what is needed to grow them. Pat used to work for a potato farming operation so he was also able to

teach me about how they are grown and all the work and equipment that is needed. The average input costs for potatoes are about \$3000/acre! I had the opportunity to see fields.

Next I was staying with Nicole and Jeremy Stead and their two kids, Brooke and Braxton, of Wheatly River, PEI. It was an amazing experience to stay with this young family. I don't think I have ever laughed as hard as I did during my time with them! Jeremy took me on a sightseeing drive through North Rustico and Cavendish. It was great to see the sights of the PEI shoreline. The Island has some of the most beautiful landscapes right around the corner on any road. Jeremy and Nicole also took me across the bridge to Moncton, NB, for lunch and then headed south to Caribou, NS, to catch the ferry.

This was nerve racking since we were the last vehicle to get on the ferry! After hitting 3 provinces in one day we headed out for a lobster dinner. This truly was the Islander experience! The next day we headed to Old Home Week where I was able to take Brooke and Braxton on the rides! It was amazing to experience that with such young enthusiastic kids.

I got to experience the tourist side and the agricultural side of the Island. I met great people and experienced the warm embrace of the PEI Young Farmers. I cannot thank them enough for the time they took to spend with me while I was there. I couldn't have asked for a better trip!

*Sarah McLaren  
Kawartha Junior Farmers*



**Are you looking for a Christmas gift for your JF friends and family?**

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**Calling all Clubs!!!** Please send articles and photos of your club events by **December 15th** to be published in the Winter Bullhorn!  
*Contact [marketing@jfao.on.ca](mailto:marketing@jfao.on.ca)*

**Interested in Hosting an International Delegate?**

**First Rotation:** November 11-19  
**Second Rotation:** November 20-27

We are looking for hosts for two Welsh Exchange Delegates. Please email [cip@jfao.on.ca](mailto:cip@jfao.on.ca) for more information.



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# Club News!



## Durham West Junior Farmers

Durham West Junior Farmers held a "Show and Shine" truck show on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at Mike Harder's farm near Sunderland. They have had a pig roast for the last three years, but the truck show and 4-H lawn tractor pull was a first this year!

The classes were: Big Rigs (12 entries); Pick-up Trucks (20-30 entries); Classic Cars that had only one old truck come; and the 4-H Lawn Tractor Pullers (36 entries). There was a trophy for the winner of each class plus a JF T-shirt that the club had made. The winner of the Big Rigs also received a monetary prize for the most polished truck. Prizes were also donated by JD Truck Accessories in Port Perry. There were roughly 100 people that came throughout the day and a few more for the pig roast in the evening. The 4-H Lawn tractor pull went extremely well and it was nice to get 4-H involved in a Junior Farmer event. Durham West JF might even get a few new members coming out to their meetings. A member of the local media spent time at the truck show to promote and support JFAO.

Next year they have plans to continue with the pig roast, truck show, and lawn tractor pull since they had a great turnout and raised some money for the Durham West Junior Farmer group.



## Oxford Junior Farmers

The Embro Truck and Tractor Pull (ETTP) was another great success! The Oxford County Junior Farmers, along with the ETTP committee held the event July 29 and 30<sup>th</sup> in Embro this past year. With record-breaking crowds, and great weather it was the place to be on the long weekend.

The annual ETTP started in 2006 by puller enthusiasts Frans Knoops and Gary Matheson. Along with the support of the Oxford County Junior Farmers the pull has been a great success. In the past six years, the event has gotten too big just for the Junior Farmers alone. They now draw on volunteers from the Sweaburg Lions, Embro Fair Board, Embro Skating Club, Embro Masonic Lodge, local 4-H groups as well as many others. In turn, part of the profits are split between the volunteer clubs.

This past year included the horse pull, farmstock and sanctioned events from the Southwestern Ontario Tractor Pullers Association, Great Lakes and the Empire State Pullers. It was the first time multi-engined modified tractors have run the track.

Brian Sinclair from Goderich pulled in the Farmstock Vintage 5,000-6,000 lbs class placing first in his class, and had the longest pull of the farmstock classes at 364' 11.6". Mark Cole from Pavilion, NY, had the longest pull from the Empire State pullers in the 7500 modified class at 333' 6", and Great Lakes Puller, Ken Austin, pulled the farthest at 314' 10" with his Single Engined modified. The track conditions were excellent and the rain stayed away until Saturday night as the ETTP finished up.

In 2010, Oxford Junior Farmers donated over \$8,000 back to the community and they hope that the donations will increase this year. This is an event that would not be successful without the volunteers and support from the local community. The ETTP committee would like to extend a great thank you to all of their volunteers.

The ETTP hopes to see everyone out next year. For more information on the ETTP, pictures and results from 2011, check out their website at [www.embrotractorpull.com](http://www.embrotractorpull.com)





# GROWMARK—Annual General Meeting



I was awarded a great opportunity this past August – to be a youth delegate representing JFAO at the GROWMARK Annual General Meeting (AGM). There were two other delegates from Ontario: Alissa Goodfellow (4-H Ontario) and Eddie Sauve (Co-operative Young Leaders). We had the privilege of being hosted by Barry Hannah from GROWMARK. Alissa, Barry and I met at Pearson International for the flight to Chicago. Eddie was going to be travelling with his family to Chicago as his father is a member on a co-operative board and would be attending the AGM as well.

Once we arrived in Chicago we headed to the Chicago Conrad Hilton to check-in prior to heading out on the town. We needed to squeeze in some shopping before our sightseeing adventures - one of us forgot to pack their very important dress pants! It turned into a great adventure in which we walked through Chicago. Once this mission was complete we headed to Navy Pier. We had dinner at Bubba Gump Shrimp Co., which is a restaurant entirely dedicated to Forrest Gump. We had a blast laughing at all of the funny signs and interesting uniforms! After dinner we took an architecture boat tour on the Chicago River. Through the tour we learned about the history of Chicago and how the buildings filling the Chicago skyline came to be. We were able to catch the fireworks off of



Navy Pier after returning from our boat cruise. It was then back to the hotel and straight to bed after our long day of travel and touring through town.

On the second day we got up early to have breakfast in the hotel restaurant before heading to the Chicago Board of Trade (CBOT) with AGRIS Co-operative Ltd. The hotel was close enough to the CBOT that we were able to walk. It was very interesting to see what was happening in the pits and to learn about the trading world. Things at CBOT have been changing quickly – more trading is done online as opposed to on the floor. We were also very lucky because we were a small group and were able to go onto the trading floor with a trader to see the action up close and personal. All of the action at the CBOT made us hungry, so we headed for lunch at The Berghoff, the oldest restaurant in Chicago.

Right after lunch it was time to head back to the hotel to prepare for the Grand Entry of Colours, an important part of the opening ceremonies for the AGM. It was here that we met the youth delegates from Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa Future Farmers of America (FFA). I had the honour of carrying the

Canadian flag in as well as retiring it at the end of the Annual General Meeting. After our practice and preparation for our entrance we went on a tour of the Conrad Hilton Hotel. The hotel tour was very interesting as the hotel was built in 1929 and still had a lot of the original architecture. We also had a tour of the kitchen where a chef took the time to teach us how to make fruit art. We also got to view an executive suite – it was huge and had a great view out onto the waterfront!



We had just enough time after the tour to get ready for the banquet that was held that evening. We had a great meal and got to spend more time with the youth dele-

gates that we were seated with. After the meal the entertainment for the evening was The Band Perry. They put on a great show for our group and even stuck around afterward and we were able to take pictures and get their autographs!

The next morning was our Youth Breakfast where we were able to introduce ourselves to all of the other youth delegates and talk about the organization that we were representing. It was amazing to learn about the other organizations and how they are set up differently compared to JFAO.

It was just about show time for the opening ceremonies at the AGM. Everyone had their flags and it was time for the drums to start. Getting to carry the Canadian flag meant that I got to be front and centre and I quickly realized this was the biggest AGM I had ever been to! We got to hear from Dan Kelly, Chairman; Jeff Solberg, CEO; and the guest speaker Doug Scott, Marketing Manager of Ford Truck Group. They recognized employees, shareholders, and board members that were retiring in the past year during the meeting. A new addition to the meeting this year was that the youth speeches were included, as opposed to during the banquet the night before. It was a great meeting with a lot of exciting things to talk about.

Right after the meeting we were headed to the airport. This time we were driving in style – in a limo! I cannot thank GROWMARK enough for having the chance to attend their AGM, it was nothing short of spectacular! It was a whirlwind trip and an experience that I will never forget!

*Sarah McLaren*  
*Kawartha Junior Farmers*

# Announcements



Megan and Matt McDougall welcomed their daughter Kinsey Annette McDougall into the world on July 22nd, 2011. Congratulations from the Wellington Junior Farmers!



Congratulations to Crystal Ray and Dave Cullens of Wellington County, who married on August 13th, 2011.



Krystal Whitehead and Ben Boogerman from Wellington County JF are engaged! Their wedding will take place in August 2012.



*We recognize the importance of our future agriculture leaders in creating a strong vision for our future farmers.*



Agricultural co-operatives have been working for farmers and their families for almost 100 years. We have many rural leaders to thank including the young leaders from Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario.



Congratulations to Cristy Ironside and Michael Doris of Peterborough County, who married on July 23, 2011.

## Congratulations from JFAO!



Lucas William Tschirhart was born on Sept. 7th, 2011 weighing 7lbs 14 oz in Fergus to Emily (Phillips) and Mark Tschirhart. Grandparents are Roy and Pauline Phillips, Middlesex JF Alumni, and uncle Ian Phillips of Durham East JF.



Somer (Verhoeven) and Mike Marontate welcomed Cody Evan into the world on Aug. 30 at 11:54 p.m. weighing 9 lbs 14 oz.



Gillian Richardson and Steven Mills are proud to announce the arrival of Fiona Maud Mills. Fiona was born Aug 27th, 2011 @ 6:38am. Weighing 9 lbs 15 oz and measuring 21 1/2 inches long.



Katharine Found and Andrew Zwambag welcomed Zachary Andrew on July 2, 2011 at 7:01 a.m. weighing 8 lbs 11 oz and measuring 20 inches long.



## **Alumni Corner - Times have changed...**



*A former York Junior Farmer member emailed this to JFAO and thought people may find this information of interest about a past club, Vellore Junior Farmers. Jack (John) Devins has been out of the area of York for several years and was inquiring if there was a Vellore Junior Farmer Club and Homemaker's Club any longer. He reflects on the past, how times have changed, and his experiences with York Junior Farmers. A little bit of history submitted by Claire Bunnik of York Junior Farmers.*

The Hamlet of Vellore was located in York County in the township of Vaughan, which was a farming community about 15 or 20 miles north of the City of Toronto. A country hall was built, probably in the mid to early 1800s, and because it was in the centre of Vaughan Township, the hall was used as a municipal centre for the township until after WW2. A Junior Farmer and Homemaker's club was formed (I think) in the late 1920s, and their meetings were held in the Vellore Community Hall. This hall was not a huge hall by today's standards. It had a pioneer or rustic flavour to it, as the unfinished basement had exposed logs in the ceiling, which held up the main floor of the building. Dances were held from time to time and 100 people would probably be it's capacity for most functions.

In the 1940s when I was an active Junior Farmer member, we met on the first Tuesday of the month for all months except August, and the July meeting was not a regular meeting but was an Ice Cream Social. The Junior Farmer lads would meet in the basement for about an hour, during which time we had a short business meeting and usually a speaker relating to crops, livestock, or farm management. We were also well supported by the Department of Agriculture Representative located in Newmarket, Ontario. While we were having our meeting in the basement, the lassies were having their Homemakers meeting on the main floor of the hall. When we had finished our meeting in the basement we then moved upstairs to have a joint meeting with the lassies and this lasted about an hour, generally including some home made entertainment and a lunch provided by the Junior Homemakers. From a collection made at each meeting, we paid \$5.00 for the use of the basement and \$10.00 for the main floor, for a total of \$15.00 for the use of the hall.

You may not know where this Vellore hall is located, but if you know where Canada's Wonderland Park is located, just off of Highway #400, the Community hall in Vellore is located less than one half a mile due west of Canada's Wonderland Park on the east side of the 6th concession of Vaughan Township (also known as Weston Rd). The hall is much the same as when we attended there, except that it has had inside washrooms added and any township fire and safety codes have been brought up to date.

Just to illustrate how times have changed, I was part of a family group who were seeking a hall in which to hold a family reunion and the quote that we received from the Vaughan Township Administration for the use of the hall for an afternoon and evening was \$1,000.00 - that's ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS. How's that for inflation?

*Written by Jack Devins, York Junior Farmer Alumni*

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