



G Bullhorn

Volume 27, Issue 1 To Build Future Rural Leaders, Through Self-Help & Community Betterment **2016**

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Upcoming JFAO Events

May 14

All-Ontario Judging Competition
(Ancaster)

June 3-5

Leadership Camp (Brantford)

August 12

Golf Tournament (Guelph)

August 20

August PD Meeting (Prince Edward)

August 20

Ambassadors Banquet (Prince Edward)

October 29

Autumn Profile (Lindsay, Kawartha)

November 18

November PD Meeting (Ancaster)

November 19

Sing Swing (Ancaster)

January (TBD), 2017

January PD Meeting (Durham West)

January (TBD), 2017

Mike Spoxton's Roast & Toast
(Durham West)

February 4, 2017

Winter Games (Huron)

March 24-26, 2017

March Conference (TBD West Ontario)

Next Bullhorn Deadline is:

August 1

Email Submissions to
marketing@jfao.on.ca

March Conference



March Conference was held at the Holiday Inn in Peterborough, Ontario on March 18-20th. The theme was Innovate, Motivate and Integrate.

A cheque was presented to the 2015 Provincial Charity – **Josiah's Journey** for \$6000. And members voted for the Ontario Agri-Food Education to be the 2016 Charity.

The seasons were dynamic and ranged from speakers that talked about succession planning, to a comedian and motivational speakers like Judy Croon.

The election of officers saw contested races. Introducing the 2016 JFAO executive and representatives:



Back (left to right) Nic Weber (Director of Membership), Jordan Eastman (Director of Ag Programs), Kristy-Anne Wytenburg (Director of Community & International Programs), and Erich Weber (Director of Finance)
Front (left to right) Amanda Brodhagen (Director of Marketing), Mike (Past President), Kurtis Smith (President), and Sarah Breckon (Director of Fund Development)



President's Message

From looking at my JF event calendar it certainly looks like 2016 will be a fun, educational, and memorable year for members, alumni, partners, and even Gordie (the JF Bear).

When the JF Bear was first introduced to JFAO a handful of years ago he did not seem to have a name until now – Gordie. Gordie will be accompanying me while I attend JF events across the province (search #GordieJFAO on twitter to see what Gordie is up to).

As we roll into spring the groundwork will be laid for the events in the coming months; the arrival of the **International Delegates (Summer & Autumn), Leadership Camp, JFAO's Charity Golf Tournament** and all of the local club events being held from east and west. As well, I am pleased that we can officially call the All-Ontario Judging Competition an annual JF event as it takes on its second year.

We are happy to hear that Essex-Kent JF Club is sprouting back up in zone five. I hope that will be a trend for the coming years across the province.

I am honored and thrilled to have been elected to be the 73rd JFAO Provincial President and am looking forward to working with your 2016 executive and all the JF members that are the backbone of our remarkable organization.

Kurtis Smith

JFAO President - 2016





Club News

Bathtub Races stand the test of time

By Stacey Jibb, Durham West Junior Farmers

Each year at the Sunderland Maple Syrup Festival one of the hallmark events is the Durham West Junior Farmers (DWJF) Bathtub Races.



Over the years the event has taken on a personality of its own bringing in community groups, local 4-H clubs, fair ambassadors and even local municipal government officials to compete for the coveted rubber duck trophy. The event began years ago as a way for Durham West Junior Farmers to become involved in the annual Sunderland Maple Syrup festival and celebrate such a sweet time of year. When it first started the challenge was for participants to race a specially designed bed dressed to the nines in their best **pj's and slippers. Since then the event has become bathtub races** with participants challenged to design their own tub or rent one of the tubs available from DWJF.

Visitors from all over the Greater Toronto Area travel to Sunderland each maple syrup festival to experience local farm tours and carriage rides. The bathtub races are an example of a unique community event that draws in crowds creates a friendly competitive environment and helps to

promote DWJF in a positive light. On April 2, 2016 four teams competed for the rubber duck trophy in front of a crowd of hundreds of people. The cherry on top of a successful day was promotion by the local newspaper, The Brock Citizen. Next year DWJF is challenging local high schools to design and build their own bathtubs and compete against one another.

Easter egg hunt with an agricultural twist

By Danielle Teefy, Prince Edward Junior Farmers

The Prince Edward Junior Farmers hosted their 6th Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday March 26, 2016. The event is held each year at Justin **Williams' farm in Bloomfield and was once again** well attended by children and parents from the area. A highlight of the day is always the farm tours, which give all attendees the opportunity to learn about agriculture and see an operating dairy farm. We had a couple of special guests back this year, the Easter Bunny and Betsy the Cow helped us to welcome our visitors. Thank you to Picton Home Hardware for donating a bike and a wagon as prizes, the Bloomfield Recreation Committee for donating the chocolate eggs and the Williams family for hosting.



Starting the year off on a high note

By Meredith Mulligan, Renfrew Junior Farmers

The 2016-year, has started off on a high note for Renfrew. January started with the completion of our affiliation report and the realization that our club had more than doubled our club membership in the last year. This feat has, in large part, resulted from our conscious effort to increase our community presence through volunteering, press, word of mouth, and social media. Volun-



teering this year began in January through the start of February, when our Sing Swing square dancing group helped the local 4H square

dance club. While helping the 4H kids to learn and practice their sets we also taught them the grand square and a new set. Helping the 4H square dance club ended at their achievement night where the 4H kids got to show off everything they had learned and our square got to perform their Sing Swing winning set for the 4H kids and their families.

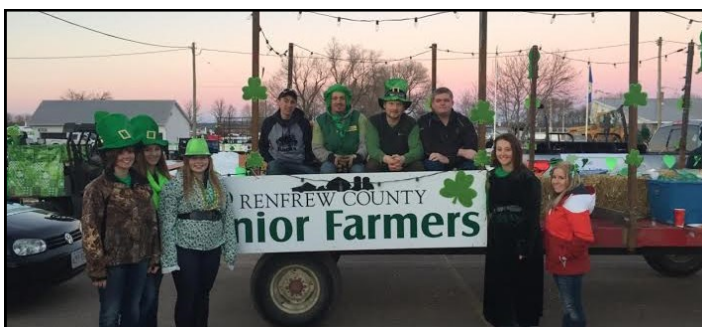
January ended with a group of our club members traveling to Ottawa to help Carleton celebrate 100years at their awards banquet. They got to learn about Carleton Junior Farmers through the decades, meet Carleton alumni, see Junior Farmer memorabilia, and learn what Junior Farmers is great for. February started with 10 of our club members making the very short drive to Middlesex County for a nostalgia filled **Winter Games. Even though we couldn't defend our 2015 Winter Games title, our entire team had a blast at Middlesex's well organized event. Some club members even came home with the title of best group costume for their Teenage Mutant**

Ninja Turtle costume.

March was a busy month for our club. We started the month by organizing the **lumberjack games at Westmeath's annual winter carnival.** We had participants try their hand at crosscut sawing, bale tossing, nail driving, pulp throwing, and tea boiling. The event was a huge success with over 40 people participating in the events. We followed the lumberjack games with some



curling when we hosted a curling social and invited the other Zone 1 clubs to join us. Even **though there wasn't a lot of time to plan the day** we all had fun with enough people to have a four team, two game bonspiel. After the two games the winners of the day were: Meredith Mulligan (Renfrew), Brittany McIntosh (Carleton), Curtis Schultz (Renfrew), and Quintina Cuddihy (Carleton). We returned to the ice for another game before an impromptu pizza party supper to end the day.



We stayed busy in March when, for the second year in a row, our club put a float in the annual **Douglas St. Patty's Day Parade. Our float was bigger and better this year, with even more lights and decorations than last year. Everyone**



Club News

wore their green and had a great time at the parade before heading to the Diddley (Douglas' tavern) for more St. Patty's celebrations. While some of our members were celebrating St. Patty's Day, 6 of our club members traveled to Peterborough for March Conference. Everyone had



a great time at the event, from the taco supper Friday night and the compelling

guest speakers, the banquet, to the dance.

The end of March was pretty quiet for our club but April started off with a bang as most of our members got to start April off right by going to see Garth Brooks at 1 of his 4 shows in Ottawa. April also brings with it the end of the school year for our college and university club members and the start of planning for our summer club events. We're all looking forward to the judging competition in May, Carleton's Redneck Games in June, and hosting the delegates this summer. Hopefully this is just the start of a great year for Renfrew!

Giving back the Junior Farmer way

By Caileigh Gallagher (Social Media & Press Director), Carleton Junior Farmers

Carleton County Junior Farmers have always loved being able to give back to our community. As a part of our 100th anniversary banquet we raised funds to be donated to the JFAO charity of the year. We were able to raise \$600 for Josiah's Journey at our banquet thanks to our wonderful

supporters, alumni, and members. This year our



club has decided to pick a charity in our community to contribute time and donations to. After some deliberation, members decided to focus our volunteering this year on the Ottawa Food Bank. The Ottawa Food Bank is an organization that aims to help people get past hunger and concentrate on other areas in order to better their lives. Some members started our involvement by volunteering at the organization on March 24th for a few hours and we are so excited to make this wonderful place a part of our community involvement. Additionally, we will be spending time throughout the year raising funds and collecting food donations for this organization to support them in their amazing work and we hope that you will join us in supporting this great group.





Club News

Update from Waterloo

By Tracy Stark, Waterloo Junior Farmers

The new 2016 executive for Waterloo Junior Farmers was elected at their annual meeting earlier this year. Meaghan Weber was re-elected as the President and Provincial Director. Leslie Reid became the Vice President and Nicholas Weber **remained as Treasurer. Tracey Stark is the Club's** new Secretary and Communication Rep; while Nicole Cressman was elected as the Assistant Provincial Director and Agricultural Rep. Our Social Directors are Leslie, Nicole and Nic. Allie Lehman and Nic were elected as our Fundraising Coordinators.



Waterloo Junior Farmers recently held their annual banquet where they presented their 2015 award winners. Meaghan Weber received the **President's Award, Provincial Director Award and Top Overall Female Member**. Leslie Reid received the Top New Member Award. The Top Overall Male Member was Nicholas Weber. Celie Diebold and Nic tied for Top Athletic Member.

During the Junior Farmers Association of Ontario's **Annual Meeting held recently in Peterborough**, Nicholas Weber was re-elected as the 2016 JFAO Executive Director of Membership. **JFAO's March Conference weekend was also a** time to present the annual awards. Waterloo Junior Farmers was awarded the JFAO 2015 Communication Award for Best Traditional Scrapbook. Nic also won the 2016 Travel Award to Tasmania.

Wentworth looks ahead

By Heather Thompson (2016 Media Representative), Wentworth Junior Farmers

Better me 2016 is a personal goal that, with the help of my Junior Farmer club, I am taking to a community level. This year the Wentworth Junior Farmers are really stepping up their game and I **couldn't be more proud. One of the most exciting** things we have done is join up with the Niagara Junior Farmers so that we can reach a larger audience in the area and help more people.

The year has gotten off to a great start with such activities as donating blood, the Ancaster Community Food Drive and Ancaster Extreme Cowboy Days. Some events we have planned for the coming year are roadside clean ups, as many blood donations as possible and helping our local 4-H groups.



Helping people is a fantastic thing but we also like to indulge in a little social fun as well. Some of the great events we have had thus far this year include touring the Hamilton Museum of Steam & Technology, the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum and we hosted an Agricultural Tour. This year we are hoping to host as many educational social events as possible.





Club News

The scoop from Middlesex County

By Krista Jeffrey, Middlesex Junior Farmers

The Middlesex Junior Farmers have had an exciting start to the year. On February 6th, 2016, Middlesex had the pleasure of hosting JFAO winter games. 170 members from across the province participated in, not only the traditional sports, but Zorb soccer and a childhood television themed dance. It was a great weekend and our club ended up raising \$3000. Our club decided to donate it back into community programs. We donated \$1500 back to JFAO, \$500 to SARI Therapeutic Riding Center in Arva, \$500 to the Ronald McDonald Family Rooms at the **London Children's Hospital**, \$300 to the Youth for Christ center in Strathroy, and \$200 to the North Dorchester Optimist club, where we held the dance. Not only was the event a lot of fun but it felt good to be able to give back to fantastic programs around Middlesex County.

Alongside our monthly meetings and social events, Middlesex is looking forward to hosting some agriculture related events and fundraisers. One of these events includes hosting a farm future night. On April 8th, 2016, a Farm Credit Canada representative is coming out to talk about financing options for starting your own farm. We are also busy planning our 3rd Annual Ag in the Classroom program for this spring.

These are only a few things happening in Middlesex. Our club is very excited to see what else is in store for 2016.



JFAO 2016 Exchange Winners

Crystal Blake , Perth Junior Farmers (**Republic of Ireland**)

April English, Kawartha Junior Farmers (**Austria**)

Claire Johnston, Peel Junior Farmers (**United Kingdom**)

Kylie O'Neil, Middlesex Junior Farmers (**Wales**)

Nicholas Weber, Waterloo Junior Farmers (**Tasmania**)

Spaghetti Dinner raises funds for food banks

By Katherine Clyne, Wellington Junior Farmers

The Wellington County Junior Farmers held its 9th Annual Spaghetti Dinner, which raised more than \$1100 for food banks in the county.

The event was well attended by the community, including by area MPP, Randy Pettapiece. Members cooked and served up the meal that was enjoyed by all those who attended.



Junior Farmer food booth popular once again at CDX

By Patti Blake, Perth Junior Farmers

The smell of delicious food being cooked up by the Perth County Junior Farmers proved to be an attraction at the Canadian Dairy XPO. Members served up gourmet Panini sandwiches and homemade apple pie from Anna

Mae's Bakery. There were long line-ups with attendees, which resulted in apple pie being sold out on the first day! The Perth County Junior Farmers would like to thank everyone for the support, including Junior Farmers from other counties who came and bought food.



Junior Farmer throwback moment



From the Perth County Alumni Archive



A voice at the table: Attending the Growing the Agri-Food Workforce Summit

By Kristy-Anne Wytenburg, Carleton Junior Farmers

This past March I was given the opportunity by Canadian Young Farmers' Forum (CYFF) to attend Growing the AgriWorkforce; The Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food Workforce Summit put on by the Canadian Human Resource Council in Winnipeg, Manitoba. I was able to attend on behalf of JFAO and Ontario Youth in Agriculture. My name is Kristy-Anne Wytenburg and I grew up on a dairy, beef and cash crop farm in Renfrew County. I am currently a member of Carleton County Junior Farmers and am the newly elected Executive Director of Community and International Programs. When approached with the opportunity to head to Winnipeg March 14-16 2016 I mentioned it to my father, and expressed enthusiasm of being able to attend. After being to a few conferences over the past couple of years I have always come home with a positive vibe and feeling further educated and connected.



This is exactly how I felt arriving back in Ontario after attending this summit. Over the past few years CAHRC has been performing research on the labour struggles within the agricultural sector, and have formed the Canadian Agriculture and Agri-Food Workforce Action Plan being a roadmap forward to address the sector's critical labour shortages.

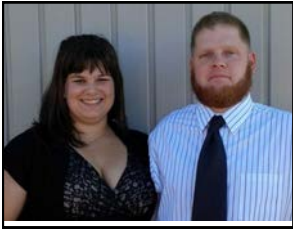
This summit brought together individuals from all across Canada representing different agricultural organizations of all ages and commodity groups. Hearing from many remarkable speakers such as those involved in the research, those within specific commodity groups to those within a youth classroom, it brought light to the overall effects of the labour demand that is lacking supply.

Attending this conference gave me the ability to discuss these concerns with agriculturally focused individuals from all over Canada. It really emphasized the purpose of my self being involved in JFAO and the importance of our club voicing our passion and dedication to the agricultural sector.





Announcements



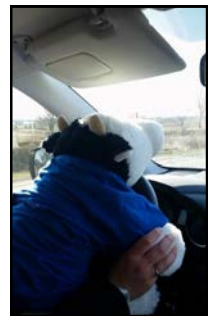
Jack & Jill for member Sara Jibb (Prince Edward Junior Farmers) and her husband-to-be Evan Butterworth on June 11, 2016 at Cambray Community Centre



Essex-Kent holds its first executive meeting, and begins the process of being affiliated with JFAO. Welcome!



Perth County's new mascot – Permoo goes missing at the Spring PD Training weekend being hosted by the Haldiman-Norfolk Junior Farmers. He escaped, and is now traveling across the province making new friends everywhere he goes.



Editor's note

Let me first start off by saying how much fun it's been putting this newsletter together! I have enjoyed reading your write-ups and seeing your club photos. It excites me to see all the incredible things that Junior Farmers are doing across this great province.

Thank you to the clubs who responded to my call for submissions. I think it is so important that we all take the time to share and communicate what we are up to. It helps us all stay connected, and I think it also serves as a reminder as to why Junior Farmers is such an amazing organization to be apart of.



Proudly serving you,
Amanda Brodhagen
Executive Director of Marketing



Agricultural Tours in China



JFAO is working with the Canada International Exchange & Promotional Council again this year to organize an eleven day agricultural group trip to china in October 2016 for alumni and JFAO members.

The individual cost for a group of 10 people is **\$2500** per person, based on double occupancy, which includes round trip international airfare and the land cost (including agri-related site visits, hotel and meals) in China. A sample of last year's itinerary is included.

Please note this cost works only for the **11 day trip departing on October 17th, 2016**. The trip will fly with Chinese Airlines.

*** On farm tours are also a possibility. ***

If interested please email, this form or questions to cip@jfao.on.ca by **May 1 2016**. A **\$250 deposit is required on booking made out to CIEPC with a copy of valid passport photo page. The remainder is due 75 days prior to departure.**

Name _____

Club _____

Address: _____

Email _____

Phone number: _____



11-day China Agri-educational Tour Sample Itinerary

Day 1 –Toronto/Beijing

Take international flight to Beijing.

Day 2 –Arrival in Beijing

Upon arrival, you will meet our English-speaking tour guide and transfer to the hotel by a private air conditioned tour bus. The rest of the day is at your leisure to explore this city once known as Peking.

Hotel: Pullman Hotel Beijing South (5* or similar) 4-nights

Day 3 - Beijing (BLD)

Morning: visit Tiananmen Square — the largest public city square in the world - from there you enter the Forbidden City to explore the 250-acre complex of palaces, pavilions, houses, courtyards and gardens. After lunch, we visit the Temple of Heaven where the Emperors prayed for good harvest for the coming year. Then we visit Beijing Xinfadi Agricultural Products Trade Market. Peking duck dinner is prearranged to conclude your first day of sightseeing.

Day 4 - Beijing (BLD)

Morning: visit Beijing Chaolai Agricultural Art Garden; after lunch, half day excursion to the Great Wall (at Juyongguan Section) — the world's longest man-made structure, stretching over 6,352 km (3,948 miles) from Shanhai Pass in the east to Lop Nur in the west — along an arc that roughly delineates the southern edge of Inner Mongolia.

Optional Kung Fu show in the evening.

Day 5- Beijing (BLD)

Morning: visit the Summer Palace, a royal resort during the Qing Dynasty;

Afternoon: visit Beijing Academy of Agricultural Sciences Vegetable Research Institute, also will visit the lab and cultivate base <http://www.chinavisittour.com/china-tours-2015/153-the-summer-palace.html>.

Day 6 - Beijing/Shanghai/Suzhou (BLD)

Take flight to Shanghai — a world-class modern metropolitan, regarded as one of the most important commercial, financial, industrial and communications centers of China. Make immediate transfer to Suzhou upon arrival. This 25th-century-old city is best known for its traditional Chinese gardens, silk industry and well-preserved Grand Canal. We visit the Master of the Nets Garden.

Hotel: Suzhou Holiday Inn (4.5* or similar) 1-night

Day 7 - Suzhou-Hangzhou (BLD)

Our schedule today includes a silk spinning mill, and then have an optional boat ride on the canals. After lunch we drive to Hangzhou, known as the Heaven City in China.

Hotel: Holiday Inn Xiaoshan (4.5* or similar) 1-nights

Day 8 - Hangzhou-Shanghai (BLD)

Today's schedule includes a boat tour on West Lake. Then visit Longjing (Dragon Well) Tea House. Drive back to Shanghai.

Hotel: Crowne Plaza Shanghai Fudan (5* or similar) 3-nights

Day 9 - Hangzhou - Shanghai (BLD)

Today's sightseeing includes visiting the Yuyuan Garden, and The Bund — a waterfront promenade famous for its landmark neoclassical buildings of European style. Then proceed to visit Shanghai Agricultural Products Wholesale Centre.

Day 10 - Shanghai (B)

Today is your free day to spend at leisure — exploring China's most dynamic city on your own is easy and enjoyable. Our guide will have recommendations for you.

Optional Maglev Train riding;

Optional Huangpu River Cruise;

Optional Era Show

Day 11 - Shanghai/Home (B)

Bid farewell when transfer to the airport for your return flight home. End of service.


(B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner)



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