



Inside

Leadership Camp.....	1-2
President's Message.....	3
Alumni Corner.....	4
Club News.....	5-7
All-Ontario Judging Comp.....	8
Strategic Planning.....	8
Golf Tournament.....	9
International Delegates.....	10
OYFF.....	11
"Alumni Lives Here" Launch.....	12

Thanks to the support of



Mark Your Calendar

November PD Meeting
November 18
Ancaster, Ontario

—
Sing Swing
November 19
Ancaster, Ontario

—
Ontario Young Farmers' Forum
November 20-21
Toronto, Ontario

—
Past President's Roast & Toast
January 14, 2017
Sandford, Ontario

—
Winter Games
February 4, 2017
Clinton, Ontario

—
March Conference and Annual Banquet
March 24-26, 2017
London, Ontario

Leadership Camp — Round Up At The JF Corral

On June 6, forty Junior Farmers from across the province gathered at Circle Square Ranch in Brantford for the annual JFAO Leadership Camp, a weekend full of fun, friends, activities, and sunshine!

Friday night was spent getting to know one another. After everyone had settled into the hall, we took advantage of the nice weather and played some ice breakers to know more about the people we were spending the weekend with and learning all of their names! The evening was finished with a campfire.

Saturday was full of fun. After breakfast the camp delegates were split into six teams, named after Wild West towns, and had to make a town sign and a cheer for their city. The Junior Farmer creativity really shone here! Elements from nature were even incorporated into a few of the signs. After this, Deputy Sarah led the groups in a roping challenge, complete with cardboard cut-out cows. A relay was then held to see who had mastered their

skills. In order to cool off from the adventurous morning, a water balloon fight followed!

After lunch various activities were held outside, such as ultimate frisbee and croquet. Then, at 2 o'clock the ever-anticipated activities led by Circle Square Ranch started up. There were three rotations: low ropes, high ropes, and team building. The high ropes seemed to be the all-around favourite! Several members pushed their boundaries and tried something new throughout these activities which was great to see.

After dinner Deputy Nic ran the ultimate team challenge which involved trivia, skills, music, speed, and acting. Teams worked hard in a six way battle to compete for the top. After the scores were all tallied up and the winners announced, it was time to head outside for another campfire, this time complete with songs and marshmallows. Sunday morning

(continued on page 2)



Leadership Camp (cont.)

came early for those who had stayed up late chatting and playing cards, but there were a few more activities planned before the journey home. After breakfast there were three sessions that the groups rotated through. Target practice with pop cans, as well as hitting a ping pong ball with a whip allowed teams to show their hand-eye coordination and aim. The general knowledge quiz allowed teams to show their smarts in topics including nature, history, and parts of a cow!

After a final wrap up and debrief everyone was sent on their way.

The committee would like to thank everyone who participated in the weekend to make it a very memorable Junior Farmer event!

Victoria Kyle
Leadership Camp Committee Chair



JFAO Annual Banquet and Dance

Book your hotel room early to avoid disappointment!

<http://book.bestwestern.com/bestwestern/groupSearch.do?id=Z86LB1Z9>

Group ID: Z86LB1Z9

March 25, 2017

**Best Western Plus Stoneridge Inn and Conference Centre
6675 Burtwistle Lane, London**

For more info

please contact marchconference@jfao.on.ca



President's Message

The leaves have turned colour and have started to fall. Autumn has always been my favourite season of the year, not only because of the wonderful fall colours but because farmers like my Dad are harvesting their crops and are reaping the rewards of all the hard work of the previous months of the year. Similarly, in Junior Farmers I find myself looking back on the start of my Presidents tenure realizing the remarkable amount of accomplishments we have achieved so far and what else we can undertake as we near the end of the fiscal year and the "JF Year" (March to March).

I am pleased that on few occasions this year Minister of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs, Jeff Leal has acknowledged JFAO. He personally attended the Peterborough County JF 100th Anniversary to present the Provincial Certificate commemorating their achievement. While in attendance at the IPM Minister Leal went out of his way to speak with JF members at the JFAO booth. As well, earlier in the year Minister Leal invited Past President Mike Sproxton and I to the second Rural Ontario Summit.

As the year slowly comes to an end, I am looking forward to several JF provincial events, Autumn Profile, Sing Swing, and Ontario Young Farmers Forum, as well as the abundance of local events all the JF Club from across our beautiful province have organized for their communities, JF members, and alumni.

In JF spirit,
Kurtis Smith
Your 73rd JFAO President



Over the past few months I have spoken with many proud Junior Farmer Alumni from across the province, like in September when I had the privilege in celebrating the 100th year of Junior Farmers in Peterborough County. It was remarkable to hear many stories of JF alumni in attendance. Then at the International Plowing Match (IPM) in Minto, I had the opportunity to exchange stories of JFAO with Alumni. It is quite astonishing how JFAO has change so much while not changing much at all. While at IPM we unveiled our new gate sign program

("Alumni Lives Here"). I am very proud of the response from the alumni that stopped by our booth and purchased a gate sign as they continue to support JF in showing their pride in being a JF Alumni. Recently while I was in Kawartha (formerly Victoria County) to celebrate their 100th JF Anniversary, again I was astonished by the amount of Alumni in attendance that continues to support the efforts of Junior Farmers – this truly shows the impact Junior Farmers makes on the lives of our members.



Recently the JFAO administration office has seen quite an influx of Century Farm Sign applications. Not because farm owners have recently reach the incredible century milestone, rather because local JF clubs are promoting the program in advance to Canada 150 and the 50th Anniversary of the Century Farm Sign Program. Many folks do not realize that JFAO created "add on" signs to celebrate additional achievements after 100 years (125, 150, 175 & 200 years). Just a few weeks ago I personally delivered signs to a ninth generation farm. I am certain that in 2034 the tenth generation will proudly hang the 200 year add on sign at their farm gate.



Start Christmas Shopping with JFAO!

Available through the office:

"Alumni Lives Here" signs

Cookbooks

Tree ornaments

Email info@fao.on.ca to order today!

Looking Back on a 15 Year Adventure...

Back in 2000, I found myself excitedly and nervously making my way into my first Junior Farmer (JF) meeting. My older brother and parents had encouraged me to join. No matter what I had heard and imagined, nothing could prepare me for the journey that was about to begin.

The JF crew quickly helped me feel like I belonged. I jumped right in, volunteering for fundraisers and community projects, playing sports, attending social functions and even going to some provincial events. In no time I was making friends, helping my community and trying new things, with a lot of laughs along the way. As long as we were having fun, nothing else mattered. I knew that no matter where I went, I wanted to find a club to be part of.

Over my 15 years, I belonged to a total of 5 clubs. Each had its own strengths, its own traditions and its own blend of events throughout the year. Some were well established and thriving, some

were just re-starting, and others were unfortunately failing. All, however, had the same wonderful sense of friendship and belonging that drew me in from the start, along with the commitment to help the community.

If anyone was to ask me today if it was worth it, I would give a resounding yes. JF gave me many skills, taught me a lot about myself, and has given me countless friends, contacts and memories. My 15 years were a whirlwind, but an amazing ride.

Encourage the people you know to join and make recruiting young members a priority, including making events fun for people of all ages. You never know when one of those young members will turn into the next 15 year member.

Patricia (Dickenson) Grotenhuis
JFAO Alumna

Announcements



Prince Edward County JF would like to congratulate Scott and Julia Boese on the birth of their daughter Emma Jean September 9, 2016 weighing 8lbs 15 oz.



Perth County JF would like to congratulate Andy Louwagie and Katie Cornelius on their engagement. They are looking forward to their winter wedding in January of 2017!



Congratulations Brian Sterling on coaching the winner of the Queen of the Furrow competition at this year's IPM!

Past President's Roast & Toast for Mike Sproxton

January 14, 2017
Sandford Community Centre
433 Sandford Sideroad, Sandford
Cocktails 6:30, Dinner 7:00
Tickets are \$30 and available for purchase from Durham West JF members or by emailing pastpresident@jfao.on.ca



JF WANTS TO HELP YOU.....

Keep in touch with old JF friends, share stories & life moments. We are always looking for Alumni feedback and inspirations. Please share your special moments (Births, Anniversaries, Announcements with us). All information received will be shared in our upcoming Bullhorn.

Email to: editor@jfao.on.ca

Neighbouring Clubs Celebrate 100 Years

On October 15th Kawartha JF celebrated 100 years with 120 people joining us for the evening. The day began with a car rally and BBQ and ended with a dinner and dance. The car rally was a fun scavenger hunt that sent teams around the local area looking to score points.

In the evening there were both a silent and live auction. All items up for bidding were made or produced by club members with the proceeds going to Five Counties Children's Centre. The highest priced item was "3 Kawartha JF members for 4 hours of labour" and we are waiting to find out what the job will be. All told we raised \$750.

The dance began with a few sets of square dancing with current members and alumni from the 50s, 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s, and current members. It was fun to celebrate the past successes of the local clubs in the former Victoria County and take a trip down memory lane. It truly is wonderful to take note of how many alumni have continued to be local agricultural leaders and active community builders since they've moved on from Victoria/Kawartha Junior Farmers.



Current Kawartha JF members pictured with Jamie Schmale, MP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock.

Peterborough County celebrated 100 years as a club on September 10, 2016. Our club held a roast beef dinner and dance at Keene United Church with approximately 70 past and present members joining us. It was a wonderful evening of memories and stories and meeting up with old friends. Many of our alumni members brought along items from their days of JF such as shirts, hats, newsletters, photos, and scrapbooks. Some of our speakers included past and current president's of Peterborough and JFAO, so we had a nice representation of the organization as whole. Many of the alumni happened to be some of our members parents. We managed to reach out to a few past members who even came from a few hours away to attend. The event was a great success and we were very happy with how it turned out, and most importantly, everyone enjoyed themselves!



Kawartha JF was pleased with representation from so many decades of Junior Farmers at their celebration.
Top left - 50s. Top right - 60s.
Left - 70s.
Bottom left - 80s. Bottom right - 90s.



Community Service Top Priority in Middlesex

As the year comes to an end, the Middlesex Junior Farmers have been very productive on and off the farm. As we roll into fall everyone is very busy in the fields, working away at many different types of harvest. This means farmers have long hours in a tractor or a combine either relying on loved ones to bring out meals, packing their meals, or missing the meal altogether until finished. In saying this, Middlesex has taken on the initiative of packing up harvest bags filled with non-perishable snacks and drinks. Members then take these bags and hit the roads. We are trying to get these bags out to farmers hard at work in the field in need of nutritious snacks. Along with the snacks, we try to get the word out there about Junior Farmers by adding a small pamphlet about JFAO.

As a club the Middlesex Junior Farmers try to raise money for local charities and community betterment projects. One way we are doing that this year is by building and selling

crafts made from wood, fence posts and barn boards. Some of the crafts that we have put together and sold include, Yardzee (outdoor Yahtzee), tic tac toe, snow crowns (snowman on one side, scarecrow on the other), and large and small snowman posts. We have enjoyed building them and have raised a lot of money to be donated to local charities and be put into our other community betterment projects.

This is just a small part of what Middlesex Junior Farmers have been up to the last couple of months and we are looking forward to see what the next couple of months brings for us.

Kylie O'Neil
Middlesex Junior Farmers



Ontario Federation of Agriculture

OFA is proud to support the
Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario
Ontario agriculture's link to a
successful future!

Keep agriculture strong....support the Ontario Federation of Agriculture

OFA is Farmers Working for Farmers

1-800-668-3276 www.ofa.on.ca info@ofa.on.ca

Keeping Busy in Renfrew



Our club has continued to stay busy this year. Our summer ended, as it does every year, with fair season and we helped a couple of our local fairboards get ready with various painting tasks. While getting ready for our local fairs, many of our members made it down to Prince Edward County to say goodbye to the summer exchange delegates. While it was great to see them again, we were sad to have to say goodbye.

August ended for our club with the 157th Cobden Fair. Our members helped with set-up, dinners, livestock shows, and clean-up. This was also the 3rd year for our annual 50/50 draw during the Cobden Fair demolition derby and it was our most successful draw to date. After working through the Cobden Fair, most of our members started September by meeting up with Carleton County JF to go see Brett Kissel at the Shawville Fair. It was a great

way to celebrate the end of very busy and fun summer.

September saw the start of school for a lot of our club members, but our drop in numbers didn't slow down our community involvement. We were approached by our local Plowman's Association and asked to help them with this year's Renfrew County Plowing Match. We helped out by running the gate during the event and the Plowman's Association allowed us to have a booth in the agricultural education tent. This year's Renfrew County Plowing Match was hosted by the Edwards family and we were fortunate enough to be able to present the Edwards family with their 125 year Century Farm Sign at the plowing match.



In October our club was offered the chance to partner with the Cobden Agricultural Society to run a food booth at the annual Cobden Taste of the Valley, where people from

across Renfrew County come to see and buy local goods and products. This was the first time our club has attempted this kind of endeavor, but with the support of our agricultural society and some alumni we managed to have a very successful day.

Taking a break for a weekend, we entered a team of six into a local trivia fundraiser, raising money to put a new roof on a local community hall. Even though our team did not fare too well they still had a great time.



Celebrating Over 100 Years of JF in Renfrew County

Saturday January 28, 2017

Tickets available from:

Any current member of Renfrew County Junior Farmers, by mail at renfrewcountyjf@hotmail.com or by calling Meredith at 613-602-1619.

Tickets are \$30 and the deadline to purchase is January 20, 2017.

Editor's Note

I am very excited to be taking on the role of newsletter editor with JFAO. I bring a lot of experience along with me, including being the 67th president of this wonderful organization.

If you have any content you would like to see in the next edition, please do not hesitate to send it to me at editor@jfao.on.ca. I look forward to hearing from you all and breathing new life into our alumni newsletter!



Know a Business Interested in Partnering with JF?

JFAO is always looking for companies and organizations interested in becoming partners of JFAO to help keep our programs running.

A Benefits of Partnership Package is available by contacting fundraising@jfao.on.ca.

JFAO also offers **charitable tax receipts** to individual donors. Visit jfao.on.ca for information on the many ways you can help! Thank you to all of our alumni who have offered to continue supporting JF in 2016!



Continuing the Tradition of Judging in Ontario

On May 14, JFAO, with the help of 4-H, hosted the 2nd Annual All-Ontario Judging Competition. This competition challenged 4-Hers and Junior Farmers of all ages to judge a wide range of classes. Participants had the opportunity to give placings for beef, dairy, poultry, fish, survival kits, strawberry jam, place settings, handheld flashlights, canola, silage, rhubarb, and eggs. For extra challenges, oral reasons were given for dairy, beef, place settings, and silage, as well as 2 quizzes in the rotation. Participants from across the province as well as several Junior Farmer international exchange delegates competed in the daylong competition vying for prizes, including Top Junior 4-H Member, Top Intermediate 4-H Member, Top Senior 4-H Member, Top JFAO Member, Top JFAO Club, Top County, and best in each category awards were presented at the banquet following the day's events. Par-

ticipants, volunteers, committee members, sponsors, and dignitaries of the agricultural community shared in an evening of celebration. A large thank you to the All-Ontario Judging Competition's committee and volunteers who helped make this event successful! Thank you to the 2016 committee Alex Mitchell, Crystal Blake, Courtney Steven, Lee Mayes, Sarah Breckon and Taylor Campbell. The participants thoroughly enjoyed the judging competition and our social recreation time mid day. The most common remark of the day was that people are happy Junior Farmers is continuing to host this event. Judging in Ontario is almost exclusively run through 4-H and therefore only for youth aged 9-21. 4-Hers were excited for the opportunity to participate in a provincial competition, and the Junior Farmers were excited to continue judging since graduating from 4-H.

Results

Top JF Club- Middlesex
Top 4-H County- Middlesex
Top JF Member- Keturah Breckon

Top 4H Senior- Cassandra Gorrill (awarded due to reasons) and William Johnson
Intermediate- Samantha Intranuovo
Junior- Judine Vanderveen

Top Livestock- Lars Zeldenrijk
Top Crops- MacKenzie Mahon
Top Life Skills- Cassandra Gorrill
Top Quiz- Heather Rose



Strategic Planning Process Underway

JFAO is in the process of updating its strategic plan to better adapt to today's opportunities and challenges. The most current strategic plan on file was completed in 2011. We have enlisted OMAFRA to guide us in the gathering and processing of information for our strategic plan. To gather input from our stakeholders (ie. members, alumni, corporate sponsors), JFAO will be sending out surveys in the month of November. We ask that everyone who receives a survey takes the time to fill it out, as your input will be used to shape JFAO's future.

An updated version of the strategic plan will be completed and voted on at the Annual General Meeting at March Conference 2017. If you have any questions about the process please contact the following executive members: Kurtis Smith, President - president@jfao.on.ca
 Kristy-Anne Wytenburg, Executive Director of Community and International Programs - cip@jfao.on.ca
 Erich Weber, Executive Director of Finance - finance@jfao.on.ca

Memories Made and Funds Raised on the Green

JFAO held our 10th Annual Charity Golf Tournament this past August at Guelph Lakes Golf & Country Club. The day was bright and sunny, managing to miss the rain the rest of the province got. We had 42 golfers participate from all over Ontario. Our five international delegates were paired with Junior Farmer members to take part in the festivities. Joining us for the day were current members, alumni and friends, as well as partners Grain Farmers of Ontario and Heartland Farm Mutual.

The day commenced with a barbecue lunch before a shotgun start. Golfers joined in on a Poker Run game and Hold Your Ball throughout the day, finishing off with a steak dinner banquet to celebrate those who participated. The overall winning team was RLB Accountants.

A huge thank you to our golf tournament sponsors including: Grain Farmers of Ontario, Linamar Corporation, GROWMARK Inc., Egg Farmers of Ontario, Commonwealth Financial Equity Associates Inc, Heartland Farm Mutual, Egg Farmers of Ontario, Golf Town, Menchie's

Frozen Yogurt, Woodrill, Grain Farmers of Ontario and Dr. Ian Jeffrey. Stay tuned for details of our 2017 golf tournament and we hope to see you there!



Coming up in the next edition of the Bullhorn...

Tea and silk and pandas—oh my! Junior Farmer members and alumni took part in an agricultural tour October 20-30. Look out for the full report in the January Bullhorn!



JFAO's Autumn Profile event took place October 29 in Lindsay, hosted by Kawartha JF. Thank you for your hard work putting this event together for members across the province!



JFAO Welcomes International Delegates



ture host families. We parted with Phillipa Green shortly before break week and added a new delegate, Doris Bieregger, after break week. The delegates travelled through Zone 1, Zone 2 and Zone 3 after break week. The delegates participated in JFAO's annual golf tournament, went

This summer we welcomed a wonderful group of incoming delegates to our exchange program. We had 6 delegates join us mid-May including Sarah Ferguson (Scotland), Hannah Kirkpatrick (Northern Ireland), Johanna Von Alven (Germany), Alistair Hughes (Wales), Phillipa Green (Tasmania), Lea Schupbach (Switzerland), and Doris Bieregger (Austria).



The delegates travelled through Zone 4, Zone 7 and Zone 5 before break week, seeing many different types of farms and being put to work milking and spraying fields. They took part in Leadership Camp, meeting JF members from across the province and fu-

whitewater rafting and toured many more different styles of farms.

We finished the summer off hosting our Ambassadors' Reunion in Prince Edward County to celebrate the exchange opportunities available through JFAO. It was a heartfelt evening hearing many stories and gratitude from the delegates. We also celebrated our outgoing exchange delegates hearing presentations of Kylie O'Neil's travels through Wales, April English's travels through Austria, and Claire Johnston's travels through the United Kingdom. We are very grateful for the experiences we have to offer and for all of those travelling and hosting that make it possible.

On November 13 we will be welcoming our two fall exchange delegates to learn about Ontario agriculture over the two weeks they are here. The delegates will be participating in Sing Swing hosted by Wentworth-Niagara Junior Farmers and the Ontario Young Farmers' Forum held in Toronto.

Kristy-Anne Wytenburg

Exec. Director of Community & International Programs



Ontario Young Farmers' Forum 2016

November 20

11-Noon	Registration
Noon-1:00	Introductions and Ice Breakers
1:00-2:30	Round Table discussions (Crops, Livestock, New Enterprise)
2:30-2:45	Break
2:45-3:45	Jodi & Adrian Roelands - Outstanding Young Farmers
3:45-4:30	Tina Straathoff - Farming in Malaysia
4:30-4:45	Break
4:45-6:00	Dale Cowen - Precision Ag, Now & in the Future
Evening	Dinner (Tuckers Marketplace)

This event is open to anyone
between the ages
of 18 and 40.
No JF membership required!

November 21

8:00-9:00	Breakfast
9:00-noon	Break Out Sessions
Noon-1:00	Lunch
1:00-1:45	Travis Riddell - How Banks Assess Credit Requests
1:45-2:30	OMAFRA - Farm Registration
2:30-3:15	Murray Needham - Putting Fun Back into the Farm
3:15-3:30	Break
3:30-3:50	CYFF Elections
3:50-4:50	Keith Reid - The Real Scoop on Nutrients From Ag
4:50-5:00	Closing Remarks and Exit Survey

Deadline Extended

Register by November 10th
for this great event!

Sponsored by: **OFA** + **Scotiabank**

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“Alumni Lives Here” Gate Signs Launched at 2016 IPM

Junior Farmers’ Association of Ontario (JFAO) was proud to launch its “Alumni Lives Here” gate signs at this year’s International Plowing Match and Rural Expo (IPM) held in Wellington County from September 20 to 24th, 2016. For years JFAO had been mulling over the idea to create gate signs. And as it turns out 2016 was the year to do it. Thanks to a strong willed executive and the blessing from the board, JFAO rolled out its gate sign initiative at the IPM. Starting with a limited number – 75 gate signs advertised on social media in advance, the “Alumni Lives Here” signs were a hit. While the signs were a draw, the real highlight for many Junior Farmers volunteering at the booth was hearing the stories from alumni

about their time in Junior Farmers.

Though there was one particular Junior Farmer alumnus who stopped by the booth that touched our hearts. His name is Don Campbell. I can recall him giving me a nudge and saying, “I have something to show you.” (Kurtis Smith, President of JFAO was standing there at the time and I could tell from the expression on his face that we were both intrigued with what Mr. Campbell was about to



show us). He pulled out two paper membership cards one from 1946 and another

from 1952. I remember thinking to myself wow this man carries around pieces of Junior Farmer history in his wallet! I then asked if I could hug him and take a photo with him. He was flattered. It was a special moment that I will never forget. The pride that our alumni have

for this organization is truly inspiring. Mr. Campbell—if you are reading this thank you for taking the time to share your vintage membership cards with us. Our presence at the IPM was a tremendous success. We were able to connect with alumni and friends, talk to potential new members, and share the good news about what Junior Farmers is all about. Thank you to everyone who came to support us, and special thanks goes out to the Wellington County Federation of Agriculture for sponsoring the beautiful mums that decorated our booth.

Amanda Brodhagen
Madam Marketing



Left: Kurtis Smith (President), Amanda Brodhagen (Marketing), Jennifer (Mitchell) Girvin (2004 President).



Amanda Brodhagen (Marketing), Hunter Woods (Wellington JF), Don Campbell (Wellington Alumnus), Kurtis Smith (JFAO President)

Right: Shannon Kelly (2010 President), Daryl Brodhaecker (1992 President), Sarah Found (2012 President).



“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” - Winston Churchill.

Madam Marketing (Amanda Brodhagen) and President Kurtis Smith would like to thank the almost 20 Junior Farmer volunteers for offering their time during the week of the IPM. Your hard work and enthusiasm has not gone unnoticed!

The JF Bullhorn is published quarterly by the Junior Farmers’ Association of Ontario

“to build future rural leaders through self-help & community betterment”

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