



# G Bullhorn

Volume 28, Issue 1

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

Spring 2017

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## Mark Your Calendar

Spring PD Meeting & Training

**April 29-30**

Rostock, Ontario

—

Summer Delegates Arrive

**May 27**

—

Leadership Camp

**June 9-11**

Orillia, Ontario

—

Fundraising Golf Tournament

**August 11**

Guelph, ON

—

Autumn Profile

**October 21**

Dacre, Ontario

—

Sing Swing

**November 18**

Clifford, Ontario

—

OYFF

**November 19-20**

Toronto, Ontario

## March Conference — Adventure Begins with JF!

Junior Farmers from across the province raced off to London, Ontario for a week-end of adventure on March 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. Friday night was a busy night with dinner and socialization before we got down to business with the annual general meeting. Despite a late night of debating, electing, yaying and naying, most of us were up bright and early the next morning for our first speaker of the conference. Dusty Zamecnik is the production manager at EZ Grow Farms, where he grows top quality blueberries and strawberry nursery plants. What ensued was a morning of laughter, life lessons, and sharing. Through a lot of laughter, Dusty shared with us how he got where he is and some of the life lessons he had learned along the way. It was a morning and a talk enjoyed by all.

After lunch, we changed from our conference attire into comfy clothes and prepared ourselves for the next adventure. We were shuffled into a windowless

room, denied access to our personal cell phones, and had our shoes confiscated, as we sat on uncomfortable red chairs while we awaited our fate. Unbeknownst to us, prior to the start of the conference we had been randomly divided into teams of four. When the word 'go' was uttered, we had to find our team members, our shoes, name our team and begin our *Amazing Race*! What followed was several hours of fast walking, tongue-twisting singing, enough m&m's to cause diabetes, obstacle courses, puzzling, quizzing, flying marshmallows, crafting, and brain teasing.

Saturday was capped off with the annual banquet. If you've never been, it's an evening steeped in history and tradition. It celebrates the year that has been and anticipates the year to come. From the bag piper to the candle ceremony, it is classy and elegant and a celebration.

*(Continued on page 2)*



## March Conference (cont.)

Our weekend was capped off with one final speaker, Christina Crowley-Arklie. Christina gave us a thought provoking, and enlightening talk on social media use. We learned how to adjust our communication techniques to adapt to today's changing attention spans, and to achieve an interested and engaged audience of consumers. Christina was a wonderful way to end the conference, leaving us empowered and optimistic.

Following the conclusion of the conference, the Junior Farm-

ers gathered their things, said their goodbyes, and once again dispersed across the province. I want to thank the organizing committee for a job well done and send a big congratulations to all Junior Farmer members on another successful year!

*Tina Straathof  
Social Media Rep*





# President's Message

Junior Farmers has been a part of my life for the past ten years and I am proud to start my eleventh year as the 74<sup>th</sup> President of JFAO. Having joined when I was 16, I never thought that I would one day have the chance to become President of JFAO - thank you for this opportunity. I am looking forward to the upcoming year with all of the provincial and local level events.

Junior Farmer fun starts at the local level but continues at the provincial level where you learn, network, and make friendships that will last the rest of your life. A great place to start this is at the next provincial event which will be Leadership camp. I encourage all members to sign up.

Ontario will play host to 8 international delegates this summer. I have hosted for many years and have enjoyed getting to know each of the delegates that have stayed at my home and look forward to this year's incoming delegates. If you are able to host it is a great opportunity to get involved and make lasting relationships with people from around the world. If you are unable to host, make sure you get the chance to meet them while they are here!

To those of you that I have not met, please introduce yourselves to me at an upcoming event. I look forward to working with all Junior Farmer members to have a fun and productive year.

Matt Smith  
JFAO President 2017



Leaving one Smith home and moving into another Smith home hasn't been that big of a change yet! I really enjoyed my year with Kurtis Smith and am looking forward to spending time with Matt Smith and seeing a different part of the province.

I would like to put a call out to all the other "Junior Farmer Mascots" for "mascot training" at the upcoming PD training. We will plan our year and all the **fun** we are going to have.



Gordie

A composite image for a Richardson advertisement. On the left, a man with a beard and a baseball cap stands with his arms crossed. In the center, a cityscape with mountains in the background is visible. On the right, a young boy is smiling and eating from a red bowl with green chopsticks. The text 'Richardson is global' is overlaid in a large, white, serif font. Below it, in a smaller white font, is the text 'Supplying Canadian-grown crops and food products to 58 countries worldwide.'

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**RICHARDSON**

# Annual Banquet Highlights



*Outstanding Retiring Member  
Tricia Staples, Kawartha*



*Most Outstanding Member  
Katherine Clyne, Wellington*



*15 Year Member  
Heather Donkers, Niagara-Wentworth*



*Exchange Winners  
Murray Dale—Germany  
Kristy-Anne Wytenburg—Austria  
Sarah Teefy—Northern Ireland  
Matt English—Republic of Ireland*

*Outstanding Novice Member  
Kurtis McNichol, Huron*



*Agricultural Club of the Year  
Oxford*



*Club of the Year  
Huron*



*At March Conference 2017, JFAO  
presented AgScape (formerly Ontario  
Agri-Food Education) with a donation  
of \$4,500.*



*JFAO members attending MC17  
selected Second Harvest as the  
new provincial charity.*



*Communications Awards  
Left—Wellington (Best Digital Scrapbook, Best New Member Recruitment)  
Right - Oxford (Best Newspaper Article)*

## Communications Awards

- Best Newspaper Article—Oxford*
- Best Club Photo—Huron*
- Best Fundraising Idea—Huron*
- Best Traditional Scrapbook—Huron*
- Best Digital Scrapbook—Wellington*
- Best New Member Recruitment—Wellington*

## Welcome to the New JFAO Executive



*Back: Sarah Teefy (Executive Director of Membership), Kristy-Anne Wytenburg (Executive Director of Fund Development), Meaghan Weber (Executive Director of Community & International Programs), Kelsey Banks (Executive Director of Agricultural Programs), Crystal Blake (Executive Director of Marketing).  
Front: Erich Weber (Executive Director of Finance), Matt Smith (President), Kurtis Smith (Past President).*

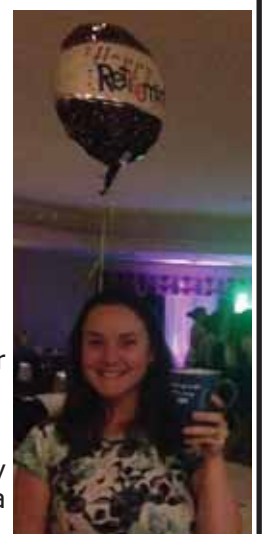
## Editor's Note

Since the last edition of the Bullhorn newsletter, I have attended my last March Conference as a member and become an alumna. I can't even begin to describe how much JFAO has meant to me for the last 12 years. I have done so much traveling (around the province, Chicago, Wales, and El Salvador), had the opportunity to experience so many things I never would have without JFAO, and made friends around the world. All of this while growing as a person and a leader. Pretty awesome.

At the annual banquet you would have found me with a "Happy Retirement" balloon tied around my waist—I'm short so it was great for friends to find me in the crowds. I had a *super fantastic* weekend to round out my Junior Farmer career. Thankfully I had this newsletter to start working on right after which has kept me busy. Life on "the other side" hasn't quite hit me yet.

Alumni are a great resource for members and I encourage everyone reading this to support their local clubs—whether it be at a food booth, attending a dance, or volunteering an extra set of hands at an event.

Shannon Kelly  
JF Alumna





# Tasmanian Adventure Awaits

## Past Executive Director of Membership

I can hardly believe that after almost a year of waiting the time for my travel is almost here. At last year's March Conference in Peterborough, I was awarded the opportunity of a lifetime with JFAO to travel on exchange to Tasmania. In less than 3 weeks as I write this I will be embarking on one of the longest combined flights available to man currently. I will be leaving the dreary spring time in Ontario and landing almost 30 hours later in a different season, hemisphere, and day in Tasmania.

I have been involved with JFAO at both the local and provincial level for 5 years now. Holding executive positions at the local club, provincial board, and executive levels. As well as being a full-time farmer on our 175-acre family run mixed beef and sheep farm, I am also a parts salesman at a local (Case IH) agricultural dealership.

Most of my trip plans are still foggy but I do know that I land on April the 20<sup>th</sup> in Hobart, Tasmania. From there, after a brief settle in time, I will make my way to the largest agricultural show in Tasmania, Agfest, which is run by members of the Rural Youth Tasmania. From there the rest is yet to be determined but I look forward to hopefully meeting a few

past exchange delegates that I have hosted from years past and learning how agriculture is practiced in another country and hemisphere.

Here's to many new memories, experiences and new friends. And trying to find a strategy to help combat the pain that will surely be had of a tall guy flying on a plane for 30 hours. Stay tuned as I will be posting photos and stories of my trip as I go along.

Nic Weber  
Wellington JF



# #ProudJFer

Keep track of Junior Farmers  
on social media between editions  
of the Bullhorn!

# Alumni Abroad—New Zealand



Hi, I'm Ruth Lyons former Provincial Director for Durham West Jr. Farmers and Travel & Hospitality committee chair for a number of years. I was also fortunate enough to be a delegate to the UK in 1993. In October 2009 after selling my cattle I moved to New Zealand to marry and farm with James Gibson. I

had traveled there before, (once in 1990, working on a kiwifruit farm and a few sheep farms and even attended a Young Farmer conference) but always as a visitor. This time was to stay.

The biggest difference that everyone seems to think they know about is the temperature! New Zealand is very temperate compared to Ontario. The summers are not as hot and the winters are nowhere near as cold! However, the first winter I stayed here, I was the coldest I had ever been in the house! Homes do not have central heating and nowhere near as much insulation! We heat our 90 year old home with a wood stove and now have a heat pump and double glazed windows as well as more insulation which do make a difference, but homes are still much cooler than Ontario—you get used to wearing more sweaters!

We have 650 acres here and rent another 450. It is rolling country, far more hilly than I was ever used to. We raise bulls! The dairy industry is huge in New Zealand and we indirectly are part of that, we buy bull calves 3-5 days old and feed them milk replacer until they are about 120lbs and they continue to have meal until they are about 220lbs. We also buy in cattle and leasing bulls back to dairy farmers has become a big part of what we do. The rest and those leased as service bulls when they come back are finished on grass and other crops such as kale and fodder beet for meat. The majority of bull beef is exported, primarily to North America for the hamburger industry, mixing lean bull beef with fatter grain fed beef. The bulls are left intact as they grow faster on grass than if they were steered. Most of our bulls are Friesian; we do some Jersey as we have dairy farmers who want them.

One of the things I love about farming in NZ is the working dogs. They are a huge asset on the farm, running a lot harder, faster, and farther than I could! I still have trouble knowing how to call them to do what I want, but, they really want to help so we get the job done! We have two dogs and just this week have added a wee pup to the work force...hope that she turns into a good one.

The culture here in rural New Zealand is very similar to that of rural Ontario. So, that made for an easy adjustment for me. The Kiwi's seem to have kept their British roots a bit more than we did and have Mauri influences where we had French and American.

New Zealand is made of two main islands - North and South. There are approx. 4.5million people in New Zealand, over 1 million live in Auckland and another 2.3 million live in the rest of the North Island. We live in the middle of the South Island. The biggest city in the South Island is Christchurch with about 300,000.

I don't want to bore you, so I will try to wrap this up! The biggest differences are temperature and the fact that the seasons are opposite. This still causes me difficulty because I

expect lilacs in April/May not November! Ontario has an amazingly short and intense growing season where here it is long and slow...90 corn takes over 120 days! Also, July is the only month you can't expect any growth of grass at all. No barns! Everything is outside year round, although some big dairy farms have built barns in the last few years. Good fences make good neighbours here for sure! Electric fences are very important especially with bulls!

## The Contrast Between New Zealand and Ontario

No wildlife - there are no native mammals in New Zealand, anything that is here has been introduced...or caught a boat. So, there are rabbits, rats and mice, wallabies (small marsupial) hedgehogs but no skunks, chipmunks, raccoons, groundhogs, foxes, wolves or bear! Also, thankfully, unlike Australia - no snakes! Birds are very different here. I miss loons, chick-a-dees, cardinals and blue jays...but we have fantails, bellbirds, magpies, tui and pukekoes!

We drive on the left like the UK, which I worry will make me a very confused old lady driver!

There are beautiful lakes, but they are much colder to swim in as they are mainly glacier or mountain run fed.

Things that I love living here...James! That all my neighbours are farmers, or used to be! That the Prime Minister of the country grew up on a farm and even was expected to know how to shear a sheep at the World Shearing Competition! Agriculture here is important and people, even in the cities, know it is a main factor in making the country tick. So, I feel really lucky that I have had the good fortune to live in two such beautiful, clean, free countries. I just wish they were closer together geographically. I miss my friends, many of whom I met through the Junior Farmer's Association of Ontario.

*Ruth Lyons  
Durham West JF Alumna*



## 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](mailto:editor@jfao.on.ca)



# Alumni Abroad—Finland

I was recently asked to make a contribution to the Bullhorn Newsletter's Alumni Abroad section. I am a Dundas County JF Alumni and I have now been living in Finland for just over a year now. Some might ask just how exactly does a JF member living in rural Ontario end up living in Scandinavia? I suppose the easiest answer is an exchange to Switzerland and a pretty blonde young lady named Laura.

How best can I describe living in Finland. I guess I would have to say Finland is a land of many lakes, saunas, and forests. Where the introverts stare at their shoes and the extroverts stare at other peoples' shoes. Finnish culture is quite a bit different from what I am used to at home. People here are usually quite reserved and a little shy. I usually laugh to myself when I see the look of terror on the face of a sales person when they realize they might have to say something in English, although, 9 times out of 10 they speak almost perfect English. It is usually just a matter of breaking the ice. I am told with a year of language lessons (6 hours a day), I should be able to understand a basic conversation in Finnish. Here is a simple explanation of what I mean.

Water = Vesi

Some Water = Vettä,

In the Water = Vedessä

Into the Water = Veteen

As you can see the root word can change quite drastically depending on how you use it in a sentence. With 6 verb types and 3 verb tenses, all with different conjugations, it can get confusing fast!

Finland is also the birthplace of the sauna. I am told there are almost as many saunas as there are people. The sauna is a place where people go to relax. The ritual usually starts with a quick swim in the lake, then into the sauna, then when the heat is finally too much, back for a quick swim in the lake.....then repeat as many times as you like. For such a shy culture, they are certainly not shy about sitting naked in a hot room!

Here the winters are cold and dark, and summers are short and bright. To give you an idea, the capital city Helsinki is at the same latitude as Churchill Manitoba. During the summer solstice the sun sets for about 3 hours, but really it doesn't get dark enough at night to need a flashlight. Winter however is a different story. The sun will rise at about 9 AM and set at 3 PM. All this said, the weather is not much different than Eastern Ontario, just not so hot and humid in the summer.

Farming is also a little different here. For the most part, farms are smaller, averaging about 150 hectares. Dairy operations tend to have around 30 to 75 cows, and operations with over 100 are considered very large. Crops are usually cereals. Wheat, barley, rye, oats, and rapeseed are most common. Forestry is also a major part of farming income here as well. Finland is covered in boreal forests most of which follows a strict management plan to maximize income for the owner. The forests also produce loads of berries and edible mushrooms. Something very unique here is called Every Man's Rights. Everyone is free to roam and forage the forest floors for wild edibles, and no one will be charged with trespassing. The forests here are absolutely loaded with blueberries, lingonberries, wild cranberries, and cloudberries. July and August is a great time to find all the chanterelles, porcini, and black horn mushrooms you can pick. When you find the right spot, at the right time, picking 4 or 5 kg's of chanterelles is easy.

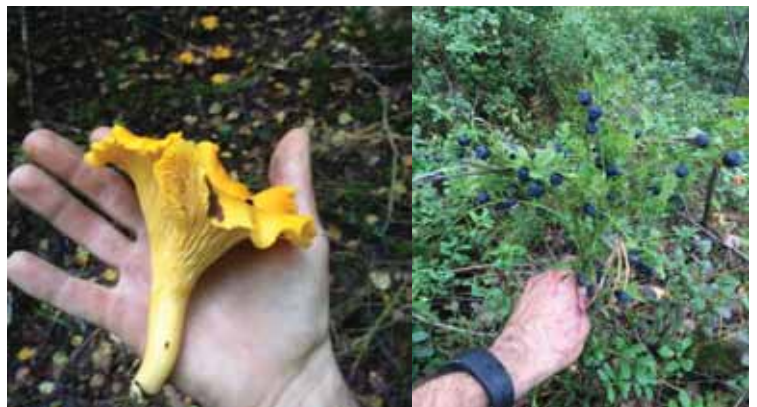
Nordic countries are often rated very high on quality of life surveys. Finland is no exception. Finnish residents have access to many different social programs. If you are unem-

ployed or sick, social services will pay your rent and fixed monthly expenses, along with your 700 Euro unemployment support. Public transport is easily accessed, even in the countryside. Roads and Highways are well maintained. Bicycle and walking paths are everywhere. National parks are free for anyone to use and camping sites are free to use on a first come first serve basis. Dental care is free for children under 18, daycare is subsidized, as well as good maternity leave support. Mothers (or fathers) have the option of working reduced work hours until their children are in 2nd grade. All post-secondary education is free for everyone. No need to save for university here! Oh, and most students will qualify for some extra support money that will usually cover their rent payments too! All of these great social services do come at a cost. The general sales tax rate here is 24%! Fuel costs are high too. The gas price here hovers around \$2 CAD/L. I am told the electricity cost is extremely low right now, at about 22 cents/KwH plus delivery charge on top of that. I always get a good laugh reading how Canadians will be financially ruined if the government implements a carbon tax. Finns have been living with a carbon tax on energy and gasoline for the last 20 years. I have yet to hear of anyone starving to death because they had to pay a little more for gasoline and electricity. Most people here feel that it is a very small price to pay for clean water to drink and fresh air to breathe. No smog warnings or extreme heat advisories here. Overall, Finland is a really lovely place to live with clean cities, nice scenery, loads of forests, and lots to see and do!

*Simon Garlough  
Dundas JF Alumnus*



*Above: Laura and I enjoying fall in the medieval city of Turku; Laura and I enjoying the scenery in Repovesi National Park.  
Below: Picking Chanterelles in the forest; picking blueberries.*







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# Oxford County JF Donate \$2500 to Habitat for Humanity

Oxford County Junior Farmers is excited to announce a donation of \$2500 towards the Habitat for Humanity – Heartland Ontario. The money will be used to help build a new home for a family in need within Oxford County.

Chris Budd, president of Oxford Junior Farmers, says "Our club sees the value that HOH provides in the Oxford community, so we wanted to do our part in contributing towards their organization."

Brian Elliot, CEO of Habitat for Humanity Heartland Ontario, says "Thank you to Oxford Junior Farmers. Their support helps us build for the future in Oxford County. Oxford Junior Farmers will be supporting Habitat for Humanity in more way than one. "We are eagerly anticipating the start of their next build in Oxford County, and several of our members have expressed interest in volunteering their time to help build a new home for a family in need," says Budd.

*Virginia Dibble  
Oxford JF*



*Oxford Junior Farmers (OJF) donates \$2500 to Habitat for Humanity. Back row: Dave Wall (HFH), Drew DeBruyn (OJF), Ben Bruce (OJF). Front row: Brian Elliot (HFH), Elizabeth Bruce (OJF), Janet Bruce (OJF), Chris Budd (OJF), John Harrigan (OJF).*

# Perth County JF Fundraise with Apple Fritters at CDX

Homemade apple fritters, a new food feature at the Canadian Dairy XPO proved to be a successful fundraiser for the Perth County Junior Farmers, a rural youth organization that seeks to grow its reach for community betterment and agricultural awareness initiatives. "We are grateful for the support of CDX who helped us come up with a plan to sell apple fritters, which they thought would give us a boost in our sales. And as it turns out they were right," said Andy Louwagie, CDX Committee Chair of PerthJF. "There are a lot of logistics involved in making apple fritters, sourcing apples, coming up with a recipe and getting a food truck. Our membership was keen to give it a go, so we made it happen." Fritters were made using Ontario grown apples from Martin's Family Fruit Farm. The food truck was partially sponsored thanks to Sunset Diner based in St. Mary's. The owner David Steward heard about what the group was trying to do and felt compelled to help. PerthJF members even held a test run day in the restaurant's parking lot prior to the show in order to perfect the batter and serve the public. "We sold about 2000 apple fritters so I would say the two-day event was a success," said Louwagie.

"Our members enjoyed connecting with CDX visitors and bringing awareness about Junior Farmers. It was a bonus that everyone seemed to love our fritters and kept coming back for more," he said. PerthJF thanks everyone who bought apple fritters. The club would like to make special mention of Dr. Tim Henshaw a Minesing, Ont., area veterinarian that surprised members by ordering 54 fritters to support Junior Farmers - the single biggest order at CDX. "Our members were overwhelmed by the generosity shown by CDX organizers, exhibitors, dairy farmers and farm families," said Louwagie. "We hope to be back again next year!"

*Amanda Brodhagen  
Perth JF*



## Zone 5 Gains An Affiliated Club

The Essex-Kent Junior Farmers are excited to announce that they are now an affiliated club with JFAO. After holding a successful social event at the Ridgetown bowling lanes in January 2016, the club was formed and had its first meeting on April 9, 2016. From there, the members' enthusiasm grew as new ideas were shared and plans made for the year. Jumping right into things, the club agreed to host exchange delegates which was certainly a new and exciting experience. The summer was spent participating in local parades and fairs to promote our new club. The club was also asked to create an obstacle course for children at a local farmers market. Members decided to take this task one step further by making the obstacle course agriculture based to provide an opportunity to educate the children and parents on local agriculture in a fun way. In the all, members attended provincial events and certainly became hooked on JF from the positive experiences they had.

2017 has already been very busy for the Essex-Kent Junior Farmers. The club has decided to focus their energy on new innovative ideas to promote Junior Farmers and agriculture in a positive way, engage youth to get more involved, and to make their club more visible in the community.

*Brian Sterling  
Essex-Kent JF*



*Left to right: Kris Rivard, Matt Clark, Annemarie Struhar, Brian Sterling, Nic Willemsma*

# DON'T MISS YOUR CHANCE !

## Early Bird Deadline is May 1

**Final Date to register is May 12**

To register online go to <http://www.jfao.on.ca/membree-event-calendar#id=102&cid=1285&wid=601&type=Cal>

**June 9 - 11, 2017**

**Youth Leadership Camp of Canda (YLCC)  
Oro-Medonte Ontario**

**LEADERSHIP  
CAMP 2017**



# Renfrew JF

After starting our year off with a bang at our banquet to celebrate over 100 years of Junior Farmers in Renfrew County, our club has kept busy. Building off of the success of our banquet, our club was very happy to be able to give back to our community this February when we donated \$1000 to our local curling club. The donation will help the curling club as they continue to raise funds to replace their failing ice plant this summer.

We started off February by sending a small but mighty group down to Huron County to compete at Winter Games. We capped off the fun-filled weekend with a surprising championship title. Our February good times moved a bit closer to home when members traveled to Carleton County to help celebrate the upcoming nuptials of Ben Mussel and Lindsay Ruiter at their stag and doe. As February turned into March, we kicked off the month by hosting Carleton, Dundas, and the newly formed Stormont-Glengarry counties for the second annual Zone 1 Curling Day. Our day was full of laughs and friendly competition as everyone competed for the championship title. This year our champs were the "Tri-County Team" of Jamie Schultz (Renfrew), Andrew Bunda (Carleton), Quintina Cuddihy (Carleton), and Justin Brooks (Stormont-Glengarry).

For the third year in a row our club participated in the Douglas St. Patrick's Day parade. For the first time, the parade was held during the day and in honour of Canada 150 the parade committee aimed to have 150 floats and walkers in the parade. While it was one of the coldest days of the year, we all had a great time kicking off Douglas' St. Patrick's week of celebrations and helping the committee exceed their goal of 150 floats. One of the events during Douglas' St. Patrick's week of celebration was a trivia night to help raise funds for the Douglas library. Five of our club members entered a team and had a great time even though they didn't quite get the high score of the night. Some of our members tested their trivia knowledge

again while supporting our local 4-H, as they work to raise funds for their exchange to Alberta. While our team didn't come in first we did have a fun time. March ended with four of our members making the drive to London for March Conference and a weekend full of elections, celebrations, and adventure. After our very own Christina Straathof was elected as the Social Representative at the Annual General Meeting Friday night, we all enjoyed hearing from Dusty Zamecnik and participating in the committee's Amazing Race, before celebrating the past JF year at the banquet. As the end of one JF year is celebrated and another begins, our club is already working on plans for hosting the international delegates this summer, getting ready for club members to come home from school, starting preparations for fair season, and working on ideas for hosting Autumn Profile this fall.

*Meredith Mulligan  
Renfrew JF*



## 6th Annual Easter Egg Hunt in PEC

Prince Edward County Junior Farmers would like to thank everyone that came out to make their 6th Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 15!

The club would also like to thank the Williams family at Wilhome Farms for hosting this community event.

The day was filled with crafts, farm tours, and of course the big hunt!



# Keeping Busy in Carleton County

Carleton represented the eastern Junior Farmer counties at the Ottawa Valley Farm Show March 13-15<sup>th</sup>. We held a booth at the trade show that welcomes over 10,000 visitors over 3 days.

On April 1<sup>st</sup>, the Carleton County Junior Farmers held the Annual Awards and Alumni Night at the Osgoode Legion. Awards were received by Quintina Cuddihy (Top Member Award) and Ben Mussell (Trevor Vance Memorial Award and Past President Award). Meredith Brophy was recognized as a Past President of Carleton County and the 39<sup>th</sup> President of Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario.

Carleton will host Trivia Night at the Greely Legion on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is invited to submit a team to compete in this general trivia night. The previous Trivia Night was a great success and we hope to have a full room again this time!

*Valerie Higginson  
Carleton JF*



*Presenting Meredith Brophy  
with her "39th President Lives  
Here" sign.  
L-R: Andrew Bunda (President),  
Meredith Brophy, Cailleigh  
Gallagher (Vice president).*

## 10th Annual Spaghetti Dinner

On April 9<sup>th</sup> Wellington JF hosted their 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to raise money for local food banks. We fed just around 100 individuals and had a lot of fellow JF members and alumni attend. Overall, we raised \$1500 that has been donated to food banks in Harriston, Palmerston, Centre Wellington, Drayton and Orangeville. We could not have done it without all of the help from our fantastic sponsors and the Wellington Federation of Agriculture. Thanks to all who attended, donated and supported in any way!



*Katherine Clyne  
Wellington JF*

## Same Great Club— Brand New Name!

On December 7, 2016, Rocklyn Junior Farmers voted to fold as the Rocklyn Junior Farmers and reopen as Grey County Junior Farmers. After many discussions, the members feel this is the best move for the club. As the Rocklyn club is the only one left in the county, this will open the door for new members and give the club more opportunities throughout the county. On May 5, 2017 at 8:00 p.m. the club would like to invite alumni, partners, and community members to a "Farewell Dance." Please come and help celebrate Rocklyn Junior Farmers of the past. If you would like more information or tickets, contact any current member or email [greycountyjf@outlook.com](mailto:greycountyjf@outlook.com).

*Tina Wark  
Grey JF*



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

Leadership Camp  
International Summer Delegates  
Strategic Plan—turning words into *actions*!  
More information on OYFF 2017  
...and so much more!



# Winter Games

Huron County Junior Farmers hosted the province in the municipalities of Central Huron, Bluewater and South Huron for another great weekend, February 3-5, 2017. The weather cooperated so it made travelling to the west side of the province straightforward. The theme for Winter Games 2017 was "Keep 'er Klasy on Ontario's West Coast with Tight 'n' Bright." There were 18 clubs that showed their competitive sides while demonstrating good sportsmanship. The events took place at three different locations—the Vanas-tra Curling Club, Clinton Public School, and Central Huron Secondary School. Teams took part in curling, basketball, volleyball, soccer, floor hockey, two mystery events, a trivia question period, and soccer baseball.

Teams were given points for number of wins and team spirit. At the end of the day, the winners were as follows:

First place - Renfrew County JF

Second place - Prince Edward County JF

Third place - Carleton County JF

The winners were announced at the dance that evening which was held at the Dashwood Community Centre. Clubs stayed at the Oakwood Resort in Grand Bend and many took advantage of the services they offer or visited Lake Huron during their spare time. Huron County Junior Farmers would like to thank everyone for coming to Winter Games 2017, and hope everyone had a great time with us!

*Samantha Klaver  
Huron JF*



## Golf with JFAO



August 11<sup>th</sup> 2017  
Guelph Lakes Golf and Country Club  
Early Bird \$120 per golfer until July 15<sup>th</sup>  
Includes: BBQ lunch, 18 holes and Banquet Dinner  
Email [golf@jfao.on.ca](mailto:golf@jfao.on.ca) for more information



# Incoming International Delegates

## Emily Warin (25) - England



Emily grew up on a beef and sheep farm in West Yorkshire and currently lives in a village in Yorkshire Dales National Park. Emily is involved in her local Young Farmers club and Agricultural society where she helps organize several events each year. Emily is a graduate of Harper Adams University and currently works as a Chartered Rural Surveyor. Emily is interested in seeing how agriculture is different in Canada and would like to see Niagara Falls and a rodeo this summer.

## Johanna Prodingner (23) - Austria



Johanna and her family live on a 45 acre farm with livestock near Salzburg. Johanna went to culinary school and currently works as a cook but also enjoys skiing, cycling, hiking, and swimming. Johanna

heard several past delegates talking about how much they enjoyed their trips to Canada and decided to apply for an exchange to see for herself. Johanna is looking forward to gaining new experiences in Canada this summer.

## Rieka JanBen (20) - Germany



Rieka grew up on a 90 cow dairy farm but her family has expanded to a 300 cow herd with 618 acres of land. Rieka finished school in 2016 and is currently working as a technical trainee and in her spare time enjoys playing soccer,

spending time with friends, jogging, and travelling. Rieka would like to see Niagara Falls, visit a dairy show, and possibly explore Algonquin park.

## Celine Fahrni (20) - Switzerland



Celine and her family milk cows, raise pigs, and look after a fruit orchard as well as run a bakery. Celine has already completed most of her schooling but

is set to go back to school in the fall to train as a nursery school teacher and in her spare time she likes to play volleyball and guitar. Celine is looking forward to learning more, improving her English, and staying with different families in Canada.

## Christina McCollam (27) - Northern Ireland

Christina and her family live on a 20 ha farm raising Texel sheep and beef cattle. Christina attended the University of Ulster her degree and masters, currently Christina is working in administration at a local hospital. Christina is involved in planning and organizing events for her young farmer club but also enjoys working with her sheep and local Texel organization. Christina is looking forward to touring Canadian beef, sheep and dairy farms, as well as visiting a Menonite community.

## John Ross Blair (20) - Northern Ireland



JR and his family run a farm with 450 ewes and lambs, around 200 cows and calves, plus 3600 free range laying hens. JR attended Greenmount Agricultural College and completed several diplomas there, JR now works full time

on the family farm. JR likes to attend truck and agricultural shows. JR would like to as many farms and Canadian landmarks as he can, but would really like to see some feedlots.

## Heather Murray (20) - Scotland



Heather and her family live on a beef and sheep farm where they keep over 400 Scottish Luing cattle and 200 sheep. Heather just finished her qualification tests for Social Care and Young People but she is also studying Business Management so she can one day run her family farm. In her spare time Heather enjoys working with the animals on her farm, watching Rugby, and getting involved in her Young Farmers Club. Heather looks forward to seeing what agriculture is like in Canada, seeing a rodeo, and going horseback riding.

## Michael Lerchner (25) - Austria



Michael's family live on a farm in the rural part of Mariapfarr where they own 15 acres of grassland and forest.

Michael went to school at HTL Salzburg and is currently working on his Masters in Business Administration

for marketing and sales. Michael is involved in organizing and leading his Landjugend club and their events and it's one of the biggest organizations in Salzburg County. In his spare time Michael enjoys hiking, mountain climbing, skiing, and playing soccer. Michael looks forward to improving his English, experiencing new things and networking.

\*Michael will be joining the exchange July 1st.



**Is your farm eligible? Go see for yourself!**

**1**

Go to [jfao.on.ca](http://jfao.on.ca)

**2**

Hover over 'Resources'

**3**

Click 'Century Farm Sign' and apply if you meet the requirements!

Contact Kelsey Banks, Executive Director of Agricultural Programs, for more information at [agprograms@jfao.on.ca](mailto:agprograms@jfao.on.ca)



# Passion for Agriculture—CYFF 2017

Throughout the weekend at CYFF we were asked the question "why do you believe in the future of agriculture"- for me the answer is that the people involved in the industry are incredibly passionate. That passion will be a driving force as we tackle the changes and challenges that will come. That passion is what pushes us to grow, to adapt, to find ways to get the job done and to continue producing fuel, food, and fibre for Canada and the world. That passion was on full display at CYFF 2017.

CYFF presents a unique opportunity for young people involved in agriculture from across Canada to gather for a few days of discussion, debate, and connection. From the Yukon to Newfoundland and every province in between delegates arrived ready to learn from the election, selection of presenters, and from one another. In an industry, and country as vast as our own, to have many voices come together to learn from one another is invaluable. From virtual farm presentations to round table talks about the importance of discussing the issues facing Canadian agriculture, I felt the most valuable element of the conference was the ability to hear new ideas and points of

views. The conference offered a fantastic selection of presenters on a wide range of topics. From Andrew Campbell and Lindsay Smith on talking about agriculture to the public, to Len Davies driving home the message that starting succession planning early is essential, each speaker provided insight into different aspects of the industry. For me, one of the highlights was the virtual farm tour. A delegate from each province or territory presented on a farm of their choosing and talked about the ins and outs of the operation. From a flower operation in British Columbia to a large potato farm in Prince Edward Island and agri-tourism in Newfoundland—

each presenter shared their farm and showed the rest of us what agriculture is to them. The variety and scale of farms presented was great to see as it highlights the diversity of agriculture in Canada. Between the presentations and events delegates had the opportunity to meet and make new friends, discover connections, and share their passion for agriculture in Canada.



**CANADIAN YOUNG FARMERS' FORUM**  
**LA TABLE PANCANADIENNE DE LA RELEVÉ AGRICOLE**  
EDUCATE | ENERGIZE | EMPOWER • FORMER | STIMULATE | IMPLIQUE

*Kara Pate  
Brantwood Farms  
Brantford, ON*



## Attention JFAC Alumni

We are looking for the next

*Ontario Young Farmers' Forum Coordinator*

Please send your resume and cover letter to

[pastpresident@jfao.on.ca](mailto:pastpresident@jfao.on.ca)

by **May 1**



To see an outline of the duties and responsibilities please go to [www.jfao.on.ca/about-jfao/jobs](http://www.jfao.on.ca/about-jfao/jobs)

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE!**

# Ontario Young Farmers' Forum

November 19 & 20, 2017  
International Plaza Hotel, Toronto



Contact the Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario's Executive  
Director of Agricultural Programs, Kelsey Banks, for more  
information at [agprograms@jfao.on.ca](mailto:agprograms@jfao.on.ca)



Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario



@JuniorFarmers

Check us out online at  
[www.jfao.on.ca/OYFF](http://www.jfao.on.ca/OYFF)





# Announcements



Andrew and Katie Louwagie  
Perth JF  
were married  
January 28, 2017

## Engagements

Lindsay Ruitter  
& Ben Mussell  
Carleton JF  
Wedding—May 2017

Caileigh Gallagher  
& Stephen Tibben  
Carleton JF  
Engaged—Winter 2017

James Rutherford  
& Kelly Hart  
Perth JF  
Engaged—Winter 2017

## Farewell Dance

May 5, 2017

8:00 p.m.

Rocklyn Hall

Help us say goodbye to our *old* name and celebrate our *new* one!

*Email [greycountyjf@outlook.com](mailto:greycountyjf@outlook.com) for tickets!*

## Calling Wellington JF Alumni

In 2018 Wellington Junior Farmers will be celebrating their **100<sup>th</sup> anniversary**.

We are reaching out to Alumni to assist in planning the event so that it is one that will be remembered.

If you would like more info please contact  
[wellingtonjuniorfarmers@gmail.com](mailto:wellingtonjuniorfarmers@gmail.com) or  
Katherine @ 519-323-7294.



## Congratulations

**Brad Found**

(2008 JFAO President)

on your new role as  
***President of 4-H Ontario***

## **Dunk Tank For Sale**

**Looking for a new fundraising idea or to bring a splash to your next community event?**



Large all steel construction  
6'x6'x6' deep

Built on it's own licensed trailer with lights  
Folds up for easy transport and set up  
Includes softballs, tarp, and safety gates

**\$2000**

**Contact [middlesexjf@gmail.com](mailto:middlesexjf@gmail.com)**

PICCOLLAGI

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