



# SMITHSON VALLEY FFA



DECEMBER 2011

## *December Meeting –Canned Food & Coat Drive*

The student officers held a canned food and coat drive. These items were collected at the December meeting.

The Smithson Valley FACS (Family and Community Service) organization along with Bernadette Gugliotti (Comal ISD Social Worker/Counselor) are grateful for the canned goods donated by the Smithson Valley FFA. These items were packaged in Christmas Baskets. The baskets were delivered to identified needy Smithson Valley High School student families.

The new and gently used coats were delivered to the Spring Branch Hope Thrift Store. Although it is a thrift store, the owner is known to give items away for free to needy families in the area. She receives referrals regularly from local social workers.

## *Scholarship Dance*



This year's scholarship dance will be a combination Dance and Casino Night for the entire family.

The planning process has only just begun and the committee is looking for more people to help make this event a success. A major thing that the committee is looking for, is food donations, such as brisket, and gift cards to help purchase some of the food. The donations do not all have to be from one place.

This year's dance will have both a raffle and silent auction. People will be able to enter the raffle based on their winnings. Everyone can participate in the silent auction. The committee is looking for items for the raffle and silent auction. One raffle item price the committee has so far is a trip for 2 to Las Vegas. If you have any items that can be donated or have a connection, please let the committee know. Remember that anything donated is tax deductible.

The meetings have been moved from 6:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Please attend if you are able to help. Remember, the scholarship money raised from this year's dance benefit this year's juniors. So if you are a parent of a junior student, it is extremely important that you get involved.

If you are interested in joining the committee or seeing how you can help, attend next month's meeting on January 4th at 7:00 pm at the Krause Construction Office. You can also contact Donny Michalec at [dtmichalec@gvvc.com](mailto:dtmichalec@gvvc.com).

### **OFFICERS**

Taylor Walker  
**President**

Bridget O'Brien  
**Vice President**

Will Tadlock  
**Secretary**

Donnie Michalec  
**Treasurer**

Kayla Dietert  
**Reporter**

Amber Burgess  
**Sentinel**

Kirsten Mauthe  
**Parliamentarian**

Ashley Warner  
**Student Advisor**

### **BOOSTER CLUB OFFICERS**

Pete McNeel  
**President**

Donny Michalec  
**1st Vice President**

Patrick Pellerin  
**2nd Vice President**

Jimmy Tadlock  
**Treasurer**

Marcia Murphy  
**Secretary**

Llorye Flores  
**Reporter**

Sherry Bray  
**Parliamentarian**

### **DIRECTORS**

Laura Wilson

Carolyn Walker

D'Ann Krause

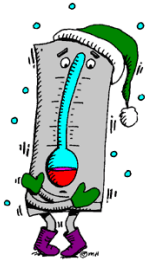
Jim Brown

Lorena Zuehl

Ella McClellan

Larry Hudson





## *Cold Weather and Getting Water to Your Animals*

With the cold weather upon us, it is time to start keeping track of the weather. Water will be shut off at the barn after school on days that it looks like the weather will be freezing.

If you get to the barn and the water is turned off, you can turn the water back on to give your animal water as long as it is not freezing temperatures outside. Remember to turn the water back off and drain the mainline. The water shut off valve is located to the right of the barn, in the ground, when you are going out the back gate to dump. To drain the mainline, turn on the water spout on the outside of the barn, in the back, near the track.

Make sure on the days the water is shut off that your animals have plenty of water. Also, be prepared to haul water up to the barn for when the water is shut off for extended periods of time. For the pigs, you might want to bring up a water pipe like the ones used at the shows.

## *CCJLSA Gala –Silent Auction*

Phone calls have been made for silent auction items for the CCJLSA Gala. The committee is now making the follow up phone calls and making arrangements to pick items up.

If you have never been to the Gala, the silent auction area is fairly large with a lot of items. Approximately 30 people are needed to help work the silent auction tables. There will be two 2 hour shifts. The silent auction starts at 6 pm and ends at 10 pm.

If you would like to help out, please contact Christi Pellerin at [Smithson.valley.ffa@gmail.com](mailto:Smithson.valley.ffa@gmail.com).

## *Volunteers and Donors Needed for the Chapter Show*

The Chapter Show is ran each year by a lot of parent volunteers. This year is no different. The Board of Directors is still looking for volunteers. If you are able to volunteer for any of the following positions, please email [Smithson.valley.ffa@gmail.com](mailto:Smithson.valley.ffa@gmail.com). Your email will be forwarded to the proper Board Member.

- ◆ Lamb and Goat Superintendent
- ◆ Ring Men for each species
- ◆ Ribbon Person/People for each species
- ◆ Someone to pass out shavings
- ◆ Concession Stand help
- ◆ People to help set up and tear down rings (there will be two rings going this year)

Award Donors are also still needed. If you would like to sponsor one of the awards given to the winners, or if you know of someone who might be interested, please send [Smithson.valley.ffa@gmail.com](mailto:Smithson.valley.ffa@gmail.com) to request a list of the prizes that still need sponsors.





## *Sick Animals at the Barn*

There have been a number of animals getting sick at the school barn. Please make sure that you are paying attention to your animals behavior, especially if they are eating and drinking. If you notice any changes in your animals behavior, especially going off feed and water and in -activity, let your Ag Advisor know as soon as possible. If you can't reach him, get your animal to the vet immediately. If you notice someone else's animal has these symptoms, say something to them. They might not realize that something is wrong with their animal.

Water down pens daily to reduce dust which can cause respiratory problems. Take your animals to the vet immediately for respiratory issues, as this time of the year slight respiratory infections escalate quickly into pneumonia.

The following are phone numbers that you should have in case you think your animal is sick:

Mr. Cook (lambs and goats): 832-221-1001

Mr. Dietert (pigs): 830-379-8428

Mr. Lehmborg (steers and heifers): 210-365-2234

Country Hill Vet (Dr. Patin): 830-438-2269

For those showing lambs and goats, Mr. Cook said that you can contact Llorve Flores at 210-842-7293 if you can not reach him.



## *Winter Break*

We are in the middle of Winter Break and a lot of families are traveling. It seems like every year there are animals who are forgotten during the holidays.

Many people believe that because their pigs are on self feeders that they don't have to check on their pigs every day. This is not the case because something could happen to the feeder to cause it not to dispense food. Also, your pig is eating more every day. So while last week it took your pig a week to eat a bag of feed, it could be eating that same size bag in 4 days this week.

An animal can lose all the conditioning that you have been working so hard on all season to get on your animal in a very short period of time. So make sure that you remember your animal when you are making your travel plans.

## *Dumpster at the Barn*

When cleaning out your pens, please make sure you put the waste in the dumpster that is on the side of the barn. When dumping, try to dump as far back in the dumpster as possible. This will allow for more waste to be put in there before the dumpster needs to be replaced. Also, the dumpster is for pen waste only, not trash.



### *CCJLSA Herdsman Award*

Each year the CCJLSA awards a Herdsman Award to the FFA Chapter or 4H who has the best animal project presentation.

Each year the pens are decorated and the students names are displayed in a creative way on their pens. Each group is judged on their presentation and on how clean the pens and aisles are kept.

A committee is needed to help come up with the decorations. This year we would like to include the welding class by having them cut out the various animals out of metal. We also were wondering if there was someone who could donate the metal needed for the animals. We ask that the parents help remind the kids to keep their areas clean and that if they see something that needs to be swept or cleaned up to, do please do so. Smithson Valley would like to bring home the award this year..

### *Cookie Dough and Pies Still Left*

When FFA does the DJ's Fundraiser, Mr. Dietert has to order whole cases of each of the products ordered. Because of this, there is still cookie dough and pies left for sale. If you are interested in purchasing any of these items, please contact Mr. Dietert. He has them in the Ag Building.

### *Chapter Show*



This year's chapter show is being held January 20 - 21st at the Comal County Fairgrounds. Animals will arrive on Friday for weigh ins starting at 4 pm and ends at 8 pm. Each exhibitor will be issued 1 bag of shavings per species that they have entered. Additional shavings can be purchased for \$7 a bag.

This year two rings will be ran at the same time. The steers, heifers and pigs will show in the dirt arena, while the lambs and goats are in an arena being set up in the "petting area" of the

barn. The show will start at 9 am with goats and pigs.

The concession stand will be open for chili on Friday night and breakfast foods, drinks and snacks on Saturday. The Board of Directors is hoping to get Carl's Jr to sell food for lunch.

Exhibitors will not be allowed to leave until they check out with their superintendent. The exhibitor's pen and area needs to be cleaned before the superintendent will approve the exhibitor to leave.

The Kerrville Show is on January 20th. If you are attending the Kerrville Show and plan on attending the Chapter Show, you can still get your weight's in on time. If you do not think you will make it to the fairgrounds before weigh ins end, please call your Ag Advisor before 8 pm with your official weight from the Kerrville Show. This weight will be accepted.



## Mark Your Calendar

CCJLSA Meeting: Canyon Lake High School Ag Building at 7 pm	Jan 9, 2012
FFA Meeting: SVHS Library at 7 pm	Jan 10, 2012
FFA Chapter Show: Comal County Fairgrounds	Jan 20 to 21, 2012
Comal County Jr. Livestock Show Assoc Gala: New Braunfels	Jan 28, 2012
CCJLSA Meeting: Canyon High School Ag Building at 7 pm	Feb 6, 2012
CCJLSA Meeting: TBD at 7 pm	March 2012
CCJLSA Meeting: SVHS Ag Building at 7 pm	April 2, 2012
FFA Meeting: SVHS Library at 7 pm	April 10, 2012
Smithson Valley FFA Booster Club Scholarship Dance: Anhalt Hall 6 pm to 12 am	April 28, 2012
CCJLSA Meeting: Comal County Fairgrounds at 7 pm	May 7, 2012
FFA Awards Banquet: SVHS Cafeteria	May : Date TBD



## Major Livestock Show dates

Ft. Worth Livestock Show and Rodeo: <a href="http://www.fwssr.com">www.fwssr.com</a>	Jan 13 to Feb 4, 2012
Hill Country District Jr. Livestock Show (Kerrville): <a href="http://www.bcdjls.org">www.bcdjls.org</a>	Jan 19 to 21, 2012
Smithson Valley FFA Chapter Show	January 21, 2012
San Antonio Livestock Show and Rodeo: <a href="http://www.sarodeo.com">www.sarodeo.com</a>	Feb 9 to 26, 2012
San Angelo Stock Show and Rodeo: <a href="http://www.sanangelorodeo.com">www.sanangelorodeo.com</a>	Feb 16 to 26, 2012
Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo: <a href="http://www.blsr.com">www.blsr.com</a>	Feb 28 to March 18, 2012
Comal County Jr. Livestock Show: <a href="http://www.ccjlsa.org">www.ccjlsa.org</a>	Feb 29 to March 3, 2012
Star of Texas (Austin): <a href="http://www.rodeoaustin.com">www.rodeoaustin.com</a>	March 9 to 24, 2012

## Smithson Valley FFA Website

Want to know more about what is happening with Smithson Valley FFA's program? Go to the FFA website at [www.smithsonvalley.ffa.org](http://www.smithsonvalley.ffa.org) . Please make sure that you register on the website, as almost all announcements are sent to those members who are registered on the website.

