

## **SUGGESTIONS FROM YOUR FELLOW ALUMNI AFFILIATES**

Ideas were gathered from Affiliates throughout the state at a past convention on things that were successful for them. If you would like more details about a specific idea suggested, contact the WI FFA Alumni Association for the Affiliate that made the suggestion and their contact information.

### **AG PROGRAM AND FFA SUPPORT**

- Auction consignment toy show.
- Sportsman Banquet.
- Host FFA/Parent/FFA Week/ Pizza Party Meeting
- Alumni constructed storage shed@ high school 30x50
- Schedule evenings to work with FFA members filling out award application forms, speaking contest events, contest preparation.
- Pair up Alumni with FFA members with common interests.
- Supply lunch for monthly FFA meetings, pay ½ of 1<sup>st</sup> FFA jacket, transport students to meetings and judging, supply a van, livestock program contributions for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Send FFA members to National FFA Convention
- Be a guest speaker for Ag Ed class demonstrations.
- Alumni members volunteer to work with greenhouse activities.
- Provide flyer for annual toy show.
- Provide money for conferences, awards, scholarships.

### **ALUMNI ACTIVITIES AND FUN**

- Card night at school
- Host monthly meetings at local business places
- Bowling
- Camping
- Picnics
- Golf outings
- Rodeo outing
- Sponsor an FFA Alumni appreciation dinner to reward members and spouses for their yearly work.
- FFA Alumni truck and tractor pull
- Invite the senior FFA members to a brat fry where those FFA members who received their State Degrees get a \$50 cash award
- Steak and Shrimp night
- Halloween bash brat night
- Donkey basketball game

- Alumni softball game
- FFA Alumni purchased a milk vending machine for high school to provide a drink alternative to soda and another source of income for FFA
- Provide concessions for various events, good fundraiser.
- Special occasion recognition with unique “lawn boat”.
- Promote new FFA Alumni membership by having activities that involve them.
- Pig roast
- Toy show
- Labor auction
- Horse show
- Craft Fair
- Valentine Dance w/ live music (polka)
- Meat Auction
- Consignment sale.
- Annual Toy & Craft show
- “No Bake” bake sale. Send letter to all alumni, potential members, FFA parents, students. Explain how everyone is so busy, no time to bake so we just donate the amount of a baked item and you have helped support the FFA without any trouble or hassle.
- Ag Tour; visit wineries, brewery tours, cheese factories. Invite locals and rent a bus
- Alumni-FFA challenge
- Adopt-A-Highway right in front of our high school
- Nut and bolt sale
- Farm safety day.

### **MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITMENT**

- Need to invite state and national representatives to convention.
- Dinner for new FFA members and parents (free)
- Snow mobile race
- Fruit Sale
- Farm supply sale
- We mail our membership packet to all members & prospects with our annual banquet.
- Give talks at high school.
- Christmas Party.
- Parents night w/ FFA parents and Alumni
- We have an Appreciation Dinner for all members 1x/ year and invite perspective new members.
- School district newsletter

- Ask potential member to participate in on of your activities. Get them some “hands on experience” and recognize their ability to contribute.
- Contact former FFA members, send invitations to parents of current FFA members.
- Help out a neighboring affiliate with their functions.
- Encourage scholarship winner to “repay” support with participation in alumni activities.
- Don’t wait, ASK local business to join. Form a committee to work on membership, not just one person.
- Good food and fun, Sept. cook-out w/ softball game. Everyone is invited FFA members and adults.
- We have good luck in recruiting new people by showing them we support the young people. We have fun doing it; it isn’t that much work.
- We sponsor a meal and invite businesses and FFA member parents. Tell them about FFA Alumni events and activities.
- Alumni affiliate could pay FFA member dues for 5 hours work.
- Have breakfast meetings, provide breakfast for prospect
- We give FFA graduates a 1 year membership or equivalent to lifetime membership.
- Only students with Alumni parents are eligible for scholarships.
- Alumni or FFA chapter pays dues for parents of officer team
- Don’t forget to say THANK YOU to others!

## **FUNDRAISING**

- Setup food stand at local farm and household auctions. Machine sheds make great locations for food stands on cold days.
- Golf outing Fundraiser
- Food Stand owned cheese curds, cream puffs etc.
- Farm toy show, bolt and filter sale, fruit sale.
- Our student skill and consignment sale is held each spring. ½ of proceeds goes to individual students. Profits fund scholarships.
- Tractor pulls, old Tractor pulls, old tractors make money on concessions.
- Booth at County Fair, Scholarships, hog raffle, polka dance, tool sale
- Sport Show. We work with MC Sports of Madison. We buy about 15 guns, split them into three tables and at least 4 on the main ticket. We sell only 140 tickets at \$40 each. That includes dinner and other prizes. We buy other items for the tables and sell tickets for \$10 or 3 for \$20. Guns are returned to shop and winners get gift certificate at store for value of gun.
- Euchre card party \$15 per couple with door prizes
- Host snowmobile races
- Hold a live attraction at your local golf course after a golf league night.

## **OTHER IDEAS**

- Invite other area affiliates to your meetings and activities to share and learn.
- Help coordinate and chaperone Food For America activities.
- We helped the FFA chapter start a "Holiday Cheer" campaign for U.S. Troops stationed overseas during the holidays.
- Flyer on NASCAR racing.
- Success Breeds more success. People want to be part of a winner. Strive to have your Alumni be recognized as the community organization that gets things done.
- Have a horse drawn float in the Christmas Parade with the FFA members riding wagon.
- Train your main officers, main teachers well and support them.