

# *District Ten Times*

The New Year seems to be flying past, and the cold weather will soon be gone. Convention is only a few months away, and Districts & Sub-states are just around the corner! I hope you all are working avidly, and are expanding your horizons. I hope you all did some great things for FFA week in your school and local community. Ag Literacy day is just around the corner. Contact your local Cornell Cooperative Extension to order a book to read in your local schools. Ag day is also coming up, so take some time to go out and inform the public what Ag is all about! I wish you all the best of luck, as well as hope some of you are working on your Empire Degrees. I hope to see you all soon!

~Kelly Kerstetter, District 10 President.

## *National Ag Day*

National Ag day is coming up and I'd like each chapter to get out there and inform their community! That may mean you come up with a public service announcement for your local radio, put poster out in the community at local businesses, or even have an informative night at your school with local Ag products to show people just how important Agriculture is! Maybe do a Farmer's Market, Ag Day Breakfast, Adopt-A-Legislator/Classroom or maybe even a Petting Zoo! Be sure to include some fun facts, maybe even write an article for it in your local paper! If you need some ideas feel free to contact me for examples, or go to the Agriculture Council of America website.

## *Upcoming Dates*

March 4<sup>th</sup>- Districts Contests At Cattaraugus Little Valley

March 8<sup>th</sup>- Western Sub-States at Jasper-Troupsburg

March 15<sup>th</sup>- Empire Degree Applications Due

March 20<sup>th</sup>- National Ag Day

March 29<sup>th</sup>- Governing Board at VVS

April 8<sup>th</sup>- Ag Literacy Day

May 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>- State Convention at Canton

## *Fun Ag Facts*

Here are some great facts, and did you know. Use them for Ag day!

- A hive of bees flies over 55,000 miles to bring you one pound of honey. A honey bee can fly 15 miles per hour.
- Honeybee workers must visit 2 million flowers to make one pound of honey.
- In one day a honey bee can fly 12 miles and pollinate up to 10,000 flowers.

- Almost a third of the world's total land area is covered by forests.
- About 1.5 million tons of ground cocoa beans from the tropical tree are used each year to make chocolate and cocoa products. That's greater than the weight of more than 300,000 elephants!
- The average U.S. dairy cow produces 22.5 quarts of milk each day. That's about 16,000 glasses of milk per year-enough for 40 people! One cow can give 200,000 glasses of milk in a lifetime.
- Cheese was first made over 4,000 years ago in Asia.
- A dairy cow consumes 35 gallons of water, 20 pounds of grain and concentrated feed and 35 pounds of hay or silage in just one day.
- Hamburger meat from a single steer will make about 720 quarter pound hamburger patties. That's enough for a family of 4 to enjoy hamburgers each day for nearly 6 months!
- Farmers and ranchers provide food and habitat for 75% of the nation's wildlife.
- Onions contain a mild antibiotic that fights infections, soothes burns, tames bee stings and relieves the itch of athlete's foot.
- American's eat about 125 pounds of potatoes a year, about half from fresh potatoes and half in processed foods.
- There are 914 different breeds of sheep in the world. There are 35 breeds in the U.S.
- Americans consume 1.12 billion pounds of popcorn a year.
- There are 340 million M&M's produced daily.
- One bushel of corn will sweeten more than 400 cans of soda.
- Each tassel on a corn plant releases as many as 5 million grains of pollen.
- One bushel of wheat will produce 73 one-pound loaves of bread.
- Farmers receive approximately 5 cents (or less) from each loaf of bread sold.
- A pig can run a 7-minute mile!
- George Washington liked ice cream so much he reportedly had a bill for \$200 for ice cream one summer.
- One acre of soybeans can produce 82,368 crayons.
- One bale of cotton can produce 1,217 men's t-shirts or 313,600 \$100 dollar bills.
- More than 96 billion pounds of edible "surplus" food is thrown away in the U.S. each year. It is estimated that almost 27% of our food supply is wasted.
- Americans are eating about 14 pounds of turkey a piece each year, more than double the rate 20 years ago.
- Today's average farm is 441 acres compared to 147 acres in 1900.
- Almost 99% of the U.S. farms are operated by individuals or family corporations.
- Nearly 22 million people are employed in farm or farm-related jobs.

## *Chapter Updates*

### *Olean BOCES:*

Olean BOCES is headed to Bwana Jim's wildlife center on March 13th.

# *Photos for Convention*

The state has also made a request for some photos. They are looking for 10 quality photos from each chapter! These would be used in a slide show all throughout state convention. Remember, the more pictures you take the easier it'll be to find 10 great ones! We want these to be action shots! Perhaps you have a great candid of your members at state fair, or on an ELP at camp. They can be fun too! I know the State Officers have one of us all trying to do a pyramid! So keep that in mind, and get these photos to myself or Miss Tolosky.

## *Closing thoughts*

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.

~**Martin Luther King, Jr**

Are you a chapter reporter? Writer? Have a cool CDE you want to share? Is your chapter doing a cool project? Let me know! Because I want something about you or your school in my next newsletter! You can e-mail me the articles, or mail them to me. Please have everything in by March 29th.

Kelly Kerstetter

112 First Street

Little Valley, NY 14755

[Americansweetheart206@yahoo.com](mailto:Americansweetheart206@yahoo.com)