

## Sheraton Twin Towers to Host 54th State Convention

ORLANDO - The 1982 Convention Headquarters Hotel will be the Sheraton Twin Towers, located just east of the Florida Turnpike on Interstate 4. Excellent dining facilities are available within the hotel or a short distance away on International Drive.

Housing costs vary according to the number of persons sharing a room. Single occupancy will cost \$40 per day. Two individuals in one room will each pay \$25. Three persons splitting the cost of a single room will each pay \$20 and the conventioners who bunk four to a room will pay \$15 per day. These rates do not include Florida's 5% sales tax and the 2% resort tax. All FFA members and advisors planning to attend the Convention must use the official registration form which will be mailed to you. The registration forms must be received by the Sheraton Twin Towers NO LATER THAN May 17.

The 54th Annual Convention will convene at 2:00 p.m. on June 7 and will adjourn on June 10 following the morning session. An 11:30 p.m. curfew will be in effect for FFA members and their advisors. This means that everyone must be in his or her own room by 11:30 each evening and remain quietly there for the rest of the night.

Records of attendance will be kept for each of the sessions of the convention and will be forwarded to the school principal and superintendent concerned with each chapter.

Attendance at the 1982 State Convention is limited to the following: two official delegates and two alternates from each chapter, courtesy corps members, state officer candidates, participants in contests held at the convention and award winners receiving awards at the convention. All other chapter awards can be received by the official dele-

gates or the alternates. Each member of the first place teams in the livestock, dairy and poultry judging contests should be present to receive their awards. Only one member of the second through fifth place teams in those events should be present to receive awards on behalf of the remainder of the team.

All advisors are required to be seated immediately adjacent to their advisees and it will be the responsibility of each advisor to assure that the curfew is observed by his or her advisees. All FFA members attending the convention must be properly chaperoned, one adult for every six members. FFA members who are not properly chaperoned will not be registered. The registration fee for the convention is \$5, payable to the Florida FFA Association.

All delegates must be in official FFA dress: dark slacks or skirts, (no jeans), FFA jacket, white shirt or blouse and tie or scarf.

## State Convention Set for June 7-10

Florida Future Farmers will gather at the Sheraton Twin Towers in Orlando for the 1981-82 state convention June 7-10.

More than 1500 chapter delegates, award winners, advisors and guests will attend the 54th state convention.

During the nine sessions of the annual event, teams and individuals will be recognized for their winning efforts in contests and proficiency events during the year.

State preliminaries and finals for public speaking, parliamentary procedure as well as tractor maintenance and operation will take

place at the convention.

The business session is set for Tuesday afternoon. Three pieces of business will come before the delegates this year. They include a general clean-up and updating of the wording of the state constitution, bringing the constitution in line with the national constitution in terms of changes made at the national level in the requirements for the American Farmer Degree. The delegates will also consider constitutional amendments offered by the executive committee.

Several leadership seminars are planned for this year's convention. Topics range

from chapter improvement to personal development. The convention will also feature motivational, educational and humorous speakers.

If you plan to take part in the convention, make the most of it. Plan to participate in sessions, seminars and contests. Take advantage of the opportunity to meet sponsors, advisors and members from across the state. Share ideas with them on how to improve your chapters.

And remember to follow the FFA Code of Ethics and official dress regulations at the convention.





Doyle Conner, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Sarasota, Florida 2/20/82

## Agriculture Chief Donates Workday

Agriculture Commissioner Doyle Conner heaved sacks of feed and hauled blocks of minerals and grain at a Sarasota farm store February 20 to raise funds for the FFA Leadership Training Center.

Jeff Durrance, co-adviser of the Sarasota Vo-Ag FFA said that all of Mr. Conner's salary, along with the wages of five chapter members who were also employed for the day at Stockyard Enterprises, were donated to the fund-raising campaign.

Stockyard President Boyce Blackmon said in addition Ralston Purina donated \$125. Mr. Blackmon donated the proceeds from discounts on feed and supply items sold during the day.

The Sarasota County Cattleman's Association also pledged to donate 50 cents for every dollar raised by an FFA chapter in the county, said Mr. Durrance.

This program can work for you and your chapter. Contact your local commissioners, sheriff, mayor or other officials to schedule a workday in your community.

## College Credits for State Officers

TALLAHASSEE - State officers will now be able to earn college credits for the training they receive while serving the FFA.

The leadership responsibilities of an FFA officer are similar to course work offered at a community college, says Robert Ritterhoff, Dean of Instructional Resources at Central Florida Community College, a prime

mover in the project. Holton Alderman, Director of Cooperative Education and Career Placement at the college, says that college credits in speech, human development, group interaction and English composition may be granted to FFA state officers.

Out-going state president Chuck Dugger said he was disappointed to have missed the opportunity to take advantage of the plan,

"The training I have received has been worth more than the hours I would have spent in the classroom," said Dugger. "I only wish I could have some credits to apply toward my degree."

The new plan, to do just that, will be described to newly-elected officers at the officer-parent dinner at the 1982 state convention in Orlando.

## Results in for Some State FFA Contests

TALLAHASSEE - Several final and preliminary state-wide contests have been concluded in the last month in various cities around the state.

Orlando, site of the Central Florida Fair, hosted the Ornamental Horticulture finals. Auburndale Sr. took a clean sweep of the event with first and second titles in the individual portion and first place in the team event. A. Hoper topped D. Joiner for first place with 1063 of a possible 1150 points. In the team event Auburndale Sr. chalked up 3147 of a possible 3450 to take the top honors. Plant City came in second with 3136 and Gainesville Agri-Business took third with 3056 points.

Gainesville saw the Livestock, Poultry and Dairy finals along with the Meats Judging Prelims on March 13. Ken Irwin and Pete Gindl, both from Tate Sr., took first and second places respectively in the Livestock contest. Jamie Partridge of Dade City Sr. was 12 points out of first with 492 of a possible 580 points. Pete Gindl was only

one point behind Ken Irwin's 504 point first-place performance. In the team competition it was Tate Sr. in first with 1480 out of 1740 possible points. Dade City Sr. was second with 1454 and Deland Sr. was seven points behind to take third.

In the feather feature it was Jon Christmas of Chipley totaling 411 of a possible 430 to take first place. Second place went to Darryl Riley representing Auburndale Sr. with a total of 401. David Temples, also of Chipley, came in third with 397½ points. In the team contest Chipley scored 1202 of a possible 1290 to take first. Auburndale Sr. took second place with 1186½ points, just two and one half points ahead of third place Pinellas Vo-Ag.

D. Dalhgarrd of Sarasota Vo-Ag tied G. Sutton of Plant City for first place in the Dairy Contest, they each scored 438 out of a possible 500 points. T. Sleeman, also of Sarasota Vo-Ag took third with 427 points. Sarasota Vo-Ag took the title in the team event with 1288 of a possible 1500 points.

Plant City was second with 1236 points and Marianna came in third with 1199 points.

In the Meats Judging Contest it was Valeria Smith of Williston Jr. in first place with 531 out of 600 possible points. Andy Robinson, of Williston Sr. came in second with 513 points. Taylor Sr.'s Jana Bell was third with 506 points. In the team competition Williston Jr. took the honors with 1507 of a possible 1800 points. Taylor Sr. was second with 1478 and Williston Sr. was two points behind to take third.

Lake City was the location of the Land Judging Contest held March 26. Scott Moulton of Groveland Sr. won first place with 210 out of a possible 246 points. Mike Flowers was three points behind to take second for Charlotte Sr. and John Marti of Crescent City Sr. took third with 198 points. In the team event it was Bronson with 567 of a possible 738 points in first with Crescent City Sr. taking second with 558 points. Third place went to Groveland Sr. with a total of 552 points.

## FFA/FFB Safety Program Reaches Thousands

APOPKA - Florida Farm Bureau Safety Director Ken Gilliam reports that more than 75,000 persons have received safety instruction through a special arrangement between the Bureau and the Florida Future Farmers of America.

For the past five years the Florida Farm Bureau has offered each of the state officers a job as Safety Educational Specialists. "Each of the state officers that accepts our offer receives several weeks of classroom training in all areas of safety," said Mr. Gilliam. After the training the officers are provided with their own set of films and slides, a car and expenses. The state officers then travel in their district presenting classes on tractor safety, fire safety, how to aid choking victims, water safety and other topics to agriculture classes, church and civic groups and other interested clubs or groups.

When asked why the Florida Farm

Bureau underwrites the cost of this program Gilliam counters with a question of his own. "How much is the life of a person worth?" The program is credited with saving at least three lives each year. There is no way to estimate the number of potentially dangerous situations that never arise because of the training, because the individuals involved know how to do things properly in the first place.

"Two or three people a year will write or call to cite an instance of the class saving a life," Gilliam said. "There was an instance where a girl attending a cheerleading camp in Jacksonville was choking on a piece of candy. Everyone was just standing around, nobody knew what to do and a girl who had taken the safety class came by and she knew what to do. She performed the Heimlich maneuver and on the third or fourth try the candy was dislodged and the girl was able to breathe again."

The professional training that the state

officers receive has led to fulltime employment by the Farm Bureau for several former state officers, according to Mr. Gilliam. "The parents of the state officers are pleased with the initiative and enthusiasm that their sons and daughters display as they prepare for their classes.

Each state officer generates his or her own work load and is responsible for coordinating the FFA Safety Contest in his or her region. "Averaging 37 persons in each class may seem small," says State FFA President Chuck Dugger, "but from the smallest I've done, five persons, to the largest, more than two thousand, I've had some pretty hectic days.

There is no doubt in the minds of the FFA'ers who have been involved that the program is a successful and worthwhile effort. Mr. Gilliam and Farm Bureau Safety Specialist Earl Price agree and are glad to report that the Farm Bureau intends to continue the program next year.

## The Two Grand Challenge

TALLAHASSEE - You have washed cars, picked fruit, cleared land, hauled farm supplies and initiated countless other projects to help raise funds for the Leadership Training Center. The time to tally those efforts and to reward those who met the challenge is drawing near.

In June of 1981 Commissioner Doyle Conner challenged each chapter to raise \$2000, for a total contribution from all the chapters of \$500,000. It was the consensus of the foundation staff, board of directors and sponsoring committee that most chapters would be able to reach that goal. Those who have are due special recognition.

Delegates to the state convention from chapters which have met the goal will re-

ceive a special Leadership Training Center badge, sure to be a collectors item. A cabin at the LTC will be named after the county that generates the most revenue.

Individual effort will also be recognized. A persistent member will be rewarded for his or her dedication with a prize of \$1000. Other cash awards, trophies and plaques will be presented during the state convention in Orlando this June.

The initial phase is drawing to an end, but the fund-raising drive is far from over. Each FFA chapter is urged to continue efforts to meet the Two Grand Challenge during the next school year. We want to build the best LTC possible because when it comes to FFA, nothing is Too Grand.



John Pope

John Pope, National Secretary of the Future Farmers of America, will highlight the 1982 State Future Farmers of America convention to be held in Orlando June 7-10.

Mr. Pope, of Maiden, North Carolina, is a Junior at North Carolina State University where he participates in the Agricultural Education Club and is a student council representative for the School of Education as well as the School of Agriculture and Life Sciences. He is a member of the National Agri-Marketing Association and is president of his fraternity, Alpha Tau Alpha.

In order to devote the time, effort and attention necessary to be an effective National Secretary Mr. Pope intends to take a year's leave of absence from college.

## Chuck's Secrets for Success

Candidates for state office can help to ensure the success of their campaign by following the advice of outgoing state president Chuck Dugger:

\*\*\* submit your application to the Executive Committee well in advance of the May 19 deadline.

\*\*\* prepare a 1½ minute speech that stresses your sincerity. Be ready to answer two impromptu questions in the event that you are in a runoff.

\*\*\* wear official dress at all times.

\*\*\* design campaign posters that do not exceed 11" by 14" in size. Place them five to eight feet apart in the area designated during the officer candidate dinner. No materials shall be displayed until after the dinner.

\*\*\* when meeting delegates, shake hands firmly, but not too hard, and look the delegates in the eye.

\*\*\* speak clearly, don't be embarrassed to tell delegates your ideas as a future officer.

\*\*\* speak properly, learn the difference between, "You and I," and, "You and me," and use each in its proper place.

\*\*\* don't overuse your chapter or its history to sell yourself.

\*\*\* never degrade other candidates, let them run their own campaigns.

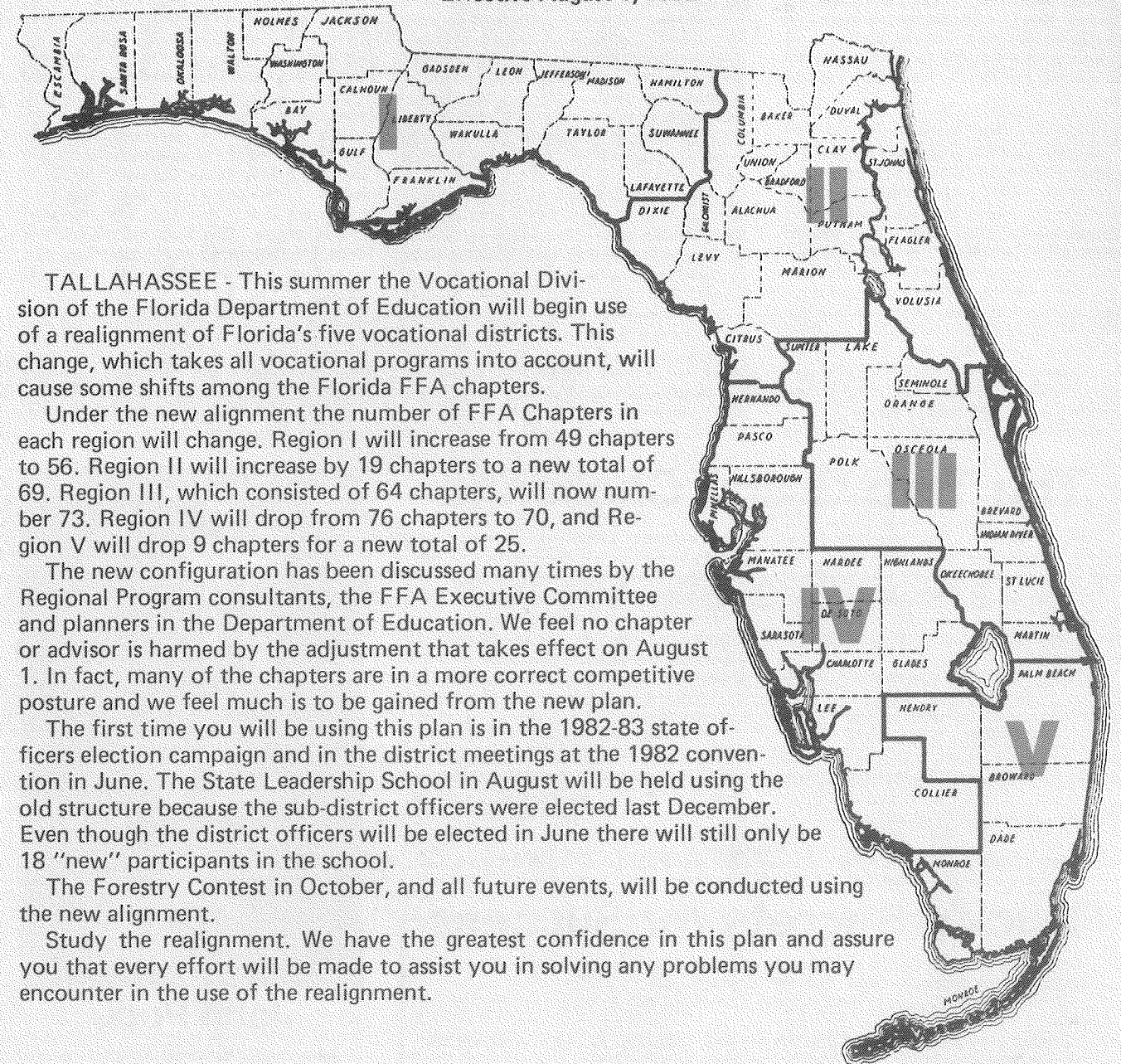
\*\*\* above all, be friendly to everyone.

Further instructions will be available at the officer candidate dinner at 5:30 on the evening of June 6th. Bud Riviere, principal of Haney Vo-Tech in Panama City and past FFA president will deliver the opening remarks at the dinner.



# State Realigns Regions

Effective August 1, 1982



**TALLAHASSEE** - This summer the Vocational Division of the Florida Department of Education will begin use of a realignment of Florida's five vocational districts. This change, which takes all vocational programs into account, will cause some shifts among the Florida FFA chapters.

Under the new alignment the number of FFA Chapters in each region will change. Region I will increase from 49 chapters to 56. Region II will increase by 19 chapters to a new total of 69. Region III, which consisted of 64 chapters, will now number 73. Region IV will drop from 76 chapters to 70, and Region V will drop 9 chapters for a new total of 25.

The new configuration has been discussed many times by the Regional Program consultants, the FFA Executive Committee and planners in the Department of Education. We feel no chapter or advisor is harmed by the adjustment that takes effect on August 1. In fact, many of the chapters are in a more correct competitive posture and we feel much is to be gained from the new plan.

The first time you will be using this plan is in the 1982-83 state officers election campaign and in the district meetings at the 1982 convention in June. The State Leadership School in August will be held using the old structure because the sub-district officers were elected last December. Even though the district officers will be elected in June there will still only be 18 "new" participants in the school.

The Forestry Contest in October, and all future events, will be conducted using the new alignment.

Study the realignment. We have the greatest confidence in this plan and assure you that every effort will be made to assist you in solving any problems you may encounter in the use of the realignment.