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CELEBRATING OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU'S 75 YEARS

1942 **75** 2017
YEARS



Take a trip back in Oklahoma Farm Bureau's history to some of the key moments of the formation of state's largest agricultural organization.

Early Farm Bureau policy resolutions

Resolutions are the basis of Oklahoma Farm Bureau's grassroots-led policy formation. At the second-annual OKFB meeting, members approved 31 resolutions to improve agriculture and rural Oklahoma.

The subjects of the organization's earliest resolutions included:

- The war effort
- Farm programs
- Farm credit
- Farm freight rates
- Farm takes
- Farm cooperatives
- Farm marketing
- Farmers insurance
- Farmer education
- Elections
- Tag agents



Since Oklahoma Farm Bureau's beginning, farmers and ranchers have gathered each year to create policy for the grassroots organization as shown in the above picture from the early 1980s and the picture to the right from the late 1970s.





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OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU

Perspective

Sept. 29, 2017



Left: A group of Farm Bureau women pose for a picture during a tour of the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City. Top Right: Charlene Thornbrough, Sandra Berry and Rozella Herrmann win the prize for the best 1940s costume. Bottom Right: OKFB Human Resources Kim Escovedo (far right) helps conference attendees learn about personalities.



WLC hosts annual fall conference in Oklahoma City

More than 60 Farm Bureau women gathered for a weekend of fun and fellowship at the annual Women's Leadership Committee fall conference Sept. 15-16 in Oklahoma City.

The two-day conference incorporated much of the organization's rich history with a theme honoring OKFB's 75th anniversary.

"Our fall conference is a wonderful time for Farm Bureau women from around the state to gather for a time of learning and fellowship," said Kitty Beavers, OKFB WLC chair. "As we celebrate 75 years of Oklahoma Farm Bureau this year, we all enjoyed reminiscing on our beloved organization's history and accomplishments."

The women attended breakout sessions concerning diabetes and health by Logan County Farm Bureau member Kay Freudenberger, flag etiquette by OKFB WLC District Nine member Cindy Schoenecke, and personalities by OKFB Vice President of Human Resources Kim Escovedo.

A silent auction was held at the event, which raised \$750 for the WLC Nurse's Scholarship Fund. Miscellaneous items for the auction were donated by conference attendees and leaders.

During the conference dinner, the women learned about the history of OKFB and the OKFB women's program from OKFB Senior Director of Corporate Communications Dustin Mielke. OKFB District Nine State

Director Jim Meek brought greetings from the state board, and winners of the 1940s costume contest were named. The winners were Charlene Thornbrough, Sandra Berry and Rozella Herrmann.

The group kicked off their Saturday activities by making a take-home soup mix in a jar, complete with a packet of cornbread provided by Shawnee Milling.

A tour of the Oklahoma History Center was the final activity of the conference, which included a special presentation from History Center staff on the Women Airforce Service Pilot program. Attendees had the opportunity to tour the center and its various exhibits detailing Oklahoma's 110-year history.

Visit www.flickr.com/okfarmbureau to see more photos from the OKFB Women's Leadership Committee Fall Conference.



YF&R announces winners of annual State Fair livestock judging contest

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers hosted more than 1,000 agriculture students during their annual State Fair livestock judging contest Thursday, Sept. 14, 2017, in Oklahoma City.

FFA and 4-H members in junior and senior categories judged eight classes of livestock with two classes of questions.

"Our YF&R committee loves providing this chance for our state's agriculture

students to hone their livestock judging skills," said Travis Schnaithman, OKFB state YF&R Chairman. "Many of our committee members grew up judging livestock, and we know the decision-making and reasoning skills students learn through the contest."

The full list of results is available on the website JudgingCard.com.



Oklahoma County Farm Bureau donates to hurricane relief

Left: Dennis Lambring of Oklahoma County Farm Bureau presents two checks on Sept. 18 for the Oklahoma Farming & Ranching Foundation's relief efforts for Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. The county donated \$500 to each relief fund for a total donation of \$1,000.

YF&R State Fair Livestock Judging Contest Results

TEAMS

Senior FFA Division

First Place: El Reno FFA
Second Place: Kingfisher FFA
Third Place: Prague FFA Gold Team

Senior 4-H Division

First Place: Alex/Grady County
Second Place: Kay County
Third Place: Stephens County

Junior FFA Division

First Place: Cherokee FFA
Second Place: Indianola FFA Team 1
Third Place: Moss FFA

Junior 4-H Division

First Place: Amber-Pocasset Team 1
Second Place: Indianola
Third Place: Alex/Grady County

INDIVIDUALS

Senior FFA Division

First Place: Jacob Bedell, El Reno FFA
Second Place: Gage Cantrell, Prague FFA
Third Place: Rilyn Thompson, Adair FFA

Senior 4-H Division

First Place: Dustin Tolson, Alex/Grady County
Second Place: Brycen Otey, Alex/Grady County
Third Place: Riley Scott, Stephens County

Junior FFA Division

First Place: Brayton Spears, Hartshorne FFA
Second Place: Allison Shropshire, Indianola FFA
Third Place: Kynlee Dailey, Kingston FFA

Junior 4-H Division

First Place: Dax Delozier, Adair 4-H
Second Place: Blake Janssen, Amber-Pocasset 4-H
Third Place: Wyatt Jensen, Jackson County 4-H

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Online



See more photos from WLC fall conference

Want to see more from the OKFB Women's Leadership Committee fall conference last week? Find photos of the trade show, workshops, speakers and more! Visit the OKFB flickr page at www.flickr.com/okfarmbureau to view and download the photos.



Three things to watch as lawmakers head to special session

State lawmakers returned to 23rd and Lincoln this week for a special session to address a \$215 million budget shortfall caused by the Oklahoma Supreme Court's overturn of the Legislature's cigarette fee. Visit OKAgPolicy on Facebook to keep up with the issues OKFB is fighting at the state Capitol.



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www.okfarmbureau.org

OKFB to EPA, Corps: WOTUS must be clear, reasonable

On behalf of Oklahoma's farmers and ranchers, Oklahoma Farm Bureau President Tom Buchanan this week urged the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to repeal the Clean Water Act's 2015 Waters of the United States rule.

The EPA and the Corps have proposed a rule to rescind the 2015 WOTUS rule and restore it to pre-2015 language, thanks to a June 2017 executive order from President Donald Trump. The current rulemaking is the first in a two-step process, as the second step will clarify the definition of "waters of the U.S."

"Oklahoma doesn't need additional murky regulations from the EPA and the Corps, creating misunderstanding and uncertainty," Buchanan said in OKFB comments. "Oklahoma's farmers and ranchers are the best stewards of their land and water; their livelihoods depend on it."

More than 470 OKFB members also submitted comments and signed petitions in support of the rule's repeal.

Much to the dismay of farmers and ranchers nationwide, the 2015 rule vastly expanded the definition of waters of the U.S. beyond the scope of Congressional intent. The rule granted the EPA and the Corps

regulatory control over any spot where water may collect on private land including farm ponds, ephemeral streams, ditches and even puddles.

The 2015 WOTUS rule was blocked by federal courts and was never implemented following challenges from dozens of states and industry groups, including the State of Oklahoma.

The comment period remained open through Wednesday, Sept. 27. Read the full OKFB official comments on the OKFB website.

Beckham County Farm Bureau opens new Elk City satellite office



Left: A Beckham County Farm Bureau member enjoys a free hamburger Sept. 15 at the grand opening of the new satellite office in Elk City. Right: Beckham County Farm Bureau agents and board members gather for the ribbon cutting of the new office.

Member Benefits

OKFB Safety Services

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Safety Services Division offers defensive driving courses throughout the year. Participants receive a 5 percent savings on collision, liability and comprehensive insurance for 36 months. The Pontotoc County Farm Bureau will host the next course Oct. 2 and 3 in Ada. For more information, contact the Safety Services Division by calling the OKFB home office at 405-523-2300.

www.okfarmbureau.org/benefits

Calendar

Resolutions Due

Oct. 6 • OKFB Home Office
Contact: Tasha Duncan 405-530-2681

YF&R award applications due

Oct. 13 • OKFB Home Office
Contact: Zac Swartz 405-523-2406

State Resolutions Meeting

Oct. 18-19 • Oklahoma City
Contact: Tasha Duncan 405-530-2681