



THE CATALYST

Developing the Best in Leadership

ISSUE ONE • NOVEMBER 2020

CAT-A-LYST: *a person or thing that precipitates an event or change. Enthusiastic communication and energy that causes others to act... a movement to a brighter future. Donors, sponsors, agricultural science teachers, and student leaders are serving as a catalyst to a brighter future.*



2020 Passion for Excellence Award, Bobbie Willson, Herman Wilson, Ryan Williamson, Carson Davis, Caitlyn Muckenstrum, Aaron Alejandro

PASSION FOR EXCELLENCE

The holiday season is just around the corner. Media outlets are full of options of how to give the best "gift." The more we learn about "giving" - we also learn more about "giving of ourselves" and what that means. The Texas FFA Foundation appreciates all those who's words of encouragement, volunteer, or financial support assist in accomplishing a bold mission.

Thanksgiving is the perfect time to pause and say "thank you" to all those who have made a positive difference in the lives of our Texas FFA members and agricultural science teachers.

Annually, the *Passion for Excellence Award* recognizes someone who went above and beyond in their support to members, teachers, and the success of the organization.

This year's recipients represent nothing short of living out the mission of the FFA. They have excelled in their support.

Herman and Bobbie Wilson were honored with the 2020 Passion for Excellence Award during the annual Texas FFA Convention. This couple has played an incredible role in supporting our teachers, students, and comprehensive leadership development. Their philanthropy of time, talent, and treasure has provided greater opportunity for career success. We value the Wilson's support and vote of confidence they have placed in our development efforts. Thank You.

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WHEN YOU ARE GENEROUS

The Wilson's are title sponsors for the Foundation's LEAD series. The program empowers teachers with leadership concepts and content they can share with their students, peers, and mentors.

Herman and Bobbie's support provides the fuel to help make dreams come true. Together we are growing a brighter future for our state and country.

We have many individuals who are involved with the Foundation who share their time, expertise, and ideas. Our governing board of directors are a great example of sound management, ethical leadership, and passion for service. We appreciate the leadership of our board of directors and vision they have to serve as a catalyst for even greater opportunities for Texas FFA members and agricultural science teachers.

What a year! We have been thrown curves, experienced hurdles, and at times seem to have dodged bullets. Through it all, our generous supporters has been resilient. We are grateful for their dedication.

In the past 20-years the Foundation has grown exponentially. Our annual budget has grown 381%, our endowment more than 344%, sponsors more than 1,000%, scholarships more than 175%, and we have added dynamic, - leading edge - leadership development opportunities for students and teachers.

We are inspired to work hard and continue to look for innovative, effective, and sustainable pathways for student and teacher engagement.



TEXAS AGRICULTURE MEMORIAL DAY



Texas Agriculture Memorial Day takes place on November 21 every year at the State Capitol in Austin, TX. This year will be the fifth year to celebrate the two-part ceremony.

John Paul Deneen III, founder of Texas Agriculture Memorial Day strives to remember the lives and honor the scarifies of Texas farmers and ranchers.

Deneen said "He felt God tapping on his shoulder to help provide closure for families that lost loved one."

State leaders come together such as the Texas Agriculture Commissioner, Sid Miller, State FFA and 4-H Youth Leaders, and the Department of Public Safety Honor Guard and Bagpiper to make this event successful.

Deneen states "they are not forgotten, and they are appreciated."



Due to COVID-19 this year's ceremony will not be able to be held but there are high hopes for 2021. The Texas Agriculture Memorial Day will pivot and find other ways to honor and recognize individuals this year.

HERE TO SERVE

Our purpose is to strengthen agricultural education and the Texas FFA program, so each student can develop their potential for personal growth, career success and leadership in a global marketplace.

OUR TEAM



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BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Dan Taylor, Foundation Board member from Ropesville, Texas. Dan provides steady leadership with a passion and heart for stewardship. He is a former Texas FFA member and agricultural science teacher who went on becoming a successful businessman and community leader. He is committed and dedicated advocate for agricultural science education and the Texas FFA program.

"It's been an honor to serve on the board since the early 90's, as a former member and teacher I've had a front row seat for the growth of Texas FFA and in particular the growth of the Foundation."

"Our favorite attitude should be gratitude."

- Zig Ziglar

Do you want to thank someone?

Do you want to honor a mentor?

Do you want to make an impact?

Here's how!

Individual Gift

Honor Gift

Memorial gift

Facebook Fundraiser

Amazon Smile

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-2520515>

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