

FEB. 8, 2023

# Young Farmers & Ranchers News

## A Letter From The Chair

BY MOLLIE LYNCH

The Delaware Young Farmers & Ranchers are excited about the upcoming AFBF FUSION Conference, happening March 3 - 6, 2023! 14 of us will be headed to warm, sunny, Jacksonville, FL to "learn, share and grow together" alongside YF&R members from around the country.

These opportunities not only improve us as farmers & ranchers, but as advocates and volunteers, as well. I am looking forward to building relationships and learning as much as possible.

If you are unable to attend the conference in Florida, we have a lot of other ways you can get involved in the YF&R!

To learn more about who we are and how to get involved, join us during our next statewide meeting on March 2, 2023 at the Delaware Farm Bureau office in Camden.

Any inquiries can be sent to our State Coordinator Kali Voshell at [kali.voshell@defb.org](mailto:kali.voshell@defb.org).

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Delaware YF&R Chair Mollie Lynch presents New Castle County YF&R Chair Abel Elwell with the YF&R Member of the Year award.



### **2022 YF&R MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

Congratulations to Abel Elwell on being named the Delaware YF&R Member of the Year!

Abel joined the YF&R two years ago as the New Castle County YF&R Chair.

*"I chose Abel because of his hard work and dedication to not only the YF&R, but to Delaware agriculture. Abel has been a wonderful liaison between the county and YF&R. He is always willing to help out and does every task with a smile. Way to go, Abel!" - Mollie Lynch*

### **REMINDERS:**

- Next Meeting: March 2 at 7:30pm at DEFB Office
- Scholarship Deadline: May 5, 2023 by 4 p.m.
- Strawberry Festival: May 27 from 11-3pm at Bobola Farms & Florist
- Antique Tractor Pull: July 29 at the Delaware State Fair

## FUSION Conference Attendees March 3-6

- Mollie Lynch, *State YF&R Chair*
- Joseph (J.T.) Robbins, *YF&R Vice Chair*
- Casey Collier, *YF&R Secretary*
- Michael Lynch, *Kent County YF&R Chair*
- Abel Elwell, *New Castle County YF&R Chair*
- Rebecca Bobola, *Kent County Women's Committee Chair*
- Teddy Bobola, *Kent County Board Director*
- William Powers, *NCC & DEFB State Board Director*
- Ariel Powers, *Farm Bureau Member*
- Adam Collier, *YF&R Committee Member*
- Paul Staathoff, *YF&R Committee Member*
- Nathan Thompson, *YF&R Committee Member*
- Jordan Betts, *YF&R Committee Member*
- Kali Voshell, *State Coordinator*

## *Help Us Feed Local Families this Year*

Every year during the annual Strawberry Festival, YF&R Volunteers work hard to collect non-perishable food items to be donated to organizations like the Food Bank of Delaware. We do this alongside Young Farmers & Ranchers Committees across the country who also hold similar donation events for the Harvest for All campaign. Donations are tracked to include dollars and pounds of food donated by state and county Farm Bureaus, as well as volunteer hours, according to the American Farm Bureau Federation. As a group, we enjoy knowing we can raise funds for our activities while helping others in their greatest times of need.



## CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

1. Cultivate strong grassroots FB leadership
2. Provide networking opportunities
3. Engage & celebrate members
4. Give back to communities across the country
5. Inspire attendees to apply conference takeaways on their own farms, in their local Farm Bureau and/or in their daily life and career by providing engaging sessions and workshops on AFBF's four major focus areas:
  - a. Consumer outreach
  - b. Member value
  - c. Advocacy, outreach and education
  - d. Leadership development

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## *WE NEED YOU*

Share the word! We need your help in finding new members to keep our organization vibrant and strong!

Volunteer for an upcoming event!

Offer to share your farming experiences!

Attend an upcoming conference and learn more about our field.

Engage with us on Facebook!

