

Chapter History Project

1. Oral History

- a. Record interviews with people who have knowledge of the FFA chapter. There are lots of good options for recording interviews from Zoom to specialized software. A phone video can be great as long as there is good sound. Click [here](#) for a list of sample questions.
- b. Some good interviews could be past FFA members, past officers, past advisors, or the surviving spouse of a past advisor.
- c. It would be especially impactful to have interviews with notable members- so if you could get the first American Degree recipient or a State Creed Winner from the chapter those would be high priority.

2. Pictures

- a. Scan and categorize photos from chapter scrap books. Flickr is a good platform to capture photos and allows you to develop albums and caption photos. If you have photos without captions, look for former members of old advisors to add those captions.
- b. Go through old yearbooks in the school library and look for FFA photos.

3. News Articles

- a. Go through old issues of the local newspaper (often available at the local library or possibly www.newspapers.com) to find articles about FFA members. Key searches could be “FFA”, “Future Farmers”, “Vocational Agriculture”, etc. Broader terms like “farm” or “farm boy” may also yield results if you have time to comb through more data.

4. Firsts

- a. Make a list of firsts for the chapter (and make plans to maintain this list.) Some examples include first advisor, first chapter president, first state star, first female officer, etc.
- b. In Kentucky, most county high schools were created between 1950 and 1980, so finding the first chapter president or first star may not be as hard as you think.

5. Lists

- a. Work on a list of past chapter officers. School yearbooks can be a great way to collect this information if you don't have ready access.
- b. Develop a list of past chapter stars, chapter sweethearts, DeKalb award winners, etc.
- c. Develop a list of past American Degree recipients, past state winners, etc.
- d. State Staff can help with a list of past advisors.

6. Memorabilia

- a. Ask community members for FFA related memorabilia. In some cases they may want to donate items but in other cases they may just want to loan it to you. Either is great. Be sure to get good pictures of items that are loaned and return them as requested.

7. Oldest Jacket Contest

- a. Sponsor a contest to find the oldest FFA jacket from your county. Write a story about the person who owned the jacket for the local paper or highlight on social media.
- b. Have an event where past members bring their jackets and take photographs of the jackets.