

At the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation Annual Meeting in December, Muskingum County Farm Bureau was recognized for their excellent county programming. They received two silver medals in Member Strength and Member Advocacy and one bronze medal for Member Engagement.

Some of the activities that earned these awards are as follows:

The Summer Picnic and Farm Tour was at the Huston Farm when a delicious BBQ lunch was served and folks were able to tour the vegetable farm. They were able to learn about fruit and vegetable production and marketing, the importance of bees, and challenges within the industry

Farm Bureau was one of the many partners in implementing Farm City Day in September at the fairgrounds. The 2014 theme was goats where many of the displays and activities featured goats. Around 1500 people enjoyed the activities of the day.

The Farmers Share Breakfast in March at Zanesville High School attracted 550 persons. This breakfast was served by the Farm Bureau and the FFA Chapters of John Glenn, Mid-East Vocational, Tri-Valley and West Muskingum. Other participants were Operation Feed, The Animal Shelter, Zane State, The Wilds and various commodity groups.

The Farm Bureau building and display at the county fair is a showcase for agriculture. Our volunteers reach out to many other organizations to have interactive activities, educational displays, and live animals for fair goers to learn about. They even hosted Governor Kasich one afternoon.

The All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Tour was an eight hour tour covering 40 miles with 310 people and 135 ATVs. 10 farms and agriculture sites were visited. This tour was done in partnership with SWCD and NRCS.

Muskingum County Farm Bureau was also one of six Ohio county Farm Bureaus who were chosen as winners in the 2015 American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) County Activities of Excellence Awards (CAE) program. The CAE program showcases up to 24 of the top county Farm Bureau programs in the nation.

The CAE program identifies programs that serve as models of innovation for local activities and display the value of volunteers working together to build and strengthen their communities. The competition focuses on county efforts in education and agricultural promotion, member services, public relations and information, leadership development and policy implementation.

Dave & Jeanette Weinberg, James & Susan McDonald and Organization Director Kari Burkey attended the AFBF Annual Meeting in San Diego to showcase Muskingum County's ATV Tour and talk to hundreds of people about the event and how to implement a similar event in their area.