

Mulhall-Orlando FFA Chapter

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M-O FFA Attends Annual Alumni Camp and Big 3 Events

By: Paige Day, M-O FFA Reporter

WAGONER, Okla. – In early July, hundreds of FFA members from across the state converged to attend the annual FFA Alumni Leadership Camp. The camp is held each year at Camp Tulakogee in Wagoner, Oklahoma over a 2-week time period. Six members of the Mulhall-Orlando FFA Chapter attended camp this year. Charley Johnson, KayLea Taylor, Karlie Thomason and Paige Day attended session 1 of camp, while Lane Blankinship and Ashlyn Larman attended the fourth and final session. The camp splits members into different small groups during the registration process. Each small group spends most of their times together at camp while completing various activities that focus on leadership, communication skills and team building. The skills you learn can be applied when you return home to help lead your local FFA chapter throughout the school year. The format allows FFA members to meet many great people from across the state.

“My favorite part of alumni camp was getting to know my small group and doing the ropes course with them,” said Charley Johnson, a freshman member of the M-O FFA Chapter.

The ropes course is a series of various obstacles that you try to complete with your small

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group. My (Paige's) personal favorite activity was Water Olympics. Small groups complete 3 games, all involving water, while competing against other small groups. Water Olympics were just as fun as they sound!

In addition to small group sessions, there are general sessions held in the pavilion with guest speakers for the entire camp to attend. Before each session, they blast music and everyone gets up and dances around. "Singing and dancing before general session was a blast and probably my favorite part of Alumni Camp," said freshman KayLea Taylor. One night there was a hypnotist show, which was a highlight of camp. Sophomore Karlie Thomason agrees, "The hypnotist show was the greatest thing ever; I have never laughed so much!"

Overall, Alumni Camp was a great time for everyone! Each chapter member agrees that there is a reason Alumni Camp is called the 'Happiest Place on Earth.'

In addition to Alumni Camp, six members of the M-O Chapter attended Big 3; a three-day livestock judging event held annually at Oklahoma State University. Those in attendance were Sydney Johnson, Callen Oldenburg, Charley Johnson, Karlie Thomason, Baylee Brown and KayLea Taylor. Highlights from the event included Sydney's 4th place finish on Beef Day and Callen Oldenburg's 7th place finish on Beef Day. The Senior FFA judging team made up of Sydney, Charley, Baylee & KayLea placed 6th on Beef Day and finished 28th overall.

Congratulations to those participants!

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