



# Where Are They NOW?

LIFE AFTER FFA

## AG INTERNSHIPS

This month's article features young professionals whose agriculture related internships helped them focus on their future career.



Ben joined the Northern Burlington FFA Chapter in 2008. He served as a State FFA officer in 2014-2015.



Ben received the American FFA Degree in 2016.



Ben attends Delaware Valley University where he is majoring in Agribusiness Management with a minor in crop science.



"My internship gave me hands on experiences in the Crop Science industry. I met with customers, operated equipment, assisted the sales rep, and worked with the managers."



Ben's favorite FFA memory was going out to breakfast with ILSSO travelers upon arriving back in the United States after their trip to South Africa.



Ben interned with GROWMARK FS as an Agronomy Intern in 2017.



Ben enjoys being outdoors, riding his bike, fishing and taking pictures in his free time.



ADVICE.

"Don't miss a moment! Engage yourself, introduce yourself, and just get involved."

### BEN WAINWRIGHT



“ Ag Education and FFA helped me hone my public speaking skills and made me comfortable when talking to people I don't know. ”

### ALEX CLARK



“ The hands-on experiences I had in Ag class and through FFA were incredibly helpful in choosing what I wanted to do after graduating. ”



Alex joined the Newton FFA Chapter in 2010.



Alex received the American FFA Degree in 2015.



Alex graduated from SUNY Cobleskill in 2017 with a degree in Wildlife Management.



"I heard about the internship at Wallkill through the Texas A&M Wildlife Job Board and learned about my job through the NJDEP website."



Alex interned at Wallkill River Nat. Wildlife Refuge in Sussex, NJ in 2017. She is currently employed by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection Division of Fish and Wildlife.



Alex's favorite FFA memory was attending the National FFA Convention.



Alex enjoys spending times outdoors, taking her dogs on hikes, kayaking, waterfowl hunting and fishing.



ADVICE.

"Internships are extremely important as they allow you to gain experience in the field that will make your resume stand out. The people you meet can really help when it comes to finding a job after graduation!"

“Where Are They Now?” highlights former New Jersey FFA members who once wore the blue jacket and are now in successful careers. Through the interpersonal skills and support it provides, the FFA leads its members toward successful careers.

## LAUREN FILLEBROWN



“ Ag Education and FFA provided opportunities that helped developed my professional skills and define my personal values, while encouraging me to always reach higher and dream big. ”



Lauren joined the Phillipsburg FFA Chapter in 2009. She served as a state FFA officer in 2012-2013.



Lauren received the American FFA Degree in 2014.



Lauren attends Penn State University where she is majoring in Agricultural Business Management with a minor in Organizational Leadership.



“Working this past summer in Philly broadened my knowledge of production agriculture and my perspective on what it means to be inclusive.”



Lauren’s favorite FFA memory was making the “advancement” when she was New Jersey’s National Officer Candidate in 2014 and 2015.



Lauren interned at Weavers Way Farms in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 2017.



Lauren enjoys reading, running, spending time outside and hanging out with her family and friends.



“Even if you run for an officer position or compete in a CDE and you don’t get elected or win the competition, don’t let the setback discourage you from participating in other activities. Use the setback to grow as a person, and find joy in what you have rather than what you do not have.”



Kristianne joined the Freehold FFA Chapter in 2009. She served as a state FFA officer in 2013-2015.



Kristianne received the American FFA Degree in 2014.



Kristianne attends Rutgers University working on a Master’s Degree in Agriculture Science Education. She earned a BS degree in Agriculture and Food Systems in May 2017.



“My internship showed me how important it is to remain subjective when talking about topics which people may have different opinions.”



Kristianne’s favorite FFA memory was serving on the arena crew at the National FFA Convention in 2016.



Kristianne’s current hobbies include reading, spending time outdoors and serving on the Franklin Fire Co. Ladies Auxiliary.



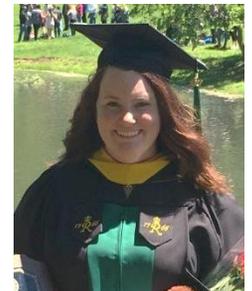
Kristianne interned at the New Jersey Farm Bureau in 2015-2017.



“Don’t be afraid to try things that you haven’t before. I had never had any experience with agricultural policy, but by interning at New Jersey Farm Bureau, I found my own niche and was able to add to the organization in my own ways.”



## KRISTIANNE DOWD



“ Ag Education and FFA helped me to develop my interpersonal skills so that I can better communicate the past and future of agriculture. ”

Everyone has a story to tell. We want to hear yours!

How has the FFA made a difference in your life?  
Share Your Story with us at  
<https://form.jotform.com/NJFFA/WhereAreTheyNow>  
and be featured in a special issue!



tell us  
**YOUR  
STORY**

