This month’s article features those who currently have utilized skills they gained through the FFA career to have a successful career in the mechanical industry.

**Scott Gangel**

Ag Education and FFA gave me solid background knowledge of agricultural mechanics and other topics that have helped me in my career today. I believe that Ag Education and FFA helped motivate me to pursue engineering for off-road equipment.

**George Stillwell**

The FFA taught me to work better with others and help me become better at speaking to large groups of people.

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Scott joined the Northern Burlington Regional FFA Chapter in 2006.

Scott attended Penn State University for his Bachelors in Biological Engineering with an Agricultural Engineering Option.

Scott currently works as a Design Engineer at Vermeer Corporation in Pella, Iowa.

Scott received the Garden State FFA Degree in 2010.

Scott competed in the Ag Mechanics CDE in 2010.

Scott’s favorite memory was attending the National FFA Convention in 2010 where he received the Silver Emblem Individual in the Agricultural Mechanics Career Development Event.

Scott’s current hobbies include hunting and playing electric guitar.

“Time flies, so be sure to get involved and have fun. Many of the friends I had in FFA are still friends today. I have many fond memories of my time in FFA.”

George joined the Allentown FFA Chapter in 2010.

George attended Universal Technical Institute where he studied in the diesel program.

George currently works as a mobile truck and equipment manager at Stillwell Truck Repair LLC.

George received the American FFA Degree in 2016.

George competed in the Ag Mechanics CDE in 2013.

George’s favorite memory was attending the National FFA Convention to compete in Farm Business Management, Parliamentary Procedure, and Ag Issues, and going to Oklahoma to compete in Land Judging.

George’s current hobbies include volunteering as a fire fighter at Hope Fire Company and camping.

“Take advantage of the opportunities presented to you. A successful life would be when you can provide for yourself and your family.”
“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.

**DUSTIN ZUKUS**

- Dustin joined the Allentown FFA Chapter in 2005.
- Dustin attended Motorcycle Mechanics Institute in Orlando, Florida and is Honda, Harley, Suzuki, Yamaha, KTM, and Zero motorcycle trained.
- Dustin currently works as the Head Technician at Mt. Holly Motor Sports in Vinzentown, New Jersey.
- Dustin received the Garden State FFA Degree in 2009.
- Dustin competed in the Ag Mechanics CDE in 2008.
- Dustin’s favorite memory was when his FFA chapter placed first in the state, and was eligible to go to Oklahoma to compete in Land Judging. He enjoyed being able to travel and meet new friends from across the country.
- Dustin’s current hobbies include playing the guitar, fishing, spending time outdoors and working on his personal mechanical projects.
- “Any opportunity that interests you the littlest bit, definitely take it. Do as much as you can, and take advantage of every opportunity.”

**Matt DiTizio**

- Matt joined the Penns Grove FFA Chapter in 2003.
- Matt attended Gloucester County Community College.
- Matt currently works at Salem County Vocation Technical School as the Career Orientation and Agricultural Mechanics Teacher.
- Matt received the American FFA Degree in 2008.
- Matt coached Salem County Vo. Tech’s Ag Mechanics CDE team in 2017.
- Matt’s favorite memory was meeting his wife, Keely (Weinberger) DiTizio, at the National FFA Convention.
- Matt’s current hobbies include running, coaching the cross country team, and bowling.
- “Get involved in FFA! The more you participate, the more opportunities you get out of it!”
- FFA gave me effective communication skills and the confidence to speak in front of students.”

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!