

The 1960s

The 1959-60 school year was an especially momentous year for the Peoria FFA because it was in this year that they won the National FFA Livestock Judging Contest. Team members Don McKisson, Frank Saenz, Danny Hinkle, DeWayne Justice, and Charles Cochran are pictured with agriculture instructor, Mr. Tilt. Charles Cochran was the “high individual” in the national contest.



National Live Stock Show First place F.F.A. Live Stock Judging Team:
LEFT TO RIGHT: Mr. Tilt; Don McKisson; Frank Saenz; Danny Hinkle; DeWayne Justice, High Individual; Charles Cochran.

The 1963 Chapter photo is particularly interesting as it includes a female! That same yearbook mentioned female chapter “attendants.”



The 1965 yearbook makes mention of the annual FFA BBQ, a tradition that would continue for decades. Students would gather wood and cook the beef in a pit. For years, local dairy farmers and cattle ranchers donated the meat for the annual event.



In 1969, Cliff Saylor was elected State FFA President. Cliff would go on to be elected a National FFA Officer. His FFA jacket still hangs in the agriculture department at Peoria High School.