Gothenburg's FFA organization recognized the accomplishments of members throughout the year at its annual banquet last Thursday in the school's performing arts center.

GHS graduates and former members Andy Jobman and Helen Cool spoke about an FFA alumni group they have formed.

Both Jobman and Cool have served as mentors to FFA members but said more help is needed, whether it's in the form of time or monetary support.

Receiving appreciation awards for their support and involvement in FFA were Jobman, Kyle and Jerri Beyea and Steve and Becky Costello.

The star chapter farmer was Kerry McPheeters while the star agribusiness recipient was Peyton Maline. Rebecca Anderson received the workhorse award and Hailey Maline was honored as the star greenhand.

Earning state FFA degrees were Kerry McPheeters, Cale Moore, Jamie Messersmith, and Peyton Maline.

Salesperson of the year was Jamie Messersmith.

Officers were also named for the 2011-12 school year. They are Morgan Kowalewski, president; Madison Costello, vice president; Kelsey Kuhlman, treasurer; Amanda Larson, secretary; Courtney Brown, sentinel; Tyler Block, sod treasurer; Carson Messersmith, corresponding secretary; and Rebecca Anderson, technical reporter.

In addition, members who placed at state during the annual convention in Lincoln earlier in April were recognized.

They were:

Proficiency awards:

Gold—Kaylee Beyea, diversified horticulture entrepreneurship; and Kerry McPheeters, grain production.

Silver—Morgan Kowalewski, veterinary science-entrepreneurship, Amanda Larson, equine science-entrepreneurship; Madison Costello, sheep production-entrepreneurship; Tyler Block, vegetable production-entrepreneurship; Shay Wear, diversified agriculture production-entrepreneurship.

Bronze—Preston Franzen, diversified agriculture production-entrepreneurship; Bailey Gibbens, sheep production entrepreneurship; Logan Sheets, diversified crop production.

Junior public speaking—1. Rebecca Anderson.

Extemporaneous speaking—2. Carson Messersmith.