



Around the State in 4-H

College of Agricultural Sciences

August 2004

4-H and Youth Development



4-H IS A LOT LIKE THE HOKEY POKEY.... *(Christy Bartley)*

Every once in a while, when you're really stuck for what to say, a 4-H member or volunteer leader will help you set your thoughts straight. Shelby Harrison, a 4-H member from Crawford County, participated in the public speaking contest at State Days and had this to say about 4-H:

"You put your head inand take clearer thinking out. You learn to organize your time and think clearly about which steps you will take to accomplish your projects and goals.

You put your heart in.....and take greater loyalty out. Behind every successful project are the blood, sweat, and tears of a dedicated 4-H'er who never gave up.

You put your hands in.....and take larger service out. 4-H'ers give back to their community and are not afraid to roll up their sleeves and get busy!

You put your health in.....and take better living out. As you participate in service projects and other activities, you feel good about helping others and develop stronger, longer-lasting friendships.

And when you shake it all about...you meet lots of talented people...they'll turn your life around....And that's what 4-H IS ALL ABOUT!!"

Thank you Shelby for allowing me to print a portion of your speech.

4-H DEVELOPMENT IMPACT *(Michael Martin)*

We have now completed our first year of having a dedicated development officer for the 4-H youth development program. I am pleased to report the Office of Outreach Development has generated receipts and commitments of \$247,906 for the fiscal year 2003-2004. This is a significant increase over the previous years' \$19,473. We will share a more detailed annual report in the near future, but I wanted to provide some preliminary information for your information through ATS.

We have created several new endowments to provide supplemental support for several county and statewide programs. The book value of all 4-H endowments has increased from \$422,230 in fiscal year 2002-2003 to \$528,619 this past year. So far this year the 4-H Annual Fund has received 203 gifts totaling \$13,873 as compared to 201 gifts totaling \$9,773 in 2003.

If you receive a Penn State paycheck I encourage you to consider initiating a personal payroll deduction to support 4-H. Last year sixteen individuals contributed \$251 per month through payroll deduction. Since July 1, 2004 three new payroll deductions have increased that amount to \$366 per month. I'll be glad to assist you in this matter.

All in all we're off to a good start and I look forward to working with you to increase private support for the Pennsylvania 4-H program. As always, I'm excited to meet with any leads you may be able to provide.

PROGRAMS OF DISTINCTION: PENNSYLVANIA SUBMISSION GUIDELINES *(Christy Bartley)*

During the meetings I have had with regions, I have been sharing the new process from National 4-H Headquarters to recognize Extension programs, Programs of Distinction. The entry process will officially be announced in September, but we do have an opportunity to send in applications so examples can also be placed at the website. In Pennsylvania, we have been working on guidelines for submission. Although these are not finalized, I wanted to share them with you and encourage you to submit an early application. This will allow the committee establishing guidelines to ensure we have covered the material needed while offering you the opportunity for early recognition. The Programs of Distinction document prepared by National 4-H is found at: http://www.national4-hheadquarters.gov/programs_of_distinction.pdf. The document covers the following items:

- What are Programs of Distinction?
- Why Programs of Distinction?
- What are the characteristics of a Program of Distinction?
- How will Programs of Distinction be accessible?
- General overview of the submission process
- How entries will be reviewed
- Criteria for Evaluation
- Submission format

All information you need is in the web document. In Pennsylvania, submissions will be reviewed on the state level before being entered into the national data base. Due dates for submission will be the 15th of September, December, March, and June. Submissions should be emailed (cek4@psu.edu) using the format available from the National 4-H Headquarters web site. Submissions should be in 12 point type using Times New Roman font, single spaced. Note the limit of 1,000 words plus graphics and charts in color in the submission format. The review committee will consist of two members of the YPCC Advisory Committee, one Regional Director, the State 4-H Program Leader, and the Program Leader for Children, Youth and Families. Review will be based on the criteria developed by National 4-H Headquarters. Consider sending in your submission early so it can be included on the initial launch of this web site.

HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS *(Christy Bartley)*

Although it has not been officially announced, 4-H Hall of Fame nominations will probably be due in November. To avoid the rush, I encourage you to consider nominating a volunteer, donor, retired Extension Educator, or other great supporter of 4-H. The selection committee is primarily interested in learning of the nominee's significant impacts on 4-Hers and/or the 4-H program. The nominee should exhibit outstanding **citizenship, leadership, career accomplishments and character**.

Please focus the information on the nominee's: **1. Citizenship** as exemplified by participation in civic, community, state, regional and national public service related activities evidencing concern for the welfare of others, especially as they relate to 4-H. **2. Leadership** as exemplified by qualities of leadership and acceptance of leadership responsibilities in civic, community, professional and business related activities that directly or indirectly benefit 4-H. **3. Career Accomplishments** as exemplified by accomplishments and success in his/her chosen career and as a mentor or role model. **4. Character** as exemplified by evidence of the influence of 4-H involvement (if a 4-H alumni or volunteer) in the nominee's life and/or his or her commitment to 4-H. **5. Any other information** that would be beneficial for the selection committee to know.

Begin to gather this information. I will send out the nomination forms as soon as they arrive. Since we are approaching the end of a busy summer, you may have the perfect person in mind to nominate for this award. Don't delay. Begin gathering the necessary information today!

PENNSYLVANIA GARDEN EXPO (*Christy Bartley*)

The third annual PA Garden Expo is planned for March 10-13, 2005. The theme for the coming year is *Horticulture Education in Bloom*. The new Equine Arena of the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex will be transformed into an exhibition center for landscape gardens and other ornamental horticulture exhibits designed by secondary and higher education students, FFA chapters, and 4-H clubs. Clubs will be able to design and build a small to mid-size garden of 150 to 500 sq. ft. There will be no charge for the space. Clubs may apply for Agriculture and Rural Youth Grants to offset expenses if their application is successful. Horticulture businesses will also be contacted for donations of supplies. The Garden Expo will provide forced bulbs, trees, and other plant materials at cost. Electricity and water for water feature gardens will also be available at no cost. Youth will also be able to make arrangements to shadow professionals in the field. If you have clubs that are interested, please have them contact Elizabeth Bush at 717-796-1181 or pagardenexpo@concast.net. Applications for display are due by September 10, 2004.

PENNSYLVANIA COMPETES IN 2004 NATIONAL 4-H FORESTRY INVITATIONAL (*Sanford Smith*)

Pennsylvania was among the 17 states that participated in the 25th annual National 4-H Forestry Invitational from Sunday, July 25, through Thursday, July 29. The state was represented by Noah Conoway of Loganton, April Ganong of Millerton and Ryan Giles of Mansfield. John Hecker of Loganton and Carissa Ganong of Millerton were the coaches.

The event was held at the West Virginia University Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp and Conference Center near Weston, W.Va. The International Paper Company Foundation and the Cooperative Extension Service were sponsors. At the Invitational, students compete for overall team and individual awards in several categories. Events included a forestry written exam, tree identification, tree measurement, compass orienteering, insect and disease identification, topographic map use, the Forestry Bowl and forest evaluation.



Left to Right: Carissa Ganong, Noah Conoway, April Ganong, Ryan Giles, John Hecker

Pennsylvania's team was selected from the top contestants at this year's Pennsylvania 4-H Forestry Field Day held in May at Laurel Haven Conservation Education Center in Julian, PA. The team faced stiff competition at the national event and placed 11th in the competition. Two Pennsylvania Extension Foresters played also key roles at the national Invitational. Robert Hansen of Bradford County Co-Chaired the Invitational and David Jackson of Centre County served on the national planning committee for the event.

UPCOMING CURRICULUM AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS (*Claudia Mincemoyer*)

4-H Outdoor Adventures Curriculum Workshop

September 13-14, 2004

Stone Valley Recreation Center

Come to Penn State's Stone Valley Recreation Area and immerse yourself in the brand new 4-H Outdoor Adventures curriculum! This two-day training will cover all three levels of the curriculum and the Helper's Guide. Participants will receive the entire curriculum package as well as a certificate showing completion of the training. Training on skills taught in the curriculum is strongly recommended for extension educators or volunteers who want to offer this project to youth in their counties. Interested extension educators and/or volunteers are encouraged to attend. *The **PSU Outreach Partnership Fund** provided resources to make this workshop available at no cost to participants. The workshop is a joint effort of the Shaver's Creek Environmental Center and Pennsylvania 4-H. **Registration deadline: August 20, 2004.** Contact Claudia Mincemoyer, cxm324@psu.edu for registration information

4-H Camping Update

October 14, 2004 (during October Statewide In-Service)

9 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Penn Stater

This is an annual update for 4-H Camp Directors and other interested educators involved in the 4-H Camping program. Progress made on the 4-H camping database will be shared. Findings from the Statewide 4-H Camper Survey will be shared and discussed. Janet Welsh, Ph.D., PSU Prevention Research Center, will present a session on behavior management in recreational settings. Other issues identified by the camp directors will also be included. Look for registration information in the October In-Service announcement from Staff Development.



4-H Afterschool: Extraordinary Learning Opportunities

Extension Educator Conference

February 16, 1:00 p.m.-February 17, 3:30 p.m.

Celebrations Hall

State College, PA

- ❖ Learn about after-school resources, curricula and activities, and best practices in after-school programming
- ❖ Each participant will receive a 4-H Afterschool Curriculum and Marketing Resource Kit
- ❖ Registration, conference meals, lodging and resource kits funded by USDA Engaging Youth, Serving Communities Grant
- ❖ RFP for concurrent sessions and a Share Fair will be sent in early September
- ❖ Look for registration information in December

Contact Claudia Mincemoyer <cxm324@psu.edu> for additional information.

PA TEAM PLACES FIFTH AT NATIONAL WILDLIFE CONTEST (*Ann Dunkerton, 4H Program Assistant, McKean County and Sanford Smith*)

Four youth from PA attended the National 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program (WHEP) Invitational July 28-August 1 at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA. Rick Hecker, Christina Hecker, and Brennan Stone from Clinton County and Michael Dunkerton from McKean County made up the PA team. Ann Dunkerton from McKean County and Pam Snook from Clinton County were coaches for this year's team. The contest drew teams from 22 states across the nation. The teams competed in their knowledge of wildlife foods, aerial photos, management practices, and in the writing of urban and a rural plans for habitat management.

Overall, the PA team placed 5th in the nation, earning a medal for their achievement. Virginia placed 1st, Tennessee was 2nd, North Carolina placed 3rd. Out of 83 competitors Christina Hecker received individual recognition for placing 8th in management practices and Michael Dunkerton was recognized for earning 10th place in wildlife foods. The 4-H WHEP contest offers an outstanding opportunity for youth to learn leadership, teamwork, and managing our environment. The state contest is held in April during the 4H Wildlife Field Day and is open to 4-H youth, with an exploratory option for ages 8-11 and the contest available to ages 12-19. Competition in the national contest is open to the top winners at the state event ages 14-19.

FASHION REVUE FOLLOW-UP (*Jan Scholl*)

Thanks to all those who made the regional and state revues extra special this year. As usual, we sent the judges suggestion sheets for each member to the 4-H coordinators in each county so they can provide the information to the 4-H members at a later date. Because of our hectic schedule, there are not a lot of comments (though we try to have judges make them for each individual) and we remove the scores as we want the judges to score from 0-100 to have the spread of scores we need to determine winners. (Over the years, I have found that receiving a score less than 90 does not encourage young people to keep participating and building their skills but that the comments are very helpful to them.) Also, just in case you feel you are missing some ribbons, the top 12 winners do not receive the light purple ribbons--only the large purple ribbons presented to them at the event. But, if one ribbon is needed, or should be replaced please contact Jan or Lydia for this replacement. Again, thanks for your assistance. The 2005 fashion revue information, including the deadline dates should be on the 4-H FCS web-site by October 1.

PRAISE: TOO MUCH.... TOO OFTEN? (*Anne Heinsohn*)

Praise is good. Indeed, praise has been touted as critical to developing positive self-esteem in children. Recently, behaviorists indicated that educators and others who work with children and youth may have gone over the top lavishing too much praise too often and doing damage in the process. Teachers, parents and others are encouraged to be generous in giving praise to the children in their charge. However, the problem seems to be not in praise, but rather the type of praise. Praise can be generalized or specific.

Generalized praise is seen as all encompassing, but rather vague. It is often used for itself. Praise is good so be sure to dole some out. It makes people feel good in general and about themselves in particular at least in the short term. Specific praise is directed to the individual for a particular behavior or accomplishment, large or small. Such praise is most effective when it is used to recognize persistence and effort rather than those things one does well naturally. Artistically talented children can be praised for selecting especially attractive colors for their paintings rather than for being good artists.

Praise is indeed good when used with care. In this way praise contributes much to the development of confident and motivated youth.

SALUTE TO EXCELLENCE AND HALL OF FAME NOMINEES RECOGNIZED *(Robert Lewis)*

At this year's State Achievement Days opening night program, seven 4-H leaders were recognized as Salute to Excellence nominees. The 4-H leaders recognized were:

Salute to Excellence - Lifetime Volunteer
Award Honorees

Larry Ackley (McKean County)
Lowell Friedline (Somerset County)
Doug Neely (Venango County)
Connie Rutt (Lancaster County)
Eugene Sweigard (Dauphin County)

Salute to Excellence - Volunteer of the Year
Award Honorees

Andrea Haug (Dauphin County)
Angela Moore (Venango County)

Connie Rutt's and Angela Moore's nomination forms were forwarded on to Washington, DC for national consideration. All of the nominees received plaques from Pennsylvania 4-H and those attending the program and dinner were escorted by a family member or friend.

Bill Lazar, former Venango County Extension Educator and CED and now volunteer, was also honored as the Pennsylvania Hall of Fame nominee.

The 2004 4-H calendar can be found at <http://pa4h.cas.psu.edu>



Robert B. Lewis, Professor
Agricultural & Extension Education

In Consultation with
4-H & Youth Development Faculty & Staff

This publication is available in alternative media on request.

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