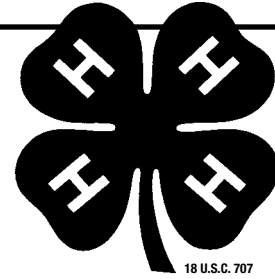




Pennsylvania 4-H Leader



Dear 4-H Leader,

I would like to thank you for another year of service to the 4-H Youth Development organization. Through the donation of your time and talents, the Pennsylvania 4-H program is able to reach 170,000 youth each year. I encourage you to take advantage of educational opportunities to improve and gain new skills as a 4-H leader as well as an individual. As you grow personally, you will be better prepared to guide 4-H members. You are a mentor for youth in your community and provide a caring environment in your club where children can develop a strong sense of belonging. As a role model you provide the guidelines for how individuals are supposed to act.

The 4-H program team is continually working to enhance opportunities for both you and the children with whom you work. A new online record book has been developed for older youth in the livestock program. Using the online recording system will give youth a means for maintaining accurate records over several years while providing easy access to educational resources if they have questions about their animals. For new volunteers, an online introduction to the 4-H program is available. While new volunteers are waiting for their volunteer screening documents to be completed, they can go online to learn more about the 4-H organization. The online resource will also be a great tool for experienced leaders who simply want to refresh their knowledge about 4-H. Ask your 4-H extension educator for more information about both opportunities.

Later this year, horse leaders will have the opportunity to work with new regional staff on educational programs for 4-H members and volunteers. We also have a staff person who is focusing on youth leadership development. You should see more resources becoming available for developing efficient and effective club officers as well as strong teen county council programs.

Enjoy this issue of the *Pennsylvania 4-H Leader*.

Sincerely,

Christy Bartley

Program Leader, 4-H Youth Development

Volunteer Leaders Build 4-H Forever

Plans for the 2008 Leaders Forum to be held February 2 at the Penn Stater Hotel and Conference Center in State College are well under way. We listened to requests from the 2006 forum and have added more project-related workshops. We also have enhanced Friday evening programming for those who have some distance to travel or who want to join us early. Learn more about poultry, leadership, environmental issues, animal science, community development, orienteering, healthy lifestyles, and many other project areas. In addition, participate in workshops that help you organize your club or balance work and life. You may also join sessions that will give you skills for helping club members look at careers and plan for college, make decisions, enhance public speaking skills, or market your club program. Lunch will be a celebration of your giving to the 4-H program. Thomas Dismukes, motivational and inspirational speaker, will be the keynote speaker. More information and registration for the 2008 Leaders Forum can be found online at <http://conferences.cas.psu.edu> or by contacting your county extension office.

—Christy Bartley

Remember the FAIR SHARE Program

Your orders from National 4-H Supply Service can benefit the Pennsylvania 4-H Youth Development Program.

The Fair Share Program will return 10 percent of your total online order to the Pennsylvania 4-H Youth Development Program. Only online orders will receive the 10 percent rebate. Phone and fax orders will not count! Funds collected go to support statewide 4-H programs!

To order, go to: <http://www.4-hmall.org/>.

—Christy Bartley

Pennsylvania Places Fourth in National 4-H Forestry Invitational

Pennsylvania was among 17 states participating in the 28th annual National 4-H Forestry Invitational from Sunday, July 22, through Thursday, July 26. The event was held at West Virginia University's Jackson's Mill State 4-H Camp and Conference Center near Weston, WV. The International Paper Company Foundation, Association of Natural Resources Extension Professionals, and the Cooperative Extension Service sponsored the invitational.

Representing Pennsylvania was Jacqueline Beisel of Clymer, Ashley Kuntz of Blairsville, and David Fluharty and Jonathan Fluharty of Indiana. The team was coached by Deborah Beisel, assisted by Gary Gilmore, Chad Barclay, Raymond Beisel, David Fluharty, and Vickie Fluharty.



National Forestry Invitational Participants

Left to right: Vickie Fluharty, Gary Gilmore, Chad Barclay, David Fluharty II, Ashley Kuntz, Jacqueline Beisel, Jonathan Fluharty, Deborah Beisel, Raymond Beisel, David Fluharty

Illinois won the event. Tennessee and Georgia placed second and third, respectively. Pennsylvania placed fourth. Jacqueline Beisel placed fourth overall in the individual events.

4-H members compete for overall team and individual awards in several categories. Events included a written exam, tree identification and measurement, compass and pacing, insect and disease identification, topographic map use, the Forestry Bowl, and forest evaluation. More than 100,000 youth nationwide participate in the 4-H Forestry Program.—*Robert S. Hansen, senior extension educator, and Sanford Smith, extension specialist*

Pennsylvania 4-H Council

Do you know a young person who is passionate about 4-H and the opportunities it holds? Is there a young person in your county who wants to share the 4-H story? Are they committed, enthusiastic, and ready to take the next steps in their leadership journey?

If you know a young person these statements could be describing, I encourage you to learn more about the Pennsylvania State 4-H Council.

The State Council is a group of young people ages 16-18 who are selected to represent their regions at the state level. Throughout their one-year terms, State Council members attend 4-H events, lead workshops, share the 4-H story with government officials, and represent Pennsylvania 4-H when requested by Penn State faculty, staff, and administration. In all, these young people are the face of Pennsylvania 4-H.

Throughout the last four years, the group has met with Governor Ed Rendell, Lt. Governor Catherine Baker-Knoll, and a cadre of state and national legislators. Yearly highlights include the Pennsylvania Farm Show Governor's Dinner, the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors *Pennsylvania Preferred* Reception, and participation at Ag Progress Days, as well as regional and local fairs, shows, and events. As you might imagine, it is a busy but incredibly fulfilling year.

Nominations are called for in August of each year, with selection made prior to the November 1 deadline. You may send nominations directly to



Dr. Jackie Bruce at jab743@psu.edu or via post mail to 8 Ferguson Building, University Park, PA 16802; or contact your county extension office. For more specific information about Council, visit its website at www.ps4-hc.cas.psu.edu. —*Jacklyn Bruce, assistant professor, Ag and Extension Education*

Climbing the Leadership Ladder

Leadership skill development is becoming more important in today's society, especially for our young people. It's no longer just about being an active 4-H member; it's about being an active, positive citizen of the Commonwealth.

But leadership, like any other set of skills, must be learned in progressive steps. Did you know that the Pennsylvania 4-H program offers young people of all ages the opportunity to learn and to practice positive leadership skills all the way from the club to the national level? From holding an office at the club level to attending one of the three national 4-H events held annually, there are many opportunities for all young people to get involved and to build those skills.

By no means is this an exhaustive list of available opportunities; leadership opportunities are to be found in a variety of places in 4-H. However, it is my hope that this list will help you plan and get involved.

At the **club level**, young people can hold an office, sit on or chair committees, lead games and activities, and plan and participate in fundraising, service projects, or field trips.

At the **county level**, young people can be trained as a County Ambassador, join or be an officer in the County Council, sit on boards or commissions as teen representatives, and plan and participate in fundraising and service projects.

At the **regional level**, young people can join or be an officer in regional

leadership groups or teams and serve as camp counselors.

At the **state level**, young people can be selected as a State 4-H Council member and attend State 4-H Leadership Conference, 4-H Capital Days, and State 4-H Achievement Days.

At the **national level**, young people can attend National 4-H Conference, Citizenship Washington Focus, and National Congress.

For more information on 4-H leadership programs and opportunities, please contact Dr. Jackie Bruce at jab743@psu.edu. —*Jacklyn Bruce*

The 4-H Calendar

February 1-2

2008 Leaders Forum:
Volunteer Leaders Build
4-H Forever

February 3

4-H Day at the Lady
Lions

February 5-7

4-H Afterschool Conference

February 15-17

4-H Leadership Conference

March 16-22

Pennsylvania 4-H Week

March 29-April 3

National 4-H Conference

April 5

SOMK Training

April 13-15

4-H Capital Days

August 5-7

4-H State Achievement Days

October 5-11

National 4-H Week

October 23-26

Northeast Volunteer Leader Forum,
Manchester, NH

November 28-December 2

National 4-H Congress

New Project Books Available

Below are some of the new projects that have been accepted into the Pennsylvania 4-H program over the last year. Decisions on projects are made through curriculum committees that focus on specific program areas. If you would like to review any of the materials below, talk with your 4-H extension educator.



Acres of Adventure

Looking for ways to introduce young people (grades 3-5) to the world of agriculture and life sciences while expanding your collection of fun-filled science activities? Then this resource, which contains two leader guides and forty hands-on lessons, is for you.

The resource books were designed to increase agricultural literacy while developing youth understanding, appreciation, and application of science through a variety of agriculturally based activities. Activities and lessons are centered around the following themes: Plant Detectives, Mystery Agriculture, All about Agriculture, Fast Food Agriculture, Insect Invasion, Farm Physics, Agriculture Gone Wild, and Frontier Living.

Beyond Fair Chase

A new curriculum on the ethics and importance of hunting in wildlife conservation is being pilot tested across Pennsylvania in 2008. Entitled *Beyond Fair Chase*, the new materials are recommended for 4-H'ers ages 14-18, who have an interest in learning about, or



are currently involved in, hunting. This curriculum can help you make linkages between 4-H shooting sports, natural resources, and other environmental projects. All materials will be distributed directly through Extension Specialist Sanford Smith in Penn State's School of Forest Resources. Volunteer leaders should contact their county 4-H educators if interested in testing them out with their group.

4-H Quilting Project

This leader's guide provides not only detailed information with pictures on how to put a quilt together, but also information on color and design. Notebooks are available for loan from your 4-H extension educator.

Get in the Act: Workforce Readiness

This innovative program is designed to help middle school youth explore what it takes to get their first "paying" job. This interactive experience, combining CD and activity guide formats with activities presented in the context of a movie set, helps youth recognize their learning styles and personal qualities. Youth make "real life choices" using video scenarios in the on-the-job choices game. Youth discover how to assess job possibilities in the community and create job scenarios.
—Christy Bartley

Exploring Clothes From Around the World

Today more than ever, youth and adults need to become internationally aware and inter-culturally competent. They need to be prepared to participate effectively in today's diverse workplace and global marketplace. This project uses clothing as a medium to increase awareness of diverse cultures.

Various clothing and dress patterns of selected cultures from around the world are discussed. What are the meanings behind the styles and patterns of dress? Why do Muslim women wear a veil? Why do Amish wear dark, solid colors? Why do



2007 Northeast Leaders Forum, Portland, ME

Left to right: Alaina Biesinger, Robin Kruezt, Shirley Dunn, Shirley Pardoe, Barbara Warburton, Sandy Houston, Jan Scholl

Sikh men wear turbans? Does it make a difference from which side a kimono is wrapped? This project will help 4-H'ers appreciate clothing design and customs from different cultures and countries, as well as consider how our own clothing is influenced by styles around the world. Resources are included for those who would like to create these styles.

—Jan Scholl, associate professor, Ag and Extension Education

2007 Northeast Leaders Forum

Pennsylvania's was the largest delegation at the Northeast Leaders Forum on Healthy Lifestyles, October 11–14 in Portland, Maine. Hands-on workshops involved both adults and teens in physical activity, cooking, science experiments, and the sharing of resources. Specially prepared menus and fabulous tours were provided. Some participants, for example, toured the sports center at the University of New England at Biddeford. We also saw a lighthouse and experienced a real nor'easter!
—Jan Scholl

PREPARED BY CHRISTY BARTLEY, 4-H PROGRAM LEADER, IN CONSULTATION WITH 4-H FACULTY AND STAFF

Visit Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences on the Web: www.cas.psu.edu

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This publication is available in alternative media on request.

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