



*New York State Association of  
Cornell Cooperative Extension  
4-H Educators*

**News & Views  
Summer Edition  
2009**

## NEWS & VIEWS

### **President's Message by Megan Tifft, Tompkins County**

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the NYSACCE4-HE Professional Development Conference this spring. Thank you very much to the Professional Development Committee for pulling together such a great event. Also, congratulations to all of our award winners and thank you to the Association Awards and Recognition committee. What a special event the awards dinner was! I was in awe of the accomplishments of our Association members.



It seems like the topic of "The Benefits of NYSACCE4-HE and NAE4-HA Membership" has become one of more and more importance during these very tough economic times. "Lets make a brochure, a flyer or a presentation to share with people the benefits of membership"....all things I have heard and we have done. What if more CCE professionals got to witness the amazing camaraderie that existed at the Conference this spring, got to hear the words of pride shared at the Awards and Recognition event, and had the fortune of experiencing the professional development opportunities we did?

SO...when we go back to our Counties and Districts, lets use those brochures, flyers and presentations to promote this Association but also use ENCOURAGEMENT. Encourage your ED's to support membership and involvement, encourage your colleagues to get involved and I encourage you to continue to utilize this very important Professional Organization during these tough times.

Have a wonderful Summer!

*Megan*

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## Marketing and Information Committee Report

The Marketing and Information Committee met April 8<sup>th</sup> and we are happy to report that we had 13 entries this year in 5 categories. We are pleased to announce the Communicator Award entries that were selected as state winners and were forwarded on for regional and national consideration:



Promotional Piece (Individual) –

Shawn Tiede, Wyoming County

News Story - John F. Bowe, Warren County

Published Photo- John F. Bowe

Periodical Publication (Team) –

Submitted by John F. Bowe, Warren County

Promotional Piece (Team) – Submitted by Mark Wittmeyer, Livingston County

## South Central District Report

The District Meeting was held May 4, 2009. We welcomed new Cortland County 4-H staff member Rebecca Ireland Perry. Kelly Adams shared a really cool new idea for a fund raiser called the “Wii A-Thon.” If anyone is interested, please let Kelly know. Megan will be preparing a written tutorial for setting up and using Wikis. Megan will also be presenting on Wikis at the next Educator meeting September 14.

We continue to discuss ways in which we can work smarter, not harder. We are utilizing the Wiki that was created for our District and we are serving as more of support system to each other.

A lot of discussion occurred around District-wide events, sharing of responsibilities, having all events in Broome County and setting budgets for the year for each event. We are really working towards simplifying and keeping costs down. Many ideas were shared on Capital Days and we all really like the idea of expanding the program to include Sunday night. Other ideas were shared with Capital Days reps.

Shared information about the 2009 NAE4-HA Conference and about volunteer opportunities. Many folks from our District are planning to attend and/or assist.

## Ask Uncle Al—Mentoring Committee Report

Dear Uncle Al,

I'm a new 4-H Youth Development Educator and I have received an application to become part of an association called New York State Association of Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Educators. Should I become a member?

Sincerely,

Wanda Haffrenz

Dear Wanda,

Yes, indeed you should become a member of this wonderful association. As an 4-H educator this is a great opportunity to meet people that are willing to share ideas. NYSACCE4-HE is the only professional organization for 4-H Youth Development Educators in New York State. Other forms of benefit for being part of this organization is the networking of ideas, building friendships, discovering mentoring relationships. There are lots of Professional Development opportunities at the state and national levels. As a member you will receive the News and Views newsletter that is filled with information for the educator. Members of this association can apply for awards and scholarships to further their knowledge, also to show what they have done with their own county. Joining the NYSACCE4-HE Association not only provides you with state and national opportunities, it also gives you a chance to work on a variety of committees with your colleagues. If you would like more information contact Shawn Tiede at 585-786-2251 or [srt28@cornell.edu](mailto:srt28@cornell.edu)

2009 FIRST  
TIME NATIONAL  
CONFERENCE  
SCHOLARSHIP  
WINNER IS  
GUINEVERE E.  
SMITH FROM  
ORLEANS  
COUNTY!  
CONGRATS  
GUIN



## Capital District Report

The Capital District met on March 20, 2009. At that meeting we hosted Family and Consumer Science as well as Ag groups for a joint speaker with the topic: "Keeping Your Balance In Turbulent Times." Bill Mathews, Professor/Counselor, Columbia-Greene Community College.

At the meeting we also planned and discussed state and district reports, activities, and competitions. We decided to submit for Professional Development funds from ACCEE to hold an "Afterschool Universe" Training in June. On May 7th, the 4-H Educators were invited to attend training hosted by the Ag Educators on Social Networking Sites on the Web. After the training we had a meeting at which we discussed statewide committees and follow-up on district events and activities. Our next meeting will be in September.

## Member Spotlight

### Featured in this issue: Chrys Nestle, Washington County 2009 Meritorious Service Award Winner

**Number of years involved with 4-H:**

Joined 4-H when I was 10 years old; volunteered as the 4-H Teen Council advisor for 5 years before becoming a 4-H "Staff Associate" in July 1987. Also worked as a 4-H EFNEP intern in Washington County and a 4-H summer intern in Saratoga County during the summers



**Last book you have read:** Izzy & Lenore – Jon Katz (a local author)

**Favorite dessert:** Today it's a pie with a layer of raspberries in lite syrup, a layer of cream cheese and whipped cream, and melted semi-sweet chocolate drizzled on top.

**What have you gained from being a member of NYSACCE4-HE:** Very dear friends!; great programming ideas!; new tools to do "old" programs; the opportunities to gather pearls of wisdom from others as well as drop a few of my own; laughs & "tingles"

**Why is attending a National Conference important:** Exposure to resources from across the nation, the opportunity to work on committees to move the profession forward, learn from others who bring a different perspective to youth development programming when coming from a different state and county.

**Best way to spend the day:** long walks on country roads followed by good food, good wine and family and friends on the front porch.

**Proudest moment (work-related, and personal):** Seeing 4-H youth perform in a setting where the audience is more than 4-H folks and watching them "wow" the crowd – most recently we had a 4-Her speak on our (CCE) behalf at a county budget hearing. Personally it's watching my own children mature whether it's graduating from high school; moving onto college or the military; making the area All Star team – it's their accomplishments that make me proud (even though I cannot claim total responsibility for any of their successes!!!)