



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

News & Views

Summer 2007

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President's Message

Patti Zellmer, Ulster County

In just a few minutes I will be going to the 4-H static judging of the Ulster County Fair. For me this is one of the highlights of 4-H Youth Development. First hand, I will be able to see many results of our New York 4-H Youth Development Goal:

Teach knowledge and life skills which enhance the quality of life

Literally hundreds of exhibits will be evaluated face to face. One youth, one caring adult will evaluate the knowledge and life skills required in each 4-H Project. The projects will include cookies, clothing, arts, photography, rockets, horticulture, education exhibits, special club projects, community service, natural resources, and un-named others!

How do we measure the knowledge and life skills gained? In the face to face meeting, the Evaluators use a special Ulster County tool: The Project Summary Sheet. Ulster County (with the help from Tompkins County!) has developed a ½ sheet Project Summary Sheet which includes the Targeting Life Skills Model. Each 4-H Project entered in the fair MUST have this documentation. Each child identifies the knowledge and life skills they have gained through their 4-H Project.

The questions include:

- What life skills did you use in completing this project?
- Describe a time when you might need or use the life skills you used in this project for another activity or project.

4-H "Judging" at the County Fair is one the most fulfilling and exciting days for an Educator to see how the 4-H Youth Program is reaching the goal to Teach knowledge and life skills which enhance the quality of life!

DEVELOPING STAFF,
BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS,
MARKETING OUR PROFESSION...

Ask Uncle Al

The "Ask Uncle Al" column is written by the Mentoring Task Force in honor of retired Educator and well known mentor from Seneca County, Al Woodward. Please send your questions related to being a new staff member in CCE 4-H Youth Development to Brenda Carpenter at btc6@cornell.edu.

Select questions will be posted in News and Views. All emails will receive a thoughtful, caring response.

Dear Uncle Al,

I have become a member of the NYSACCE4-HE Association and I am enjoying the benefits of my membership and now I'd like to do something to help out. Are there committees I can join and how would I do this?

Signed,

Nita Hand

Dear Nita,

Thank you for your offer to help out. In the Association we have many active committees that can always use another volunteer. Learn more about these opportunities by going to our website: <http://nys4h-aff.cce.cornell.edu/ACCE4-HE.php>. In the meantime, let me introduce you to some of the ways you can become more involved:

- You can volunteer as an officer for your district committee (which facilitates your county programs by uniting district people and resources and increases your networking).
- Offer to serve as a representative to the Board of the NYSACCE4-HE for your District Committee - this is the inner loop of the State 4-H Youth Development program where you share and learn and hear reports from all districts, all committees and the State 4-H Office and Foundation on a quarterly basis. You also make important decisions that impact the statewide program. Big responsibilities of making decisions and bringing information back and forth and big benefits.
- If you like raising funds (and fun) - join the fundraising committee
- If you want to be connected professionally to staff opportunities and enjoy organizing events for colleagues, join the Professional Development Committee
- If you care about new staff and welcoming them to our profession, join the Mentoring Committee
- Capital Days - if you are interested in improving and implementing

- Capital Days - if you are interested in improving and implementing this important event in Albany for 4-H Youth Development
- Nominating - if you know many members and would like to encourage some to take more leadership of the Association
- Awards - if you would like to witness the incredible experiences and achievements of your colleagues, get some ideas for yourself, and help to recognize this important 4-H YD work
- Marketing - Have a talent for marketing or an interest in learning more? Join the Marketing group.

AND some benefits you will enjoy by becoming a member of one of these Committees:

Networking

- Share program ideas
- Build friendships
- Create partnerships and shared Program development
- Discover mentoring relationships

Voice

- Connections to state and national partners
- Shape policy and the future of the 4-H youth development program through representation on state & national boards and committees
- Advocacy for important youth development issues

AND

Find many opportunities to develop leadership and group skills.

According to some, the best committee (task force for now) is Mentoring. The mentoring committee is a great way to share your knowledge with your colleagues. New 4-H staff, or experienced staff with new responsibilities, can be paired with another 4-H staff member with expertise in that area to mentor and provide friendly advice to the newbie. The Mentoring Committee has helpful materials to guide mentors and mentees. If you have skills to share, or would like to be paired up with a mentor, talk to a Mentoring Committee member.

Whatever committee you choose, be prepared to learn lots and have a great time with your colleagues! Good Luck!

Sincerely,

Uncle Al

- Who:** All NYSACCE4-HE District Officers
All NYSACCE4-H District Board of Directors
All NYSACCE4-H State Committee Officers
- Where:** System Wide Conference – Ithaca, NY
- When:** Friday, October 12th, 10:30 am (Workshop #5)
- Purpose:** The 2007 Officer Team will provide training on the Association roles and expectations of leadership positions. This training is designed to give our association district leadership teams and state committee chairs an orientation to their positions. We coined the term 4-H2O in an effort to symbolize how important our Districts and Committees are to the efficient and smooth running of our state association, just as water is to our individual well-being.
- Why Come:** It will be FUN! Meet new people! It will introduce you to our leadership directory/handbook. You are guaranteed to walk away with several 4-H gizmos!! The session will be capped off with a NYSACCE4-HE Bowl!!

Notes from the President

Make sure you mark your calendars... **October 9-12, 2007** for The System-Wide Conference!!! There are MANY excellent sessions in the 4-H track. The 4-H Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 11.

4-H H2O

District and Committee officers make sure to sign up for the 4-H2O Leadership Training on Friday, October 12, 10:30 am (session 5). See System-Wide Conference Invitation for details.

2008 Nominations

Nominating Committee's Goals Met

Bernie Wiesen

Thanks to the Nominating Committee who worked very hard and efficiently to be able to present to our membership the following candidates for the new officers of 2008. The nominating committee was made up of Jennifer Collins from North Central, Syd McEvoy from South Central, Linda Wegner from Capital, Tom Davis from South East, Chip Malone from Western and Tim Davis from Finger Lakes. It was very apparent as we discussed candidates, that we are very fortunate to have such a vast pool of possible officers to work with in our membership. It was very difficult to sift out who to contact first. Equally fortunate, is the fact that the following four outstanding members agreed to run. The willingness of these members to step up to new leadership challenges and add yet one more thing to their plates was also very gratifying and appreciated. So, thank you to all the candidates for saying "yes". Please take this early opportunity to read up on the candidates and interact with them as you cross paths over the summer and early fall. We will be voting again this year electronically, so please be watching your email in September so you can cast your vote for the offices of Vice President and Secretary. You should all be reminded that Barbara Stevens, our present Vice President, will be moving up to the President position and Shawn Tiede will be completing his second year of the Treasury term in 2008.

2008 Candidates

Vice President Candidates: Angela Waligora and Megan Tifft

For the past 7 years, I have served as the 4-H Youth Development Program Leader for Wyoming County. Currently, I am an 80% FTE (to allow more time with my daughters, ages 1 and 3,) and my responsibilities include dairy cattle, goats, dogs, natural resources, and overall program supervision. Born and raised in Ohio County, West Virginia, I was an active 4-H'er for 13 years (WV allows membership until 21.) I worked for WVU Extension through college, and served as a Summer Assistant, 4-H Program Assistant, 4-H Camping Assistant, and AmeriCorps Mentor. Upon graduation from West Virginia University with degrees in Agricultural Education and Animal Science, I moved to New York and earned a Masters Degree in Counselor Education from Canisius College in Buffalo.

Within the Western District 4-H Educators, I served as Secretary for 2 terms and am currently serving as Vice Chair. In addition, I serve as the coordinator for the Western District 4-H Dairy



Angela Waligora – Wyoming County

2008 Candidates (Continued)

Angie Walligora (continued)

Events, and for the State 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Contest at State Fair. I have represented the Western District on several committees and Task Forces, including the State Dairy Committee, Mentoring Task Force, and the 4-H Foundation Grant Review, and I have been a presenter at ACCEE and 4-H Educators conferences, where I have been asked to discuss Wyoming County 4-H on several panel discussions.

I have gained a great deal from being involved with NYSACCE4-HE. The fabulous network of fellow Educators from around the state is certainly among the most valuable. I am honored to be considered for Vice President, and if elected, will be committed to fulfilling the responsibilities the position.



Megan Tift
Tomkins County

I grew up in Vermont spending much of my time on my grandparents Holstein farm and was in the 4-H Dairy Program for 10 years.

I attended the University of Vermont for my undergraduate degree in Animal Science and received a graduate degree from UVM in 2001 in Educational Leadership. I worked for the University of Vermont Extension as a 4-H Educator in the Southeast Region (2 counties, including the 1 I grew up in) for 4 years and then moved to Golden, CO. to work as 4-H Agent for 2 years. Because I wanted to be closer to my family in Vermont, I have luckily ended up in NY and I serve as the 4-H Youth Development Team Coordinator in Tompkins County.

I have been in Extension for 10 years and have been actively involved in NAE4-HA for 9 years. While in Vermont I served as the State Vice President for 1 year and the President for 2 years. I have also been serving as a Northeast Regional Director for NAE4-HA for 2 years (I go off the Board at this year's conference). The experience of serving as Regional Director has taught me so much about the National Association and about the ins and outs of how a National Board is run. I think those experiences make me a qualified candidate for V.P. of the NYSACCE4-HE. Being a part of NAE4-HA and the State Association has provided me with camaraderie, support, passion and knowledge; without those, life as a 4-H Educator can be extremely challenging!

2008 Candidates (Continued)

Secretary Candidates: Jennifer Jensen and JoAnn Richards

Hi! My name is Jennifer Jensen and I am a 4-H Resource Educator in Ontario County. This marks my 4th year working in Ontario having previously been a summer assistant, 4-H leader and parent in Yates County. My background includes being a graduate of SUNY Plattsburgh with a degree in Home Economics Education and a MS from Elmira College in Elementary Education. Using my education and experiences in all areas of 4-H, I strive to make the program the best youth development program for the youth and families of Ontario County. This includes activities to encourage participation in new programs or challenges to learn new skills across all 4-H areas. Program areas that I work with include family and consumer skills, club management, public presentations, county and state fair.

We encourage our 4-H members to have a feeling of belonging in our programs. Supporting professional organizations for we as educators is just as important. NYSACCE4-HE has been an important tool in my career success as a 4-H Educator. Becoming involved at any level is how members know what the organization is about and what it can do for you.

My district and state leadership experiences include:

NYSACCE4-HE
Marketing and Information Committee Co-chair 2006-2007

Finger Lakes District 4-H Educators
District Secretary 2005-2007
NY State Fair Advisory Committee 2004-2007

New York State Fair Youth Building
Teen Evaluator Key Leader 2005-2007

4-H has been a terrific part of my professional and personal life and I would appreciate the opportunity to give back to my colleagues in the 4-H family. I would be pleased to have your support for electing me secretary of our NYSACCE4-HE.

Thank you,
Jennifer

Jennifer Jensen,
Ontario County



2008 Candidates (Continued)

It's with great honor that I accept the nomination to run for Secretary of our NYSACCE4-HE. As our system and personnel continue to change, I realize there are members to whom I need to introduce myself. My name is JoAnn Richards. I was hired in 1994 as the 4-H Program Coordinator in Herkimer County. Having survived re-structuring and budget cuts over the years, my title has changed from Coordinator to Program Assistant to Program Educator. My previous experience was as a Special Education Teaching Assistant in a public school and many volunteer capacities in numerous youth serving community organizations. My main responsibilities have centered around club recruitment/ volunteer management. A particular passion of mine has been our school enrichment Government Internship Program.

I have been a proud member of NYSACCE4-HE and NAE4-HA since 1996, during which time I have served the North Central District as Chair (1999-2002), Vice Chair (2003) and currently Secretary. I have also been a member of the Capital Days Committee 1998-2002 serving as Chair in 2001; Staff Development & Planning Committee 2000 and 2002; Fund Development Committee 2005; Marketing & Information Committee 2006; and NYS 4-H Public Presentation Statewide Committee.

Most recently it's been my pleasure to serve as a new staff mentor.

In addition to the remarkable professional development and leadership opportunities, the most important difference this Association has made in my life has been the tremendous camaraderie and valuable friendships offered to one another.

As a potential Board officer I hope to expand upon the importance of our supporting one another during the tough as well as the good times, and improving communication between the Board and the general membership to guarantee an inclusive organization for all our members. Another issue I'd like to promote is to continue the practice from our 2006 conference to re-institute an orientation / training inviting newly elected district level officers, Board Representatives, committee members, and anyone who is interested in learning more about what is involved in holding these positions and how our Association works. I look forward to fulfilling the responsibilities of the office of Secretary to the best of my abilities.



JoAnn Richards
Herkimer County

Rich McCaffery Retires



Mary Fairley, Awards and Recognition Committee member, presents to Rich McCaffery at his retirement celebration, a clock in honor of his contributions to NYSACCE4-HE through out his career and congratulations on his retirement.

On Friday, July 13th at the Lake Front Park in Cooperstown, there was a community celebration for Rich and his 33 years of service to Cornell Cooperative Extension. In true “Rich” style, he was dapper as usual, sporting a light weight salmon colored blazer which was the talk of the night. It was a wonderful evening with a perfect summer park setting and wonderful weather as the back drop. Displays were meticulously in place which consisted of plaques, awards, record books, pictures and much more that represented not only Rich’s professional career, but his youth as a 4-H member in Riverhead on Long Island. There was a great turnout of colleagues, community members, volunteers and friends to recognize Rich for all his contributions and to wish him well. Rich is officially a life member thanks to so many contributions from our association members. In addition to the life membership, there was enough money contributed to replace his 4-H Fleece jacket that he so graciously and literally, once took from his back and handed to Patti Zellmer. Just a side note – it was clear that Rich was well known for his contributions and generosity to his county community, much like our association. In keeping with that, even in retirement, when a park neighbor wandered out of his house to walk his dog in the park as the festivities were wrapping up, he asked if he could have some cookies. The answer was a resounding yes, even though Rich had no idea who he was. The dog walker happily piled his plate with goodies and went back to his driveway and ultimately back into his house to enjoy Rich’s refreshments.

Mary Ann Scharmberg Livingston County

We had a very enlightening program in the morning of our joint meeting of Finger Lakes and Western Districts on June 11th. Jane Earle from the Cornell Center for Materials Research along with several grad students talked and showed us what polymers were all about. We watched as a plastic soda bottle reached its collapsing point as the polymers were re-arranged. Another rotation brought us to checking the strength of plastic bags –the type from the supermarket. It was amazing how many large washers were used to tear a piece cut from the length of the bag versus the width. (My college textiles professor would have been proud when I compared the lengthwise and horizontal strength of a plastic bag to the warp and weft of fabric weaving!) Another young man spoke about the coding on the bottom of plastics and how long plastics live in garbage heaps. Then we re-grouped and were given the assignment to create a material using bubble gum, bingo chips, Q-tips and other easily found substances to build a material for bridge construction. What creations ensued! Our minds were flexed and strengthened by this mini-workshop. Thanks to a Science and Technology grant we were able to invite Jane and students to our meeting. A dish-to-pass and barbecue followed at Letchworth State Park North Shelter where we met.

The afternoon was spent with business meetings—state and individual districts. Our next meeting will be September 14, 2007 at a place to be arranged.

Editor's Note

Fred Lauf Dutchess County

To help inspire ideas for submissions, each *News and Views* will have a theme drawn from the NYS 4-H Goals. The theme for this issue is: “to teach knowledge and life skills which enhance the quality of life”. The winter issue (October 1 deadline) theme is “to create opportunities which promote positive youth development”.

FEBRUARY

- 14 State Board Meeting – New York State Fairgrounds
21-23 Joint Council of Extension Professionals Regional Leadership Workshops 2007, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania

MARCH

- 5-6 4-H Capital Days

APRIL

- 15 *News & Views* spring issue deadline – Please email to Fred Lauf with “News and Views” in the subject line.
Theme: Engaging young people in the work of the Land-Grant University and USDA
23-25 Public Issues Leadership Development Conference in Washington

MAY

- 10 State Board Meeting – Cornell University

JULY

- 15 *News & Views* summer issue Deadline – Please email to Fred Lauf with “News and Views” in the subject line.
Theme: Teach knowledge and life skills which enhance the quality of life

AUGUST

- 1 2008 Budget Request due to Treasurer

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Districts hold elections and make recommendations for committee representatives to the president-elect (Vice President Barb Stevens).
Committee Chair-Elect names submitted to president-elect (Vice President Barb Stevens)
11 State Board Meeting – New York State Fairgrounds
15 Annual Report Information due to Fred Lauf – please put “Annual Report” in the subject line.

OCTOBER

- 1 *News & Views Fall* issue deadline – Please email to Fred Lauf with “News and Views” in the subject line.
Theme: Create opportunities which promote positive youth development
9-12 Annual State Conference (ACCEE) – Cornell
21-25 NAE4HA Conference, Atlanta, Georgia

NOVEMBER

- 1 Start of New Offices (State and District) and Committee Chairs

DECEMBER

- 1 Deadline for NYSACCE4-HE Memberships for Awards allocations
3 Association Officers meet in Syracuse
4 State Board meeting - New York State Fairgrounds



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

All Extension Educators, Specialists, Cornell Faculty and Extension Administrators, who have an interest in youth development are welcome to join the New York State Association of Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Educators as full members. Annual dues paid at a National or State Level. Those joining the National Association for the first time will receive a 50% discount on their National membership (\$32.50). National membership entitles you to national and state news and Views newsletters, membership rates at professional improvement conferences, the opportunity to participate on the board or directors and/or standing committees for the association. Most importantly, association membership provides a close network of professional relationships with other youth development educators in New York and across the nation. **To meet National Award deadlines membership dues are payable by December 1st. Please take a few minutes to complete the application information below and return this application and check made out to NYSAC-CE4-HE to the association Vice-President, Barb Stevens. This membership automatically makes you an ACCEE member.**

Name: _____ Title: _____

Complete Mailing Address _____

Telephone: (_____) _____, **Fax** (_____) _____, **Email** _____

Number of years employed by CCE _____, % Time assigned to 4-H Youth Development work _____

Association Committee I would like to be a member of:

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Development Task Force | <input type="checkbox"/> Member Recognition & Awards | <input type="checkbox"/> Nominating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing & Information | <input type="checkbox"/> Staff Development & Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Capital Days |
| <input type="checkbox"/> History | <input type="checkbox"/> Mentoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Audit |

NAE4-HA receives requests to share its database for research or evaluation studies. These studies might seek to involve you as a pilot test facilitator or involve you as a research subject.

I GIVE CONSENT TO BE CONTACTED: YES ___/NO ___ as a research subject aiming to enhance or understand the profession and/or the professional.

Agent District

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Western ___ | North Central ___ |
| Finger Lakes ___ | South Central ___ |
| Capital ___ | South East ___ |
| Cornell University ___ | |

Type of Membership

- Renewal (state and national \$85)
- New Member (state and national \$55)
- State Only (\$25)
- National Life Member (\$195)
- State Life Member (\$75)

Make Checks Payable to NYSACCE4-HE Return to
Barb Stevens, 4-H Youth Development
CCE of Albany County
P.O. Box 479 Voorheesville, NY 12186