

State Honor Club Newsletter

October 1996



Volume 1, Number 2

Editor's Corner by Deric McClard

What do Honor Club members do? They may become involved in educational, recreational and community service activities. They may assume an active role in 4-H shows, fairs and workshops. They may even participate in exchange opportunities with other-states or through the 4-H/LABO program. In many ways, Tennessee 4-H Honor Club members are called upon to be leaders in their schools and communities, to set positive examples. But, how can one do this? What is leadership?

Consider this quote:

To know why to do something is **wisdom**.

To know how to do it is **skill**.

To know when to do it is **judgment**.

To strive to do it best is **dedication**.

To do it for the benefit of others is service.

To want to help others is compassion.

To do this quietly is **humility**.

To get the job done is achievement.

To get others to do all these things is leadership.

Leadership

by Heather Hull

Heather is a senior at the University of Maryland at College Park pursuing a bachelor of science degree in general agriculture and a bachelor of arts degree in journalism. She gained her interest in agriculture by growing up on a

dairy farm in Westminster, Maryland, and by participating in projects through 4-H. This is also where she acknowledged her artistic side, through her 12 year involvement in the photography, leadership and citizenship projects. Heather wants to combine her fields by getting a job in agriculture public relations and eventually by obtaining both a master's and a doctorate degree.

Someone once said, "It's time to move on to the next stone in the stream of life; sometimes the stones are slippery, sometimes they are wet and sometimes they are sturdy, but each offers its own unique challenge." Throughout my 12-year 4-H involvement, I came to believe that the program itself contained many stepping stones. There are many levels of activities with which to get involved, and depending on timing, your personality and your competition, the activity may have been slippery, wet or sturdy. The recommendation I have is to try your own footing and to find the stone upon which you want to stand. There are also no true steps to finding leadership or being a leader, but I can give you six recommendations based on my experience as both Co-Chair of National 4-H Congress and as a teacher of photography, leadership and citizenship workshops:

1. Take advantage of every opportunity that life offers you. Sometimes these opportunities come at the strangest times and often in disguise. It's your job to locate them and jump on them when they come along. Someone said, "go out on a limb: that's where the fruit is!"

2. Volunteer for activities. If you give freely of your time, you will benefit tremendously from the experience. It becomes known that you are willing to help out and people ask you to do more, giving you more opportunities to learn and lead. Some experiences I have had are participating with Riding with Handicap (a therapeutic riding program) and Kids on the Block (a puppeteer troupe promoting handicap awareness).
3. Practice speaking in front of groups and do public speaking projects. This helps your confidence in standing in front of an audience. Most people listen to those who project confidence rather than those who sound unsure of themselves.
4. Listen to and surround yourself with inspirational things. This has always helped me to be inspired, positive and motivated so I could go out and try to inspire and motivate others. Some books I recommend are Chicken Soup for the Soul and Life's Little Instruction Book. If you get a chance, go to a conference with an inspirational speaker. Also, listen to an audio tape of or read a book by Zig Ziglar.
5. Take responsibility for your own actions. As a teenager it's up to you to respond to people in your own way. My recommendation is to think before you act and to consider other people's feelings and positions. That way you get everyone involved if you ask what they think about the situation.
6. Be organized. If you are prepared and organized, chances are the project will get easier as it goes along because you have already done the leg work. An important aspect of organization is follow-through. In other words, if you say you are going to do something, do it in a timely manner; otherwise you will have lost the trust of the person who asked you to do the work.

oink! oink!

State 4-H Market Hog Show-
Murfreesboro
January 23-24, 1997

Ask your Extension agent for details.

Bradley County Honor Club Report

*by Jennifer Anderson, Bradley County
4-H member*

One of my favorite projects is to go to the pediatric center of the hospital. There we set up a face painting station and prepare a room for prizes and games. We have a "play" hospital where not only the children in the hospital, but also the children in our community can bring their stuffed animals that have been torn. We admit the "special patients" in our hospital, fix their tears, attach a Band-Aid to help in the "recovery" and send them to the "recovery room." We began this program so children in the hospital can have some fun. Many parents bring their children to our "stuffed animal hospital" in hopes that we will show them that doctors and hospitals do not have to be so scary.

Attention:

UT Block and Bridle Roundup-Knoxville
March 1, 1997

Ask your Extension agent for more details.

Everything I Ever Needed to Know I Learned in 4-H

*by Johnny Angel, a Campbell County 4-H
alumni member*

Everything I ever needed to know I learned in 4-H.

There in the classroom; on the playground; at camp; in Washington, D.C., in Memphis; and lots of places few and far between I learned these things-both great and small:

First I learned that God loves you and me. This was easy to see because I watched 4-H'ers who believed and lived what they believed. They were always making the best better by helping others and trying their best.

But I also learned to respect other religions, races and cultures. Perhaps it was that constant footer on the 4-H letterhead that said we didn't discriminate against races, religions and other stuff. Or it could have been that first-hand experience in meeting people of other races and religions and learning that we had a lot in common.

Next I learned about life. Though my classmates often claimed I had no life because I was always working at something, can they really say they know how to have real fun like we do in 4-H? Do they have the strong, lifelong friendships that we've developed? Can they run up to strangers and develop great friendships in almost no time? Do they have a wonderful time waiting for them after school - whether it's college or working somewhere? Yes, God has sent 4-H to give us life and give it more abundantly!

But I also learned simple things like how to keep records; how to make posters; how to do interviews; how to give speeches; how to lead; how to be a citizen; how to write letters; how to say please, thank you, I love you and I really mean it; how to say hello, goodbye and what to say in between; how to hug; how to smile; how to laugh; how to sing; how to

dance; how to fill out a yellow card; how to be myself and be happy about that.

The most important thing I learned was to never give up. Though it seemed like I would never win a contest or get anywhere, I can now say I've given 4-H my best, and I don't regret a thing I've done in 4-H.

And though it seems like I've reached the end of 4-H, I'm really just beginning. I feel like the richest person on earth because I have friends like you. Yes, I will continue to give my all to 4-H. I will return as an adult leader, continue to see my friends and help others learn everything they need to know about life in 4-H!

Looking for a CAPitOL
experience?

State 4-H Congress
April 20-22,1997

Ask your Extension agent about
this exciting opportunity.

Lead! Serve! Inspire!

Have you considered participating in the Leadership, Citizenship, Poster or Public Speaking contests? These are wonderful ways for 4-H'ers to get involved, to compete with and learn from other 4-H'ers, and most important, to learn about themselves! For 4-H members interested in the Leadership or Citizenship competitions, records have to be in to the state office by February 10. Those who are selected as state finalists will win a trip to State 4-H Congress in Nashville and will be given an opportunity to compete for the coveted "silver tray" and a scholarship to National 4-H Congress. Those 4-H'ers whose

posters are selected as state winners will have the honor of having their artwork on display both at State 4-H Congress and also at the Mid South Fair. Each of these 10 state winners will receive a \$50 savings bond. District Public Speaking winners are also given the opportunity to attend State 4-H Congress and to compete for top honors. If you take an active role in leadership or citizenship, if you enjoy drawing or if your talents include speaking in public, then ask your 4-H agent about these wonderful opportunities.

Make Plans Now to Attend Roundup and National 4-H Congress!

Plan now to attend the 1997 Tennessee 4-H Roundup to be held at The University of Tennessee-Knoxville, July 21-25. The first step in your plan toward earning a scholarship to attend Roundup is to submit your 4-H project record book for evaluation. Members

who have one of the top 10 records in each project in the state earn the right to attend Roundup with most of their expenses paid. Records are due in the State 4-H Office no later than May 5, 1997. Records will be due in your county 4-H office before that date. Ask your 4-H agent about the date records are due in your county. Each county may submit a maximum of six (three Level I and three Level II records in each project for state competition. State winners in Level II will win a trip to National 4-H Congress and a silver tray. State Level I winners will receive a \$500 scholarship and the Horizon Award.

Ben T. Powell

Ben T. Powell,
Professor & Leader, 4-H



E12-2015-00-013-97

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Agricultural Extension Service Billy G. Hicks, Dean

**AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE
P.O. BOX 1071
KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE 37901-1071**

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