

TAE4-HW Headlines

Volume 7:1

December, 2007

Tennessee Association of Extension 4-H Workers



Important Reminders

- **Thoughts from our TAE4-HW President**
- **News from NAE4-HA**
Recognizing Winners
Reflections from Atlanta
Submit your 4-H Story
- **Bits and Pieces**
Ideas for 4-H S.E.T.
- **Send news for the next issue of Headlines by March 1, 2008**

To submit articles for Headlines, send to Kathy Finley, Editor
Robertson County
514 Hill Street,
Springfield, TN 37172
615-384-7936, fax 615-382-2302
kbfinley@utk.edu

From the President's Desk

by Darrell Hale, TAE4-HW President

Good morning! As I am sitting at my desk this brisk November morning trying to decide how to address the members of TAE4-HW, my mind wanders (does that a lot these days) to the year I first became acquainted with the Association. I traveled to Cookeville to attend the Charter meeting of the state association. I arrived early and visited one of my collegiate friends and his family and never made it to the organizational meeting of TAE4-HW. I have always regretted the fact that I did not attend the meeting and therefore was not a charter member of TAE4-HW. I later joined the association, the next year, and have been active since joining.

I hope you will join or renew your membership this year and not have any regrets about not joining sooner. I hope you will get involved in "Your" association as soon as possible. Write articles for Headlines about something you are doing in your 4-H programs.

Volunteer to serve as Regional Director, Committee Chair, or one of the Executive Board Offices. Teach a poster session, seminar, or serve in other capacities in the state or national organization. Simply put TAE4-HW needs you! Don't wait to be asked to serve.

My goals as President this year are very simple. I want to get you involved, encourage you to attend both state and national meetings, and continue to improve communication within our organization. TAE4-HW continues to give me an encouraging "shot in the arm" to continue working with the young people we serve.

The deadline for membership dues to be sent to national is fast approaching. Fill out your check and member information and send it to your Regional Director Meagen Brown in the Eastern Region, Carol McDonald in the Central Region, Tracy Hagan in

the Western Region, or Lori Belew in the Specialist Region. The future of our organization is depending on you.

If you have issues involving 4-H that you would like us to discuss with the deans staff, state 4-H staff, or the Vice President, please send them to me. I am elected to represent you and I intend to do that to the best of my ability. If I can be of service, please let me know.

I wish for you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. May your 2008 be the best year ever!

Darrell Hale

Headlines, December, 2007, page 2

Tennessee Winners Recognized

by Donna Bradley, NAE4-HA Southern Region Director

Tennessee was well-represented when the distinguished list of winners were recognized at the national conference in Atlanta. Congratulations to the following TAE4-HW members.

Meritorious Service Award--Mitch Beaty

Achievement in Service Award--Grant Palmer, Janet Newton

Distinguished Service Award—Michael Barry, Tim Cross, Staci Foy, Wayne Key

Air Force Recruiting Salute Award--Dr. Doyle Meadows

25 years of service--Janet Cluck, Larry Moorehead, Camille Jessee

Previous TAE4-HW members, no longer with UT Extension: ASA--Nikki Akins, 25 years--Anne Sortor

Communication Winners

Nancy Rucker was the National Communication winner in Radio Program

Melissa Henry was the National communication Winner in Feature Story

Reflections from the National Conference

by Darrell Hale, TAE4-HW President

Several Tennessee agents and staff attended the NAE4-HA national meeting in Atlanta. Those attending included Michael Barry, Lori Belew, Donna Bradley, Denise Brandon, Carmen Burgos, Janet Cluck, Justin Crowe, Heather Deckard, Joseph Donaldson, Kathy Finley, Staci Foy, Amy Gallimore, Darrell Hale, Sierra Ham, Melissa Henry, Wayne Key, Martin Koon, Judy Kovach, Alice Ann Moore, Janet Newton, Kasey Reid, Nancy Rucker, Daniel Sarver, Steve Sutton, Sarah Vaden, Amy Williams, and Rosalind Woodard.

Tennessee will now be represented by the following people on the NAE4HA board. Donna Bradley is serving as Southern Region Senior director, Nancy Rucker is serving as vice president of Marketing and Outreach, Sierra Ham is serving as the Southern Region contact for Member Services Committee.

Joseph Donaldson facilitated a technology audit planning session for the NAE4-HA Board of Trustees on October 20 at the request of NAE4-HA President Clyde Jackson. He also served as chair of the Research and Evaluation Pre-conference on Sunday, October 21, "Building Excellence in 4-H Program Evaluation" which included nine presenters and 50 participants. As outgoing chair of the NAE4-HA Research and Evaluation Committee, Donaldson also presided during committee meetings on October 22 and 23.

The Power U team consisting of Justin Crowe, Kathy Finley, Nancy Rucker and Judy Kovach presented a poster session

A team from UT Extension also presented a session at the Afterschool pre-conference in Atlanta. This was entitled "Learning by Leaps and Bounds in Three Afterschool Settings." Presenters included Denise Brandon, Sharon Tubbs, Teressa McDonald, Justin Crowe and Jennifer Stenman.

Tennessee had two national communication winners. Melissa Henry topped the feature story category and Nancy Rucker won in radio program.

Tennessee's service award winners were also recognized. Janet Newton received the Achievement in Service Award; Michael Barry, Wayne Key and Staci Foy received the Distinguished Service Award.

Thanks to everyone who donated books for the service project. We collected 104 books, 2nd in the Southern Region. Thanks to Larry Moorehead for collecting our auction items.

Other highlights of the conference included a great states night out; networking with other professionals; listening to Clovers and Company and Jennifer Nettles; sharing Nancy Grace's 4-H stories; and visiting the Atlanta Aquarium.

The 2008 national meeting will be held in Indianapolis at Galaxy III, September 15-19, 2008. We encourage all TAE4-HW members to attend.

Headlines, December, 2007, page 4

Mark Your Calendar for the State Conference

by Michelle Atkins and Staci Foy, Conference Co-Chairs

We hope you are making plans for the 2008 TAE4-HW conference, to be held at Paris Landing State Park, April 30 - May 2, 2008. The conference theme, "Meeting of the Minds", will be sure to bring many members to not only enjoy networking, recognition and gaining program ideas, but to also enjoy the beautiful Kentucky Lake.

Conference room rates are \$65.00/night for regular inn rooms (\$12.00 each additional adults after 2), \$155.00 a night per cabin (5 double beds) and \$160.00 a night for a 2 bedroom suite (4 double beds). You can make reservations by calling 1-800-250-8614.

Registration will be held on April 30th from 3:00 - 5:30, with a barbecue beginning at 6:00 p.m. A full day of networking, educational sessions and peer recognition will take place on Thursday, the 1st. Make plans to stay after lunch on Friday, the 2nd for a exciting golf scramble!

This is a conference that you will not want to miss!

Bits and Pieces

Connecting with the 4-H S.E.T Initiative - Science, Engineering and Technology

Plants and Seeds + TCAP

Relating to the SET initiative: Upon request of one of my 7th grade science teachers(also a 4-H club leader), I am doing a plant science activity with the 7th grade clubs at Bolivar Middle. We begin by discussing soils and soil conservation using a powerpoint presentation from the NRCS. The next meeting will involve them receiving a cup, soil and a seed to take home and grow. Later meetings will discuss seed and plant parts, growth and the many uses of various plants. Science teachers are using this as part of the TCAP preparations and will also count it as a grade in science class. I am also including this lesson under the responsibility tab since they are responsible for the care of the seed/plant. We will see how it works out. *Gary Rodgers, Hardeman County*

Sixth Graders Dissect Dogfish Sharks

In Crockett County, we utilized the 4-H SET grant to purchase dogfish sharks. All of my 6th grade clubs got the chance to dissect sharks during our 4-H Club meeting. Since we meet in the Science classrooms, and focus our efforts on science type programs, this worked really great! The members loved it and so did the teachers. They enjoy programs that they want to teach, but do not get the chance! *Tonya Bain, Crockett County*

4-H in Leaps and Bounds

We have the Leaps and Bounds After-school program here and we touch several of the SET areas. The Leaps and Bounds (LAB)curriculum is designed with educational lessons conducted daily on thematic topics in a learning center/station format which addresses the five components of Reading/Language Arts, Math/Science, Computer Literacy, Tutoring/Mentoring, and Sports/Recreation. A major component of the program is the development of leadership through teenagers' abilities to share the subject matter concepts, serve as positive role models and develop leadership skills. Teen Leaders are comprised of youth who have been exposed to the program and who have shown signs of leadership. This program provides additional opportunities to enhance skills and competencies in leadership roles.

The Extension philosophy of "learning by doing" is the basis for the Leaps and Bounds learning center approach. Students learn best when they are active learners engaged in "hands-on" activities, rather than with passive activities.

Some of the ideas comes from the B.E.S.T program - featuring lots of hands on activities such as the Digging up Stones- (We added exercises such as acquiring a rock tumbler and having the students take care of the rocks- with the different levels of grit to smooth the stones, they have to wash the rocks and add the next grade of grit from course to fine)(taking a milky way candy bar and have the students see the different levels of the earth and how the Teutonic plates shift- just as the milky way candy bar

does when pulled apart and pushed back together changes its shape), Be a Bug Brain- (showing the different types of chewing mechanics of insects- grasshopper-pliers, mosquito-syringe, fly-sponge, butterfly-party favor-rolls out and back in) adding gummy worms to a snack such as dirt cake. Mammals- (Playing charades with animals pictures on their back and they have to guess by asking questions, or turn it around and let them act out their behavior and the class guess.) (We bought a bone box with furs and skull in it so the students can have hands on with the makeup of their outer covering.)

Having the students take an active part in whatever is taught helps them to GET it in their brain and then able to process the concept of science or learning. This way if you have visual learners and most students are visual more so than auditory- adults too!
Sharon Tubbs, Madison County

Rutherford County 4-H Network News

blog address: www.rc4-h.blogspot.com

- Videos and photo stories produced by 4-H'ers (we have about 15 committed members)
- We have made several 4-H training videos (livestock projects, judging, cooking)
- Interviews with political leaders
- Interviews with 4-H'ers from different project areas. This enables us to showcase all that 4-H offers in our community
- All published with FREE software and web sites
- Our 28 videos have had more than 3,000 views
- We have monthly meetings where we bring in media and technological professionals to talk with our 4-H'ers
- Offer a one-week 4-H Video Camp where we teach the fundamentals of video and photographic production

Michael A. Shirley, Rutherford County

New Book to Promote the Community of 4-H

by Donna Bradley, NAE4-HA Southern Region Director

We are writing a book!! And by “we” we mean NAE4-HA and the whole 4-H Community -- members, volunteers, county 4-H Professionals, state 4-H

Professionals, national 4-H Professionals, donors, family members and others!! The book will be all of the stories the 4-H community can tell! An Editorial Team will select about 100 of these stories to include in the book. Stories not chosen will be saved for future use. So let EVERYONE know that WE are writing a book so send us a story!!

Here's what we're looking for:

- Stories from all 50 states sharing positive personal experiences on the value of 4-H, activities/events, learning experiences, funny situations, etc.
- Stories about 4-H folks who have inspired, motivated and made a difference in the lives of others
- Stories should include information about the setting/situation and approximate time frame and must include your name, address and contact information
- Up to three double spaced pages in a Word document using a 12 point Times New Roman font and one inch margins
- Send your story as an email attachment to: dtabler@umd.edu

To learn more about the book, 4-H Stories, and how to submit your story go to: www.maryland4h.org/Stories.

Kathy Finley
Headlines Editor
514 Hill Street
Springfield, TN 37172
615-384-7936
FAX 615-382-2302
kfinley@utk.edu