

TAE4-HW Headlines

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Tennessee Association of Extension 4-H Workers



Important Reminders

- **TAE4-HW State Conference in Chattanooga**
April 29 - May 1.
- **Ten Reasons to Attend**
Including Chattanooga highlights,
- **Bits and Pieces**
Check out ideas for Honor Club and teen recruitment.
- **Send news for the next issue of Headlines by March 1, 2009.**

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Mark Your Calendars for the 2009 TAE4-HW State Conference

by Lynne Middleton and Meagen Brown, Co-Chairs

We hope you're planning to attend the 2009 TAE4-HW Conference that will be held in Chattanooga, April 29-May 1. The conference theme is "All Aboard for a Journey to Success," in honor of the Chattanooga Choo-Choo landmark. We hope that this conference will give you an opportunity to visit the Greater Chattanooga area, as well as network with other agents, help recognize award winners, and gain new and innovative program ideas to take back to your counties. The planning committee has packed the schedule not only with educational workshops and speakers, but with time for you to enjoy Chattanooga's area landmarks.

The conference will be held downtown at the Chattanooga Hotel, within walking distance of many attractions. Conference room rates are \$129.00/night for a double room. More information on the hotel is available at <http://www.chattanoogahotel.com>. Please call 1-800-619-0018 to make reservations and be sure to tell the representative that you are with the Tennessee 4-H Agents Association Conference to receive the conference room rate.

Registration materials and the schedule will be available later this month, so keep your eye on your email inbox for conference updates. Check-in will be held on Wednesday, April 29, from 3:00-5:30, with dinner and organized activities following. A full day of speakers, fun-filled workshops, and committee meetings will be held on Thursday, April 30, with a recognition banquet and auction wrapping up the day. On Friday, brief regional meetings will be held followed by a luncheon sponsored by Farm Bureau.

With all that we have planned, you won't want to miss out on the 2009 TAE4-HW Conference!! This will be a conference, in a city, to remember!

Ten Reasons to Attend the Conference

Submitted by Lynne Middleton and Meagen Brown, Co-Chairs

1. Join us at this great opportunity for some professional development with other 4-H staff. The planning committee is packing the conference full of educational and fun activities to energize you in your 4-H career.
2. You'll stay in the fabulous downtown Chattanooga Hotel. The hotel is known for its' exquisite rooms, luscious restaurants, and full-service spa. Visit <http://www.chattanoogaohotel.com/>.
3. At the Tennessee Aquarium there's 450,000 gallons of water floating about. Out of the aquarium's 24 exhibits, the Cove Forest, dressed to resemble a misty Appalachian Mountain forest complete with blooming flowers and otters, ranks as one of the coolest. Like a favorite fishing spot, people visit the Aquarium to see amazing animals that swim, fly and crawl in their natural habitats. This remarkable journey puts visitors eye to eye with 10-foot sharks, giant spider crabs, river otters, penguins, and alligators. It's amazing for tourists and kids of all ages.
4. To view the healthier side of life, you'll want to visit Greenlife Grocery. Greenlife is the largest organic grocery store in Tennessee with two full-service natural food stores dedicated to bringing you and your family the freshest and healthiest foods and products available. No artificial flavors, colors, preservatives here! The freshest and finest foods in Chattanooga are available with a juice bar, coffee bar, made to order wood fired pizza's and more!
5. Located on the beautiful Tennessee River, Chattanooga boasts the famous Bluff View Art District. This area offers a variety of galleries and shops on the bluffs over the river where you can watch chocolate makers and bakers craft their delectable goodies.
6. No visit to Chattanooga would be complete without a tour of the Chattanooga African-American Museum/Bessie Smith Performance Hall. The museum highlights achievements of noted African Americans within the community, while the hall pays homage to its namesake world-acclaimed blues singer.
7. About the only public place where an entire family may strip down without being arrested is at Coolidge Park (a 22-mile public area along the Tennessee River). Make a dash through the park's interactive fountain, which is guarded by water-spouting lions, tigers, and bears.
8. You'll want to visit the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Hotel. During its life as a train depot in the early 1900s, the Choo Choo welcomed thousands of travelers en route to various destinations. Today as a 30-acre hotel, it welcomes just as many families to a fun time. Take in a garden tour here, and don't miss out on the dining experience—servers sing that old-time favorite for which the hotel is named.
9. Rock City, Ruby Falls, and the Incline Railway are all within driving distance on Lookout Mountain. The natural rocks and falls are amazing and anyone interested in geology will love this group of attractions!

10. The Hunter Museum of American Art is located nearby. The museum houses an excellent collection of Hudson River School and genre paintings, as well as works from America's modern masters including Pollack and de Kooning and contemporary glass and sculpture pieces.

Sharing Programs on Website

by Jennifer Balding, Chair, Programs Committee, TAE4-HW

The Programs Committee at the State TAE4-HW meeting in May 2008 came up with a plan to share our programs state wide. The plan comes after many debates and requests to share our programs state wide.

The cover letter and lesson plan format were taken from Neil Smith and 4-H Directory. Please look at and encourage other TAE4-HW members to take a look at the 4-H Directory website at <http://www.4-hdirectory.org/>. There are some great resources available.

We would like the presenters from each regional Share Day to submit a TAE4-HW cover sheet & lesson plan and any other information as needed to explain how they teach their educational program. Anyone that would like to submit program materials even if they aren't presenting at a "Share Day", are encouraged to participate.

Attached is a standard TAE4-HW cover sheet and lesson plan format to complete. Additional materials may be in PDF or Word format. Presenters may email me ([Jennifer Balding](mailto:jennifer.balding@utk.edu)) their entry as long as the file isn't too big or mail it to Bradley County Extension on a cd or floppy.

Please submit these by January 30, 2009 to begin the process of putting them online at <http://www.utextension.utk.edu/TAE4HW/>



Program COVER SHEET 08.doc

Bits and Pieces

Check out these great ideas for Honor Club recruitment and programs....

Santa Visits Local Group



On December 23rd the Overton County Honor Club and All-Stars conducted a party for the PACE Setters in Overton County. The PACE Setters are a group of mentally challenged folks but are still trying to be productive workers in the community. This was the first time that we did this project. There were 24 residents and each gave a list of items they would like to receive for Christmas to the director of the center. They were not aware that we were going to get the items. A list was given to us by the director. It was so sad what most wanted: Just to name a few items, body wash, shampoo, a

picture of horses, picture of Jesus, material and yarn, puzzles and games, little radio, wrestling tape, clothes, socks and even a video of Lassie. On December the 9th, we when shopping at a local shop in Livingston, who gave us free run of the place. The girls shopped for the women and the boys shopped for the men. Every item was either purchased or obtained by the group. A local grocery store gave us brown paper shopping bags for the items. We then took the bags and let a local school club decorate the bags for Christmas. Each resident had a socking in the bag full of candy and small items. After all of the items were purchased (\$394.56) we then had an assembly party at the Extension Office. It would not do the group but that we had to have Santa, so Will Mullins a Junior at Livingston High School was Santa. (Note: Will plays sports and is a rough outdoors person ... out of character for him). We borrowed a Santa Suit and everyone met on December 23rd at my office to proceed to the PACE Setters building. Everyone except Santa entered the building with food, drinks and presents. The residents didn't know what hit them. Here comes Santa Will...each resident's name was called one by one to come up and receive their presents from Santa. The result of the party was overwhelming, I watched Senior High 4-Hers feel good about what they had done. You know there is still good in the world. I appreciate showing this to you, because we still have the best group of kids to work with. Not one time did I hear a cell phone, text message, or disgrutal word form anyone.

Gene Medley, Overton County

Moore County Uses "Word of Mouth"

The best recruitment measure that we use in Lynchburg is word of mouth. The older students convey to the younger 4-H'ers how much fun we have in the service projects that we do. They also tell of the opportunities that go along with being in the Honor Club. We have had a spike in our HC interest in the past six months. We have completed some eighteen applications. The easiest way that I see to do this in our county is by spending ten minutes looking up the events that the students have participated in for previous years. We keep records of the projects done in the classrooms and what topics were covered. I can take a legal pad and have a student ready to fill out the forms in ten minutes due to organization of our office. Records keep us moving along. As far as projects go, we work with our students doing random service projects for the community. We have two miles of highway in front of high school that we have adopted and keep the trash controlled on that stretch. Three time per year we collect the trash on this stretch of state highway. During community events,

we also pick-up trash and straw or other decorations in order to keep the areas clean. Our students work with the senior citizens going to the center and playing games and fellowshiping with them. They have painted and pulled weeds and cleaned out barns. Our students are ready to do whatever the community needs and are ready for the next event as it arises. *Leah Hatfield, Moore County*

Dickson County Sends Postcards

Our Honor Club meets once a month so I mail a reminder. In the past I would mail a letter but now I mail a colorful postcard. It is cheaper, the 4-Hers and parents like it because it fits in their calendar's, and the kids say the postcard format is not as intimidating as a letter was to them. Contact Renee Badon for an example.

Renee Badon, Dickson County

Hamilton County Offers Busy, Fun-Filled Program

Hamilton County has recently begun working with Honor Club again after a number of years without it. In recruiting, we sent out fliers to 6th-8th graders enrolled in 4-H and encouraged them to participate. Since September, we've had 14 members join. I asked the group to set goals and they wanted to devote time to service projects this year. They voted to work on a service project every other month and have a fun-filled meeting/field trip at the other meetings. Their schedule thus far has been:

September-Pizza Party and Honor Club Application Session

October-Make Huggable Bears for TC Thompson's Children's Hospital

November-Visit the River Corn Maze in Ocoee

December-Finish making Huggable Bears (our goal was 50-100)

January-New Year's Party

February-Deliver Huggable Bears to Children's Hospital

March-Whitewater Rafting Trip

Lynne Middleton, Hamilton County

Powerpoint from the Western Region



We offer a Power Point presentation that I put together on "Joining 4-H Honor Club". I have gone to counties, at the Agent's request, and presented this slide show to groups of 4-H members and their parents. The presentation has been very popular with New Agents that are not familiar with Honor Club, and with counties with Veteran Agents that have few or no Honor Club members. Please contact me if you would like me ([Neil Smith](#)) to send you a copy of the powerpoint.

F. Neil Smith, Extension 4-H specialist, Western Region

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