

# TAE4-HW Headlines

*Volume 4:4*

*September, 2005*

**Tennessee Association of Extension 4-H Workers**

## Important Reminders



- **Not Too Late to Register**  
National Meeting
- **Check out Mike Smith's "Winning Chickens" article**
- **Send news for the next issue of Headlines by December 1, 2005.**

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## Better Your Best in the Pacific Northwest

*by J. Brian Signaigo, Southern Region Director, NAE4-HA*

The NAE4-HA National meeting will be in Seattle, WA - Sunday, October 30 - Thursday, November 3. There are many great things planned for those seeking more professional improvement. There will be MANY seminars, workshops and poster sessions, from which to glean new programming ideas and/or share ideas with co-workers nationally. If traveling to new places and trying new things is for you, the Space Needle and catching a fish (literally!) at Pike's St. Market should be right up your alley. Of course, we'll honor many co-workers at the awards banquet, catch up with what's going on from the National Board, meet new people, renew acquaintances and just plain'ol enjoy the Great Northwest. There are also many interesting things to do in Seattle otherwise. You may still register for \$400, until September 30. There are links to the National meeting website @ [www.nae4ha.org](http://www.nae4ha.org) - AND links to MANY other 4-H related sites as well. Take some time

to "surf" a little to see what you can find on "our" National 4-H Association website.

### *Notes from Joseph Donaldson, TAE4-HW President*

If you are planning to attend the NAE4-HA Meeting, October 30 - November 4 in Seattle, please send an email message to Joseph Donaldson if you have not already done so. Check out Bits and Pieces to see the registration list and for more details.

And a reminder from our Southern Region Directors, that ALL State officers and committee chairs are invited to attend the Officer 101 Workshop, on Sun., Oct. 29 at 2 p.m. The Regional Directors are planning an intriguing and innovative program so that ALL State officers have a better understanding of how "our" Association works and how each State's membership works in the whole process. This is gonna be GREAT!!!!!! At the Southern Regional breakfast on Wednesday at 7:30 a.m., entertainment is being sought as part of the program. If you are interested in helping with this part of the program, contact Torey Earle (he's our entertainment Guru, you know!). Who knows, you could be the next American Idol! WAHOO! Don't hesitate to contact Judy, Torey or Brian, Southern Region Directors with any concerns or issues.

## Tennesseans are Saving in McMinn County

by Melanie Spurgeon, Extension Agent, McMinn County



Exhibit at Southeast Bank & Trust

McMinn County has been participating in the Tennessee Saves coalition of Hamilton County. Money management programming has been implemented within the McMinn County 4-H clubs, and students have been learning about saving money and the importance of making wise decisions with their money.

### Youth Programming:

\$ Promoted in all 4-H Clubs in McMinn County.

\$ All 7th and 8th grade clubs received money management programming all year and 4th – 6th grade received money management in addition to other programming.

\$ Approximately 1,500 students participated in financial education programming.

\$ After enrolling as a Tennessee Saver, students were encouraged to set a savings goal and open a savings account with the financial institution of their choice.

\$ 750 youth set savings goals and enrolled as Tennessee Savers!

\$ Students were provided a listing of partnering financial institutions.

\$ Students who opened a savings account or used an existing account to make a deposit of at least \$30.00 between January 1st and April 30th, 2005 were invited to *Savingspalooza*, a FREE pizza and skate party sponsored by UT Extension and partnering financial institutions.

\$ We rented out the Galaxy skate center in Athens for the 4-H Tennessee Savers. Each one brought in their proof of deposit that showed where they had put at least \$30 into a bank account since January 1st.

\$ The students had a great time skating, playing games, eating pizza, and socializing.

\$ We took a few minutes to recognize them and congratulate them for their efforts. We told them about the money that all of McMinn County 4-H had saved (either at home or in a bank/credit union), and they thought that was A LOT of money! It was fun to see their faces and the pride that they seemed to have for what they had done.

\$ We decided to have a drawing for a camp scholarship. We felt like that would be a well-deserved scholarship since all of these kids had worked for and met an admirable goal. We put their names in a bucket and made a big deal about drawing a name out.

\$ Piggy bank models were displayed in partnering financial institutions.

\$ As part of the annual model contest, local 4-H members could design piggy banks. These piggy banks were displayed in the lobbies of participating financial institutions during the month of April, the official Tennessee Saves month. In addition, each partnering financial institution was provided a Tennessee Saves lobby sign.

**Total money that was reportedly saved in McMinn County by approximately 750 youth savers over a 4 month period was \$22,900.43**

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## **NAE4HA Volunteer Task Force Shifted**

*by J. Brian Signaigo, Southern Region Director, NAE4HA*

At the Board meeting prior to TN's State 4-H Agents' meeting, there was some concern voiced that the Volunteer Task Force at the National level was going to be dissolved. I have been in contact with Debbie Nistler, NAE4-HA Programs committee chair. She stated that the Vol. Task Force is not being dissolved but "moved" to the Professional Development committee. It is in process now. Bottom line - the Volunteer Task Force is up and running and WILL NOT be dissolved. Hurray!

## **4-H Afterschool: Extraordinary Learning Opportunities**

*by Justin Crowe, Extension Agent, Davidson County*

Our 4-H staff is excited to be part of a new afterschool initiative. We have designed a 20 hour program geared for middle-school youth which focuses on workforce preparation. This program (featuring sessions like Dress for Success, Teambuilding, Communication skill development, filling out job applications and resumes, etc.) will be delivered 100% in out-of-school time by two trained teen volunteers and one adult volunteer. By August 31, 2005 we will have reached at least 720 youth. This program is funded through National 4-H Council by JCPenney Afterschool and NFL Charities. Each Regional Office will be receiving a copy of the 2 pieces of curriculum being used: RISE and Get in the Act. Begin looking for these around mid-October. For more information please contact the Davidson County office.

## Bits and Pieces



### **The Winning Chickens** by Mike Smith, Extension Agent, Williamson County

A long time buyer of our Champion Pullets in our Chick Chain auction, local realtor Brent Sanders, was unable to attend the auction because he was out of town; but sent the bid to purchase the prize pullets.

Upon his return, he went to the farm to collect his birds and the young 4-Her called up the chickens and was tossing out shelled corn for them. Every now and then she would take a fish net and scoop up a chicken and put it in the box,

“Honey”, Brent asked, “How do you know which one of those chickens is the prize-winning pullet”?

“Oh Mr. Sanders”, she replied, “they’re all winners”.

What a wonderful message to teach 4-H members, whether through the chick chain, the dairy project or public speaking, that children, like chickens, are all winners.



### **National Meeting Information** from Joseph Donaldson, President, TAE4-HW

Joseph needs to complete the special arrangements for the Tennessee delegation, and he needs an accurate list of our state's attendees. Joseph's current list of attendees includes: Pat Whitaker, Amy Powell-Williams, Ben Powell, Michael Barry, Joseph Donaldson, Jill Martz, Theresa Allan, Patsy Ezell, Steve Sutton, Nancy Rucker, Donna Bradley, James McMillion, Jim Stewart, Melissa Henry, Staci Foy, Sierra Ham, Alice Ann Moore, Janet Cluck, Jesse Hewlett, Brian Signaigo, and Amy Wrye. To make additions or corrections to Joseph's list, please send an email message to [jldonaldson@utk.edu](mailto:jldonaldson@utk.edu).

At the upcoming NAE4-HA Conference, the traditional State's Night Out is slated for Tuesday, November 1. This year, TAE4-HW members will gather at The Islander at 6:30 pm. The restaurant is located at 1st and Union, 3 blocks from the Sheraton in Seattle. The Islander features Polynesian Cuisine. General Manager Tracey Hemphill is planning a cozy, private dining room to accommodate TAE4-HW members. Executive Chef Ed Teofilo will be prepared to serve Tennesseans creative island fare. Check out the Islander at: <http://www.theislanderseattle.com/home5.htm>

Please make sure that Joseph Donaldson has your name and your guest names on the reservation list!

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## **President's Message**

*by Joseph Donaldson, President, TAE4-HW*

In reading Dr. David Niven's book, *The 100 Simple Secrets of Successful People*, one passage stuck in my head:

"You will spend more time between the ages of 25 and 65 working than you will spend doing anything other than sleeping. Your job not only will define possibilities for the future, it may also come to define you. Never stop thinking about what you need to do to love what you do."

It's often difficult to consider the future this time of year when you are neck-deep in fair preparations, starting school-based clubs, organizing project groups, training volunteers, etc. Despite all the stuff already on your calendar, it's also important to take time to consider the future.....How will your job influence the future?.....How will your job influence your future?.....If you love what you do, how will you keep the love alive?.....If you don't love what you do, what needs to happen for you to love what you do?

TAE4-HW is all about building successful professionals. You benefit from TAE4-HW by:

- sharing best practices in 4-H program development;
- improving professionalism;
- learning the latest in youth development research;
- leading peer groups; and
- recognizing exceptional service.

Being active in TAE4-HW presents countless opportunities to learn from others and learn what you can do to "love what you do". I encourage you to take an active part in TAE4-HW. On the eve of TAE4-HW's 30th Anniversary, I am happy to report that the Association remains strong! Like our founders, we continue to exemplify great dedication to self-improvement, 4-H and the youth development profession.

My term as President ends just after the national meeting this fall. I have been honored to serve as TAE4-HW President, and I sincerely thank you for this opportunity to learn, serve and grow. I am grateful to have worked with such a competent, hard-working TAE4-HW Board.

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## **Policy and Resolutions Update**

*by Nancy Rucker, Chair, Policy and Resolutions Committee*

The Policy and Resolutions Committee reports the following rotation for the annual state meeting in the upcoming years.

2007 - Specialist Region

2008 - Western Region

2009 - Eastern Region

2010 - Central Region

### **By-Laws**

The revised TAE4-HW By-Laws will be posted on the web. There were changes approved at the state meeting (May 2005). By-Laws will continue to be reviewed.

Staci Foy is the incoming chair for the Policy and Resolutions Committee.

## Longtime Volunteers Honored

by Terri Quillen, Extension Assistant, Ridley Environmental Education Center



Staff photo by Jen Good

### True Tennessee Volunteers

Marcella and B.D. Spence are shown at a dinner held in their honor Thursday night at the Ridley 4-H Center. A log cabin was erected on the campus and dedicated to the Spence's 30 years of volunteer work for the Tennessee 4-H.

Thirty-nine years of volunteer service and Marcella and B. D. Spence are still committed 4-H leaders. As Marshall County 4-H volunteers, the Spences have led 4-H members with service projects, taught workshops, provided leadership for the county dairy group at the Tennessee State Fair, hosted hay rides and farm tours, judges all kinds of 4-H projects, coached judging teams, provided homes for Japanese, Canadian, Pennsylvania and Iowa 4-H exchange delegates, and driven busloads of 4-H'ers across the state. It won't just be Marshall County 4-H members and alumni who remember the Spences, as they have touched the lives of many Tennessee youth and adults. They have served as leaders at State 4-H Round-Up, State 4-H Congress, State 4-H Wildlife Conference, Greeneville and Columbia Environmental Camps, Target SMART, and Teen Adventure Camp. In Georgia, they have taught other leaders their pioneer crafts and skills at the Southern Region Volunteer Leader Forum. And they have been recognized as the Central District Friend of 4-H, received the Hale Master Family award, and chosen as Outstanding State 4-H Alumni. They have both served on the State and District Volunteer Leader Committees. They have provided sponsorship for numerous programs.

However, they have probably touched more lives of 4-H youth and adults at Ridley 4-H Center in Columbia than anywhere else. For numerous years, they have shown campers how to make rope, mountain fried pies, wood crafts, build a fire in a stump, and B. D. has puzzled more than one person with his magic tricks and tales of American Indians. In August, 2005, the Spence Cabin was officially dedicated to Marcella and B. D. Spence, in recognition of their unwavering commitment to youth and to the 4-H program. The Spence Cabin, located at Ridley 4-H Center, is a small workshop cabin befitting the programs conducted by the Spences. *Now how do you separate those two pieces of wood that are held together with a rubber band?*

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