

TAE4-HW Headlines

Volume 7:4

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Tennessee Association of Extension 4-H Workers



Important Reminders

- **Be watching for the 2009 TAE4-HW Membership Drive**
- **News from Galaxy III**
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- **Spotlight on New Member**
Meet Sarah Rogers, Extension Agent, McMinn County
- **Why Join TAE4-HW and NAE4-HA?**
- **Send news for the next issue of Headlines by December 1, 2008**

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Galaxy III In Indianapolis

by Kathy Finley, Editor, TAE4-HW Headlines

Beautiful weather, Peyton photoshoot, Weber Grill burgers, Palominos, Jack Daniel auction items and worries about the availability of fuel was just some of the "buzz" of many attendees at the Galaxy III Conference held in Indianapolis September 15 - 19. Almost sixty Tennesseans participated in the week-long conference. Workshops and poster sessions covered a variety of topics with enough handouts available to fill the backpack provided. Commercial exhibits with promotional items to fundraisers to new curriculum ideas were plentiful and informative.

Nancy Rucker and Donna Bradley served us well as members of the National Board. Donna also donated some of her own hand-crafted pottery for the auction.

States Night Out was well-attended by the Tennessee delegation at Palominos Restaurant. There were a host of cameras flashing as many recorded the evening on film. From Palominos it was a walk across the street to the fourth floor of the theatre to watch a sneak preview and private showing of *The Secret Life of Bees*, a new movie featuring Queen Latifah and Dakota Fanning.

Both Rochester, NY (October 25-29, 2009) and Phoenix, Arizona (October 24-28, 2010) had exhibits to promote the next two NAE4-HA National Conferences. For those interested, mark your calendar and start saving your money, as both conferences look exciting.

Donna Bradley reported that \$50,000 has been invested from the Wisconsin Conference proceeds to provide "First Timers Scholarships" to NAE4-HA members attending a national meeting for the first time. Details will be in the 2009 Membership Recognition Manual. If you have always wanted to attend and thought it cost too much, apply and win funds for registration.

Submit Articles for News and Views

from Greg Hickey, Editor, NAE4-HA News and Views

Professional development is essential to the work of the 4-H agent. It is difficult to stay on top of current topics, issues and curriculum without professional development. At the same time, many agents can be a source of development to others by sharing what they have learned in practice and application. NAE4-HA members are encouraged to submit articles to the national association newsletter, *News and Views*. There is a format for submission and the details are available at the following link: <http://www.nae4ha.org/n&vindex.htm>

One issue of *News and Views* was not published this year due to a limited number of submissions. Support the association and fellow co-workers in Extension by submitting an article about local programming. An added plus of publication is the benefit for reporting on dossiers.

TAE4-HW Members Recognized at Galaxy III

by Donna Bradley, Southern Region Director, 2006-08 NAE4HA Board

SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Achievement in Service Award

Donna Calhoun

Janae Cook

Sarah Vaden

Distinguish Service Award

Joseph Griffy

Larry Moorehead

Terri Quillin

Taunee Whittenbarger

Meritorious Service Award

Darrell Hale

2008 NAE4-HA Southern Region Award Recipients from Tennessee

Radio Program.....Nancy Rucker
Promotional Package—Individual.....Greg Paxton
Promotional Package—Team.....Lynne Middleton and Martha Wolff

Why Did I Join TAE4-HW and NAE4-HA?

by Donna Bradley, Southern Region Director, 2006-08 NAE4-HA Board

This is a question I have been asked numerous time while serving on the state and national boards. As I was pondering this question for a speech I was giving at the Mississippi State Association meeting, I came up with a camparsion that hits home to 4-H agents.

If a youth asked you what would I gain if I became a 4-H member...what would your answer be? A long list of things would come out of your mouth of the benefits youth receive by being members, but receiving these things involves the 4-H member being active. If the member comes to the first meeting fills out the enrollment card and never shows up again...what has he gained. Nothing!!!

That is the same thing that will happen if you pay your dues and do not become involved. The benefits are numerous once you make that step to be an active member. The mission of NAE4-HA is it offers youth development professional the best in professional development, an inclusive and supportive network and integration of scholarship, research and practice. By being active in the association you will be a better 4-H professional.

I challenge you to become involved in the association. Apply for awards, scholarships and grants that are available through the association. When some calls and ask you to serve on the state board say "yes" and start your leadership develop. You and your county program will be better by you becoming a better professional.

Over the past two years, I have served the National Association by serving as the Southern Region Director. I received professional and personal growth that I could not have achieved without being involved in the state and national association. I appreciate your support over the past two years as I served you on the National Association Board of Trustees. If you want more information on being involved on the state or national level, please feel free to call or email me. Just a short ten years ago, I was sitting in my office pondering being a member and the benefits. Through the encouragement of my mentors, I decided I was a 4-H professional and I needed to be involved. Thanks!

Spotlight on a New Member

by Kathy Finley, Headlines Editor



Sarah Rogers was born in McMinn County, but went to school and participated in the 4-H program in Bradley County. She and her brother and sister were very active in the county program. They showed horses, participated in public speaking contests, and assorted judging teams. Sarah moved to Murfreesboro, TN after high school where she attended MTSU and majored in Elementary Education. While in college Sarah worked the "traditional" waitress position during the semester. She said she worked as camp staff for two "crazy" summers at Clyde York 4-H Center in Crossville. After graduation from MTSU in December of 2007, Sarah started with UT Extension, McMinn County in January 2008. In her free time (ha ha, she says), Sarah enjoys listening to

live music, riding horses, watching football, and spending time with friends and family. For Sarah, 2008 has been a great experience so far, and she appreciates her McMinn County co-workers and other extension friends for their amazing support and patience during her first year.

Bits and Pieces

Ideas for 4-H Officer Training

☞ At our club meetings we vote for **President, Vice-president, Secretary, Song leader and Community Service Leader**---- we have a county wide meeting. An invitation letter was given to each newly elected officer. Held at the Regional office, we meet and greet and divide the group, which is huge (around 400), into rooms for each officer. **President and Vice President** is together- they will receive Officer books that we print and be told their duties and given examples. We also have each month - November, January, February, March, and April - written out where all they have to do is fill in the blank for the volunteers - to lead the pledges, give the thought for the day, demonstrations, and the two members who will help close the meeting. They go through a mock club meeting and practice the procedure. **Secretaries** are in one room and I give them their books and have written on the board the dates that we met their club and then the day we will be coming back with an example. I have them actually write the 1st month's minutes so they will be ready for the/November Meeting. I give them a list of their the members for their book and they have examples for the next month. In each officer book we put all of the material each one needs so if they leave their book at home (which happens) the other leaders could help them out and they could borrow their books. **Song leader** are also in one room- they have a list of songs and the Program Assistant goes over the songs and teach them the tune and the songs with cheers, songs, and fun sing along. The **Community Service learning leader** are in another room - they receive examples of community service ideas and a booklet for them to use with the class for each month and the report forms which are from the old Seeds of Service Program.. Each officer receives a 4-H pencil that night and then at the end of the year we give them another 4-H pen and a "thanks for doing a great job" card. We also give each club 50 points for every officer that comes to the meeting which could be 250 points to start off for the club of the year competition. If their teacher comes they also get extra points. We also give them pins with each office on it to wear only the day of the club---if they or the class wears green on our club meeting day they get extra points. *Sharon K. Tubbs, Extension Agent, Madison County*

☞ In Hickman County, the 4-H club officers stay after school for a training that lasts about 1 ½ hours. Refreshments are served and the training starts with a team building game that varies from year to year. Teen leaders conduct sessions on the duties of each office and the workshop concludes with practicing opening and closing a meeting. Each officer receives a notebook to be used at club meetings. *Donna Bradley, Extension Agent, Hickman County*

☞ While I was in Maury County, Dill and I met with 6-10 teens who had experience as 4-H club officers. We provided the teens with lesson plans and taught them to train the Junior 4-H Officers. The teens were divided in pairs and co-taught the junior 4-H officers. Because the president and vice president have similar roles, they were often taught together. They practiced reading the parliamentary procedures and learned the importance of being prepared for each meeting. The secretaries were taught to look for specific information to include in the minutes. Then the teens held a mock meeting and the secretaries practiced

taking notes and writing minutes as they were guided by the teens. A junior secretary volunteered to read the minutes and the group critiqued them. The reporters were taught how to give a project report and how to choose a club member to give a report on their project. Teens demonstrated good and bad project reports so junior officers understood why it is important to be prepared and ask club members to prepare a report prior to the meeting. The junior 4-H officers who attended had a good time and were better prepared as a result of the 4-H officer training. *Janae Cook, Extension Agent, Trousdale County*

☞ Fayette County 4-H holds a county-wide officer training at the end of the month all officers are elected. It is usually held on a Saturday morning. The officers receive their handbooks during this meeting and are grouped in the room according to the office they hold. They are encouraged to attend by receiving extra points for their club in hopes to receive Outstanding 4-H Club of the year as well as outstanding 4-Her for 4th,5th or 6th grades. This is also a great way to inform parents of the great opportunities 4-H offers to youth, since they usually stay during the training. *Letisha King, Extension Agent, Fayette County*

☞ In Trousdale County we are so small that we can meet all our officers in school. I usually coordinate a time with principals to have 4-H officer training and then we will divide the groups by each office and have teens to help teach each group their roles and responsibilities during 4-H club meetings. It works well because we have almost all officers present and no one has to come to an evening officer training. If you have any questions please e-mail or call. *Jason Evitts, Extension Agent, Trousdale County*

☞ In the past, I have conducted a county officer training and invited the youth of every club to attend. The training is held during the evening on a weeknight. There has been at least 50% attendance and the officers that attend carry the officer training information back to anyone from their club who may not be able to attend. At least this way, most of the youth from each club knows what their duties are. *Lynne Middleton, Extension Agent, Hamilton County*

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