



Florida 4-H Connection

FLORIDA 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

A periodic newsletter for 4-H Alumni & Friends

Fall 2013

A message for our Alumni and Friends



Florida 4-H recognizes alumni and friends as past 4-H members, parents of past 4-H members, past volunteers, and all supporters of 4-H.

You are all a part of a 100+ year old story of creating positive change. Over the years, our 4-H Family has stepped up to tackle all kinds of local challenges—and together, we've made a difference!

We are honored that you are part of a strong legacy of creating everlasting change.

Let us celebrate your successes by sharing how your 4-H experiences continue to positively impact you today.

Share your success at
<http://florida4h.org/alumni>

We invite your ideas for the content you'd like to see featured in future issues, including success stories of former 4-H members and volunteers or how you remain engaged with 4-H wherever you now live.

The 4-H Impact

Research has proven that participation in 4-H has a significant positive impact on young people. Recent findings from the Tufts University *4-H Study of Positive Youth Development* indicate that, when compared to their peers, young people in 4-H are:

- Nearly 4 times more likely to contribute to their communities.
- Two times more likely to pursue healthy behaviors.
- Two times more likely to engage in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs in the out-of-school time.

Read more about the impact Florida 4-H is having throughout the state by visiting

<http://florida4h.org/impact>

Best regards,

Keith G. Diem, Ph.D.
Associate Dean & State 4-H Program Leader



A CENTURY OF SERVING FLORIDA

2013 Florida 4-H Hall of Fame Inductees

The Florida 4-H Hall of Fame was established in 2002 to recognize outstanding individuals who have made a contribution to the 4-H program. Established during the national 4-H program's centennial year, one hundred members have been inducted into the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame's members include outstanding 4-H alumni, volunteers, Extension agents, program leaders, and supporters. Many tell us that being named to membership in the Hall of Fame is one of the most-treasured recognitions in their lives.



(From left to right) George Corey, Mike McKinney, Bobby Ray Durden, Anne Peterson.

Anne Peterson

Anne Peterson has been a 4-H Volunteer for the last 40 years, serving as a community club leader, project resource volunteer, and currently as a middle management volunteer that helps with county level 4-H activities. Anne has been instrumental in developing and sustaining Escambia County's Horse program, as well as working with new club leaders

on building quality community clubs. Anne has a tremendous talent for motivating youth and fellow volunteers. Her energy is infectious and she uses her wealth of knowledge to provide sound advice, along with a helping hand. Anne is also one of the volunteers that has stuck with the program through raising a family, having a career, and now enjoying retirement.



Florida 4-H Connection Team

Please send your comments to:
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Designed by Tracy Bryant, UF/IFAS Communications
Florida 4-H Connection is produced and distributed through contributions to the Florida 4-H Foundation.

Nationwide, 4-H has over 9 million members, including over 220,000 in Florida. Florida 4-H offers youth, ages 5 - 18, diverse project topics available in all 67 counties, and with the Seminole Tribe of Florida.

Founded in 1909, Florida 4-H is the youth development program of the Florida Cooperative Extension Service (CES), headquartered in Gainesville within UF's IFAS Extension. The CES is funded by a partnership between federal, state and county government agencies.

For more information about Florida 4-H, visit florida4h.org or contact your county Extension office. All programs are open to all persons regardless of race, color, age, sex, handicap or national origin.

Founded in 1902 nationally, 4-H is now the largest youth organization in the world.

George Corey

George Corey has been a member of the Duval County 4-H foundation board for 8 years, and has maintained the “George and Elizabeth Corey endowment since 2008. George was nominated for the Professional football team “Jacksonville Jaguars” Community Quarterback award, an award given by the NFL to recognize outstanding volunteers. He was named one of seven finalist and \$1,000.00 dollars was donated to 4-H in his name. His work with the foundation has allowed kids to attend camps, and learn about gardening. George has been a longtime advocate and supporter of 4-H.

Bobby Ray Durden

Bobby Ray Durden has been a County Agent and community leader in North Florida for over 50 years. Bobby has spent time training judging teams, teaching tractor driving, conducting showmanship clinics, organizing community clubs, attending summer camps, and getting youth involved in livestock projects. He worked as the Extension Director in Wakulla County, and together with the community of like-minded people, they organized the Wakulla County Youth Swine Show, inviting youth from surrounding counties to “learn by doing.” Wakulla County recognized his service as their “Outstanding Citizen” and the National County

Agents Association Distinguished Service Award in 1977. Bobby retired from his formal career in IFAS as County Extension Director in Gadsden County in 1995.

Mike McKinney

Mike McKinney is a 4-H Alumnus, a 4-H Volunteer, a 4-H Parent, 36 year Extension career educator and currently continues to be extremely active in the Hillsborough County 4-H Foundation. Some accomplishments include being the first to implement the 4-H Interstate Exchange Program in two counties and the first to initiate and implement a 4-H Club for disabled adults.

Since his retirement in 2005, Mike continues his commitment to Extension education through consulting around the country on Empowering and Motivating Extension Advisory Councils. His most important activity is volunteering with the Hillsborough County 4-H Foundation through the annual County Fair 4-H barbecue, the annual 4-H strawberry U-Pick that includes strawberries for the disadvantaged, raising funds

for the county 4-H camping program, helping coordinate the annual 4-H awards luncheon, handling the Foundation’s monthly minutes and preparation of the newsletter. Mike’s 4-H journey has taken 60 years and continues today.



The Florida 4-H Hall of Fame is generously supported by the Florida 4-H Club Foundation. If you know an outstanding individual who has shown exceptional commitment to the Florida 4-H Program who is deserving of induction into the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame, please contact Florida 4-H State Resource Development Coordinator, Annie Muscato at afmuscato@ufl.edu or by phone at (352) 294-2906 for more information. Donations to the Florida 4-H Foundation in support of the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame Program can be mailed to: 2142 Shealy Drive, PO Box 110225, Gainesville, Florida 32611 c/o Annie Muscato.

4-H UNIVERSITY: Formerly known as 4-H Congress



Fun, Friends and Learning for Teens

After receiving input from both 4-H youth and adults through numerous surveys and advisory sessions, the event formerly known as Florida 4-H Congress will now be recognized as Florida 4-H University.

Over a year ago, conversations begin about further enhancing the 4-H flagship event and numerous audiences have been provided the opportunity to offer input. This is why we announce the new name with excitement; because this was truly a decision made from much input.

Was 4-H Congress a highlight in your past? Well now is the time to make this event a part of your present.

Take a moment to visit <http://florida4h.org/4HU> to read more about what we are doing just for Alumni.

4-H National Youth Science Day

Ready. Set. Map it! Millions of young people became geospatial scientists for the day during the sixth annual 4-H National Youth Science Day (NYSD) on October 9th. This event, taking place in urban, suburban and rural communities all across the nation, seeks to spark an early youth interest and leadership in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers in an effort to keep America competitive in those fields.

This year, the National Science Experiment, **4-H Maps & Apps**, designed by Colorado State University Extension, turns young people into geospatial thinkers as they design and map their ideal park, use GIS mapping to solve community problems and contribute data about their community to the United States Geological Survey. Hundreds of events took place around the country on October 9th. Many more are planned and will happen in the coming days and weeks.

Currently, more than five million young people across the nation participate in 4-H STEM programming in topics as varied as robotics, agricultural science, rocketry, wind power, environmental science and alternative energy. Keep up with Florida 4-H Science programming at <http://florida4h.org/science>.



4-H Clover Society

In May 2013, Florida 4-H launched the Florida 4-H Clover Society in order to provide the State Program Leader a critical source of support to sustain current 4-H programming as well as allow for expansion of the program to positively impact more Florida youth.

The three mission mandates for Florida 4-H are: healthy lifestyle; science, technology, engineering and math; and citizenship and leadership. Underpinning these mission mandates is

a directive from the citizens of Florida requesting that Florida 4-H prepare today's youth to enter tomorrow's workforce. Support of the Florida 4-H Youth Development program through the Clover Society helps provide the resources to meet these mandates.

Funds contributed to the Clover Society may be used in a variety of ways, as outlined below, based on the most pressing needs of the program:

4-H Clover Society cont...

- To provide support to signature 4-H programs such as Community Pride, a service learning program; Florida 4-H University, a university-based program for teens to learn more about career opportunities and also the culmination of the year of learning for many 4-H youth; and other state-level competitive events and educational programs such as the Marine Ecology Event;
- To provide needed funds for state events that will allow 4-H to keep registration costs low, allowing more youth to participate in events such as National 4-H Congress or Citizenship Washington Focus.

- To provide funding for the State Officers and Executive Board for meetings, travel, training, etc.; and
- To provide for the needs of a growing program by providing funds to hire student assistants or provide internship opportunities for students considering a career in 4-H.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Clover Society, or would like to discuss other giving opportunities such as event sponsorship or estate giving, please contact Carré Saunders at 352-392-1975 or csaunders@ufl.edu.

Past State 4-H Council President Sean Russell Receives a Peter Benchley Ocean Award

Named for the author of *Jaws*, the Peter Benchley Ocean Awards celebrate the life and legacy of Benchley, who, though many people are not aware of it, dedicated much of his life to the protection of sharks and the ocean ecosystems they are a part of. The awards, presented by the non-profit Blue Frontier Campaign and marine conservationist Wendy Benchley, celebrate exceptional efforts leading to the protection of our ocean, coasts, and the communities that depend on them.

As a high school intern at Mote Marine Laboratory in Florida, Sean Russell became aware of the problem of marine plastic pollution. In response he founded “Stow It-Don’t Throw It,” a statewide monofilament fishing line recycling program and collaborative effort between youth and environmental groups that has since gone national. In 2011, with the help of Mote Marine Laboratory, Sean led the first Youth Ocean Conservation Summit held in Florida that has now become an annual event. He has also given countless hours to community service projects while serving as a member of the Florida 4-H Program. Twenty-year-old Sean is now a senior at the University of Florida.



Sean was awarded this year’s Christopher Benchley Youth Award which included a Benchley Mantas award sculpture designed by famed marine artist Wyland. Sean joins the ranks of several other notable names including Presidents Laura Chinchilla of Costa Rica and Anote Tong of Kiribati, U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Academy Award-winning director Louie Psihoyos, Port of Los Angeles Director Geraldine Knatz, Retired Navy Captain Don Walsh, the late marine scientist Ram Myers, and the late New Jersey coastal activist Dery Bennett.

A variation of the article was first written by David Helvarg, you can access this article here, <http://newswatch.nationalgeographic.com/2013/01/24/peter-benchleys-blue-legacy-awards/>.

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2013-2014 Florida 4-H Events

Green - State Events • Blue - Regional Events • Red - National Events • Gray - Event Date TBA • Black = Tentative date

November

- 2 Marine Ecology Event
- 22 2nd Executive Board Registration Deadline
- 29- Dec 3 National 4-H Congress, Atlanta, GA
- 29 2nd Executive Board LATE Deadline

December

- 2 Horse Judging School Preregistration Due
- 6-8 2nd Executive Board, Camp Ocala
- 7 Horse Judging School, Gainesville

January

- 2 Livestock Evaluation & Meats Judging Clinic, registration & payment due
- 3 Leadership Adventure Weekend (L.A.W.) Registration Deadline
- 10 Leadership Adventure Weekend (L.A.W.) LATE Deadline
- 14-16 Youth Development Institute (YDI), Ocala Hilton
- 15 Hog-n-Ham Workshop Registration due
- 10-11 Livestock Evaluation & Meats Judging Clinic, Gainesville
- 17-19 Leadership Adventure Weekend (L.A.W.), Camp Ocala
- 20 Hog & Ham Workshop, Gainesville
- 27 State Fair Livestock & Horse Judging Contests Registration due

4-H State Headquarters

4-H State Headquarters is now located on the second floor of the new Straughn IFAS Extension Professional Development Center at 2142 Shealy Drive, Gainesville, FL 32611

