



Regional News

National Association of Extension 4-H Agents

Winter 2009-2010



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Message from the President



Dear NAE4-HA Members,

Winston Churchill said, "The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty." Your NAE4-HA Board will do some strategic planning at our March Board meeting. As we begin this process, we are aware of many difficulties that our members face. We have states looking to cut budgets, not hiring staff to fill vacancies, asking people to take on more responsibilities, and telling people there is no money for professional development. Are these concerns and difficulties for each of us? Yes, they are if we continue to do things the way we always have done them.

As we start this strategic planning process, I hope we can look at ways to do some things differently than we have in the past. Are there ways to hold professional development activities throughout the year by utilizing technology? Can we offer new activities that we have not done in the past? Can we follow up on ideas and information that people share at Conference by using blogs and virtual teams?

If you have ideas the Board may want to explore, please share these thoughts with any of the Board members. All ideas are welcome and may be the opportunity for which we are looking.

Conferences continue to be our big event to get staff together face to face to share ideas and talents. This year, staff members from Arizona and other Western states have been working hard to provide new and interesting ways to do your job. If you have not already thought of a topic that you can share as a presentation or poster session, please consider it. The deadline, February 19, is coming up, but you still have time to get your materials together. As the Conference website says "Conference participants will find their "Passport to Success" as they learn the best practices of positive youth development and renew their personal and professional spirit."

Sincerely,
Earl McAlexander, Iowa
President, NAE4-HA

Your Regional Directors

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North Central Jr. Director
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Western Sr. Director
Connie Cecil
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Western Jr. Director
Scott Nash
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Essential Elements Curriculum Available

Lori Purcell Bledsoe,
Georgia, NAE4-HA
President Elect

Essential Elements - Key Ingredients for 4-H Positive Youth Development held a pre-conference workshop at NAE4-HA with 36 participants. The group participated in hands-on activities related to the 10 modules created by the Essential Elements team of the 4-H National Learning Priorities. Each module has background information, two learning activities, and processing activities. There are also appendices with research-based background information that complements the curriculum. This is a free, 182 page curriculum that you can download at <http://4-H.org/resources/staff.html>. If you would like to have committee members come to your state to train agents, staff, and volunteers, please contact Pam Garza at National 4-H Council at pgarza@fourhcouncil.edu.

Member Services Report

Kia Harries, Minnesota
NAE4-HA VP Member Services



As the New Year is celebrated, the transition of the NAE4-HA website is well underway. Please visit www.nae4ha.com to see the new page! If you attempt to use the old site at www.nae4ha.org you will be redirected to the

new page. Items have been transitioned or are in the process. Another new change you will find is related to your log-in access to member only items on the site. You should have received an email just after the first of January, giving you information about your log-in access to the members only items. This is a result of a transition of the data base we are now using called Memberclicks. We hope to be better able to meet your needs with this new program.

Jody Rosen of The Association Source is the new Executive Director of NAE4-HA. Jody will be working closely with the NAE4-HA Board of Trustees on items related to the website, finances and data management. Jody will be helping to transition items on the website and will be working with state membership contacts to ensure membership data is up to date.

Programs Committee

Task Force Chairs

Sally Miske, National 4-H Council Programs
Committee Chair

The Programs Committee does not have regional contacts however there are several Task Forces working in specific areas. Following is a list of Task Force Chairs. Please contact them to get involved and to learn more about the are of the Task Force listed.

After School

Beth Rasa
P: 816-252-5051
rasab@missouri.edu

Animal Science

Stephanie Etter
P: 208-459-6003
setter@uidaho.edu

Camping & Environmental Education

Neva Baltzell
P: 850-929-4429
campcherrylake@gmail.com

Communication and Expressive Arts

Ellen Williams
P: 732-431-7263
Williams@njaes.rutgers.edu

Geospacial

Susan Hayden
P: 618-939-3434
shayden@uiuc.edu

Healthy Living

Annette Devitt
P: 856-769-0090
devitt@aesop.rutgers.edu

Urban Programming

Meg Sage Mach
P: 816-252-5051
sagemachm@missouri.edu

Work Force Development and Career

Exploration
Lynette Black
P: 541-298-3578
Lynette.black@oregonstate.edu

Youth in Governance

Barbara A. Baker
P: 207-942-7397
bbaker@umext.maine.edu

Meet Your New Executive Director

Jody B. Rosen, APR



Jody Rosen is the new Executive Director of NAE4-HA. Jody is the owner of The Association Source, LLC, a full-service Association Management Company headquartered

in Boca Raton, Florida. She is a senior-level executive with nearly two decades of experience working with non-profit and government organizations.

She has served as the Executive Director for international, national, state, and local associations, cross-sectioned across a wide array of industries. Furthermore, she has served as adjunct faculty in the Hospitality and Tourism program at Florida Atlantic University. In 1999, she was awarded the designation of Accredited in Public Relations (APR) by the Public Relations Society of America.

Prior to starting the firm in 1999 (originally, in Baltimore, Maryland), Rosen served as the Director of Communications for the Maryland Supplemental Retirement Agency, where she was responsible for the agency's strategic public relations efforts. During her career, Rosen received more than a dozen local, national, and international awards for member marketing, public relations, and graphic design.

Jody holds a bachelor's in journalism and consumer economics and a master's in consumer economics, both from the University of Georgia.

Future Annual Conferences

2010: Phoenix, AZ-October 24-28
2011: Omaha, NE-October 24-28
2012: Orlando, FL-October 21-25

Looking for YOU in 2010!

Karen Hatch Gagne,
NAE4-HA Past President

Are you an Extension 4-H Youth Development faculty, educator or staff working in our field? Are you a member of our National Association of Extension 4-H Agents who is interested in a leadership role?

The Organizational Stewardship Committee is looking for YOU and asking you to step forward and run for a National Leadership position. We will be calling you to personally ask you to run for office. Please seriously consider this request!

If you have questions please contact any member of this committee:

Dean Aakre dean.aakre@nds.u.edu
Bernadine Wiesen bw27@cornell.edu
Michael Martin mjmartin@ncsu.edu
Jeff Holland jholland@purdue.edu
Ron Drum rdrum@fourhcouncil.edu
Janet Schmidt schmidtj@wsu.edu
Kim Hall mehlk@umsystem.edu
Michael McManus mmcmns@clemson.edu
Chad Conway cconway@uky.edu
Marla Lowder mldowder@uaf.edu
Karen Hatch Gagne
karenhg@umext.maine.edu or
karenhg@uscellular.blackberry.com

The following positions are available:

President-Elect
Vice President for Marketing and Outreach
Vice President for Professional Development

For more information on roles and expectations of these positions go to the Organizational documents, then click the NAE4-HA Governance Policies and read through this document.

http://www.nae4ha.com/members_docs.htm

Regional Directors:

Southern Regional Director (1) – Communications
Western Regional Director- Finance
North Central Regional Director- Communications
Northeast Regional Director- Finance

For more information on roles and expectations for the Regional Director Positions go to the RD Handbook (see link below).

http://www.nae4ha.com/members_handbooks.htm

Journal of Youth Development

Bridging Research & Practice—Volume 4, No. 4 Winter 2009



Journal of Youth Development Posted

The Journal of Youth Development has been posted. You should check out this online resource for Professional development on the nae4ha.com website. Once you logon to the website using your member ID and password, the Journal is listed in the left hand menu of the NAE4-HA member homepage.

Journal of Extension (JOE) Report

Joseph Donaldson, Tennessee, NAE4-HA liaison to JOE

JOE is...

- A rigorous, high-quality refereed journal
- Submissions are double-blind reviewed by one to three of 77 well-qualified peer reviewers. The five-year average acceptance rate is currently 32.4 percent.
- Written, reviewed, and edited by Extension professionals who want to share their successful educational practices, research results, scholarly opinions, resources, and challenges

JOE provides Extension professionals a...

- Place to publish intellectual and creative work that is validated by peers and communicated
- Forum for emerging and contemporary issues affecting Extension education
- Knowledge bank of peers' best practices
- Place to learn about the Extension profession
- Clearinghouse of ideas for tackling new assignments
- Literature resource for project ideas and grant proposals
- Mechanism for sharing knowledge, experience, and "lessons learned"

Visit JOE's redesigned Web site at www.joe.org. The reviews on the redesigned site have been very positive:

"KUDOS on the new format! Great job."

Much more readable and navigable, and the articles print out much more cleanly."

JOE needs peer reviewers...

- Who represent Extension professionals from different parts of the country with backgrounds in a variety of subject matters
- Who are willing to validate and support Extension professionals' scholarly work through a critical and exacting review
- Who have experience as published authors and who have breadth as well as depth of expertise
- Who are ready and able to meet the standards and expectations outlined in JOE FAQ #8 at <http://www.joe.org/about-faqs.php#Q8>

"KUDOS on the new format! Great job. Much more readable and navigable, and the articles print out much more cleanly."

Meet Your 2009-10 NAE4-HA Board of Trustees Members

Earl McAlexander, Iowa President

The new President of NAE4-HA is Earl McAlexander. Earl has been a NAE4-HA member for 22 years and has served as North Central Regional Director and Vice President for Member Services. In Iowa, Earl works with the staff in five counties in Northwest Iowa on 4-H programming needs. Science activities have always been a big part of Earl's programming and he currently serves as Iowa's SET State Liaison.

Earl has two children. The oldest is a sophomore at Iowa State University and the younger is a 3rd grader at Rockwell City Elementary where his mother works. Earl likes to help coach sports teams and fish. As a 4-H parent, Earl was a 4-H club leader for five years.

Lori Purcell Bledsoe, Georgia President Elect

Lori Purcell Bledsoe has served for seven years as the 4-H Program Development Coordinator for the Northwest District in Georgia. Prior to her appointment as the PDC, she was a 4-H Agent and high school teacher. Lori is a "triple dawg" graduate of the University of Georgia with a Doctorate of Education, Masters of Agricultural Extension, and a Bachelors of Science. In her role as PDC, Lori supports 4-H County Extension Agents by providing staff development for County Extension faculty in the areas of youth development, new agent training, partnerships with public schools, lesson development and curricula implementation, and program development. Lori served as President of GAE4-HA in 2004-2006 and was the NAE4-HA Chair of Research and Evaluation. She is currently on the steering committee for the National 4-H Headquarters National Learning Priorities.

Lori is married to Dennis Bledsoe, owner of Alcovy Mechanical Heating and Air. They are the proud parents of Luke Bledsoe, born in 2007, who you can see dancing at many 4-H functions, and Lori enjoys being the step-mother to a baseball loving boy, Jacob.

Carrie Stark, Idaho Vice President for Professional Development

Carrie Stark is a 4-H Youth Development Specialist with the University of Idaho Extension. Her 15 year career in Extension has taken her to North Dakota, Michigan, and Idaho. Carrie recently served as NAE4-HA Programs Chair. She has served as Treasurer and Vice President for IAE4-HA and as Treasurer for MAE4-HYS. Carrie has a BS and MS degree from the University of Idaho in Agriculture and Extension Education. She is currently pursuing a PhD in Education at North Dakota State University.

Lena D. Mallory, Kentucky Vice President for Finance and Operations

Lena Mallory has served as a County Extension Agent for 4-H Youth Development for over nine years in two Western Kentucky counties. In Marshall County, she established after-school 4-H clubs, strengthened the Teen Club, secured horse and shooting sports volunteers, and increased community collaborations. Lena has a BS from the University of Kentucky and MPA from Murray State University. She is married to Torey K. Earle, 4-H Agent-at-Large for SET. Lena and Torey have a family of three cats (Blondie, Baby, & Tosha).

Kia Harries, Minnesota Vice President for Member Services

Kia Harries has been a member of NAE4-HA for 18 years and has served as North Central Regional Director. In Minnesota, Kia works with the staff in 4 counties in Southwest Minnesota on 4-H programming needs. Natural resources have always been a big part of Kia's programming and she currently serves as the MN 4-H Shooting Sports & Wildlife State Coordinator. Kia also serves as the MN Operation Military Kids State Liaison. Kia and her husband Darin enjoy time together with their dog, farming and keeping up with 9 nephews and 2 nieces.

Regional Directors

Nancy Hegland, Minnesota North Central Jr. Director

During the past 19 years, Nancy Hegland has worked as a 4-H youth development professional with University of Minnesota Extension. She currently serves as a Program Leader, where she works with staff to ensure quality youth development programming. Nancy co-chairs the youth leadership initiative in MN, as well as focuses on human resource development. Nancy joined NAE4HA when she began her Extension career, getting involved on the Programs Committee, and served on the Organizational Stewardship committee for two years. Nancy has served in leadership roles in her state association, MAE4-HYDP.

Nancy and her husband, Darin are the proud parents of three future 4-Her's. She serves on the board of trustees at her church and is vice-chair of the Healthy Community Initiative in her community. Nancy enjoys traveling, shopping, biking, cooking, and spending time with her family.

Tony Carrell, Indiana North Central Sr. Director

Tony Carrell serves as 4-H Youth Development Extension Educator in Boone County, Indiana. Tony has been with the Purdue Extension system for 13 years where he has served on a variety of committees and is a past President of the 4-H Youth Development section of the Indiana Extension Educators Association. He is also part of the state youth development team that provides training to new 4-H Youth Development Educators and is a facilitator of the Myers-Briggs Personality Type Indicator.

In his spare time, Tony serves on the local volunteer fire department as a firefighter and medical first responder for the past 21 years. Currently he is Assistant Chief. Tony is the high school Sunday School teacher at his church and works with the youth group. Tony loves to cook on the grill and experiment with recipes in the kitchen.

North Central Region Report

The North Central Region is proud to report that \$1,700 was raised through the silent and dollar auctions that took place at the regional breakfast. Thanks go to National 4-H Council for donating the NASCAR replica that sold for \$360. The north central region also collected over \$400 for the cancer society at national conference for the community service project. Monies raised at the regional breakfast auctions will be used to support national conferences hosted in our region. Nebraska will be hosting the NAE4-HA Conference in 2011. Our thanks go to all the states for the items donated and to all those members who participated in these auctions.

**Craig Presar, West Virginia
Northeast Region Jr. Director**

Craig Presar is the WVU Extension Agent for 4-H & Youth Development in Upshur County, WV. In addition to county duties, he serves as the Director for West Virginia's Alpha I State 4-H Camp. He is a member of WVU Extension's "Camping Team". He is the father of Meg, 12, and Charlie D., 10. He met his wife, LeAnn, at 4-H camp. Be sure to ask Craig about his virtuosity on the hurdy-gurdy!

**Deborah Cole, New Jersey
Northeast Region Sr. Director**

Deborah L. Cole, Atlantic County 4-H Agent, was originally hired in 1987 as the county's 4-H Program Associate, working 10 years in an out-of-title capacity until becoming agent in 1999. Debi has implemented youth development programming for 4-H clubs, afterschool activities, and special interest programs with a strong focus on innovative at-risk programs and partnerships. Debi has served on several national committees and as editor of News & Views (1993-95). She has also served as secretary, president-elect, and president of the NJA4-HA.

**Melissa Henry, Tennessee
Southern Region Jr. Director**

Melissa has worked as a 4-H Agent in Tennessee for 11 years. Previously she has served as her state Association's President, President-Elect, and Recognition Chair. Melissa has a very active county program with about 2500 youth participating at the county, state, and national levels in judging teams, communication events, and individual project work. Melissa's main areas of 4-H work are natural resources, SET and youth leadership. She is excited about the opportunity to serve on the national board and visiting with the states about their organizations and programs. Melissa looks forward to working on the board to continue the success of NAE4-HA.

**Hilton Waits, Louisiana
Southern Region Jr. Director**

Hilton started working with the Louisiana Extension Service in 1990 and has been a member of LAE4-HA and NAE4-HA since then. He currently works with an enrollment of 1,300 4-H members, 130 Jr. Leaders, and over 300 adult volunteers in Vermilion Parish. Hilton has participated in 8 NAE4-HA conferences and was a co-presenter of a session at the National 4-H Agents Conference held in Atlanta. He served as President of LAE4-HA in 2004. As our states continue to face future budget restraints,

Hilton feels Regional Directors will play a vital role in connecting members to our association. He is proud to be a member of this association and greatly appreciates the opportunity to work with you to make our profession stronger and 4-H a vital program in the development of youth. Please feel free to contact Hilton if he can be of assistance. (By email at hwais@agcenter.lsu.edu or by phone at 337-898-4335)

**Nelson McCaskill, North Carolina
Southern Region Sr. Director**

Nelson McCaskill became Extension Agent with 4-H Youth Development responsibilities in Iredell County, North Carolina, in December of 1987 and immediately joined NAE4-HA. Nelson has served as President, President Elect, Vice President, and Treasurer of NCAE4-HA. He was Assistant Treasurer and served on the Steering Committee for the 1993 NAE4-HA Conference. Nelson holds a BS in Agronomy from NC State University and a MBA from Gardner-Webb University

**Scott Nash, Idaho
Western Region Jr. Director**

Scott has been a 4-H Extension Educator in Idaho for 14 years. He manages a 4-H program with over 3,800 youth. Scott has served in many State leadership roles including president. He served as the NAE4-HA Western Region Member Recognition Contact and on the 2005 NAE4-HA Conference Committee. Scott was a 10 year 4-H member. Scott and his wife Janet have been married for 27 years and have been 4-H volunteers for 20 years. Their 3 children participated in 4-H livestock projects for 15 years.

**Connie Cecil, Wyoming
Western Region Sr. Director**

Connie received a BS in Family Consumer Science and a MA in Post Secondary Education from the University of Wyoming, where she started her Extension Career. She worked in Wyoming Extension in the area of 4-H and Family Consumer Science for 5 years. She then traveled south to work in Colorado Extension, where she has been for 8 years, and she is currently working as the 4-H State Specialist for Curriculum and Projects. Connie also is the staff advisor for the Colorado State 4-H Officer Team. Connie enjoys the outdoors, traveling, and making new friends.

**Committee Chairs
Sally Miske, National 4-H Council
Programs Committee Chair**

Sally Miske joined National 4-H Council in April 2003. Her primary focus areas are: complex, multi-year programs/projects; federal programs; development of concept papers and proposals; and fiscal management for the Resource Development team. Before joining National 4-H Council, Sally spent three years as a county 4-H Agent with the University of Wisconsin-Extension. Prior to that, she spent over ten years with the Student Conservation Association designing, directing, and managing regional and national professional internship programs for college students in the context of environmental/natural resources management, policy and planning. Sally has an MS in Natural Resources and a BS in Geography.

**Kasey Reid, Georgia
Member Recognition Chair**

Kasey is serving as the Jasper County 4-H Agent and County Extension Coordinator. Immediately prior to this position, she worked as a 4-H Agent in east Tennessee and in southwest Georgia. She has over ten years of experience and has attended every NAE4-HA conference since she began working with Extension. Kasey was Chair of the Awards and Recognition committee for the 2007 NAE4-HA conference in Atlanta and has served as the state Member Recognition Chair for both Tennessee's and Georgia's 4-H Agent Associations.

**Cheryl R. Varnadoe, Georgia
Public Relations and Information Chair**

Cheryl has been with Extension for 25 years as both a County Extension Agent and in her current role as a 4-H Specialist for Georgia 4-H. Some of her responsibilities include Family and Consumer Science related projects, Clovers & Co. and the performing arts, marketing, and the 4-H Youth Technology Leadership team. Cheryl has been on the NAE4-HA Board previously as Policy and Resolutions Chair. She is the Mom of an energetic seven-year-old future 4-H'er, Parker, and is married to Carl Varnadoe, who also works for Extension as a County Coordinator. Cheryl is an avid bulldog fan and is proud to be a 4-H alumnus. Cheryl says her blood truly does run green.

The National 4-H Hall of Fame

From: Pamela I. Van Horn, Chair
National Hall of Fame

Re: 2010 Hall of Fame Nominations

Date: October 24, 2009

The National 4-H Hall of Fame Task Force of NAE4-HA, in cooperation with National 4-H Headquarters and National 4-H Council, is pleased to announce that nominations for the class of 2010 will be accepted until February 28, 2009.

A nomination form will be sent to the State 4-H Leader and Foundation Director by December 1, 2009. Please contact the State 4-H Leader or Foundation Director following that date for the application. The State 4-H Leader's and the nominator's signatures are required on the nomination form when submitting. The signature confirms the application is the only one from the State.

The National 4-H Hall of Fame honors 4-H volunteers, supporters, staff and pioneers who made major contributions to 4-H at the local, state and national levels. People who have been previously nominated but not selected must be resubmitted. People currently employed by 4-H or extension or who have administrative responsibility with 4-H or extension or the land-grant university or federal extension system will not be considered until retired or deceased for a minimum of three years prior to the date of nomination.

During the 4-H Hall of Fame selection process a 16 member committee reviews the applications. The selection committee consists of eight NAE4-H A members (2 from each region); representatives from 4-H National Headquarters; National 4-H Council; a past NAE4-HA president; a youth representative; and three Hall of Fame laureates. The committee members serve two years terms.

The task force anticipates 10 - 20 laureates selected for this prestigious honor. The 2010 ceremony has been scheduled October 8 at the National 4-H Center.

Please visit the NAE4-HA web site to view biographies and other interesting information from previous 4-H Hall of Fame classes. If you have questions, suggestions or corrections, related to the National 4-H Hall of Fame web site, please direct them to Jim Kahler at jkahler@nifia.usda.gov. For other questions, please Pam Van Horn at pvanhorn@ksu.edu

2009 National 4-H Hall of Fame Report

*Travis Burke, North Carolina
Past PR&I Committee Chair*

The 2009 4-H Hall of Fame inducted 15 laureates on October 9, 2009, during a ceremony conducted at National 4-H Center, Chevy Chase, MD. This year's laureate list includes notable 4-H professionals, financial supporters and volunteers. The 2009 class is:

Ella Agnew, CSREES (Deceased)
Chester D. Black, NC
Janet A. Blanchard, MI
Senator Saxby Chambliss, GA
Tom Davison, TX
Barbara Hatfield, NAE4-HA
Joe Hughes, OK (Deceased)
Fern Shipley Kelley, CSREES (Deceased)
Jim Kemp, NAE4-HA
Rhonwyn Lowry, CSREES (Deceased)
Senator C. William Nelson, II, FL
Jack Odle, AL
A. Lois Redman, KS
Tom H. Scott, LA (Deceased)
William F. Stevens, MN

The 2010 Hall of Fame event will be on Friday, October 8, 2010 at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) Conference

The Public Issues Leadership Development (PILD) Conference is your premier opportunity for professional development in the public issues arena. The conference also provides agents/educators the unique opportunity to interact with federal decision makers. This year's conference will be held **April 26-28, 2010**, at the Key Bridge Marriott in Virginia. The Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) sponsors this annual conference to keep Extension professionals abreast of changing public issues that impact our communities and affect Extension programming. There are numerous breakout sessions that NAE4-HA attendees may find particularly interesting.

Registration for the Conference is open now. Hotel rooms went quickly last year and the block filled before the registration deadline. Check out the JCEP website for detailed information: <http://jcep.org/>



Joint Council of
Extension Professionals

JCEP Workshop February 2-4

State Association Presidents are reminded that there will be one JCEP workshop site this year. It will be February 2-4, in Nashville, TN. Registration and information can be found at www.jcep.org. NAE4-HA pays for the registration fee and most travel expenses for one delegate from each state to attend. The Regional Directors are working hard to offer an educational program during our association business meeting and, as always, time will be devoted for regional breakout sessions to share updates and discuss regional business. We look forward to having EVERY state represented at the JCEP Workshop in Nashville!



2010 NAE4-HA National Conference
October 24-28, 2010
Phoenix, AZ
Arizona Grand Resort -
South Mountain
www.2010nae4ha.org