



THE PEACH PRESS



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MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS PRIVILEGES!

Denise Everson, GAE4-HA President

As the end of April approaches, many of our members are working overtime pulling together all of the pieces for what will be an amazing professional opportunity, as well as a great time with co-workers and friends: the 2009 State GAE4-HA Conference. GAE4-HA relies on our membership to make this organization a “Box Office Hit”, and we want you to take advantage of all that being a member has to offer!

As a member of GAE4-HA, benefits include:

- National affiliation and benefits of NAE4-HA.

As part of GAE4-HA membership dues, you are automatically a member of the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents. Learn more about the benefits this includes by visiting the new NAE4-HA website at <http://nae4ha.com/>.

- Professional development opportunities within district, state, region, and national.

Districts have the option of planning professional development opportunities. Our state association offers an annual conference each year in April. And, you can join 4-H and Youth Development professionals from across the nation at the annual NAE4-HA Conference, held this year in Rochester, New York; October 25-29, 2009. Conference registration has not yet been posted, but hotel room rates start at \$119 per room per night!! You can find all of the latest details at <http://media.cce.cornell.edu/hosts/nae4ha2009/>.

Mark your calendar for future NAE4-HA Conferences:

2010: Phoenix, AZ - October 24 - 28

2011: Omaha, NE - October 24 - 28

2012: Orlando, FL - October 21 – 26

While you are at it, start thinking about how you can share your work with youth through a national presentation or poster session! This looks GREAT in your dossier!!

- Professional recognition opportunities and awards at the district, state, regional, and national level.

Each year as part of our state meeting, we recognize our district and state awards winners. While some of these recognitions end at the state level, many of these are “national awards” and will compete at the regional and then national level for additional recognition. Several of these include cash awards or professional development monies. This is a great way to receive recognition for your county programs, as well as provide extra money to offset travel expenses for national conferences. And you have another chance to wear your fancy State Congress outfit!

- Quarterly publications including NAE4-HA’s News & Views and Journal of Youth Development:

Bridging Research & Practice, an edited journal of 4-H Youth Development work and applied research and the official publication of NAE4-HA.

Our state newsletter, “The Peach Press” highlights our state activities, but a great way to keep up with our national programs and initiatives, as well as the latest youth development and 4-H research is to take advantage of these national publications. Links to these are sent to the membership via email, and can be viewed at <http://www.nae4ha.com/> under “Periodicals”.

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- Travel and educational scholarships and grants.

If you attend the national meeting every year from the time you are hired until you retire, you have a very good chance of visiting 30 or more different states in the United States! Our national meetings rotate between regions each year, so we have the opportunity to see so many different parts of this fabulous country – while presenting presentations, earning national awards, and networking with our colleagues. Submitting great award packets increases the opportunity you have to see so many parts of the country at a reduced price!

- Opportunity for individual involvement on a state and national level.

GAE4-HA is looking for leaders! We need members who are interested in serving as executive board members, committee chairs, and district directors to help keep our association growing. Please let me or any of the current board know if you are interested in a leadership position within the association, or if you know of someone who may be ready to take the challenge.

NAE4-HA is also looking for leaders! We want our membership to be well represented on the national level and are fortunate to have Georgia folks serving in various roles each year. If you are ready to get involved at the national level, please visit www.nae4ha.com/ under “Committees” to learn more about the opportunities available and read the UGA Policy/ Procedure for Cooperative Extension Personnel desiring to be National/ Regional Candidate for Office or National/ Regional Committee Task Force Chair for Professional Organizations at <http://www.caes.uga.edu/intranet/coextopr/pdfs/ppalp.pdf>.

- Leadership development opportunities through state and national seminars.

Don't feel ready to take on a leadership role – we still have some great opportunities for you. Join a committee: at the state and national level. You can also seek out professional development and leadership opportunities at state and national state conferences.

Membership has it's privileges – take advantage of all the benefits GAE4-HA has to offer you and make a plan to share your talents with GAE4-HA!!!

2009 GAE4-HA ANNUAL MEETING AND PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE

Rebecca Thomas, GAE4-HA President-elect

The GAE4-HA State Conference Planning Committee cordially invites you to an exciting and premiere event in professional development...The 2009 Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference April 22-23 at Rock Eagle 4-H Center.

Beginning Wednesday with a Box Office Hit of award winning educational exhibits, star studded commercial exhibits and mini – box office program “trailers” of superb youth programming from across the state of Georgia. We will also be showcasing the best of the best with our National NAE4-HA Awards Night, ending with a night of glamour and fun mixed with the famous “High-Rollers“ Casino night.

Thursday will be set for an inspiring professional development program lead by our NAE4-HA Southern Region Senior Director, Tom Manske. This program is sure to inspire us to action as we improve our work with Georgia's youth. We will be applauding our State 4-H award recipients, as they walk the red carpet. We will also be installing our new GAE4-HA Board of Directors.

Register Today!

Join us as we celebrate Georgia's Best!

**April 22-23, 2009
Rock Eagle 4-H Center**





2009 OCEANS OF FUN

By: Al Parker, Putnam County CEA

July 12-14, 2009

Jekyll Island



Are you looking for some fun in the sun on Jekyll Island? Would you like to help with an event where you can work with the children and grandchildren of the educational leaders in your county and from across the state to show them what Georgia 4-H has to offer? Would you be interested in helping your professional association with one of its best fund-raising activities?

If you answered yes to these questions, then GAE4-HA needs your help with the 2009 Oceans of Fun during the Georgia Association of Educational Leadership Conference on Jekyll Island scheduled for July 12 – 14, 2009! Oceans of Fun is an awesome event where we provide classes and activities for the children of GAEL Conference attendees, as well as present a delicious continental breakfast for GAEL delegates.

Volunteers for OOF must be able to stay for the entire event.

For more information and to sign up for Oceans of Fun, contact Al Parker, OOF Coordinator, at alparker@uga.edu.

RESEARCH AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE REPORT

By: Lauren Healey, NAE4-HA Research and Evaluation Committee Chair



Georgia 4-H has a ton of expertise and experience that we need to share with others! The *Journal of Youth Development: Bridging Research and Practice* is a great avenue to do this. The Journal is an online publication that furthers the mission of the youth development profession by facilitating the transfer and application of research-based knowledge.

The *Journal of Youth Development* is published two times each year and manuscripts may be submitted at any time. The deadlines for publication consideration are March 15th for the Fall Issue and September 15th for the Spring Issue. There are four different categories of submissions that appeal to all experience levels:

- **Feature Articles** are informational, explanatory, or critical analysis and interpretation of major trends or comprehensive reviews.
- **Program Articles** discuss programs and outcomes or describe promising programs and pilot projects that have clear implications for youth development research, practice, and programming.
- **Research and Evaluation Strategies** describe innovative methodologies and strategies in the collection and analysis of quantitative or qualitative research and evaluation data.
- **Resource Reviews** present analyses of materials, such as books, curricula, videos, other audio/visual materials, data management software, and Web sites.

Consider sharing your knowledge at the national level!

Please visit the following website for submission guidelines, the most current issue of the *Journal of Youth Development: Bridging Research and Practice*, and additional information: <http://www.nae4ha.org/directory/jyd/index.html>.

COLLEGIATE 4-H'ERS ATTEND THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CONFERENCE AND WIN 2009 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE 4-H CLUB OF THE YEAR!

By: Lauren Ledbetter, Grant Coordinator
Georgia 4-H State Staff

Minneapolis, Minnesota- The University of Georgia Collegiate 4-H Club was thrilled to have the opportunity to experience a "Taste of the Twin Cities" at the National Collegiate 4-H Conference held February 19-21, 2009, hosted by the University of Minnesota. Six delegates from UGA Collegiate 4-H were able to interact with other Collegiate 4-Hers from all across the country at this weekend event. The conference focused on 4-H club development, leadership, service, and career building. The event closed with an awards night on Saturday where the Georgia Collegiate 4-H Club walked away with top honors winning National Collegiate 4-H Club of the Year!

Three delegates from the University of Georgia presented workshops at this year's conference. Heather Williams and Lindsay Hinnant presented a workshop on "How to make your club more effective." Allen Nasworthy presented, "How to generate more members for your club." While in Minneapolis, conference delegates participated in a National Service Project partnered with the "Feed My Starving Children Organization" and packed over 14,000 meals for children living in poverty in Haiti and Africa. Collegiate 4-Hers also saw much of the cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul while taking the world renowned Gangster Tour, visiting the beautiful Guthrie Theater, and participating in a walking tour of Charles Swartz's Peanuts Sculptures on downtown sidewalks. Delegates were able to spend State's Night Out at the Mall of America. UGA 4-Her Heather Williams was also elected to serve as a member of the 2009 National Action Board.

While at the conference, the University of Georgia's Collegiate 4-H Club also received the bid to host the 2011 National Collegiate 4-H Conference in Atlanta. Chair for the National Conference, Heather Williams has already started putting her planning team in place. The conference will be hosted by the University of Georgia in partnership with other collegiate 4-H clubs around the state. Tentatively conference participants will be able to tour the Aquarium, Georgia Dome, Rock Eagle 4-H Center and the University of Georgia. Heather also would like to partner with Hands-On Atlanta for the National Service Project. The conference focus will be on club development and giving collegiate 4-H a purpose. The theme will be, "Always the Real Thing, Always Atlanta."

Delegates who attended the conference were: Allen Nasworthy, UGA Collegiate 4-H Club President and 2008 Southern Region Vice President; Ashley Buford, UGA Collegiate 4-H Vice-President and 2008 National Action Board Member; Heather Williams 2009 National Action Board Member; Carla Larson, and Lindsey Hinnant. The club Advisor is Lauren Ledbetter, Grants Coordinator for The Georgia 4-H Foundation and UGA Cooperative Extension. For more information on Collegiate 4-H or how you can become involved please visit: www.georgia4h.org/collegiate



WALKER STUDENTS SPEND TIME CREATING PUBLIC POLICIES FOR PROJECT CITIZEN

By: Casey Hobbs, Walker County 4-H Agent

During the Fall of 2007, three Walker County classes created Project Citizen portfolios for competition. The Carl Vinson Institute of Government (CVIG) oversees the distribution of the Project Citizen Curriculum and coordinates a statewide competition, the **Carl Vinson State Project Showcase**. 4-H also coordinates its own statewide project showcase, the **4-H Project Citizen Showcase** held during 4-H Fall Forum in December at Rock Eagle 4-H Center.

Project Citizen Level 1 includes any class in 5-8th grade. Walker County was represented by LaFayette Middle School's 8th grade Georgia History class under Mr. John Maretich. Project Citizen Level 2 includes any class in 9-12th grade. Walker County was represented by LaFayette High School's Honor's Government classes under Ms. Joyce Brown.

County Extension Agent, Casey Hobbs presented the Project Citizen workshops during class time that met with the classes' Georgia Performance Standards. The workshops consisted of learning what public policy is and how students can help to change policies that they do not agree with or want to see changed. The classes spent 7-9 classes learning, researching and creating a Project Citizen portfolio. Portfolios consist of a four panel display board and an accompanying binder containing additional documentation.

The Fall 2007 LHS 3rd period Honor's Government Class received 2nd place at the State 4-H Project Citizen Showcase in the Senior Level. Their project is titled Driver's Ed: Made Mandatory, Make Available. Their portfolio talks about the importance of implementing a Driver's Education course at LHS. Their action plan consists of the advantages and disadvantages of having the course and how public high schools can receive grants up to \$200,000 towards a driver's education program.

The Fall 2007 LHS 2nd period Honor's Government Class received 1st place at the State 4-H Project Citizen Showcase in the Senior Level. Their project is titled ASAP: After School Activity Programs. Their portfolio talks about the importance of implementing a city funded and coordinated After School Program and Facility for LaFayette teenagers. Their action plan consists of ways to gain support, program resources, a proposed schedule and policy and procedure ideas.

The Fall 2007 LMS John Maretich's 3rd Block Georgia History Class received 1st place at the State 4-H Project Citizen Showcase in the Junior Level. Their project is titled Do One Thing Everyday. Their portfolio talks about the importance of implementing a statewide water conservation marketing plan to help solve future water crises. Their action plan consists of the advantages and disadvantages, who they can get to support this policy, and a three phase plan from local marketing efforts to a larger state government campaign.

All three of these projects were on display at the 4-H Leadership Day at the Capitol at the Atlanta Freight Depot in February. The students were recognized for their work at the 4-H Fall Forum in December and the 4-H Leadership Day by 4-H and Carl Vinson Institute representatives.

The LaFayette Middle School project Do One Thing Everyday project competed at the 2008 Carl Vinson State Project Showcase in Atlanta on May 7. Only one 4-H showcase is picked to attend this showcase each year. They received second place at the Georgia showcase and was also awarded the "Best Contemporary Issue" by the judges.



F.I.S.H-4-H IDEAS START HERE

Georgia 4-H Agents are among the best in the nation! There is so much great 4-H work being done all over the state. This section of the "Peach Press" will feature some great ideas and efforts from Georgia 4-H Agents. It is an extension of the F.I.S.H website. The F.I.S.H-(4-H Ideas Start Here) website was created as a way for 4-H Agents to "share and steal" ideas! For more great 4-H programming ideas or to submit programs and events that worked in your county visit: <http://www.georgia4h.org/staffonly/apps/FISH/>. This site is managed by Cheryl Varnadoe, State 4-H Specialist and she routinely gives out prizes for posting to the site!



4-H'ers Showcase their Projects at Farmer's Market

By: Casey Hobbs, Walker County 4-H Agent

On Saturday October 4th, 6 Walker County and 1 Whitfield County 4-H'ers displayed exhibits at the Battlefield Farmer's Market in Rock Spring. 4-H'ers showcased displays on chicken projects, 4-H, youth development, lambs, food for fitness, and various other topics. Walker County 4-H'ers that exhibited included: Chandler Green, Dalton Green, Logan Edgeman, Tyler Edgeman, Chase Horne and Dusty Horne.

Walker County 4-H Participates in Hands On Georgia Week

By: Casey Hobbs, Walker County 4-H Agent

Walker County 4-H continues to inspire hundreds to participate in community service projects for Hands On Georgia Week 2008. This year's selection of Hands On projects brought volunteers from all 159 counties, tackling important issues within the local communities. Hands On volunteers performed more than 130,000 hours of community service including mentoring, state beautification and caring for senior citizens. Hands On Georgia Week is the country's largest organized statewide week of service and creates an opportunity for interested Georgia residents to give back to their communities and neighbors. Each year, thousands of Georgians, young and old, benefit from the volunteer activities of Hands On Georgia Week. More than 30,000 volunteers across the state of Georgia will mobilize to serve their community's needs.

Walker County 4-H Council members and Rossville Middle School 4-H'ers participated in this event by working together to complete the project on Tuesday October 21. This is the third year that Walker County 4-H has participated in this event. They beautified an outdoor area of Rossville Middle School in Rossville. This year they were able to re-plant the nandinas, dwarf hollies and border grasses from the old Rossville Middle School as well add new plants into the two beds at the front entrance of the school.

Bulloch County 4-H'ers Tune In for a T.V. Land Summer!

By: Lee Anna M. Deal, Bulloch County 4-H Agent

4-H'ers in Bulloch County are tuning in for a great summer! Plans are underway for the 2009 summer program. 4-H'ers will get off the couch and participate in REAL LIVE, ACTION-PACKED Adventures all summer long as Bulloch County 4-H presents a T.V. Land Summer! Each fun-filled day is centered around a particular T.V. channel. Some of the stations we will tune into include The Learning Channel, which will feature a baby-sitting workshop and the Food Network, which will include a full day of lessons in cooking from A-Z! There will also be a History Channel Day where 4-H members will uncover the history and mystery of historic Savannah, GA. Just in time for the heat of July, the 4-H office will host a Nickelodeon-style wet and wild day complete with huge blow-up water slides and a jungle pool. Bulloch County 4-H is also teaming up with the Department of Natural Resources to offer a Hunter Education Course for The Outdoor Channel day. The summer will come to an end with the Discovery Channel day where 4-H'ers can discover the fun at Wild Adventures theme park. We are looking forward to an awesome summer line up on all our favorite channels!