

4-H Annual Report

*Building
on the
Legacy*

GEORGIA 4-H



Letter from Interim State 4-H Leader/Director of 4-H

As a county Extension agent in Carroll County, I recall a fifth grade 4-H'er sticking his head out of a school bus window, holding a white ribbon as I walked by and saying, "Look, Mr. Smith! I placed third in my project!" I knew there were only three participants in his project, but the excitement on his face and the pride of his accomplishment that he had prepared his demonstration and given his presentation before his peers, has been the only motivation that I really needed to get up and go to work every day. For better than 105 years, Georgia 4-H has provided the opportunity for so many young people to build self confidence and develop life skills that will continue to enable them to be productive citizens.

2009 was a year of change for Georgia 4-H. The University of Georgia and the Georgia 4-H Program held dedications for two new facilities. In December 2008, the new dining hall at Rock Eagle 4-H Center was dedicated, and in February 2009, children from Spaulding Drive Charter Elementary School from Fulton County were the first group to be served a meal in the new facility. This long awaited dining hall will mean much to the continued success of Rock Eagle 4-H Center which is often referred to as the "home away from home" for thousands of Georgia 4-H'ers. In addition, a dedication was held for a new staff dormitory in July 2009 at Burton 4-H Center. We are excited about new cabins under construction at Rock Eagle 4-H Center and many other improvements at all the Georgia 4-H Centers.

The future of Georgia 4-H is also bright because we are fortunate in Georgia to have the best trained county Extension agents, 4-H program assistants, and 4-H volunteers who meet face to face with 4-H'ers each day and become the caring adults who provide guidance for our 4-H members.

Our private partner in the Georgia 4-H Foundation also excelled in the past year. Private giving was at an all time high and the number of grants and the dollars received from grant funding to support both the state and local 4-H programs continues to grow. The biggest change during the past year was the retirements of so many of our county and state Extension faculty. Nearly 80 county and state faculty members retired resulting in the loss of many years of knowledge and experience. The Georgia 4-H program was not spared in retirements. Several Extension agents

who had primary responsibility for 4-H retired, along with two District 4-H Program Development Coordinators, Marilyn Poole and Teresa Harvey. In addition our state 4-H program leader, Dr. Roger C. "Bo" Ryles, retired after nearly 16 years as State 4-H Leader in Georgia. In the 105-year history of Georgia 4-H, there have been only seven state 4-H leaders, and Bo's retirement leaves big shoes to fill as we move forward in these uncertain economic times. For the past several years, Bo has been recognized as the best state 4-H leader in the nation and we will certainly miss his leadership, his passion for his work, and his compassion for the young members of Georgia 4-H. Even with the many changes and retirements in the 4-H program, Georgia 4-H will continue to be the premier youth development program in the United States.

Our 4-H Environmental Education program celebrated its 30th anniversary during 2009. We have reached more than 800,000 young people at our five 4-H Centers through this hands-on, science based program that was begun in 1979 at Rock Eagle 4-H Center under the direction of Diane Davies and then State 4-H Leader, Dr. Tom Rodgers.

During the coming year, Georgia 4-H will focus our efforts to create more certified volunteer leader training programs modeled after the Safety Awareness and Firearm Education certification program that we have conducted for many years. Georgia 4-H is making plans to improve our use of the social media and cyber technology to reach our 4-H audiences, and we will continue to strive to help county 4-H programs enhance their private funding at the local level.

The success of the Georgia 4-H program has been built on a private and public partnership between USDA, the land grant universities, and local public entities working together with private partners to help develop the nation's young people into the leaders of tomorrow. We appreciate the support of both our private and public partners and we hope you will continue to enable Georgia 4-H to provide positive learning experiences for 4-H'ers across our great state.

Arch D. Smith, Interim State 4-H Leader/Director of 4-H



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GEORGIA 4-H GREEN JACKET AWARD

The 2009 Georgia 4-H Green Jacket Award went to Commissioner Mike Beatty. Recognizing the extraordinary support Commissioner Beatty has given to 4-H and to the entire community of youth across our state, the kelly green blazer was presented to the Commissioner at the 67th State 4-H Congress during the Georgia EMC closing banquet. Mike Beatty, hailing from Jackson County, has served in several leadership roles including as a recent member of the Georgia General Assembly and the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). He has worked closely with 4-H leaders in sustaining the biennial youth summit and establishing a statewide network of workshops and grants to support youth/adult partnerships.

Interim State 4-H Leader Arch Smith said, "Commissioner Beatty is unwavering in his support of young people and has been a great enabler for 4-H." Commissioner Beatty is a Georgia 4-H Foundation trustee and continues to lead in our state as Commissioner of DCA. We congratulate

Mike Beatty and thank him for his service to young people and particularly 4-H. ♣



Commissioner Mike Beatty

2009 Georgia 4-H Enrollment: 155,299

2009 GEORGIA 4-H IMPACT

4-H CAMP: 9,690

ADULT VOLUNTEERS: 18,117

AGRICULTURE: 9,141

4-H CENTER USE: 103,098

COMMUNICATIONS: 4,547

4-H ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION: 37,147

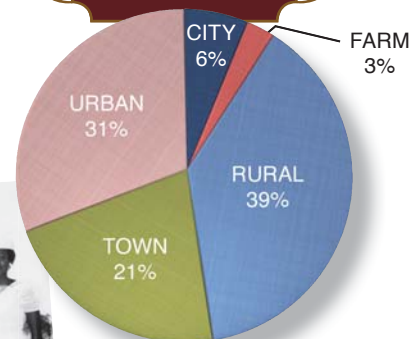
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE: 9,428

FORT VALLEY 4-H: 2,287

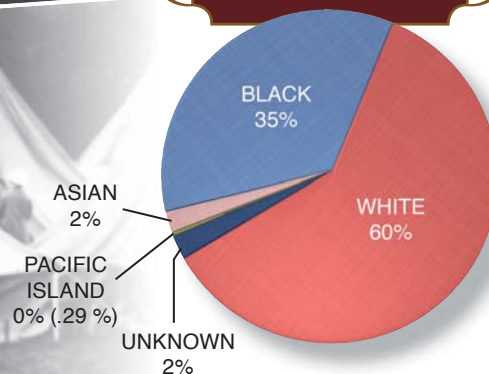
LEADERSHIP: 2,443

PROJECT ACHIEVEMENT: 6,651

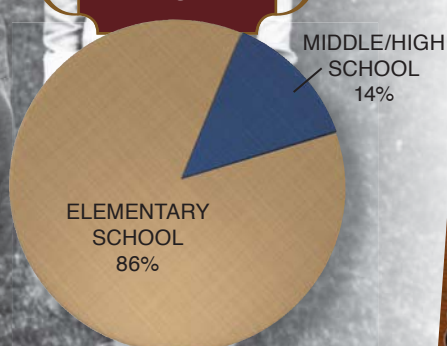
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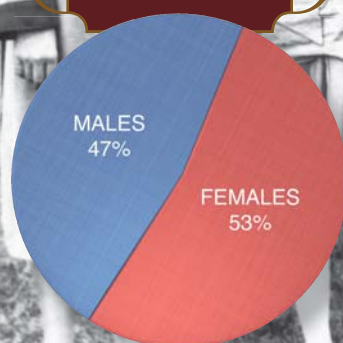
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GENDER



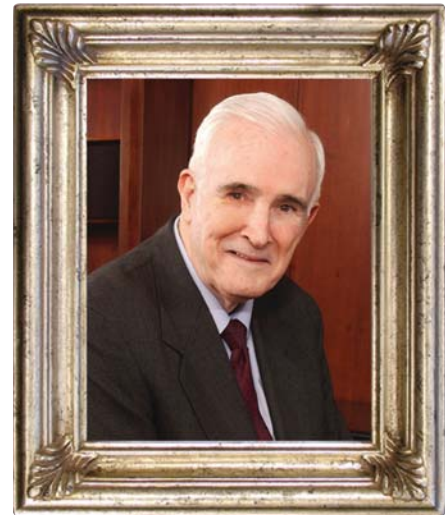
GEORGIA



4-H and Service Learning

SERVICE LEARNING THROUGH GEORGIA
LEARN AND SERVE: **4,800 YOUTH**

Georgia 4-H, in collaboration with the Georgia Department of Education and Central Savannah River Area RESA, provided training and mini-grants to teachers and County 4-H Staff through the Georgia Learn and Serve Program. Participating educators received training on Academic Service Learning and how it can be used effectively in their schools to increase student achievement, enhance civic engagement and connect classroom learning to real world experiences. **This collaborative effort engaged 4,800 students, 178 educators and 31 partner agencies in 22,763 hours of Service Learning activities.** 🍀



Georgia 4-H Loses Longtime Supporter and Friend

1933-2009

Georgia 4-H was saddened to lose Mr. Wayne Shackelford on Tuesday, September 1, 2009. Known as “Shack” to those close to him, he will forever be remembered for his many contributions to the Georgia 4-H program.

He served as a County Extension agent in Haralson County before moving to Gwinnett County, where he dedicated decades to promoting agriculture, livestock and Georgia 4-H. He and his wife Anna endowed two annual college scholarships to assist outstanding Georgia 4-H’ers with college expenses.

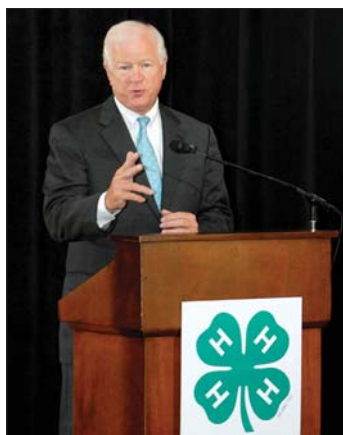
He was an Honorary Master 4-H’er and served on the Georgia 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees. Shack was the recipient of the Georgia 4-H Lifetime Achievement Award in 2007.

At the family’s request, a fund has been set up for those wishing to contribute to the Georgia 4-H Foundation in the memory of Mr. Wayne Shackelford. 🍀

Georgians Inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame

In 2002 the National 4-H Hall of Fame was established by the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents, along with the National 4-H Council and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA, to recognize individuals for their lifetime achievements and their contributions to 4-H. In 2009, two Georgians joined seven Georgian predecessors as they were honored with their induction into the National 4-H Hall of Fame.

Senator Saxby Chambliss, a co-chair of the 4-H Senate Caucus, was honored for his leadership and his passion for helping America's youth. Serving in the Senate since 2002 and in the House of Representatives prior to that, Senator Chambliss has long been a champion for 4-H. "As the largest youth development organization



Senator Saxby Chambliss

in America, 4-H has the ability to help shape our nation's future leaders and I am very proud to support its efforts," said Sen. Chambliss. "My first public speech was as a sixth grader in a 4-H competition in Tracy City, Tenn.,

standing on a table in the lunch room. Since then, I have delivered many speeches, but I will never forget that experience 4-H afforded me as a child. It is truly an honor and privilege to support the mission and principles of the 4-H organization as the co-chair of the Senate 4-H Caucus."

Dr. Rhonwyn Lowry, former Associate State 4-H Leader, was honored posthumously for her role in various special projects, including the direction of Georgia's first People to People goodwill mission. She also served on the National 4-H Board of Trustees and was a tireless supporter of the 4-H mission to create leadership opportunities for youth and influence their lives in a positive way. Lowry held many positions in Georgia including Assistant State 4-H



Dr. Rhonwyn Lowry

Leader and Associate State 4-H Leader for seventeen years. Early in her career, Lowry said "My only hope is that I, in some way, can give others just a little of what 4-H has given me."

Georgia 4-H is proud to acknowledge these honorees for their passion, dedication, vision and leadership during their many years of service to 4-H. 🍀



4-H'ers Explore Puerto Rico through the 4-H Global Citizenship and Environmental Experience (4-H GC EE)

A team of 14 youth and 4 adults from around Georgia spent eight days traveling through Puerto Rico as part of the 4-H GC EE. This program was established to provide high school aged 4-H'ers with the opportunity to experience a different language and culture while learning about tropical ecosystems.

County participants included:

Jakyn Jennings, 4-H Agent, Terrell County



4-H Global Awareness Ambassadors — **Savannah Porter**, Bartow County; **Robert Johnson**, Cobb County; **Joseph Myler**, Dougherty County; **Morgan White**, Floyd County; **Grace Whipple**, Henry County; **Franklin Duke**, Henry County; **Hoopie Ball**, Lincoln County; **Ben Mayfield**, Lumpkin County; **Lillian Williams**, Mitchell County; **Joshua Akins**, Monroe County; **Camille Odom**, Oconee County; **Kari Crandall**, Putnam County; **Joshua Norton**, Rockdale County; **Will Walker**, Turner County 🍀

For more information visit: www.georgia4hinternational.org

GOATS ARE NO LONGER MISUNDERSTOOD

Story & Photos
by Glen Blair

Goats are the most misunderstood animal. While trying to contact a fifth grade girl that voiced an interest in showing goats her grandmother said; "I know my granddaughter would not want to have anything to do with a stinky old goat." Except for the billy goats, they don't smell. The young lady showed goats for 3 years and was an active in 4-H until graduating. The young lady told her mother 4-H has helped her excel in her college studies.



Animals have always been an attraction for children, both young and old, 4-H'ers have a burning desire to show an animal; a horse, cow, lamb or pig. A few years ago a new breed of animal was introduced into the show ring. The market or meat goats started showing up in many local livestock shows and fairs. The numbers were small at first, but the numbers increased each year. In 1999, less than 100 goats were shown in the Georgia National Fair Market Goat Show. In 2009, 524 goats were exhibited at the Georgia National Fair. The number of goats keep increasing each year, but as one judge stated; "The quality of both the showmanship and the goats in Georgia is as good as any he has seen anywhere and we should be proud of our goat program."

Any animal project is a great way to teach young people responsibility while caring for their new animal friend. Some of the reasons goats are such a wonderful first show animal are; goats are small so even the smallest child can safely handle a goat. Children that can walk are encouraged to show a goat in the Pee Wee class offered in most local shows. Some as young as 2 years old get hooked on showing goats. Some words that come to mind as to why goats are so popular are: size, affordable, affectionate and intelligent. Goats are small, so they don't take much space. Some raise goats

in a dog pen in their backyard. Goats don't eat much and contrary to what many think, goats will not eat anything, they are very picky, if the feed gets dirty, they will not eat it. Goats are browsers; they prefer to eat things other livestock don't like (bushes, berry vines, honey suckle & privet is their favorite). You can get into show goats very reasonably. Goats become

very attached to anyone feeding and handling them. They quickly learn to lead and respond to the desires of their trainer.

If you are looking for an animal for a safe 4-H project, that will not break the family budget, does not require a large space, helps teach responsibility and is a very affectionate friend, then maybe a goat is just what you need. 🍀



★ ★ Army General Built Character, Learned Commitment Through 4-H

By Sharon Dowdy

In 1969, 17-year-old Douglas Carver logged 4-H activities in his record book. He wrote about how 4-H helped him gain confidence as a public speaker, develop leadership skills, convinced him to take responsibility for his actions and encouraged him to become a good citizen.

Today, more than 30 years later, the Rome, Georgia, teenager is now Major General Douglas Carver, Chief of Chaplains of the U.S.



CH Doug Carver, Army Chief of Chaplains, joins his 4-H Leader, Margaret Gayler, at State 4-H Council. Chaplain Carver spoke to high school 4-H'ers in 2009 and received a copy of the Georgia 4-H History Book containing his and Margaret Gayler's photograph on the 4-H Hour hosted by Miss Para Lee Brock.



CH Carver meets with newly elected members of the State 4-H Board of Directors. Like the 4-H Officers, CH Carver developed his leadership skills through Georgia 4-H.

Army. And, he still has that record book.

Nominated to the post in 2007, Carver is the first Southern Baptist to be named Army chief of chaplains since the Korean War. The now high-ranking government official recently returned to his home state of Georgia to share his 4-H experience at 2009 State 4-H Council.

Carver met with 700 4-H'ers at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. He recalled his first summer camp at Rock Eagle in 1962 and the "crowded, smelly school bus" that brought him there from Floyd County, Georgia.

"Character is what you and I are when no one is watching. It says something about your virtues."

— Chaplain Douglas Carver (MG)

"I learned crafts, I learned about the rich heritage of Native Americans and I learned confidence through 4-H demonstration projects," Carver said. "I also learned to square dance and I kissed my first girl here. On the cheek of course."

Carver remembers vividly a lesson he learned on food safety while presenting his 4-H project called "Balanced Feeding of a Pig."

"I was trying to show the difference between feeding pigs healthy food and unhealthy foods," he said. "The steak I brought from home in a plastic bag wasn't very useful to my project after being in my cabin for three days."

Carver spoke to the 4-H'ers about commitment.

"You need to be young men and women of your word," he said. "Our commitment says something about our values, our beliefs, our promises. It requires heart, endurance,

perseverance and determination to complete the task and mission of a 4-H project."

He recalled learning commitment through a 4-H weekly radio show that required him to sacrifice his Saturday mornings as a teenager.

"It was a 15-minute show but it felt like three hours," he said. "It was difficult to find topics for each show that would interest the audience. Thank God for the book "Leaves of Grass," an excellent book that gave me inspiration."

The Chaplain recounted stories of commitment from the more than 1.2 million young men and women who serve in the U.S. army.

"They are committed to the values of the military and to our great nation," Carver said. "They swore an oath and they are willing to die for their battle buddy."

He recalled building character through 4-H.

"The 4-H pledge is more than just words. It says something about your character that you in your heart and soul intend to follow those words," he said. "Character is what you and I are when no one is watching. It says something about your virtues."

Carver told the Georgia 4-H'ers to remember that stressful situations, be it combat, war or everyday challenges, always draw out true character.

"You will pay the price to not just be good at something, but be great. To not just be better at something, but to attempt to be the best," he said. "This requires sacrifice, like sacrificing your summer vacation to attend 4-H conferences."

Carver closed his remarks by challenging the 4-H'ers to make sacrifices for the sake of their communities.

"Be good citizens, respect authority, help those in need and commit to being men and women of character," he said. "And enjoy the many privileges you have as a citizen of the United States of America." ❀

Celebrating 30 Years of Georgia 4-H Environmental Education

By Melanie Biersmith



In 1979, at Rock Eagle 4-H Center, a program began that would forever change the ability to engage youth in science and environmental education. Given a tight timeline of six months to launch, a meager budget of \$300 and virtually no staff, a visionary young educator named Diane Davies created an environmental education program, which would serve several thousand students in its first several years. Fast forward to 2009, during its thirtieth anniversary year, the program now serves over 37,000 annually and employs over fifty educators at five locations around the state. The Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program, operated by the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension, has graduated more than 800,000 youth and has generated over

\$43 million in revenue to support Georgia 4-H Centers since its inception.

From September to May of each and every school year, the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education (EE) Program becomes a focus of the five 4-H Centers. Operating at Wahsega 4-H Center in Dahlonega, Fortson 4-H Center in Hampton, Rock Eagle 4-H Center in Eatonton, Burton 4-H Center on Tybee Island, and Jekyll Island 4-H Center, the EE Program serves K-12th grade youth as well as the adult teachers, leaders, and chaperones that attend the day and/or residential field studies. Experiences are offered ranging in length from two hours to several days. While each center provides programming that is unique to its ecosystem from the mountains to the

sea, each program shares a common standard for excellence maintaining correlations to the Georgia Performance Standards. The Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program



is often recognized for its ability to bring school concepts to life and connect students to the natural world using the outdoors as a classroom without walls. While the programs have an emphasis in the sciences, the learning also complements history/social studies, language arts, and mathematics and promotes team building, skill development, communication, and relationships.

The Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program may serve tens of thousands of young people each year, but during any given field study, the attention is on each and every participant. Student-to-instructor ratios are kept

low, typically at 15:1 or even less. These small learning groups establish opportunities for youth to connect and interact with adults in ways that are not offered in typical school settings. Georgia 4-H EE also recognizes that every child has a unique learning style and that by presenting new information and concepts in a variety of ways, including visual, auditory, and kinesthetic formats, more youth are likely to succeed and benefit from the programming. The rich thirty year history of the program has produced countless success stories of students who had positive experiences during an EE field study at a Georgia 4-H Center.

The impact and reach of the Georgia 4-H EE Program is enormous. The participants attend from urban, rural, and suburban counties. They attend from all socio-economic levels and all

demographic groups. During the most recent complete school year (2008-09), participants attended one of the five 4-H Centers for an EE Program from 81 counties and from all four corners of Georgia. Given the continued opportunity and support, the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program stands to build upon the legacy of impacting over 800,000 youth, carry on its thirty year tradition





of excellence, and strive to improve and increase its impact. Staying true to the Georgia 4-H mission, Georgia 4-H EE continues to assist youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills, and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive and contributing members of society. Please contact Melanie Biersmith, Extension 4-H Specialist, at 706.484.2894 or melmel@uga.edu for more information about the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program or a Georgia 4-H Center near you! 🍀



The Legacy of Diane Davies' Contributions to the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program



Diane Davies was hired in 1979 to develop an Environmental Education program for Georgia 4-H at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. She was given a budget of \$300.00 and six months to accomplish the task. During its first year, the Environmental Education program served 2,200 students. To date, the 4-H Environmental Education program has served over 800,000 students and produced over 43 million dollars in revenue for the five Georgia 4-H Centers.

The 4-H Environmental Education program brought hands on learning experiences to hundreds of thousands of young people throughout the State of Georgia and across the southeast because of Diane efforts. Her passion for using the outdoors as a learning environment is evident in the success of these programs in Georgia. One of Diane's dreams was to develop a museum of Natural History at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. That dream became a reality in 1990, when Rock Eagle opened the museum Diane and Tom Rodgers successfully solicited donations from the Cecil B. Day Foundation for the construction of the facility. Diane also worked with 4-H Foundation members and other 4-H Faculty members to develop gifts for the enhancement of other facilities at Rock Eagle and the other 4-H Centers. Included in those legacies is her work on the Wildlife Ecology Building and the Woodruff Aquatic Buildings and her work to develop the Project Adventure Ropes courses at Rock Eagle and Wahsega 4-H Centers. The legacy of Diane's contributions to the Georgia 4-H Program is unparalleled in the history of the Georgia 4-H Program. Diane was also a Kellogg Foundation Fellow and carried out additional environmental work in the Galapagos Islands.

In a recent interview with Diane, she suggested that the Environmental Education Program is needed more now than it was thirty years ago when she started it. She feels that we are a part of something larger than ourselves, yet today's youth are less and less connected to their natural world. The experiences provided by the Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program provide a vehicle for children to connect with their environment at a young age while complementing school lessons and improving student achievement. 🍀



Georgia 4-H S.A.F.E. Project Teaches Life's Lessons

At first glance, Georgia 4-H's S.A.F.E. program may obviously seem like a firearm and archery safety program. It's far from that. As program coordinator Mark Zeigler explains, S.A.F.E. is about building confidence, concentration and focus, developing life skills, bonding with peers and celebrating shared successes.

S.A.F.E. is an acronym for Shooting Awareness Fun and Education. Over the past ten years, Project S.A.F.E. has been one of 4-H's fastest-growing programs. Currently, S.A.F.E. attracts more than 3,400 young people, and as many adult and parent volunteers, to Georgia 4-H each year.



"The coaches of the Georgia 4-H S.A.F.E. program are some of the best in the Nation. They taught me to be diligent and persistent, even when the situation is difficult. That particular lesson, and many more, has become important in the way I approach life, and get through every day."

Jessica McClain
Air Gun and Muzzle Loading Competitions
NRA Competitive Shooting Division
Former Spalding County 4-H'er



When a young person steps into the firing line with a bow, rifle, or shotgun, he breathes, relaxes, focuses on the target, releases the arrow or squeezes off the shot and follows through. Along the way he has been coached and encouraged by an adult that is by his side or waiting behind the ready line.

The S.A.F.E. program focuses on teaching youth to evaluate their accomplishments and set goals. S.A.F.E. 4-H'ers celebrate one another's successes and share each other's shortcomings.

"The life skills developed in shooting sports carry over to other areas of life," Zeigler said. "At school or at work, young people say shooting sports programs help them build confidence and provide them with the skills they need to concentrate and focus."

"The shooting sports program has helped me in many areas of my life. From learning to concentrate on tasks both at school and in the workplace to learning valuable skills about teamwork and self-discipline, I would not take back the lessons learned through my hands-on experiences in the S.A.F.E. program."

Tiffany McCoy
Pembroke City Council Member
Owens Supply Company
Former Bryan County 4-H'er

Georgia S.A.F.E. graduates include a host of successful professionals like former U.S. Olympic Development Team member Patrick Cannon.

"Along with life-lessons, life-skills, and life-friendships, Georgia 4-H provided the start to my competitive shooting career," said Cannon, a former Tift County 4-H'er. "The S.A.F.E. program taught me to strive for excellence and eventually shaped within me the Olympic dream. Without the S.A.F.E. program and the 4-H leaders, volunteers and families who are involved, this dream would have never become my dream."

Pembroke City Council Member Tiffany McCoy credits the program for teaching her

"to concentrate on tasks both at school and in the workplace and teaching her valuable skills about teamwork and self-discipline."

"I would not take back the lessons learned through my hands-on experiences in the S.A.F.E. program," said the former Bryan County 4-H'er.

Like most 4-H programs, the heart of the S.A.F.E. program's success lies in the dedication of the program assistants and volunteer coaches and parents.

"The coaches of the Georgia 4-H S.A.F.E. program are some of the best in the nation," said Jessica McClain, former Spalding County 4-H'er. "They taught me to be diligent and persistent, even when the situation is difficult. That lesson, and many more, has become important in the way I approach life, and get through every day."

McClain now coordinates air gun and muzzle loading competitions for the NRA's competitive shooting division. ♣



AWARDS

National 4-H Recurve Archery Title in 2009. Team members included Garrett Frye, Cara Henslin, Cooper Hope and Shelby Herrin, Wayne County.

National 4-H Compound Archery Title in 2008. Team members included Ethan Pickles, Brent Hritz, Jantz Jenkins, and Garrett Hancock, Lowndes County.

Fifteen 4-H'ers represented Georgia at the National 4-H Shooting Sports Invitational held June 23-28, 2009 in Nebraska. Teams representing Georgia were: Compound Archery, Lowndes County; Recurve Archery, Wayne County; Shotgun, Turner County; and Rimfire, Laurens County.

GRANTS

\$3,650 grant from Colquitt EMS for Archery and Modified Trap Range Expansions and Equipment.

More than 1,000 certified adult volunteers are active in the program. To train adult leaders, Georgia 4-H partnered with the Youth Shooting Sports Alliance (YSSA) and the National Alliance for the Development of Archery (NADA) to provide Georgia coaches with advanced archery coaches' training and national certification.

The YSSA, with the generous assistance of some of the most respected manufacturers in the shooting sports industry, also provided instructional and training equipment valued at more than \$6,000. This includes 4 electric trap machines and instruction material for archery.

2009 State 4-H Officers



Joshua Akins, Monroe County,
President

Bain Griffith, Haralson County,
Vice President

Margo Braski, Houston County,
State Representative

Phillip Henry, Lamar County,
Northwest Representative

Ben Mayfield, Lumpkin County,
Northeast Representative

Jerico Phillips, Carroll County,
State Representative

Chelsea Sawyer, Bleckley County,
State Representative

Katie Thigpen, Charlton County,
Southeast Representative

Matt Tucker, Mitchell County,
Southwest Representative



2009 District 4-H Senior Board



NORTHEAST DISTRICT

Garrett Hibbs, President, Oconee County
Nathan Coker, Vice President, Madison County
Matt Anderson, Board Member, Oconee County
Kelsey Holcombe, Board Member, Hart County
Jonathon Moss, Board Member, Oglethorpe County
Alex Pettigrew, Board Member, Jones County
Jenny Sheppard, Board Member, Hall County
Cassie Whisnant, Board Member, Banks County

NORTHWEST DISTRICT

Mary Clayton Gilbert, President, Bartow County
David Henry, Vice President, Lamar County
Devin Baker, Board Member, Chattooga County
Matthew Daniel, Board Member, Chattooga County
Juawn Jackson, Board Member, Bibb County
Haleigh Johnson, Board Member, Haralson County
Josh Norton, Board Member, Rockdale County
Matthew Pace, Board Member, Chattooga County

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

LaVonte Lovette, President, Jenkins County
Cuyler Collins, Vice President, Appling County
Cecile Ducan, Board Member, Evans County
Paula Eaton, Board Member, Appling County
Amanda Starling, Board Member, Effingham County
Sydney Strickland, Board Member, Evans County
Sarah Waters, Board Member, Bulloch County
Jessi Young, Board Member, Bleckley County

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

Zachary Allen, President, Lowndes County
Vincent Thomas II, Vice President, Houston County
Austin French, Board Member, Crisp County
James Conor Dunn, Board Member, Tift County
Rebekah Huffmaster, Board Member, Taylor County
Nate Lewis, Board Member, Colquitt County
Scott Walters, Board Member, Turner County
Lillie Williams, Board Member, Mitchell County

2009 State Winners

PROJECTS

ARTS & CRAFTS

Joshua Akins, Monroe County
Donor: Mrs. Kris Freeman

BEEF

Sammie Williams, Elbert County
Donors: Dr. Jim and Mrs. Renée Williamson; The Homeport Farm Mart

COMMUNICATIONS

Corey O'Quinn, Hall County
Donor: Georgia 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association

COMPANION ANIMAL SCIENCE

Rachel Harrison, Tift County
Donors: Monroe Veterinary Clinic, Inc.; Georgia 4-H Foundation; Bill and Edna Sell in memory of Scott Sell; The Homeport Farm Mart



COMPUTERS

Kasey Roth, Madison County
Donor: Georgia Power Company

CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

David Myers, Camden County
Donor: Chevron; Georgia 4-H Foundation

DAIRY & MILK SCIENCE

Meagan Wilson, Morgan County
Donors: Mrs. Angela Broder Nemeth; Georgia Department of Agriculture; Commodity Commission for Milk

DAIRY FOODS

Eli Debroux, Bartow County
Donor: Agricultural Commodity Commission for Milk

DOG CARE & TRAINING

Caitlin Roland, Pickens County
Donor: Georgia Veterinary Medical Association

ENTOMOLOGY

Bob Jasperse, Pickens County
Donor: Georgia Pest Control Association; CES Entomology Department

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Jodie Boyette, Treutlen County
Donor: Georgia Cooperative Council, Inc.

FAMILY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Jonathan Moss, Oglethorpe County
Donor: Sarah L. Huff Fund

FASHION REVUE

Atreona Willis, Spalding County
Donor: The Georgia Master 4-H Club

FESTIVE FOODS FOR HEALTH

Jaimee Yearwood, Greene County
Donor: Publix Super Markets Charities

FLOWERS, SHRUBS & LAWNS

Casey Whitehead, Randolph County
Donor: Georgia Development Authority

FOOD FARE

Jennifer Ingream, Pickens County
Donor: Georgia Development Authority

FOOD FAST & FIT

Krista Gay, Jenkins County
Morgan Long, Douglas County
Donor: M.K. "Curly" Cook Family in Memory of Sandra B. Cook

FOOD SAFETY & PRESERVATION

Ellie Baldwin, Bleckley County
Donor: Gary & Rhonda Keve

FOREST RESOURCES & WOOD SCIENCE

Emily Pike, Bartow County
Donors: Mr. Bill Lott; Georgia 4-H Foundation

Whether I'm running,
participating in
leadership and
community service
activities or thinking
about my future, I
stay on the move
and connected to the
community.

— Phillip Henry, Lamar
County, 2009 Sports Winner

FRUITS, VEGETABLES & NUTS

Paul Rice, Hart County
Donor: Meadows-Knox Family Fund

GENERAL RECREATION

Elizabeth Weeks, Tift County
Donors: Meadows-Knox Family Fund; Georgia Recreation & Parks Association, Inc.

HEALTH

C.J. Fellows, Pickens County
Donors: Mrs. Ellinore Nicholson; Mr. and Mrs. Lamar Martin; Georgia 4-H Foundation

HISTORY

David French, Hall County
Donors: Mr. Arch Smith; Georgia 4-H Foundation

HORSE

Leslie Peterson, Jones County
Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

HOUSING, ENVIRONMENT, & EQUIPMENT

Mark Schleier, Hart County
Donor: Mr. Bucky Cook

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Dylan Brooks, Madison County
Donor: GAE4-HA

INTERNATIONAL

Pankti Patel, Candler County
Donor: Equifax, Inc.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Lauren Morris, Oconee County
Donor: White Water

PERFORMING ARTS — DANCE

Sierra Beasley, Emanuel County
Donor: Mr. and Mrs. Burley Page

PERFORMING ARTS — GENERAL

Austin French, Crisp County
Donor: Six Flags Over Georgia

PERFORMING ARTS — OTHER INSTRUMENTAL

Stephen DeLoach, Tattnell County
Donor: Six Flags Over Georgia

PERFORMING ARTS — PIANO

Resse Simmons, Spalding County
Donor: Six Flags Over Georgia

PERFORMING ARTS — VOCAL

Katie Thigpen, Charlton County
Donor: Six Flags Over Georgia

PHOTOGRAPHY

Erin O'Quinn, Irwin County
Donors: *GEORGIA Magazine; Jim and Barbara Smith*

PHYSICAL, BIOLOGICAL & EARTH SCIENCES

Jessica Story, Rockdale County
Donor: *Georgia Electric Membership Corporation*

PLANT & SOIL SCIENCE

Kendra Hearn, Spalding County
Donor: *Georgia Plant Food Educational Society, Inc*

PORK PRODUCTION

Haley Gilleland, Ben Hill County
Donors: *Georgia Pork Producers Association; Georgia 4-H Foundation*

POULTRY & EGG SCIENCE

Emily Frazier, Gordon County
Donors: *Perdue Farms; Georgia Poultry Federation*

POWER & ENERGY

Aaron Craven, Bartow County
Donor: *Jackson EMC*

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Margo Braski, Houston County
Donors: *Georgia Farm Credit Associations of Georgia; Mr. Wayne Reese; Mr. Kaleb McMichen*

I have set my mind to be successful and with the knowledge that I have acquired from 4-H and through the help of my family I am certain that I will attain this goal.

—Meagen Wilson, Morgan County, Dairy & Milk Science Project Winner 2009

SAFETY

Jacob Gibb, Crawford County
Donor: *Georgia 4-H Foundation*

SHEEP & MEAT GOATS

Anslee Webb, Elbert County
Donor: *Dr. Jim and Reneé Williamson*

SPORTS

Phillip Henry, Lamar County
Donor: *White Water*

TARGET SPORTS

Shelby Stonerod, Coweta County
Donor: *Callaway Foundation; Family of Col. James "Jim" Boddie*

TEXTILES, MERCHANDISING & INTERIORS

Ashley Sparks, Baldwin County
Donor: *Georgia 4-H Foundation*

VETERINARY SCIENCE

Melea Baldwin, Hart County
Donor: *Georgia Veterinary Medical Association; Georgia Veterinary Medicine Auxiliary*



WILDLIFE & MARINE SCIENCE

Collin Steele, Sumter County
Donor: *Georgia Power*

WORKFORCE PREPARATION & CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Adrienne Parker, Lowndes County
Donors: *Randstad USA; Emerson Climate Technologies*

SPECIAL EVENTS

CHICKEN BARBEQUE CONTEST

Ellie Baldwin, Bleckley County
Donor: *Extension Poultry Science Department*

COTTON BOLL & CONSUMER JAMBOREE

Natalie Branch, Michael Corbin, Ethan McBrayer, Timmy Smith (High Individual), Tift County
Donor: *Georgia Cotton Commission*

DAIRY JUDGING

Haley Farrow, Jake Holder, Rachel King, Andrew Sweeney (High Individual), Putnam County
Donor: *Agricultural Commodity Commission for Milk*

DAIRY QUIZ BOWL

Jack Branch, Austin Dunn, Rachel Harrison, Sarah Harrison, Zach Hughes, Timmy Smith, Oconee County
Donors: *Georgia Department of Agriculture; Agricultural Commodity Commission for Milk*

DEAN'S AWARD — AGRICULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Hunter Brock, Turner County
Donor: *Michael and Sharon Reeves*

DEAN'S AWARD — CITIZENSHIP

Ashleigh Day, Peach County
Donors: *Mr. Roger Harrison and Mr. Jason Umfress; Georgia EMC*

DEAN'S AWARD — COMMUNICATION & THE ARTS

Katie Thigpen, Charlton County
Donor: *Mr. Bill Edwards*

DEAN'S AWARD — FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

Ellie Baldwin, Bleckley County
Donors: *GAFCS; Blaine and Denise Everson*

DEAN'S AWARD — LEADERSHIP

Hillary Thornton, Charlton County
Donor: *James Harris Leadership Endowment*

EGG PREPARATION CONTEST

Hillary Thornton, Charlton County
Donor: *Georgia Egg Commission*

FOOD PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT CONTEST

Kaitlyn Fraley, Bethany Harris, Ian Kelley, Katlyn Lavelle, Phillip Simmons, Reese Simmons, Spalding County
Donors: *CAES Alumni Association Eterna Fund; Georgia Agribusiness Council; Winn-Dixie Stores Foundation*

FORESTRY FIELD DAY 2009

Melea Baldwin, Amber Jenkins (High Individual), **Wilson Pierce, Rachel Schleier**, Hart County
Donor: *The Langdale Company*

HORSE JUDGING

Emilee Brinton (High Individual), **Erin Davis, Katy Kirbow**, Newton County
Donor: *Georgia 4-H Foundation*

HORSE SHOWS:

Donor: *Georgia 4-H Foundation*

STOCK SEAT

Sarah Bentley, Cobb County
Sara Parr, Walton County

HUNT SEAT

Heather Hillstrom, Houston County

SADDLE SEAT

Jacob Finerfrock, Wayne County

CONTEST

Emily McClain, Pierce County

MASTER HORSEMAN

Kathryn Leigh Buford, Crisp County
Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

HORSE QUIZ BOWL

Lauren Bailey, Hannah Carruth, Kaitlyn Chander, Mary Davis, Gwinnett County
Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

LAND JUDGING

Aimee Bozeman, Danielle Burrier, Jordan Napier, Gage Williams, Pike County
Donor: Farm Credit Associations of Georgia

LIVESTOCK JUDGING

Josh Daniel, Hunter Grayson, Camille Odom, Patrick Savelle, Oconee County
Chandler Akins (*High Individual*), Berrien County
Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

I have learned to
succeed in 4-H. Before
I was in it, I would
never have stood and
spoken in front of a
group. Now I have
no problem.

—Kasey Roth, Madison
County, State Winner
Computers 2009

MARKET LAMB SHOW CHAMPION & SHOWMANSHIP

Camille Odom, Oconee County
*Donor: Georgia Department of
Agriculture*

BREEDING EWE SHOW CHAMPION

Katie Sutherland, Gordon County
*Donor: Georgia Department of
Agriculture*

BREEDING EWE SHOWMANSHIP

Camille Odom, Oconee County
*Donor: Georgia Department of
Agriculture*

MARKET GOAT CHAMPION & SHOWMANSHIP

Moriah Eavenson, Franklin County
*Donor: Georgia Department of
Agriculture*

MARKET HOG SHOWMANSHIP

Morgan Summers, Lee County
*Donor: Georgia Department of
Agriculture*

MARKET BARROW CHAMPION

Austin Oliver, Wheeler County
*Donor: Georgia Department of
Agriculture*

COMMERCIAL DAIRY HEIFER SHOWMANSHIP

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*Donor: Georgia Farm Credit
Association*

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Allison Oliver, Montgomery County
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Agriculture*

MARKET STEER CHAMPION

Clint Moser, Pike County
*Donor: Georgia Department of
Agriculture*

BREEDING HEIFER SHOWMANSHIP STEER SHOWMANSHIP

Taylor Gazda, Oconee County
*Donor: Georgia Department of
Agriculture*

POULTRY JUDGING

Morgan Collins, Jazmin Thomas (*High Individual*), **Weslie Williford, Windy Wiliford**, Houston County
Donors: Perdue Farms; Georgia Poultry Federation

WILDLIFE JUDGING 2007

Courtney Brooks (*High Individual*), **Charlie Chandler, Michelle Sosia**, Walton County
Donor: Farm Credit Associations of Georgia



WILDLIFE JUDGING 2008

Caleb Adkins (*High Individual*), **Garrett Christie, Cherise Dryden, Emily Ray**, Decatur County
Donor: Farm Credit Associations of Georgia

TARGET SPORTS:

Donor: Federal Cartridge Company

AIR PISTOL HIGH INDIVIDUAL

Jacob Hall, Carroll County

PRECISION AIR RIFLE

Jackson Bailey, Matthew Branyon, Michael Matthews (*High Individual*), Spalding County

SPORTER AIR RIFLE

Justin Hand (*High Individual*), **Jordana McClendon, Matthew Murray, Wendy Murray, Matthew Sears**, Coffee County

ARCHERY RECURVE

Aaron Henson (*High Individual*), **Cara Henslin, Shelby Herrin, Cooper Hope, Garrett Frye**, Wayne County

ARCHERY COMPOUND

John Crosby, Chase Ford, Andrew Herrin, Conner Purvis (*High Individual*), Lowndes County

RIMFIRE CLASS O

John Lewis, (*High Individual*), Bartow County,

RIMFIRE CLASS T

Rebecca Young (*High Individual*), Laurens County,

SHOTGUN

Thad Harris, Devin Harris, Lucas Haney, Reid Miller, Taylor Newsome, Dillon Price, Quinton Welch, Brooks County
A.J. Aycock (*High Individual*), Lee County

TRAP & SKEET

Michael Donahoo, Brian Gregory, Zack Hasty, Cory Pylant, Turner County
Wesley Brooks, (*High Individual*), Putnam County

2009 Scholarship Winners



Total State Achievement Scholarships Awarded: \$30,500



GEORGIA 4-H ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Kathryn Leigh Buford, Crisp County
Donor: UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Hunter Brock, Turner County
Donor: ABAC Foundation

ATLANTA FARMERS CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

Josh Paine, Henry County
Donor: Atlanta Farmers Club

BESS CABANNIS MEMORIAL MASTER 4-H CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

Austin Suggs, Tift County
Donor: Georgia Master 4-H Club

HUGH MOSS COMER SCHOLARSHIP

Michael Henry, Emanuel County
Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

4-H DOLLARS FOR 4-H SCHOLARS

Kelsey Matthews, Jasper County
Donor: Georgia Senior 4-H'ers

DON MASSEY SCHOLARSHIP

Joseph Rico Turner, Emanuel County
Donor: Don Massey Family

GAINES ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Jami Lyn Medley, Colquitt County
Donor: Karol and Greg Gaines

GEORGIA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Katie Comer, Carroll County
Donor: Georgia Association of County Agricultural Agents

GEORGIA PROPANE GAS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

Nicole DeLisle, Fayette County
Donor: Georgia Propane Gas Association

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Christen Jackson, Lamar County
Donor: Mr. and Mrs. Art Hargrove

IRVIN 4-H SCHOLARSHIP

Emily Backes, Lowndes County
Donor: Commissioner Tommy Irvin

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Donor: Georgia Homemakers Council

JULIUS BENTON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

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KITZINGER SCHOLARSHIP

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Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

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Ashley Buford, Crisp County
Donor: Georgia Master 4-H Club Board of Directors

MARTHA HARRISON JONES MEMORIAL MASTER 4-H CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

Rebekah Bowen, Emanuel County
Donor: Georgia Master 4-H Club

JERRY PATRIARCA 4-H MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Ashleigh Day, Peach County
Donor: Georgia 4-H Foundation

NEVELS-HALL FAMILY COLLEGIATE 4-H SCHOLARSHIP

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Donor: Doris Nevels Hall and Emmett Howell Hall

ROBERT & KATHLEEN PINCKNEY MASTER 4-H CLUB SCHOLARSHIP

Jamey Knight, Berrien County
Donor: Georgia Master 4-H Club

LOYD POITEVINT SCHOLARSHIP

Patrick Savelle, Oconee County
Donor: Mrs. Joyce Poitevint

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Donor: Georgia Homemakers Council

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WAYNE SHACKELFORD SCHOLARSHIP

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Donor: Georgia State 4-H Office Staff

STATE 4-H STAFF SCHOLARSHIP

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Donor: The Robert Whitaker Family

WOOTEN SCHOLARSHIP

Katie Thigpen, Charlton County
Donor: Georgia 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association

From the Interim Executive Director



It is my pleasure to share with you the 2009 Georgia 4-H Foundation Annual Report. This year we have experienced great success with increased alumni participation and support to the programs and facilities that provide opportunities for our 4-H youth in Georgia. Support from our engaged alumni and friends is having a positive impact in the state, increasing our capacity, and ensuring a bright future for all.

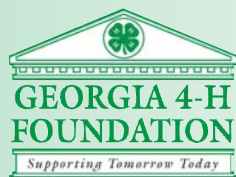
This past year we launched a number of opportunities to benefit the youth in the state including the sale of the Georgia 4-H History Book, the Washington Internship Endowment Campaign, and the Rock Eagle 4-H Center Cabin Campaign to name a few. Two cabins are under construction at Rock Eagle due to the generous support

of our alumni and friends, and plans are underway for others as we partner with other funders in the coming months. We are also fortunate to have an engaged Foundation Board who is clearly focused on our capital funding needs and capacity building priorities, in addition to our annual fund, which provides funds for many programs and activities that 4-Hers participate in during the year.

The Georgia 4-H Foundation also continues to focus on our alumni programming as a priority. Alumni and friends had a “swingin’” good time at the 2009 Twilight on the Lake held August 8. The 4-H alumni and friends event brought together over 200 supporters and alumni for a fun filled casual evening at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. In addition to seeing old friends, former 4-Hers and long-time 4-H supporters enjoyed a hearty meal and danced the night away at the GEMC Building and Senior Pavilion by Rock Eagle Lake.

Coming in 2010, you won’t want to miss the 2010 Georgia 4-H Gala, to be held on August 14 at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia! Plans are well underway, and the event is shaping up to be like no other in Georgia 4-H history. We will have the opportunity to see 4-H friends, recognize our Lifetime Achievement Award winner, and support 4-H project achievement through an outstanding silent and live auction. The ticket price this year is set at \$150, but attendees who purchase their tickets by July 15 will receive a discounted price of \$125. Additionally, the Georgia 4-H Foundation is offering an installment payment plan this year.

Thank you for all you do to advance the 4-H program in Georgia. We hope you will visit our Web site at www.georgia4hfoundation.org to find out more about what we are doing or to make a gift to support one of the many programs and events, or one of the five 4-H Centers located throughout the state. We are successful in building a world in which youth and adults learn, grow, and work together as catalysts for positive change through your support.

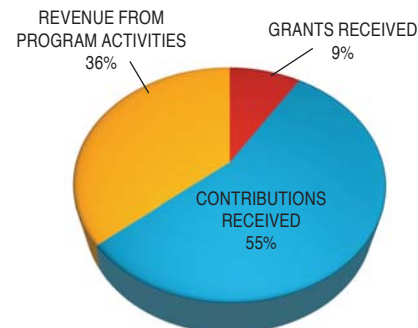


Mary Ann Parsons

Mary Ann Parsons
Interim Executive Director

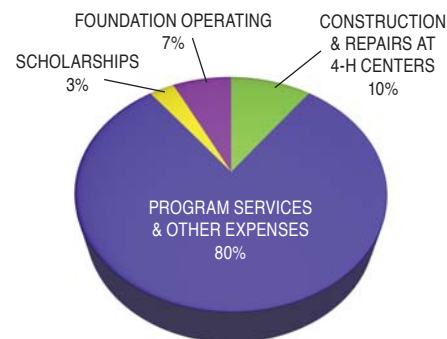
Georgia 4-H Foundation Financial Statement July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009

INCOME



Grants Received	\$298,576
Contributions Received	\$1,869,404
Revenue from Program Activities	\$1,223,759
TOTAL INCOME	\$3,391,739

EXPENSES



Construction & Repairs at 4-H Centers	\$388,511
Program Services & Other Expenses	\$3,124,102
Scholarships	\$119,633
Foundation Operating	\$283,072
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3,915,318

BEGINNING NET ASSETS 7/01/2008	\$3,882,063
ENDING NET ASSETS 6/30/2009	\$3,358,484
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(\$523,579)
REALIZED LOSS ON MARKETABLE SECURITIES	(\$663,005)

Georgia 4-H Support Organizations

Georgia 4-H Advisory Committee

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Georgia 4-H Counselor Association

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Georgia Master 4-H Club

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Georgia Cloverleaf lists your gifts to the Georgia 4-H Foundation, the Arch Foundation, or the University of Georgia Foundation designated for 4-H that were processed through the Georgia 4-H Foundation between July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2009. If your name is not included and you think it should be, there may be several reasons why:

1. You made your gift either before July 1, 2008, or after June 30, 2009.
2. You made a pledge instead of an outright gift. This listing includes only gifts received. If you made a pledge during this time period but elected not to begin paying it until after June 30, 2009, your name will not be listed.
3. You made a gift to another 4-H entity such as National 4-H Council, IFYE Alumni, Georgia Master 4-H Club, etc. These gifts are not reflected in the Georgia 4-H Foundation Report.
4. We omitted your name in error. If we've made a mistake, we'd like to hear from you.

If you have questions, please contact the Georgia 4-H Foundation, Hoke Smith Annex, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602. Or call us at 706-542-8914.

Sara T. and Murray Dukes	Mary Garrison
Kimberly C. Dunlap	Jack and Nadine Brown Gary
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Water Ways

4-H'ers Navigate Water Education Camp

By Brad Haire

Playing under the water sprinkler isn't an unusual way for children living in Georgia to cool off on a summer day. Standing under one that can dump a thousand gallons in just minutes is. And it's a cool way to learn about the state's most valuable resource.

Before they can respect it or better conserve it, children need to learn the important roles water plays in their lives, said Jennifer Grogan, a University of Georgia Cooperative Extension 4-H agent in Mitchell County. It's the essential ingredient to life and a healthy economy, particularly in southwest Georgia.

Grogan started the three-day 4H₂O summer camp to literally get the hands of area 4-H'ers wet with learning.

"Many kids don't understand about water. They think you just go turn on the faucet and there it is," Grogan said. "With this camp, we want them to understand the connection of all aspects of water, which is one of our main focuses in 4-H."

Last summer at the UGA C.M. Stripling Irrigation Research Park near Camilla, Ga., 68 middle school 4-H'ers from Mitchell, Dougherty, Baker, Worth and Decatur counties saw firsthand how water is used wisely for farming and why.

They learned how the Floridan aquifer is recharged with rainfall and how a pump and well are used to draw water from it. Experts showed them technology that farmers use to conserve water. The 4-H'ers helped calibrate a 260-foot irrigation system, too, and played tug-of-war with a tractor.

The Stripling park provides educational programs for adults, but 4H₂O was the first time an in-depth program was developed at the park for a young audience.

The park is where water research is conducted by both UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and U.S. Department of Agriculture scientists.

In 2000, then 80-year-old C.M. Stripling donated 133 acres of his land to Mitchell County to lease to CAES to establish the park. Since his death, Stripling's family has continued to be leaders in water management. The family donated 75 percent of the 4H₂O total cost, estimated to be \$100 per student.

"You will be learning a lot about water during this week, but you will deal with the issue of water use and management for the rest of your life," Stripling's son Charles told the inaugural campers. "We are proud you are here. Let this be the first day for you to begin your



education on how to be responsible stewards of water and its management."

The students spent the second day at the Flint RiverQuarium in Albany, Ga., where ecological experts introduced them to habitats and creatures along the Flint River.

On the third day, the campers visited Water World in Dothan, Ala., to learn how water is used for entertainment.

To measure improvements in their water-related knowledge, students took a test before the camp. They took the same test again after the camp. For the sixth-graders, scores improved 60 percent. Seventh-graders more than doubled their scores. ♣



The *Georgia Cloverleaf* was written by Georgia 4-H and Office of Communications staff, Tina Maddox coordinating. Contributing writers are Melanie Biersmith, Glen Blair, Jeff Buckley, Brad Haire, Jenny Jordan, Tina Maddox, Sharon Dowdy, and Mary Ann Parsons. Edited by Sharon Omahen and designed by Carol Williamson. We thank the counties and 4-H staff for their photo contributions.

The University of Georgia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution.

4-H, as a unit of Cooperative Extension in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and part of the University of Georgia, is education and positive youth development. Our purpose—our mission—our mandate is to reach out to the youth of Georgia providing unbiased, research-based education. 4-H provides "hands on" learning experiences with practical application. We take the University to the people in a manner that communicates education in common terms with relevance in their daily lives. 4-H reaches six times the number of students reached in academic classes on campus. More than one hundred sixty five thousand youth learn and grow in 4-H each year. The focus areas of 4-H are Science, Engineering and Technology, Healthy Living, and Citizenship. The work we do in and with schools enhances the Georgia Performance Standards. We bring science and technology to life by engaging kids in experiential learning at 4-H Centers using the laboratories and ecosystems at the centers to truly immerse the young people in science education. Also, in the tough economic times, 4-H provides opportunities for families at low cost. 4-H requires no dues. 4-H'ers do not need uniforms. We extend opportunities with scholarships. All 4-H programs include positive youth development based on research and education that respond to the needs of our state. Research validates that youth in 4-H succeed, they stay in school, they become the contributing citizens and leaders in our state. Georgia 4-H is 106 years old in experience but as new as the research conducted yesterday and the needs lifted by a teen panel last week.