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Kentucky 4-H Foundation

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Kentucky 4-H Foundation

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www.kentucky4h.org/ foundation

Making the Best Better

Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives

n this inaugural newsletter we wanted to begin a tradition of spotlighting the donors that make a difference in Kentucky 4-H.

When it came to selecting a supporter for the first donor spotlight, going with one of Kentucky 4-H's most loyal supporters made the selection easy. The Kentucky Association of Electric Cooperatives and its 26 member utilities, known to many as Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, have a long and outstanding history of supporting Kentucky 4-H.

That commitment to 4-H is most evident in their support of Kentucky's 4-H camps. In fact, Kentucky's electric co-ops have provided uninterrupted, annual financial support for Kentucky's 4-H camps for more than 50 years.

When the leaders of the state's electric coops learned that Kentucky's four 4-H camps needed major repairs after suffering years of deferred maintenance, they were quick to provide support. "The electric co-ops were the first folks that we asked for help," says Keith Rogers, executive director of the Kentucky 4-H Foundation. "They didn't hesitate to respond with a major financial commitment."

"Our camps host more than 14,000 youth from all 120 Kentucky counties each summer for weeklong camping experiences," Rogers



The new dock at the Lake Cumberland 4-H camp.

continues. "Since the 1920s, our goal has been to provide quality experiences that help youth develop skills for living and lifelong learning. With the help of the electric co-ops and other generous donors, we'll be able to continue doing that for years to come at our 4-H camps."

Thanks to the electric co-ops, Lake Cumberland 4-H Camp at Jabez has a new boat dock and J. M. Feltner 4-H Camp at London has a renovated swimming pool. Similar projects will be

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Executive Director Keith L. Rogers

elcome to the first Kentucky 4-H Foundation e-newsletter. Many of you have requested we develop a newsletter to provide news and updates on our efforts to support Kentucky's largest and oldest youth development organization. Our plans are to produce a newsletter quarterly, however to limit cost we will not print and mail the newsletter, but provide it by email and on our web site.

With this first newsletter we are pleased to report the Kentucky 4-H Foundation has made tremendous progress over the past year in becoming an effective fundraising organization dedicated to supporting Kentucky 4-H and its members. In October 2008, the organization completed its name change from Friends of Kentucky 4-H, the original organization started in 1974. During the winter, the Foundation began the process of gaining its own non-profit status from the IRS, achieving the new status in June. Before June the Foundation had operated under the 4-H group exemption, like most County 4-H Councils.

Today we host over 60 program accounts for 4-H, ranging from Dog Project to Issues Conference to Program/Staff Development, with 27 individuals serving as managers of these accounts. We have implemented a new open book process of reporting financial activity to these managers along with donors.

As Executive Director, I am working directly with several of these managers to secure funds to directly support the programs they oversee. Our goal is to identify and link new sponsors to many of these programs to increase the financial support in order to provide for improved programming and additional awards and benefits to the 4-Hers participating. Two examples are the Kentucky Soybean Board and Hartland Equipment.

Last summer the Kentucky Soybean Board became a first time donor to 4-H with funding provided to improve the quality of the programming for the Kentucky 4-H Teen Conference and 4-H Summit. In July they renewed their

support for these two programs for 2010 plus also became a donor to the Livestock Judging program. Hartland Equipment, a John Deere dealer based in Bowling Green, with stores in Glasgow, Somerset and Louisville became a first time donor this past spring as sponsor for the 4-H Honors program.

While business and organization support is essential, individual giving is a key part of the Foundation's fundraising strategy.

In December the Foundation made its first large scale mailing to nearly 18,000 individuals who in some way had connections to 4-H. Of those responding, over 60% were first time donors. This past spring we began an effort to locate past State 4-H Officers, to date over 100 have been located and asked to become donors. 4-H alumni, whether through business, organizations or as individuals, hold the key to building the financial support needed to Make the Best Better for Kentucky 4-H.

These are just a few of the successes the Foun-



Help us broaden the base of support for Kentucky 4-H keeping it strong for the next 100 years.

dation has achieved, but there is plenty more to do.

In a recent survey of State 4-H Foundations by the National 4-H Council, Kentucky ranked 18th in contributions received. Leading the pack are states like Iowa, Georgia and Tennessee, each with over \$1 million annually in contributions. The Foundation's Board of Directors has mapped out an aggressive plan to increase its support for Kentucky 4-H.

Please take the time to share this newsletter with friends and 4-H alumni. With your help we can broaden the base of support for Kentucky 4-H, keeping it strong for the next 100 years.

KAEC Donor Spotlight cont...

completed at the West Kentucky 4-H Camp at Dawson Springs and the North Central 4-H Camp at Carlisle.

"The relationship between Kentucky's electric cooperatives and Kentucky 4-H is a natural fit," says Dennis Cannon, KAEC's vice president of member and pubic relations. "The mission of Kentucky's electric co-ops is to improve the quality of life for our members. The mission of 4-H is 'to make the best better' by helping young people build life skills and grow into productive and responsible citizens."

Cannon, a former twoterm president of Kentucky 4-H, continues, "Kentucky's electric co-ops are not-for-profit organizations, and we're very careful about how we invest our resources. Kentucky 4-H is a wise investment for us because it reaches over 200,000 young people every year in every county of the state."

Kentucky's electric co-ops don't limit their support of 4-H to the camps. Electric co-op personnel and resources are committed to 4-H all across the state.

In many counties, electric co-ops provide the leaders for annual 4-H electricity programs that teach 4-H members the basics of electrical circuits and how to use electricity efficiently and safety. Furthermore, the extension cords, lamps, and other electric projects that are exhibited by 4-H members at the state fair are often judged by electric co-op employees.

In other counties, electric co-ops provide leaders for the annual 4-H American Private Enterprise System programs that educate high school students about the basics of the American economy. When the statewide APES program is held at UK each year, electric co-op personnel can be counted on to serve as chaperons and to teach classes.

On a statewide basis, Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives are the exclusive sponsor of the Kentucky 4-H Capitol Experience. During this annual, one-day event, 4-H'ers from across the commonwealth travel to the capital city of Frankfort to observe the Kentucky



Dennis Cannon accepts the 4-H Camp print collection given to KAEC during the annual Donor Breakfast at the State Fair.

General Assembly in session and to visit with their state representatives and senators.

Both KAEC president Ron Sheets and KAEC president-elect Bill Corum have served as presidents of Friends of Kentucky 4-H (now the Kentucky 4-H Foundation). Both were instrumental in raising funds for the construction of the Kentucky Leadership Center at the Lake Cumberland 4-H Center in Jabez.

For its outstanding support, the Kentucky 4-H Foundation salutes and says thank you to Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives for Making the Best Better for Kentucky 4-H.



KY 4-H Celebrates 100 Years

Since its inception in 1909, the 4-H program in Kentucky has helped shape the state's youth into productive, contributing members of society.

While 4-H's beginnings are in agriculture, as early as the 1930s the organization offered programs to young people who had no agricultural background or experience.

Today, many of 4-H's programs have strong ties to the organization's agricultural beginnings, but there are just as many programs that do not. 4-H offers youth opportunities in communications, leadership, career development, livestock, home improvement, and computer technology.

As the 4-H program in Kentucky celebrates its 100th anniversary in 2009, now is a good time to reflect on organization's past accomplishments and plan for the future.

Take time to share your 4-H story by going to www.ca.uky.edu/ agcollege/4h/centennial/

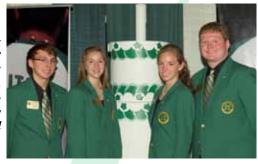
Introducing the 2009-2010 State 4-H Officers

June 10th was an exciting day for the five-hundred plus State 4-H Teen Conference delegates. Seated in Memorial Hall, they waited for the announcements of the new State 4-H Officers, and I would like to introduce to you the 2009-2010 4-H Officers.

Anna Carman is this years' State 4-H President. She comes from the small town of Wilmore located in Jessamine County. In Anna's ten years of 4-H she has enjoyed many different aspects of this program. Anna's early 4-H experiences included project books and fair projects. These taught her life skills and helped her to complete the Bronze and Silver Honors. She also participated in many speech and demonstration contests. She has attended National 4-H Conference as a delegate and a planning committee member, and will be attending National 4-H Congress this November. Some of Anna's greatest involvements have been with teen councils on the county, district, and state levels as well as Teen Conference.

The new State Vice President is Quaid Adams, from Jessamine County located in central Kentucky. In the past few years Quaid has participated in many of 4-H's leadership oriented activities. He has served as a counselor at 4-H camp and hopes one day to become a staff member at one of Kentucky's 4-H camps. Quaid has enjoyed attending Teen Conference and Issues Conference. He has also served on the Teen Council on the county, district and state levels. Due to Quaid's leadership in 4-H, he was selected to represent Kentucky at the National 4-H Conference in Washington DC this past year.

Serving as State Secretary, Courtney Crume has been a member of 4-H since she was a cloverbud. Courtney lives in Bloomfield, the "one stop-light town" in Nelson County. She is an avid member of her high school club as well as **Nelson County Council** and the State Teen Council. Courtney joined 4-H as a shy young girl, but with confidence gained from 4-H camp, and poise learned from FashThe 2009-2010 State Officer team: Quaid Adams, Anna Carman, Courtney Crume, and Derek Operle.



ion Review, she is now an outgoing leader in the 4-H program. Courtney has enjoyed participating in her county's sewing, dog, and ham clubs. Last fall, she was able to represent Kentucky at National 4-H Congress. She received this award by completing both her Bronze and Silver Honors.

Derek Operle is Kentucky's State 4-H Treasurer. He comes from way out west in Mc-Cracken County. In his years of 4-H Derek's favorite aspect of the program is Issues Conference. Attending Issues in 2007, showed Derek the leadership side of 4-H. Last year he helped plan the conference, and is returning this year as the youth Co-Chair for the conference. Derek has served on his county and area Teen Councils, and was the Program Assistant for the State Teen Council in 2008-2009. He also had the

opportunity to represent Kentucky at National 4-H Conference this past spring, and the Southern Region Leadership Conference last fall.

As a team, the officers have a couple of goals for themselves, for Kentucky 4-H, and for the State Teen Council. As officers they seek to encourage collegiate 4-H for outgoing 4-H members as well as lead by example in the area of community service. For the Kentucky 4-H Program, they have implemented a program to evaluate other states. With Dr. Kurth's recommendation, the four officers have already spoken to state specialists in eight different 4-H programs. And for the State Teen Council, they hope to encourage intercouncil leadership for the district representative The Officers have been very busy in the past month and a half. The State 4-H Communica-

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Board Spotlight

Paul Hall

Paul Hall grew up a 4-Her in Pendleton County, actively participating in 4-H speech and demonstrations contests. As an older 4-Her he joined the Northern Kentucky Teen Council and then went on to pursue a leadership role at the state level serving as State 4-H President in 1976.

"Participating in 4-H projects like speech at an early age gave me the ability to talk in front of people," said Hall. "It is skill that took me far beyond 4-H projects, and has been invaluable in my career."

Hall is now the owner and agent of a Nationwide

Insurance business in Mt. Orab, Ohio, and also has an independent accounting business, tax service and Verzion store. Yet, along his career path this entrepreneur did not forget the importance of 4-H in his life. He became a 4-H advisor in Ohio, while also staying in touch with Kentucky Teen Council Alumni.

When alumni came together a few years ago to begin forming the new Kentucky 4-H Foundation, Hall was active in the development.

"We knew that Kentucky 4-H needed an organization that would reach out to alumni and provide a



Paul Hall welcomed donors at the 2009 Donor Breakfast.

way to help secure funding for projects and programs so that is why the Foundation was formed," explained Hall. "Then Keith asked me to serve as Chairman of the Board and I couldn't say no."

Hall believes the Foundation is an organization that is built on faith that will provide a stronger foundation for Kentucky 4-H for years to come.

4-H Foundation Board

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Joey Spalding

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State 4-H Officers cont...

tions Day was their first "official" officer duty. The officers had the privilege of helping award the outstanding 4-Hers competing in speeches and demonstrations, taking pictures with the competitors and "Clover Cat". In the middle of July officers attended their orientation at Scovell Hall, meeting with State 4-H Staff and Specialists. They also spent a day planning the September STC meeting. On the twenty-seventh the Farm Bureau supported

4-H, FFA, and FCCLA in leadership and team building training on the high and low ropes courses at Asbury College. Finally, the four officers and fellow Kentucky and Tennessee 4-Hers began planning for the Southern Region Leadership Conference. This conference will be in October.

The new officers had a great time at the State Fair, and enjoyed working in Cloverville and helping out with the animal



State 4-H officers and ag leaders with the 2008 4-H Ham winner.

shows. Now they are looking forward to leading the first STC meeting for 2009-2010.

Anna, Quaid, Courtney, and Derek say hello to Kentucky 4-H. They look forward to leading this program into the next century of 4-H.



Donor Report

4-H Pledge

I pledge...
My HEAD
to clearer thinking,
My HEART
to greater loyalty,
My HANDS
to larger Service, and
My HEALTH
to better living,
For my club,

My community,

My country,

And my world.

Dear Donor,

We can be proud of the remarkable achievements Kentucky. 4-H has experienced during its first century. It is truly amazing to think that 100 years ago the Kentucky 4-H program began with a corn club in Fayette county and today involves over 229, 000 youth, in all counties, from the farm to the cities, even on our military bases.

As one of our loyal friends and supporters who have helped us to further the Kentucky 4-H program, we want to extend our deepest gratitude. The Kentucky 4-H Foundation absolutely could not do our work without you. You are the reason for our success!

Kentucky 4-H is the largest youth development program in Kentucky and the Foundation is committed to keeping it strong for all our youth throughout the next century. Let us once again say thank you for Making the Best Better in Kentucky. Together we can make the next 100 years of Kentucky 4-H the best ever.

Sincerely,

Board of Directors

Kentucky 4-H Foundation

Supporting Kentucky 4-H Programs

rearly 230,000 Kentucky youth learn about what 4-H stands for and how important the four H's (Head, Heart, Hands, and Health) are for youth to develop leadership, citizenship, and life skills. We need your help to continue this long standing tradition. Your donation today will help continue delivering these superior educational programs.

You may designate your contribution to an area that most interests you or leave unrestricted to be used in the area of greatest need.

You can learn more or make a donation on-line at www.kentucky4h. org/foundation or contact Keith L. Rogers, Executive Director at (859) 257-5961 ext 250 or via email at keithl.rogers@uky.edu.



The Kentucky 4-H Foundation thanks each of the donors who gave from July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009.

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Kentucky Department of Agriculture Toyota Kentucky's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives Kansas State University

Ruby Club (\$10,000 - \$24,999)

Navigant International (World Wise) Farm Credit Services of Mid America Kentucky Soybean Promotion Board Kansas 4-H Foundation, Inc. MetLife Foundation

Diamond Club (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Kentucky State Fair Board Southern States Cooperatives, Inc. (Paper Clover) National 4-H Council Griffin Industries, Inc.

Gold Club (\$2,500 - \$4,999)

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