President’s Message
Barb Stevens, Rensselaer County

Hope you’ve all had a terrific summer and a successful fair, camp, or whatever your position description holds for you! In thinking about the theme for this issue of the News ‘n Views, I had to chuckle for a minute! Here we’re coming off one of the busiest times of the year for all of us in 4-H, and we need to be concerned with “building positive relationships” and “networking within the 4-H Youth Development Profession”? What’s up with that??!! However, if you really sit and think about it, this couldn’t be a better time in our professional lives to build those relationships. I’m sure many of you have had discussions in your county about the tough economic times ahead. Governor Patterson’s speech about the state budget deficit hasn’t helped the situation either. Given these factors, it only shows how even more important it is to network with other youth agencies, discuss possible partnerships, and get to know those important stakeholders and decision makers within the county. We really don’t have to be in competition with anyone - there’s plenty of youth work to go around! You may find new funding possibilities as you attend those networking meetings, or you may discover where there is a duplication of services and it would be better to put precious resources to use somewhere else within your programming. I can remember times when management has questioned the need for staff members to attend meetings that didn’t seem important at the time. Sometimes positive, productive partnerships take time to cultivate and can truly pay off when you may need them most. This is a hard concept for some people to grasp, and you really have to have a good feeling about the amount of time you’re spending during the cultivating period. But I think it will continue to be imperative for us to spend that time so that we can strive to achieve the ultimate goal of improving the lives of the young people in our counties. If we can make that happen as we’re working with others who have the same goal in mind, this is a good thing!!!

Take care and I hope to see you at the State 4-H Conference in Rochester! By the way, what a TERRIFIC way to build those positive relationships and find out what others around the state are doing!!! The State Conference is just the place to do this - to affirm what you’re doing, find out about new programming possibilities, and make new connections. I’ll see you there!!!

Barb
Officer Nominations

Success!!! 2008-2009 NYSACCE4-HE Officer Nominations secured.
Patti Zellmer, Committee Chair

The Nominating Committee of the Association is VERY happy to report and present a full slate of candidates for the upcoming 2008-2009 NYSACCE4-HE Officer election! As is reflective of this Association, we have EXCELLENT candidates for each position. Committee members had the privilege of calling on the membership to fill the nomination slate. THANK YOU
Committee members:  Syd McAvoy, Steve Billings, Tom Davis, Chip Malone, Margie Ragosta and Linda Wegner.

Take time now to meet the candidates so you will make an informed vote this fall. The Officers will be elected by the current NYSACCE4-HE membership via an electronic ballot. Ballots will be sent via email in September. On-line voting is to be completed BEFORE Friday, October 3, 5 pm. Absentee/paper ballots are available and must be postmarked on or BEFORE Friday, October 3, 5 pm. Make your paper ballot request with Patti Zellmer by calling: 845.340.3990 or email: psz2@cornell.edu.

A reminder that Megan Tifft, current Vice President will move into the position of President. The rest of the offices will be by election. We have an outstanding group of candidates. Best wishes to each of the candidates!

President Elect: Megan Tifft
Vice President Candidates: Shawn Tiede and Terri Lanterman Becker
Secretary Candidates: Margo Bowerman and Rachel Williams
Treasurer Candidates: John Bowe and Barb Sturm
NYSACCE4-HE
Officer Nomination Bio
2008 – 2009
Position of President
Megan Tifft

My career in the Cooperative Extension 4-H Program began shortly after I graduated from the University of Vermont. At age 21 I began my 4-H career in two Counties in Southern Vermont. After four years of being with UVM and receiving my Graduate Degree, I moved across the country to accept a position as a 4-H Agent in Colorado. I did, however, move back East to be closer to family. I have been the 4-H Youth Team Coordinator for Cornell Cooperative Extension in Tompkins County for 4 years. I have been a member of NYSACCE4-HE for 4 years and a member of NAE4-HA for 9 years.

The difference that being a part of this Association has made for me is being part of a supportive “family” of professionals that I can learn from and develop long-term friendships. The camaraderie and support has kept me positive when the going gets tough.

I would really like us to look at different levels of membership and take a very close look at the structure of our Assoc. at the District level. I also would like to be present at one Executive Directors meeting to talk with these folks about the importance of membership.
NYSACCE4-HE
Officer Nomination Bio
2008 – 2009
Position of Vice President
Terri Lanterman Becker

I am a community educator for CCE of Madison County. I have been employed in Madison County since 1987 and have had a variety of work responsibilities. At this time my program responsibilities include: public presentations, local government internships and civic education, youth fair, leader training. I currently work as an educator as a part of the ACT for Youth grant in our county as well. I have an A.A.S degree from Morrisville State College in Equine Husbandry, a B.S. from Cazenovia College in Social Sciences, and a M.S from Oswego State in Education.

I have served as District Chairperson of North Central for a total of 3 years during my 20 plus years in extension. I currently hold that position. I am also currently a member of the Capital Days Committee and have served on the committee since 2000. I chaired the committee for 5 of those years. I served on the Regional Horse committee for several years and also chaired that group. I have served as the State Association Secretary, I also have served as a member of the Youth Development Network and am currently a member of the Resource Development Committee.

The association has offered me numerous opportunities to obtain professional development. However, more important it has created a network of colleagues to call on when needed and created many lifelong friends. It has also offered me opportunities to grow in my leadership skills. I am in complete agreement with the article written by president Barb Stevens recently about value of the association. I think that it will be important to look at the association critically and see if there are areas which need to be adjusted to meet our new and challenging times. We need to be proactive and look at ways to add value to membership and be clear about how it relates to the important profession that we are a part of. I think it also critical that we always think about marketing the value of the 4-H program in our state and beyond.
My name is Shawn Tiede and I am a 4-H Youth Development Educator in Wyoming County. I am in my 6th year working for Cornell Cooperative Extension. Currently, I serve as the 4-H Camp Wyomoco Manager. This is a full time year round position where my responsibilities include promotion, marketing, program development, facility management, and anything else related to camp. I worked in Genesee County my first 4 years with Cornell Cooperative Extension as the 4-H Youth Development Team Coordinator. My responsibilities included volunteer and club management, animal and livestock programs, food and nutrition and clothing and textile programs, as well as overall program supervision. My educational background includes being a graduate of SUNY Geneseo with a degree in Management.

I have been a NYSACCE4-HE and NAE4-HE member for 6 years and I am currently finishing a 2 year term as our NYSACCE4-HE Treasurer. I served as the Western District Chairperson for 3 years and as a member of the NYSACCE4-HE Fund Development Committee for 3 years. I am serving as Co-Chair of the Operations Section of the Operations Committee for the 2009 National Conference. I have also served on the NYS 4-H Foundation Scholarship review committee for several years.

As a member of NYSACCE4-HE I have gained a tremendous respect for my colleagues across the state and the work we all do. This network of friends and support has been invaluable to me throughout my career. It is an honor to be considered for the position of Vice-President.
I’m the 4-H Team Coordinator in Orleans County (the small county on Lake Ontario, between Rochester and Buffalo). I’m responsible for the overall coordination of the 4-H program (primarily a club program here in Orleans County) with programming responsibilities in agriculture and natural resources. I have a Master’s degree in Wildlife Biology from SUNY ESF (because of which I could tell you more than you ever wanted to know about woodchucks, and yes, I can answer the question “How much wood could a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?”)

I have primarily served the Association through the Western District where I have been chair and vice chair. I have represented the Western District on several committees including Youth Committee Action, Membership and Recognition, Marketing and Information, and Geospatial Science.

The Association has provided not only a support system, but an endless supply of connections to amazing people and ideas. As Secretary I hope to continue to support the Association by fulfilling the duties of the standards my predecessors have set.
NYSACCE4-HE
Officer Nomination Bio
2008 – 2009
Position of Secretary
Rachel Williams

My name is Rachel Williams, I have been the 4-H Resource Educator at Seneca County CCE since September of 2007. I work in all areas of programming except for Animal Science. I am a 4-H Alumnus of Seneca County since 1979. I was a 4-H member for 12 years and a 4-H Leader for 7 years. I have a Bachelors of Science in Speech Language Pathology from Nazareth College of Rochester and a Masters of Education from Abilene Christian University in Abilene Texas. Prior to taking my current position I was a Speech Language Therapist and Assistive Technology Provider for nine years.

I currently serve on the Professional Development Committee. I am also serving on the Special Events Committee planning for 2009 Conference. I am a member of the newly formed Healthy Lifestyles PWT and will help to plan the Volunteer Forum this November. I also served as a member of the Planning Committee for STARR last year and look forward to another year as a member of the committee. I am also an Adult Partner with the Choose Health Ambassadors. I served as the Co-Chair for the Washington Citizenship Focus Trip in 2007.

The 4-H Association has contributed to my growth as a professional in the field. It has given me an opportunity to network and develop relationships with many talented and highly experienced professionals. The Association provides us with an outlet to use our Heads, Hands, Hearts and Health to make positive steps forward in our profession and beyond. The Association offers a multitude of opportunities in professional development that I look forward to exploring more and more. I hope to bring my ability to balance creativity with organization to the position of Secretary.
Currently, I am the 4-H Team Coordinator for Warren County. Our office is located in Warrensburg, New York on the edge of the Adirondacks and the banks of the Schroon River. My programming responsibilities include Natural Resources, Animal Science, Agricultural Education, ATV & Shooting Sports safety education, as well as Team/Leadership Development. My undergraduate degree is in Regional Planning with a double major in Environmental Biology from Westfield State College. My graduate degree is from the University of Massachusetts in Human Dimensions of Wildlife Conservation. I have also taken continuing education and correspondence courses in agriculture, agricultural education, and outdoor education.

I have held both the positions of Chair, and Vice-Chair at the Regional level in the Capital area. My current position is Regional Representative to the NYS 4-H Board. I am also the Treasurer of the 4-H Agribusiness Career Conference held in October at SUNY Cobleskill.

The numerous professional and personal relationships I have developed with my colleagues through the Association have been tremendously beneficial. All the members have been willing to answer questions, share contacts or references, and been there to listen when the occasional program gets frustrating. We are blessed with a talented pool of educators that represent both established and new energies and ideas. I would not say I hope to change the position of Treasurer, I simply hope to continue to provide accurate and up to date information as needed.
I, Barbara Sturm passionately combine two of my passions - 4-H and agriculture as a 4-H Youth Development Program Educator for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Genesee County focusing on Animal Science and Ag in the Classroom, working on both the local and NYS levels. In addition, I work with the 4-H youth in the Fabrics and Textiles area. I am a graduate of SUNY Morrisville with an AAS degree in Agricultural Business and a minor in Animal Husbandry, Dairy. Currently, I am completing my BS in Business, Management and Economics at Empire State College with the goal of obtaining a MBA. In non-formal education, I am a graduate of LEAD NY, Class 8, Young Dairy Leaders, Class 4 and a certified Master Gardener. Prior to joining Cornell Cooperative Extension of Genesee County, I, with my husband, Robert and his father owned and operated a 450 cow dairy, 1000 acre operation in Livingston County. There, I managed the young stock and office portions of the business. I have been involved with Cornell Cooperative Extension all of my life - as a 4-H'er, 4-H club leader, Master Gardener, and serving on the Livingston County CCE Board of Directors, which also included being Vice President and President. I have been a member of NYS ACCE-4HE for 3 years.

I am a member of NYS Farm Bureau and was recently appointed to fill the at-large seat on the NYS Promotion and Education Committee. Also I am currently serving as President of the Big Springs Garden Club where I have been a member for many years. At Covington United Presbyterian Church I have served in many capacities including, for the last 2 years, serving on the Pastor Nominating Committee. Since 1988, I and my husband have been volunteer puppy raisers for Guiding Eyes for the Blind, raising 28 pups and fostering 12 litters for the organization. I was the Co-Area Coordinator for the Wyoming Region for many years before becoming the Area Coordinator for the Genesee Region. Also a member to the NYS Ag Society, DOTCorny (Dog Obedience Training Club of Rochester New York).

As a new employee to the 4-H Youth Development Program, becoming a member of the 4-H Association was highly encouraged. Although each day provides more learning opportunities and challenges, I have received much support and guidance from fellow educators and made many friends. As treasurer, I look forward to being able to “give back” to 4-H as it helped make me become who I am today.
Fred Lauf  
Dutchess County

Due to the unprecedented level of interest in this year’s election (of course I’m referring to the NYSACCE4-HE Election. Did you really think I meant McCain and Obama?) the ace reporting team here at the News and Views have provided you with complete NYSACCE4-HE campaign coverage in a special Election of the News and Views.

Regular publication of the News and Views will resume in the fall. Don’t forget your deadline of October 15!