President’s Message
Barb Stevens, Rensselaer County

Hello Everyone!!

Hope you’ve had some time to relax a little bit and enjoy family and friends over the last few weeks, and that 2008 has been treating you well so far. I’ve talked to many 4-H educators over the past two months and it seems like we’re all in a race against time, barely keeping up with everything that’s going on! If you’re feeling this way, please realize that you’re not alone and that your colleagues are just a phone call or email away. It’s great to be able to call someone and talk about your challenges, or to be contacted by someone else to talk about your strengths. Take advantage of that!! It’s one of the best benefits of being in our profession.

In December 2007, the 4-H Board began a long discussion about whether or not we were offering the members of our 4-H professional association all that we

Happy NYSACCE4-HE Members at the NorthCentral Retreat
could. There are so many benefits of belonging to our organization: members are eligible to win awards at the state, regional, and national level; they are able to run for office to become an integral part of the Association; there is a direct link to what’s happening with 4-H at the National level. But is this really enough? Is there more we can offer to strengthen our organization and make it an even better way to communicate among peers and help ourselves be better professionals? We will continue to look at this throughout the coming year. We’ve heard from a few educators regarding some suggestions for what the Board might think about during this process. If you have any ideas or concerns about the benefits of membership in our professional association, please feel free to call me (518-765-3541) or email me at bes13. I would love to hear from you and I’m very open to any new ideas you might have!

Last October, I was able to attend the National 4-H Conference in Atlanta. What an incredible group of people we are!! I had never been to a 4-H conference at the National level before, and it was an experience I will never forget. Just looking at all the people who were doing the same work we’re all doing here in New York was so amazing to me. And they all have the same goal in mind – “to make the best better” is true from Maine to Hawaii. We can all be proud of what we’re doing, and the New York State 4-H Program is definitely among the best in the country!!

I’m looking forward to 2008 and working with all of you to make our professional organization the best it can be!!

Barb Stevens
Dear Uncle Al,

I am a new 4-H Educator and I keep hearing bits and pieces about the opportunities we have for professional development in 4-H. I am interested in learning more about these opportunities and how they can help me build a great 4-H program. There are so many trainings offered and budgets are always tight. I want to make sure I am choosing carefully and there may be resources that don’t cost anything. Can you help me sort through all of this?

Sincerely,

Connie Fused

Dear Connie,

It’s wonderful to have so many professional development choices, but selecting the right one can be confusing. Since costs are always a concern, you will be happy to learn that there are many opportunities for low or no-cost professional development. The NYS 4-H Resource directory should be your first step in determining what program topics you might enjoy. Browse through the hundreds of curricula listed and you may find a topic that you don’t know much about but would like to. Another educator in your district may know a lot about that topic and could offer some help.

As a new educator, or an experienced educator with new program responsibilities, you are welcome to join a mentoring partnership. The Mentoring Committee will match you to another educator who is willing to help you with specific skill development or refining ideas. If you would like to have a mentor, ask your district mentoring committee member to help you find one.

There are many professional development programs on-line. These are short, 2-3 hour courses that you can select and review when you need them. Many are provided by Cornell or other universities and topics include evaluation and reporting, programming, administrative and supervisory skills, time management and many others. A list of websites can be obtained from the Professional Development team of Michael Duttweiler and Sarah Dayton.

For other professional development opportunities you should check out the weekly emails sent by Laurie Whatley. They list conferences, seminars and workshops held at Cornell and at county extension offices around the state. You should always try to attend the Conferences offered by our professional organization, the NYSACCE4-HE. Workshops at the conference are sure to have great information on timely topics. Most importantly, don’t forget to look to your colleagues in 4-H to point you in the right direction. There are lots of great brains to pick for suggestions of good development opportunities.

Sincerely,

Uncle Al
CITY Project Recognized Nationally as a Successful Urban 4-H Program

The National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA) Urban 4-H Programs Task Force announced the selection of New York's CYFAR Sustainable Communities Project, the Community Improvement Through Youth (CITY) Project for the 2007 NAE4-HA Directory of Successful Urban 4-H Programs. The CITY Project received recognition of this honor at the 2007 NAE4-HA Annual Conference in Atlanta.

The CITY Project, a project of the Dept. of Human Development, College of Human Ecology, is part of the CYFAR Program's Sustainable Community Projects. It is supported by Smith Lever funds from CSREES/USDA. In Broome County, CCE project staff have partnered with the Broome County Urban League and Binghamton Housing Authority, Broome County Gang Prevention Program. In New York City, CCE staff are partnered with Henry Street Settlement, Manhattan, and the Police Athletic League Wynn Center, Brooklyn.

This is a special honor for the CITY Project as it represents the second consecutive year that a New York CYFAR/CCE project has received this designation. Last year the CYFAR Youth Voices Project received the same honor at the NAE4-HA Conference in Milwaukee, WI. The current Directory of Successful Urban 4-H Programs lists the successfully completed Youth Voices Project. Once updated, the Directory will also list the CITY Project. The NAE4-HA Directory of Successful Urban 4-H Programs can be found at: http://www.colorado4h.org/urbanprogram/

The CITY Project uses CCE's 4-H Signature Program, Youth Community Action (YCA) as a model for promoting civic engagement, workforce preparation, and asset development among youth (13-18 years old). Using Public Adventures: An Active Citizenship Curriculum for Youth and a broad-based community collaboration approach, the CITY Project is working to empower at-risk youth to become community change agents. Community collaborations have resulted in numerous community projects. Here are some recent examples:

- "Did Ya Know" interactive theater to help make the community more aware of the risk-taking behaviors affecting today's young people. Videotaped by CITY Teen Leaders with collaboration and support from the City of Binghamton Youth Bureau Media Center
- Construction Academy supported by the Southern Tier Home Builders and Remodelers Association, Conklin Flood/Disaster Relief Project, and Broome Community College
- Horticulture Camp lead by Cornell Cooperative Extension Broome County's Master Horticulturist
- "Affordable Fashion Show" to highlight the impact of media on teen shopping behaviors. Sponsors for the fashion show include American Eagle, Kohl's, Marshall's, T.J. Maxx, Payless Shoe Stores, and Urban Outfitters in New York City
- "Hey, 'ma' how are you doing?" a community forum on verbal and street harassment supported by the New York City Police Athletic League, Wynn Center, Brooklyn
Congratulations to the CITY Project Team for their extraordinary commitment to making the CITY Project a success! And special congratulations to all the wonderful young people in the CITY Project--the CITY Teen Leaders in Broome and New York City. Their efforts and dedication to improving their communities are what has made the CITY Project a successful urban 4-H program!

CITY Project Team:

**Cornell University**
- June P. Mead, Project Director and Evaluator, Dept. of Human Development
- Steve Goggin, Principal Investigator, Dept. of Human Development
- Celeste Carmichael, Technology Coordinator, State 4-H Youth Development Office

**Cornell Cooperative Extension Broome County**
- Kay C. Telfer, Community Project Director
- Vicki Giarratano, CITY Project Coordinator
- Kelly Mabee, Summer Employment Coordinator

**Cornell University Cooperative Extension New York City**
- Jackie Davis-Manigaulte, Community Project Director
- Jamila Simon, Community Project Coordinator

Finger Lakes
Chair - Katie Nelson
Vice Chair - Jane Amsteu
Secretary – Jen Allen

CITY Project website: http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/city/
Mary Ann Scharmberg, Chairperson

It is with delight that the Member Recognition and Awards Committee announce the award recipients for 2008. We have a fine bunch of educators throughout the state and all should be awarded each and every year for the work that is being done. As the application binders’ show the following are the “cream of the crop” for this year.

Service Awards
NYS 4-H Special Service Award: Amy Morrisey, Ontario County

Distinguished Service Award: Brenda Carpenter, Tompkins County

Meritorious Service Award: Mary Fairley, Saratoga

Specialty Awards
After-School Programming Award: Jennifer Jensen, Ontario County

Team Programming Award: “PAWSitively Youth” Elaine Noble, Dana Palmer, Bernadine Wiesen

Award of Merit: A big surprise! To be announced later.

Thank you to all the nominators and award nominees for taking the time and having the patience to complete the award application. The committee thoroughly enjoyed reading what our fellow educators have done. We always feel we gain fresh ideas and renewed energy from these applications. Congratulations to All!
The North Central 4-H District held its annual winter retreat in January. This two day overnight at the Amboy 4-H Environmental Education Center in Oswego County creates an environment for concentrated professional development and extensive networking time. For the 2008 retreat, the district invited Anne Rosenberg from the Lab of Ornithology to speak about citizen science opportunities. After learning about the numerous Lab of O’s citizen science projects, the educators practiced Project Feeder Watch at the facility’s bird feeding station. They also spent time adapting each project to fit the diverse 4-H delivery modes and connecting each of the citizen science project to approved 4-H curriculum.

The North Central District educators did take time to “Choose Health”. They participated in the Amboy 4-H Environmental Education Center’s geocache while walking the facility’s interpretive trails. Many of the educators were using GPS units for the first time and figured out if a person can program DVD player and recorder… they can program a GPS unit. After the geocache treasure was discovered, the educators made their way back to the lodges and warmed up around the wood stoves.

I was just curious if any of my dearest colleagues have a tendency to hang onto “stuff” way beyond its usefulness?? Maybe you can help out the Historian by sharing some of your back issues of News & Views or old board meeting minutes. Below is a list of missing documents. Please consider parting with these documents so that I may bring the archives up to date. Prizes are available to anyone who makes a contribution!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Missing Documents from Archives:</th>
<th>Minutes</th>
<th>News &amp; Views</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>fall &amp; winter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
<td>all issues</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>all minutes</td>
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</table>
This committee has 5 tasks forces and they are: Hall of Fame, 4-H Stories, Distinguished Alumni, Member Services and Marketing 4-H.

The **Hall of Fame** began in 2002. Currently New York has five: Liberty Hyde Bailey, Albert Hoefer, Don Styles (with NAE4-HA) Margaret Van Rensselaer, and Harold Willman. Nominations are due in February. If you have suggestions for nomination, let me know. Nominations are done through the state office.

**Distinguished 4-H Alumni Database** still continues to collect names. The criteria for a nomination is that they were in 4-H and there are records to verify this and their name has statewide recognition. (To check out the database go to the NAE4-HA web site and click on the Directories button at the top of the page.) To make a nomination, just contact Jim Kahler at jkahler@csrees.usda.gov. Let’s get some of those New York 4-H Alumni recognized!

**4-H Stories** is collecting stories with the intention to publish a book along the lines of the “Chicken Soup for the Soul” format. This is not meant to be necessarily a success story but rather one that is heartfelt, funny and inspirational.

**Member Services** continues to offer First Time Attendees for NAE4-HA conference participants.

**Marketing 4-H** held a discussion about how to connect to Collegiate 4-H. For your information there is an annual National Collegiate 4-H Conference as well as regional conferences. They have a National Collegiate 4-H Organization website at collegiate4h.org. (Yes, there is a link to Cornell University’s Collegiate 4-H web page!)

This task force also spent time developing the goals for 2008.
The committee was full of familiar discussion to previous sessions. Sadly this past year the Chair of the Policy and Resolution Committee, had taken ill and had to leave the extension system. The new Chair was then revisiting some of the items we touched on last year. Initially there is the ongoing push that the National Board move completely into the proposed and approved Governance structure which has not been fully implemented as of yet. There was some technical discussion on the necessity of still requiring opportunity for national officer candidates to actually come from the floor during the annual meeting. According to our NAE4HA procedures, any candidate interested in running for a national office must complete an application and one of the more critical pieces of the application is that you have the support of your state leadership to run. Since the due date for these applications is prior to the annual meeting, there shouldn’t be any way a candidate could be nominated from the floor, without negating the procedure of having their mandatory paperwork in. In future annual meetings, this mechanism will likely be changed. You all might remember for about the third year in a row, the concern for liability of our state level associations. Technically, there is no two states the same and at least one state is already granted the clover use and have gone through the process of becoming a 501C6. However, most of our states are not set up in that fashion and so NAE4HA is working with 4-H Headquarters to determine a future plan for getting this resolved. The committee approved changing the wording of the by-laws of NAE4HA to include reference to individual state/unit/ “status “ and in essence bring the states formally under the NAE4HA umbrella. With doing this we still were not sure if this would suffice. Once it is finalized then all states will need to be sure that they refer to NAE4HA in their by-laws so they are in alignment of what NAE4HA is trying to do. Luckily, New York does refer to NAE4HA but we may want to review our bylaws to be sure it is worded sufficiently, once we hear the outcome from National on this suggestion. It may be preferred that we work through our State 4-H Office rather than NAE4HA, so I guess we will continue to stay tuned on that front. My apologies for the dryness of this article. It is rather hard to make these topics attractive, but I do hope it made remote sense. If you have any questions don’t hesitate to contact me.
The Marketing and Information Committee met March 12th and we are happy to report that we had 19 entries this year in 8 categories. We are pleased to announce the Communicator Award entries that were selected as state winners and were forwarded on for regional and national consideration:

- Exhibit/Display – NYS 4-H Resource Directory display, submitted by Celeste Carmichael, CCE State 4-H Youth Development Office
- Promotional Package (Team) – 4-H Choose Health campaign, submitted by Celeste Carmichael, CCE State 4-H Youth Development Office
- Promotional Piece (Team) – Why 4-H? series, submitted by Celeste Carmichael, CCE State 4-H Youth Development Office
- Periodical Publication (Team) - Wyoming County 4-H News, submitted by Angela Waligora, Wyoming County

In addition to the above four entries that were selected to represent our NYSA4-HE at the regional level, the following entries were selected as state winners:

- Periodical Publication (Individual), submitted by Shannon Dygert, Fulton and Montgomery Counties
- Promotional Piece (Individual), submitted by Nancy Robertson, Saratoga County
- Published Photo, submitted by Angela Waligora, Wyoming County

Recognition of these New York State Awards will be given at the state conference in October. The Marketing and Information Committee will be meeting in Ithaca on May 23rd to update the 4-H Educator’s Association information on the State 4-H Office website and to begin work on developing up-to-date marketing materials to promote the association.
4-H Stories

A Project of NAE4-HA’s Public Relations & Information Committee

This task force is collecting stories for a book from the entire 4-H Family including members, volunteers, educators, state staff, donors, family members & others. These stories are about 4-H folks who have inspired, motivated and made a difference in the lives of others.

Our goal is to have stories from all 50 states sharing the positive personal experiences on the value of 4-H, activities/events, learning experiences, funny situations, etc. The stories should include information about the setting or situations and approximate time frame and must include your name, address and contact information. Please submit up to 3 double spaced pages in a Word document using 12 point Times New Roman font and one inch margins.

The stories included in the book will be selected by the Editorial Team. Send your story as an email attachment to: dtabler@umd.edu. To learn more about 4-H Stories and how to submit your story, go to: www.maryland4h.org/Stories.

EDITOR’S NOTE

Thanks to all you wonderful folks who submitted such great articles and photos. Deadline for the next News and Views is July 15 and the theme is: Identifying, building, and maintaining positive relationships within the 4-H Youth Development Profession.
You don’t have to be a chameleon to help transform NY 4-H. We are still accepting proposals for posters through July 9th. If you were planning on submitting but haven’t gotten around to putting that poster session in, go to: http://forms.cce.cornell.edu/submitter.php?form_id=201

Now is just the right time to plan on attending the conference. Attendees will have the opportunity to select 5 different 1 hour workshops, experience and interact with a variety of informative poster presentations, participate in the 2009 NAE4-HA Rochester Rally, recognize our award winners, induct our 2009 state officers, network, learn the latest and greatest on 4-H Youth Development in New York State and so much more. Below is some important information and deadlines to be aware of.

- **Late July**: Registration will be available, watch your emails.
- **August 20th**: Early Bird Registration Deadline, $190 for members and $220 for non-members.
- **September 10th**: Regular Registration Deadline, $220 for members and $250 for non members.
- **October 6th**: Late Registration Deadline, $250 for members and $280 non members.

Make room reservations at the Hyatt at 585-546-1234 and be sure to mention you are part of the New York State 4-H Educators Conference to assure receiving the following conference rates:

- Double/Single Occupancy - $125/night, Triple Occupancy - $175/night
- Quadruple Occupancy - $200/night, Conference Suite - $400/night

If anyone has any questions or comments about the conference don’t hesitate to contact either co-chair; Charlotte Coffman at cwc4 or Bernie Wiesen at bw27.
All Extension Educators, Specialists, Cornell Faculty and Extension Administrators who have an interest in youth development are welcome to join the New York State Association of Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Educators as full members. Annual dues are $90, with $70 going toward your membership in the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents. Life membership (for retirees only) is $200. Those joining the association for the first time will receive a 50% discount on their National membership ($35.00). With your membership, you will receive both national and state News and Views newsletters, membership rates at professional improvement conferences, the opportunity to participate on the board of directors and standing committees for the association, and most importantly, a close networking relationship with other youth development educators throughout New York and nationally. Membership dues are payable by December 1st to meet National Award deadlines. Please take a few minutes now to fill out the application information below and return your application and check to the NYSACCE4-HE association Vice-President or Megan Tifft. This membership automatically makes you an ACCEE Member.

Name: ________________________________ Title: ________________________________

Where would you like to receive mailings:  ☐ Home  ☐ Office

Mailing address: __________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________

Telephone: (______)________________________                        Fax: (______)________________________

Email________________________________                        Number of years employed in 4-H _______

Number of years employed by CCE _______         Time assigned to 4-H Youth Development work _______%

NAE4-HA receives requests to share its database for research or evaluation studies. These studies might seek to involve you as a pilot test facilitator or involve you as a research subject.

I GIVE CONSENT TO BE CONTACTED: YES____ NO____ as a research subject aiming to enhance or understand the profession and/or the professional.

Please make checks payable to NYSACCE 4-HE
Return to:
Megan E. Tifft, 4-H Youth Development
CCETC
615 Willow Ave.
Ithaca, NY 14850
JANUARY
15  News and Views winter issue deadline – Please email to Fred Lauf with “News and Views” in subject line.

FEBRUARY
  1  News & Views to Membership
  5-7 Joint Council of Extension Professionals Regional Leadership Workshop
  15  State Board Meeting – via Video Conference, 10-1

MARCH
  3-4  4-H Capital Days

APRIL
  15  News and Views spring issue deadline – Please email to Fred Lauf with “News and Views” in subject line.
  28-30 Public Issues Leadership Development Conference in Washington

MAY
  1  News and Views to Membership
  8  State Board Meeting – Cornell University

JULY
  15  News & Views summer issue Deadline – Please email to Fred Lauf with “News and Views” in the subject line.

AUGUST
  1  News and Views to Membership
  1  2008 Budget Request due to Treasurer

SEPTEMBER
  1  Districts hold elections and make recommendations for committee representatives to the president-elect (Vice President Megan Tifft).
  9  Committee Chair-Elect names submitted to president-elect (Vice President Megan Tifft)
  15  State Board Meeting – New York State Fairgrounds

OCTOBER
  15  News & Views fall issue deadline – Please email to Fred Lauf with “News and Views” in the subject line.
  15-18  Annual State Conference - Rochester

NOVEMBER
  1  Start of New Offices (State and District) and Committee Chairs
  1  News and Views to membership
  17  Association Officers meet in Syracuse
  18  State Board Meeting – New York State Fairgrounds, 10-3

DECEMBER
  1  Deadline for NYSACCE4-HE Memberships for Awards allocation