A Note From the President

Helping young people and their families gain the skills needed to be proactive forces in their communities and develop ideas for a more productive future, is what each and every 4-H educator in New York State does well. Over the past year we have met with fiscal challenges, weather related challenges, staffing challenges and national related tragedies. As educators, we met these challenges head on and worked towards creating solutions and/or dialogue to move forward, grow and heal.

The Volunteer Leader’s Forum brought the combined efforts of clubs from around the state to aid those in New Jersey who were directly devastated by Hurricane Sandy. Educators came forward to resurrect the state level public presentations program this spring and had a wildly successful event. Regionalized events took place throughout the year and we did more with less! Districts took advantage of the professional development funds made possible through our association to bring 4-H state office staff and Cornell faculty expertise directly to the front line.

It has truly been a privilege and an honor to serve as the NYSACCE4-HE President this past year. I am extremely proud of the work we do in our individual counties, and together as districts and a state. I look forward to next year as Rachel Williams leads our Association with Greg Stevens, Jennifer Clancey and Roxanne Dueppengiesser to engage our youth in reaching their fullest potential while advancing the field of youth development. Thank you for the enriching opportunities that NYSACCE4-HE has presented to me.

~Rachel Williams

NYSACCE4-HE is the only professional association for 4-H Youth Development Educators in New York. The themes of the 2013 New York State Association of Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Educators are:

- Work within the Extension system to build a highly competent and motivated 4-H Youth Development staff.
- Identify, build, and maintain positive relationships within the 4-H Youth Development profession.
- Develop and deliver a contemporary and effective image of 4-H Youth Development.

NYSACCE4-HE supports the mission of NAE4-HA, National Association of Extension 4-H Agents, to offer Youth Development professionals the best in professional development, an inclusive and supportive network, integration of scholarship, research, and practice.
Capital Days
The 78th annual Capital Days event was held March 3-5th, 2013
- 76 teen delegates attending, representing 37 counties.
- Laura Ladd Bierman, Executive Director of the League of Women Voters, was the guest speaker for the Sunday night program.
- Our 4-H teen planning committee members led the group in activities designed to help them learn how to speak to their legislators.
- Assemblyman Peter Lopez was the guest speaker for the Monday night dinner, and gave a great talk on the importance of civic engagement.
- Youth had a chance to meet with their legislators at the Legislative breakfast on Tuesday, with a chance to ask questions and have pictures taken.
- After the breakfast, we attended presentations from one of 6 agencies, either: Department of Corrections, NYERDA, Ag & Markets, Health Department, Department of Environmental Conservation, or the Department of Education.
- Senator Cecilia Tkaczyn, who is a 4-H alumnus and great supporter of the 4-H program, was the closing speaker.
Committee members are: Katie Nelson, Greg Stevens, Jamila Simon, Jody Tatieh, Linda Wegner, Margo Bowerman, Marylin Jones, and Rebecca Ireland-Perry.
~Submitted by Becky Ireland-Perry

Mentoring
The mentoring committee, consisting of Kathy Bowers, Mark Wittmeyer, Pat Banker, Emily Roach, Linda Tripp, Kelly Parker, and Jan Smith continued to establish mentoring relationships for future members. If anyone is interested in mentoring or having a mentor, please contact a committee representative.
~Submitted by Jan Smith

Fund Development
The Fund Development Committee is currently making preparations for the Annual Fall Conference Silent Auction to be held Wednesday, October 16th. The members include Nancy Robertson – Co-Chair, April Winslow- Co-Chair, Marika Rywak - Secretary, Amy Pyra, Amy Sands, Tanya Nickerson and Autumn Lavine.
~Submitted by April Winslow

Audit
The Audit Committee (consisting of Tim Davis, Angela Northern, and Barb Sturm) met with Association Treasurer Roxanne Dueppengiesser on June 6 to review the association’s financial records. The accounts were found to be in very good shape with many of the prior year recommendations implemented. The Audit Committee thanks Roxanne for all her support during the audit process. The Audit Committee also reviewed the 4-H Capital Days finance records on that day, which were provided by 4-H Capital Days Treasurer Marilyn Jones. The accounts were found to be in very good shape with the majority of prior year recommendations implemented. The Audit Committee would like to highlight the need for the 4-H Capital Days Committee and the Board of Directors to work together to develop a strategy on the use of reserve funds. It has been a pleasure for the Audit Committee to work with Marilyn Jones in recent years.
~Submitted by Tim Davis

Investment
The Board approved the recommendation from the Investment Committee to form a Staff Professional Development fund with proceeds from the 2009 NAE4-HA conference and unspent professional development funds from 2009-2012. This fund with a value of almost $20,000 will be used to support professional development in Districts and scholarships. Committee members include Shawn Tiede, Rachel Williams, Mary Fairley, Roxanne Dueppengiesser, and Tom Davis.
~Submitted by Shawn Tiede

Nominating
The slate of officers offered to the Association membership includes: President: Rachel Williams, Vice President: Greg Stevens, Secretary: Jen Clancy and Sarah Westcott, Treasurer: Roxanne Dueppengiesser.
~Submitted by Brenda Carpenter
Awards and Recognition

The committee is responsible for the recognition of members for outstanding accomplishments, retirements, resignations, and significant events in our lives. The following were recognized in 2013:

**Twenty-Five Years**
- Kim Fleming, Chrys Nestle
- Darla Marika Rywak, Shawn Tiede
- Abigail Jackson, Holly Harwood
- Tanya Nickerson, Melissa Watkins

Committee members are: Mary Ann Schramberg, Shawn Tiede, Linda Gilliland, Rebecca Ireland-Perry, Jerome Christie, Adam Davis, Mary Fairley

NAE4-HA

NY EDUCATORS PLAY A LARGE LEADERSHIP ROLE IN NAE4-HA!

New York educators have always demonstrated their belief and faith in the importance of NAE4HA by showing their willingness to step up into leadership roles. This year some have even said that NY is "taking over" the national board! The reality is that NY has once again shown that it has incredibly talented and dedicated staff who are willing to take on leadership positions. Please thank the following for their service to our organization:

- NAE4HA Vice President for Programs - Linda Tripp
- NAE4HA Vice President for Finance and Operations - Shawn Tiede
- NAE4HA Vice President for Member Services - Megan Tifft
- NAE4HA Chairperson of Public Relations and Information Committee - Chrys Nestle
- NAE4HA Northeast Regional Director, Chair of State Relations - Tom Davis

~Submitted by Tom Davis

Professional Development

The committee, consisting of Megan Tifft, Linda Brosch, Emily Kidd, Mark Wittmeyer, Amy Prya, Barb Stevens, Matthew Green, Nancy Schaff, Kim Fleming & Nancy Caswell (chairperson) is reminding all districts to use the online submission form for Professional Development Fund Grants. The link to this Wufoo form is found on the NYSACCE4-HE website at [http://professionaldevelop.wufoo.com/forms/z7x3x5/](http://professionaldevelop.wufoo.com/forms/z7x3x5/).

The committee reviews the submissions electronically as they are submitted. Currently, up to $285 is available to each district each year. In 2014 the amount will decrease to $250 available to each district each year. As a reminder, the professional development funds are to cover or offset costs for members only. Non-members are welcome to attend, but should pay an additional fee.

The RFP’s for the 2013 NYSACCE4-HE Conference were also submitted electronically. We are able to support the Conference committee with the professional development offerings for the Conference.

~Submitted by Nancy Caswell

Marketing and Information

The Marketing & Information Committee received 12 entries in 9 categories for this year’s Communicator Awards.

**Educational Piece (Individual)** – John Bowe

**Personal Column** – Jen Clancy

**News Story** – Mary Ann Schramberg

**Periodical Publication (Individual)** – Ellen Heaney

**Educational Package (Team)** - John Bowe, William Schwerd, Keith Tidball, Denise Ekross, and J. David Ferris

**Published Photo** – Jessica Spence

**Promotion Package (Team)** – Shawn Tiede, Marie Wixner, Nata Smith, and Amy Berry

**Promotional Piece (Individual)** – Jen Clancy

**Radio Program** – Crystal-Lee Skoda

Committee members are: Roxanne Dueppengiesser, Jessica Spence, Mel Schroeder, Bonnie Peck, Debbie Holliday, and Nikki Olsen.

NAE4-HA

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~Submitted by Tom Davis

Highlights!

Historian, Chrys Nestle, along with Mary Fairley and Ellen Elliott, has been editing the 2010 History Highlights. It can be found at [http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/staff/Pages/NYSACCE4-HE.aspx](http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/staff/Pages/NYSACCE4-HE.aspx)

News and Views this year featured quotes from The 4-H Way, a collection of essays written by State 4-H Club Leader, Albert Haefer. The 4-H Way can be found at [http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/staff/Pages/News-and-Views.aspx](http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/staff/Pages/News-and-Views.aspx)
District Updates

Western/Finger Lakes

The Western and Finger Lakes Districts of the NYSACCE4-HE met jointly during 2013 in counties throughout the district. Professional Development programs included a Lego WeDo Robotics training by Roger Ort, State Robotics Program Specialist, a Healthy Living Program Update by Dr. Nigel Gannon, State 4-H Healthy Living Program Specialist and an informative program by Celeste Carmichael about the state and national plans of work. Western District officers for the upcoming year will be: Chair - Tanya Nickerson, Vice Chair - Tammi Kron, Secretary – Kerri Richardson, Board Representative – Holly Harwood. Finger Lakes officers will be: Chair- Mark Wittmeyer; Vice-Chair and Board Rep- Jennifer Jensen; Secretary- Mary Ann Scharmberg. In addition to the joint meetings of the districts, each district does meet separately once a year.

~Submitted by Holly Harwood and Jennifer Jensen

North Central

The North Central District held three business meetings in 2013. District Public Presentations was held in May at TSC in Rome and went well. Officers for the district are; Chair – Jennifer Collins, Vice-Chair – Linda Brosch, District Representative – April Winslow and the position of Secretary will be shared amongst the members.

~Submitted by April Winslow

Capital

Professional development was offered at five district meetings:
- Liz Searle - NYS 4-H Foundation history, future direction, how investments are made and the relationship it has with Cornell University.
- Patrick Hooker – role of the Empire State Development discussed and links to CCE.
- Maurice R. Padula – prevention of personal fraud and deception and how to deal with it when it happens to you.
- Wes Hannah - the National Young Farmers Coalition and the challenges young beginning farmers face in establishing a business.
- Roger Ort, NYS Program Specialist in Robotics, will share all kinds of opportunities and applications for and about the 4-H Robotics Project in November.

Officers for 2014 are: Chair – Mary Fairley; Co-Vice Chairs – Eileen DePaula and Barb Stevens; Secretary – Chrys Nestle; and, Board Rep – Linda Tripp.

~Submitted by Linda Tripp

North Country

The North County District met five times in 2012. A large part of our activities focused on hosting the 2013 NYSACCE4-HE conference in Lake Placid. We also worked with our regional Nutrition colleagues for professional development around healthy living. We adopted a regional healthy snack policy and are looking into one for fundraising.

~Submitted by Alexa King

South Central

Since December 2012, we have held 4 meetings with an average of 15 people in attendance for each meeting. Committee reports conducted at each meeting. We have someone serving on every committee of the Association. Professional development topics we focused on this year were grant writing and wellness, including a visit from an Employee Assistance Program representative. We met up with the South East District again this year for an overnight at Camp Shankitunk. We had a presentation on Nature Detectives and Dr. Jen’s Wellness workshop. We have presented several mentor bags to new staff in the District. Officers are: Bernadette Raupers-Chair, Megan Tifft and Patti Zellmer-Co-Vice Chairs, Kelly Adams-Secretary.

~Submitted by Megan Tifft

South East

The South East District Educators met four times this year, including 2 overnight retreats – one at 4-H Camp Shankitunk and the other at Dorothy P. Flint 4-H Camp. The group visited the Suffolk County Farm and 4-H facilities and had a great time! We spent a long time re-evaluating our regional efforts and re-worked our programming schedule to accommodate staffing changes within the district. As a district, we are excited to be hosting the 2014 NYSACCE4-H E conference, and have begun working to coordinate that event. Finally, the group has enthusiastically decided to resurrect a regional Teen Retreat that has not happened in 5+ years, and we have set a date for the spring of 2014.

2014 Officers: Chair – Ingrid Hill, Vice Chair – Melanie Forstrom, Secretary – Vicki Fleming, and Treasurer – Marika Rywak.

~Submitted by Kelly Parker