Western
The Western District membership of the NYSACCE-HE gathered together four times since last October. Professional development programs and district activities included opportunities to expand fine arts project knowledge, attend an etiquette luncheon, and enjoy a nature hike through Chestnut Ridge Park. During June a joint meeting was held with the Finger Lakes District; Andy Turner, State 4-H Program Leader was the featured speaker. Western District officers for the upcoming year will be: Chair – Nate Smith, Vice Chair – Tammi Kron, Secretary – Jessie Nickerson, Board Representative – Robert Batt. –Submitted by Holly Harwood

South East
The South East District convened in December in NYC, March in Westchester, June was our overnight at Camp Shankitunk in Delaware County with South Central and in September we met on Long Island in Suffolk County. Our professional development funds were spent on creating a mini library of traveling reference materials; from “Dealing with difficult people” to “Coding for dummies”; and educators gave brief report back on what they read. The South East said good by to a few colleagues this past year; Kelly Parker (Dutchess) and Kristin Frangione (Ulster), yet on the other hand said hello to Betsy Rodman of Rockland and Jennifer Cappello of Nassau. Our slate of officers for 2016 are: Melanie Forrest (Chair), Nancy Cawsell (Vice), Vicki Fleming (Secretary), Dena Altavilla (Treasurer) and Marika Rywalk (Board Rep). –Submitted by Marika Rywalk

North Country
The North Country District Educators met four times in 2015. Committee reports are given at each meeting by the appropriate lead. Professional development on the New York State 4-H Healthy Living program was conducted by Nigel Gaman. The six counties are working together for the third year in a row on United Health Care and Walmart foundation, providing research based healthy living education. Coordination of a canning/food preservation training in Franklin County for 9/8 and 9/9 was a huge success. Additionally, a District geographic professional development training took place in St. Lawrence County. Lastly, coordination and collaboration of the District Fair Jurying tour was on 6/30. Officers for 2016 are: Chair – Steve McDonald, Franklin; Vice-Chair – Kristin Colarusso, St. Lawrence; Secretary – Connie Geor, Franklin; State Board Representative – Stephanie Graf, Jefferson. –Submitted by Stephanie Graf

Finger Lakes
Finger Lakes District has had a variety of meetings this year. Professional development topics at our meetings have included Invasive Species, Memorial Day Museum: tour meeting with Andy Turner and a workshop on Strength Finders. We are excited that the Western District has gained strength in membership numbers so we are no longer doing joint meetings with them. Finger Lakes District is looking forward to hosting the State 4-H Conference in October 2016. –Submitted by Jennifer Jensen

SOUTH EAST
Dena Altavilla (S) Nancy Cawsell Jerome Christie (S) Vicky Fleming (S) Krista Frei (S) Melanie Forrest (S) Ingrid Hill Mary Jane Jones Vanessa Merrick (S) Rywalk

NORTH CENTRAL
Linda Brosch Jennifer Collins Dina Haggerty (S) Mary Mastion (S) Kimberly Nowakowski Alison Nuck (N) Jan Smith (S) Michelle Smith (N) April Winslow

OFFICERS
Greg Stovens, President Tanya Nickerson, Vice-President Shawn Tiede, Treasurer Ingrid Hill, Secretary Rachel Williams, Past President

“...In my best Sinatra voice: And now the end is near and so I face the final curtain!”... As I look back at what I thought was a successful 2015, I think its important for new folks to know just what the Association is about. NYSACCE-HE membership is open to any individual currently employed by Cornell Cooperative Extension with assigned professional responsibilities for 4-H Youth Development. We aim to develop the many new staff members across NYS that are committed to making “4-H Grow.” We work to build relationships with like-minded professionals, provide mentoring, and a forum for those with the same trials and tribulations to communicate, brainstorm, and realize they are not on an island. And finally we provide the tools, so that 4-H professionals are able to market their profession both in their counties and across NYS. We’ve had many great successes in 2015. The State Conference and the work the committee does to prepare for it is second to none. We provide opportunities for 4-H Educators to enhance their professional development and work together with one another. At our last meeting joined the Association in the year 2015, for a total of 15 new members. Membership in our association is strong. As we have new members and many new educators coming to the profession please continue to encourage them to become a member. ~Tanya Nickerson, Vice President

Conference continues to evolve and grow, again thanks to the hard work of our peers. We continue to build stronger committees, committees that you’ll hear so much more about during your stay in Ithaca. Our connection to the State 4-H office has continued to “grow”, and that two way communication is vital to moving forward.

As President in 2015, and as an officer for 2 years, the Association has taken on a whole new meaning for me professionally. I can’t tell you how beneficial it has been in the last two years, and the years to come will be for me a 4-H professional. The relationships I’ve built, and just the knowledge that I’ve gained about the 4-H Youth Development Program statewide is invaluable. Quite frankly, I will always plan on being at the board table in some capacity moving forward. Finally some thank you! As I mentioned, I have had the opportunity to meet and learn from many 4-H educators. Many thanks to Shawn Tiede (Treasurer) who even as a busy ED, always responds to my “HELP” emails in a timely manner. My VP Tanya Nickerson, Past President Rachel Williams, Secretary Ingrid Hill, and others like Jessica Spence, Marika Rywalk, Jennifer Jensen, Roxanne Dupeppengiesser, Linda Tripp, the other committee chairs, and of course my mentor and good friend Mary Fairley! You...
Capital Days
The 80th annual Capital Days event was held March 1-3, 2015 in Albany.
- 76 teen delegates attending, representing 32 counties.
- Steve Ammerman, Manager of Affiliates, New York Farm Bureau, was the guest speaker for the Sunday night program.
- Our 4-H teen planning committee members led the group in icebreakers and activities designed to help the youth learn how to speak to their legislators.
- Assemblyman Bob Dulli talked from the Assembly floor about what it is like to be a legislator and how a bill becomes a law on Monday morning.
- After Capitol tours, the youth observed the Assembly and Senate in session.
- 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 4 agencies, either: NY UDA | Ag & Mkts | Health | Data
- Our closing speaker was NY Ag Commissioner Richard Ball, who is a great supporter of the 4-H program.

Committee Reports

Barbara Sturm
Marianne Vanderschoot
Rachel Williams

WESTERN
Robert Vett (N)
Bonnie Benton (NVS)
Kathleen Bowers (S)
Teressa Buratto
 Roxanne Duumpenigesser
Katie Ever (N)
Heidi Fritz (S)
Christine Gozalski
Holly Harwood
Kristi Humphert
Sara Jablowski
Emily Reynolds
Tammie Keon
Jessica Nickerson
Tanya Nickerson
Nathan Smith (N)
Shawn Tiede
Marie Winner

NORTH COUNTRY
Pat Barker (N)
Andrew Carpino (S)
Jason Cruce (N)
Carthyn Christian
Diane Dumont (S)
Connie Gerow (S)
Linda Gilliland (N)
Stephanie Graff
Karen Greer
Marc Greene
Kathleen Lehman (N/S)
Abby Longton (N/S)
Mark McCormack
Steve McDonald (S)
Joshua Montgomery (N)
Julie Niewatti (N/S)
Paula Rentz (N/S)
Rudolph Salisbury
Sayre Stevens
Karen Sorge (S)
Julia Tolello
Wendy Vernon
Kitty White

THANK YOU FOR YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Professional Development

The committee, consisting of Kelly Adams, Linda Brosch, Emily Kid Reynolds, Matt Wittemyer, Amy Pya, Kandas Freer, Linda Gilliland, Andy Turner, and Nancy Caswell, was responsible for selecting the theme, speakers, then requesting and organizing workshops for the conference. We hope you met your expectations.
Suggestions from members for topics at next year’s conference and for workshops are welcomed. We remind all districts that grants of up to a total of $250 to each district (per budget year) maybe awarded for professional development. You do not need to spend this all at one time. Districts may combine funds to support a joint district program. The topics for training are to support the profession of 4-H Youth Development.
Non-members must pay a fee to attend any sponsored programs. Applications can still be submitted by November 1 to qualify for award during 2015. Request the Professional Development Funds by email sent to the committee chair with a .pdf copy to the NYEX4-H President. The Holiday date of the event, amount requested, intended use of funds, and to whom to make the check payable should be included in the email.
Request should be made a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the event.
- Submitted by Kelly Adams & Nancy Caswell, Co-Chairs

Marketing and Information

The Marketing & Information Committee recommended 21 entries in 9 categories for the 2015 Communicator Awards.

Video Program—Nate Smith and Jessie Nickerson
Periodical Publication Team—Nate Smith, Tanya Nickerson, and Emily Vandenbosch (Northeast and National Winner)
Promotional Piece—Mary Ann Schamburg (Promotional Team—Jess Clancyce and Sheila Pierce
Published Photo—Jennifer Jensen
Educational Piece—Tanya Nickerson
Educational Piece Team—Nate Smith and Tanya Nickerson
News Story—Nate Smith
Promotional Package Team—Nate Smith and Tanya Nickerson (Northeast and National Winner)
Educational Package—Tanya Nickerson

Committee members are: Debra Nickelson, Bonnie Peck, Bernandete Raupers, Melanie Forstrom, Nate Smith, Karen Soule, Celeste Carmichael and Jessica Spence.

~Submitted by Jessica Spence

Awards and Recognition

The committee is responsible for the recognition of members for outstanding accomplishments, retirements, resignations, and significant events in the lives. The following were recognized in 2015:
Service Awards:
MSA: Roxanne Duumpenigesser
DAS: Kelly Adams, Matt Greene
ASA: Tanya Nickerson
SS: Vanessa Merrill, Matt Greene
Specialty Awards:
Excellence in Club Support—Tate Smith
Excellence in Marketing and Information—Smart Girls—Mary Ann Schamburg, Jennifer Jensen, Roxanne Duumpenigesser, Charlotte Coffman
First Timer Scholarship: Greg Stevens

~Submitted by Mary Fairley

NATE-4-H

The NYSACCE4-HE Board of Trustees and its committees continue to work on your behalf.
Planning for the National Conference in Portland Oregon, CIEP and PILD meetings, online member training meetings, working to improve our overall financial status as well as meeting many other priorities associated with our work were just a few of the focuses in the last year. The following are your colleagues in New York who serve you in various leadership positions.

NATE-4-H Vice President for Programs – Linda Tipp
NATE-4-H Vice President for Finance & Operations – Shawn Tiede
NATE-4-H Vice President for Member Services – Megan Tripp
NATE-4-H Chair of Public Relations & Information Committee – Chrye Neute
NATE-4-H Chair of Policy & Regulations Committee – Becky Sorensen

~Submitted by Shawn Tiede

“Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life.”
~Confucius~

~Submitted by Mary Fairley

The history committee have been working on Highlights. The most recent version can be found at http://sp.nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/staff/Pages/NYSACCE4-HE.aspx

Barbara Sturm
Marianne Vanderschoot
Rachel Williams

~Submitted by Marika Rywak

http://sp.nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/staff/Pages/NYSACCE4-HE.aspx