A Note From the President

“The innovative and creative responses to the challenges we face are inspiring and create a dynamic time to be involved in 4-H youth development. “WE” have the wisdom, creativity, flexibility and enthusiasm to pave a powerful path for future generations to come. A strong and committed leadership team will help us meet the challenges we face, and share the successes we achieve. I am passionate about sharing the 4-H story with others, and will do my best to represent the membership of NYSACCE4HE as President.” These sentences came from the bio I wrote last year as a candidate for President, it has been an honor to serve. We have faced many challenges this year, and are looking at a new vision for 4-H Youth Development. I continue to see passion for this organization in every corner of the state. 4-H Educators give the extra degree of excellence every day.

The NYSACCE4-HE is vibrant, effective and actively supporting the professional development of its members. Proof of our success is in the highlights from the various committees outlined in these pages. These committees have found ways to make meetings more effective and efficient through conference calls, electronic submission of award applications, communication and sharing information between committees and on-line voting. Committee chairs organize and plan agendas to maximize efficiency and effectiveness of time dedicated to Association business. Thank you to all of the committee chairs and members and the District Representatives who have given the extra degree of excellence this year.

Through the efforts of many, the Association has continued to strengthen relationships and connections to Cornell. Dr. Adams-Bass has completed her first year as the State 4-H Program Leader. A full state staff, including Adam Davis, Nancy Schaff, Nigel Gannon, Karyn Young and Jamila Simon are gaining a greater understanding of how their work can compliment and support the work of Educators in the counties. State staff are offering timely workshops at the state conference, are working closely with PWT’s, and supporting volunteer development at the NYS 4-H Volunteer Forum. A very positive meeting with CCE Director Helene Dillard helped establish stronger connections between county staff and Cornell faculty and county program efforts that support the three state 4-H mandates. The Board has finalized an MOU with the state office.

It is obvious that passion for 4-H continues after retirement. ELEVEN Life Members took on an active role at the NYS Fair. Our current treasurer is a Life Member and Tom Davis is running for Northeast Regional Director - which will continue to give NY a voice at the National level. Dedication to 4-H runs deep – thank you for your continued service and the extra degree of excellence.

Many thanks to this year’s officers – Jennifer, Marika, Mel, and Steve. Each performed their duties with diligence and excellence. I have learned to never underestimate the power of what can be accomplished when members of our Association give the extra degree of excellence. At 211 degrees, water boils and with boiling water comes steam. And with steam you can power a freight train – all aboard! The new conductor, Marika Rywak, and her highly competent engineers are ready to keep the train moving!
Committee Reports

Capital Days

The 2012 Capital Days trip was a huge success!

- 68 teen delegates and 35 adults attending, representing 34 counties.
- Assemblywoman Addie J. Russell was the guest speaker for the Sunday night program.
- The 4-H’ers had a lesson on democracy in action by viewing a protest staged by SUNY and CUNY students protesting college tuition increases.
- Youth observed the Senate in session, and 4-H was recognized from the Senate floor by 3 different Senators.
- 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.

~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 employees. 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 10th. The members include Nancy Robertson – Co-Chair, April Winslow- Co-Chair, Marika Rywak - Secretary, Amy Rugenstein Pyra, Amy Sands and Autumn Lavine. The Committee will also be selling 4-H Stories from the Heart – a collection of 4-H stories from across the country created by NAE4-HA. Look for this great book and many awesome items at the auction to benefit our Association! Last year the auction raised $983.00 and half of the proceeds were donated to the NYS 4-H Foundation Flood Relief Campaign. Thank you for the support from the membership!

~Submitted by April Winslow

Audit

The Audit Committee (consisting of Tim Davis, Angela Northern, and Barb Sturm) met with Association Treasurer Steve Billings on October 5 to review the association’s financial records. The accounts were found to be in very good shape with prior year recommendations implemented. The committee thanks Steve Billings for his two year’s of outstanding service. The committee also reviewed the 4-H Capital Days financial records on October 5, which were provided by Marylin Russell. The accounts were found to be in very good shape with the majority of prior year recommendations implemented. Marylin is to be commended for the outstanding job on the program’s finances.

~Submitted by Tim Davis

Professional Development

The committee, consisting of Kelly Adams, Rachel Williams, Linda Brosch, Emily Kidd, Patrick Ames, Barb Stevens, Marika Rywak, Nancy Schaff & Kim Fleming updated the online submission form for Professional Development Fund grants to a Wufoo form. The link to the submission form has been included on the NYSACCE4-HE website as well. In an effort to support the varying meeting schedules of districts, the committee decided to review the submissions electronically as they are submitted. The following districts applied for funds this year; South East, Capital, North Country, Western & Finger Lakes. Up to $285 is available to each district each year.

The committee also created an online submission form for RFP’s for the 2012 NYSACCE4-HE Conference, reviewed proposals and supported the Conference committee with the professional development offerings at the Conference.

~Submitted by Rachel Williams
District Updates

Western/Finger Lakes

The Western and Finger Lakes Districts of the NYSACCE4-HE met jointly during 2012 in Ontario, Genesee and Wyoming Counties. District programs funded through NYSACCE4-HE Professional Development Grants included a “Values Audit” led by Dr. Joel Hoomans, Director of Graduate Studies & Associate Professor of Management and Leadership Studies at Roberts Wesleyan College and “Working with Children with Exceptionalities” with Dr. Patricia Pulver, Professor of Education at Keuka College. The districts also participated in a joint professional development opportunity: “Web Based Resources: Who is using them and how do they support the 4-H Program?” lead by Tanya Nickerson. Throughout the year both districts have held continued conversations regarding District-wide award trips. The conversation has been brought to the NYSACCE4-HE Board for input from other districts.

~Submitted by Holly Harwood and Rachel Williams

North Central

The North Central District participated in the STEM Polycom and held three business meetings in 2012. District Public Presentations was held May 12th at the Home Depot in New Hartford. 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

The Capital District 4-H educators met five times over the year –January, March, May, September and soon in November. We enjoyed professional development on the following topics:

- 4-H Science Ready – Nancy Schaff (last November)
- Autism Spectrum Disorders – Dr. Kristin Kapp-Ines from the Children with Autism or Related Disorders program (provided by NYSACCE4-HE district mini-grant)
- Logic Models - Dr. Valerie Adams
- Healthy Homes – Joe Laquatra, Ph.D., Professor and Extension Housing Specialist
- Effective Email Marketing – Erik Buanes of Endorphin Advisors

Officers for 2013 are: Chair – Greg Stevens, Vice Chair – Bernie Weisen, Secretary – Sarah Westcott, Board Rep – Linda Tripp

~Submitted by Linda Tripp

North Country

The North Country District met four times in 2011. This included a district retreat at Camp Overlook in Malone. We are making plans for hosting the 2013 NYSACCE4-HE conference in Lake Placid. This year we had a visit from Dr. Adams-Bass and Nancy Schaff at one of our meetings. Chip Malone provided professional development for us in the area of GPS and Energy. There was a district wide public presentation event held at St. Lawrence University in June. We are working to make policies in the areas of STEM and volunteer management the same in all counties in the district.

~Submitted by Matt Greene

South Central

The South Central District has had a successful year. Each county helped to lessen the burden of coordinating regional events by each taking on a small portion of the coordination efforts. We also participated in a joint retreat with the South East District for the second year in a row. The professional development at the retreat covered reporting, forestry and biofuels. It is an excellent time to get revitalized with friends, co-workers, and nature. Thank you to all who made the retreat awesome!

~Submitted by Kelly Adams

South East

The South East District Educators visited the Western Suffolk Marine Education Center on Long Island, where we learned about the efforts to reseed the bay with clams and scallops, as well as the multitude of youth educational programs they offer, and how they are able to provide opportunities to work with outside county 4-H clubs. As a District we met to streamline our 4-H enrollment forms and will continue this discussion into the coming year. We had a joint meeting with South Central at Camp Shankitunk, where Gary Goeff and Celeste Carmichael provided professional development training.

~Submitted by Marika Rywak, Ingrid Hill, and Pat Hubbard
NYSACCE4-HE is the only professional association for 4-H Youth Development Educators in New York. The themes of the 2012 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.

We Recognize Peer Accomplishments

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 2012:

- Twenty-Five Years - Brenda Carpenter
- DSA - John Bowe, Janice Fox, Jessica Spence
- ASA - Jim Hooper, Emily Kidd, Rachel Williams
- SSA - Kandis Freer, Amie Matichak, Dorothy Slegle

Award of Merit - Wendy Wolfe

Team Programming - Finger Lakes 4-H Expo
(Jennifer Jensen, Mary Ann Scharmberg, Jessica Spence, Margo Bauer, Lorice Symonds, Katie Nelson, Melissa Watkins, Paul Webster)

Camping—Shawn Tiede

Animal Science—Amy Morrissey

Committee members are: Mary Ann Scharmberg, Margo Bowerman, Rebecca Ireland-Perry, Jerome Christie, Peg Lewis, and Mary Fairley.

Marketing and Information
The Marketing & Information Committee received 23 entries in 10 categories for this year’s Communicator Awards.

- Educational Piece (Individual) – Holly Harwood
- Feature Story – Linda Tripp (NE Region & National winner)
- News Story – Jen Clancey (NE Region & National winner)
- Periodical Publication (Individual) – June Mead
- Periodical Publication (Team) – Orange County 4-H Staff (NE Region & National winner)
- Promotion Package (Individual) – James Hooper (NE Region winner)
- Promotional Piece (Team) – Orange County 4-H Staff
- Radio Program - Tanya Nickerson (NE Region winner)

Committee members are: Roxanne Dueppengiesser, Jessica Spence, Debra Holliday, Stephanie Graf, Mel Schroeder, Bonnie Peck, and Nancy Caswell.

Highlights!

Historian, Chrys Nestle, along with Mary Fairly 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

News and Views features a monthly History Lesson, many tidbits are pulled right from the pages of the document. Also noteworthy is that this year commemorates the 90th anniversary of 4-H staff coming together to share ideas, gain new information, and have fun through professional development conferences!