A Note From the President

John Kehoe wrote, "Learn to pat yourself on the back for past and present victories no matter how small. Acknowledge anything and everything, small and large, and use it to create a vibration of success and achievement “in the now” which will aid you in attracting further success.” With that said, each and every one of you should pat yourself on the back for:

- joining NYSACCE4-HE and NAE4-HA
- for supporting, encouraging and celebrating the work of your colleagues
- for providing leadership.

It is amazing what a group of compassionate people with a determination to “Make the Best Better” can do. It has been a year of building and maintaining positive relationships within the 4-H Youth Development profession. We have worked in partnership with the NYS 4-H Office and our new State 4-H Leader, Andy Turner. Through communication and open dialogue we have become more aware of how to work together for mutual benefit. One example of this was our financial support of Club Management Training.

Additionally, we have made a positive connection with the new Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension, Dr. Christopher Watkins. He has learned about our goals and achievements and joined in telling our 4-H stories in Washington D.C. at the Public Issues Leadership Conference (PILD). His awareness has also garnered support and thoughts of how we might grow and improve our connections with CALS and Cornell University as a whole.

The phenomenal members of the Conference (South East District), Professional Development, Recognition & Awards, Marketing & Information and Fund Development Committees have put together an Annual Conference that is second to none. These members have worked to bring high quality professional development and recognition of successes that we will carry us as highly competent and motivated 4-H Youth Development staff.

Members of the Capital Days Committee continue to work to make this a standout program that helps to deliver a contemporary and effective image of 4-H Youth Development to our state legislators. The committee has spent time preparing to move their budget to integrate into our NYSACCE4-HE budget. They have also begun work to revamp the documentation and timing of the event to make it most beneficial for the youth who attend. The Nominating, Audit and Investment Committees have supported NYSACCE4-HE’s internal and external function.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve as the NYSACCE4-HE President. It is an honor to be in the company of such dedicated and highly competent professionals. Although we may be separated by miles we are truly one in 4-H!

- Greg Stevens

NYSACCE4-HE is the only professional association for 4-H Youth Development Educators in New York. The themes of the 2014 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.
Committee Reports

Capital Days
The 79th annual Capital Days event was held March 2-4th, 2014 in Albany
- 71 teen delegates attending, representing 42 counties,
- Julie Suarez, Assistant Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University, 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 Oaks 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,
- 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 5 agencies, either:
  - NYSERDA
  - Ag & Markets
  - Department of Health
  - Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
  - Dept. of Education

Our closing speaker was Senator Cecilia Tkaczyk, who is a 4-H alumna and great supporter of the 4-H program.

Committee members: Rebecca Ireland-Perry, Linda Wegner, Marylin Jones, Jody Tatich, Katie Nelson, Greg Stevens, Tammi Kron, Maureen Roche

~Submitted by Rebecca Ireland-Perry

Mentoring
The purpose of this committee is to coordinate mentoring for interested, new colleagues by enlisting experienced and willing colleagues as mentors. This past year the Mentoring Committee participated at the 4-H Capital Days by working for 4-H in NYS. This committee also provides refreshments for the VIP room at the NYS Fair.
The District Representatives are Jan Smith, Brenda Carpenter, Linda Tripp, Jen Clancy, Kathleen Bowers, Pat Banker, and Nigel Gannon

~Submitted by Jan Smith

Fund Development
The Fund Development Committee is currently making preparations for the Annual Fall Conference Silent Auction to be held during the State Conference. The members include: April Winslow-Chair, Marika Rywak - Secretary, Amy Pyra, and Tanya Nickerson. The 2013 auction raised $944 between sales of "Stories from the Heart" and silent auction items! Thank you to those that purchased and donated!

~Submitted by Marika Rywak

Audit
The Audit Committee reviewed the association’s financial records. The accounts were found to be in excellent shape and accurately reflected the finances of the NYSACCE4-HE. Roxanne’s attention to detail and commitment to fulfilling the requirements of the Treasurer are to be commended. The Audit Committee also reviewed the 4-H Capital Days finance records on the same day, which were provided by the 4-H Capital Days Treasurer Marilyn Jones. The records were also found to be in very good shape and accurately reflected the finances of the 4-H Capital Days Program. The Audit Committee would like to highlight again the need for the 4-H Capital Days Committee and the Board of Directors to work together to develop a strategy for the use and/or invest of reserve funds. Marilyn Russell and the 4-H Capital Days Committee are to be commended for their outstanding work on behalf of the association.

~Submitted by Tim Davis

Nominating

Slate of Officers:
President: Greg Stevens
Vice President: Tanya Nickerson
Secretary: Ingrid Hill
Treasurer: Shawn Tiede
Past President: Rachel Williams

~Submitted by Marika Rywak

http://sp.nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/staff/Pages/NYSACCE4-HE.aspx
SOUTH EAST
Dena Altavilla (S)
Ingrid Hill
Jerome Christie (S)
Kelly Parker
Kristin Frangione
Marika Rywak
Marilyn Jones
Maureen Roche (S)
Melanie Forstrom
Nancy Caswell
Vanessa Merrill
Vicki Fleming
NORTH CENTRAL
April Winslow
Linda Brosch
Jennifer Collins
Kristi Cranwell
Debra Holliday
Mary Mattson (S)
Kimberly Nowakowski
Jan Smith (S)
WESTERN
Angela Northern
Christine Gozelski
Emily Kidd
Heidi Feltz
Holly Harwood
Jessica Nickerson
Kathleen Bowers
Katelyn Santengelo
Krista Humbert
Marie Wixner
Nathan Smith
Roxanne Dueppengiesser
Sara Jablowski (S)
Shawn Tiede
Tammi Kron (S)
Tanya Nickerson
Teraisa Buratto (S)
CAMPUS
Adam Davis
Andy Turner
Celeste Carmichael
Charlotte Coffman
Dana Palmer
Jamila Simon
Kim Fleming
Nancy Schaff
Nigel Gannon
Susan B Hoskins

(S) = State only member

Marketing and Information
The Marketing & Information Committee received 17 entries in 9 categories for this year’s Communicator Awards.

Video Program—Emily Reynolds
Periodical Publication Team—Nathan Smith, Holly Harwood, Roxanne Dueppengiesser, Tanya Nickerson, Shawn Tiede and Sharon Wolcott
Promotional Piece Team—Holly Harwood and Nathan Smith
Published Photo—Linda Tripp
Educational Piece Team—Roxanne Dueppengiesser and Nathan Smith
News Story—Linda Tripp
Personal Column—Jessica Spence
Promotional Package Team—Tanya Nickerson and Nathan Smith
Feature Story—Linda Tripp (Regional Winner)
Committee members are: Roxanne Dueppengiesser, Jessica Spence, Bonnie Peck, Debbie Holliday, Celeste Carmichael, Bernadette Raupers, Melanie Forstrom, and Matt Greene
~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 our lives. The following were recognized in 2014:
Service Awards:
MSA—Brenda Carpenter
DSA—Jennifer Jensen, Patti Zellmer, Mary Ann Scharmberg
ASA—Kandise Freer, Ingrid Hill
25 Year Award—Linda Tripp, Bonnie Peck
Specialty Awards:
Excellence in Animal Science—Team—Tanya Nickerson, Holly Harwood
Denise Miller Innovator—Individual—Tim Davis, Team—Orange County
National 4-H Hall of Fame: Mary Lou Brewer
Committee members are: Mary Ann Scharmberg, Shawn Tiede, Debbie Holliday, Rebecca Ireland-Perry, Jerome Christie, Adam Davis, Mary Fairley
~Submitted by Mary Fairley

Professional Development
This year the committee members are Amy Pyra, Mark Wittmeyer, Nancy Schaff, Megan Tiff, Steven McDonald, Bernie Wiesen, Emily Kidd and Co-chairs Linda Brosch and Nancy Caswell. Our main project is coordinating Professional Development for the Annual Conference and we began our work in February. We hope that you all will find enrichment for your daily lives beginning with our Keynote Speaker, during the workshops, poster session, opportunities for networking and rounding out your studies with our Capnote Speaker. Sadly, despite many reminders, not one district has applied for the $250 professional development funds available for this calendar year. The link to this Wufoo form is found on the NYSACCE4-HE website http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/staff/Pages/Professional-Development.aspx or go directly to http://professionaldevelop.wufoo.com/forms/z7x3x5/
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.
~Submitted by Linda Brosch and Nancy Caswell

NAE4-HA
The NAE4HA board and its committees continue to work on your behalf. Planning for the national conference in Minneapolis, JCEP and PILD meetings, membership surveys on future needs, enhancements to the Journal of Youth Development, working to improve our overall financial status as well as meeting many other priorities associated with our work were just a few of their focuses in the last year. The following are your colleagues in New York who serve you in national leadership positions:

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

~Submitted by Tom Davis

Highlights!
Historian, Chrys Nestle, Mary Fairley and Ellen Elliott have been editing the 2010 History Highlights. It can be found at http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/staff/Pages/NYSACCE4-HE.aspx

2014 NYSACCE4-HE Annual Report has been respectfully submitted by Jessica Spence, News and Views Editor
District Updates

Western/Finger Lakes

During 2014, the Western and Finger Lakes Districts of the NYSACCE4-HE met jointly. Professional Development programs and district activities included an open discussion with Andy Turner, State 4-H Program Leader in February. During June, we spent a day at Letchworth State Park for a picnic, which also included “Building an Image Within the 4-H Program” with Cynthia Oswald, Director Of Public Relations at Noyes Hospital. During our September meeting we focused on “Mediation” with Sharon Weber, NYS Agricultural Mediation Program. In addition to the joint meetings of the districts, each district does meet separately once a year during the last quarter. Western District officers for the upcoming year will be: Chair – Nate Smith, Vice Chair – Tammi Kron, Secretary – Jessie Nickerson, Board Representative – Holly Harwood. Finger Lakes officers will be: Chair and Board Rep. – Jennifer Jensen; Vice-Chair - Melissa Watkins; Secretary- Jessica Spence.

~Submitted by Holly Harwood and Jennifer Jensen

South East

The Southeast District met four times this year, with two overnight retreats, one at 4-H Camp Shankitunk and the other at the Dorothy P. Flint 4-H Camp. We had the chance to visit a living history farm museum and learn about local agricultural and youth development opportunities of Long Island. During our second retreat, Nigel Gannon and Nancy Schaff visited our combined southeast/south central meeting and trained the educators in the 2014 National Science Experiments: Rockets to the Rescue. This was a fabulous motivator in program planning for National 4-H Week. Additionally, Andy Turner met with the educators to discuss on-going state initiatives. We rounded out our year with conference planning, and hope that all enjoyed a fabulous 2014 NYSACCE4-HE Conference.

~Submitted by Marika Rywak and Ingrid Hill

Capital

Educational programs were held at each of our district meetings: Chip Malone provided an exploration of 4-H Energy and Climate Change resources and opportunities. Liz Searle highlighted the history of the NYS 4-H Foundation, future directions, how investments are made and the relationship it has with Cornell University. Chris Watkins, CCE State Executive Director, visited our district for conversation. LuAnn Phillips, eXtension Instructional Designer, Virtual Worlds Specialist and Social Media Strategist shared the HOW and WHY of eXtension and gave us a tour of its tools. Dr. Margaret Smith, Professor of Plant Breeding & Genetics presented on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO’s), helping us to distinguish fact from fiction.

Officers for 2015 are: Chair – Eileen DePaula; Vice Chair – Amanda Benson; Secretary - Bonnie Peck; Board Representative – Holly Harwood.  New staff are: Leland Bunting – Rensselaer, Carter Older – Saratoga, McCulley – Columbia-Greene, Amanda Benson – Columbia-Greene, Kathlyn McCarthy – Schoharie.

South Central

Since December 2013, 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. We are planning on inviting Jutta Dotterweich to our Dec. meeting or combined June meeting. We met up with the South East District again this year for an overnight at Camp Shankitunk. Andy Turner was in attendance and Nancy Schaff did a presentation of the National 4-H Science Day rocketry project. We have presented several mentor bags to new staff in the District. Officers are: Chair – Patti Zelmer, Vice Chair – Rebecca Ireland-Perry, and Secretary – Kelly Campbell. Rebecca will cover the state association meetings for the district.

~Submitted by Megan Tifft

North Central

The highlight of the past year for the North Central District was its first aid and AED training. Instructors from the American Heart Association trained 7 association members and 2 nonmembers in basic first aid and CPR with the use of an AED. Each educator was surprised at how long a minute can feel and how forceful the compressions should be. In the end, every person was appreciative for the training and hope that they never have to put it to use. The North Central District is grateful to the NYSACCE4-HE for providing the professional development grant which offset the cost of this life saving program.

~Submitted by Linda Brosch

North Country

The North Country District Educators met three times in 2014, our summer meeting was cancelled due to fair season keeping everyone busy. Committee reports were given at each meeting. Professional development on Invasive Species was conducted at our April meeting, by Hilary Smith of the Nature Conservancy, Keene, NY, to coincide with a regional Invasive Nature Conservancy, Keene, NY, to April meeting, by Hilary Smith of the Invasive Species was conducted at our meeting. Professional development on Committee reports were given at each season keeping everyone busy. Our Dec. meeting was cancelled due to fair

~Submitted by Amber Thibodeau Lewis

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~Submitted by Linda Brosch

~Submitted by Amber Thibodeau Lewis