Up until a few weeks ago, the name “Sandy” conjured images of Olivia Newton-John in ‘Grease’ and that loveable side kick of Annie’s. Who knew that in a matter of a day “Super storm Sandy” could ravage, so devastatingly, so much of the southeast part of New York State and our New Jersey and Connecticut neighbors.

In times like these I am reminded of how we as human beings, as Americans, as 4-H’ers, band together as one! I put out a last minute call for supplies to the attendees of the Volunteer Leader Forum and was overwhelmed by how many individuals and clubs gathered supplies and monetary donations and brought them to the Forum. I personally drove the donations to a relief center and was thanked profusely for our generous contributions. A woman salvaged a fence and painted it to look like the American Flag, with the caption “start to make a difference”, she asked volunteers to sign it and I signed NYS 4-H!

That is what you do as 4-H Educators. You make a difference in the lives of young people on a daily basis. We face challenges every day, do more with less; less funds, less staff, yet you continue to produce a level of excellence that is recognized in the awards NYS receives on a Regional and National level!

New Jersey Governor Chris Christie said in the aftermath of Sandy, “resilience has been our biggest strength”, and NYS 4-H is a true testament to that statement. I look forward to serving as your 2012-2013 NYSACCE4-HE President.

~Manda

2011-2012 Membership numbers by district… your challenge,
BEAT THIS NUMBER IN 2013!!
Membership form can be found at:
http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/staff/Pages/NYSACCE4-HE.aspx

Penny Rowsam,
Lewis County
State/national conference memory? My first state and national conference was in Rochester, New York. I was a brand new CCE employee and I was so excited to learn about extension and everything we had to offer!
Color? Purple!
Book? Mennonite in a Little Black Dress
Author? James Patterson
Movie? Hope Floats
TV Show? Big Bang Theory
Food? Lasagna
Family? Married to Craig who is employed as a fireman, Alec is 15, Gracie is 7
Contact? plr54@cornell.edu or CCE Lewis County, (315) 376-5270

Rich McCaffery,
Retired from Otsego County
Retirement Jobs? 3 of them! Educator for the Safe Kids program, Consultant for Not-for-Profits and does marketing for Fly Creek Cider Mill.
Proud of?: Established a Leadership Scholarship in partnership with Cooperstown Chamber of Commerce for high school graduate pursuing an advanced course of study in Community Development, Organizational Leadership, Hospitality/Tourism
News? Recipient of 2012 Community Service Award by Cooperstown Chamber of Commerce
Contact? richcooperstown@stny.rr.com or 607.547.5256

History Lesson/Question of the Month:
The first full time 4-H professional hired in New York City, J. Donald Astwood, was hired in 1970.

Q: Why is it important to send in my membership form and dues to Rachel Williams (rww33@cornell.edu) before December 15th?
A: NAE4-HA bases the number of National Distinguished Service Awards on the total membership of the state by that deadline. We want to be able to offer our members the greatest opportunity that we can so that we can have the most people recognized.