



Model Rocketry became a popular 4-H project. 4-H and NASA joined forces to produce a youth-oriented television series on exploring space technology – “Blue Sky Below My Feet.” Alan Shepard, Peggy Whitson and Jerry Ross are a few of the NASA astronauts who were 4-H members. Many astronauts have been actively involved with 4-H activities over the years.

One former 4-H alum, Ellison Onizuka, from Hawaii, was a strong supporter of 4-H and unfortunately died in the great tragedy of the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster in 1986. A 4-H flag he carried into space on an earlier mission currently is on display at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center.

The current Administrator of NASA, Maj. Gen. Charles Bolden, Jr., was a 4-H'er while growing up in his native South Carolina. Today, Space Camp, 4-H National Youth Science Day and various state and national aerospace challenges enhance 4-H aerospace programs and activities.

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For a more complete history of Astronauts, Space & 4-H, visit a new section on the National 4-H History website:

<http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/History/Space/>

To contact the National 4-H History Preservation Program, write:

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