



National 4-H History Preservation Program

February, 2014 Newsletter

Volume V Number II



The currently known 4-H archival collections span the US as well as one in Canada. Can you find one near you?

Where is 4-H History Kept?

Significant archival collections of 4-H history – records, artifacts and other historical 4-H memorabilia – can be found at several locations across the country. They include 4-H history museums and websites, collections housed at national repositories, state and university libraries, county and state historical museums, and even some local archives. In some University repositories, there are 4-H program and event records and photos and the personal papers of some of our 4-H pioneers as well as more recent leaders. For example, the papers of Franklin Reck, author of *The 4-H Story*, are held at the University of Oregon Archives.

One of the projects of the National 4-H History Preservation Program is to develop a database which provides information on where to locate these various repositories.

We currently have over 50 repositories listed in the National 4-H Repositories section on our history website but, we know there are many more out there. Visit http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/Repos_National.asp to view the listing and contents, or check out the locator map. If your state 4-H records and archives, or a state 4-H museum, are not listed

please let us know. If you know of special collections or papers of our 4-H pioneers or state 4-H leaders that are housed in a library or archive, we would like to know this, too.

Contact us at: Info@4-HHistoryPreservation.com.

Chinese Fortune Cookie: “The best prophet of the future is the past.”



A Century with C. J.

Retired Iowa State 4-H Leader (1959-79) and 4-H Icon, C. J. Gauger, will turn 100 on March 6, 2014.

Iowa staff invites everyone in the 4-H family to “Help us celebrate C. J.’s character, his century

of life, his commitment to 4-H and his contributions to the future. Share a card or note high-lighting your 4-H story and the impact it's made on your life.”

Donations to the Iowa 4-H Foundation can be named to honor C.J.'s birthday, directed to your favorite 4-H program.

Cards and gifts can be mailed to: Iowa 4-H Foundation, Attn: C. J.'s 100th, Extension Youth 4-H Building, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011

Just think, C. J. was born just two months before the signing of the Smith-Lever Act. He has lived longer than the Extension Service that is the lifeblood to all of us. Because of his substantial contribution to the advancement of 4-H, C. J. was inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame in 2003.



4-H is Now Part of National History Day; This Year's Theme: "Rights and Responsibilities"

The National 4-H History Preservation Program will be supporting National History Day (NHD) starting in 2014. The 2014 theme is "Rights and Responsibilities."

The NHD national contest is June 15-19, 2014 at the University of Maryland in College Park, MD, and two or three thousand teens are expected to come to this event. NHD is in critical need of help with the judging events both in College Park at the nationals and at the

state level. Most of the state contests are held between late March and early May. We urge all State 4-H Offices who have an interest to visit the National History Day website, <http://nhd.org> and locate your state contact. You can also email <http://judges@nhd.org> for this information.

4-H'ers are welcome to participate and compete in the contests according to Lynne M. O'Hara, NHD Director of Programs. The usual requirement is that the student's entry form must be signed by a teacher, however she says county 4-H extension agents are certainly considered qualified as teachers and can vouch for a participant.

Some state 4-H offices already participate in National History Day. If you plan to have some 4-H'ers compete or you would like to help as a judge, please let us know at: Info@4-HHistoryPreservation.com.

"Voices of 4-H History" will be a major feature of FilmFest 4-H 2014



Missouri is pleased to announce that FilmFest 4-H, the national 4-H film festival, has been GREENLIGHTED for 2014! This year's FilmFest will take place at the Hilton St. Louis Frontenac in St. Louis, MO. St. Louis is home to countless film productions, one of the nation's top zoos, amazing museums, and of course the world famous Gateway Arch.

Now is the time to get started! The Film Submission Form has been posted, and films will be accepted until July 1, 2014. As with last year, there is a 10-minute time limit on films, so that we can screen as many as possible in the most interesting ways. We continue to request that filmmakers avoid scenes that involve youth pointing guns at each other! This will help us give your films the widest possible exposure through 4-H channels, without creating unnecessary complications.

This year's confirmed categories are:

- Narrative
- Animation
- Documentary
- 4-H Promotional
- "Voices of 4-H History"

This special event connects young filmmaking enthusiasts with film industry professionals and with other youth who share those same interests. Like any national film festival, FilmFest 4-H is a "commuter event." Festivalgoers are free to make the arrangements for travel, lodging, and meals that best fit their needs. Your \$129 "All Access Pass" is your ticket to the entire event. This includes film screenings, field trips, festivities, meetings, exciting workshops with film industry professionals, and other special opportunities. Registration will be online at the FilmFest 4-H web site in the weeks ahead. For more information about the event click on: <http://is.qd/9Aeb92>.

Youth filmmakers from across the nation will present the products of their film making labor on August 3, 2014, in St. Louis. In 2013, youth filmmakers from more than a dozen states exhibited 38 films that they had produced. Finalist' films from the 2013 FilmFest 4-H finalists can be seen at: <http://4h.missouri.edu/go/events/filmfest/2013/films/ror-wy.htm/>.

During 2014, the 100th anniversary of the passage of the Smith-Lever act, we are hopeful that youth film makers will assist Cooperative Extension in celebrating this centennial by helping capture 4-H history in their state and

counties. Youth filmmakers that complete their productions in time to submit them prior to the July 1 judging deadline, will be considered for FilmFest 2014. Films not submitted by July 1, will be considered for FilmFest 2015.

We hope that 4-H alumni, staff, volunteers, club leaders and supporters will reach out, get involved and encourage 4-H'ers to start up "Voices of 4-H History" media projects for sharing at FilmFest 2014. See the article on Maryland History Team start up below.



Multi-County 4-H History Clubs Working Together in Maryland

On Monday, February 10, 2014, adult leaders from Prince Georges and Montgomery counties of MD met to share their 4-H History club plans for 2014. They had a very productive meeting and completed action planning sheets for the year. Five leaders are representing the two counties.

The leaders are currently putting together a statement to share with the youth clubs and agreed to make the announcement to the counties' 4-H volunteers and club leaders who will attend the upcoming Leaders' meeting scheduled for late February. It was decided to encourage a "Voices of 4-H History" project, and to challenge each club to have their 4-H'ers design, script and produce 15-30 minute videos of their work for the project. A follow-up planning committee meeting is scheduled in

early March. The submitted films and film concepts, will be reviewed by the adult/youth planning committee, who will then decide how to proceed from there. The team plans to submit some films to national FilmFest 4-H in June. Several adult leaders know and are recruiting individuals that have expressed interest in working with the young film producers and are willing to critique, edit and help with production.

Tell a Friend or Colleague how to get this newsletter: Just click on <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/Newsletter> to sign up.



4-H and One-Room Country Schools

Boys' and Girls' Club Work (3-H as it was known at that time) was an integral part of the public school system in many counties during the early 1900s.

While county school superintendents are credited with starting the 4-H program in many parts of the country, it truly was a grassroots movement which seemed to start in a number of different locations at about the same time. While the "process" was quite different from one location to another, the "players" were often the same; county school superintendents, one-room country school teachers, the state land-grant colleges and agricultural experiment stations. We are basically talking here about the

history of one brief decade – from 1900 to 1910.

The land-grant colleges and the national educational groups were already on board since the 1890s, but for different reasons. The colleges wanted to disseminate their latest research and improved practices to the farmers by exposing and training their young sons and daughters to hybrid seed corn, milk sanitation, safe canning procedures and so on. The educators wanted to involve teachers in teaching more than the "Three Rs" – reading, writing and arithmetic – involving more practical education and manual training.

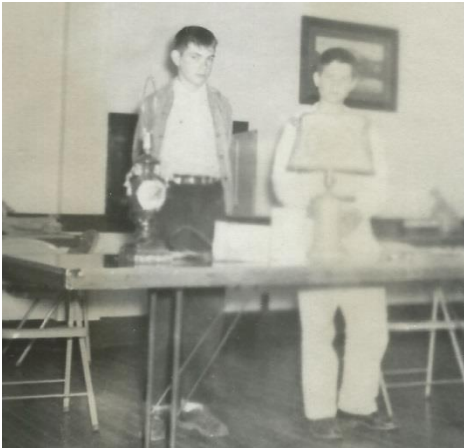
In fact, M. Buisson of the French Ministry of Education, speaking at the International Congress of Education in Chicago on July 26, 1893, said: "Let the school teach, we say, what is most likely to prepare the child to be a good citizen, an intelligent and active man ... Not by the means of the 'Three Rs,' but rather by the means of the 'Three Hs' – head, heart and hands – and make him fit for self government, self control and self-help, a living, a thinking being."

From an educational standpoint, this was an exciting decade at every level, but perhaps no more exciting anywhere than to the early pioneers promoting the "Three Hs." This new segment – 4-H and One-Room Country Schools – just posted on the National 4-H History website in the National 4-H History section, tells the stories of many of these early efforts. We welcome your comments at: Info@4-HHistoryPreservation.com.

Link your website to the 4-H History Preservation website

If you manage a website related to 4-H, we would appreciate a link on your site pointing to 4-HHistoryPreservation.com. Just click on <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/connect/> to pull down a variety of buttons and banners.

Hands-On 4-H



Oregon 4-H'ers in the 1950s demonstrate how to re-wire lamps at a club meeting.

4-H Electrification Projects: Then and Now

Many of us take electricity for granted at home, at work, and at local stores and businesses. But that wasn't the case seventy-five years ago, especially in rural areas. An article in the 1939 National 4-H News invited 4-H members to participate in the 4-H Rural Electrification Project. Members and clubs were "encouraged to study wiring plans, safety practices, and operation of electrical equipment." Members were encouraged to complete activities to help them learn to make basic electrical repairs and additions at home and on the farm. Project records were submitted to compete for county medals, trips to National 4-H Congress, and \$200 scholarships.

Early electrical club work even inspired a novel to be written. "Dynamo Farm" by Adam Allen, and published by J. B. Lippincott Company, NY in 1942 tells the story of a boy from the city who moves to a farm and learns to love being there because he gets involved in an electrification project in 4-H and saves the family poultry business.

Electricity is still an important 4-H project. Members learn the principles of electricity, circuits, magnetism and safety. These days, energy conservation is also emphasized.

You and your club members can learn about electricity like the 4-H members did in the 4-H Rural Electrification project many years ago. A club member or guest speaker can do a demonstration or lead a club activity to learn about electricity. Club members can do a home energy audit and share their results at a future club meeting. Or you could try to find a copy of the novel mentioned above and share a report about it or act out some of the scenes for the club.

Sign up to receive 4-H History News Feeds at: <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/news/>

Extension Leaders Learn About 4-H History and FilmFest 4-H 2014

In February, Extension leaders from all 50 states, including agents from 200 counties, who attended the JCEP (Joint Council of Extension Professionals) Conference in Memphis, TN, learned about 4-H History Preservation projects and youth film making opportunities. Materials developed by the 4-H History Preservation Team and the FilmFest 4-H leadership team were shared with all professionals in attendance. Four-H agents and leaders from MO and MD provided the lead.

4-H and Radio: Early Days, Growing Together

When the National Committee on Boys' and Girls' Club Work (now National 4-H Council) was started in late 1921, it basically consisted of a staff of one person – Guy Noble – working at a "desk on loan" in the Chicago headquarters offices of the American Farm Bureau, with the assistance of a part-time secretary (also on loan). In addition to the overwhelming burden of raising funds in uncharted waters and, planning and managing the major national 4-H event, National 4-H Congress, Guy Noble also knew that it was critical to promote the concept of 4-H to broader audiences if it was to grow.



As early as 1922, before it was even a year old, the National Committee on Boys' and Girls' Club Work became a radio pioneer. Arrangements were made that year with the Westinghouse Radio Service of Chicago for news of Boys' and Girls' Club Work to be presented each Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6 PM. In 1922 there were only 30 radio stations in the country and a quarter million receiver sets scattered across the nation.

The decades of the 1920s and 1930s became a growth period for both radio and for 4-H together. At one point all the major radio networks were carrying 4-H radio programs. And, there was the National 4-H Music Hour on NBC which featured the United States Marine Corps Band and highlighted music appreciation for young people. The National 4-H News magazine carried a regular column of upcoming radio programs in their monthly publication.

David Sarnoff, president of the Radio Corporation of America (RCA), and one of the corporate giants in the communications industry, partnered with 4-H. He became a board member of the National Committee on Boys' and Girls' Club Work and RCA would become a national sponsor, funding a new activity for 4-H Club leaders and members. It was the National Program on Social Progress which helped to train and encourage 4-H members and adults in their communities to make the community more pleasant and improve the quality of living. This included: being more "neighborly," and more resourceful, as well as stressing more education and creative community social activities. The program placed heavy emphasis on using the radio for communications.

By the 1930s, many rural stations were hiring farm broadcasters; first to announce the grain and livestock markets each day, but then to support rural community activities and events. Four-H fit nicely into this pattern as well; with farm broadcasters becoming strong friends of 4-H. At the same time Extension at every level – federal, state and county – were embracing the use of radio. A decade later, by the end of the 40s, over half of the radio stations in the country were regularly carrying Extension programs, including much coverage of 4-H. The radio was playing in the house, the barn, the car; no longer a novelty, it was a part of our everyday lives.

A new segment – 4-H and Radio – has just been posted in the National 4-H History section of the 4-H History Preservation website. We hope you enjoy it. Take a look at it at: <http://4-Hhistorypreservation.com/history/Radio/>. If you have comments about 4-H and radio please contact: Info@4-HHistoryPreservation.com.

Contact the 4-H History Preservation Team

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