



National 4-H History Preservation Program

January/February 2017 Newsletter
Volume VIII Number I

Have you Seen a Calendar from this Recently Donated 4-H Painting?



As is often the case, we need your help.

We have no dates for this piece of historic patriotic calendar art. It was painted by Walter Baumhofer, a well-known American illustrator who painted 4-H calendar art for the Thos. G. Murphy Company of Red Oaks, Iowa. We know that this company's calendars were distributed throughout the Midwest and possibly further afield. If you have a calendar bearing this image on your wall, in your office file or attic, we would appreciate a photo of it or even its donation. This information would help us to document this painting and date the calendar. We would also be interested in knowing if someone you know posed for this painting (or any others, for that matter). We know that many 4-H members, leaders and extension staff modeled for and are pictured in our collection of these historic paintings.

2016 was a very good year in the search for original 4-H Calendar art. The National 4-H History Preservation Leadership Team acquired four pieces last year for the national collection housed at the

National 4-H Center. This brings the total number in the collection to 40 pieces of original paintings.

Several members of the Leadership Team donated toward the purchase of this particular painting: Eleanor L. Wilson, Kendra and John Wells, Jim Kahler, Mel Thompson, Dave and Sue Benedetti and Ron Drum.

The image indicates that it was very likely produced for use during the US bicentennial in 1976 because we know that 4-H'ers participated in many activities at that time to help with the nation's celebration. Unfortunately, the Thos. G. Murphy company disposed of all of their 4-H calendar files many years ago and so we can't find the information there.

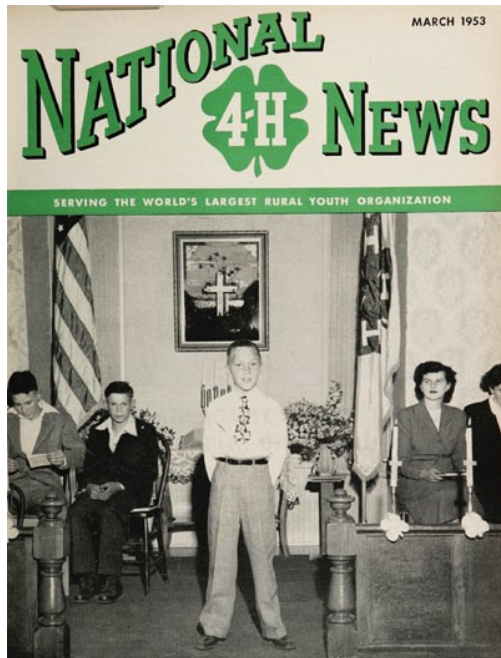
If you run across any other calendars or information about national 4-H calendars as you are looking through old files, the History Preservation Team would be very grateful to receive scans, clear photos of them or the actual articles unless you have a museum or archives where you plan to donate them. Watch for an update of the National 4-H Calendar program coming to the 4-H History Website soon at <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/History/Calendars/>

Thank you for your help.

New on the 4-H History Website **National 4-H Sunday - A Part of National 4-H Week**

National 4-H Sunday is a decades-old tradition in club work, once widely celebrated but now showing up on only a few 4-H schedules or calendars. Officially the activity is held on the first Sunday in October and is the start of National 4-H Week.

The history of National 4-H Sunday, originally a part of Rural Life Sunday, is the newest addition to the National 4-H History Preservation website. It is a relatively short history; you can get to the segment directly by going to http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/History/4-H_sunday/



Taken from the cover of the 1953 National 4-H News

While traditionally 4-H'ers participated in formal 4-H Sunday activities at local churches, there can always be creative ways to "modernize" the event. For example, a year ago the local club in Mount Gilead, Ohio, observed 4-H Sunday by holding a "4-H Sunday and Blessing of the Animals" event at the local First Presbyterian Church. The 4-H members, along with church worshipers, brought their project animals or pets to the lawn area behind the church for the ceremony.

If your 4-H club currently holds National 4-H Sunday activities, we would enjoy hearing about them. Write to info@4-HHistoryPreservation.com

4-H Contributions to the 1940s War Effort are Impressive



First Navy warship to be named for a 4-H war hero. His mother above center helped with the ship's christening. 4-H members earned the price of about 50 Liberty Ships selling war bonds.

As we all know from the news reports, the bombing of Pearl Harbor and America's entry into World War II happened 75 years ago this past December.

Tom Brokaw, in his 1998 book, described Americans as "The Greatest Generation." This was a most fitting title. No matter whether in combat in the war zones or contributing to the war effort on the home front, nearly everyone seemed to be engaged in winning the war. 4-H contributed a significant part to this activity.

4-H members collected scrap metal, rubber, burlap, old vinyl records, and milkweed pods, all of which were used in one way or another to manufacture implements needed in the war. They helped keep the family farms operational as their older brothers went to fight in the war. They planted Victory Gardens and canned millions of quarts of food. War Bond sales by 4-H totaled over \$200 million, much of it used to buy fighter planes, war ships, army ambulances and other war-time needs. It is fitting that for this special anniversary the history of the support in the war effort by 4-H members be documented.

This new segment – Wartime 4-H Support - World War II – has just been added to the 4-H History website. It is a bit on the long side with over 60 pages, but there was a lot to tell. The webmaster is not quite through adding photos to the segment, however we encourage you to go to the website and read the story at http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/History/WW-II_Support/

Listing of 4-H Song Collection Updated on History Website



Songs and music have been an integral part of 4-H from its very beginning. Many songs, numbering in the hundreds, have traditionally been written by 4-H members, club leaders and county agents.

Several years ago, Dr. Danny Crew, a former 4-H'er, sent the National 4-H History Preservation Program Leadership Team a visual copy of his impressive

collection of 4-H sheet music, song books, song sheets and miscellaneous music items. This collection was posted on our history website for all to enjoy or reference.

Now, Dr. Crew has sent us an updated, and greatly expanded, compilation of his 4-H music collection which has recently replaced the previous document on the website. You can visit this collection at <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/Media.asp#MT-10>

We are attempting to document as many of these published songs or music-related items as we possibly can. Anyone with an interest in this area should contact info@4-HHistoryPreservation.com

Contemporary History Expeditionary Skills for Life

NASA and 4-H have teamed up with astronaut and 4-H alumna Peggy Whitson to inspire youth to develop life skills for success inside and outside the classroom.



The online resource hub “Expeditionary Skills for Life” features skills needed to be an astronaut on the International Space Station that also help students succeed in school and life. The lessons help youth build skills and knowledge in Teamwork, Cultural Competency, Self-Care/Team Care and Leadership/Followership. Each series of lessons will be introduced by a video by a NASA astronaut or specialist. A set of lessons began being posted in January and will continue in February, March and April during Peggy’s current mission on the International Space Station.

Visit www.nasa.gov/education/4H to begin your expedition!

4-H and World War I

One hundred years ago, America declared war on Germany to enter WWI in April 1917. The war effort had some significant impacts on the young 4-H

program and nearly new Cooperative Extension Service. During the centennial remembrance of America’s involvement in WWI, we’ll feature stories about how 4-H members, volunteers and staff answered the call to support our troops. Included will be hands-on activities to help youth understand life during that time.

The 1928 USDA publication “A History of Agricultural Extension Work 1785-1923” by Alfred True provides an account of the activities of 4-H and Cooperative Extension during WWI.

In August, 1917, Herbert Hoover was directed by President Wilson to lead an effort to mobilize the country to voluntarily conserve food and eliminate waste. The US Food Administration was formally established in August under Hoover’s leadership to continue this effort as well as manage trade and export of food. With additional acts related to food control and production, it became evident that the Food Administration, US Department of Agriculture and Cooperative Extension should be partners. Within several months, more than 2,600 men and women were appointed as emergency home demonstration agents, making a total of approximately 5,000 extension agents. Over 100 new leaders for Boys’ and Girls’ Club work were hired.

In the South, membership in boys’ clubs had increased from 95,605 in 1916 to 115,746 in 1917. In addition, 300,000 boys were enrolled as emergency workers who pledged to do something to increase food production. The girls’ canning and poultry clubs increased from 47,620 in 1915 to 73,306 in 1917, with 980,272 more pledged as emergency workers.



4-H girls demonstrate bread-making at the Minnesota State Fair in 1918.

In the Northern and Western states, 32 state leaders, 158 assistant state and district leaders, and 98 county leaders worked entirely on the boys' and girls' clubs. This was supported by county agriculture and home demonstration agents and 11,325 volunteers. Over 100,000 boys and girls completed their project work and reports, and more than twice as many completed some work.

The number of extension workers reached its height by June 10, 1918, when nearly 7,000 full and part-time workers were employed in federal, state and county extension positions. In the Northern and Western states, boys' and girls' club membership exceeded ½ million. In 1918 they canned 2 million quarts of fruit, vegetables and meat and 162,523 jars of jelly. Bread-baking clubs promoted the use of wheat substitutes, like breads made with corn, oats and barley. Cooking clubs promoted use of vegetables and poultry products.

Clothing conservation, good health and nutrition and marketing were also important extension efforts. Agents worked with women and children to sell their garden vegetables, canned goods, eggs, poultry, pigs and other items.

On top of the additional work to support the country in a time of war, extension agents continued their primary responsibilities working with farmers, families and rural communities to promote agriculture and a satisfying rural life.

Hands on History

Many people during the war grew gardens to feed their families and sometimes to sell their garden products. Do any members of your 4-H group have a garden? If so, what do they grow?

A fun way to start a garden is to make seed tape. You can make seed tape to plant soon when warmer spring weather arrives. Virginia Extension tells how to do that in recognizing the contributions of extension during WWI at

http://www.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/ext_vt_edu/topics/4h-youth/makers/files/ww1-making-seed-tape.pdf

On this Day in 4-H History

After having brought to you the historical 4-H dates for more than a year we've decided that you might want to have more lead notice in order to use the dates in your planning. So, we are in the process of making a year-long list of the historical 4-H dates on <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com> Watch for it!

What's happening locally with 4-H History?

How Maine 4-H is Making History Using Maine 4-H history

by Ron Drum, Maine 4-H statewide program

Dust. Maybe cobwebs. Possibly a trunk in an attic sitting under a bare light bulb. I think that is what comes to many a mind when the word "history" is mentioned. One of my high school friends referred to History class as "nap time." So the question becomes, how can 4-H history be used in county and state 4-H programs? In Maine, we decided to write about it.

Yawn.

But wait, there's more! For those who lived it, history is actually nostalgia – the way things used to be – and we all like the way things used to be, right? So Maine 4-H is celebrating the way things used to be in a blog we are calling "The 4-H Fix." A mix of stories from yesterday and today, "The 4-H Fix" allows us to do at least two things in addition to offering information about 4-H. The blog posts provide us with a means for garnering media attention for specific stories, both current and historic, thus keeping 4-H in the public eye. These posts also connect us with our former participants. The posts prove we haven't forgotten those members while giving them an avenue to reconnect with us, vital for volunteer recruitment and donor support.

In July last year, "The 4-H Fix" told the story of two teen-aged sisters who, in 1951, entered a county fair contest called the calf scramble hoping to win a calf, something only boys, up until then, did. By doing so, they gave new meaning to what girls could do! In October, "4-H Fix" readers discovered the story of how three 4-H teens in 1994 organized sending hay from Maine to Iowa farmers who had lost everything during the 1993 Midwest flood. In this February "The 4-H Fix" will introduce Emily Morse to our readers. Emily was Maine's first "4-H Champion," so named

in 1914 when she was just 10 years old and Maine 4-H was just one. Then she was designated champion again in 1916 and in 1917, a period in Maine's 4-H history when it needed a boost of some kind to help show the importance of youth work. Emily gave Maine 4-H that needed boost. Those stories and so many more have, and will, become part of every 4-H Mainer's monthly "4-H Fix."

And "The 4-H Fix" has become 4-H History in more ways than one. To read these stories and more, visit the University of Maine's "4-H Fix" at <https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/tag/4-h-fix/>

Contemporary 4-H History

Airport Named in Memory of 4-H Alumnus



The Kona Hawaii International Airport has recently been renamed in memory of Lt. Col. Ellison S. Onizuka, a former NASA astronaut and Hawaii 4-H alumnus. Lt. Col. Onizuka was very active supporting and promoting 4-H at both the national level and in Hawaii during the mid-1980s.

Unfortunately, with the great tragedy of the Space Shuttle Challenger disaster on January 28, 1986, the nation lost a skilled astronaut and 4-H lost a great friend. The Onizuka Fund for Excellence was established at the National 4-H Council to honor Ellison Onizuka and the crew of the Challenger. Hundreds of contributions were received from 4-H members, families, 4-H staff members, leader councils, state 4-H foundations, individuals and corporate friends. During the opening assembly of the 1986 National 4-H Congress in Chicago, Mrs. Lorna Onizuka presented to 4-H the 4-H flag her husband carried on the Space Shuttle Discovery mission in 1985, stating "*The activities Ellison participated in and learned from in 4-H, the friendships he developed, were treasured throughout his life... please accept this flag on his behalf. I know that he's pleased to know that it's being returned to you.*"

The flag is currently preserved at the National 4-H Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

"When in Doubt, Don't Throw it out"

Each year, staff members at hundreds of Cooperative Extension offices deliberate about throwing out the old to make room for the new. In the case of old 4-H records and materials, why retain all that old stuff anyway?

The National 4-H History Preservation Leadership Team came together 10 years ago to help 4-H staff, volunteers and alumni address the question of what to do with those old 4-H records or materials. In this time of downsizing offices, too many are getting rid of everything that is thought not usable today. 4-H History may be slipping through our fingers! That's why one of our programs is addressing this very situation.

During the 2011 National Association of Extension 4-H Agents meeting in Omaha, Nebraska, a workshop was offered entitled "When in Doubt, Don't Throw It Out." Three presenters provided national, state and local perspectives and offered ideas for how to make these choices to 4-H agents from a dozen states. Criteria for sorting and sifting through old 4-H materials were shared and deliberated. Options for preserving "keeper" items ranged from *inventory and retain in local collections and exhibits or state land-grant archives* to making digital copies of the items for sharing on the Internet.



Since the NAE4-HA workshop, the National 4-H History Preservation Leadership Team has been interacting with state and county 4-H staff to focus on some frequently asked questions dealing with the retention of historically significant records and materials. If you have questions, please send them to info@4-HHistory.com – a photo or scan of the item will help us to answer your questions.

For the past several years we have also had an exhibit and sometimes a poster session or seminar at the NAE4-HA Conference. We'll be in Indianapolis again this year and will be happy to see some of the materials you are questioning or as mentioned above, you can bring along a photo or scan to help describe the items in question.

Blow up the logo on the left, print it out and hang it in a prominent place in your office so that you and others will think about saving 4-H History!

Help Us Preserve 4-H History - and Make it Accessible

The National 4-H History Preservation Program is solely operated by volunteers and supported strictly from donations. We need funding for history outreach programs, digitizing printed materials, films and tapes, operating the history website, purchasing and preserving original 4-H artwork, researching history, creating exhibits and other educational materials.

To Make a Contribution to the National 4-H History Preservation Program; please go to <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com> to see your options, or mail a check payable to **National 4-H Council** to:

National 4-H History Preservation Program
National 4-H Council
PO Box 37560
Baltimore, MD 21275-5375

Please write **4-H History Preservation** on your check.

Contact the 4-H History Preservation Team:

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