



National 4-H History Preservation Program

November/December, 2012 Newsletter
Volume III Number VII

“Voices of 4-H History” Becomes New Competition Category at FILMFEST 4-H



Young filmmakers from across the country will soon have yet another way to add to the scope of 4-H history, through the new "Voices of 4-H History" competition category at FilmFest 4-H. Through late 2012 and early 2013, these teenage filmmakers will be interviewing 4-H alumni, volunteers, staff and supporters, about their personal 4-H experiences. Those efforts meeting the "Voices of 4-H History" guidelines may enter their film at FilmFest 4-H, which takes place during the week of August 5, 2013 in Branson, MO.

The festival connects 4-H filmmakers with screenings, events, and technical workshops lead by actual film industry professionals. These youth celebrate successes alongside peers with similar interests, gathering professional feedback and gaining new strategies for improving their future efforts. Importantly, 4-H'ers take their enthusiasm and new skills back to their own state's 4-H program. "I'll take what I learned back to my county and help organize a local film club," wrote one FilmFest participant from Hazard, KY. "I'll begin work on my own film and help start a local film festival!"

Films selected for viewing at FilmFest 2013 will be reviewed and judged from a field of films

received during the April 15 - July 15 submission period. Guidelines, including criteria for judging and selection, are being developed by the National 4-H History Team and will be available in November/December, 2012. For more information on FilmFest 4-H, visit the web site at <http://4h.missouri.edu/filmfest>, or click on the link from the history preservation site at <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/voices/>.

Contemporary 4-H History

National 4-H Geospatial Team Makes a Difference

With the election process just past, there's been more in the news about community concerns over things that need fixing. 4-H community mapping groups use their geospatial technology skills to identify local needs and help to find solutions. They work with official public service agencies such as fire and police to help map fire hydrants, building access points, power and utility master switches, for use in times of emergency. Recently, National 4-H teams' efforts following hurricanes, wildfires and floods have produced maps identifying evacuation routes and shelter sites for humans and animals.

Annually the 4-H Headquarters puts out a call to state and county 4-H staff and volunteers to recruit 4-H youth and their adult leaders who would be willing to serve for a year as a member of the National 4-H Geospatial Leadership Team. So, what is geospatial learning?

Since 2004, The National 4-H GIS Leadership team has selected several dozen youth and their adult leaders to share their experience with thousands of 4-H youth and adults who want to explore the use of geospatial tools.

Geospatial tools include GIS (geographic information systems), GPS (Global Positioning Systems) and Remote Sensing (photo images of the earth).

More than 700 counties have launched thousands of Youth Community Mapping Projects in all 50 states since 2004. In cities and towns, projects have ranged from mapping community conditions that need improvement, such as pot holes in streets, sidewalks that need repair, dead or dying trees that threaten power lines during wind storms, and signage and facilities in parks and recreation centers.

In rural areas, projects range from photographing and mapping invasive plant species, endangered species and native species, which need to be restored. Youth-created maps for trails in parks and recreational facilities are also very popular. Visual maps of water quality test results by locations over time give improved understanding compared to charts and tables.

Families involved in food production are increasingly using GPS guidance on their farm equipment to map planting, chemical application and harvesting, with maps demonstrating yield rates, row by row, foot by foot.



The 2012-2013 National 4-H Geospatial Team collected data and photographs of native and invasive plants in a wildlife refuge in San Diego County in July, 2012. These data and photographs were processed and turned into maps (above) by the youth using GIS software. They will be used by professional staff of the wildlife refuge to restore the refuge to its native status. Such efforts are now underway in 5 states (CA, IA, NY, MN, and TN).

Members of the National 4-H History Preservation Team Tom Tate and Jim Kahler have been providing leadership to 4-H Geospatial learning efforts for the past 12 years. Tom and Jim have seen the Youth Community Mapping Efforts evolve from playing scavenger hunts and geo-caching with GPS units, to collecting aerial photography using radio controlled airplanes, to create photo maps of conditions not seen by many community decision makers.

The success of the Youth Community Mapping efforts depends heavily on volunteer mentors who are familiar with GIS, GPS and Remote Sensing. Frequently, these mentors will be using GIS, GPS and Remote Sensing at their jobs at USDA, the fire/police station, the city/county records office or the local utility company.

So, the next time you hear about youth community mapping efforts using GIS, GPS or Remote Sensing to map conditions that need improvement in a community near you, you will know 4-H is on the front edge guiding and preparing our communities and themselves to lead the way in the 21st century. As Tom Tate likes to say, "preparing future leaders for a changing planet."

National 4-H Television Series History Now on National 4-H History Website

The chapter of 4-H history relating to the development and use of children's television to capture the enthusiasm of major, new 4-H audiences is significant. 4-H became a major national player in developing television programs for young people, programs that were educational, fun and participatory, right along beside Children's Television Workshop, Captain Kangaroo and Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood.

Young audiences who knew nothing about 4-H, suddenly became 4-H'ers via television and identified themselves as 4-H members. They learned about good nutrition, space technology,

how to tell a story through photography, science projects, and bicycle safety, just to name a few of the subjects covered. We are fortunate that three of our own National 4-H History Preservation Leadership Team members were among the major players in this story. Eleanor L. Wilson, 4-H Extension, USDA, was National 4-H TV Coordinator and Larry L. Krug, National 4-H Service Committee, was responsible for the production, distribution and marketing of the national 4-H television series programs and support materials. Sue Benedetti, served as Technical Advisor on the Mulligan Stew Series.

Do you remember **Mulligan Stew? 4-H TV Action Club? 4-H Photo Fun Club? 4-H TV Fun on Wheels Club? Living in a Nuclear Age? Dog Sense? Blue Sky Below My Feet? Teen Mobile Club? 4-H TV Science Club?**



Members of the 4-H Photo Fun Club television series listen to photography project leader Dick Arnold explain the meaning of good composition when taking pictures. Premiered at a national television workshop in Colorado in mid-1970, 4-H Photo Fun Club was shown on more than 90 commercial and educational stations during its first several months

Maybe you were a member, which means you're probably over 50 now; well, in your late 40s, let's say. Or, perhaps you coordinated one or more of these series in your county or state.

We hope this new segment on our website will bring back some memories. There are more photos to be added, but we hope you enjoy it, nonetheless. <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/History/Television>.

Some of the films and video programs have been digitized and will be up on the site's A/V Directory. We are still looking for others, not having copies of 4-H Photo Fun Club, 4-H TV Action Club, Dog Sense, Teen Mobile Club, 4-H Electric Club, 4-H TV Science Club, 4-H Fun on Wheels Club or Living in a Nuclear Age.

Also, we are looking for support materials for all of the series except for Mulligan Stew, Blue Sky, Living in a Nuclear Age and Photo Fun Club, so they can be digitized for the Print Media Archives. All of the printed pieces, films and tapes borrowed for digitization will be returned. We welcome hearing from anyone who can help us out in making this history complete. Contact: info@4-HHistoryPreservation.com.

“Voices of 4-H History” Introduced at NAE4HA

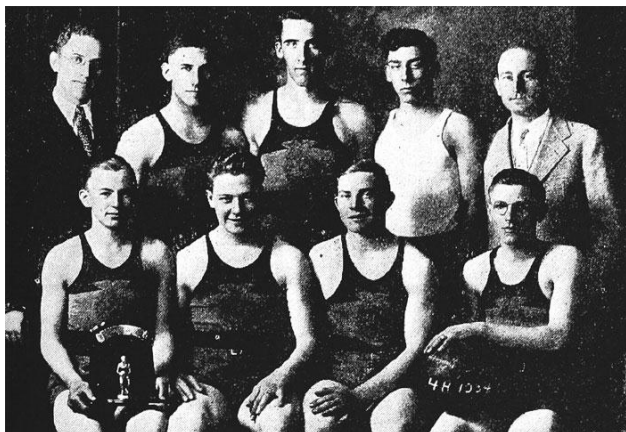
In October, “Voices of 4-H History” was introduced to those attending the 2012 meeting to the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents in Orlando Florida. Over 1,000 4-H agents, volunteers and program leaders had the opportunity to see a 90 second video of historical images projected in the National 4-H Council exhibit area. The 90 second video of historical 4-H images was part of a continuous loop that played numerous times during the two days the Exhibit Hall was open.

Representatives of the National 4-H History Preservation Leadership Team were available to visit with state and county staff about the Voices. More than 500 pocket cards describing the project were distributed during the conference. Delegates from more than 30 states provided their contact information expressing high interest in the 4-H history project. Many of these contacts had done some history data collections that they are excited about sharing with the national project. The “Voices of 4-H History” team will follow up with those who requested follow up.

The new webpage for “Voices of 4-H History” was introduced and the web address shared with many at the Orlando meeting. This new

web page is designed to serve as a tool kit for local teams wanting to start a "Voices of 4-H History" project in their local community; <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/voices/> .

4-H and Sports: An Interesting History



State champion team from Muscatine, in Iowa's first 4-H basketball meet. Top row, l. to r. is County Agent C. Rylander, Cliff Pantel, three year pig club member; John Brockway, captain and center and outstanding pig club breeder and winning exhibitor at Iowa State Fair for three years; Richard Pulse, purebred pig and dairy heifer member; Club Leader E. Rogers, coach. Bottom row, left to right, shows Roger Kretschmer, purebred pig and dairy heifer member; Leroy Peterson, three year pig club member; Howard Dean, baby beef feeder and winner for six years; and Robert Naber, dairy calf exhibitor at big Iowa shows. All of the boys have good club records and two are club presidents. (Photo: from June-July 1934 National 4-H Club News)

Like many other areas of 4-H, sports, recreation and fitness have transitioned over the decades, leaving behind an interesting history. That illustrious history shows that sports were a part of 4-H activities going back to the first clubs in some states, yet never became part of 4-H in others. Wrestling matches, bowling leagues and basketball teams were all popular. Competitive sports were particularly big in 4-H during the decades of the 1930s, '40s and '50s with many local clubs having both basketball teams and softball teams. It was a good way to retain older teens, particularly boys, in the program.

Research shows that the incorporation of sports goes back as far as the organization of clubs, themselves. The November 1921 issue of "Farm Boys and Girls Leader" encouraged young people to engage in sports during their

winter club meetings to stay healthy and active. Wrestling, basketball, volleyball, indoor baseball and other sports were suggested. "Play some games no matter what kind. Test your strength and your skill with your associates. Keep your body in balance with your mind and then you will be 100 percent efficient. This world has little use or place for the boy or girl who lacks pep and ambition. Exercise in the open air, play games and be on your toes for whatever job is before you."

These early comments are certainly in step with the philosophy behind the Health "H" of the 4-H emblem.

Go to the 4-H and Sports segment to see more: <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/History/Sports>.

Notice:

If you know someone who would be interested in getting the National 4-H History Preservation Newsletter, it's now very easy to sign up online at <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com> by simply clicking on 'Home & News' in the left hand menu bar, then clicking on 'Newsletter.' Fill in your information. You're on the mailing list.

Hands-On Activities

November/December - Feeding the Nation

The roots of 4-H are in the early corn and canning clubs. Corn club members planted new hybrid seed corn varieties and showed their results at competitions and fairs which helped to promote the higher quality and yields of these new corn varieties. Canning clubs demonstrated food preservation practices that resulted in safe and nutritious preserved foods to feed families.

During World War I and II, Extension worked with farmers, families and 4-H clubs to create Victory Gardens to increase food production

that was essential to the war effort. An estimated 15 million families planted Victory Gardens in 1942, and in 1943 some 20 million gardens produced more than 40 percent of the vegetables grown for that year's fresh vegetable consumption.



Rhode Island 4-H'ers helped to sustain their families and communities through these canned foods that they exhibited during the World War I

One inspiring story of a Minnesota Champion 4-H corn grower helped his community during WW I when he had 1,500 bushels of pure-bred corn whereas many farmers had lost their crops due to frost. He was offered a large amount of money for the corn by a seed company. Instead, he sold it in small lots to the farmers in his county at prices much lower than he had been offered by the seed company. He sacrificed some thousands of dollars so that the farmers in his county could build up their corn acreage. After he completed college some years later he became a County Agent.

In the 1990s many 4-H clubs across the country began to participate in "Trick or Treat So Others Can Eat." Around the time of Halloween, 4-H clubs conducted food drives of canned and non-perishable items in local communities that were then donated to local food pantries or directly to families in need. These activities provided much needed food items to feed hungry families during the holiday season. This has become an annual tradition for clubs across the country which continue this beneficial service project.

4-H clubs have also participated in gleaning programs, where they collect leftover produce from harvested fields, farmers markets and grocery stores to provide to shelters and needy families.

Explore the history of your club and county 4-H participating in these food and hunger projects. You may have volunteers, parents or alumni who planted Victory Gardens. Start a food drive or join a gleaning program in your community.

We Need Your Help with the History of Urban 4-H Programs

The 4-H History Preservation Program Team for Urban 4-H Programs really needs your help! You can do it directly, or suggest someone else who can help, and provide their contact information to us.



We are writing the general history of 4-H's urban programming but want to include as many vignettes on specific urban programs as we can get because their histories, their approaches were so different from one another.

We are seeking one, two or three pages of history on your urban program;
 How did it get started?
 How was your targeted audiences reached?
 How were volunteers recruited?
 What programs and activities were offered?
 What was the program staffing and funding relationship with the schools?

Were city leadership and local media supportive?
Were you able to recruit local donors?
In what ways was the program different from other urban 4-H programs?
How has the program done since it was established? How is the program today?

We would welcome any photos or other materials you care to share. Or, like in a few cities, your urban 4-H program history may already have been written; if so, can we get a copy?

If you have 4-H programs in your urban areas, their history needs to be shared. When our team has completed its task, make sure your state isn't missing. Contact: info@4-HHistoryPreservation.com.

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

National 4-H History Preservation Program
National 4-H Council
c/o Wells Fargo Bank
PO Box 75375
Baltimore, MD 21275-5375

Please write **4-H History Preservation Program** on the memo line of your check.

Volunteers for History

4-H has a rich history - an important history. For those who have worked in Extension or had an affiliation with 4-H in some other way over the years, we need your assistance and your recollections. For those just getting started in your careers, the more you can learn about history, the better you can understand and perform your 4-H responsibilities.

Unfortunately, much of 4-H's important national history has either been lost or destroyed, or is

buried in archives difficult to access by the general public. For four years now, a group of volunteers - mostly retired state and national 4-H extension professionals or retired from National 4-H Council - have been striving to reverse this situation. The National 4-H History Preservation Program leadership team is retrieving and researching 4-H archival materials and writing about relevant 4-H history. Our leadership team works in close collaboration with the 4-H National Headquarters, NIFA, USDA; National 4-H Council and State and County 4-H programs. And, we have a growing group of volunteers helping us. Our initial group of volunteers numbered seven - now we have over 70. We are inviting you to consider becoming a Volunteer for History in the National 4-H History Preservation Program, as well.

Check out the teams and the volunteers at: <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/Teams>.

You may be interested in helping with our new "Voices of 4-H History" program seeking audio and video interviews about 4-H history and 4-H recollections. Or, the "Hands On" 4-H History project, seeking all kinds of activities for documenting, preserving, appreciating and using history at the local and county levels.

Help us document and write more than 100 segments for the General 4-H History section on the history website. Help us document urban 4-H programs, 4-H camping history, early black 4-H clubs, war time 4-H support and victory gardens, Native American 4-H activities, National 4-H Sunday, National 4-H Conference or contemporary 4-H history like 4-H National Youth Science Day, military family programs, after school programs, robotics and more.

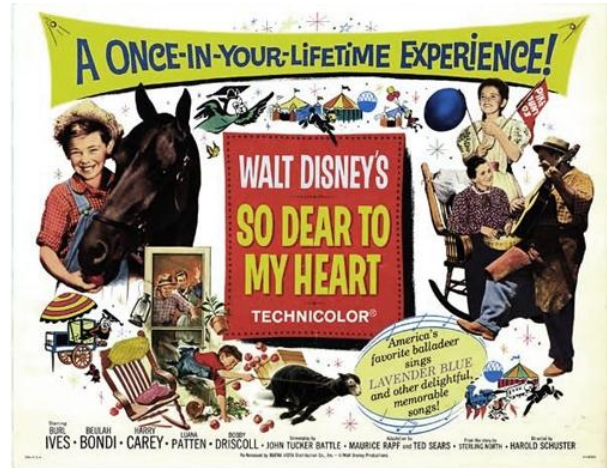
Help us seek books, reports, other literature - films, videos, slide sets - to have digitized and placed in the archives on the 4-H history preservation website. Much of this material that is missing nationally, is probably in some state archive in at least one of the 50 states. We seek your help in locating it.

Help us document 4-H artifacts and establish a network supporting the hundreds of 4-H

collectors across the country by providing more attention to the <http://4-HCollecting.com> website operated by our team.

There are many ways you can become one of the growing number of Volunteers for History. We do most of our communicating via e-mail and usually assign projects to various program teams. You may not wish to do research or writing, but maybe to be a reviewer, once drafts are written. Or, to help locate materials or recruit other volunteers within your state. No red ribbons, no white ribbons. Only blue ribbons for being on our blue ribbon 4-H volunteer history team! Contact us at: info@4-HHistoryPreservation.com.

4-H Films Needed for Digitizing



We have the titles of over 100 4-H films currently listed in our A/V Archive on the 4-H History Preservation website, but we have only a very few copies that can be sent to be digitized. Originally, when released, many of these films were either sent to State 4-H Offices or to regional extension film libraries. If you know of the locations of old films or videos in your state, we would like to get the name and email or phone number of the best person to contact to see if we can borrow them for digitizing, or have them digitize the films at our expense. Please let us know at: info@4-HHistoryPreservation.com.

4-H Quote

"I'm not aware of any youth program anywhere that contributes more to the training for future leadership and to give constructive activity to young people than 4-H" - **Joseph "Joe" Robbie**, General Manager and Owner of the Miami Dolphins and 1986 National 4-H Alumni winner.

Contact the 4-H History Preservation Team

Sue Benedetti, Chair; 4-H National Headquarters, USDA, retired
Larry L. Krug, Vice Chair; National 4-H Council, retired
Eleanor L. Wilson; 4-H National Headquarters, USDA, retired
Jim Kahler; 4-H National Headquarters, NIFA, USDA
Kendra Wells; University of Maryland 4-H, retired
Tom Tate; Extension Service, USDA, retired
Melvin J. Thompson; National 4-H Council, retired
Gary Deverman; National 4-H Council, retired
David E. Benedetti; National 4-H Council, retired
Rick Moses, Webmaster.



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