



# National 4-H History Preservation Program

July, 2016 Newsletter  
Volume VII Number VI

## On this Day in 4-H History

**July 8, 1948**

International Farm Youth Exchange Program (IFYE) officially initiated in 1948 with 17 U.S. delegates visiting seven European countries and six Europeans coming to the US.

**July 20, 1925**

National 4-H Supply Service fills its first order – 20 dozen 4-H club paper hats – ordered by Alex R. Moffatt, county Extension agent, Donnellson, Iowa (90 years ago!).

**July 24, 1948**

Norman Rockwell painting, "The County Agent," appears on the cover of Saturday Evening Post.

**July 26, 1893**

M. Buisson of the French Ministry of Education, speaking at the International Congress of Education at Chicago 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 hand – and make him fit for self-government, and control, and self-help, a living and thinking being."

## The three Hs Head



## Heart



## Hands



## A Simple Sign by the Gate

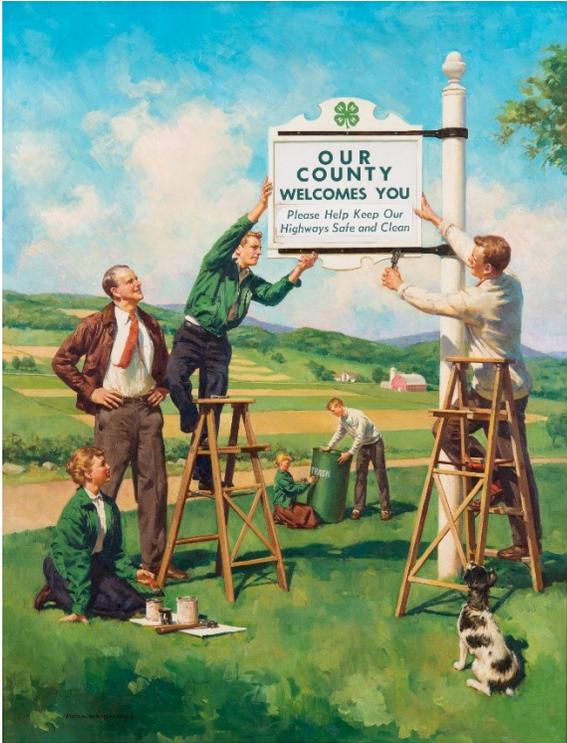
The following story is taken from the National Compendium of 4-H Promotion and Visibility on the National 4-H History Website at [http://4-HHistory.com/?h=4-H\\_Promotion](http://4-HHistory.com/?h=4-H_Promotion)

From a promotional standpoint, perhaps the most effective item the National 4-H Supply Service (4-H Mall) has ever offered is the small, rectangular sign which simply states "4-H Club Member Lives Here." It has been seen across America on fences, gates, doors, mailboxes or posts by the driveway for decades and is still tremendously effective. It simply conveys that a 4-H kid lives in this house or apartment and that is good; the home of a 4-H family.



For a few years it went out of print and was no longer sold on the 4-H Mall. However, last year, by

popular request the metal sign was reintroduced and can now be purchased at <http://4-Hmall.org> under club supplies. You can also get a new green 4-H Member sign at that site.



1959 National 4-H Calendar produced by Shaw Barton Company

In addition to the “4-H Club Member Lives Here” signs, 4-H welcoming signs were prevalent across America and are still seen in rural areas today. These vary in wordage but always carry the 4-H emblem and a message. Upon entering a town or village the sign might read “4-H Welcomes you to Crescent City” or if it’s located at a county line it might say “Rock County 4-H Clubs Welcome You – Drive Safely” or something similar.



### Contemporary 4-H History

As you saw above, the National 4-H Supply Service (4-H Mall is celebrating 91 years of supplying 4-H members and leaders with the items they need to make 4-H work well, easier, or just more fun.

This month the 4-H Mall introduced the first ever (as far as we know) bilingual 4-H Pledge Poster.



If you’re interested in getting one of these laminated posters, go to <http://4-hMall.org> and look in the 4-H club supplies section.

### 4-H History News Available in Multiple Languages

On a similar note, if you or someone you know would like to read the periodic history news releases in a language other than English you can simply click on the associated flag at the top of the release and it will be automatically translated for you.

To get your own copy of the 4-H History News delivered to your e-mail inbox, just sign up at <http://4-HHistory.com/news/>

### Put YOUR 4-H on the Map Saving 4-H History Isn’t New

Ron Drum, State 4-H Staff, Maine

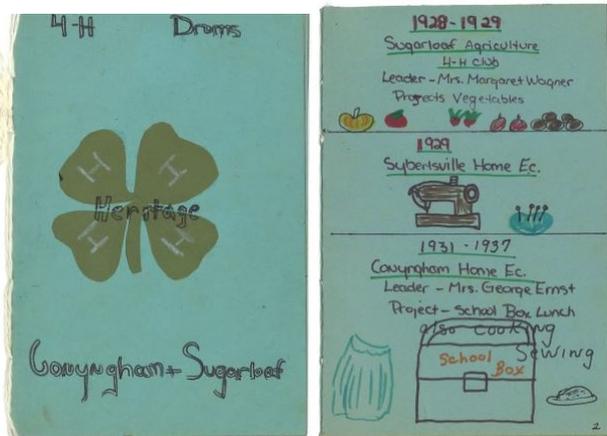
When you think of popular school subjects, History usually isn’t the first that comes to mind. It isn’t UNpopular, coming in as 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> choice in recent polls. Still, for a group of teens to choose to spend part of their summer researching their community’s 4-H Club history leans on the unthinkable! Yet it happened, in the Drums Valley of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, in the summer of 1979!

This month we tell the story of those teens, why they did it, and what they learned. Next month we will look at how replicating their summer activity can benefit your 4-H programs as well!

The Drums Valley includes a number of communities and villages that make up two townships, Sugarloaf to the west and Butler to the east. In 1979, two 4-H Clubs dominated the area, the Sugarloaf Valley 4-H Club in Sugarloaf Township and the Browns Grove 4-H Club in Butler Township.

One evening, after one of their meetings, nine members approached their 4-H Leader, my mom, Eleanor Drum. They had heard that their club was not the first one in Sugarloaf and wanted to know what the first one was. "Let's find out," mom replied.

They talked with the County 4-H Agent, made phone calls, thumbed through office files, blew away dust, and took lots of notes. They found their answer and lots more too! They learned their club, organized in 1972, started out in 1932 as the Sugarloaf Sewing 4-H Club. Well, to be exact, the sewing club joined their club making sewing one of the SV4-H Club's first projects. They found out that, even though the first 4-H Club in Pennsylvania organized in 1912 in the western part of the state, the first one in their area started 1928. It was a vegetable garden club called the Sugarloaf Agriculture 4-H Club. They learned that the Browns Grove 4-H Club started out as the St. Johns Sweet Corn 4-H Club in 1933; it was named "Browns Grove" because they started meeting in the BG one-room school house. And they learned even more



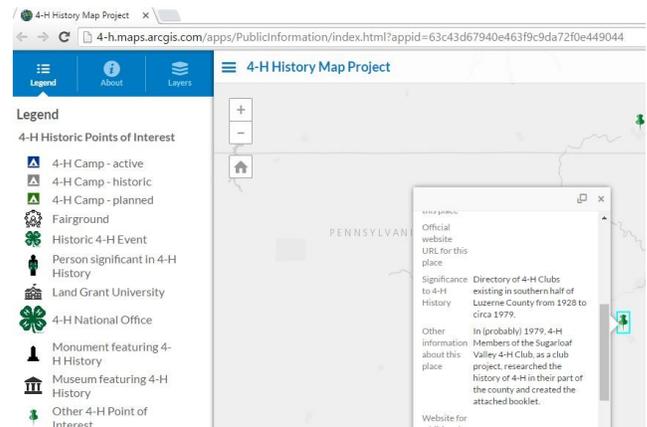
History of Drums Valley, PA 4-H clubs from 1928-1979.

And they had fun doing it!

They enjoyed it so much that they decided to write a book! Having no means to "publish" their work, they

created hand-made, hand-printed booklets. I don't know how many of these were made but I do know they were kind enough to give one to me.

I posted it on the 4-H History Map [<http://arccg.is/1QBM4qf>]. If you don't see it right away, zoom in on eastern PA and click on the green push-pin.



Who knew the book itself would make history 37 years later, literally putting these clubs on the map. Read how, next month in part 2 of "Put Your 4-H on the Map."

### 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](http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com). Just click on <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/connect/> to pull down a variety of buttons and banners.

### Hands on 4-H History Sam Sells 4-H

How do you market your 4-H program and tell your 4-H story to the public? The July-August 1939 issue of *National 4-H News* highlights a 4-H club booth at the Wisconsin State Fair. "Salesman Sam" a mannequin at the center of the booth, was featured to tell their 4-H story. On the back wall of the booth were maps showing the county 4-H enrollments in Wisconsin and for each state nationwide (only 48, as Alaska and Hawaii would gain statehood 20 years later).



Sam stood at the center and moved his pointer to magically turn pages of a book explaining the accomplishments and activities of Wisconsin 4-H members. On a shelf below Sam were scrapbooks, 4-H bulletins and member record books. The side walls displayed pictures of National 4-H Camp and Wisconsin 4-H Roundup. On each side of Sam were national 4-H trophies won by Wisconsin members.

### Hands-on History

Booths and displays are a creative way to tell your 4-H story at public events. They can document the history of 4-H in your area, tell of your "Contemporary 4-H History," or just promote 4-H in general. Often booths are displayed at county and state fairs, but there are probably a number of public events where you can display a 4-H booth. Fair booths usually have some specifications for size and appropriate materials. There may even be a theme.

Whether for a fair, community event or 4-H week display, a well done 4-H booth can catch attention and help tell your 4-H story to people in the community. Make plans with your 4-H friends to make a club booth! You could even download a screen shot of the National 4-H History map to display in the booth to show where some states and counties have designated historical 4-H events, people and places to bring in the National 4-H idea. See the map at <http://arcg.is/1QBM4qf>



## Your National 4-H History Preservation Team Needs your Help

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

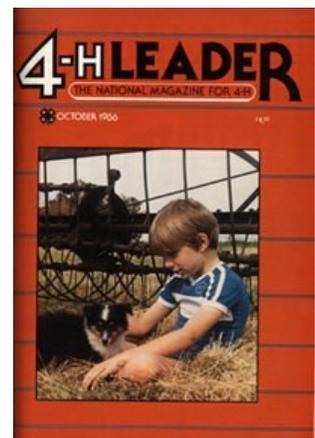
**National 4-H Council** at:  
National 4-H History Preservation Program  
National 4-H Council  
PO Box 37560  
Baltimore, MD 21297-3560

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

## National 4-H News – Reaching the Local Level

The following story is taken from the *National Compendium of 4-H Promotion and Visibility* on the National 4-H History Website at [http://4-HHistory.com/?h=4-H\\_Promotion](http://4-HHistory.com/?h=4-H_Promotion)

The only national magazine devoted exclusively to the 4-H program, National 4-H News, was created by the National Committee on Boys' and Girls' Club Work and served as an exchange of information and fresh ideas and resources for volunteer adult and junior leaders for 65 years – the first issue appearing in April 1923, and the last issue in April, 1988. There was a name change in 1985 –rather than being National 4-H News, the magazine became 4-H Leader - the national magazine of 4-H.



Early issue of National 4-H News and Late issue of 4-H Leader.

4-H news was channeled from the national level to local 4-H leaders directly to the club and community level. Conversely, volunteer leaders were some of

the major contributors to the magazine, sharing their success stories as well as their challenges and problems, so news traveled from the local level directly to the national level as well as from the top down.

The National 4-H History Preservation program team members doing research on various aspects of 4-H history have come to find that the National 4-H News is the single best source in existence for researching and documenting 4-H History. The magazine was undoubtedly also one of 4-H's best visibility tools month after month.

All of the issues of the magazine have been digitized and will soon be available on the history website.

The history of the national magazine can be found on the website at [http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/Nat\\_4-H\\_News/](http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/Nat_4-H_News/)

### Do you Have Your Historical 4-H Postcards?



You can buy them from the 4-H Mall at <http://bit.ly/4HPostcards>

### 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*  
**Chad Proudfoot;** *West Virginia University 4-H*  
**Kendra Wells;** *University of Maryland 4-H, retired*  
**Tom Tate;** *Extension Service, USDA, retired*  
**Melvin J. Thompson;** *National 4-H Council, retired*  
**Ron Drum;** *University of Maine 4-H*  
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**David E. Benedetti, Secretary;** *National 4-H Council, retired*  
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