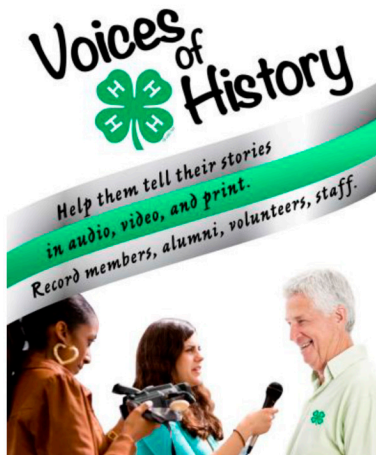


## Getting Youth Interested in 4-H History



**First** – you have to be excited – if you are NOT – they won't be either!

- Why are you excited or interested? Make a list to see what might excite young people.
- Which of these things will excite young people? What do you have to show them?
- Were you a 4-H'er? Show them some of your photos, scrapbooks, record books, pins or other memorabilia.
- If you weren't, find some old 4-H photos in the 4-H office, at a local museum or show the interview and/or old photo slide show on <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com/voices>.
- *This glance back may make 4-H'ers curious.*

**Second** – Identify youth who have former 4-H'ers in their families.

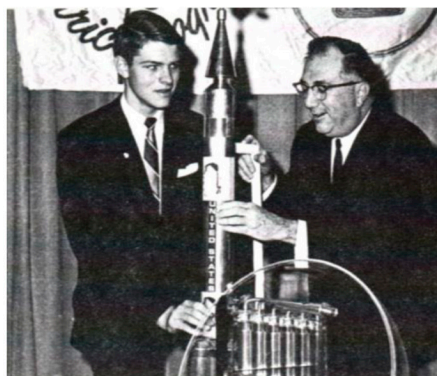
- Ask them to tell something about a 4-H story they remember their relatives telling.
- *This typically gets the kids excited – grandpa's 4-H stories are FUN to listen to and share.*

**Third** – Identify community members you know who were 4-H'ers in the 40s and 50s or even 80s and 90s. Introduce alumni to your 4-H members and let them share their past 4-H experiences.

- Invite alumni to bring photos or 4-H memorabilia (if they have them) to a club meeting so members can compare what things looked like then and look like now.
- Ask someone to research and talk about the corn clubs, the tomato clubs and 4-H Television Clubs of the past. They might be amazed that there was a time that there was no 4-H Robotics or even photography projects at one time. (They can find information at <http://4-HHistoryPreservation.com>.)
- *4-H members find this to be a FUN activity as they learn about 4-H from other times.*



4-H girls, in 1913, demonstrating canning tomatoes.



1970s Science project being shown to a National 4-H donor.

**Finally** – encourage them to identify former 4-H'ers to interview

- Members can conduct a "4-H history hunt" looking through old local newspapers, county 4-H membership records or by asking parents, grandparents, teachers & neighbors who they remember being in 4-H in the community or county.
- *This step is the one that really gets the ball rolling*