



Support of 4-H Programs Increase

It is a pleasure to invite you to review some highlights of the UNH Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development Program and the activities of the 4-H Foundation of New Hampshire. During the program year ending June 30, 2007, the 4-H Foundation of NH Board funded over \$70,000 to support 4-H youth and volunteer leaders to ensure their involvement in county, state and national level opportunities.

The board, led by Chair Tom Frangione, conducted the annual fall letter campaign, scooped ice cream at Farm and Forest, hosted the third annual Friends of 4-H Golf Tournament, and had fun hosting 400 plus 4-H members and friends at 4-H Night at the Fisher Cats game.

For the past three years, we have supported the children of the NH National Guard through a program called Operation Military Kids, funded through a USDA Military Project grant. Over the years, the funding has decreased to support the summer camp event, but the needs of the military children have increased.

Coös County Extension Advisory Council member William Cowie (shown in the photo presenting me with a check for OMK Camp) discovered the need for additional financial support to help 60 youth from military families who wanted to attend OMK Camp at Bear Hill. His efforts brought this need to the attention of the NH American Legion Children and Youth Committee.



Through their statewide efforts, over \$5,300 was raised to support OMK Camp. The NH American Legion was so impressed with the partnership between the National Guard and 4-H Youth Development, they have promised to make this a primary focus for this upcoming year in hopes of sending more youth to camp in 2008.

The 4-H Foundation of NH received grants this year from the National Rifle Association Foundation to support the statewide shooting sports volunteer training. This program has certified approximately 250 volunteers over the past 10 years who reach approximately 1,500 youth per year. National 4-H Council provided the Cumberland Farms Grant, which supported the buses to take the state 4-H Conference delegates to Bear Hill 4-H Camp for their service project.

Through your generous donations, the 4-H Foundation of NH will continue to support many of the strong traditional 4-H youth development programs, but will also look to new funding opportunities that meet the current needs of those youth and adults involved in UNH Cooperative Extension's 4-H Youth Development Program.

Sincerely,

Wendy L. Brock

About this Report...

This 2007 annual report highlights some of the many programs and projects the 4-H Foundation of New Hampshire funds on a yearly basis. Enjoy learning more about them.

Just the figures....

The yearly activities and events are important components of the 4-H Youth Development Program.

Listed below are participation figures from this past year for events supported by the 4-H Foundation.

National

4-H Conference – 3 youth
4-H Congress – 5 youth
Dairy Conference – 4 youth
Dairy Quiz Bowl – 4 youth
Horse Roundup – 16 youth
Dairy Judging – 4 youth

Regional

ESE Animal Science – 106 youth
ESE New England Center – 56 youth

State

Activities Day – 165 youth
Dairy Judging – 19 youth
Dairy Show – 76 youth
Dairy Quiz Bowl – 35 youth
Hippology Contest – 28 youth
Horse Judging Contest – 37 youth
Horse Show – 131 youth
Horse Quiz Bowl – 64 youth
Teen Conference – 170 youth
4-H Camps – 566 youth, 875 camper weeks

An additional 203 adult volunteers supported the above events.

4-H Foundation of New Hampshire Board Members 2006-2007

Tom Frangione, Chair, Barnstead
David Bishop, Vice-Chair, Bedford
Jean Robertson, Secretary, Campton
Laurie Conrad, Candia
Bob Lefebvre, New Boston
Justine Morris, Haverhill
John Porter, Boscawen
Carrie Putnam, Boscawen
Chris Streeter, Hancock
Shirley Sullivan, New Boston
Steve Tullar, Walpole
Wendy Brock, Executive Director

2007 Teen Conference Provides Variety of Workshops

What did you do on your summer vacation? If you ask many 4-H teens that question, their response may range from “I took a fencing class,” “I learned ballroom dancing,” “I went whale watching,” and “I toured television and radio stations,” to “I learned how they train search and rescue dogs and how they use horses in police work.”

These may not be your every day answers, but they could come from any of the 170 teens who attended the NH State 4-H Teen Conference. The 2007 Teen Conference, with the theme “Conference 007; License to Chill,” enjoyed its 29th year of success and is continuing to grow each year.



*Teens learn blacksmithing skills
from Robbie Robertson.*

The conference goal is to give youth a chance to experience the University of New Hampshire while offering them opportunities for new experiences as well as career exploration and of course, fun. Consistent events each year are a community service project, full day and half day workshops, dances, an ice cream social and a semi-formal banquet.

This year's community service project, supported by a Youth in Action grant provided by Cumberland Farms, was to help maintain the 75-year-old Bear Hill 4-H Camp, keeping it a safe place for New Hampshire youth to spend their summer. With that many helping hands, the delegation made great strides in preparing the camp for the 800-plus youth who attended this summer.

The work included clearing out dead wood and resurfacing the walking trails, cleaning and organizing cabins and planting flowers. Another aspect of the project each year includes a donation requested from each delegate, and this year's request was for art supplies for the camp. As always, the teens were very generous resulting in over five large cases of art supplies. The end result for the teens is a sense of having contributed to something lasting while offering a meaningful gift to the community.

The teens leave conference with new friends from all over the state, a glimpse of university life, and a new outlook on the many possibilities open to them. Many youth will say that Teen Conference is the highlight of their summer each year and others say it is “the best experience they ever had.” Regardless of where they fall in that spectrum there is no doubt that all teens who attend will take away some lasting memories and experiences that will carry them far into the future.

4-H Youth Venture Partnership Leads to New Opportunities

The 4-H Youth Venture partnership began last year as a new opportunity for 4-H members to increase productivity and community service projects. The partnership helps current 4-H members turn their 4-H club projects into long-lasting, sustainable organizations or businesses that can be passed on to other members or carried further into lifelong services.

There are seven 4-H Youth Venture teams to date, including Suncook Valley Sports Swap, Peppermint Ponies Venture Team, Beads for Needs, Night Riders Renovation Team, Global Connect, Cause for Paws and Pig Tales.

Two teens from Pittsfield launched the first team, Suncook Valley Sports Swap, in January, 2007. When they realized that many students could no longer afford to play high school and community sports, they decided to create a sportship fund for just such teens. Money for this fund comes from biannual sports swaps where people come from all over to bring, donate, buy, and sell sports equipment at reasonable prices. The team raised \$135 at the sports swap last May and intends to raise even more at their next meet.

Three young women from Fremont launched the second team, Peppermint Ponies Venture Team, also in January, 2007. They worked with horses and knew how animal abuse could go unnoticed without proper funding. They began designing, making and selling personalized horseshoes. Their whole 4-H club helps them in this endeavor and sends all proceeds to the NH Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Beads for Needs began in March, 2007, by two young women from Lee. They had a talent for making beads and jewelry and knew they could use this talent to teach other young women how to do the same, providing them a skill. They teach classes and hold workshops at Girls, Inc. and New Generations, donating the proceeds back to these organizations.



The Pig Tales members present to the Youth Venture selection panel.

A fourth team, Night Riders Renovation Team, launched in March, 2007, under the leadership of the Brentwood Night Riders 4-H Club, raised funds for the refurbishing and replacing of the toys, furniture, and general area that a local church was using for its nursery. They continue to care for the nursery and plan to expand their care into other aspects of the church with the funding and donations they generate.

A group from Wilton launched the fifth team, Pig Tales, in June, 2007. The idea of this venture was to build housing and grounds for raising pigs, raise the pigs, and then slaughter them, selling them to market and donating at least a portion of the proceeds to the Feed the Children organization.

The sixth team, Global Connect, was launched in July 2007 by youth from Auburn. The venture intends to design and maintain websites for both profit and nonprofit businesses to give them a way to connect with the rest of the online world. They have a substantially lower cost for non-profit organizations and businesses and periodically check in to sustain these sites.

Beads for Needs also created another venture called Cause 4 Paws in July, 2007, as the seventh and final 4-H team of the season. This team involved the designing, making, and selling of jewelry and other craft items to raise funding for the Cochecho Valley Humane Society.



The Beads for Needs Team showcase their jewelry.

With 4-H Youth Venture, the possibilities and opportunities are endless. For more information, contact Cayla Stephenson, 4HYV Partner Specialist at 4hventure@unh.edu or 603-862-2198.

4-H Camps exceeds goals, including financial aspects

The 70th summer of UNH 4-H camps was one where we exceeded all our goals, programmatically, financially, and in the educational and social development of the youth of New Hampshire. The camps operated with a total of 875 youth attending both Barry Conservation and Bear Hill 4-H Camps.

With the re-establishment of the 4-H Camp Advisory Committee and the establishment of the Friends of 4-H Camp Group, there was support for fundraising efforts, monitoring of budgets and program expenses, and general marketing of New Hampshire 4-H Camps opportunities. The residential programs, at Bear Hill and Barry Conservation Camp, and the teen programs, exceeded the projected attendance.



Teens enjoy a sense of discovery during the Island Adventure trip.

The 2007 camp session featured four special teen adventure programs that tie directly to the university's Land, Sea and Space Grant programs. The 69 participants worked with Marine Docents at the Isle of Shoals Lab, had a night tour and training at the Observatory on the UNH campus, studied the terrains of New Hampshire, and the challenges of raising goats with the help of UNH Cooperative Extension specialists. Watch next year's calendar for new teen adventures.

UNH 4-H Camps look toward the 2008 camping season. Fundraising efforts will continue to support capital improvements and provide scholarship opportunities for youth to attend camp. If you have a group that would like a rustic retreat setting, consider UNH 4-H Camps in the off-season.

Bear Hill became "Baaa" Hill

Bear Hill became "Baaa" Hill this summer to 10 youth, who participated in a hands-on learning experience this past summer at 4-H Camp. With 4-H's Animal Science program and 4-H Camp working together, this exciting and informative Teen Adventure Camp was led by Extension Specialist Trent Schriefer.

In keeping with the true 4-H philosophy, "hands-on" learning experiences abound, with three goats (generously on loan from Jolee Chase, Hillsborough County Extension Program Associate) as the happy recipients of attention. "Baaa" Hill participants took turns doing the daily chores involved in the care of the goats.



A camper and pack goat return from a trek.

Campers explored the use of goats as pack animals, as they packed and hiked with goats as trail companions. Other "goat-related" experiences included making goat sculptures, a goat receipt book and a goat care poster. Teens worked in teams to experience what it's like to fit and show a goat, as they performed in the "Baaa" Hill Fair. The week ended with a visit to the Stratham Fair, where campers had the opportunity to show goats, experience judging and most importantly, meet and observe 4-H goat club members in action.

Teen campers enjoyed the best of both worlds, as they benefited from the 4-H curriculum while still enjoying all the favorite traditions of Bear Hill Camp, including campfire get-togethers, waterfront activities, and the Candlelighting Ceremony. UNH 4-H Camps furthered its goal of reaching out to offer 4-H opportunities to prospective club members with this program. Of the 10 registrants, nine weren't currently enrolled in 4-H, and seven were first time campers.

**For information about the 4-H Foundation of New Hampshire,
contact Wendy Brock, 4-H Youth Development Program Leader and Executive Director,
4-H Foundation of NH, Taylor Hall, 59 College Road, Durham, NH 03824 603-862-2187 or email: wendy.brock@unh.edu**

**UNH Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
University of New Hampshire, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and NH counties cooperating. October, 2007**