



# THE VIRGINIA STAR

\* 18 U.S.C. 707

SERVICE IS  
OUR MOTTO

December 2006

## Smoke Signals from the Big Chief's Teepee

I am sorry that I didn't get to see everyone at the Summer Conference. It was cancelled because of low registration, which was partly due to the Virginia Star not getting mailed out. Our editors prepared the Star, but it didn't get out of Tech until late September 2006. The Executive Committee is working on trying to get a better way of communication, etc. More to come on this. I would encourage all who can to visit the Virginia 4-H website and click on Virginia 4-H All Stars. Because there was no summer conference, according to our bylaws all officers will continue to hold office until the next summer conference—so I guess you are stuck with me as your Big Chief for another year.

We had a nice tapping ceremony at Club Congress on June 28, and approximately 84 new members were tapped. Congratulations to each person tapped—We welcome you into our organization. A special thanks to Randy and Irene Leech, Mark Kipps, and Michele Cock for their work in making this go smoothly. Also a special thanks to all All Stars who participated in the tapping ceremony.

Mid-Winter Conference is planned—see the details later in the newsletter. I hope each of you will plan to attend. We will be working on a special service project for the 2007 Interstate. Also the summer conference will be held in conjunction with Interstate, so mark your calendars and plan to attend all or part of Interstate, on August 2-5. Our summer conference will be on Sunday, August 5.

Don't forget to send in applications for the All Star Scholarship, the C. Dean Allen Award, and the Bradshaw Award, as well as Charter updates, or Charters.

See you at Mid-Winters at Natural Bridge.  
Elwanda Luttrell, Big Chief.

We're on the Web! Check  
out  
[www.ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/  
allstars.html](http://www.ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/allstars.html)

### IMPORTANT DATES

<i>Mid-Winter Conference</i>	<i>February 3-4 2007</i>
<i>Interstate 2007 and Virginia Summer Conference</i>	<i>August 2-5 2007</i>
<i>Deadline for The Star</i>	<i>April 1 2007</i>



### ADDRESS CHANGES

Anyone with an address change can forward the information to our Recording Scribe Susan Thomas. Her email is [thomasvtcc64@verizon.net](mailto:thomasvtcc64@verizon.net) or they can be mailed to her at:  
1012 Hendrick Street  
Culpeper, VA 22701



## 2006 Interstate

Mississippi State University in Starkville, Mississippi was the host for the 2006 4-H All Star Interstate Conference on August 10-13, 2006. The conference was held in the Bost Extension Hall on MSU campus.

The program opened with a Taste of Mississippi Dinner. The program featured a program introducing the participating states. A silent auction was held throughout the conference and many brought home nice items.

On Friday, we departed from the hotel and headed to the home of Tennessee Williams, which has now become a visitors center in Starkville. We toured the Columbus Air Force Base, where approximately 1/3 of all the military pilots in the country and some from foreign countries are trained. We also traveled along the Natchez Trail and visited the birthplace and museum of Elvis Presley in Tupelo, Mississippi. Also close by was a wonderful automobile museum, which housed automobiles from all ages. The evening finished with a tour of a Sweet Potato Bakery, which some of the wives of sweet potato growers started about 7 years ago. They make cookies, fudge, cakes, and muffins all from sweet potatoes. The evening finished with a catfish dinner in a covered bull barn.

On Saturday, committee met and the general business meeting was held. The afternoon held several workshops and then a banquet was held with Mississippi receiving the plaque for the most new attendees and Virginia receiving the travel plaque with over 9,000 total miles traveled to the conference. The conference concluded with a play in a local community center. Sarah Gregory and Jean Powers extended the invitation from Virginia for all to attend the 2007 Conference in Williamsburg-Jamestown, Virginia.

Virginia had a total of 11 attending, 10 all stars and one guest.  
Elwanda Luttrell, Big Chief

Those in the picture:

First Row: Nancy Pence, Jean Powers, Shawnda Gregory, Elwanda Luttrell, Sarah Gregory and Pat Chawkat.  
Second Row: Mary Ball Massie, Ruth Snapp, Margaret Douglas, Carol Boyer, and Gene Brower.





## *Wedding Bells*

Meghan Flathers (Culpeper '01) married Jonathan Sides (Madison '98) on August 12, 2006. They are now residing in NC where Jonathan is pursuing a doctorate at Duke University.

Megan Keith Chumley (Frederick '95) and Andrew Williams were married on September 30, 2006 at Vacluse Inn, Stephens City, Virginia. They are currently living in Charlottesville, Virginia.

## **Twinkle Stars**

Congratulations to Tabatha Dalton Norman (Carroll County) and her husband Phillip on the birth of their son, Dalton Nicholas on April 17, 2006. Dalton and his big sister Abigail live with their parents in Laurel Fork, VA.

## **In Memoriam**

Dorothy Elizabeth West Vest, (Floyd '74) passed away on October 23, 2006. Surviving are her husband Hugh, along with All Star son Roger E. Vest (1975) and Star grandchildren Amy Vest(1988), Jonathan Vest(1988), Jessica Vest(1993).

Sympathy to Sharon Rakes Wickel (Carroll '68) and Elizabeth Rakes Pahnke (Carroll '77) for the death of their father, Arlis T. Rakes of Laurel Fork, VA on September 20, 2006.

Wanda Sue Cruff Preston (Pulaski '66) of Rural Retreat, died July 6, 2006. She is survived by her husband, Charles Ray Preston and three children.

Kelsey Groseclose, Bland County passed away June 6, 2006. Surviving are her father, Victor, mother Carla Morehead Groseclose, sister Amber Groseclose, her aunt, Flora Harner, and grandmother, Beulah Morehead. Kelsey along with her mother, sister, aunt and grandmother all are All Stars.

Gilbert Ray Coffman (Shenandoah '41) passed away on October 7, 2006. He is survived by his wife, Neta Coffman of Maurertown; a son, Steven Coffman ; two granddaughters and two great-granddaughters.

Condolences to Audrey Lee in the passing of her father on October 17, 2006.

Ottie Madison Conner Jr., 80, of Kenbridge, Va., July 11, 2006, Central District. In 1980 he was inducted into the 4-H All-Star Hall of Fame



## Virginia 4-H All Stars Mid-Winter Conference February 3-4, 2007 Natural Bridge Hotel, Natural Bridge, Virginia

### SATURDAY, February 3:

12:00 – 1:00 —Registration: (Lunch is on your own)—

**There are no fast foods at Natural Bridge - see editors note below**

1:00 – 5:00 –Tours (On Your Own)

5:00 – 6:00 Business Meeting

6:30 – 8:00 Banquet

Bradshaw Awards

2006 Charter Awards

Entertainment

8:30 – 10:00 Service Project—Items for Interstate

### SUNDAY, February 4:

8:00 – 9:00 Breakfast (on your own)

9:00 – 9:30 Morning Meditation

9:45 – 10:30 District Meetings

10:30 – 12:00 Business Meeting

## HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME

### LODGING INFORMATION:

Natural Bridge Hotel

15 Appledore Lane

Natural Bridge, Va. 24578

Room Rate: \$70 + tax (for single or double  
occupancy--\$10 per person for 3 or 4 per room)

Phone: (540) 291-2121 or toll free  
(800) 533-1410

### Driving Directions

FROM I-81 TAKE EXIT 175 OR 180 AT US 11  
AND 130, NEAR I-64 AND THE BLUE RIDGE  
PARKWAY.

**THINGS TO SEE AND DO IN AND AROUND  
NATURAL BRIDGE:**

(Group Rates are available 20 or more or senior  
citizens)

Natural Bridge \*\* 3 Restaurants \*\* Gift Shop \*\*

Cedar Creek Trail & Natural Park \*\*

Wax Museum \*\* Monacan Indian Village \*\*

Natural Bridge Caverns \*\* Haunted House \*\*

Toy Museum



### **Editors Note—Food for thought**

Country Cafe (2.72 miles away)

1476 West Faulkner Hwy.

Natural Bridge Station, VA

Fancy Hill Restaurant (2.95 miles away)

4832 S. Lee Hwy.

Natural Bridge, VA

The Pink Cadillac Diner (6.88 miles away)

4347 S. Lee Hwy.

Lexington, VA

Lexington Restaurant (10.97 miles away)

810 South Main Street

Lexington, VA



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## VIRGINIA 4-H All Star Mid-Winter Conference

**February 3-4, 2007**

*Natural Bridge Hotel*

*15 Appledore Lane*

*Natural Bridge, Va. 24578*

*(800) 533-1410 (540) 291-2121*

*(Under the name of Va. 4-H All Stars)*

**RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 1/5/07 RATE & ROOM**

### REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Unit & Year Tapped: \_\_\_\_\_

Guests: \_\_\_\_\_

#### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND BANQUET MEAL

(Does Not Include Lodging) = \$35.00/per person x \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

#### Dues:

Annual \$10.00 **OR** Lifetime \$50.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks or Money Orders payable to: **Virginia 4-H All Stars**

If you have special diet requirements, please list needs or other accommodations needed:

Note: The hotel has a restaurant which is open for breakfast and dinner only. You will need to make your own arrangements for lunch. Friday evening is a seafood buffet AUCE at \$24.95 reservations are suggested.

**Submit form and payment to:**

**Irene & Randy Leech**  
**4220 North Fork Road**  
**Elliston, Va. 24087**  
**540-268-5373**

*Inactive members may become active by paying two years annual dues (\$10 per year) or life membership (\$50) Conference guests, other than spouses/and or children, must be approved by the Big Chief and/or 4-H Dept. Liaison (Policy 107). Guest (s) will not receive discounted rates. No alcoholic beverages are permitted at All Star Functions (Policy 110). CODE OF CONDUCT: All Conference registrants need to read and sign the following Code of Conduct: As a Virginia 4-H All Star event participant, I will conduct myself during the course of this conference in a manner which reflects the qualities of an All Star.*

**All Star Signature**

**Date:**

**Parent/Guardian Signature**

**Date:**



## Remembering Former State 4-H Specialist C. Dean Allen

Dr. C. Dean Allen, former State 4-H Specialist with Virginia Cooperative Extension, passed away on Friday, August 18, 2006 at the Montgomery Regional Hospital. He was 77.

A native of Michigan, Dr. Allen earned his bachelors degree from Michigan State University and began his career as 4-H agent in Gratiot County, Michigan following his military service in the Korean Conflict. During this time, he received his master's degree from Michigan State University and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, and then worked on the state 4-H staff in Michigan and Washington State. In 1967, Dr. Allen joined the state 4-H staff at Virginia Tech where he served until his retirement in 1992, having achieved Professor Emeritus.

He is survived by his wife, Darlene F. Allen and four daughters and their families. Dean Allen was well known throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia and especially in the world of 4-H. Among his many accomplishments and active participation, he was active for over 20 years with the Virginia-Santa Catarina (Brazil) Partners of the Americas, serving in various leadership positions, including four years as Virginia President and six years on the International Board of Directors.

At his request, there was no funeral. A private memorial service will be conducted in Michigan at a later date. In lieu of flowers, those wishing to make a memorial contribution might consider the Virginia 4-H Foundation. *(Robert Ray Meadows)*

*Editors Note—Dean Allen was a devoted 4-H All Star and served our organization as Liaison for many years. He will be missed. Our Treasurer tells us our organization has received several donations to honor his memory.*



## 2007 4-H All Star Interstate Conference hosted by Virginia

Revisit the Past & Celebrate the 400th  
Anniversary of Jamestown with the  
Virginia 4-H All Stars  
August 2-5, 2007

Bring your walking shoes and camera for lots of memories when you visit the past and present - Colonial & Nautical.

Activities will include:

- Colonial Williamsburg Tours
- Naval museum & Battleship Wisconsin Tour (Norfolk)
- Virginia Aquarium Visit (Virginia Beach)
- A Barbecue hosted by a Virginia Beach All Star family
- Jamestown Island Tour
- Jamestown Settlement Tour

Please bring an item for the Silent & Live Auction at the Saturday evening banquet (casual attire for the banquet). *Fundraising efforts will benefit the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center on its ongoing renovations to the Center.*

Accommodations: Embassy Suites - Williamsburg \*\*\* **Rooms only held until July 1 \*\*\***  
3006 Mooretown Road, Williamsburg, VA **Make your reservations soon!**  
757-229-6800 / 800-333-0924  
[www.embassysuiteswilliamsburg.com](http://www.embassysuiteswilliamsburg.com)

Two-room suite (sleeps up to six). Includes complimentary cook-to-order breakfast and nightly manager's reception, indoor pool, whirlpool and fitness center for \$159.00.

For more information, contact co-chairs Sarah Gregory @ 804-275-5806 or Jean Powers @ 757-421-3715 or 757-567-3456 (cell); [jeankpowers@aol.com](mailto:jeankpowers@aol.com).

Local Airports:  
Newport News (PHF)  
Norfolk (ORF)  
Richmond (RIC)



## 4-H FAMILIES HOST HIGH SCHOOLS EXCHANGEES

Virginia 4-H families are currently hosting 15 international exchangees for the 2006-2007 school year. They include one sophomore and the rest are juniors or seniors. The exchangees and their hosts are:

### **Dickenson County:**

--Arika Kota of Japan with Jerry and Theresa Stanley and their son Nicholas

### **Bland County:**

--Anna Simonyan of Armenia with Dottie Nelson and her niece and nephews, Dakoda and Alyssa Harris and Jeremy Nelson.

--Giorgi Khutsishvili of Georgia with Larry and Celia Jarvis and their son Andrew.

--Tomotaro Sano of Japan with Derek and Lisa Haun, Marissa and Jakob.

--Risa Chung of Japan with Frank Newberry and daughter Mary

### **Patrick County:**

--Kateryna Dolgikh of the Ukraine with Mitzi and Beryl Wagner and Balei

--Alina Shevchenko of the Ukraine with Danny and Lynn Boles and Hootie, Erika and Morgan

### **Culpeper:**

--Tomoaki Komatsu of Japan with Chris and Peggy Williams and Charlie and Mary Margaret

### **Loudoun County:**

--Reiko Masuda of Japan with George and Marcia Aramayo, Karla, Danny and Nicholas

--Alisher Yerbulekov of Kazakhstan with Doug and Stacy Babst, Jackson and Ben

### **Shenandoah County:**

--Moriyasu Fukasawa of Japan with Alan and Carrie Wiberg, Nathan, Melissa, Jay, Megan and Shelly

--Haruka Ikeda of Japan with Brian and Tamara Huffman, Eden, Bridget, Dylan and Chloe Anne

--Anastasiya Timoshenko of Russia with Bill and Mary Pence

### **Clarke County:**

--Mai Yamashita of Japan with Scott and Sharon Herndon and Samantha, Sarah and Jason

### **Tazewell County:**

--Orkhan Shabanov of Azerbaijan with Karel Ryan and sons Charles and James

They are having a great year! If anyone is interested in hosting next year, please contact  
Becky Moyer, 434 Chapel Drive, Woodstock, VA 22664.



**\*\*REMINDER\*\***  
**Our Summer Conference will be held in  
conjunction with the Interstate Conference on  
Sunday, August 5, 2007  
Hope to see you in Jamestown!**







Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment are open to all, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, veteran status, national origin, disability, or political affiliation. An equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.



## Virginia 4-H All Star Chapter

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107 Hutcheson Hall  
Virginia Tech (0419)  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061

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#### Big Chief

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rleech@hsmm.com

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540-436-9332 - Teresa

#### Corresponding Scribe

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debzinn@shentel.net

Next Star Deadline  
April 1, 2007  
No Foolin!