



Virginia 4-H All Star Chapter

4220 North Fork Road
Elliston, VA 24087

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Smoke Signals from the Big Chief

Dear 4-H All Stars,

Congratulations to the newest members of our Virginia chapter of 4-H All Stars! One hundred and six 4-H leaders and 4-H members from across the state were tapped into our chapter in a virtual ceremony in July. Please welcome these new members in your area.

Please remember to practice our motto of service. I invite you to go to our 4-H All-Star Facebook page and report what you have done for service or ideas that you have. In these pandemic times, you might consider mentoring a 4-H member virtually. You could coach one on how to do a demonstration or presentation.

Your state executive committee met virtually in October. We decided to host a virtual Midwinter Conference. It will be held February 5-7, 2021. Airfield chapter is planning the events. In order to register we will need your email address. Look for the schedule and registration form in this newsletter. Beside the business meeting and voting to approve new members of our organization, we will have some fun activities. You do not need to attend the entire conference but can join on the Zoom link for the events your desire to see. Be sure your dues are up to date so you can attend the approval of the new members meeting.

If you have ideas to share and are willing to help, please contact a member of the executive committee. Our names and addresses are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. Your chapter chief and agent advisers are also listed. Call or email any of us with your suggestions and how you can serve.

Have a great holiday season! Remember to wear your face mask, practice social distancing, and wash your hands frequently. I look forward to seeing you in February.

Yours and service,

Nancy Massie Moga

Big Chief

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December 2020 Edition

**Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars
2021 Midwinters Virtual Conference
“Virginia 4-H All Stars: Meet the Challenges of 2020-2021”
Saturday, February 6, 2021
9:00 a.m.**

The Airfield Chapter is excited to be hosting the **2021 Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars Midwinters Virtual Conference on February 6, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.** Creative planning for a few fun activities has been planned for the conference. A coffee break social hour will open our virtual conference at **9:00 a.m.** with the business meeting starting at **9:30 a.m.** We will conclude our conference with another social hour after the meeting adjourns at **2:00 pm.** Enjoy socializing with others as we would after a normal conference. We will host the 4-H All Star Trivia Contest in one of the breakout rooms at the conclusion of the conference. Stay and have some fun with your fellow All Stars.

Our Big Chief, Nancy Moga, will conduct the business meeting with committee reports, first review of the All Star Nominations Ballot and other items on the agenda. We will take a fifteen-minute break at **11:00 a.m.** and return at **11:15 a.m.** addressing other items on the agenda, Awards Recognition and a brief IFYE program.

The meeting will **recess at 12:00 noon** for a lunch break and **reconvene at 1:00 p.m.** to continue with the business meeting including the final review of the **2021 All Star Nominations Ballot and vote.**

Do not forget to register online in order to participate in the voting at the business meeting. Check the Virginia 4-H All Star Facebook page in January and early February for any updates and reminders. Use this link for registration: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScsXM-aqwKvUdiUJn6ikg6ORF3m1JVCOUZEQ2G4nVxf9ZRMg/viewform?usp=sf_link or try the shortened URL <https://tinyurl.com/2021AllStarMidwinters> or complete the Registration form in this newsletter and email to Kim Mayo at kmayo@vt.edu

See the Fun Activities and a Registration form (if needed) in this newsletter.



Embroidered 4-H All Star Polo, sweatshirt, notecards, etc.

To promote and market the Virginia 4-H All Star Program and Brand, the Executive Committee voted to offer an embroidered polo shirt to its members. Please contact Shields Jones (Albemarle 1969) at shields@nichollsauction.com or 540.220.1130 to receive information about this program.



“Virginia 4-H All Stars: Meet the Challenges of 2020-2021”

**Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars
Midwinters Virtual Conference Registration
February 6, 2021 Airfield Host Chapter**

Name: _____ Unit & Year Tapped: _____

Name: _____ Unit & Year Tapped: _____

Address: _____

Number and Street
City
State
Zip Code

Telephone: (____) _____ **E-mail: _____

Registration Deadline: Monday, February 2, 2021

All Star Dues: * Annual (\$10.00) ** Life (\$75.00) *Inactive members may become active by paying annual dues or **Life membership dues. Only Verified Active All Stars who are Life Members or have paid Annual Dues for 2021 will be able to participate in voting during the business meeting which includes voting on the acceptance of 2021 All Star nominees.	
Contributions: <div style="text-align: center;"> New Star Fund (supports new member recognition & participation) Keffer Scholarship Fund (Supports endowment fund for two annual \$800.00 Scholarships) </div>	
Total	

All Star Signature(s) _____ Date: _____

You may register online for this conference at this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScsXM-aqwKvUdiUJn6ikg6ORF3m1JVCOUZEQ2G4nVxf9ZRMg/viewform?usp=sf_link . Or you may choose to complete this Registration Form and send to Kim Mayo, Membership Committee Chair, kmayo@vt.edu.

Send a copy of this form with Membership Dues and/or Contributions by check **payable to Virginia Chapter of 4-H Stars**, to Randy and Irene Leech, 4220 North Fork Road, Elliston, VA 24087. (\$25 service charge for returned checks).

The Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars 2021 Midwinters Virtual Conference will be conducted on ZOOM.

For more information regarding the 2021 4-H All Star Midwinters Virtual Conference, contact the Conference



Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars Tapping Ceremony Changes (Draft)

The Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars established a Ceremonial committee to review and make changes to the Tapping Ceremony in an effort to be more inclusive and welcoming to all. Below is the committee’s proposed Tapping Ceremony for your review. Please send comments to Nancy Moga, Big Chief at nmmoga@aol.com.

Ceremony Prologue: What is the 4-H All Star Organization?

(Big Chief and Scribe walk to the microphone and the Big Chief reads the following as All Stars file into the Circle with no music or singing. An officer leads the All Stars into the Circle. The information read is included in a program, which also contains the list by Chapter of those invited to membership, and the words for the closing song, “I Would Be True.”)

Big Chief: On behalf of the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars, it is my privilege to welcome you to the (insert year) Induction Ceremony. Today we celebrate (insert years since 1922) years of inducting All Stars in Virginia, but for some of you, it is your first time seeing this ceremony. Perhaps you have questions about who – or what- an All Star is.

Membership in the 4-H All Stars is the highest recognition that a Virginia 4-H’er can achieve. It is both a honor and a service organization. It is entirely volunteer operated. The 4-H All Star organization strives for a cooperative effort with Virginia 4-H becoming the springboard from which an All Star jumps to other areas of service throughout his or her lifetime. The service to which All Stars are committed extends to our schools, churches, communities, and beyond.

Our first members were inducted in August of 1922 when three West Virginia All Stars initiated 12 Virginians who met and formed the Virginia All Star organization. In 1923, 23 more 4-H’ers were inducted during 4-H Short Course on Virginia Tech’s campus. Over 10,000 All Stars have been tapped since 1922.

In the 1950’s a maximum of two 4-H’ers could be tapped from each unit, one male and one female. Those tapped did not complete applications and discovered that they had been selected when their name was called by the Scout. The ceremony was held outside, as it is again now. During the 1970’s, the ceremony was held in Cassell Coliseum. Those tapped were watched during 4-H Congress and the final votes for membership was held that week. In the 1990’s, 4-H’ers began filling our applications for membership and those elected were notified in the spring. The ceremony moved back outside around 2000.

Until recently, 4-H incorporated American Indian heritage in programming, especially at camp. All Stars did the same, using officer names including Big Chief, Scribe, and Medicine Man, and ending the induction ceremony with a tribal benediction. If you have been to the ceremony regularly, you will notice that we have made changes to modernize it and to remove references to American Indian heritage. Our six Chapter names represent the 4-H Centers across the state.

The application and nomination of those who will be tapped today were examined their units, their Chapters, and the State Membership Committee. The membership approved their acceptance at the Midwinter Conference. Their records meet the requirements for membership in the Virginia Chapt4er of 4-H All Stars and we expect that they will live our motto: Service. We will now begin the (insert year) Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Star Induction Ceremony.

Virginia 4-H All Star Induction Ceremony (2020)

Big Chief (to Eagle Scout): Are 4-H members, adult volunteers, and extension staff who have been approved for membership in the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars here?

Eagle Scout: Yes, they are gathered here with family and friends.

Big Chief: Let us examine the purpose of the ceremony.

Scribe: 4-H teens and adults who are striving to make their lives richer through the development of their head, heart, hands and health are gathered here today. The records of their 4-H experiences have been reviewed. The All Stars determined that there are a number who by their character, accomplishments, leadership, citizenship, service and potential for future service, are worthy of membership in the Virginia 4-H All Stars.

Big Chief: Is it then the desire of the Virginia 4-H All Stars assembled here that we bring into our Circle those who have been approved?

All Stars: Send forth the scouts. (All scouts step out of the Circle as the Eagle Scout passes behind them, join the line of scouts, and stand in front of the Big Chief.)

Big Chief: Scouts please come forward. (continued)

(continued—Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars Tpping Ceremony Changes (Draft)

(All scouts step out of the Circle as the Eagle Scout passes behind them, join the line of scouts, and stand in front of the Big Chief.) Hear well these words. The Virginia 4-H All Stars desire that you pass through those assembled here and find those whose 4-H achievement, leadership, citizenship, service, and their potential for future service indicate that they are worthy of admission into this noble order of 4-H All stars. Go forth, and guard well your choices.

Scout: I present (insert name and unit) and (insert name and unit).

Big Chief: Welcome (insert name and unit) and (insert name and unit).

Big Chief: Are there others?

Eagle Scout: There are no others at this time.

Big Chief: (to Scribe) Have you the records of those in our Circle?

Scribe: Yes, they were examined and those we approve who are here today are included in our membership records.

Big Chief: They remain within our Circle. (Wait until the Eagle Scout returns to his/her place in Circle.)

Big Chief: Virginia 4-H All Stars, we have the records of the achievement, leadership, citizenship and service for the individuals before us. Shall they be received into this high order of the Virginia 4-H All Stars? Think well, then answer, fellow All Stars.

All Stars: It is well. Let us receive them. Instruct them that they may help us serve.

Big Chief: You have heard this most earnest desire of the 4-H All Stars. Listen while I speak their message. Our motto is “service”. You have your mind to continually develop, your heart for inspiration and guidance, your hands to use for service, and your health to improve. Use them so that the world may be a better place because you lived in it. Let these flowers be a token of our congratulations and confidence in your future service. (All Stars – pin a flower on each new All Star standing before them. Big Chief waits until flowers are pinned on before speaking again.

Big Chief: The 4-H All Star Insignia, a Key, is on our banner. The outline of this key is similar to that of the key of learning. This shape symbolizes that through 4-H and 4-H All Star involvement, members are always striving to learn, to grow, and to develop into responsible citizens and leaders. The white background stands for peace, that All Stars may ever promote cooperation and understanding with others. The fold on the key represents purity. As gold is a pure metal, so shall the All Stars strive for pure thoughts and actions. The star on the emblem stands for steadfastness. The red color of the star represents courage. The four-leaf clover rests on the star in the emblem. The clover signifies that All Stars are united in service with 4-H.

Big Chief: All Stars, please extend the hand of welcome to the new members standing before you. (All Stars shake the hand of the new All Star(s) and new inductees in reciting the 4-H Pledge.

Big Chief: Congress delegates, 4-H adult volunteers, staff, family and friends, please stand facing me, and join the All Stars and new inductees in reciting the 4-H Pledge.

I pledge my head to clearer thinking; My heart to greater loyalty; My hands for larger service; My health to better living; For my club, my community, my country, and my world.

Big Chief: Membership in the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars is a distinct privilege and a very high honor. Congratulations to those inducted into the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars today. The real reward of membership is a lifetime serving with others to enrich 4-H and our communities. The Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars challenges you to be an active member for the rest of your life. We hope that you will adopt our motto of “Service” and give back to 4-H, our community and our world.

Big Chief: We will now move to meetings of each Chapter where the new 4-H All Stars will be welcomed and presented certificates. Parents and guests may join us. Now, everyone please join us in singing “I Would Be True” using the words in the program as we leave the Circle and close the (insert year) Virginia 4-H All Star Induction Ceremony.

(4-H All Stars walk out singing “I Would Be True.”)

I Would Be True

I would be true for there are those who trust me.	I would be friend of all the foe, the friendless.
I would be pure, for there ae those who care.	I would be giving and forget the gift.
I would be strong, for there is much to suffer.	I would be humble, for I know my weakness.
I would be brave, for there is much to dare. (2x)	I would look up, and laugh and love, and life. (2x)



State 4-H All Star Application Forms Virtual Review

December 16, 2020—9:00 a.m.

Due to the Coronavirus 19, the state review of 4-H All Star applications will be conducted virtually. Please contact **Kim Mayo, Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development** in Fluvanna County at **kmayo@vt.edu** to receive information and links to assist in the review. Kim Mayo and Kayla Blincoe are providing leadership for the State Review.

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Virginia 4-H Foundation	Extension Staff Liaison	2020-21 4-H Cabinet Liaison
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Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars 2021 Midwinters Virtual Conference

Conference All Star Fun Activities:

Beginning January 4th through January 27th All Stars can enter their photo entries onto the following links for each contest. These links will not open until this date. Then upload your photos with your information. After the system closes on the 27th, photos will be upload to the All Star Facebook page for voting. Voting will be open from 1/27 through 2/4, and we will announce the winners during the conference.

Favorite Face Mask Contest as we “Meet the Challenges of 2020-2021”

Share a photo of yourself wearing your favorite face mask. Send your pdf photo to the link below. Pictures will be posted for everyone to enjoy and vote for the best mask. Include your name, chapter, unit, year tapped along with the photo. The favorite mask choice by popular vote will be announced at the meeting and posted on the 4-H All Star Facebook page (with your permission).

Face Mask Competition Link: <https://forms.gle/GbKjedwTx9cvri388>

New Member Challenge.....All Stars tapped from 2015 – 2020

Share your favorite overall experience in the last 5 years (it does not have to be 4-H). Send a pdf collage of 3-5 pictures depicting the experience including captivating captions! The winner will have a donation made to a Virginia 4-H Camp of choice by the Airfield 4-H All Star Chapter. Include your name, chapter, email address with your photos.

New Member Challenge Link: <https://forms.gle/9EmEvceFt8Gau9hz6>

4-H Trivia Contest

The trivia contest will be hosted using the Kahoot platform in a breakout room within the Zoom link at the conclusion of the conference. Hang around with your 4-H All Star friends for some fun and maybe learn a few interesting 4-H facts. Trivia questions about the history of 4-H, each district location and so much more will be involved in your fact-finding mission and brain tease.

Please email the Virginia Star to me!!!

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If you would prefer to receive “The Virginia Star” by e-mail please send an e-mail to va4hall-stars@gmail.com with your full name, mailing address and the email address you would prefer added to the mailing list. Your name will be submitted to William Thomas to be removed from the Star snail mailing list. Thank you for supporting the Virginia 4-H All Stars!!!





Celebrating 100 Years of Virginia 4-H All Stars

On August 4th, 2022 the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars will be 100 years old! This momentous event is worthy of celebration and that is exactly what is planned.

Virginia 4-H All Star members, supporters and friends, along with 4-H All Stars from other states will gather at The Inn and Skelton Conference Center on the Virginia Tech campus on Friday through Sunday, July 22 - 24th, 2022. As of our 100th Anniversary the Virginia Chapter has taken over 10,000 4-H members, adult 4-H volunteers, Extension staff, and IFYE's into its membership.

Plan now to be a part of this unique accomplishment. Getting to our 100th year was not ever a given! 4-H All Stars started in West Virginia in 1919. Maryland followed in 1921. Rhode Island started in 1928; Massachusetts in 1929; Tennessee in 1948; Mississippi in 1950; and New Hampshire 1954. Some of you reading this will remember attending 4-H All Star Interstate conferences in many of these states over the years.

Sadly, after we have our 100th anniversary event, there will be no more states celebrating a 100th anniversary! Those five states who came after us no longer exist in the original format. Tennessee still uses the name but it is a recognition of senior 4-H members and does not have adult members. Mississippi had some form of an organization into the 2000's with some members attending Interstates as late as 2011 but no longer functions.

100th Anniversary of Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars

1922 - 2022

The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center

Friday July 22 through Sunday July 24, 2022

We will return to the birthplace of our organization, the VPI / Virginia Tech campus as we celebrate 100 years of service. This college / university was the birthplace of Virginia 4-H All Stars. Following the weeklong 4-H Short Course / 4-H Congress, on Friday evening, August 4, 1922 "...the 12 members so selected met and formed the first 4-H All Star organization in Virginia..."

Lodging will be available in The Inn with a block of rooms reserved at a special conference rate. Stay at The Inn and enjoy the convenience. The schedule for the weekend is still tentative as we are just under two years out! There will be changes in the plans listed, but we wanted to get you thinking about this weekend and cement it in your future plans.

The celebration begins Friday evening with a picnic on the lawn (weather permitting). Picnics were a big part of many former summer conferences. They were often held at the Duck Pond and ended with watermelon! We will have watermelon available at this meal. It is hoped that many 4-H All Stars will come in Friday and enjoy catching up with friends of many years.

Saturday begins with a buffet breakfast in the Skelton Conference Center ballroom. The tentative scheduled program starts at that event. We will kick off the weekend with greetings from university administration and a look at the past 100 years of 4-H All Stars. Following breakfast, the hope is to have multiple hands on service projects. You will also

(Continued—Celebrating 100 Years of Virginia 4-H All Stars)

We will return to the ballroom for a cold cuts lunch. The anticipated program will include reflections from past Big Chiefs and Hall of Fame recipients. The afternoon will include a variety of tours. Suggestions have included the drone program, the VTTI (Virginia Tech Travel Institute) Smart Road, Kentland Farm, and the micro-brewery lab in Food Science and Technology. Of course staying in the conference center to relax and visit with friends is always your option.

The big celebration will be our banquet dinner in the ballroom. This will be our "dress up" event of the weekend. Everything else is casual dress. Many of you have attended a variety of All Star dress up events at our conferences over the years. At this event we will have greetings from West Virginia (1919) and Maryland (1921) All Star Chapters who were helpful in getting Virginia organized. We are still working on a keynote speaker. Suggestions are welcome! We will take this time to look to our future as well.

We will return to the ballroom for another breakfast buffet, followed by our annual memorial service, Chapter meetings, and our business meeting to elect officers for the start of our second century!.

We will have some activities and recognitions for those who won the Bradshaw Award, C. Dean Allen Award, Keffer Scholarships. Recognitions will be given to the units with the most attendees.

Families - We will also plan to honor and recognize 4-H All Star families. We have hundreds, likely thousands of second generation All Stars. There are several third generations and fourth and fifth generations are a bit more unique but they exist. Maybe we will discover the family that has the most All Stars in one generation!

We will just have a fun weekend, celebrating an organization near and dear to so many. Make a note and plan now to join us!

History thoughts for our 100th

For the 50th Anniversary in 1972, we had a 90 page memory book. The foreword said "...to provide an overview of the organization's development..." not a complete history. Only 17 pages are devoted to the "Development of the All Star Program - 1922 - 1972" with the first several pages detailing how we got to the point of being an organization. The period 1922 - 1942 were called "The Expansion Years" while 1942 -1962 were "The Years of Sacrifice, Uncertainty, and Rebirth" the final heading was just "1962-1972".

The first 22 years saw the building of an organization at the county level; helping start the 4-H Honor Club program; helping start Chapters in other states; and working to build a national organization. Virginia had 40 of the 72 in attendance at the first Interstate in Washington, DC in 1941.

The next 20 years had a rough start and in 1954 meeting minutes "...indicated unrest, frustration, or anxiety on the part of members because they felt that they were not moving ahead fast enough." Our relationship with IFYE's began in 1950 and continues to the present. During this period District Chapters were established to strengthen the organization. In 1961 a Midwinter Conference was added, meeting from 1961 - 1969 at Natural Bridge. In 1970 that conference began to rotate around the state. We began our support of and involvement in 4-H public speaking in 1964. Extension Agents were added in 1950 (4). Adult 4-H volunteers were added sometime in the late 1960's but an exact date is currently unknown. Any 1960's volunteer can help with an early date would be appreciated!

Some highlights from the past 50 years include: 1) "...star shaped permanent nametags were introduced at the Midwinter Conference in 1975."; 2) "The Bradshaw Award in memory of A. Gilliam Bradshaw of James City County was established in 1977 to honor outstanding contributions of those with less than 15 years of service.); 3) "The newsletter was started in the spring of 1976."; 4) "The memorial scholarship was named the Keffer Scholarship in 1991 in memory of Wayne Keffer,...); 5) " In 1994 the first C. Dean Allen Award was given in honor of long-time state staff liaison C. Dean Allen." and 6) in the past few years we have moved from the District concept to having Chapters based on the units camping location. Chapters have specific responsibilities, including hosting, on a rotating basis.

During 2020 we held our first remote (Zoom) Executive Board Meeting and our first remote Ceremony for new members! Through it all, we have moved forward in Service.

2020 Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars
Welcome Event

The All Star Tapping Ceremony was conducted differently due to COVID 19. A Welcome to the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars Event was conducted virtually on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 to welcome the 2020 4-H All Stars to the membership. Billie Jean Elmer, Big Chief welcomed everyone. A brief history of the 4-H All Stars through the years was shared and Chiefs read the names of the 2020 inductees. The Welcome Event was conducted via Zoom and shared on the Virginia 4-H Facebook page.



Big Chief, Billie Jean Elmer speaking during the 2020 Welcome



Virginia 4-H All Star Awards

Visit the Virginia 4-H All Star website to learn about Awards, Scholarships and Recognition available to 4-H All Stars at <http://ext.vt.edu/4h-youth/all-stars.html>

Due: January 1, 2021

- * Wayne M. Keffer Memorial Scholarship
- * Bradshaw Service Award
- * Virginia 4-H All Star Hall of Fame
- * C. D. Allen Award for Excellence
- * Dottie Nelson Award for Excellence in International Programs

Scholarship Challenge

As we move to our 100th year, this would be a good time to build up or Keffer Scholarship Endowment! Did you receive one of the organizations scholarships? The first scholarship was awarded in 1959 to Mrs. Patsy Carr Reese from Halifax. In 1960 the Chapter awarded two scholarships and have done so annually since then. The announcements are made at the Midwinter Conference. At two per year since 1960, we have awarded around 120 scholarships. A number of those who received them are no longer with us, a few friends loss way to early in life. Some past winners are likely not currently in touch with our organization, while many have been and are very involved. That list has a number of former Big Chiefs and others who have been involved in the organization's leadership over the years.

Our scholarship winners have gone on to be leaders in their communities after completing their education. A good number went on to careers in Cooperative Extension including Dr. Jim Johnson who served as Director of Virginia Cooperative Extension. Lots seemed to end up as educators! It would be great to have a display featuring as many of you scholarship winners. Would you consider being a part of this effort?

As noted earlier this is a time to focus on growing our scholarship endowment. If you received one of these scholarships, would you be willing to make a donation to grow the scholarship endowment? The endowment is part of the Virginia Tech Foundation. Over the years, the value of the scholarship we award has grown to it's current \$1,000 value. The larger the endowment, the larger the scholarships can become. It would be great to have scholarship winners and other All Star commit to a \$100 gift to grow this important project of our organization.