Smoke Signals from the Big Chief’s Tepee

Thank you for electing me as your new Big Chief for the next year. I appreciate the confidence you have bestowed on me and I will try my very best to uphold that.

I am looking forward to being your Big Chief. I have not held an office in the State 4-H All Star organization. I have been active in my unit (Frederick County) where I serve as Treasurer, in the District (Northwest District), where I serve as scribe, in the State 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association where I have been President-Elect, President, and at the end of this year, I will be ending 4 years as Secretary for the State Organization.

I look forward to working with the executive committee during year and meeting more and more of the 4-H All Stars in the state. Many of you I already know from my many years in 4-H. We will try and make this a wonderful All Star Year.

Elwanda Luttrell

2005 4-H All Star Interstate Report

4-H All Star Interstate was hosted this year by the All Stars of West Virginia in Martinsburg W.Va. Thursday started with a wonderful meal and then a trolley ride to the Cogle Museum. This museum is a hidden treasure which many do not know about in Martinsburg. Friday was a very busy day spent in Harpers Ferry, W. V. lunch at the famous Bavarian Inn and time to spend time in Shepherdstown, W. Va. On the way back to Martinsburg, we stopped at the Martinsburg Roundhouse, which is going to be restored to a museum. Dinner was at the newly restored Dunn Building where the Berkeley County Extension Office is now housed. Saturday morning found us on our way to Camp Frame 4-H Camp—where three counties own and use for their summer 4-H Camp. After a delicious brunch and a tour of the camp, the bus left for Berkeley Springs. The afternoon was spent at the Famous Springs, antique shops, or just sitting in the beautiful park in the center of town. Saturday evening was a Steak Fry Dinner at the Butler Farms in Arden, W. VA. The annual auction was held and all the proceeds went to Camp Frame. On Sunday morning a breakfast was hosted by the Horners of Arden, W.Va. Goodbyes were said until next year. The conference next year will be hosted in Starksville, Mississippi at Mississippi State University on August 10 – 13, 2006. The 2007 Conference is in Virginia and will be held somewhere around Williamsburg, etc.

See the information for next year’s conference in this newsletter.

Virginia All Stars attending were: Jean Powers, Sarah Gregory, Shawnda Gregory, Sherry Jenkins, Ruth Snapp, Margaret Douglas, Nancy Pence, Mary Ball Massie, Pat Chawkat, and Carol Boyer.

Elwanda Luttrell, Big Chief
DISTRICT NEWS

Northwest District Report
The Northwest District 4-H All Stars helped in many ways at the Northwest District Presentation Contest held on April 16 in Dayton, Virginia.

A combined meeting of Northwest District All Stars and Volunteer leaders was held on May 16, 2005 in Woodstock. At this meeting plans were made for the Combined Fall Conference, which will be held on Saturday, October 15, 2005 in Edinburg, VA. Various classes will be offered and a teen rally is planned.

Several from the District are planning to attend 4-H All Star Interstate Conference in Martinsburg, WV. August 11-14, 2005.
Submitted by Elwanda Luttrell, District Scribe

Southwest District
Teen Weekend was held Aug. 27-28 at the Southwest Virginia 4-H Educational Center in Abingdon, VA. The theme for the weekend was “Teens Underground” and included a trip to Bristol Caverns. 22 teens attended from 6 counties, including 3 IFYEs from Japan! Many thanks to our volunteers for making the weekend a success.

The Southwest District 4-H All Stars held a fall meeting and reunion on Saturday, October 15, 2005 at the Southwest Virginia 4-H Educational Center in Abingdon, VA. Amendments to the District by-laws were passed, including updating the officer name “Medicine Man” to Treasurer. Officers were elected as follows:
Chief Donna Hamm
Lesser Chief Michelle Cock
Scribe Daniel Collins
Treasurer Rogene Nester
Historian Dottie Nelson

Upcoming SWD All Star Events:
December 3, 2005, 10:00 am meeting at the Smyth County Extension Office to review new nominations,
March 19, 2006, 1:00 - 3:00 pm meeting and service project in Bristol immediately following Leaders Conference, June 10, 2006, 10:00 am meeting at Blumental Presbyterian Church near milepost 192 on the Blue Ridge Parkway, September 9&10, 2006, Teen Weekend at the Southwest Virginia 4-H Educational Center in Abingdon, VA, September 10, 2006, SWD All Star meeting immediately following Teen Weekend.
Whether an active member or not, all All Stars are invited and welcome to attend.
Respectfully Submitted, Michelle Cock SWD Lesser Chief

Northeast District Report
The Northeast District All Stars and the 4-H Adult Volunteer Leaders met June 5, 2005 at 5:30pm at the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center, Williamsburg, Virginia for their Annual BBQ Dinner meeting. Our guests were our new All Star nominees to be tapped at Congress 2005 and the Chesterfield 4-H Share-the-Fun and Performing Arts Club.

Earlier that day, the All Stars served as registrars for the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center Open House. Guests came in early between 1:15pm and 5:00pm. There were 500 plus guests to tour the Center. A special “Thank you” goes to the following people: Terry Patterson and the Jamestown 4-H Center Staff, Oliver Washington, Jack Ferguson, Samantha and Christal, New Kent 4-H’ers, Chesterfield 4-Her’s, Shawnda Gregory, Mary-Ball Massey, Cecil Johnson, Lloyd Hicks, Jim Courtney, the Ruritans, and our great barbecue cooks Charley Bell and associate for all of their support and help. We had 70 people to participate with this activity.

Our next meetings will be at Summer Conference, Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center, July 16-17, 2005, and at the Henrico Extension Office, December 2, 2005 at 7:00pm.
At the July 16, 2005 meeting we planned for the evening campfire and discussed plans for Interstate 2007.
Respectfully Submitted, Sarah J. Gregory Northeast District Chief
The 2007 4-H All Star Interstate Conference will take place in the Williamsburg, Norfolk, and Virginia Beach areas on August 2-5, 2007.

We invite all Virginia 4-H All Stars to come and participate in this celebration of the All Star Conference and the Jamestown 2007 Celebration commemorating America’s 400th Anniversary. Our Banquet and Silent and Live Auctions will take place at the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center on Saturday, August 4, 2007.

At the Midwinter’s All Star Conference we will meet to discuss the 2007 4-H All Star Interstate Conference. We need members to volunteer to work on the following committees:

I. REGISTRATION
   a. Registration
   b. Publications
   c. Notes

II. FINANCE COMMITTEE

III. ACCOMMODATIONS
   a. Hotel and Meals
   b. Transportation

IV. HOSPITALITY
   a. Welcome
   b. Door Prizes
   c. Gifts

V. PROGRAM
   a. Ceremony
   b. Speaker
   c. Tours

VI. BANQUET
   a. Entertainment
   b.Decorations

VII. FUNDRAISING
Benefits the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center on its ongoing renovations to the Center
   a. Silent Auction
   b. Live Auction


Thank you from 1st Lt. Brenda Thompson USAF from Doha, Qatar
Received by Selicia Gregory

Hello Selicia and members of the VA Chapter of 4-H All Stars,

Let me start by saying thank you for sending the box filled with goodies. On a deployment, a person receiving a box always makes new friends :-) Just in case you are wondering where you sent this box, it’s a little country called Qatar. It’s located right on the coast of the Persian Gulf. Qatar is not a very big country and the people here are very nice. I work long hours, but it’s okay because I’m contributing to people’s freedom. Thanks again for thinking about me. Please continue to keep all of us over here in your prayers. Take Care!

Brenda Thompson, former 4-H member

Beverly (Shenandoah ’03) Sine and husband, Nelson recently received quality producer awards given by Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative on Oct. 18. They earned the honor by consistently achieving specific milk quality standards from August 2004 to July 2005.
If you missed the 2005 Summer Conference, then you may not know who is leading our organization this year. Here are the new officers for 2005-2006.

Big Chief - Elwanda Luttrell  email elwand@shentel.net

Past Big Chief - Julie Martin;  email—Julie-martin@cox.net  757-867-6154
100 Combs Loop; Yorktown, VA 23693

Lesser Chief - Leslie Funkhouser;  email—lfunkh@vt.edu
P.O. Box 133; Toms Brook, VA 22660

Recording Scribe - Susan Thomas   email—tthomasvtcc64@verizon.net
Corresponding Scribe - Debbie Zinn  debzin@shentel.net

Scout - Mark Kipps

Treasurers - Irene and Randy Leech;  email—ileech@vt.ed
4220 North Fork Road; Elliston, VA 24087

Advisors - Mike Martin
- Connie Bryant
Liaison - Carol Nansel

Come meet these folks at Midwinters, 2006!

Audrey Lee is representing All Stars on the State 4-H Leadership Council.
aulee@vt.edu

Cora Gnegy is representing All Stars on the State 4-H Congress Cabinet.
kgnegy@shentel.net

2006 Tapping Ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, June 28, 2006, in the Ag Quad (same place as last year) during the afternoon.
You Are Invited to Experience the Hospitality and Warmth of Mississippi at the 2006 4-H All Star Interstate Conference August 10-13, 2006 Starkville, Mississippi and Mississippi State University Hosted by the Mississippi 4-H All Stars Ya'll Come! Registration due June 15, 2006 More details in next newsletter

2005 Ceremonial Committee Report

On Wednesday, June 22, 2005, the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars gathered together at the Ag Quad on the campus of Virginia Tech to welcome 56 4-H Youth members, 3 Extension State Staff and 9 Volunteer Leaders for a total of 68 new members in our organization.

The 2005 Consecration Ceremony would not have been successful had it not been for:

♦ Ray Daubenspeck—serving as chairman of the Ceremonial Committee
♦ Steve Wood—leading the New All Star Orientation for Congress participants, serving as Eagle Scout and assisting on the Ceremonial Committee
♦ Lesser Chief—Lila Orrock for her participation in the All Star Tapping Ceremony
♦ Scribe—Michelle Cock for her participation in the All Star Tapping Ceremony
♦ Randy and Irene Leech—proving us with a sound system, ordering carnations, picking up carnations and leading New All Star Orientation for all participants after our ceremony
♦ Sarah Gregory, Dr. Bob Meadows and Ethel Showman—leading the ceremonial songs
♦ Kate Johnson, Sarah Burleson and Stuart Melton, Jr.—Recorders, serving at the Check-In table
♦ Shawnda Gregory—serving as State Scout for the 4-H All Star Tapping Ceremony
♦ Connie Bryant—for her assistance with the All Star Program

And of course, All 4-H All Stars participating both within and outside of our ceremonial circle. I would like to thank everyone who participated.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shawnda Gregory—State Scout
Have you ever dreamed of travel and adventure? You can discover the world by participating in the International Four-H Youth Exchange program. One of the following opportunities may be just right for you or your family to broaden your horizons:

**IFYE Representative:** Participants between the ages of 19-30 can experience life in another country first-hand by living with host families from 3 to 6 months. This is not the typical tourist’s eye view of a foreign land, but a chance to participate in daily living and learn about the customs and culture of another country while sharing about your life in the United States.

**IFYE Ambassador:** For youth between the ages of 15-24, this program features a summer abroad. The purpose of the program is to assist youth in acquiring knowledge, developing skills and forming attitudes that will help them become productive citizens of the global community.

Countries participating in the above two exchanges may include, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Jamaica, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan and the United Kingdom.

**Japanese Exchange:** Youth between the ages of 13-18 will spend a month in Japan, departing Virginia in mid-July. Besides living with a host family, they will attend a week of camp and visit places of interest in the area where their host families live. An additional two-week extension to attend the Nihongo (Japanese) Institute for indepth language and culture study is also available.

**Hosting:** Unable to travel at this time or past the age range? Then you can still participate by letting the world come to you. Host families are needed for periods of two to four weeks. Host families receive advance info on the delegate. This is a great chance to experience another culture without leaving home. Both urban and rural families are needed. Why not welcome an international visitor into your home in 2006?

**High School Exchange:** There is also a high exchange for hosting delegates for the school year from Japan and former Soviet republics such as Azerbaijan, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, etc.

The deadline to apply as an outbound Representative or Ambassador is January 15 and for Japan is February 15. Host family applications are due by April 1. For more information, contact your unit Cooperative Extension Office or State Coordinator Dottie Nelson, P.O. Box 144, Bland, VA 24315, work 800-752-0673 or home 276-688-4028, or email dottieifye@yahoo.com.

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**Awards Committee—**

Just wanted to thank you for awarding me the Wayne M. Keffer Scholarship. It will be a great help towards my college cost. 4-H has meant a lot to me over the years and I hope to stay involved through the VT Collegiate 4-H Club and as an All Star.

In my future I hope to always live up to the motto of “service”

Thanks again,

April Pyle 2005 Scholarship winner
IN MEMORIAM

Sympathies are extended to
James H. Fitch, Jr., Tracy S. Fitch and Tovi Lynn Fitch Martin in the passing of Gaynell Gibson Fitch (Albemarle, 59)
To the family of Hester Catherine Rice Clark ,President of the Virginia 4-H Leaders Association in 1978 and Honorary 4-H All Star.
Elizabeth L. Huff (Carroll County) in the passing of her brother William (Bill) Davis Largen (Carroll County 1959)
The families of Velma Webb Talbert (Carroll County 1939) and A. Earl Rinker (Shenandoah 90)
Tina Stiles Horn (Shenandoah ‘85) in the passing of her mother, Priscilla Stiles, who was a Maryland All Star.

Baby Twinkle News

Norman and Joan Callis Scott (Brunswick ’97), with big brother Curtis, welcomed their second child, Indianna "Indie" Marie, to this world, September 14, 2005. She is the niece of Linda Callis (Brunswick ’94)

Paige [Burns] Merriam (Newport News ’83) and husband Chris welcomed a baby boy -- Sean -- into the world on April 30, 2005.

Susan Brown McCaskill (Bedford ’91) and Andrew McCaskill are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Moriah Marcelle on May 9, 2005. The ‘star’ grandma is Lou Ellen Padgett Brown (Bedford ’64).

Kelly Rinker Cauthorn (Shenandoah ’95) and Ben in the birth of their daughter, Claire Olivia on June 22. Claire’s grandparents, Rick (Shenandoah ’93), and Judy Rinker (Shenandoah ’93) and uncle, Russell Rinker (Shenandoah ’93) are all very proud of the new addition.

Carrie Kipps Souder (Shenandoah ‘94) and Jeff in the birth of their son, Adam Zachary on November 24. Proud Grandparents are Wayne (Shenandoah ‘00) and Carolyn (Shenandoah ’65) Kipps and uncle Mark Kipps (Shenandoah ‘96) are enjoying the new bundle.

Moriah Ballowe (Shenandoah ‘03) and Jake Golladay in the birth of their son, Elias Cole on May 16th. Grandfather, Ray Ballowe (Shenandoah ‘95), Great Aunt, Linda Ballowe (Shenandoah ‘82) and Aunt Jadah Ballowe (Shenandoah ‘05) are enjoying their new little 4H’er.

2005 Hall of Fame Winner
Randy Leech

Randy Leech received the 2005 Hall of Fame award during summer conference—on hand to help Randy celebrate were from left to right, his dad, Phil Leech, sister, Raynelle Ankey (Rockbridge), Randy, Irene and his mom, Nellie Leech.

4-H ALL STARS AT CAMP.......S’MORE THAN FUN!
JULY 16-17, 2005
NORTHERN VIRGINIA 4-H EDUCATIONAL CENTER,
FRONT ROYAL

Fifty-one 4-H All Stars, representing all six districts, came together at the Northern Virginia 4-H Educational Center in Front Royal for Summer Conference 2005. The conference began Saturday, July 16 with local tours. The Smithsonian Conservation and Research Center tour highlighted maned wolves, red pandas, Mongolian wild horses, clouded leopards, cranes and exotic deer. Another group of All Stars toured Skyline Caverns which is one of the only places in the world that features a unique formation known as Anthodites, “orchids of the mineral kingdom”.

Then we headed to Front Royal for our casual banquet - good Italian cuisine at Villa Giuseppe – an IFYE presentation from Austria, and a business meeting, before we went back to the 4-H Center for campfire activities and s’mores. Congratulations to Randy Leech (Rockbridge ’72) for receiving the 2005 All Star Hall of Fame award during the banquet!

Sunday began with a traditional Vespers service, conducted by the Shenandoah County 4-H All Stars at the Alan Boyer Memorial Alter, overlooking Lake Culpeper. All Stars then attended two camp classes: riflery, basketry, bead crafts, or rocketry. The conference concluded with lunch at the 4-H Center.

Special thanks to everyone who made this conference possible – the participants, the planning committee and the Northern Virginia 4-H Center!

Carol Nansel (Fairfax ’74)
Irene Leech (Buckingham ’74)
Thanks to all who have purchased the 4-H All Star golf shirts. These shirts are still available for anyone still interested in making a purchase. Please be reminded that they can be personalized with your year of tapping and county. The cost of the shirts are $20 each plus $3 for each shirt mailed. If interested in ordering, please contact Teresa Funkhouser at 540-436-9332 or email starnews@shentel.net.

Midwinter’s Schedule

Saturday February 4, 2006

11:00 – 1:00  Registration (Hotel Lobby)
12:00 – 1:00  Lunch (On your own)
1:30 – 2:00  Business Meeting (Hotel Lobby)
2:00 – 5:00  Hokie Paraphernalia Shopping Trek and Insiders Campus Tour (Meet in Hotel Lobby; Group transportation provided)
5:00 – 5:30  Tour of Animal Sciences Facility (Plantation Road)
5:30- 7:00  Recognition of Current and Former State 4-H Staff BBQ Chicken Banquet Entertainment by VT Step Dancers
7:00 – 10:00 VT Men’s Basketball Team vs Boston College
OR
Service Projects (at Hotel)
10:00  Hokie Snacks
11:00 until ?  Midnight Bowling
(Bring money to pay for your rounds)

Sunday July 17, 2005

7:30 – 9:00  Breakfast (In Hotel Lobby)
9:00 – 9:30  Vespers and Memorial Service
9:45 – 10:30 District Meetings
10:30 – 12:00 Business Meeting

Have a Safe Trip Home!
For the first time any of us can remember, our Midwinter’s Conference will be held in Blacksburg. It gives us the opportunity to take advantage of some things that we cannot experience in the summer.

Remember that our rules require that we vote on new members a day after the list is first presented to the membership. Thus, we will begin Saturday afternoon taking care of business. Then, using van transportation, we’ll take off on a tour of Hokie Paraphernalia providers, interspersed with visits to see some of the new facilities on campus including The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center.

At 5:30 we’ll meet at the new Animal Sciences Facility for a tour. That will be followed by a finger licking good chicken BBQ Dinner. We’ll recognize current and former State 4-H Staff Members. (Please encourage all of them to come!) Then we’ll be treated to a presentation of Virginia Tech Step Dancing.

The Men’s Basketball team will meet Boston College at 7:00pm in Cassell Coliseum. While there are no tickets for sale from the Box Office, it is often possible to find some from people who have season tickets but cannot attend. Tickets cost $25 each. If you want to go, see if you can find tickets. Irene is also willing to try to help find tickets.

If basketball isn’t your thing, then meet back at the hotel for service projects and socializing with fellow All Stars.

After refreshments and socializing, you can head across the street from the hotel for midnight bowling (or to your room to sleep!)

Our Sunday Vesper and Memorial Service will be led by Virginia Tech students. Then we each district will have time to meet. We will finish the conference with our business meeting.

HOTEL INFORMATION
To make hotel reservations: Call the Hampton Inn direct at 540-381-5874. Please ask for the 4-H group block. Room rates are $75.00 per night. Directions to the Hotel: From I-81 North or South. Exit at 118B. Follow signs to Blacksburg on 460 West Bypass. Exit off 460 West Bypass at 4B. Merge right off exit towards stoplight. Turn right on Arbor Drive and the hotel is on your right.
4-H All Stars in Hokieland!
February 4-5, 2006
Midwinter’s Registration Form

| Name: ____________________________________________________________________________ | M/F |
| Address: __________________________________________________________________________ |
| Telephone: (   ) _______________________________    E-mail: ____________________________ |
| Unit & Year Tapped: _____________________________   Guest(s)____________________________M/F |

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TOTAL

- Inactive members may become active by paying two years annual dues ($10 per year) or life membership ($50)
- Conferences guests, other than spouses and / or children, must be approved by the Big Chief and / or 4-H Department Laison (Policy 107). Guest(s) WILL NOT receive discounted rates.
- No alcoholic beverages are permitted at All Star functions (Policy 110).

Special Needs – Dietary, Handicapped, or Other:_____________________________________________

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(s):__________________________________________ Date:__________________
Parent/Guardian Signature:____________________________ Date:__________________
(If All Star is under age 18)

Make checks payable to: Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars ($10 service charge for returned checks)
Send registration and check to: Randy and Irene Leech, 4220 N Fork Rd.; Elliston, VA 24087
Questions: Phone (540) 268-5373 – Home; 540 268-1018 – Fax;
Email: ileech@vt.edu
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NEXT STAR DEADLINE ** APRIL 1, 2006