



Virginia 4-H All Star Chapter

107 Hutcheson Hall
Virginia Tech (0419)
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The Virginia Star

The official publication of the Virginia 4-H All Stars.

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Smoke Signals from the Big Chief

Let's welcome our New Big Chief!!!

My name is Steve Wood (Page 1970) and was elected as your State Big Chief last August. I want to thank you for your confidence in me to be your State Big Chief and I'm looking forward to serving and meeting you in the near future.

Do you remember when you were tapped into the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars? For some of us that was some time ago, however I would like for us to think how proud we were to receive this honor of becoming an All Star. When you are asked to be a judge, speak at a 4-H club, do a workshop, help with project, etc. – be sure to let the All Star pride shine through your “service” in unit, district, and/or state events.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the Mid-Winter Conference in February.....I look forward to seeing you there.

Steve Wood, Big Chief

...and a word from our Past Big Chief

Where have the last two years gone? It has been my pleasure to have served as your Big Chief for the last two years. I have learned a lot and enjoyed meeting a lot of you for the first time and renewing friendships from the past. I do regret that I have not been able to fulfill some of my responsibilities during the last few months because of health issues. I was very sorry that I missed Interstate, which was the first one that I have missed since I starting attending them more than 20 years ago. I heard a lot of wonderful things about the conference. Many thanks go to Jean Powers and Sarah Gregory who headed the conference. Also many thanks to all those who helped in any way. A special thanks to Susan Thomas, who filled in for me at Interstate and during the Summer State Conference.

I am now on the mend, or at least I hope so. I hope to see many of you at Mid-Winters.

Please give your All Star Support to the new Big Chief, Steve Wood. I know Steve will do an excellent job. Also many thanks to Bob Meadows for all his support as he enters retirement, Bob I wish you the best!!!!

Elwanda Luttrell, Past Big Chief

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Don't forget that we're on the web:

View the Virginia 4-H All Star Group:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Virginia_4-H_AllStars

To Subscribe to the Group listserv:

Virginia_4-H_AllStars-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To Post a message to the group:

Virginia_4-H_AllStars@yahoogroups.com

For more information visit <http://www.ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/allstars.html>

December 2007 Edition

Smoke Signals from our Districts

<u>Northeast</u>
<p>The Northeast District 4-H All Stars were very busy this past year with plans for Interstate Congress 2007 and Summer Conference. With Virginia Beach as co-host, the conferences were a success. The conferences were fun and educational. Thanks to everyone for what they did for us. The Northeast District 4H All Star Fall Planning Meeting will be at the Henrico Extension Office on Thursday, December 6, 2007 at 6:30 pm. This is a dinner meeting. 4-H All Star nominations will be reviewed. All 22 counties are welcome.</p>
<p>Advisors: Kendra Kyle, Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development, Henrico Jocelyn Dailey, Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development, Goochland</p>



Southwest

Southwest District Teen Weekend was held September 8th & 9th at the SWD 4-H Center in Abingdon. The theme was “Extreme 4H”. 32 teens attended, including 7 International 4-H Youth Exchangees (IFYEs). Following Teen Weekend, the SWD All Stars met and elected officers (see below).

On October 14th, the All Stars participated in the Corn Maze fundraiser for the SWD 4-H Center. For volunteering, the All Stars will receive half of the profits from that day. On December 8th at 1pm, the SWD All Star will meet at the Smyth County Extension Office to review new nominations and finalize the date for our spring meeting. Southwest District Contest will be held on April 5, 2008. The All Stars will need volunteers to judge the public speaking competition as well as to sell concessions. Every year, the SWD All Stars provide the winner of the public speaking competition with a full scholarship to Congress and the runner-up with a half scholarship to Congress to compete in the State public speaking competition.

Next year’s Teen Weekend will be held August 22-24, 2008. Please contact Shai Cullop at scullop@radrord.edu for additional information or to volunteer.

Chief	Donna Hamm	Scribe	Michelle Cock
Lesser Chief	Shai Cullop	Historian	Tamika Reynolds
Treasurer	Rogene Nester	Extension Advisor	Daniel Collins

All Star District Chiefs and Contacts

<u>Central</u> <u>Big Chief:</u> Amy Daubenspeck Farrow amydfarrow@hotmail.com <u>District Contact:</u> Pam Levinson shlevinson@aol.com 434-385-7907	<u>Northern</u> <u>Big Chief:</u> Courtney Kimble crpemt@aol.com 540-727-0370	<u>Northeast</u> <u>Big Chief:</u> Sarah Gregory sngregory@vu.edu 804-275-5806
<u>Northwest</u> <u>Big Chief:</u> Rory Nansel nansel@shentel.net 540-459-2294 <u>District Contact</u> Carol Nansel cnansel@vt.edu	<u>Southeast</u> <u>District Contact</u> Josephine Carter 434-535-9133 <u>District Contact</u> Jean Powers jeanpowers@aol.com 757-421-3715	<u>Southwest</u> <u>Big Chief:</u> Donna Hamm dhamm@vt.edu 276-783-5175 <u>District Contact</u> Daniel Collins collindp@vt.edu

Feel free to contact any of these individuals to get updated on current district and unit All Star events.

Other All Star Contacts

Past Big Chief
Elwanda Luttrell
113 Kerns Circle
Stephens City, VA 22655
540-869-7198
elwand@shentel.net

All Star Advisor
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mjmartin@vt.edu

All Star Advisor
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aulee@vt.edu



Congress Cabinet Representative
Lauren Harzburg
wildabouthorsesh713@hotmail.com

Claims of Honor

Dottie Nelson receives Hall of Fame Award

Dottie Nelson, a 1974 Bland County All Star was recognized as the recipient of the 2007 Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars Hall of Fame Award at the 2007 Summer Conference in Williamsburg. Dottie has been active in all areas of All Star work. Offices held at the state level include Big Chief, Lesser Chief and Recording Scribe. She also served as Star Editor for eight years. Offices held in the Southwest District include Chief, Lesser Chief, Scribe and Reporter.

The IFYE program has been an important part of Dottie's life having served as Vice President and Secretary of the National IFYE Foundation plus two terms on the National Board. Many of you know of her active work for IFYE's in Virginia.

Dottie has also been active in the local, district and state leaders associations. At the local level, in addition to her All Star work, she has been an organizational leader, leader at the local fair and a judge in many contest.

Her world is not just 4-H and IFYE, but she finds time for her church, the Bland Festival of Leaves, Bland Volunteer Rescue Squad, Bloodmobile and other projects.

Jessica and Mac Ross were married on July 1, 2006. They both met when they were both on summer staff at NOVA 4-H Center. Jessica is a Stafford Co. '00 All-Star. They live in Richmond, where Mac is a Henrico Co. police officer and Jessica is a recreational therapist at an acute care psychiatric hospital.

Dallas River Dillon was born May 13, 2006 to Molly Ring Dillon (Russell) & Vester Dillon. His older brother Larry Slade Dillon and proud grandmother Brenda Taylor Grizzle (Russell 1968) along with Uncle Jason Ring (Russell) welcome the new family edition.

In Remembrance

Eleanor Kash Evans, 87, died Saturday, May 26, 2007. Born in Fredericksburg on August 2, 1919, . Mrs. Evans served on the Campbell County Board of Supervisors (1980-1987), and served as chairman in 1987. Eleanor is the only woman to have served on the Board of Supervisors. Eleanor was an outstanding Campbell County 4-H'er in the Clothing and Food Preservation projects. She was inducted into the 4-H All Stars in 1936 and in 1937 she attended the National 4-H Camp in Washington, D.C. The participants slept in tents on the Mall. She was an organizational leader for the Eastside 4-H Club, Sherwill 4-H Club and Campbell County Horse and Pony Club. In 1982 she was inducted into the Virginia 4-H All Star Hall of Fame. Eleanor was a member of the 4-H Leaders Association (East Central District Outstanding Leader - 1980) and the Home Demonstration Clubs. She and her husband, Hunter, hosted IFYEs from Denmark, Australia and Finland. Eleanor graduated from E. C. Glass High School and Madison College (James Madison University) with a B.S. in Home Economics and Physical Education. She was a retired teacher having taught at Concord High School and Rustburg High School. She is survived by three children, all 4-H All Stars, Douglas H. Evans Sr. (Campbell 1966) and his wife, Susan of Lynchburg, Layton E. Manus (Campbell 1966) and her husband, Thomas, of Mint Spring, and Thomas W. Evans (Campbell 1969) of Concord.

George Victor Groseclose, age 46, of Ceres, Bland County, died November 20 at his home after a courageous 20-year battle with brain cancer. He is survived by his wife Carla Morehead Groseclose (an All Star) and his daughter Amber Groseclose (an All Star and 2004 IFYE Ambassador to Austria and a 2007 IFYE Rep to Denmark). His brother and sister-in-law, Vincent and JoAnne Groseclose of Marion, are also All Stars, as well as sister-in-law Flora Morehead Harner. Funeral services were held Friday, Nov. 23, at Sharon Lutheran Church in Ceres. Memorial donations may be made to the Sharon Cemetery Association, 860 W. Bluegrass Trail, Ceres, VA 24318. Sympathy cards may be sent to Carla and Amber Groselose at 1770 Nebo Road, Ceres, VA 24318.

IFYE News

Virginia currently has two 4-H members representing us overseas in the International Four-H Youth Exchange Program. They are Amber Groseclose of Bland County, who is in Denmark for five months, and Emily West of Greene County, who is in Finland for a month with an extension tour to Estonia with a 4-H IFYE Ambassador group.

Amber Groseclose Newsletter



I then traveled to Nordjylland, or "Jutland", the northern region of Denmark, to my first host family. On a trip to the northern-most point in Denmark, a town called Skagen, we stopped at Raabjerg Mile, the largest, moving sand dune in Europe. It was spectacular; a miniature desert in the middle of an otherwise very wet climate. Once in Skagen, I was able to experience a very unique phenomenon -- the meeting of two seas. Skagerrak (a straight belonging to the North Sea) and Kattegat (a bay extending from the Baltic Sea) meet in a clash of waves and one very nasty undertow, with a very noticeable temperature difference between the two. While the water is cold on both sides, one's leg goes numb much faster in the Kattegat. Within my short stay here, I've already undertaken numerous adventures with this family, including adjusting to life in the presence of a seven month old baby and helping prepare for the regional 4-H animal fair, which is quite a huge

production, with roughly 170 animals being shown in conjunction with a weekend camp. I've also spent a lot of time helping out on the family farm. They own a menagerie of animals from cows and chickens to pigeons and Shetland ponies, to, well, pigs. There are currently 700 pigs on premises, with another 730 piglets due to join the happy family in the morning. Regulations and restrictions for a piggery are seemingly endless, but I have to admit, dressing up in the white smocks and boots is quite entertaining. Thus far, I've really enjoyed my exchange and look forward to the remaining four months here in Denmark. Hopefully they'll be as wonderful as the first.

Virginia 4-H families are currently hosting:

China-Ying Yang (Katrina) from Taiwan for six weeks, in Dickenson & Shenandoah Counties.

Lisa Muhlegger from Austria for six weeks, in Bland County and Richmond.

Astrid Weiser from Austria for six weeks, in Roanoke and Fauquier Counties.

Zefi Hatzoglau from Greece for six weeks, in Pulaski and Wythe Counties.

We are awaiting the arrival of Sawin Klaewkla from Thailand, who will be in Virginia for three months.

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Further information on hosting or traveling with the IFYE program can be obtained from State Coordinator, Dottie Nelson, P.O. Box 144, Bland, VA 24315; Work 800-752-0673, Home 276-688-4028, or email dottieifye@yahoo.com

2007 Tapping and Summer Conference Report

State 4-H Congress was held at Virginia Tech in June 2007 and the Virginia 4-H All Stars were actively involved. Thanks are in order for Ray Daubenspeck and Steve Wood who provided orientation and insight to those All Stars who attended the meetings scheduled on the Congress program. Irene Leech, Michelle Cock, and Mark Kipps directed preparations for the All Star Consecration Ceremony that was held on Wednesday, June 20th. Thanks go as well to all other All Star members and officers who were in attendance and assisted in various ways or stood in the circle. There were 70 new All Stars tapped in at the ceremony. Big Chief Elwanda Luttrell welcomed the newly tapped All Stars, presented them with certificates, and provided other information about the organization.

Led by William Thomas, a class was held at Congress to assist and inform senior 4-Hers about the All Stars organization and to introduce the All Star nomination process. There were other All Stars who assisted in preparing for and conducting the class: Susan Thomas, Audrey Lee, Michelle Cock, Donna Hamm, and Lauren Hartburg. The power point used for this class is available to agents upon request. (One copy of a disk with the power point has been given to the District Chief or a contact person from each district who was present for the 2007 Summer Conference Business Meeting.) Please contact William Thomas for additional copies.

Additional items from the Summer Conference Business Meeting which should be of interest to the general membership include the following:

- There was a discussion regarding the need to continue to promote, familiarize, and acquaint agents with All Stars and the resource we represent for them. Everyone was encouraged to offer his/ her services.
- At the August 5th business meeting Chapter Charter Seals were awarded to Bland, Carroll, Frederick, and Shenandoah counties.
- The Hall of Fame Award was presented to Dottie Nelson of Bland County
- Debra Nester encouraged everyone to sign up for the list serve by contacting Daniel Collins at collindp@vt.edu
- The All Stars request that a phone number and email address be added to the nomination form currently in use. Sometimes this information is needed in the course of the nomination process prior to tapping the inductees.
- Midwinter All Star Conference is planned for the Charlottesville area the first weekend in February. The theme is "Reconnecting with our American and All Star Heritage"
- Officers for the coming year were elected and installed. Carol Boyer conducted the installation and gave a charge to each officer. Officers elected can be found on the last page of the Virginia Star.

Virginia 4-H Foundation Update

The mission of the Virginia 4-H Foundation is to ensure strong and vital opportunities for positive development of Virginia's youth through the solicitation, receipt, and management of private donations given to support 4-H. THANK YOU to the Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars for your investment in the 4-H Foundation, and for your hard work in endowing the Wayne Keffer Scholarship fund. Another exciting program of the 4H Foundation is the mini-grant program. The Foundation recently called for mini-grant applications for 4-H clubs and units throughout the state. Over 60 applications were filed for grants to start and enhance 4-H programming throughout Virginia.

For more information about supporting 4-H contact Ben Grove, Assistant Director of Development, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, 216 Hutcheson Hall (0402), Blacksburg, VA, 24061. Ph: 540.231.7640. Email: begrove@vt.edu. Grove was a 4-H'er in Rockingham County, was tapped as an All Star in 1998 and graduated from Virginia Tech in 2001.

A Look Back While Looking Forward

Many of you will remember the celebrations when Virginia All Stars turned 50, 60, and 75. The 50th Anniversary was a major event on the Virginia Tech campus June 23 – 25, 1972. The anniversary commemorative program was 89 pages in length complete with a history of the organization and a membership list. The Theme was "Service Unlimited".

The 60th was June 25-27, 1982 at Virginia Tech with the theme "A Stance of Service Throughout the Years". Current Treasurer Irene Leech, then Irene Ellis, was the Big Chief.

The 75th celebration was held with over 200 All Stars at the banquet. The theme was "From Glowing Embers to Brilliant Starlight". Not many of the current membership were around when the organization reached its 25th year in 1947-48. But you can be present to celebrate 85 years of service.

Virginia was the host state for Interstate which kept the 85th from being held in the normal fashion at the Summer Conference. This will be the first ever, or at least the first for a long time, to be held at the Midwinter Conference. How did we get started as an organization?

"...Virginia 4-H folk caught the All Stars' vision and requested help in organizing its chapter. Accordingly, representatives from the West Virginia and Maryland chapters conducted the installation during the 4-H Short Course at Virginia Polytechnic Institute in August 1922. The charter group consisted of nine active 4-H club members with outstanding records from seven counties and three members of the state Extension Service staff." (This was taken from the West Virginia All Star history.)

This organization has a lot of history to reflect upon and we still have history to make. If you have items from the past that you think would be appropriate to share, please bring them for a display to be set up in the meeting room at the 2008 Midwinter Conference. If you would like to get involved in making history as we move toward 100 years as an organization, join us in Ruckersville!

Looking for Former Big Chiefs

The role of Big Chief has been important in the 85 years of Virginia 4-H All Stars. Keeping things going is a real challenge in a large organization. Virginia 4-H All Stars has over 8,000 total members and over 2,000 life members. The organization is indebted to those who have served as Big Chief

Former Big Chiefs will be honored at the February 2 & 3 Midwinter Conference. The Saturday evening banquet will focus on those who have provided leadership to the organization. Former Big Chiefs who are able to attend will be asked to speak for a moment on their 4-H and All Star experience. We will also honor the memory of those who have served, but are no longer with us. Sadly, we have lost more than our share at an early age.

The Midwinter Conference Committee is seeking to contact all who have served in that capacity. If you were a Big Chief and have not already been contacted, please contact William & Susan Thomas. (thomasvtcc64@verizon.net; 1012 Hendrick Street, Culpeper, VA 22701; 540-825-1873) If you were a Big Chief, please consider attend Midwinter's so you may speak and be recognized for your hard work as an All Star.

Midwinter Conference Workshop Description

At the Midwinter Conference **there will be two workshops** offered as an alternative to historic tours or shopping. These workshops will be presented by Kayla Eppard (Greene'07) and her mother Rita. The workshops are described below:

1:30 – 2:15 -- Creating Designer Candles by Tin Punching

The process for making these candles involves cutting the foil to size, placing the pattern or stencil on the foil, and then using toothpicks to punch holes through the foil. Craft foam placed under the foil will protect surfaces. The foil is then wrapped around the votive and finished off. The instructor will provide some tea light and glass votive holders along with the required supplies as part of the registration fee. Participants are encouraged to bring in holder(s), if they own particular one(s) for which they desire to make a decoration.

3:00 – 4:15 – Designing Arrangements with Fresh Greenery

The focus of the second workshop is creating arrangements with fresh greenery accented by fresh, cut, or silk flowers. **These arrangements will require a container or vase with oasis. Participants may supply their own container or purchase them from the instructor.** The container may be glass, plastic, or any kind of container the participant desires to bring. Participants will then add fresh cut flowers, silk flowers, or props, ribbon, etc. Participants can take their arrangement home or donate it to go to an area nursing home.

Supplies Needed:

1. **Container with oasis or **vase. Silks will also be available from the instructor.
2. Knife, scissors, or pruner, -for cutting flowers and greens(bringing these would be helpful as instructor has limited quantities of these items). Wire cutters, -for cutting silk flowers.
3. Fresh cut flowers and assorted greenery**
4. Floral Tape, Wire, Picks**, Oasis, and Ribbon**
5. Props (Twigs, sticks, pinecones, fruit, ornaments, etc.)
6. Silk flowers**(Bring your own favorite silk flowers)

** All items marked this way may be brought from home or purchased from instructor for a small fee. Many of these items can be found at your local Dollar Stores or anywhere crafting items are sold.



If you have any questions about either of these seminars please contact Rita Eppard.
Please don't hesitate to call with questions, ideas, or suggestions.

Day: 540-832-3611, 434-249-2730, Evenings: 434-985-2729

Creating these arrangements will be a lot of fun, and you will then be able to go home and make your own arrangements at almost any time of the year, right from your own yards.

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Editor's Note

As I continue to learn how this process works, I continue to learn more about people in our organization! Please continue to enjoy this publication because hopefully it will only continue to grow. As of right now this newsletter contains 16 pages and because I have to add 4 pages to make it work, I need more information from those of you out there and I know MANY of you have things to share. I mean come on, we're in 4-H where we do almost EVERYTHING in our communities! I hope this finds you well and I look forward to seeing you at Midwinter's!!

—**Daniel Collins** (Smyth '99), VA Star Editor

4-H All Star Interstate Conference

2007 4-H All Star Interstate Conference Report

Virginia 4-H All Stars conducted a very successful Interstate 4-H All Star Conference. The Embassy Suites-Williamsburg, Virginia housed the conference accommodations. There were approximately 70 people registered for the entirety of the conference. Sixty two of those who were registered for the conference were All Stars and other All Stars helped with the conference by providing supper on Thursday evening, lunch on Friday, and a barbecue on Friday evening. There were also members who assisted with various activities such as the barbecue, tours on Saturday, the silent and live auctions, and Saturday evening's banquet. Ninety one people were in attendance at the banquet held at Jamestown 4-H Educational Center. The conference saw participation from Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Mississippi, and Massachusetts.

On Thursday evening conference participants were given a bus tour of the Williamsburg area and a guided tour of Presidents' Park. Friday then provided the group a trip to Norfolk and Virginia Beach to visit the Battleship Wisconsin, the Naval Museum, the MacArthur Memorial, and the Virginia Aquarium. Saturday the group celebrated the 400th Anniversary of Jamestown with a guided tour of Jamestown Island and the new museum there in the morning, and by visiting the Jamestown Settlement and its Artifact Museum in the afternoon.

Committee meetings and the Interstate business meeting addressed the main issue that was voiced by the group, whether Interstate Conferences in the future should be held on an annual or biannual rotation. Maintaining participants' interest and enthusiasm and the accuracy of emails and addresses support the idea of an annual conference. However, on the other hand lodging and travel expenses, early opening of schools, involvement of many in local fairs and each state's own programs, the small number of people who assume leadership roles for planning and conducting Interstate Conferences, the cost to state chapters and those in leadership roles, the decrease in the number of states participating in the conference rotation from six to four raises the question as to whether participating states will be equal to the task of hosting such a conference every four years. ***Anyone who would like to voice their opinion and help the Virginia All Star Chapter determine its position on this issue are asked to email Susan Thomas, 2007 Corresponding Scribe, at thomasvtcc64@verizon.net.***

The 2008 and 2009 conferences will continue on the annual rotation with conferences scheduled for Maryland and West Virginia respectively. Voting on this matter is scheduled to take place at the 2008 conference. The 2008 Interstate Conference will be held in Garrett County, Maryland on July 31-August 2, 2008. The conference program anticipates maple syrup demonstrations, scenic steam train rides, Canal Place shopping, a Deep Creek Lake cruise, scenic chair lift rides, horse drawn carriage rides, glass blowing, Muddy Creek Falls, Corn Maze dairy production, Amish country, home cooking, and youth choir entertainment.

Virginia was awarded the plaque for the most new participants in which of the new participants were individuals who were tapped in previous years, and three were 2007 All Stars. Sarah Gregory and Jean Powers are to be congratulated and commended for an excellent job planning, organizing, coordinating, and directing this conference. They wish to thank the agents who supported them for their assistance and helpful attitudes. The raffle, live, and silent auctions raised \$1,726.50 for the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center. All Stars were delighted by Dr. Virgie Binford and the inspirational talk she presented at the Vesper and Memorial Service which concluded the Interstate Conference. There was \$111.52 collected for the IFYE Program following the service.

2007 4-H All Star Interstate Conference Thank You's

Sarah Gregory and Jean Powers, 2007 All Star Interstate Conference Co-Chairs, would like to thank Virginia All Stars for their support in hosting the Interstate Conference at Williamsburg on August 2-5, 2007. With a combined effort from support and administrative staff from Virginia Tech, Virginia State, and especially the Chesterfield and Virginia Beach Extension offices, our responsibilities were lightened. Agents and administrative staff from the Northeast and Southeast District eased the load also. Joel Bunn, 4-H Agent, York County assisted with obtaining the pavilion at New Quarter Park for our picnic supper. Thank you York County Parks and Recreation Department for making available the resources at your beautiful park for our conference. Thank you, Carol Nansel and Bob Meadows, for being there for us. We would also like to recognize Kendra Kyle, 4-H Agent, Henrico County. Kendra spent the entire day and evening at the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center setting up the live and silent auction and banquet facilities for our closing banquet. Proceeds from the live and silent auction along with the Jamestown 400th Anniversary Bear Raffle raised a total of \$1, 726.50 to be donated to the Jamestown 4-H Education Center for on-going building and improvement projects. We must acknowledge the following All Star and 4-H members and organizations: Susan Thomas for her exemplary leadership while filling in for Elwanda Luttrell; Virginia Beach 4-H Leaders Association; Don, Diane, Ryan and Shane Horsley-Virginia Beach and Richard, Angela, and Angel Prince-James City County, All Star Families; and the Southeast District 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association for hosting and providing some of the delicious meals during our tours. Thank you Dr. Vergie Binford, Inspirational Speaker, for bringing us your memorable message Sunday morning. Lastly we must recognize those All Star Conference Committee chairs and their respective members who donated their time and expertise. Thank you, Virginia All Stars, for your donations for the auction, raffles, door prizes, conference bags, hospitality room refreshments, banquet decorations, hostess and thank you gifts, monetary donations and generosity during the auction. Your combined efforts made the 2007 4-H All Star Interstate Conference a memorable experience.

Jean Powers and Sarah Gregory, 2007 Interstate Co-Chairs

Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars would like to extend a special thank you to David Messick of Blue Ridge Coach Lines Inc. for graciously getting us to and from all events during 4-H All Star Interstate Conference 2007 on his new bus named after his granddaughter, Gracie MacRae "You are beautiful."

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Schedule for Midwinter 2008

February 2 & 3

Charlottesville Airport Best Western, Ruckersville, VA

Saturday, February 2

11:30 - 1:30	Registration
11:45- 1:00	Lunch compliments of Greene County 4-H Clubs
1:00 -1:15	Welcome - Orientation to Weekend; win door prizes
1:30	Depart for Montpelier/Civil War Museum/antique shopping/Plow & Hearth Outlet or
1:30 - 2:45	Workshop at hotel (See Workshop Detail Page)
3:00 – 4:15	Workshop at hotel (See Workshop Detail Page)
4:15 – 4:30	Registration
4:30 – 6:00	Business meeting (Review of membership nominations; bylaw changes, invitation to 2008 Interstate in Maryland; reports)
7:15	Depart for Banquet at Blue Ridge Café, Ruckersville – Professional dress
7:30	Banquet (Presentation of Keffer Scholarship, Reflections from Past Big Chiefs; All Star Heritage; Reunion year recognition)

9:30 or at the conclusion of the banquet

- Service project — Write personal letters to your State Senator and State Delegate expressing the value of your involvement in 4-H under the direction of Virginia Cooperative Extension. Encourage continued support of Cooperative Extension.
- Cut out Stars to be put on All Star nominees doors at State 4-H Congress
- Bowling – Dutch treat

10:15 – 11:45	Board games and Fun activities
Midnight	Good night to all!

Sunday, February 3

9:00 - 9:15	Morning meditation
9:30 - 10:00	District meetings
10:00 - 11:30	Business meeting followed by IFYE presentation.
11:45	Depart for home. Have a safe trip.

DEADLINE
for the next
Virginia Star
is
March 15, 2008

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Join Friends from your Past – All Star Reunions

The normal attendance at Midwinter's ranges from All Stars tapped in June of the past year to those tapped many years ago and a lot of those in between.

The planning committee has set reunion years to encourage connecting with past 4-H friends, While each and every All Star is welcome to attend, we especially want the following:

- Five years - Tapped in 2003 Are you finishing college? Are you working in your first job? Do you remember those fun 4-H years? Attend Midwinter's and connect with 4-H friends.
- Fifteen years – Tapped in 1993 Are you settled into life. You are hard at work in your job and/or caring for a family. If you have children they may be approaching 4-H age either as a Cloverbud or junior member. Why not get back in touch with 4-H?
- Twenty- five years –Tapped in 1983 You have a full and active life, but why not take and break and remember those 4-H years. Are you serving as a 4-H leader?
- Forty years – Tapped in 1968 With grown children, thinking about retirement, and a trip to a Midwinter All Star Conference just might be fun.
- Fifty years – Tapped in 1958 Are you retired yet or at least slowing down? Do you have grandchildren of 4-H age yet? This is the time of life for reconnecting.

These thoughts may well have missed you entirely, but we wanted to try and get some thoughts going. Your 4-H years were evidently a big part of your life or you would never have become an All Star. The All Stars need your involvement and support to move forward and hope you would enjoy reconnecting.

Are you wondering if that friend from your 4-H days is still around? You've lost touch but would enjoy seeing some past All Star friends. William Thomas, Culpeper '76, maintains the data base and would be willing to search requests for addresses of friends. Only about one in four All Stars has a known correct mailing address, but any address will be a starting point. Contact William at thomasvtcc64@verizon.net

Do you know an All Star who no longer receives the Virginia Star? If they are life members they should be receiving it unless we do not have their correct address. To get on the list send William Thomas their current address and if they are not life members, paying dues will move them to the active list.

2007 Proposed Constitutional Change

Future Plans Committee Chairperson, Carol Nansel, reported at Midwinter Conference that the By Laws are updated and current. The committee proposes a constitutional change. Under Officers and Elections they wish to add: *may serve two*. In addition, they recommend adding one past Big Chief to the Future Plans Committee and the formation of a Conference Committee. The Conference Committee would be made up of District Chiefs, the Lesser Chief, and the past Big Chief. The purpose of this committee would be to plan both Summer and Midwinter Conferences. Such a committee is proposed with the hope that persons would be more likely to accept an office in the organization if they did not have the full responsibility of planning these conferences. In order for this change to pass, it must be voted for by 3/4 of those attending the Midwinter Conference Business Meeting.

"SERVICE"
is our
MOTTO



Reconnecting with Our Heritage - American and 4-H All Star
2008 Midwinter's Conference

Come join in the celebration at the 2008 Midwinter Conference, February 2 & 3.

Our Midwinter Conference will be held at the brand new, award winning Charlottesville Airport Best Western in Ruckersville. Americans have just celebrated the 400th Anniversary of the settlement of Jamestown. Virginia 4-H All Stars are now in their 85th year. Come celebrate our American heritage with a tour of Montpelier, the home of President James Madison, or tour the Civil War Museum in the Gordonsville Exchange Hotel. For crafters a third choice will be workshops at the hotel. See separate article for description of the workshops. Shoppers may choose to explore the many antique malls in the immediate area or the nearby Plow & Hearth Outlet and retail store.

Start the conference with a complimentary lunch served from 11:45 – 1:00 courtesy of several Greene County 4-H Clubs. Our very important business meeting to select 2008 All Stars will be held following the afternoon activities. The banquet will be at the nearby Blue Ridge Café. We will honor and hear from those who have served as a Big Chief of Virginia 4-H All Stars. During the banquet will be reunion years and All Stars by decades. Reunion years are 2003, 1993, 1983, 1968 and 1958.

You can Browse the displays at the hotel to learn about the history of the All Stars. We have a quantity of material but are looking for more. Would you happen to have material to share?

A special \$10 discount is being offered as an incentive to those who have never attended a Midwinter Conference. If you are a brand new All Star or a '58 All Star coming to celebrate your 40th year or somewhere in between, take the discount and check out your first Midwinter Conference. Take advantage of this one time opportunity to reconnect or stay connected. This discount is not available to those registering for only the banquet.

Conference Headquarters- Best Western Charlottesville Airport Inn & Suites
5920 Seminole Trail, Ruckersville, VA, 2968 Phone: 434-985-1855

The Best Western offers double rooms with queen beds for \$79.00 The total with tax is \$84.53. All rooms have a microwave and mini fridge. The hotel offers a complimentary continental breakfast. The hotel opened in the fall of 2006 and has already received several awards.

The hotel is about 10 miles north of Charlottesville on Rt. 29 and 3 miles south of Ruckersville. **Reservations must be made by January 18th to get the conference rate.** In order to make a reservation, please call the hotel directly and let them know you are making a reservation for the **4-H All Star Midwinter Conference.**

Make plans now and we hope to see you at this exciting All Star event!!!

Dress – Casual Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning;
Banquet – Business professional

Reconnecting with Our Heritage - American and 4-H All Star
Celebrating 400 Years of American History and 85 Years of All Star History
Virginia 4-H All Star Midwinter Conference Registration
Ruckersville, Virginia February 2 & 3, 2008

Name _____ Male / Female

Address _____
NUMBER AND STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Telephone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

E-mail _____ Unit _____ Year Tapped _____

Guest(s) ____) _____ M / F _____ M / F

		Number of Persons		Total
Conference:				
Full Conference	*Includes workshops or tours and banquet.	\$52	x _____ =	\$ _____
Select One: Montpelier _____	Civil War Museum _____ Workshops _____			
Conference without tours or workshop		\$42	x _____ =	\$ _____
Banquet only	(not eligible for first time discount)	\$32	x _____ =	\$ _____
Lunch Saturday	(Courtesy Greene Co. 4 -H Clubs) No charge (Number) _____			

		SUB TOTAL:		\$ _____
Early Bird (Postmarked my January 17)		minus \$5	=	\$ _____
First time attending a Midwinter Conference		minus \$10	=	\$ _____
(Regardless of year tapped- not available on Banquet only-Members only)				

Dues:	Annual	\$10	+	\$ _____
If applicable	Lifetime	\$50	+	\$ _____

Contributions:				
New Star Fund	(This helps support new member recognition and participation)		+	\$ _____
Wayne M. Keffer Endowment Fund	(This helps provide scholarships.)		+	\$ _____
Memorial Fund – In memory of _____			+	\$ _____
		TOTAL:		\$ _____

- **Inactive members** may become active by paying two years annual dues (\$10 per year) or life membership (\$50)
- **Conferences guests**, other than spouses, parents and / or children, must be approved by the Big Chief and / or 4-H Department Liaison. Guest(s) WILL NOT receive discounted rates.
- **No alcoholic beverages** are permitted at All Star functions.
- **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
Registration questions: Phone 540-268-5373 – Home; 540 268-1018 – Fax; Email: leech@vt.edu;
Conference questions: Phone 540-825-1873; Email: thomasvtcc64@verizon.net