

The Virginia Star

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

Smoke Signals from the Big Chief

I want to thank you for re-electing me your State Big Chief at the Virginia 4-H All Star Summer Conference at Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center this past July.

I would however like to see more of our All Stars attending our conferences and All Star opportunities. Virginia had a great delegation to attend the 2008 4-H All Star Interstate Conference which was hosted by Maryland. We were awarded the Mary Cunningham Memorial Interstate All Stars Travel Recognition Award. Everyone who went had a great time! The 2009 Interstate Conference will be hosted by West Virginia in Huntington. The theme will be “Over the Rainbow in West Virginia.” The dates are July 30 - August 2, 2009

Our Executive Committee met in October and reviewed last year’s activities – as well as prepared for our 2009 happenings. We welcome any input and suggestions from you on how The Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars can better serve the 4-H community and our fellow All Stars.

Whenever called upon to serve as a judge, speak to a 4-H Club, do a workshop, etc. be sure let the All Stars shine through your “service.”

Be sure to mark your calendar for our annual Mid Winter Conference in February.

Yours in Service,
Steve Wood, Big Chief

Address corrections and name changes for the Star should be sent to William and Susan Thomas at 1012 Hendrick Street, Culpeper, VA 22701. E-mail changes to wetsbt@gmail.com.

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:

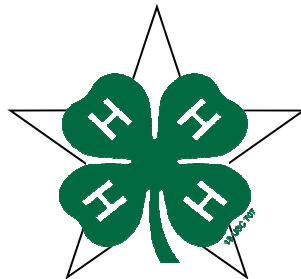
Virginia_4-H_AllStars@yahoogroups.com

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

December 2008 Edition

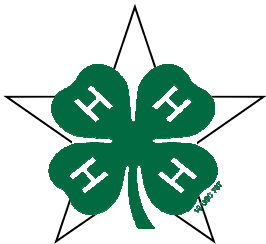
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**“SERVICE”
is our
MOTTO**



Smoke Signals from our Districts

Northern
Northern District 4-H All Stars hosted a picnic on August 24 th to honor their new All Stars. Forty one All Stars and guests attended the event at Graves Mountain Lodge, located in Madison County. Three 2008 All Stars and six 2005 – 2007 All Stars were recognized and presented a specially designed Northern District 4-H All Star t-shirt. Those attending represented nine different counties with a good turnout from the 1940’s and 1950’s. Donations from a dozen All Stars to the Silent Auction raised \$163. The event was supported by \$349 in donations. This was to cover the meals of the 2007 and 2008 All Stars and shirts for the 2005 – 2008 All Stars plus provide support for future District activities. Special thanks to District Chief William Thomas, Culpeper, for coordinating the event and to Judy Ann Fray for her work with the Silent Auction. Supporters of the event included Jimmy and Rachel Graves of Madison, Kim Jebson of Culpeper, Edythe West of Caroline, Ann Marlow of Fairfax, Virginia McGhee of Madison, and Phyllis Inskeep and Mason Hutcheson of Culpeper.
Northwest
The Northwest District All Stars held their combined fall conference in partnership with the NW 4-H Leaders Association on Saturday, October 18 th , at the Shenandoah County Government Center in Woodstock. Classes were conducted for Fair Judging in both canned goods and needlepoint, and also in Marketing 4-H and raising goats. Lunch was served and our speaker was interim Extension District Director, Cyndi Marston. Both silent and live auctions were conducted for fundraising, with Leader and All Star meetings following. Many thanks to all who helped make this event a success, and also to those who came to learn and share! At the District meeting, we voted to offer scholarships to any Northwest District All Star who requests to go toward registration for All Star Midwinter Conference in Winchester on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1. One hundred dollars has been set aside, which will be split evenly between all who contact any of the NW officers. Those interested in scholarships can contact Rory Nansel at nansel@shentel.net , Kevin Cabbage at kcabbage@vt.edu , Elwanda Luttrell at elwand@shentel.net , or Carol Boyer at 540/933-6299 no later than January 15th. Our next district meeting will be held at Midwinters. Please come! Respectfully submitted, Rory L.. Nansel, NW District Chief
Northeast
The Northeast District All Stars have been very busy helping our local, district, state, national, and international meetings, activities, and events. On December 3, 2008 we will have our Annual Dinner Meeting and review our new 2009 All Star nominations. Open House at Jamestown 4-H Educational Center will be on March 29, 2009. Northeast District All Stars are a strong supporter of the 4-H Center. On that day we will be responsible for the registration from 2-5 pm. The Northeast District All Stars will also have their scheduled meeting at 5:15 pm. All new All Star nominees are welcome to attend. Submitted by Sarah J. Gregory
Southwest
The Southwest District 4-H All Stars met Saturday, August 9th, 2008 at the SWVA 4-H Ctr. in Abingdon, VA. Donna Hamm welcomed us and called the meeting to order. Shai provided a brief report on the events of Teen Weekend, which had just concluded. The teen camp had a performing arts theme, which included a photography workshop and lots of singing. The teens had two days to plan and execute an original skit. Our district will be hosting summer conference July 17-19, 2009. We are looking for a theme, tour sites, and workshops. Midwinter's Conference (1st weekend in February) will be in Winchester. The tapping ceremony at summer conference was also discussed. A treasurer's report was given by Deb Nester on behalf of Rogene Nester. We have received donations from Bev Lineweaver and Connie Bryant. Congress scholarships were awarded to the winner and runner-up for the District Public Speaking competition. The All Stars provide a full scholarship for first-place and a half scholarship for second-place to compete in the State Public Speaking competition at 4-H Congress. In order to improve our active membership within the district, a newsletter was suggested. Donna Hamm offered to facilitate the first issue. Michelle Cock shall provide Donna with the last 5 years of addresses. Dottie suggested including the list of possible committees/ways to serve. Daniel volunteered to create a template. He has requested that people send info to him by Nov. 19th. New Officers were elected as follows: Chief-Shai Cullop Lesser Chief-Sam Fisher Scribe-Curtis Crawford Treasurer-Rogene Nester Historian-Tamika Reynolds Advisor-Daniel Collins. Our next meeting will be in December to review Nomination Forms.



All Star District Chiefs and Contacts

Central	Northern	Northeast
<div>Big Chief: Amy Daubenspeck <small>adaubenspeck@chesterfieldfamilypractice.com</small> 804-276-2150 (W) District Contact: Pam Levinson <small>shlevinson@aol.com</small> 434-385-7907</div>	<div>Big Chief: William Thomas 1012 Hendrick Street Culpeper, VA 22701 <small>thomasvtcc64@verizon.net</small> 540-825-1873</div>	<div>Big Chief: Sarah Gregory 9111 Omaha St. Richmond, VA 23237 <small>sngregory@vuu.edu</small> 804-275-5806</div>
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Feel free to contact any of these individuals to get updated on current district and unit All Star events.

Other All Star Contacts

All Star Advisor	All Star Advisor	All Star Advisor
William Thomas (2009) 1012 Hendrick Street Culpeper, VA 22701 <small>thomasvtcc64@verizon.net</small> 540-825-1873	Barbara Board (2010) 2810 N. Parham Rd. Suite 300 Richmond, VA 23294 <small>board@vt.edu</small> 804-527-4246	Bob Meadows (2011) 701 Givens Lane Blacksburg, VA 24060 <small>clovergram@verizon.net</small> (540) 951-1028
Leadership Council Representative	Past Big Chief	Congress Cabinet Representative
Audrey Lee 1698 Parker Rd. Bedford, VA 24523 <small>aulee@vt.edu</small> 540-586-3160	Elwanda Luttrell 113 Kerns Circle Stephens City, VA 22655 <small>elwand@shentel.net</small> 540-869-7198	Lauren Hartburg 8400 White Diamond Ln. Scottsville, VA 24590 <small>wildabouthorses713@hotmail.com</small> 434-286-3237(H) / 434-996-3052(C)

The Virginia Star

Dear All Stars,

Fall is the time to nominate eligible 4-H members to be tapped as Virginia 4-H All Stars during the 2009 State 4-H Congress. The following forms and supporting information can be found on the All Star website: <http://www.ext.vt.edu/resources/4h/allstars.html>

As you are working with the All Star nomination form, please make note of any suggestions for improvement. Every year we hear complaints that parts of the form are not relevant to our current 4-H'ers. We need to know what things need to be added and/or deleted in order to make the form more useful and inclusive. PLEASE SEND YOUR SUGGESTIONS TO CAROL NANSEL AT cnansel@vt.edu.

All Star nomination process flowchart

Basically, unit agent sends forms to eligible members, meets with local All Stars to review the nominations and sends the completed nominations to the district office by December 1.

All Star nomination form

There is no limit to the number of youth nominees that a unit can submit.

Nominees should:

1. Have completed at least 3 years of work as a 4-H member.
2. Be at least 15 years of age as of January 1 of the current year.
3. Be an active 4-H member and no more than 19 years of age as of January 1 of the current year or, have been an active 4-H member and no more than 19 years of age as of January 1 of the preceding year (Four-H'ers have an additional year of eligibility beyond the age for participating in other 4-H recognition opportunities.)

Honorary All Star nomination form

Each Extension unit may nominate three (3) adult volunteer leaders for consideration as honorary members. Nominees must have rendered outstanding service to the 4-H program over a period of not less than seven (7) years.

Nomination Summary Sheet

Use to list the nominees from the unit.

Awards and Recognition information

This is a good time to let current All Stars know about the \$600 Wayne Keffer Memorial Scholarship - form due on January 1 - for any All Star who is a college student or a graduate student.

See the website for more information on All Star Chapter Charters, Bradshaw Service Award and the All Star Hall of Fame Award. Also note that the C. Dean Allen Award for Excellence recognizes an agent who has excelled in All Star and/or international programming. Please take time to nominate an Extension Agent for this award. Form is due January 1. There is a cash award and a nice plaque.

All Star Brochure

This is nice if you need a brochure.

Change of Address form

This form can be done on-line to update any All Star address.

If you have any particular questions, please let me know and I'll either answer them, or find the answer for you.

Carol Nansel
4-H All Star Liaison
cnansel@vt.edu

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2008 VIRGINIA 4-H CONGRESS





Summer Conference

The Virginia Star

The annual Summer Conference was held July 19-20, 2008 at the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center in Appomattox, VA. Highlights of the weekend included a tour of the Appomattox Court House Historical Park, a few classes who had great presenters, including GPS, Health and Wellness and Jewelry Making. Some of the activities included a Nature Hike, Service Project to repair the Vespers Area, table games, field/pool party, karaoke and swimming.

The weekend started off with a welcome lunch provided by Ms. Janet Coffey, Mrs. Pam Levinson and 4-H All Star's from Central District. Everyone enjoyed all the activities and tours. There were two presenters, Mr. Buddy Conner and Mr. Wayne Phelps who attended the Saturday evening banquet from the Appomattox Historical Society and gave a power point presentation about the history behind the Appomattox Court House Historical Park.



Thank you to all for their participation, encouragement, kindness and dedication. Many thanks go to Mr. Mike Clifford, Ms. Tamara Arrington, Mrs. Susan Prillaman, Mrs. Audrey Lee, Mrs. Pam Levinson, Ms. Janet Coffey and Mr. Buddy Conner and Mr. Wayne Phelps from the Appomattox Historical Society. Special thanks to Ms. Marty Martin, her son, and Mr. William Thomas for a great job they did repairing the Vespers area. Thank you Mrs. Irene Ellis and Mrs. Audrey Lee for coordinating meals with the Holiday Lake food service. Thanks again Audrey for providing breakfast on Sunday morning. The Make Your Own Omelet breakfast was a wonderful idea and greatly enjoyed by all who participated. Thanks Irene and Randy Leech for your help at the Virginia 4-H All Star Summer Conference. Thanks to the Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center for the service given during our Virginia 4-H All Star Summer Conference. Thanks to the districts for the responsibilities that they carried out:

Northwest and Southeast – Vespers and Memorial Service

* Jamie Christiansen for providing music for the field/pool party

Northeast – Conference planning along with Central District

* Chesterfield and Henrico agents for providing gift bags and door prizes

Southeast – for recruiting Deb Nester for the Memorials and Elwanda Luttrell for Vespers

Southwest – Connie Bryant/Donna Hamm – registration table, gift bags and door prizes

Northern – Susan Thomas for table decorations and favors

Central – for Hospitality



I enjoyed the fellowship, playing table games, singing karaoke, making jewelry and taking pictures of all my 4-H All Star family.

Shawnda Gregory, Lesser Chief

Pictured is Irene Leech accepting her Hall of Fame Award with her husband Randy (far right), Steve Wood (3rd to Right) and William Thomas who presented the award. Congratulations Irene!!

The Virginia Star

Looking into the past...



Interstate Conference



Maryland 4-H All Stars hosted the 2008 4-H All Star Interstate Conference July 31 - August 2. Conference location was the Wisp Resort in McHenry, MD. After registering and settling in on Thursday afternoon, the group loaded the busses for dinner. A pleasant surprise for those who had attended last year's conference in Williamsburg, VA came when we discovered that the Maryland All Stars had hired Blue Ridge Coach Line from Culpeper, VA to again provide conference transportation. Everyone was pleased to see Dave again and because of large participation numbers, we had a second Dave to drive us around!

Thursday's Amish style dinner was served at the Pleasant Valley Community Center followed by a presentation on maple syrup production. Friday morning, the group toured the Canal Place Museum and learned about the use of canal boats for early transportation in western Maryland. Then everyone boarded the train for a beautiful trip up the mountain. Some of the Virginia delegation had a particularly exciting tunnel experience during this journey. After departing the train, the group visited a reproduction 1830's village with shopping opportunities. This village is at the location of "The Little Crossings" used by George Washington and General Edward Braddock on their way to Fort Duquesne in Pittsburgh in 1755. The afternoon was complete with a visit to a dairy farm and corn maze. Dinner was served at the Garrett County Fairgrounds. Saturday began with a visit to the small town of Oakland with the chance to visit museums and shop at the annual sidewalk sale or the farmers market. A sudden downpour dampened the experience somewhat but it was great fun. Then it was back on the bus to travel to the Western Maryland 4-H Camp for lunch. A slight hitch was encountered when the bus drivers realized that the heavy rain had weighed down the tree branches along the narrow driveway to the 4-H camp and that they could not drive under them. The camp caretaker rode on the back of a pickup in front of the busses cutting tree limbs along the way. It seemed like we were on safari in the deep jungle. It was especially thrilling when one of the busses stopped for a long time on a low water bridge with the water rushing underneath. The extra time getting into the 4-H camp delayed the planned conference schedule. Using All Star flexibility, it was decided to skip a couple of the afternoon stops. Everyone agreed that after the previous bus trip, we probably didn't need to see the Forest Canopy Walkway. It was straight to the Wisp Resort Scenic Chair Lift. While enjoying the view from the chair lift up the mountain, participants could also witness the Extreme Sports Bike competition. Another rain storm caught several people at the top of the mountain causing some of the Virginia delegation to decide to walk down instead of waiting for an empty spot on the lift. After a quick stop in our rooms to change into dry clothes, it was back on the bus to the Fairgrounds for the final dinner and program. During the business meeting, the Big Chiefs of each state had to cast votes whether to continue annual conferences or change to every two years. By a three to two vote, it was decided to continue Annual Interstate Conferences. This means Virginia will host again in 2011.

Virginia received the Mary Cunningham Travel Plaque with a total of 3,489 miles. Maryland received the award for most First Time attendees but each First Time attendee received a small gift. Dick Angus of Maryland invited Virginia All Stars Sarah Gregory and Elwanda Luttrell into his Lodge of 1000. This is apparently a West Virginia and Maryland ritual that honors All Stars for outstanding service. West Virginia All Stars extended an invitation to the 2009 conference to be held in Huntington July 30 - August 2. Silent and live auctions raised \$1,929 for the Maryland 4-H Foundation. The conference ended Sunday morning with Vespers service which included commemoration of the deceased from all the states.

Attending the conference from Virginia were the following All Stars and family members: Big Chief Steve Wood, Sarah and Shawnda Gregory, Jean Powers, Michelle Cock, Elwanda and Earl Luttrell, Nadine and Matthew Bialowas, Pat Chawkat, Jim and Jamie Christianson, Geraldine Cubbage, Delmon, Ruth Snapp, Rogene and Deb Nester. One day participants included Nancy Pence, Margaret Douglas, Sherry and Kara Jenkins.

Claims of Honor

Karen Thomas Sheehan (Culpeper, 1994) gave birth to Allison Blake Sheehan on July 23, 2008. Karen, her husband Drew, and first daughter, Anna Claire reside in Fairfax, Virginia. Evan Thomas (Culpeper, 1990) welcomed his first child, a son, Wesley Owen Thomas on September 23, 2008. Evan and his wife Theresa live in Arlington, Virginia. William Thomas (Culpeper, 1976) and Susan Blake Thomas (Albemarle, 1963) are the proud grandparents.

Paige Burns Merriam (Newport News, 1983) welcomed a baby boy on March 19, 2008. His name is Michael Patrick. Michael and big brother Sean (3 1/2 years) are already being indoctrinated into 4-H...both were in attendance at the State 4-H Horse Show last weekend where I've been going back to volunteer every year since 1988. :) Sean got to help give out ribbons this year, and even Chris (my husband) gets into the act (he scoops a mean ice cream cone...and scooped so many he got blisters!). :)

Thanks to all my All Star friends for the support, cards and letters that I received during my time of loss. It was most difficult to lose my mother, dad and brother all within weeks of each other. Your encouragement has meant so much to me and gives me the courage to go on. Thanks!
Dottie Nelson
Bland '74

Spheres, a magazine of the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences recognized our Co-Treasurer in their Fall 2008 issue. The following was in an article highlighting the accomplishments and activities of the staff. "Irene Leech, associate professor of apparel, housing and resource management was invited to serve on the Governor's Energy Policy Advisory Council. She also serves as President of the Virginia Citizens Consumer Council."

In Remembrance

Mary H. Brumback (Frederick '98) passed away on May 22, 2008. She became involved with the 4-H program as a student in the Frederick County Schools. She later served as an activities leader for the Mt. Airy 4-H Club and as Vice-President of the Frederick County 4-H All Star/Honor Club until her death. She is survived by her husband James, daughter Sherry Jenkins (Frederick '78), and granddaughter Kara R. Jenkins (Frederick'05) .

Gloria J. Robinson, who served as Past President for the Petersburg 4-H Adult Volunteer Leaders Association, passed away on Tuesday, April 1, 2008. Gloria served in many volunteer capacities for over 20 years to include Past President for the Southeast District 4-H Leaders Association, the State 4-H Leaders Association and different leadership roles on the local, district, state and national levels. Gloria was truly committed to her duties and responsibilities as she traveled the commonwealth and other states for training and conferences to ensure her mission as a 4-H volunteer. Gloria was tapped as a Virginia All Star in 1993. For this and other reasons, Gloria J. Robinson will truly be missed by the Petersburg 4-H community, the Southeast District and across the commonwealth of Virginia.

2008 SUMMER CONFERENCE — THANKS!!!

Although it would have been nice to have had a greater number participating, those of us who were in attendance at the recent Summer Conference enjoyed the weekend. This was the result of the work and planning of those who accepted the responsibility of their offices and joined hands to share in the jobs that needed to be done. These jobs made the difference! Instead of a bland boring conference, we experienced an enjoyable, informative one.

First, Shawnda Gregory, assisted by Sarah and Selicia, your fellow All Stars thank you for the overall leadership. This included making the arrangements for the facilities and the meal, advertising the conference, providing a schedule and programs, securing speakers for classes and appropriately thanking them with gifts of appreciation, bringing along karaoke equipment and lining up board games and CD's, as well as many other things others may not even have taken into account. They wish to thank the Chesterfield and Henrico Extension offices for their support and the donation of gifts for the workshop leaders and banquet speakers. The All Stars appreciate these contributions also. In regard to any conference, we owe a debt of gratitude to Randy and Irene Leech who give advice on planning the budget for the conference and designing the registration forms, and then dealing with all of those registration forms and money. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Next, we thank those of you from Central District who traded off the hosting responsibilities to Northeast and took on the task of hospitality. Audrey Lee, Pam Levinson, and Janet Coffey, the All Stars thank you. Without your efforts some of us probably would have skipped lunch, been hungry and grumpy in the afternoon and late at night. Even though I was not on hand for breakfast Sunday morning, it appeared that those who had breakfast, enjoyed omelets! We appreciate the fact that Irene Ellis, also from Central, planned the menu and made arrangements for the meal with Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center. Thank you one and all for everything you did to make our visit to your Educational Center a pleasant one.

Any conference is a bit more exciting with decorations, nametags, and door prizes. Thanks go to Northern District for the decorations and gift bags found on the banquet tables. Susan and William Thomas and Edyth West provided these items. Southwest took responsibility for door prizes and nametags for registration. Donna Hamm, we thank you for providing the leadership for Southwest and getting these jobs done.

Northwest was advised that the Educational Center had some jobs that would constitute a service project for us. Thanks go to William Thomas, Randy Leech, and Marty Martin, along with her son, Carson, for making this project a reality. The vesper area was raked out and the campfire woodpile was both replenished and restacked. Sarah Gregory and Audrey Lee also cleaned a room in the bunkhouse that served as the hospitality suite. Thank you one and all for supporting 4-H with the service projects.

The All Stars thank Tamara Arrington who is on the staff at Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center for the hospitality of the facility and for providing for our every need during the stay. It goes without saying that without facilities we cannot have conferences. It was great to have such a helpful staff member at the facility. Conference participants had the option of taking informative classes on Saturday afternoon. The All Stars express appreciation to Mike Clifford for his GPS instruction; to Susan Prillaman for the latest in health and wellness; and to Ann Vargo for enabling her workshop participants to make jewelry. Thanks for sharing your expertise. The classes made our conference a richer experience for those participating. Likewise, Wayne Phelps and Buddy Conner increased our awareness of Appomattox history by speaking about Clover Hill Village and the Appomattox County Historical Museum at the banquet. Thank you for sharing your time and knowledge with us. Of course, there had to be some fun in the picture too. Jamie Christensen, the All Stars thank you for the music you provided and for all you did to keep the field party going!

Last, but not least thanks go to our Big Chief, Steve Wood, and two past Big Chiefs Elwanda Luttrell and Deb Nester for their leadership. Steve presided over the banquet and business meeting. Elwanda helped Southeast District out by providing our morning meditation since no one from there could attend. Deb Nester conducted our Memorial Service for those whom the organization lost to death since the summer of 2007. Jean Powers from Southeast, we thank you for making the arrangements to see that these activities were covered. Elwanda Luttrell also deserves our thanks for conducting an interesting and creative officer installation. Once more we are reminded that the service of each and every All Star is important to the organization. It is also great to have the support of others from our communities and within the Extension family. The All Stars extend sincere thanks to those mentioned above and to any others who made contributions that I may have overlooked. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Good things happen when we all work together.

Susan B. Thomas
Corresponding Scribe

IFYE



Pictured at the World IFYE Conference are: front row - Dottie Nelson, Mary-Ball Massy, Vivian Miller, Mildred Crawford Weidemann, Anita Embree; back row - Barbara Spangler, Deb Nester, Bob Miller, Al Weidemann, Eff Embree.

The 9th IFYE World Conference was held October 4-11, 2008 in Adelaide, South Australia. Over 450 people from 22 different countries met together at the conference. The delegates were alumni of the International Four-H Youth Exchange and similar programs along with family members and supporters of the exchange programs. One hundred and forty of the participants were from the USA and ten either currently live or were from Virginia when they participated in their own exchange. Most of the participants from Virginia are Virginia 4-H All Stars.

The conference theme was “Many Cultures, One Country, One World” which refers to the broad multicultural diversity in Australia. It reflects the many cultures of the world and the continuing need for peace and understanding for one united world community. Highlights of the conference included a multi-faith church service parade of nations, multi-cultural dinners, and a one-day visit with host families. Delegates visited Cleland Wildlife Park, Mt. Lofty Summit and other local points of interest. Optional tours included a river cruise down the Murray River, a visit to Granite Island to see the “little penguins,” or a winery tour. Workshops covered a range of topics from crafts with the County Women’s Association, the Royal

Doctor Flying Service, and Aussie rules football. Thailand issued an invitation to the 10th IFYE World Conference to be held in 2013. The 2009 National Conference for the IFYE Association of the USA will be held in Indiana. For more information about the IFYE Program, please contact Dottie Nelson, PO Box 144, Bland, VA 24315 or by e-mailing her at dottieifye@yahoo.com

Have you ever dreamed of travel and adventure? You can discover the world by participating in the International Four-H Youth Exchange programs. One of the following opportunities may be just what you need to broaden your horizons.

IFYE Representative – Participants between the ages of 19-30 years of age can experience life in another country first-hand through living with host families for three to six months. This is not the typical tourist’s 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 (4-6 weeks) with individualized schedules. 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. Approximately 35 countries have indicated their willingness to participate with U.S. delegates in 2009.

IFYE Ambassador Groups – Australia (ages 16-19), Finland (ages 15-19) and Costa Rica (ages 15-19) will be hosting groups of 4-H’ers from mid-June to mid-July of 2009. These groups will be accompanied by chaperones. In Australia, the group will visit Sydney and Melbourne and stay with host families in the state of Victoria. In Finland, the group will be hosted by the Finnish 4-H Federation. After orientation in Helsinki, the participants will stay with host families for 3 ½ weeks and then enjoy a group trip to Tallin, Estonia, before returning home. In Costa Rica, the Fundacion Nacional de Clubes 4S will play host, and participants will stay with host families, attend a 4S camp, and take a trip to the rain forest.

Japan Outbound – Youth between the ages of 12-19 will spend a month with a Japanese host family, with orientations in Seattle and Tokyo. A pre-program of four weeks is also an option, where students will stay with a family in the Tokyo area and attend classes in Japanese language and culture and attend a 4-day camp.

Hosting – Unable to travel at this time, or past the age range of the opportunities above? You can still participate by letting the world come to you. Host families are needed for periods of 2- to 4-weeks in summer and for the school year. Host families will receive advance information on the delegates and an orientation. This is a great chance for your family to experience a different language, a new culture, and a new way of looking at things both at home and overseas. Both urban and rural families are needed. Why not welcome an international visitor into your home?

The deadline to apply as an outbound delegate is February 1, but apply sooner to make certain that your first choice doesn’t fill up. Host family applications are due by April 1. For further information and application forms, contact your local Cooperative Extension Office or State Coordinator Dottie Nelson, P.O. Box 144, Bland, VA 24315, work (800) 752-0673 Ext 245., email dottieifye@yahoo.com.



***DEADLINE for the next
Virginia Star is...***

March 17, 2009

The Virginia Star



“SERVICE” is our MOTTO



“Stars in the Valley”

2009 Mid-Winter’s Conference

Come have fun in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia!!!

- >Join a tour of the new Shenandoah Valley Museum<
- >On your own you can explore many attractions including:<
 - The Confederate Cemetery — Mount Hebron Cemetery
 - Antique Shops
 - Thrift Shops
- >Enjoy shopping at the Apple Blossom Mall<
- >Take a course at the hotel — Edible Arrangements<

***We hope you will take time to come out and join us in Winchester for our annual
4-H All Stars Mid-Winter’s Conference.***

Lodging information at the Lee-Jackson Best Western

You must make your own reservation at the hotel by calling **540-662-4154**. The reservation is listed under the Virginia 4-H All Stars. Room rates are: Single: \$58.00, 2-\$63.00, and 3-\$68.00. All plus tax.

***Lee Jackson Best Western
711 Millwood Ave.
Winchester, VA 22601***

Directions to the Lee-Jackson Best Western

From I-81(North): Take exit 313 and bear right on the exit ramp, at the 2nd light turn immediately left and immediately right into the Hotel parking lot.

From Route 17: turn on to Route 50 and follow into Winchester, once at the 81 overpass, follow directions above.

From Route 522 (North): Turn left at the intersection of Route 50 and Route 522 (traffic light). At the 2nd traffic light after the Rt 50 and 522 intersection, follow as above.



The Virginia Star

Mid-Winter’s Conference Schedule

Friday, January 30, 2009

8:00 - 10:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting

Saturday, January 31, 2009

12:00 – 1:00 PM Registration and Lunch (On Your Own)

1:00 – 4:00 PM Tour leaves for Shenandoah Valley Museum
(if 10 or more, the cost is \$6.00, to be paid at the museum)
Shopping on your own
Edible Arrangements Course at the Hotel

4:30 – 5:30 PM Business Meeting

6:00 – 8:00 PM Dinner (Business) and Entertainment
(Entertainment will be provided by Share the Fun Acts)

8:00 – 10:00 PM Service Projects
Dancing and Games:
Bring your CD’s, cards and games.

Sunday, February 1, 2009

8:00 – 9:00 AM Breakfast Buffet

9:00 – 9:30 AM Vespers and Memorial Service

9:45 – 10:30 AM District Meetings

10:30 – 12:00 PM Business Meeting - IFYE



Have a Safe Trip Home!!!

Quick Note...

The service project for the 2009 Mid-Winters Conference will be collecting school supplies and sewing or purchasing tote bags. The following items have been suggested for the collection: No. 2 pencils, wide-ruled notebook paper, crayons, colored pencils, rulers, pocket folders with brads, black & white composition books, erasers, pencil sharpeners, construction paper, student scissors (blunt tip) or any type of school supplies you would like to donate. A few All Stars will be sewing tote bags or perhaps you’d like to donate the “green” recycle tote bags which are for sale at all the grocery stores, Wal Mart, etc. The school supplies will be sorted and stuffed in the tote bags and donated to third-world country such as the area where Bob Meadows and fellow agents visited last year to teach the Character Counts program or to a local shelter in the state.

The Virginia Star

“Stars in the Valley”

January 31 - February 1, 2009
Mid-Winters Conference Registration Form

Name: _____M/F

Address: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____ E-mail: _____

Unit & Year Tapped: _____ Guest(s) _____M/F

	Number of Persons		Subtotal
Entire Conference		x \$40.00	
Shenandoah Valley Museum (fee will be paid at museum)		Need number for transportation.	
Saturday Banquet Only		x \$25.00	
Early Bird Discount (only before January 19)		x -\$5.00	
2008 All Stars Only (Registration free to all 2008 Tapped All Stars)		x -\$40.00	FREE
Virginia 4-H All Star Dues: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual• Life		x \$10.00 x \$50.00	
Contributions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Member Fund• Keffer Scholarship Fund			
Add \$5.00 late fee if mailed after January 19, 2009 (waived for 2008 All Stars)			
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 Liaison (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: _____

Make checks payable to: Virginia Chapter of 4-H All Stars (\$10 service charge for returned checks)

Send registration and check to: Attention: Randy and Irene Leech, 4220 N. Fork Rd., Elliston, VA 24087

Questions: Contact Elwanda Luttrell Phone: 540-869-7198