March 2008

Dear Valued 4-H Leader:

The 2008 State 4-H Leaders' Forum beckons you. Listen! Can you hear the surf? Feel the soft ocean breeze? Do you feel the dual desires of doing your volunteer job better and escaping from the pressures of life for just a little while? Then hearken to this call. We offer eight reasons why you should!

1. Location – Come to the most beautiful place on earth where the land meets the sea.

2. Location – Discover the Monterey/Carmel world with all its wondrous sights, historic sites, amazing attractions, and unique shopping opportunities.

3. Location – The Asilomar State Park Conference Grounds is the most affordable and comfortable way to stay and enjoy the location.

4. It's where your friends and associates are – from your county, from the state. Remember those neat people you met there (if you're a returnee) or at SLC or State Fair, etc? It's likely that they'll be there. And they'll be looking for you! For first timers, you will discover that this is an event where friendships are made.

5. You can get away (almost) guilt-free. You will be escaping your children and other devotions for a short while, but doing it for their long-term benefit.

6. Some of the best, most practical learning for 4-H leaders happens there. You'll come home loaded with ideas and activities and the enthusiasm to implement them.

7. Your County 4-H Program becomes stronger because you went. You will return with a deeper understanding of the 4-H mission, a stronger sense of what has to happen to accomplish it, and an expanded capacity to make it happen.

8. While you're walking barefoot on the beach and gazing at the surf, you'll realize that you're multi-tasking in practical ways with the best of them, and that includes bathing your senses, rekindling your spirit, refreshing your mind, rejuvenating your body, and soothing your soul.

California 4-H Rocks!
Its virtues we'll extol,
In sessions and inspiring talks,
With betterment the goal.

Three days this fall of work and play
Keeps 4-H growth a-spurtin'.
So make the bay at Monterey
Your destination certain.

And pack some comfy shoes and socks,
For you'll do lots of walkin'
To learn just how our 4-H rocks,
And how you do the rockin'!

Remember: 4-H is a youth, family, and community development program that you can take for *Granite*!