

## State Leaders' Council Report – April 22, 2006

### **California 4-H Incentives and Recognition**

Committee News - <http://ca4h.org/council/i-r/>

Awards – <http://ca4h.org/4hresource/ir/>

#### **Statewide Awards**

- Golden Clover Awards (due June 30)  
2006 award information and applications are available on the web! We are hoping to receive even more than the 62 applications submitted last year. Nominate a 4-H member, volunteer or group today.
  
- Statewide Scholarships (due April 30)  
Two new scholarships are being offered this year, in addition to the Mabel Jacks and Samarin Family Vocational scholarships. 4-H members may also apply for the Dean Memorial Legacy or the ASFMRA Agricultural Scholarship.
  
- Outdoor Adventure Award (due June 30)  
4-H members and volunteers participating in outdoor adventure activities may apply or be nominated for this award.

#### **2006 State 4-H Project Competition**

The State 4-H Project Competition will be held again this year with sectional judging in July and State judging on August 26.

#### **4-H Record Book**

Over the last three years, the 4-H Incentives and Recognition Advisory Committee has been analyzing our 4-H Record Book system with the goals of creating a contemporary system focused on life skills development. Currently different types of 4-H Record Books are being used in California, varying at the state and local levels. The committee has analyzed multiple sources of data and has issued a recommendation of a unified 4-H Record Book to the State 4-H Director. Attached is the two-page proposal from the Committee detailing the recommendation, sources of data, and answers to questions you might have. You may also find the proposed 4-H Record Book at <http://www.ca4h.org/4hresource/ir/recordbook/4-HRecordBooks4.20.pdf>

The I & R Committee and the State 4-H Office are seeking input, feedback and comments from 4-H members, volunteers and 4-H YDP staff on the proposal until April 30, 2006. In June 2006, the Committee will meet to discuss the feedback and prepare a final recommendation to the State 4-H Director. If you would like to comment on the attached draft, please send comments to Steven Worker at [smworker@ucdavis.edu](mailto:smworker@ucdavis.edu) or 530-754-8519.

#### **Update to Section 416: Incentives and Recognition**

The Incentives and Recognition Committee is working on an update to Section 416 of the 4-H Policy Handbook. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please forward them to a committee member.

#### **Advisory Committee Membership**

The I & R Committee, along with other statewide advisory committees are recruiting for additional youth and volunteers for the 2006-2007 program year. One volunteer and two youth spots are opening this year.

Submitted by Steven Worker

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### State 4-H Field Day

<http://ca4h.org/projresource/fieldday/>

The State 4-H Field Day will incorporate quite a few activities and events on Saturday, May 27 of Memorial Day weekend! Due to the increase of activities and events, the committee decided to change the name from State 4-H Presentation Day to State 4-H Field Day.

- *State 4-H Presentation Day* (pre-registration required by May 22) – *public speaking competition for 4-H members*
  - Any 4-H member (4th grade and above) who has been awarded a Gold Medal in their 2006 Sectional Competition may compete in the category that the medal was awarded.
  - Participants must register online by May 22 online at <http://ca4h.org/wrp/spd/>
  - We need more judges!
- *State 4-H Horticulture Contest* – *state qualifier for the National 4-H Horticulture Contest*
- *State 4-H Fashion Revue* (pre-registration required by May 13) – *clothing competition for 4-H members*
- *Judging Event* – *learn about making choices and decisions*
- *2007 Logo Design Contest* – 4-H members may enter their design for the 2007 Field Day logo!
- *Tri-Tip Lunch* – Offered by the Collegiate 4-H Club at Cal Poly
- *Games, GPS, and Craft Room* – Offered by the Collegiate 4-H Club at UC Davis
- *Silent Auction* – Organized by Kathy Lyons, Gina Lee and Jennifer Coe
- *Door Prizes* – Organized by Alex Culp

The next planning committee conference call is scheduled for Monday, May 8, 8:00 – 10:00pm.

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### California 4-H State Leadership Conference

<http://slc.ca4h.org>

#### Visit Beautiful San Diego!



Conference registration materials will contain two pages of San Diego area attractions county delegations may wish to visit before or after the conference.

#### **Registration**

Registration forms will be available on the website (and sent out in UPDATES) in late April. The deadline to register is June 16, 2006. Financial aid is available, due May 26.

#### **Bring a Buddy Initiative**

The 2005-2006 4-H State Ambassadors recognize the benefits the 4-H State Leadership Conference has in inspiring high school youth to improve their leadership skills, meet peers from across the state, and make change upon their return home. The Bring a Buddy initiative is designed to help expose other high school youth to the 4-H Youth Development Program through the 4-H State Leadership Conference. This program can help 4-H share its successful youth-adult partnership, experiential learning models with youth that have not been exposed to 4-H before. High school age youth are invited to register for the conference, August 10 – 13, 2006 at UC San Diego. The 4-H State Ambassador team recommends that these invited youth be familiar with delegates attending from their county. 4-H member delegates will act as guides for their buddy during the conference. More information is outlined in the conference registration materials.

#### **Assemblies**

Speakers for this year's conference will include Dan Holdridge, 4-H Volunteer Representative of the National 4-H Leadership Trust and also a 9/11 survivor and Sherri Rusch, author of *Stumbling Blocks to Stepping Stones*, a talented vocalist and dynamic speaker.

#### **Education**

Both Friday 5-hour tracks and Saturday 1-hour workshops (3 of them) will be offered this year. Delegates will have an opportunity to explore new areas from animal science to youth in governance, leadership to geography.

#### **All Star Recognition**

All Stars will be recognized in new and unique events during State Leadership Conference this year! Have your All Stars register for the conference to participate in "SLC Afterhours."

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### **4-H State Ambassador Team**

<http://ca4h.org/leadership/ambassador/>

#### **2005-2006**

The 2005-2006 4-H State Ambassadors continue to plan the 4-H State Leadership Conference while also working on their service-project. Their service-project this year is focused on providing information and resources to county All Star teams. The Ambassadors have a draft handbook that will be released at the 4-H State Leadership Conference. The manual will contain the following sections:

All Star Overview

Guidelines for All Stars

All Star Plan of Action

    Youth-Adult Partnerships

    Service-Project Planning

    Events

Relationship with other 4-H groups

All Star Advisor Responsibilities and Selection

Finances and Funding Opportunities

Selection of All Stars

Appendix

1. How to Create a Resume
2. How to be Interviewed
3. How to Emcee an Assembly
4. How to Run a Meeting (using parliamentary procedure)
5. How to Plan a Workshop
6. Icebreaker Ideas
7. Community Service Ideas

The team has analyzed over 30 counties worth of All Star materials!

#### **2006-2007**

Applicants for the 2006-2007 4-H State Ambassador team will be interviewed during the first three weekends in May. Those selected will be oriented July 7 – 9, 2006 at Camp Ocean Pines in Cambria, CA.

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### 4-H Computer Corps

<http://ca4h.org/compcorps/>  
[ca4hcc@ucdavis.edu](mailto:ca4hcc@ucdavis.edu)

The 4-H Computer Corps has 12 members this year, 2006.

Richard Baughman, Lassen County  
 Allison Chapin, Santa Barbara County  
 Wanda Curran, Sacramento County  
 Jessica Falkenthal, Yolo County  
 Magali Ferare, San Benito County  
 Greg McCauley, Fresno County

Josh Moore, Contra Costa County  
 Kyle Oliveira, Kings County  
 Christy Strothman, Orange County  
 Kay Strothman, Orange County  
 John Trammell, San Bernardino County

The group is working on a number of projects this year, including:

- Website Update – The 4-H Computer Corps is working with the State 4-H Office to make the 4-H website ([www.ca4h.org](http://www.ca4h.org)) more user friendly. The group has identified the need for more information to general public & potential members and volunteers on the homepage.
- GPS trainings – The group has provided GPS “treasurer” hunts at various 4-H presentation days. See the next page for an article about their May 25 event.
- 4-H State Leadership Conference Workshops – Join the group in one of their SLC workshops!

<b>Beginning Web Design</b>	From Internet basics, HTML and visual page creation programs to design characteristics and posting a new site, this session will survey all the topics necessary to get you on your way to creating a new web presence. Methods of posting your web site will be demonstrated, including free hosting for general sites and space on the CA 4-H server for 4-H sites. Delegates should come with a basic knowledge of using a computer (internet browsing and word processing.)
<b>Digital Photography</b>	Ever wanted to know how models in magazines look so perfect? One word... Photoshop! Using filters, text effects, layers, masks, and brushes, you can do almost anything with a photograph and enough patience. Want to learn some more about using the program, and a few neat tricks to touch up your pictures? C'mon in for some Phun with Photoshop... no p(h)un intended.
<b>Advanced Web Design (CSS)</b>	Take your web design to the next level with CSS! Use CSS to change the look of your website. Learn tricks to spice up your blog's look and make your website design easier to maintain. We will be covering more advanced areas of web design, so a basic knowledge of coding HTML will be required. This workshop will build off of what was learned in the Beginning Web Design Track.
<b>Secrets of the Googleverse</b>	"Hey, do you know when John's band is playing?" "Nah...why don't you just google it?" Long before they went public, Google captured the search engine market and made a name for itself. Not only has it become synonymous with searching on the internet, but its recent expansion has placed Google as a weekly figure in the news. So, why has this company garnered so much attention, standing out from a crowd of similar ventures? Is it the shrewd styling's of the leading duo, pure luck, or the American ideal of making it on your own that captures the public's interest? We'll take a look at the past, present, and future of the company while fiddling with some of their newest tools or the trade and forays into other fields. Come google Google with us.
<b>Web Journals</b>	Do you have a livejournal? Are you on myspace.com? This workshop will explore on-line communities, what they are, how to get connected, and safety considerations.
<b>Advanced Web Design (PHP)</b>	Advanced Web Design explores more sophisticated design techniques you need to enhance your page with forms and multimedia. You will discover how to incorporate dynamic technologies (PHP) to give you more control over your page and to create dynamic site. Additionally, you will learn how use MySQL in a practical environment.
<b>Animation Lab</b>	Ever watched a cartoon on the internet and thought "I wonder if I could do that?" You can! You will receive 3 hours of hands-on training using Macromedia Flash. After this workshop, you'll be able to digitally draw objects, make them move, add sound, and add them to the web! Final animations will be shown during a SLC assembly. Participant Expectations: Intermediate computer skills, tech savvy, creativity, and ability to experiment with advanced software.
<b>Digital Audio</b>	Curious about iPods and other portable music players? Confused about music downloads and formats? Want to store your CD music collection on your computer? Just want to get the most out of your digital music collection? We'll show you the equipment and software you'll need to get you up to date!
<b>Xtreme Treasure Hunts</b>	Take a step into the future!!! Go on an exciting high speed adventure around the beautiful UC San Diego Campus and discover the secret treasure using geospatial technology. * Warning: This workshop will involve a high level of walking and wit!!!



## GPS Grows in California

*Submitted by Jess Falkenthal, California 4-H Computer Corps member*

The use of GPS technologies is growing fast. California is seeking out as many opportunities as possible to put GPS units into the hands of youth and volunteers. One such event happened on March 25 at California 4-H's North Central Section Presentation Day when 164 4-Hers and their families gathered at the UC Davis campus to give 4-H presentations.

When the youth weren't presenting, they engaged in a GPS scavenger hunt called Geocaching presented by four members of the California 4-H Computer Corps, the state tech team for California, using seven units supplied by various county 4-H programs and Corps' members. Geocaching is a worldwide sport, played by using GPS units to seek hidden "treasures" called caches located at various waypoints (unique latitude and longitude coordinate). More information about Geocaching can be found at <http://www.geocaching.com/>.

The caches ranged in size from one-inch boxes stuffed into the campus chimneys to shoebox-sized plastic containers hidden under benches, bridges and inside bushes. One cache involved finding plastic eggs that contained a waypoint of another plastic egg in a series. The eggs were hidden in campus sculptures, the roots of trees and bushes. After visiting four egg stages, the participants found the coordinates to a final cache filled with chocolate eggs! Other prizes hidden in caches included California 4-H bookmarks, tattoos, 4HUSA.org magnets, seashells, and UC Davis pins.

"The units are extremely easy to use! The kids picked up on them in about five minutes," said one presentation leader. "We had nine-year-olds working with units. And by the end of the day, some kids were so excited about what they had learned that they stepped in and taught other youth rather than us teaching them!"

Youth and adults set out in groups of three to six to find caches on the UC Davis campus. Thirty to 40 youth and adults participated each hour, for a total of around 150 4-H members and volunteers!

GPS is a new technology for the California 4-H Computer Corps, which has just recently expanded their training topics to include GPS. The Computer Corps is producing a Geocaching "Workshop in a Box" for others in the state to use in setting up their own geocaching activities during other 4-H events.

"GPS skills are extremely marketable in the business world today. It's quite exciting to be able to offer youth the opportunity to explore GPS technology in a fun method that encourages them to seek out opportunities to implement GPS into their club and county programs. We had many youth and parents enthusiastic about returning home to purchase their own units," said another member of the Computer Corps.

Other topics that the California 4-H Computer Corps will be teaching this year include an introduction to online culture, beginning and advanced web design, computer animation, digital photography, Microsoft Office, and digital audio. For more information about the GPS trainings offered by the California 4-H Computer Corps, visit: <http://ca4h.org/compcorps/GPS/>.

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### National 4-H Conference

<http://ca4h.org/conference/n4hc/>

### 2006 Delegation

Betsy Byrum, Solano  
Beverly Elithorp, San Joaquin  
Alexandrea Culp, Orange  
Jennifer Roncoroni, Yolo  
Kristen Lee, Santa Clara  
Kevin Cleland, Butte  
Chrissy Renwick, Nevada  
Kaitlin Conklin, Siskiyou  
Murlin Lee, 4-H Volunteer, Santa Clara  
Veronica Slaton, 4-H YD Program Rep, Kern

### National 4-H Conference Connects 4-H Youth from Across the Country



WASHINGTON, March 30, 2006 – More than 300 youth and adult delegates gathered in Washington, DC, for the 2006 National 4-H Conference to share ideas and form recommendations in guiding future national 4-H youth development programs nationally and in their communities.

“A major goal of this year’s conference was to offer participants a rich and meaningful personal and professional development experience through a comprehensive understanding of the essential elements of the 4-H Youth Development Program and to gather their input as to how to shape the 4-H program of the future,” said Cathann Kress, director of youth development at USDA’s Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES). CSREES is home of the National 4-H Headquarters.

Conference activities centered on the theme of “*Connect 4-H – Let’s Get Together*,” and included workshops and other events that emphasized civic engagement, youth-adult partnerships and professional development. Delegates shared ideas and formed recommendations for the future of 4-H at roundtable discussions and a town hall meeting.

Recommendations formed during the conference reflected the overall theme identified by the youth planning committee of “*Connection*.” Delegates most strongly voiced a desire to increase and formalize the opportunities for state exchanges, allowing them to experience the lives of 4-H youth all across the country. Youth also encouraged the idea of connecting with each other through a national 4-H camp, and through more national 4-H communication vehicles. They want to stay connected to 4-H during college and recommended the formation of a national 4-H college scholarship program to encourage access to educational opportunity. Delegates also recommended they connect the communication skills they’ve gained in 4-H through a national 4-H public speaking contest.

Kress announced these recommendations during the USDA Assembly, where Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns welcomed delegates to the department. Kress said the recommendations will be shared throughout the 4-H program nationally and with officials at USDA who will work in the upcoming year to implement them.

Johanns and other USDA officials were on hand to speak to delegates during the assembly. Johanns, a former 4-H member in Iowa, said his time spent on the farm and as a 4-H member helped shape who he is today by teaching him responsibility, discipline and commitment to purpose.

“What you are learning today, I promise you, will serve you well,” he said. “The foundation you are building through the 4-H program will be a life-long foundation.”

Johanns also addressed how USDA is working to improve agriculture for young people. During the 2007 Farm Bill listening sessions held in 2005 across the nation, the Secretary asked 4-H members to participate and share their views on farm policy.

“That set the exact, right tone for the sessions. People became engaged in how we can build a future for young people in agriculture,” he said. “We owe it to you to provide farm policy for you and to build an agriculture economy that invited you to participate.”

While not all 4-H youth are engaged in farming, as leaders they will be called upon to make decisions as future community leaders that will require them to understand agricultural issues, whether about production agriculture, water quality, conservation or other parts of the food and fiber industry.

Delegates also met with their legislators on Capitol Hill Day to represent youth from their states and discuss state 4-H programs with congressional members and their staff. Other conference activities included the Clover Cruise aboard the Spirit of Washington, a service learning project focusing on disaster preparedness and the annual variety show.

Since the first conference in 1927, National 4-H Conference, known as the “Secretary’s Conference,” continues to be USDA’s premier youth development opportunity to engage youth in developing recommendations for the 4-H Youth Development Program.

The National 4-H Conference serves as an avenue to assist youth and adult leaders to develop recommendations to guide 4-H programs nationally and in their communities. As the sponsor for this conference, the National 4-H Headquarters seeks to promote positive youth development, facilitate learning and engage youth in the work of the Land-Grant Universities and USDA to enhance their quality of life. For more information, visit <http://www.national4-hheadquarters.gov>.