



# Leaders Corner

A publication of the Idaho State Leaders Association.

[www.4h.uidaho.edu](http://www.4h.uidaho.edu)

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## UPCOMING DEADLINES

### Know Your Government Applications

Contact your local extension office for your local county deadline

January 4, 2013

### Chaperone Outbound Trip Application Due

Contact the State 4-H Office for Application

February 1, 2013

### 4-H College Scholarship Application Due

Contact the State 4-H Office for Application

February 16-18, 2013

### Know Your Government

Boise, Idaho

March 1, 2013

### TALK Retreat Application Deadline

Albion, Idaho

**March 15, 2013**

Articles for the next Leaders Corner are due

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## December 2012

# President's Corner

*Submitted by: Tass Heim, State Leaders Association President*

Idaho 4-H will begin 2013 with new leadership in both the State Leaders Association and the State Office. Carma Sheer was installed as the SLA President at the conclusion of a very successful Leaders Forum in November, and Dr. Jim Lindstrom has taken over the helm as our Director.

We have a solid 4-H program thanks to the untiring efforts by educators, coordinators, managers, and especially the volunteers throughout the state. Our success will not only continue under the new leadership, but we may be taken to places we never dreamed were possible! It is definitely an exciting time to be a part of the most dynamic youth-serving organization on the planet!

Mentoring youth and volunteers is one of the greatest strengths of 4-H. Please make a commitment during the coming year to share your talents with a peer who could benefit from the experience you have gained leading a project. 4-H volunteers have so much wisdom, don't keep it to yourself. There's a new leader in your county right now who could use a suggestion, idea or perhaps just a bit of encouragement on the road to "Making the Best Better". God Bless us everyone.

Respectfully,  
Tass Heim



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## University of Idaho Extension

## Even Animals Need Angels

Submitted by: *Rachelle Drake, 4-H member*

Hello! My name is Rachelle Drake and I have a challenge for all of the counties in Idaho! My goal is to have an “Angels for Animals” program in every county. This program would be an excellent Community Service Learning project for 4-H clubs and would help educate the public on the importance of spaying and neutering their pets, as well as cut down on stray cats and dogs in our communities.

Before I get ahead of myself, let me explain “Angels for Animals.” In October of 2009, one of my 4-H Leaders and I were in Gem County, trick-or-treating to raise money for our local humane shelter, the Pet Adoption League (PALS). My leader told me about a program at the Air Force Base Schools in Mountain Home called “Angels for Animals.” Every December, children in the elementary schools were challenged to bring dog or cat food into their classrooms and the class with the most pet food donated would win a party. This dog and cat food was then donated to the local animal shelter. The “Angels for Animals” program was a huge success and ended with many truck bed loads of cat and dog food being donated!

This gave me an idea to help our local Pet Adoption League (PALS). I started contacting local business owners requesting if I could place trees in their businesses with paper angel ornaments with PALS’ needs on them.



One of the “Angels for Animals” trees being decorated at a local feed store.

The first year, we had four businesses say yes! My 4-H Leader and I went online for angel graphics and typed PALS needs on the different paper angels. I was totally surprised when PALS told me their needs! Who would have thought that an animal shelter would need lots of white vinegar or liquid laundry detergent or old blankets? I never thought about toilet paper or paper towels either! I just thought that dog pounds needed dog and cat food and some money. When setting up trees, we had to get some donated but half of the business owners used their own trees. Artificial trees are best because some customers have allergies (another surprise!).

Our first year was very successful, and we are now in our third year. We have six trees up this year! The first year, my 4-H Leader didn’t think we’d have time to get it started, but I love a challenge. Right after Halloween the first year, I jumped in with both feet!

The “Angels for Animals” program runs from the day after Thanksgiving until Christmas Eve. We have used social media like Facebook and local newspapers to spread the word. I do spend a lot of time just talking to people about this program. Last year, PALS got more than \$2,000 in cash and product donated! That made me feel good. A really nice lady went into the veterinary office and paid \$300 toward the vet bill on a dog that PALS rehabilitated after being hit by a car. That made me feel **REALLY** good!

Because of “Angels for Animals,” PALS has seen an increase in donations of needed supplies over the last three years. When people go to Costco, they think of PALS and grab a jug of white vinegar or a super pack of toilet paper. This is good news for our little animal shelter!

I love all animals and I appreciate what the Pet Adoption League does for us. This all-volunteer shelter helps keep our stray populations down and they spay and neuter each animal that comes in. They also vaccinate and treat any wounds the dog or cat may have. PALS goes through \$5,000 every six weeks! I was shocked.

I have been in many 4-H projects in the last seven years. From leadership to citizenship to horse and dog to sewing, canning, and Ambassadors, I have learned so much about so many things. I’m currently a member of the Freeze Out Friends 4-H Club of Emmett and my club helps me with the “Angels for Animals” program. My 4-H leaders are always bugging me to track hours spent on community service learning projects and I’ll admit I logged over 500 hours from start to finish last year. The hours included writing articles, talking with people, setting up trees, collecting items every 3 or 4 days, delivering items to PALS, and cleaning up the trees and ornaments after Christmas. It always goes quickly and is well worth the time!

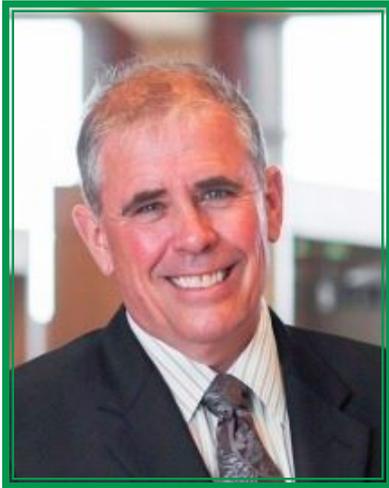
If you would like more information on “Angels for Animals,” please e-mail me at [eventerchickee15@yahoo.com](mailto:eventerchickee15@yahoo.com). I would love to help you help animals!

## Welcome Dr. Jim Lindstrom

Submitted by: Bobbi Flowers, Volunteer Editor, Idaho State Leaders Association.

Dr. Jim Lindstrom officially joined Idaho 4-H on October 1, 2012. He shared he has had a busy first couple of months getting to know the Idaho 4-H program - its state staff and valued volunteers.

Dr. Lindstrom has been in Extension in Arizona, Montana, and Washington for over thirty years. All of his work has had a component of youth audience involved. He has also work with clubs, grant writing, nutrition, and other areas of Extension. Dr. Lindstrom was a single county agent in Montana where developing a strong 4-H program was important to him.



When asked, “What do you want Idaho 4-H Volunteers to know about you?”, Dr. Lindstrom shared this, “I am passionate about youth development! I believe it is almost magic when youth learn in a safe environment with adults who care about them, studying what they want to learn and having fun.”

The first weekend of November found Dr. Lindstrom attending his first Idaho State Leaders Forum in Burley. He enjoyed himself and had fun meeting those from across the state. Dr. Lindstrom found the Forum to be action-pack based with learning opportunities. He feels he has learned a lot while listening to those he met.

The role of Idaho volunteers is paramount in leading youth within educational 4-H club participation. The key is the adult-youth relationship that is built through participation and interaction. Volunteers help youth learn and develop into positive, productive citizens. Dr. Lindstrom said, “We can’t do club based programs without volunteers. It just won’t work.” Dr. Lindstrom would like to engage a greater number of volunteers in the State Leaders Association discussion. When asked how this could be accomplished he replied, “One way would be to hold the meeting in a more open forum format, where more individuals can observe the leadership process of the association.”

Dr. Lindstrom supports all kinds of Volunteer development opportunities. Through programs such as the Western Region Leaders’ Forum, State Leaders’ Forum, and county based volunteer training volunteers can build their leadership skills. County based volunteer training can take many different tracks. For example, as a county based educator he implemented various volunteer exchanges – volunteers traveling to other states to learn new skills and hosting volunteers from the states visited. This type of training is based on building relationships and peer-to-peer learning.

When asked, “Where do you envision taking Idaho 4-H?” Dr. Lindstrom replied, “There has been a decline in the number of 4-H clubs across the state. I want to identify why there is a decline. Then I want to strengthen the club base by enabling volunteers to reach youth in all economic levels.” Dr. Lindstrom recognizes some of the decline follows the trends from the effects of the economic downturn. Dr. Lindstrom went on to say, “The 4-H presence in the community is key to youth systems. I want 4-H invited to the table in every community when youth development is involved.”

Welcome to Idaho Dr. Lindstrom! We look forward to working with you.

### Online Resource for Leaders

Looking for a great 4-H logo item? Or searching for club ideas? This is an official 4-H website to tap so that you know you are purchasing authorized gear and accessing real 4-H materials.

**Buying 4-H items:** [www.4-hmall.org](http://www.4-hmall.org) This site has a bit of everything in such categories as clothing, jewelry, club meetings, awards, curriculum, clearance, and sale. You’ll find blankets, jackets, caps, key-chains, mugs, stuffed animals and surprising items like kitchen tools and car-window scrapers too.

## 2012 State Distinguished Service Award Recipient

*Submitted by: Beth Carter, 4-H Volunteer and DSA Chair*

Korenia Gertsch is one very active lady in Gem-Boise County. She founded two 4-H clubs after starting a club eight years ago in Horseshoe Bend. Her projects include anything from baking to Vet Science, and almost everything in between. Her club has taken on a community service project for the last eight years with the non-profit humane shelter in Emmett known as "Love at First Walk" which raised thousands of dollars.



L to R: Dr. Jim Lindstrom, Korenia Gertsch,  
Leigh Davis, 2011 DSA recipient  
*Photo courtesy of: Gertsch Family*

Korenia has been very instrumental in updating entry forms, and using parts of 4-H curriculum with home schooling her children. She has been active with Ambassadors, Know Your Government, and presenting to County Commissioners about what 4-H does for youth. She has been blessed to attend district, state, and national events with youth to share and gain knowledge to bring home and then share with her county. Look at her full size calendar in her binder... talk about ORGANIZATION!! WOW!!

Korenia was one of two Idaho Citizen Washington Focus chaperones this year and had the wonderful opportunity to lead the Independence Day Parade in Washington, D.C. with our Idaho 4-H youth delegates. They also placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

Congratulations and thank you Korenia for your leadership in "Making the Best Better."

## 2012 State Leaders Forum

*Submitted by: Donna Gillespie, Minadoka County Extension Educator*

Here are some results from the 2012 SLF:

- 178 full time registrations from 35 counties
- 134 at the Opening Gala Dinner
- 264 at the DSA/Centennial Banquet
- 5 pre-forum activities included over 125 participants
- 34 workshops on Saturday, with great evaluations
- Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Perrigot were exceptional speakers
- 40% overall evaluations returned with indications of a great forum
- Profit of over \$8000.00

## Idaho 4-H Know Your Government 2013 Conference

*Submitted by: Erika Thiel, 4-H Youth Development Extension Associate*

I hope you will decide to join your fellow 4-H members from across the state in exploring citizenship through community pride by participating in the Idaho 4-H Know Your Government (KYG) Conference. The Conference will be held in Boise on February 16-18, 2013.

The KYG Conference is offered for 8th and 9th grade 4-H youth interested in learning more about our government and how it works. Highlights include a Mock Legislative Session or Mock Trial Activities; opportunities to meet and observe members of the legislature at work, meet elected state officials and members of the judiciary, and tour the Capitol.

To apply for the KYG Conference, a registration packet may be downloaded at <http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/4h/events/events/stateevents/knowyourgovernmentconference> or contact your County Extension Office. Return the registration packet to your County Extension Office as soon as possible. A minimum of two delegates will be selected from each county by January 18. If you are selected, you will need to pay the \$95 registration fee, the transportation fee, and attend your county's orientation meeting. Ask your county about available scholarships!

I hope to see you in Boise!

### Chaperones Needed for Outbound Trips to Tanzania, Costa Rica, Argentina, Australia, Finland and Japan

*Submitted by: Claudine Zender, 4-H Youth Development Extension Associate*

4-H International Exchange Programs has a full program for outbound travel in 2013 and is now recruiting chaperones to accompany outbound delegations. Chaperones participate in orientations, are assigned to a group of delegates (generally 6-12 teens), accompany them during all overseas flights, and stay with 1-4 host families in the host country. They monitor delegate wellness via telephone and remain available for emergencies (such as hospitalizations or lost passports). In Australia, Tanzania and Argentina, chaperones participate in group sightseeing tours (determined before leaving the U.S.). Knowledge of the host country language is desirable, but not essential.

Chaperones pay a portion of their airfare (\$1,200-\$1,800 depending upon destination) and are eligible for Friends of 4-H scholarships to help offset the cost. Chaperone applications are due in the State 4-H Youth Development office by January 4. Chaperones will be notified in early February if they are selected.

The chart below shows program dates and locations. For more information and applications contact [4hinternational@uidaho.edu](mailto:4hinternational@uidaho.edu) or check the International Programs page on the state website ([www.uidaho.edu/4h](http://www.uidaho.edu/4h)).



Program	Program Dates
Argentina	July 8 – August 6
Australia	June 19 – July 20
Costa Rica	July 5 – August 4
Finland	July 1 – July 31
Japan 4-week	July 10 – August 8
Japan 8-week	June 12 – August 8
Tanzania	July 12 – July 29

## A Wakeup Call

Submitted by: *Melissa McDaniel, Gem/Boise County 4-H Program Coordinator*

Gem/Boise County Vista Volunteer, Brandi Vega, was excited to be a chaperone for the November Idaho State 4-H Ambassador's Conference. "This was a new experience for me. I've never chaperoned anything before and the kids in our county talk about Ambassadors all the time and how much fun they have!"

"Ambassadors Conference is AMAZING!" Brandi continues. "The welcome you get when the bus pulls up is awesome! Andy Smyth makes everyone feel like part of a family. The ice breaker games were so cool – I will use these with my 4-H club. There were name games and get-to-know-you games and they divided the kids by number, so the counties wouldn't stick together and not meet other kids. There were a lot of new kids and this system involved everyone. Everyone gets into the games and workshops!"

College students (4-H alumni) ran many of the workshops. One of them taught workforce skills by teaching youth how to complete job applications and create resumes. The younger kids really listen to these college students and respect them.



Ambassador Conference attendees.

*Photo courtesy of: Becky Settlege, East Hawaii County Agent*

teenagers! I am amazed at the girls that get up early to get ready so that others can sleep in. I am amazed at the kindness and acceptance you see at this event. Teenagers can be drama kings and queens, but this group blew me away! Everyone is accepted and the workshops are done in a fun way, so that kids learn. During the skits and free time, I laughed harder than I've ever laughed before. I got to know where teens are coming from and how they feel. I learned how to be a better 4-H Leader and mom. Sunday morning speeches were life changing and made me cry. I can't wait for next year!"

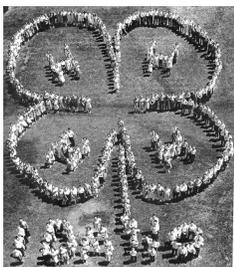
For more information on the Idaho State 4-H Ambassadors program, please contact Andy Smyth at (208) 850-8485.

Powerhouse public speaker Jana Kemp taught a workshop on teamwork and team building. She also offered public speaking courses. Teens are divided into groups by first year and returning year youth.

Nancy Shelstad, Extension Educator from Canyon County, offered a seminar on oral presentation props and static displays. "We learned SO much!" exclaimed Brandi. "The kids didn't talk at all – they were just absorbing all the information and were excited to get started on their demos."

Ambassador Conference offers social events like dances and time to spend outside in the snow. Although tightly scheduled, strictly chaperoned, and full of educational activities, there is time to hang out and socialize.

Brandi's favorite part? "The kids! The things I learned from the kids! What a wakeup call to spend time with



*State Leaders Association*

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## Citizenship-Washington Focus

Submitted by: *Flora Gertsch, 4-H Member*

What do you get when you combine the National 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and fireworks, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and eleven Idaho 4-Hers? Citizenship-Washington Focus, of course!

Citizenship-Washington Focus (CWF) is a once in a life time trip full of education, fun, and unforgettable friends. When I first heard about traveling to Washington D.C. for a week, I was pretty excited. But, nothing prepared me for what I was about to experience. The first big surprise was how easily a determined person could raise \$2,000. To raise enough money, we presented our trip to every civic group in town, a lot of 4-H clubs including the Leaders' Council, and even received assistance from 4-H at the State level. We also did a lot of fundraisers ranging from digging ditches to chili feeds to raffles. Every little bit of work was worth it!

After we got to D.C. and officially started CWF, I was literally blown away! Not only did we get to tour ALL of D.C., every monument, we did a night tour; and our Capitol Building tour was guided by an Aide from Idaho Senator Crapo's Office starting off with a trip on the private underground tram from the U.S. Senate Building to the Capitol Building. On July 4, sporting "Grown in Idaho" t-shirts, our delegation had the amazing honor of carrying the front banner for "America's 2012 Independence Day Parade."

**Idaho 4-H** led our Nation's Parade... incredible! Later that same day, with toes practically dipping into the historic Potomac River while sitting at the Jefferson Memorial, we watched the National firework display. We also had the distinct privilege of laying an Idaho 4-H wreath on the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in honor of Idaho's 4-H Centennial. Throughout the week at the 4-H National Headquarters, we learned, studied, and debated hot civic and governmental topics in a mock legislative hearing, shared gifts in a talent show, and swapped about 200 Idaho potato pins for pins from all over the nation. Wow!

Speaking from a youth's perspective, Citizenship-Washington Focus is a must! It had more impact on me and gave me more respect for my country than any other 4-H event I have attended. That's saying a lot due to the fact I have two of those wonderful ambitious 4-H leaders as parents, and a 4-H Extension Office whom encourage me to be very involved. CWF is **definitely** worth your time and effort!



Photo courtesy of: *Korenia Gertsch, Gem/Boise County Volunteer*



Submitted by: *Erika Thiel, Idaho 4-H Youth Development Extension Associate*

October 1 marked the start of a big transition for Idaho 4-H with a conversion to a new enrollment system called "4HOnline." The state team and counties have been working very hard to make this transition as smooth as possible although it has been a steep learning curve.

So what is 4HOnline? This system is uniquely designed to allow 4-H members and adults to register online, while maintaining contact with the county, district, and state offices. County offices will no longer have to enter data, but can review and approve registrations online. (Some counties may find it necessary to use paper enrollment due to technology infrastructure limitations.) Club leaders can log into 4HOnline and access club information such as member lists and mailing labels.

While we are just utilizing the enrollment module for 2012-2013, there are additional features of this program we have yet to explore. In essence, this is just the beginning of how we can streamline the paperwork and do things more efficiently. For example, a fair management module is being developed, and there is also the ability to load and store documents and photos (very useful for livestock identification), and event registration.

Materials have been posted to help leaders and families get started with 4HOnline at <http://projweb.cals.uidaho.edu/4hreporting/4h-online/>. If you have questions regarding 4HOnline, please contact your county office.

# Okies Invade Idaho 4-H!

Submitted by: *Melissa McDaniel, Gem/Boise County 4-H Program Coordinator*

4-H member Bubba Gillespie has been showing steers for two years at the Gem/Boise County Fair.



*Photo courtesy of: Cassidy Moore*

Kassidy Moore, also in 4-H, has been showing for one year. These steers were raised by the Gillespie Angus Ranch of Emmett, Idaho.

This year, Bubba and Cassidy had heifers shipped in from Express Angus Ranch in Yukon, Oklahoma. “The Express Angus Ranch has a program that, if you show one of their heifers and win, they will give us scholarship money for college!” explains Cassidy.

Bubba joined in and said, “Heifers are young female cows that haven’t had a baby yet. We are bringing these high quality heifers into Idaho so that we can start our own show herd of Angus cattle.”

The Express Angus Ranch in Oklahoma is known for top of the line registered Angus cattle. They offer a Progressive Junior Scholarship and are willing to work with youth from across the United States. The scholarships are awarded to young

people who purchase from them and place in the show ring.

These young cows were chosen by researching bloodlines and looking for show conformation such as straight backs, boxy hindquarters, and long, thick hair. Bubba and Cassidy also believe that disposition is important. “You don’t want the cow to charge at you because of her calf or in the show ring,” explains Bubba. “You want a heifer that is gentle and easy to handle.”

The heifers, named “Exar Ever Entense” and “Exar Queen” (known as Eve and Queen) were shipped from Oklahoma to Emmett, Idaho, the second week of November. They are 11 months old and will be ready to breed at 16 months old.

“I’m excited!” said Cassidy. “We’re going to look at quality bulls nationwide and select a top sire. We’ll order semen from two different bulls and artificially inseminate (AI) the heifers. Then, we’ll have different calves to show.”

Kassidy and Bubba are members of the Junior Angus Association and they are only twelve years old! Cassidy advises, “If you want to go into the cattle industry, we suggest you start at a young age. The younger you start in a program like 4-H, the further you will go in your career with cattle. I have learned a lot in just the last year!”

“Both of our heifers will be shown at the Western Regional Angus Show in Nevada this spring and then, we’ll show them at the Gem/Boise County Fair in August of 2013. We hope you’ll come see us and learn more about Express Angus Ranch and show ring quality cattle.”

For more information on the Express Angus Ranch, please visit <http://www.expressranches.com/scholarship.html>. See you at the Fair!



*Photo courtesy of: Cassidy Moore*

## American Dairy Goat National Convention 2012

Submitted by: Aaron Zisk, 4-Her

Greetings! My name is Aaron Zisk and I am a member of the Busy Bees 4-H Club. I got my first dairy goat when I was just four years old and have been raising and showing them since I was five. I recently had the awesome opportunity, with grants from the Gem/Boise County 4-H Leaders Association and the Horse Leader's Association, to attend the 2012 American Dairy Goat Association National Conference which was held in October in Boise. The Convention is held in a different state each year, and this was the first time it has ever been held in Idaho.

I attended the Youth portion of the Convention at the Riverside Hotel in Boise along with three other youth from Idaho. There were also youth from California, Arizona, Oregon, Indiana, Colorado, and Kansas – 24 of us in all (and only three other guys!).

We all enjoyed a weekend of friendship and learning. Oh boy did we learn! We had classes on showmanship, linear appraisal, artificial insemination, traveling to long distance shows, ice cream and cheese making, and performance records. We also had a question and answer session with a veterinarian who specializes in goats as well with the ADGA Board of Directors.

We had a lot of fun activities as well – we went to Zoo Boise and the Farmstead corn maze. We had a great scavenger hunt followed by a dance and made t-shirts and survival bracelets.

Sunday we participated in the skill-a-thon and preliminaries for quiz bowl. I placed second in the intermediate division in quiz bowl, and I got to be on a team for the final round.

The weekend ended with the youth banquet. It was amazing to meet and talk to breeders whom I had only heard of or read about! The new ADGA Youth Representative and her alternate were selected during the banquet. And then, the final round of the quiz bowl -- and my team WON!

It was a weekend very well spent with other goat lovers and I would love to attend next year when Convention will be held in North Carolina! For more information on the ADGA, visit [www.adga.org](http://www.adga.org).



Photo courtesy of: Aaron Zisk, 4-Her

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## Social Media Tagging

Submitted by: Dr. Jim Lindstrom, Idaho 4-H State Director

What busy times in Idaho 4-H! Clubs re-enrolling; kids picking their projects; Leaders gearing up for the year.

### Reminder about Facebook and tagging youth

If you or your 4-H Clubs are using Facebook do *not* tag youth under the age of 18. If someone tagged them on their page, the tag should be removed. Youth should not be identified in the picture captions. It was pointed out to us that a few 4-H clubs on Facebook have youth who are either tagged or their name is in the description. We do know that it is fun to see the pictures and the parents like to have them show up on their page, but it is a safety issue. We do not allow pictures to have identification of youth and which county they are from in articles and Facebook is no different. Please remind your clubs.

Also, remember that a signed release for the youth identified in photos must be on file for photos to be used in publications.

## Idaho 4-H Century Family has 495 Years of Service

*Submitted by: Bobbi Flowers, Volunteer Editor, Idaho State Leaders Association*

As Idaho was celebrating 100 years of 4-H, there was an effort to recognize families across Idaho who had collectively been members, leaders, and even held staff positions in the 4-H program equal to or greater than 100 years. Idaho 4-H would like to recognize a family from Clearwater County who began with pioneers from Lamont, Washington to Fraser, Idaho which was followed by a marriage of two young adults who created the Lawrence and Laura Bell Judd family.

Granny Judd, as family members call Laura Bell Judd, participated as a member in 4-H while growing up in Lamont, Washington. Granny Judd recognized and valued the experience that 4-H had to offer. When Clearwater County established the Community Extension Club, now known as 4-H, in 1936, Granny Judd was one of the first leaders in the county with her children Claud, Marie, and Harry being members. Granny Judd led clothing, canning, and sewing. As her younger daughters, Clarabell and Verla, reached the age to participate, Granny Judd continued to lead and instill the life skills that 4-H is known to produce. This leadership continued into the next generation of her family which resulted in forty years of leadership.

Claud Judd was only eligible to be a member for one year. However, this provided the opportunity for Claud to join his brother Harry and another member on the livestock judging team that traveled to Portland, Oregon for the International Livestock Show in 1936. Claud went on to be a leader for twenty-two years, while his wife Elvita Green Judd was a leader for fifty years, being inducted into the Idaho 4-H Hall of Fame in 2002. Each of their children, Larry, Howard, Melvin, Don, and Loretta, were involved in the Clearwater County 4-H program as members totaling forty-five years of membership.

Marie Judd Green was the first 4-H member from Clearwater County to win a trip to Chicago in 1938 to attend National Congress. Marie's involvement led her to raise her children in 4-H, Steve, Wilma, Mike, and Vicki, totaling twenty-seven years as members. Marie was a leader for fifty years and inducted into the Idaho 4-H Hall of Fame in 2002. Vicki went on to become an extension agent in Adams County.

Harry Judd went from being a 4-H member to graduating from the University of Idaho, and becoming a county agent in Boundary and Benewah counties for eighteen years. Harry's wife June was a 4-H member in Nez Perce County for six years and a leader in Benewah County for nine years. Harry and June's children, Elaine, Maureen, and Norman, were members of 4-H in Benewah County for a total of twenty-five years.

Clarabell Judd Brown followed in her mother's and siblings' footsteps as a member and a leader. Clarabell also attended National Congress in Chicago. She was a member for nine years and a leader for twenty-five. Her husband Marvin Brown was also a leader, who led two of his sons to qualify for national tractor competitions. They raised their children, Danny, Nancy, Neil, and Robert, in the 4-H program with thirty-six years of involvement. Danny's participation in 4-H led to his being a leader along with his wife Donna in different projects in which that their children participated.

Verla Judd was a 4-H member for nine years while growing up at Fraser.

Because of the value that Lawrence and Bell Judd put on the 4-H program, the Judd family collectively has spent 495 years being involved in 4-H with more than 475 years of participation in Idaho. There are still descendants currently enrolled in Clearwater County. Idaho 4-H recognizes the Judd family with the most years of service in the state and wishes to congratulate and thank the Judd family for their years of dedication and participation.



Lawrence and Laura Bell Judd  
*Photo courtesy of: Clarabell Judd Brown*

# 4-H Salute to Excellence

2013 Idaho Nominees

Submitted by: Bobbi Flowers, Volunteer Editor, Idaho State Leaders Association

Volunteers are the heart and soul of 4-H. In an age when time is at a premium, *4-H Salute to Excellence Awards* are an opportunity to acknowledge our volunteers' unwavering dedication to the 4-H Youth Development Movement. Research shows that volunteers are the key to positive youth development because of their longtime mentorship of 4-H youth.

The 4-H Salute to Excellence Awards was created by Gene and Sharon Swackhamer to highlight the important work of 4-H volunteers across the nation. When Gene looked back on a gratifying career uniquely shaped by 4-H, he wanted to ensure the positive impact of 4-H volunteers on future generations. From this commitment, 4-H Salute to Excellence was born.

Each year, state 4-H programs are invited to nominate two outstanding individual volunteers--one in each of two categories:

- The Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer Award is given to an individual who has spent 10 or more years volunteering for 4-H.
- The Volunteer of the Year Award is given to an individual who has volunteered for 4-H less than 10 years.

Recipients of the 4-H Salute to Excellence Volunteer Recognition Awards are chosen from nominees submitted by state 4-H offices. Idaho selects their nominees from applications submitted each year by volunteers, youth, and staff based on a review committee recommendation. Since the inception of Salute to Excellence, Idaho nominees have been selected numerous times as regional winners. For the past 3 years, Idaho nominees have been selected in either Outstanding Lifetime Achievement or Volunteer of the Year for the Western Region.

The nominees we have this year once again reflect the dedication and investment of our Idaho volunteers to "Making the Best Better."

The 2013 nominee for *Volunteer of the Year* is an individual who takes her role in youth development very seriously--Korenia Gertsch from Gem/Boise County. Korenia attends professional development training at the county, district, and state level bringing back information to share with everyone. The growth brought to the 4-H program by Korenia includes increased 4-H youth membership and volunteer base.



Korenia's involvement in the 4-H program includes judging record books for counties where information and ideas are gathered to use in enhancing the county record books, being a county superintendent, and promoting the 4-H program with local media, county commissioners and city officials. Through the investment of learning and enabling youth in "making the best better," county youth have benefited by receiving full-ride scholarships to major universities.

When it comes to setting an example, "learn by doing" is how Korenia is described. Youth who are financially challenged learn "to make the impossible, possible" as they participate in funding raising activities with Korenia, who works alongside them to encourage and mentor.

The nominee for *Outstanding Lifetime Achievement* is an individual who serves at the county, district, and state levels and continues to serve after 31 years -- Debbie Lowber from Canyon County.

Debbie loves to work with 4-H youth and new volunteers in making them feel welcomed and informed. It is not uncommon for Debbie to open her home to youth outside of scheduled meeting times who do not have sewing machines or parents with sewing backgrounds so a youth can learn to sew.

Debbie, while exemplifying the 4-H model of service to others, has taught 4-H members through a "learn by doing" attitude and providing an adult role model who emphasizes the importance of education.

Debbie is recognized by youth in leading by example and strengthening ties to the community by devoting herself to helping others learn, grow, and succeed. She teaches that the most important prize is knowing that you did the best that you could and that every day is a learning experience that allows the best to become better.

A 4-H youth had this to say about Debbie, "When dropped into a lake, even the smallest pebble can create ripples that go on for miles. Life is similar to this lake and pebble. It simply takes a single pebble to influence a chain reaction just as it takes a single person to influence hundreds of others. This pebble in my life and many others is, Debbie Lowber."

Congratulations to both Korenia and Debbie for being selected as Idaho's Salute to Excellence nominees!



## Ambassadors: What's Your Story?

*Submitted by: Kortni Wells, 4-H Ambassador*

A cabin lodge full of eighty teenagers or so awaits me. I stop moments before I reach the doors. I whisper into the thin air that I am ready. Ready to take on new responsibilities and willing to make the BEST better... than it already is of course!

Hi, I'm Kortni Wells, a third year Ambassador attendee/Junior Ambassador from Cassia County. The weekend of November 16-18 can be described as memorable, but one 4-Her described it as "life-changing." No matter who one talks to, we can all agree that the workshops were the most life-changing and to the presenters we give the most credit. Jana Kemp is a very motivating public speaker, but also a role model and simply a great friend who has helped me discover what my true potential is through her powerful workshop. Her main focus was to inspire us to "Reach Out," and be the best Ambassadors we can be. As I learned from her, taking a step forward and being ready to agree to several new tasks is a big part of being an Ambassador, especially a Junior or Senior Ambassador. I accepted Jana's "challenge" and am using her advice to reach out, by being ready to lend a helping hand and sharing a smile along the way. I have decided to use this not only as a personal goal, but as a motto for my ninth year of 4-H this year.



*Photo courtesy of: Kortni Wells*

A new addition to the Ambassador Program this year was a more in-depth workshop taught by several collegiate 4-H'ers from The University of Idaho. Their audience was for Ambassadors attending for three plus years, focusing on the topics of resumes, interviewing skills, and job experiences for the "real world." Their expertise and experiences impressed me and helped me realize how much more I should really be valuing the 4-H program. These great role models have found their personal 4-H stories within them, and have already started sharing them with us as current Ambassadors. We may one day be following in their footsteps as future collegiate 4-Hers and influence an entire new generation of 4-H'ers, just as they have influenced us. Using their stories as a guideline, I have started to discover my own 4-H story. Although my 4-H story is not quite fully developed, it currently is framed by the memories I have made and the experiences I have had the opportunity to take part in. Learning from hands on experience and participating in both Jana's and the collegiate 4-H'ers workshops, I definitely have to agree that Ambassadors 2012 was life-changing in several aspects.



*Photo courtesy of: Kortni Wells*

After hearing of several other 4-H'ers stories Sunday morning, I whisper that it is now *my* turn to write *my* story. I again repeat to myself that I can and will be able to take on any challenges thrown my way. If you are reading this, I can almost guarantee that 4-H has influenced you in some way. Respond to the challenge... have *you* started to write *your* 4-H story?

**\*\*HUGE THANKS** go out to Andy Smyth, Jana Kemp, Nancy Shelstad, Roxanne Berheim, Joel Packham, and University of Idaho Collegiate 4-Hers for all their hard work put into their great workshops and for everyone that made Ambassadors a success! \*\*

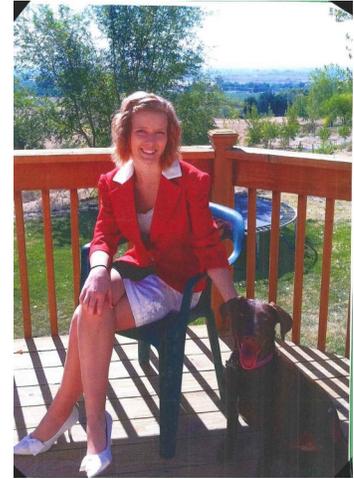
## 2012 IDAHO WOOL CONTEST WINNERS

Submitted by: *Jeni Bywater, Minidoka County 4-H Program Coordinator*

Each year the Promotion Division of the Idaho Wool Growers offers awards to Idaho 4-H members who make garments from wool fabric or yarn at the Basic and Advanced levels. Contestants participate in judging at the county level on construction and fit (style review or interview) and at the state level on construction and their Wool Contest Portfolio.

This year there were two entries; both being in the Advanced Level and both from District II. Allyson Sander from Ada County and Abby Platt from Canyon County.

Seventeen-year-old Abby Platt constructed a red wool jacket with plaid lining and a pencil skirt with black wool and white cherry blossom print made from 100% polyester. Abby had this to say in her portfolio: "Given that this is my last year and I wanted to sew something I could actually wear more than once I decided to do the Make It With Wool Contest and make myself a skirt and jacket for meetings and maybe even a possible office job. The jacket and pencil skirt is something I've always wanted but never could afford the price. Mom said, "If you can design your own prom dress, then you certainly can design your own suit." You know, she was right! I never could find ready-made in the colors or textures I wanted, and as you look at my suit, believe me, I like bright and bold! As the top scoring District winner, Abby receives a \$100.00 award. Abby also received a \$600 award and plaque as the Idaho State winner.



Eighteen-year-old Allyson Sander sewed a brown wool jacket and matching skirt. Allyson had this to say in her portfolio: "Overall, I found that I again learned many new things this year even though it was my second Sew Wow focus area project. I not only had the opportunity to work with new sewing tools but was also introduced to many new sewing concepts and techniques. Following the helpful illustrations and hints on such things as bound buttonholes, collar attachments, shoulder/center back easing, release lining in sleeve, garment-reinforcing techniques with interfacing and stay tape, all began to make sense as I practiced and then utilized them in the construction of my lined tailored suit jacket. A subsequent wool skirt was also constructed to not only complete the ensemble but constructed with an adapted waistband to allow for ease of dressing and ability for a quick and easy transition if altering and converting my outfit from a skirt to shorts that can now be worn underneath." Ally received a \$300 award and plaque for second place state winner.

Participants are divided into the four 4-H Extension Districts to determine district winners. In the Advanced Level, the top scoring entry from each District receives a \$100.00 award.

Thank you Idaho Wool Growers Association for your continued support.

## Horseshoe Bend 4-Her Returns from North American International Livestock Exposition

*Submitted by: Tina Reay, Idaho 4-H Volunteer and 4-H Parent*

The Eastern National 4-H Horse Round-Up took place on November 3, at the North American International Livestock Expo (NAILE) in Louisville, Kentucky. Each state had the opportunity to send contestants to the contest to compete in six categories: Horse Judging, Hippology, Horse Bowl, Public Speaking, Individual Presentation, and Team Presentation.

Sixteen-year-old Lainey Reay from Horseshoe Bend, competed in the Individual Presentation competition. While it may sound simple, over 300 participants from all over the country spent a whole day showcasing their knowledge of the horse. Lainey placed first in her division, returning to Idaho as a NATIONAL CHAMPION! "It was fantastic! I was excited just to have the opportunity to attend," Lainey stated. "When they announced my name as first place I was overwhelmed, it was an amazing experience!"

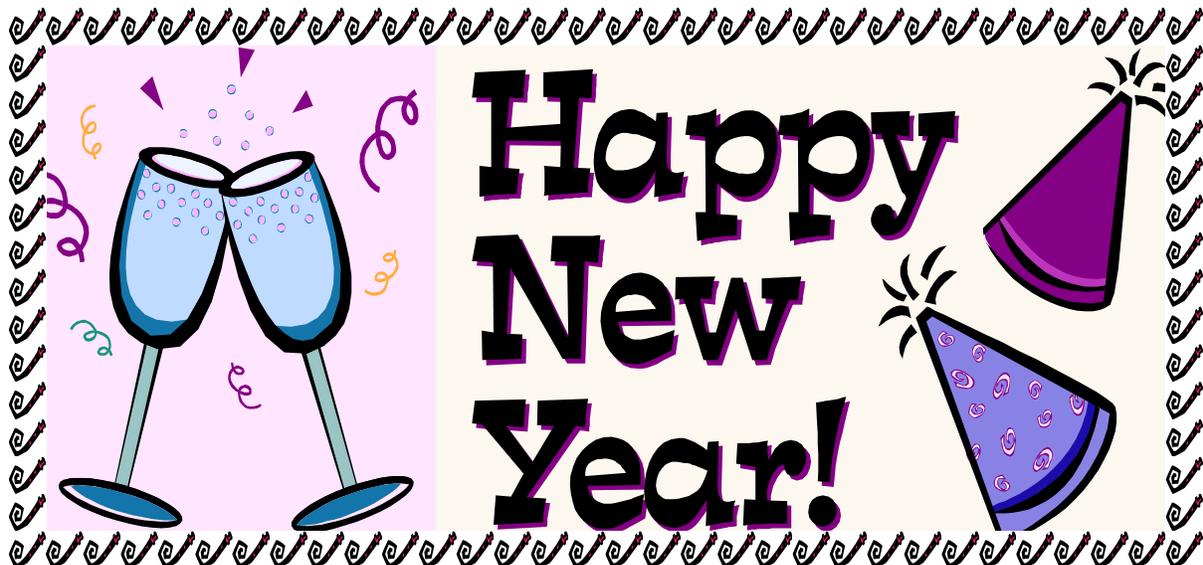
Lainey also won first place at the Idaho State 4-H Youth Horse contests in July with her speech, "The 4-H and Bureau of Land Management Wild Horse Project," which qualified her to attend Nationals. Since returning she has been asked to present before the University of Idaho Extension staff and the Boise Bureau of Land Management office. "I knew that even if I didn't place at the contest that good things would come from me going to Nationals. Public speaking is one of my favorite things about being in 4-H, I am honored coming back having represented Idaho 4-H."

It is incredible to note that the fear of public speaking tops the greatest fears that trouble people according to a popular survey. In fact, this fear comes ahead of people's fear of death, spiders, heights, and confined spaces. 4-H is known for producing amazing public speakers. Horse Project 4-H youth not only compete at the County level but can continue on to District, State and National events.

Lainey would like to thank everyone who supports 4-H. "We are lucky to have such a great program," Lainey stated. "My club the Lone Star Riders helped with my fundraising to attend Nationals and I also received many different scholarships and donations. Thank you all for your continued support of 4-H!"



*Photo courtesy of: Tina Reay*



# 4-H T.A.L.K. Retreat

**Teen Ambassador Leadership Kit**



**March 22-24, 2013**

**Become a  
voice for 4-H**

**Campus Grove Albion, ID**

**University of Idaho**  
Extension

Registration is limited to 48 youth who apply and who are within the ages of 13-18 on January 1, 2013. \$50 for the weekend, or return the registration by March 1, 2013 to receive a \$10 discount.

Be sure to apply early as the spaces go early for this popular retreat!

The T.A.L.K. kit includes:

- Personal notebook
- Workshop handouts
- 4-H Pledge, Creed, Motto
  - History of 4-H
  - 4-H Opportunities

You may go online to download the T.A.L.K. brochure at:

<http://www.uidaho.edu/~media/Files/Extension/4H/Events/Teen%20Conference/2013%20TALK%20Brochure.ashx>

# IMPACT

University of Idaho  
Extension

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## Idaho 4-H teens continue to TALK!

### The Situation

The Idaho 4-H Teen TALK (Teen Ambassador Leadership Kit) Retreat inspires and builds confidence in youth who want to learn how to promote 4-H in their communities, as well as for those who want to plan and organize 4-H events. This annual statewide retreat began in 2009 and was designed to teach teens the life skills they need to promote 4-H in their communities. Young people between the ages of twelve and fourteen tend to leave 4-H unless they are introduced to new challenges and programs. With this in mind, the TALK organizers felt teens would benefit directly from an intensive weekend retreat focusing on communication that was both challenging and fun. After four years, evaluations strongly indicate a continued need for this type of training and TALK appears to be successfully meeting that need.

### Our Response

The TALK Retreat was developed through a partnership between University of Idaho (UI) Extension faculty, 4-H professionals, youth and volunteers. Each of the planning committee members are responsible for teaching a workshop, as well as coordinating other parts of the weekend retreat. All of the housekeeping, cooking and extra activities are lead by adult volunteer chaperones and participating teens. The United Dairymen of Idaho and local community businesses donate food, supplies and educational materials. Guest speakers have included Miss Rodeo Idaho, a local restaurateur, area Police Departments, local independent business owners, county 4-H teen councils, the Albion Historic Museum curator, State 4-H Ambassador youth and UI student interns.



In 2012, forty two teens from across Idaho attended the fourth annual 4-H Teen TALK Retreat. Photo by Jeni Bywater.

TALK is held each March at Campus Grove in Albion, ID. The facility is the former Albion State Normal School and encompasses several acres of lawn and a renovated dormitory. It is now a privately owned retreat center. The location is somewhat isolated and space is limited but the retreat “atmosphere” provides a perfect setting to focus on learning valuable life skills while having fun with other teens from across Idaho.

Teens may attend TALK for two years. Odd numbered years’ curriculum focuses on workshops around writing press releases, creating posters and a personality awareness session. Teens who participate on even years attend workshops on event planning, goal setting and interviewing skills. At the end of two years, the teens have a completed binder of information called the Teen Ambassador Leadership Kit. This kit also includes information about photography, basic 4-H information and other materials from

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workshops or guest speakers the current year. This “kit” provides teens the tools needed to solve some of the problems they face when promoting and marketing 4-H. Ambassador polo shirts and business cards are also provided. Retreat participants are encouraged to become involved in other community organizations, in addition to 4-H, with active youth and adult partnerships.

### **Program Outcomes**

Twenty-nine teens, representing seven counties throughout Idaho registered for the 2009 TALK Retreat. In 2010, forty-eight teens (the retreat maximum) representing thirteen counties attended and in 2011, forty-eight teens from fifteen counties participated. In 2012 forty-two teens from fourteen counties attended.

Participants are asked to complete evaluations at the end of the retreat each year. In addition, information was gathered using the online tool, Survey Monkey, from both TALK participants and their local county 4-H professionals. The teens were asked about their experience and how they have used the information. The 4-H professionals were asked to determine the ways teens are using the communication skills they learned and the effectiveness of the TALK retreat. Some results from the teen’s Survey Monkey responses include:

- 67% felt they were prepared to go home and promote 4-H on their own
- 83% would ask County 4-H staff if they could help with activities
- 33% were using TALK materials to promote 4-H
- 50% referred to TALK materials to make posters and presentations
- 83% always wore their Ambassador polo shirt when promoting 4-H
- 83% used their Ambassador business cards
- 100% promoted, marketed or helped at a 4-H activity because of attending TALK
- 50% completed county 4-H Leadership projects as a result of attending TALK

The evaluation results indicated youth who attended TALK returned home to help promote 4-H locally and were prepared with the training and materials they received to successfully do so. The local 4-H staff working with the TALK teens are appreciative of the training and felt the teens have gained skills such as confidence, willingness to participate, better knowledge of the 4-H program and the ability to speak in front of people.

### **The Future**

The next 4-H Teen TALK Retreat is scheduled for March 22-24, 2013. Planning committee members anticipate strong attendance again and suggest teens register early to assure attendance. Registration information will be available at the 2012 State 4-H Leaders Forum. Alumni from TALK will staff a display and also be available to answer questions about the retreat.

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