

NORTH CAROLINA
AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

COMMUNICATING 4-H



Volume 1

Issue 2

October, 1985

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SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER

by
Mike Davis

The novelist Herman Hesse, in his classic Siddhartha, developed the plot of a young Hindu in search of meaning to his life. He was searching for a sense of order to deal with a complex and changing environment. His enlightenment came as he reached a beautiful river. Siddhartha reasoned, "The water continually flowed and flowed; always the same, yet every moment it was new!"

As Extension 4-H workers we too must separate the water from the river. Until we can make some sense of distinction between the "sameness" and the "newness" in our jobs we're going to have problems dealing with our environment. Discovering "what's the same" and "what's new" enables us to make reasoned judgments about developing systematic means of performing functions as efficiently and effectively as possible. Let's examine a couple of functions which are recurring and target desirable approaches to management. First, we know that as long as we do 4-H work we're going to be facilitating the organization and maintenance of learning groups or units. Each agent needs to adopt a coordinated systematic approach to how these units will be organized and supported. As a second example, accountability is an organizational imperative. We know we have to be accountable. It is most desirable that we develop an efficient method for dealing with member/leader data management. For this reason the state 4-H staff is currently developing such a computer assisted management tool which can be handled at the county level by use of your office computer.

(over)

Dalton R. Proctor
Assistant Director
Extension State 4-H Leader



Cooperative Extension Work in Agriculture and Home Economics
A&T and N.C. State Universities,
100 Counties, and U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperating.

SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER (continued from Page 1)

A final example of a recurring function is that of communication. Communicating 4-H to members, leaders, and sponsor/advocate groups is the way we continue to reach and involve people in 4-H curricula. The state 4-H newsletter, Communicating 4-H, is a primary tool for unifying the many "bits and pieces" of 4-H that can sometimes overwhelm us. As mailing costs continue to be of concern, this combined monthly mailing will reduce the frequency of single topic correspondence. Please take an opportunity to determine how you can use the newsletter information to the best advantage of our total county program. Develop a system for informing your clientele about state and local 4-H happenings.

Becoming more skillful at handling the "sameness" of our jobs gives us more opportunity to creatively explore the "newness" of uniquely different youth, adults, and program opportunities.

Mike Davis

STATE 4-H GROUP REPORT FORMS

Congratulations to the following counties who were selected as top group report form recipients. We encourage more of you to submit these forms next year...you're doing the work, just take time to give your county recognition.

Safety Group

1. Forsyth County 4-H Clubs - Eddie Leagans, Agent
2. Johnston County Cooperative 4-H Fire Safety Program - Phillip Ricks, Agent

Health Group

1. Randolph County's Happy Heifer 4-H Dairy Club - Lynn Qualls, Agent; Sigrid N. McCain, Leader
2. Forsyth County 4-H Teens - Helen Prince, Agent; Karen Simmons, Leader

Automotive Group

1. Forsyth County 4-H - Eddie Leagans, Agent; Hank Harris, Leader

Conservation of Natural Resources Group

1. Sampson County 4-H - Louise Ezzell, Agent
2. Forsyth County's Wildflowers Junior Garden Club - Helen Prince, Agent; Ola Linville, Leader

STATE 4-H GROUP REPORT FORMS
(Continued from Page 2)

Community Service

Western

McDowell County's Dysartsville Helping Hands
4-H Club - Margaret Thomas, Agent; Donna
Stevens, Leader

Northwestern

Randolph County's Happy Heifer 4-H Dairy Club -
Lynn Qualls, Agent; Sigrid McCain, Leader

Southwestern

Moore County's Jackson Spring's 4-H Club - John
Pettitt, Agent; Katherine Lawrence, Leader

North Central

Edgecombe County's Lucky Clovers 4-H Club - Lesa
Ramsey, Agent; Rell Killebrew, Leader

Southeastern

Scotland County's Equines 4-H Horse Club -
Dennis Epps, Agent; Pam Hudson, Leader

Sharon L. Runion

PROJECT/CURRICULUM UPDATE

In the last newsletter, we listed several projects which are in the process of being printed. I have checked with Agricultural Communications and have verified the following as available:

Mystery of Isadora	M-10-28
Food & Fitness	
--Choices for You	M-13-19P
Home Environment PPG	PG-17-16
Embryology I	M-21-32
Embryology II	M-21-33
Embryology Record	M-21-34
Youth Looks at Aging	
Leaders Guide	L-10-30
4-H Is	0-1-74
For Adults Only	0-1-145
Mysteries of Microwave	M-13-76
Martels of Microwave	M-13-77
Family Strengths	
Leaders Guide	L-10-29

Dog Care PPG (PG-1-146) and Camping PPG (PG-1-147) will be ready by the time you receive this newsletter. Red Meats (M-5-32 and M-5-33), Clothing PPG (PG-6-26) and Personal Appearance (M-6-23) will be ready November 15. Computers and Horse Record III will not be ready until December.

I apologize for the inconvenience. We were promised these publications by September 15 but a backlog has occurred.

Project Selection Sheets are here! Order them by using (0-1-4).

Sharon L. Runion

1985 4-H DIGESTS

National 4-H Council provides information in broad curriculum areas for your use. Enclosed with this month's newsletter are digests in Safety and Mechanical Sciences, Home Economics and Health, and Communications. Please review these pieces and share with all appropriate 4-H volunteers. Older members may like to review them as they prepare for cumulative record programs.

Sharon L. Runion

THE SEARCH IS ON!

Yes, the search is on again for the very best young adults possible to serve as 1986 summer 4-H camp staff. We had very fine staffs at each camp but must keep striving to hire the very best that we can.

Your help is needed to contact top-notch young people that might be interested in working next summer. Former 4-H'ers that are now in college are good prospects. In fact, 70% of our 1985 staff were made up of former 4-H'ers. Young single teachers are excellent prospects, also.

Two copies of the 1986 staff application form are enclosed with this newsletter. Please dispose of all old copies. Encourage applicants to send their completed form in by January 1, if possible.

J. Roland Flory

STATE COUNCIL PROJECT

"Heritage: Agriculture, Family, 4-H, Cultural Arts" is the central theme of the State 4-H Council Project with a state title of 4-H BACK TO THE FUTURE. This represents the commitment of our youth to apply the lessons of the past to create an exciting future. Incentives for participation will be: \$25 partial scholarships to 4-H Congress to the top three Heritage project entries from each district (age 14-19); ribbons and certificates presented at each District Activity Day to the top three entries (age 9-13); full scholarship to 4-H Congress to the state winner (age 14-19). Entry forms, criteria for selection, and BACK TO THE FUTURE clip art will be provided in a separate mailing.

Mike Davis

STATE 4-H PROJECT SCRAPBOOKS

Enclosed in this mailing is a message from Lou Williford, State 4-H Reporter, regarding project scrapbooks. Please share this information with your council and club reporters.

Mike Davis

4-H CLOTHING AND TEXTILES SCHOLARSHIP

The N. C. State University School of Textiles is offering a \$500 scholarship (renewable for 4 years) to one outstanding 4-H member each year who enrolls as a freshman at N. C. State and majors in Textiles. This scholarship will be listed in the 1986 Awards Handbook. Award recipients must have strong academic skills, excellent 4-H background, and clearly defined Textile career aspirations.

Mike Davis

TEEN LEADER RETREATS

Several area groups have conducted youth retreats or lock-ins for the purpose of teaching youth to teach. A feature of these programs have been contractual agreements where teens agree to spend a certain amount of time as project leaders.

Ashe, Alleghany, Wilkes, Watauga, and Surry Counties collaborated to train 25 youth to be project leaders in their latch-key programs. They utilize prepared curriculum guides such as "Discovery" and "I've Gotta Be Me" as materials for the youth to teach. Lenoir, Duplin, Columbus and Pitt Counties involved 35 youth in a familiar program focusing on "I've Gotta Be Me" as their curriculum. Wilson, Johnston, and Harnett Counties will be conducting an overnight lock-in program to train trainers also using "I've Gotta Be Me."

Area youth retreats and lock-ins are excellent means for meeting teen 4-H'er needs to perform in adult-like roles. They also can satisfy an organizational need to expand the number of project volunteers.

A slide/tape program giving the specifics on teen participants and their contractual expectations of program agenda and arrangements for facilities and meals is being prepared. It will be ready for use by the end of the year.

Judy M. Groff

LEADER RECOGNITION

Be reminded you have until December 1, 1985 to nominate volunteer leaders for recognitions to be presented at the 1986 Leaders' Conference. Specifically, the awards are as follows:

1. Achievement Hall of 4-H Leadership
2. Volunteer Leadership Teams
3. Individual Volunteers

A 1986 packet of recognitions will be forthcoming before the end of the year. The State 4-H Leaders'

READER RECOGNITIONS

These results suggest that the use of a single, standardized, and validated instrument to assess the impact of a program is a more reliable and valid method than the use of multiple, non-standardized, and non-validated instruments.

ASSISTANTS

participants to apply!