

impact

Invest in Wisconsin's 4-H Youth... Leaders of Tomorrow



John Haen of Haen Meat Packing, Inc., Kaukauna, presents a \$3,000 check from the Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors (WAMP) to Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Board President LeRoy Haeuser at the 2008 Governor's Sweepstakes Meat Products Auction.

Sweepstakes Meat Products Auction fundraiser. In addition to the \$3,000 check, the meat processors donate their winning entries from the State Fair Meat Products Show to the auction to raise funds in support of 4-H youth statewide. Nearly half a million dollars has been raised for Wisconsin 4-H youth from the Meat Products Auction.

WAMP has been working for the benefit and protection of small and medium sized meat firms since 1945. The Association represents independent meat plant operators to the regulatory agencies and the state legislature. WAMP, through these generally small, family-owned businesses, has annually displayed great generosity in supporting 4-H values and youth through their annual gift to the Foundation.



Director of the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation, Pat Harrington, expressed her gratitude for the donation efforts which have made youth programs possible throughout the years. "Thanks to WAMP, our youth can now look forward to more successful 4-H programs. Their awesome support helps us to give all Wisconsin 4-H youth a chance for a better future."

Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors Meets the Challenge!

The Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors (WAMP) stepped up and made its 9th annual contribution of \$3,000 to help fund Wisconsin 4-H Foundation programs. WAMP's generous support is of great benefit to the nearly 100,000 Wisconsin youth who are involved in 4-H activities.

WAMP has been a donor to the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation for 22 years. They also collaborate with the Foundation to organize the annual Governor's



Governor Jim Doyle addresses attendees at the 2008 Governor's Sweepstakes Meat Products Auction.



Wisconsin 4-H
Foundation, Inc

The Foundation's PURPOSE is:

To enhance Wisconsin 4-H by investing in Wisconsin's 4-H Youth... Leaders of Tomorrow.

The Foundation's MISSION is:

Generate resources to invest in successful 4-H Youth Development programs.

The Foundation's VISION is:

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation, Inc. will be a dynamic leader in expanding statewide support for 4-H Youth Development.



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From the President

In view of our ever changing world and especially our economic world, your Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Board of Directors as well as most folks, businesses, and organizations, are being challenged financially. As are all non-profit fundraising organizations. Your board decided early last year that we needed to focus as a group and work together to achieve our fundraising goals for Wisconsin 4-H. To promote that further, we planned a two-day meeting for April 2-3, 2009 to help us achieve our goals.

Mr. Bill Riley was our moderator from the Kansas 4-H Foundation. Working with Bill for two days opened us up to new ideas on board development and fundraising. In working with some of the ideas that Bill gave us and with the careful guidance of our Director, Pat Harrington, we are looking for great things to happen now and in the future.

I am very proud of our 4-H Foundation Board members for the job they are doing for you now and in the future. With that said, we still can't do it alone. We need your help! If you donated to the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation in the past, THANK YOU!! If you are thinking about donating again this year, THANK YOU!!! Nationwide, you would think that most of the money donated to charities or organizations comes from large corporations. The actual truth is that some 70% of all donations come from private citizens. So let's all "suit up," so to speak, and talk up 4-H. Those of us who have experienced 4-H in our youth realize what a positive experience it was and is still helping us later in life. If we who have experienced 4-H in our lives don't support 4-H, who will? If you are reading this, I know you support 4-H with your hard work, time and money. I just ask that you spread the word and remember "It's for the Kids"!

Sincerely,



LeRoy C. Haeuser

President, Wisconsin 4-H Foundation



LeRoy Haeuser.

4-H Foundation Dates to Remember

June 1, 2009 – 7th Annual Southern
Golf Classic, Dousman

June 15, 2009 – 2nd Annual Northern
Golf Classic, River Falls

June 24, 2009 – Wisconsin 4-H
Foundation Board Meeting

August 11, 2009 – 18th Annual
Governor's Sweepstakes
Meat Products Auction,
Wisconsin State Fair

September, 2009 – Wisconsin 4-H
Foundation Board Meeting

"4-H taught me many skills including leadership, communication, and planning to achieve goals."

– Tjark, Calumet County 4-H Youth

Bringing the World Into Your Home: 4-H International Programs

By: Michael Gobin, 4-H International Programs Assistant

We live in a world community, which means we need to look outside our national boundaries. Since 1958, Wisconsin 4-H has been doing just that. They have been sharing different parts of the globe with communities throughout the state. One way to learn about the people from other cultures is to live, work, and play side-by-side as family members. These types of cross-cultural experiences add to global education and promote peace. 4-H International Programs inspire people to invite visitors into their homes and provides chances for youth to experience other countries.

Every year, Wisconsin families have the opportunity to host month-long delegates from Japan, Korea, Costa Rica, and Mexico while delegates from Norway and Finland come every other year. There are also chances to host yearlong students from Eurasia on the Future Leader's Exchange Program (a U.S. State Department Scholarship Program) or from Japan on partner organizations LEX & Labo.

Delegates are placed with families starting in mid-February but as late as early-May. In order to host, a family must have a bed for the delegate (but not necessarily a room), have a child within 2 years of the same age as the delegate (families without children may still host a chaperone), and be able to be flexible, patient, and willing to communicate both verbally and non-verbally. In addition, families are expected to include the delegate in all family activities, show them their American life, participate in 4-H activities, and provide your family and the delegate a chance to learn about cultural differences.



Youth participants in the Wisconsin 4-H International Programs.

Wisconsin 4-H members also have a chance to travel abroad as a representative of 4-H. Exchanges are coordinated to Australia, Costa Rica, Finland, Japan, Korea, Norway, and Mexico. While abroad, members are given the opportunity to develop long-lasting friendships, to become better informed on global issues, and to better know and understand themselves. The program also helps increase self-esteem and confidence, because delegates

must adapt to new situations and different ways of communicating. Exchanging with a country is the best way to experience the day in the life of someone with completely different values, providing the members with an insider's viewpoint and positive cross-cultural attitudes, which enhance a neutral understanding and acceptance of people.

Overall, the goal of Wisconsin 4-H International Programs is to promote cultural diversity. In providing youth with a chance to know and appreciate people from other countries, 4-H is also allowing youth to better understand the community around them and provide acceptance to the cultures that are just down the street. Wisconsin 4-H International Programs develop the potential of the world's most valuable resource: its young people.



We Energies Recharges Wisconsin 4-H Future

By Michael Gobin

We Energies, by means of the Wisconsin Energy Foundation, is a major donor of two major statewide 4-H youth development programs. For many years, they have supported 4-H multicultural education programs as well as community service projects done by 4-H clubs.

We Energies is headquartered in Milwaukee, where it originated over one hundred years ago. Its subsidiaries engage in electric generation, and electric, gas, steam and water power distribution. The Wisconsin Energy Foundation is one of the largest corporate foundations in the state of Wisconsin. Supported only from the shareholder portion of earnings and dividends, they are able to positively influence the communities they service without ever hurting their customer's service rates.

Because of their continued support, 4-H programs have been able to teach members and their communities the value of diversity and multiculturalism. They have been able to meet youth of diverse cultures as well as see what makes youth different within their own community.

In addition, We Energies has provided 4-H clubs the opportunity to engage in volunteer service to their community. Youth learn responsibility, problem solving, teamwork, and planning. In the long run, the community benefits from their time and work and youth benefit by the development of their leadership skills.

We Energies helps recharge the excitement, opportunity, and dedication Wisconsin 4-H has for the community and for the world.

Major Sponsors of the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation's 2009 Governor's Sweepstakes Meat Products Auction

Rupena's Fine Foods, Milwaukee

The meal catered by Rupena's is always a highlight of the annual Meat Products Auction. For over a dozen years, Rupena's Fine Foods has supported Wisconsin 4-H youth at the auction and through other 4-H programs. Rupena's has been in business since 1927 and is well known for its quality catering services, custom cut meat department, homemade products deli, in-house bakery, and their West Allis restaurant.

Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors

The Wisconsin Association of Meat Processors (WAMP) has supported the meat products auction as a fundraiser for 4-H youth since the auction's start in 1991 by their donation of the prize winning meats as well as their financial sponsorship. WAMP is run by independent meat plant owners and operators, and provides legislative representation, hosts the largest cured meat products show in the U.S., and offers member education and resources.

Wisconsin State Fair

The Wisconsin State Fair's Meat Products Show and use of the State Fair facilities for our Meat Products Auction provide in-kind support for the event. In addition, their staff support helps the auction to run smoothly. The Wisconsin State Fair, which has been in existence since 1851, is an educational, fun-filled, exciting eleven days filled with competition, new products, and family entertainment.



Dear Wisconsin 4-H Supporter,

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation cordially invites you to attend our 18th Annual Governor's Sweepstakes Meat Products Auction on Tuesday, August 11th at the Wisconsin State Fair. It's an opportunity to "Invest in Wisconsin's 4-H Youth...Leaders of Tomorrow," as all proceeds from the auction benefit the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation.

Nearly 100 years ago, Wisconsin 4-H formed its first club. Today, nearly 100,000 youth benefit from the 4-H programs offered in every county, including both urban and rural areas. Today's 4-H youth are as apt to be enrolled in computer technology as in cooking, as apt to be working on community service as on cows. But Wisconsin 4-H still focuses on developing leadership, communication, and citizenship skills in youth, giving them the skills to be good leaders, good workers, and good community members.

Our Meat Products Auction brings together business owners, 4-H supporters, elected and appointed officials, and UW-Extension faculty for an evening of great food, outstanding fun and support of a fine cause, as we raise funds for Wisconsin 4-H programs. Last year's auction netted \$33,000, supporting a variety of statewide 4-H programs for boys and girls of all ages.

For more information on how to order your tickets for the 18th Annual Governor's Sweepstakes Meat Products Auction, please contact the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation at 608-262-1597 or visit our website at www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/foundation.

Sincerely,

Patricia Harrington, Director
Wisconsin 4-H Foundation

Beef Up Your Support!

- 18th Annual Governor's Sweepstakes Meat Products Auction
- **Tuesday, August 11, 2009 5:00-8:30PM** in the Ag Oasis tent at the Wisconsin State Fair
- Tickets: \$40 per person, includes parking, entrance, dinner, plus a bidding paddle!
- Contact Donna Faulkner at 608-262-1597 or donna.faulkner@uwex.edu for more information.



You Can Make an Impact on Wisconsin 4-H

By Jamie Wall, Wisconsin 4-H Foundation Board Member

It's never easy to raise money. Our current economic troubles aside, the number of charities competing for donations has multiplied dramatically in recent decades. I don't think my grandparents were asked to donate to many causes – their church dues and the odd gift to the March of Dimes probably did it. My own charitable giving, modest as it is, is split between five or six causes including, of course, Wisconsin 4-H. And, like all of us, I ignore dozens of solicitations every month from various worthy causes.

So why do people donate to a particular group? In many cases, it's because of personal history. (My positive experiences with 4-H as a child account for my involvement with the 4-H Foundation now.) In others, they feel a particular rational or emotional tie for a particular cause. (My own travels and a well-timed book led to my donations to another charity.) But sometimes people give simply because someone asked them.

That's why the best fundraisers are willing to ask. Even if they say no, people almost always respect a request for a donation. They recognize you're working for a good cause that you value – after all, the mere fact that you asked tells them that you're willing to put your time, energy, and ego on the line for it. Most people want at some level to make a bigger difference in our world. Asking them to support a worthy cause gives them a chance to do so.

A willingness to ask isn't enough on its own, however. You also need to know, or be willing to find, people who have the ability to give. All of us have networks of friends and family. (Life would be pretty miserable without them.) Some of us have jobs, or interests, that bring us in touch with many people around our communities or professions. Those networks are obviously useful professionally – one of the reasons people cultivate them is economic self-interest. (You never know who is going to provide you with a new opportunity, but the more connected you are the better your odds are of finding it.) The same networks can also be put to work for other causes, including your favorite charity.

We appreciate your support of Wisconsin 4-H, whether it takes the form of time or money. Your personal networks are another resource that you can put to work to find new donors and volunteers. These can either be people you know directly or can access through others. We have a good story to tell about the Wisconsin 4-H program. Your willingness to tell it, to the right people, will help determine the success of this generation of Wisconsin 4-H members.



Jamie Wall.

"This life-changing experience would not have been possible if not for your generosity, and I thank you for that and hope that future members will also have the chance to attend."

– Krieg, Fond du Lac County 4-H Youth

To make an **IMPACT** for Wisconsin 4-H you can...

***Make a donation that will benefit 4-H youth statewide**

\$25 _____

\$50 _____

\$100 _____

\$250 _____

Other \$ _____

***Be a State 4-H Sponsor**

\$1,000 Green Clover _____

\$2,500 Bronze Clover _____

\$5,000 Silver Clover _____

\$7,500 Gold Clover _____

***Make a Bequest** _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Thank you

Make your donation to the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation,
428 Lowell Hall, 610 Langdon St.
Madison, WI 53703

Excerpts from 2008 4-H Club Community Service Grants

We have received summary reports from the 4-H Clubs who were awarded grants from the We Energies donation for their 2008 community service projects. Clubs planned and implemented projects ranging from “Better Readers for a Better Future” to “Make Everyday Earth Day,” from fairgrounds and parks beautification to fleece blankets for shelters and hospitals. Following are comments from some of the projects:

- “The Clear Lake Community Garden Project was a tremendous success, as the garden was able to provide a generous amount of carrots, beets, squash, green peppers, and tomatoes for both the food shelf and the local meals on wheels program. This project really showed our 4-Hers how a community working together, giving their time and talents, can truly benefit the local people in need, showing youth that their work is visibly helping others.” Little Falls Livewires 4-H Club
- “Our Senior Citizen Holiday Dinner was a great success. We got many positive comments from the elderly people who attended the event. I saw so many people leaving with smiles on their faces, complimenting the kids on such a wonderful job. I felt the dinner was a success because of how happy we were able to make the senior citizens.” Hannah, Lakeviewers 4-H Club
- The evaluation for the Buffalo County 4-H Youth Council’s community service project showed that the youth learned about working with others cooperatively, to plan, organize, and implement an event, plan a financial budget, and practice leadership skills. One youth wrote, “I am happy and proud of the work that we did because I learned that we as youth can successfully put together a fruitful event.”

Wisconsin 4-H Community Service Grant Recipients of 2009 Funded by We Energies

By Caileigh Robertson, student volunteer

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation is proud to announce the recipients of the 2009 4-H Clubs’ Community Service Grants. These grants, supported by the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation and We Energies, provide funds for 4-H Clubs’ community service projects. We Energies has been the sponsor of the 4-H Clubs’ Community Service Grants since 2005.

Wisconsin 4-H youth determine and lead the service projects with assistance from adults. Each project provides a lasting, positive impact on the 4-H community and the individuals involved. The Wisconsin 4-H clubs work in partnerships with outside organizations and individuals to learn responsibility, problem solving, teamwork, and planning. This rewarding experience improves their communities and benefits those who are influenced by their service.



4-Hers from Buffalo County showed their community commitment with a meal for low-income families & elderly - 2008.

The 4-H Clubs’ Community Service Grant recipients for 2009 are as follows:

- Adams County, Thrifty Plans 4-H Club for “Bird Feeders for Seniors” project.
- Dodge County, Dodge Co. 4-H Older Youth Club for “Project Lend a Hand.”
- Fond du Lac County, Ledger’s 4-H Club for “Francis & Faith Hermann’s Park Garden” project.
- Iowa County, Bloomfield Buddies 4-H Club for “Fire Protection and Awareness.”
- Iowa County, Country Cardinals 4-H Club for “Conkerr Cancer Pillowcases for Kids” project.
- Juneau County, Necedah Cardinal 4-H Club for “Cardinal Club Recycling.”
- Langlade County, Strassburg Everready 4-H Club for “Bird Design” project.
- Langlade County, Tripple Progress 4-H Club for “Landglade County Humane Society” project.
- Marathon County, Texas Ramblers 4-H Club for “Jesse Field Park Cleanup Day.”
- Pierce County, Falcon Falls 4-H Club for “Tie Blankets for the Less Fortunate.”
- Rock County, LaPrairie 4-H Club for “A Garden for the Janesville Community.”
- Sauk County, 4-Star 4-H Club for “Draft-Catcher Energy Savers.”
- Shawano County, Caroline Aces 4-H Club for “Totes for Walkers.”
- Sheboygan County, Mosel Farm and Home 4-H Club for “Headstart Helpers.”
- Waupaca County, Lind Center Beavers 4-H Club for “Animal Haven Zoo Flowerbeds – Stepping Stone Path” project.
- Waukesha County, Falls Busy Beavers 4-H Club for “Blankets/Throws for Seniors at Adult Day Care.”
- Winnebago County, Ridgeway 4-H Club for “Oshkosh Area Community Food Pantry Children’s Area” project.
- Wood County, Webster 4-H Club for “Park Beautification” project.

Congratulations to all of the recipients of the 2009 4-H Clubs’ Community Service Grants!

Thank you to We Energies for their support of 4-H Clubs’ community service work!

2008 Fall Youth Leadership Conference

Many counties experience the same trend – that as 4-H members become older they tend to participate more in school or other activities than in 4-H. The Southern District Leadership Team (SDLT) is a team of older 4-H youth (7th grade and older) from the southern district counties that saw this same trend. SDLT identified “Increasing active participation by older youth in the 4-H program,” as a need or goal of the group at a retreat in 2004. For the next three years, they held a SDLT conference that was successful in retaining older youth. In 2008, the 4th annual 4-H Fall Youth Leadership Conference was held to create excitement and energy in 4-H members in 7th grade and above – in hopes that conference attendees would take that excitement back to their clubs and counties to create more vibrant youth groups.

Due to the success of the SDLT conference for the first three years, the November 5, 2008 conference was opened to youth statewide. Planning for the conference was still the responsibility of the Southern District. The conference planning team included six older youth from two counties, as well as six 4-H Youth Development Agents.

A total of 199 people participated in the conference: 6 conference planning committee youth members, 6 4-H Youth Development Agents, 155 youth participants, 23 adult participants, and 9 session presenters. The conference consisted of an opening program, 3 break-out sessions, and a closing program. All sessions reinforced the leadership and life skills gained through the 4-H program and the importance of continuing to build those skills through the program.

132 of the 155 youth participants completed an end of the 2008 conference questionnaire. The survey asked the participants to evaluate the conference components and their likelihood of using the knowledge gained in their 4-H programs.

- 94% of the respondents reported that they are planning on becoming more actively involved in 4-H because of their participation in the conference.
- When asked to list everything that the participants learned in the conference, leadership skills, communication, and how to make meetings more fun were re-occurring topics.
- 100% of the respondents reported that they would use information from this conference in their 4-H club or county program.
- When asked why they choose to attend this conference, the number one reason was “to learn leadership skills.”

Surveys from the three previous conferences echoed the same results. See below for highlights of the 2007 conference results.

Follow-Up Survey from the 2007 SDLT Conference

In a follow-up survey to the 2007 SDLT conference,

- 55% of the 2007 conference participants indicated that they used information from that conference in their club or county 4-H program.
- 50% of participants indicated that they became more active in 4-H due to their participation in the conference.

2009 State 4-H Sponsors Announced

The Wisconsin 4-H Foundation is pleased to announce the 2009 State 4-H Sponsors. These sponsors will be listed on signage at state 4-H events throughout the year as supporters of Wisconsin 4-H youth. The impact of their gifts helps programs in all of the major project areas, and benefits youth around the state. The State 4-H Sponsors are a valuable part of the Wisconsin 4-H community and we thank them for their support.

Silver Clover Level



Badgerland Financial



Rural Mutual Insurance Company

Bronze Clover Level

Cousins Sub Systems, Inc.
Sargento Foods, Inc.

Green Clover Level

Sartori Food Corporation
Bill Shaw

If you are interested in becoming a Wisconsin State 4-H Sponsor, you can still sign up for the July, 2009 to July 2010 time period, and receive a year's worth of recognition for your support of Wisconsin 4-H. Contact Pat Harrington at the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation office at 608-262-1285 or pat.harrington@uwex.

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