The Alabama 4-H Wall of Fame

December 7, 2010

Alabama 4-H Environmental Science Education Center

Alabama 4-H Center

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The Alabama 4-H Wall of Fame

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The Alabama 4-H Wall of Fame recognizes individuals and organizations that have had a significant impact on the 4-H & Youth Development program, its members and leaders. The Alabama 4-H Club Foundation, Inc. and Alabama 4-H honors, remembers and pays tribute to those who have influenced the lives of Alabama youth by their commitment “To Make The Best Better.”

Master of Ceremonies
Margaret Lawrence
Specialist III, Communications & Marketing
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

Welcome
Dorman K. Grace
Chairman
Alabama 4-H Club Foundation, Inc.

Recognition of National 4-H Hall of Fame Inductee
W. Gaines Smith
Director
Alabama Cooperative Extension System

Recognition of Inductees
Margaret Lawrence

Closing Remarks
C. Lamar Nichols
Assistant Director, 4-H Youth Development
Alabama Cooperative Extension System
2010 National 4-H Salute to Excellence
Outstanding Lifetime Volunteer

Patricia Bryant
4-H Volunteer, Epes, Alabama

A dedicated and passionate 4-H volunteer for 19 years, Patricia Bryant engages youth, recruits volunteers statewide and raises funds to support 4-H. She feels strongly that leadership and citizenship are core life skills she learned as a youth in 4-H and she works to instill those values in youth.

Selected for the highest honor National 4-H bestows on volunteers, Mrs. Bryant received the award during an Oct. 9 ceremony at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, Md.

As a volunteer and advocate, Mrs. Bryant has mentored hundreds of west Alabama youth, working to instill in them a sense of self-worth and responsibility. “I have walked beside 4-H’ers, listened to and traveled with them, raised money to go to camp, joined them on field trips, encouraged them and recruited other volunteers to help them out,” she says. “My greatest fulfillment as a 4-H volunteer is to see a child who is not smiling and then learn something new and see their smile.”

She was inducted into the Alabama 4-H Wall of Fame in 2009.
Alabama Farmers Cooperative Inc. and Bonnie Plants support the 4-H program throughout the state of Alabama. Reaching across the history of Alabama 4-H, store managers and staff provide countless volunteer hours and donor support to individual clubs and county programs.

The AFC Cooperative Farming News has featured the column “Alabama 4-H and Extension Corner” since July 2005. To date, 64 columns have been produced highlighting 4-H activities in local communities, ranging from the recent poultry chick-chain project to forestry judging and life skills learned.

The Alabama 4-H Junior Master Gardener program is a direct result of the financial support of AFC and Bonnie Plants Inc. More than $175,000 has been committed to the program, allowing 4-H staff to provide JMG programming and support local grants to JMG clubs, ensuring it is one of the most successful programs in 4-H. More than 4,500 youth participated in 150 JMG clubs in the 2010 4-H year. For 2011, an additional 60 JMG clubs have already registered.

JMG clubs are varied: Castlen Elementary School in Grand Bay is the first school in the state in which every teacher is a trained JMG volunteer, and Thursdays are dedicated to JMG in all classrooms, kindergarten through fifth grade. In Jefferson County, horticulture therapists have been trained as JMG volunteers. They work with special needs high school students using the JMG curriculum to train youth in plant science and job science skills in work force preparation.

Nominated by the Alabama 4-H Club Foundation, Inc.
were added. I spent the entire summer of 1967 in southern Argentina with United Methodist missions. On July 22, 1967 the group I was working with was enjoying a two-day retreat in the Andes Mountains about 50 miles from our base. A heavy snow began to fall and we became snowbound. The old bus that had gotten us up the mountain could not get us down. To our rescue came a young Argentine with his tractor. He helped us down the mountain. In the course of conversation with this angel of mercy, he asked ‘Is anyone here a 4-Her?’ He had been on a 4-H exchange to the Midwest some years before. Out of 25 on the bus, I was the only 4-Her. We were thrilled to share 4-H stories. Before parting he said, ‘I want to give you something.’ We stopped by his farm where he gave me 40 beautiful white chickens in wooden crates. He tied them to the top of our bus, and we headed back to our base. I was the only farm girl in the group. I grew up on a dairy farm and my 4-H projects did not include chickens, but I knew I had to pinch hit as best I could. Without anyone ever knowing that I knew nothing about what I was doing, I demonstrated the preparing of the chickens from beginning to end, recruited the assistance of a few brave souls and prepared southern fried chicken for the group. We were on a limited budget that summer, and the chickens were our meat for that week!

“Throughout life, 4-H connectedness has provided joy, comfort and shared memories. My work with public health has taken me into 16 southwest Alabama counties. It is always exciting to run into a familiar face or name and renew friendships. To this day, I am thrilled to hear a former county Extension coordinator’s (Ralph Thompson) voice on the phone or see him and his lovely wife come for a visit.

“The 4-H family is global. While projects have changed and teaching methods have evolved, the core of relationship building remains a key to sustaining individuals wherever life may lead.”

Nominated by Ralph Thompson
Ms. Taylor continues to provide training on 4-H clubs to newly hired staff members. She has received an honorary coin from an Army youth development specialist for her work with the Army 4-H clubs. She was also coined by the Army Materiel Command for her training.

Nominated by Wanda Phariss

Barbara Crapps  
**RSVP of Barbour County Executive Director**

For more than 30 years, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) of Barbour County has supported the county 4-H program with both resource volunteers and trained chaperons. Executive Director Barbara Crapps has been extremely helpful and always ready to assist in any Extension program.

RSVP of Barbour County volunteers serve as judges for projects, and as chaperons for out-of-town programs and 4-H camp. They have staffed workshops on “Dress for Success” and “Welcome to the Real World.” They provide expertise on manners, job interviews and work skills.

More than 60 adults have volunteered for various Extension programs and events.

Mrs. Crapps has served as co-chair of “America’s Promise in Barbour County;” president of House of Ruth, a domestic violence center; president of Alabama Leaders in Volunteer Efforts (ALIVE); and has served on the state commission for National and Community Services. She is a certified volunteer administrator and has received certificates of recognition for her service for Alabama governors and Presidents Reagan and Clinton.

Nominated by Ruth Hunter

Ruth Sherman Underwood  
**Baldwin County 4-H Alumna**

Ruth Sherman Underwood grew up on a dairy farm in Baldwin County. She carried many projects in 4-H. She was named the State Dairy Foods winner in 1961 and attended National 4-H Congress in Chicago. She was nominated to represent Alabama at National Youth Power Congress in 1962 and selected as the return delegate the following year.

In 1963, Ruth served as president of the State 4-H Council and gave speeches throughout the state aimed at raising funds for the Alabama 4-H Center. She was one of eight U.S. representatives to National Canadian 4-H Congress in 1964 to Ottawa and Toronto.

She was a member of the Auburn University Collegiate 4-H Club. As an adult volunteer, she received the Outstanding Alabama 4-H Leader in 1985 and attended the Salute to Excellence Conference at the National 4-H Center. The Underwood family sponsored the 4-H Youth Exchange between Baldwin County and Utica, N.Y. in 1989 and 1990. Ruth chaperoned 4-Hers on the trip to Utica and hosted New York 4-Hers the following year.

In her own words: “There are so many good memories of skills learned, life lessons learned and the special impact of my local 4-H leaders and county agents. One of my local leaders was a perfectionist who taught me the love of bread baking and instilled in me perseverance. The other taught me the joy of doing things for others and taught me to balance work, community and family life. In addition to my parents, these local leaders and county agents helped form my personality and life goals.

“The story I choose to share, however, is not tied to an event during my specific 4-H years, but rather to the connectedness participation in 4-H provides. In my youth, our pledge was, ‘I pledge my head to clearer thinking, my heart to greater loyalty, my hands to larger service, and my health to better living for my club, my community and my country.’ Later, the words....and my world...
DeBorah Darrington
Mobile 4-H Volunteer

From toddlers to teens — this is a good way to describe the impact made by this longtime 4-H volunteer leader.

Ms. Darrington has been a kindergarten teacher with the Mobile County Public School System for more than 28 years. She has volunteered as a 4-H leader for Clover Buds, 4-H in-school clubs and 4-H church teen clubs, 4-H junior leaders and the 4-H animal science club. Any time a 4-H event is held, she can be counted on to attend as a volunteer or as a judge.

She has always found the time to teach children about the earth, nature, conservation and good stewardship. She has volunteered as the 4-H leader for a group of teens as part of a 4-H afterschool program. This club did everything from entering cooking contests, to public speaking, to planting acres of trees in forests and plants in wetlands.

She still teaches at an elementary school that received the 4-H Club of the Year Award for many years, due in part to her unswerving dedication to 4-H. Her current contribution in helping continue the 4-H mission is to involve approximately 500 kindergarten-through third-grade students in the Clover Bud program.

It has been said that a good teacher is not just a leader to be followed, but a guide who suggests and steps out of the way and encourages the student to find their own way. DeBorah Darrington is blessed with a talent for inspiring and encouraging young people and has used this talent successfully in 4-H for many years. These 4-H’ers will use their talents to better their world.

Nominated by Maranda Marks

Carolyn Taylor
Redstone Arsenal Child Youth and School Services

Carolyn Taylor has worked with Child Youth and School Services on Redstone Arsenal for 21 years. For 14 years, she has been a trainer for several programs. Her official title is training and programming specialist, and she trains the staff in the following programs: School Age Services, Youth Services, Family Child Care, Youth Sports, and SKIES Unlimited.

In the 1990s, the Department of the Army began 4-H clubs on each Army installation in the school age and youth programs. Ms. Taylor worked with the Madison County Extension staff in establishing these clubs at Redstone Arsenal. She worked with Extension personnel in scheduling training for the staff and in providing materials for the clubs.

The 4-H clubs are flourishing at Redstone Arsenal and meetings are held during afterschool hours. The clubs focus on cooking, arts, technology, gardening, citizenship and photography. There is even a Cloverbud 4-H club for younger children at the School Age Center.

Ms. Taylor has attended many trainings and workshops at the 4-H Center in Columbiana over the years. After attending the Science, Engineering, and Technology training, she worked with the technology specialist at Redstone in writing a grant. Redstone Arsenal received robotics, rocketry and conceptual design kits to be used in the programs.

In March 2010, Ms. Taylor attended the Army 4-H 101 Reset training in Maryland. Upon returning to Redstone Arsenal, she trained the CYSS staffs on all of the new initiatives in 4-H.

Ms. Taylor has served as a judge for 4-H public speaking contests. She has worked at the Urban Farm Day program. In the past year, she has partnered with Extension agents in holding a 4-H Energy Day and a Family Fun Day at the Redstone Youth Center.

Nominated by Ruth Hunter

DeKalb County VFW Fairgrounds
County 4-H Partner

The volunteers and staff for the DeKalb County VFW Fairgrounds have always been great partners with the DeKalb County 4-H program. Since the opening of the fairgrounds, they have always been willing to help youth and especially to host 4-H county and area events.
Most recently, they have opened the gates to host the County 4-H Round-Up, the Regional 4-H Beef Showmanship Clinic and the DeKalb County 4-H Chick-Chain. The chick-chain involved a place for the youth to pick up their chickens and then return to the show and sale at a future date.

No matter the event or the time of the year, the folks at the VFW fairgrounds are always willing to open their doors to the youth of DeKalb County and the 4-H program. They do this at no charge to the program, which enables the 4-H program to do greater work for a larger number of area young people.

The individuals running the fairgrounds are always kind, gracious, professional and supportive both at the event and in the wider community. They provide a clean and well-thought-out location for area events. They take great pride in what they do and in the service that they provide to the residents of DeKalb County.

Nominated by Amy Burgess

Mark C. Espy Sr.
Headland National Bank
Member, Alabama 4-H Club Foundation, Inc.

Mark C. Espy Sr. is a long-time member of the Alabama 4-H Club Foundation Inc. Board of Directors. He has served as the vice-chairman from 1992 to 2002, and has served an additional 10 years on the board.

Espy was a critical member of the 4-H Foundation board during the capital campaign, which raised $7 million to benefit the Alabama 4-H Center and Alabama 4-H programs statewide.

He currently serves on the Foundation’s finance committee where his banking experience at Headland National Bank and investment knowledge has helped the Foundation continue to manage and invest profits wisely.

Espy began his lifelong association with 4-H in the fifth grade at Headland Elementary School and remained active in his teen years through the 4-H/FFA cattle shows. He remembers being 4-H club president in fifth grade and has fond memories of showing calves from the fifth through 12th grades at the Henry County show as well as at the Tri-States Show in Dothan.

He credits 4-H for developing the leadership skills he uses today as a successful banker. Following graduation from Auburn University in agricultural

in Extension, Mr. Pair served as community leader. His involvement in the Kiwanis, the Farmers Federation and other organizations encouraged those groups to support 4-H through funding. Mr. Pair continues to serve on the Kiwanis farm committee, which hosts the annual Farm City Luncheon for Calhoun County. He received the Hixon Award for his outstanding work with Kiwanis.

A successful businessman once said that Mr. Pair taught him how to properly shake hands. The businessman also talked about planting pine trees as a 4-Her, which helped pay his way through college. Mr. Pair served as a role model for many youth and young Extension agents. He truly made a significant impact on Alabama through his 4-H career.

Nominated by Ruth Sarro

Barbara Shipman
Barbour County 4-H Volunteer

Barbara Shipman has been a 4-H direct volunteer for more than five years in Barbour County. She is dedicated to the youth in the county and gladly goes to events and activities. She conducts 4-H club meetings in Barbour County intermediate and middle schools.

Mrs. Shipman has secured sponsors for 4-H camp, educational trips and forums that involve youth learning ways to improve their knowledge and skill “To Make the Best Better.”

Mrs. Shipman completed the Barbour County Leadership Program in 2008. From there, she accepted team responsibility for the youth component for 2009. There were 15 youth who graduated in the program.

During the summer, she secured funding to subsidize youth for their work in the Summer Farmers Market Program. These youth learned many different things along with gardening. The work skills taught will help them earn jobs in the future.

Mrs. Shipman served as the 2009 president of the Alabama 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association.
Mrs. Manship Hardy’s commitment to Randolph County 4-Hers is in honor of her late husband Mr. Carl Manship. Mr. Manship was a school teacher and a 4-H volunteer leader for many years before his death in 1976. The Manships, who never had children of their own, wanted to give youth in Randolph County every opportunity to reach their goals and obtain a higher education. Mrs. Manship Hardy said, “4-H was where Mr. Manship’s heart was and he and I want his legacy to live on through a scholarship fund.”

Mrs. Manship Hardy has continued to touch the lives of 4-H members across Randolph County through her generosity and commitment.

Nominated by Christine Hardin

Lelias (Les) G. Pair
Calhoun County Extension Coordinator

On Aug. 30, 1948, Lelias G. Pair began work as 4-H assistant county agent in Walker County. Working with 700-800 youth in 12 different schools, Pair developed an outstanding beef calf program with district and state winners. One of those beef calf winners was Terrell Guthrie, who served as president of the Walker County 4-H Club Council. (Terrell went on to become an Extension agent and first manager of the 4-H Center.) During his five years in Walker County, Pair chaperoned 4-Hers at the National 4-H Congress in Chicago in 1952.

After operating a farm supply store in Montevallo for four years, Pair returned to the Extension Service as 4-H assistant county agent in Calhoun County in 1957. He worked with 17 clubs involving 900–1,000 youth in Calhoun County. Programs were developed in beef, dairy, poultry, electricity, tractor maintenance and home gardening.

Pair had district and state winners each year, with a total of 13 state winners while he led 4-H programs. He worked with the 4-H program in Calhoun County until 1968. The 4-H sponsorship from the Anniston Kiwanis Club, which began during this time, continues to this day, largely through his influence.

Mr. Pair worked with the adult agriculture program from 1968 until his retirement in 1983. During that time period, he served as county agent coordinator in St. Clair and Calhoun counties. During his 33 year career administration in 1965, Espy started at The Headland National Bank in January 1966 as a loan teller and worked his way through the ranks.

His interest in cattle and agriculture extended from his 4-H years as he continues in the cattle business today with a small Limousin herd. He also owns registered quarter horses, another passion from his 4-H youth.

Nominated by Alabama 4-H Club Foundation, Inc.

William E. and Vivian Garrett
Shelby County 4-H Volunteers

I pledge my head to clearer thinking; My heart to greater loyalty; my hands to larger service; and my health to better living; For my club, my community, my county and my world. Many people know the 4-H Pledge, but two 4-H volunteers have been reciting it for more than 12 years in Shelby County: William (Bill) and Vivian Garrett.

Bill and Vivian have four daughters who are 4-H alumnae and one that is currently active in Alabama 4-H. Vivian leads the Hope Christian 4-H Club with the help and support of her husband. They both have coached numerous wildlife teams and won several championships. They are both members of the Alabama 4-H Volunteer Association, with Bill serving as the 2007 president.

In 2008, Bill was diagnosed with cancer. As with any person, the entire Shelby County 4-H membership was concerned. During his treatment and recovery, Bill continued to be a 4-H volunteer and helped when he could. He was also there supporting his daughters and other members in county, regional and state events.

Bill and Vivian Garrett go beyond the call of duty as 4-H volunteers. They teach 4-H members great leadership and community service. Mother Teresa stated, “It is not how much we do, but how much love we put in the doing. It is not how much we give, but how much love we put in the giving.” This quote truly exemplifies the Garretts’ love of Alabama 4-H.

Nominated by Joy Maxwell and Shelby County 4-H
In 1990, Hubbard left Auburn Athletics to head up Auburn’s radio and television sports network; four years later, he formed his own company, Auburn Network, Inc., to handle Auburn’s multimedia rights. In 2003, Hubbard sold the multimedia sports division to International Sports Properties and continues to serve as president of ISP Auburn.

Hubbard’s company, Auburn Network, Inc., owns and operates two commercial radio stations, an audio production company, a regional quarterly magazine and is also a partner in a commercial printing company.

In 1998, Hubbard was first elected to the Alabama Legislature and continues to represent the voters of District 79. He currently is House minority leader, the highest-ranking Republican in the House of Representatives.

Hubbard is a willing and active supporter of Alabama 4-H. He is a founding Legislative Sponsor of Citizenship Alabama Focus, an Alabama 4-H program started in 2008 to teach Alabama youth citizenship and leadership skills they can put to use in their hometowns. He was instrumental in providing guidance and insight into the creation of CAF and has served as a keynote speaker. Additionally, Hubbard has provided statewide marketing and promotional support to 4-H.

Georgia 4-H taught Mike Hubbard 4-H skills; Alabama 4-H is grateful to be one of the many organizations to reap the benefit of Mike Hubbard’s commitment to leadership and citizenship.

Nominated by Janet McCoy and Alabama 4-H

Clarice Manship Hardy
Randolph County 4-H Partner

Mrs. Clarice Manship Hardy has touched and inspired the lives of hundreds of 4-H’ers in Randolph County during the past 33 years. Her financial support has provided 4-H cash awards, funded educational supplies, sponsored 4-H camp trips and offered project incentives to local and county club members.

Her most significant contribution was the establishment of the 4-H Carl Manship Achievement Scholarship. It is awarded each year to a senior 4-H club member who has excelled in project work and 4-H career.

Nominated by Janet McCoy and Alabama 4-H

Richard L. Guthrie
Bullock County 4-H Alumnus
Dean, Emeritus, College of Agriculture, Auburn University

Richard Lafayette Guthrie was born and raised in Bullock County, the middle child of John and Nell Guthrie, and grew up milking cows, herding beef cattle and feeding chickens on his parents’ mainly dairy farm near Union Springs. He was an avid 4-Her, a stellar student and a phenomenal athlete. In 1958, the latter earned him a football scholarship to Auburn.

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Jerry Gibson
Mobile 4-H Volunteer

Honeysuckle is a good word to describe this 4-H volunteer leader. Jerry Gibson has been a volunteer for the Classroom in the Forest: Forest in the Classroom™ program since its beginning more than 16 years ago. Like the hardy Southern, sweet smelling vine, Ms. Jerry, as she is fondly called by school children and parents, is a tough but sweet conservationist.

As a private forest landowner, Ms. Jerry is always willing to teach a child a lesson about the importance of being a good steward of the land. She is always willing to share a story about the wise management of natural resources. She loves sharing with children the importance of trees and how the trees she grows on her land may one day be used. She wants them to learn about the wide variety of products derived from trees, such as paper and pencils for schools, lumber for houses, and many things of which many people aren’t even aware.

Thanks to Ms. Jerry’s help and involvement in the program, Classroom in the Forest: Forest in the Classroom™ reaches more than 6,500 students per year in Mobile County and many more in Washington County.

4-H is about growing young minds, growing young leaders every day. “Goodness knows honeysuckle grows!”

Nominated by Maranda Marks

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each year. These 4-H’ers had to raise them and bring six back to the final show and sale of the year.

In the spring of 1960, Harry switched to a more agriculture-based Extension position where he saw the beginning of using chemical for weed control as part of a plan he helped pilot for no-till farming. For that work, he received recognition from the Morgan County Farmers Federation in 2009.

Harry always kept his interest in 4H and knew what was happening in the county program. As the county Extension coordinator, he went to 4-H Summer Camp, taught day camp workshops and always was on hand to listen to a demonstration or hear a speech. He gave advice to young Extension agents who needed that extra push to start a program.

With his retirement, he became a valued resource volunteer, on hand to judge at county 4-H round-up and district 4-H congress. He troubleshoots programs on the county and regional level.

Harry’s visits to the Morgan County Extension office brings sweets and fruits from his garden, and he also bring the wisdom that unfolds through his many wonderful stories.

Nominated by Sharon Fisher

Mike Hubbard  
Alabama House of Representatives  
Georgia 4-H Alumnus

Mike Hubbard learned citizenship and leadership skills as a Georgia 4-H and has spent his career using those skills to help others in east Alabama and beyond, giving credit to the youth development organization for the foundation of his success.

A 1983 graduate of the University of Georgia with a degree in radio and television, Hubbard came to Auburn two weeks after graduation and worked for six years in the Athletic Department. He worked directly with two successful Heisman Trophy efforts: Herschel Walker while he was a student at Georgia and Bo Jackson at Auburn.

As a 4-Her, Guthrie served as vice president of the state council in 1957 and attended National 4-H Congress. He remembers fondly his 4-H agent, Allen J. Brown, who mentored him with his project work, in club meetings and attending 4-H camps.

Though football took front and center, Guthrie realized he also was at Auburn to get a degree. He began majoring in agricultural science early on, but near the end of his freshman year, a professor in a crop production course he was taking suggested he change to agronomy and soils. He earned his bachelor’s in 1962. Guthrie would work as a soil scientist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Soil Conservation Service, now called the National Resources Conservation Service.

Guthrie completed his master’s in soil science in 1965 and, three years later, earned his doctorate from Cornell University. Over the next 15 years, he moved up in the agency, moving his family from Alabama to Nebraska to Missouri to Texas to Washington, D.C. In 1983, a dream came true when Guthrie landed a job as College of Agriculture professor and head of the Department of Agronomy and Soils at Auburn. Two years later, he was named acting dean of the college and served until 1988 when he was appointed associate dean of international programs.

As associate dean, his mission was to globalize agriculture at Auburn, to broaden students; and faculty members’ understanding of the world around them. In his 15 years as associate dean, he has developed international agriculture into a vital component of the college when he retired in 2003.

At the request of university officials in 2005, Guthrie came out of retirement and returned to Ag Hill to lead the college and Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station as dean and director, respectively. With his retirement in the spring of 2010, he has served in a position to assist Alabama agriculture, becoming one of the strongest in the nation.

Nominated by Luci Davis
Harriet Hall
Jefferson County 4-H Volunteer

Harriett Hall has been a devoted 4-H volunteer for 32 years. She began her service in Geneva County at Coffee Spring High School as a 4-H teacher sponsor in 1968. Two years later, she served as a community club volunteer in Livingston, teaching sewing and assisting with the 4-H Horse Club. After moving to Montgomery in 1972, she assisted Bobby Hanks with the 4-H Livestock Club.

In 1979, Harriett moved to Birmingham and served as a volunteer for the 4-H Veterinary Science Club. In 1986, she started a traditional 4-H community club at the Tarrant Recreational Center where she served as the volunteer leader until her retirement in 2006.

Since 2006, she has been the leader of the Jefferson County 4-H Junior Leader Club. She coordinates community service projects as well as assists with a variety of 4-H programs including Classroom in the Forest: Forest in the Classroom™ and teaching youth about GPS and geocaching.

Harriett has been active in the Alabama 4-H Volunteer Leaders Association, serving as an officer on the state board. She has attended the Alabama 4-H Volunteer Leaders Forum eight times and attended the Southern Region 4-H Volunteer Forum four times. Harriett taught a GPS workshop at the Alabama forum.

Harriett Hall has been recognized as a Jefferson County Outstanding 4-H Volunteer, as well as receiving years of service recognitions for her 30-plus years of participation. In 2004, she became a screened and trained volunteer for Jefferson County. Harriett has had 4-H members from her club receive county, district, state and national recognition. She has served on the Jefferson County Extension Advisory Council for six years.

Nominated by Joann Wissinger and Bridget Helms

Hazel Harpe
Conceuh County Extension 4-H Agent

Hazel Harpe was the county agent in Conecuh County when Susan Crowell was a 4-H member. She remembers, “Mrs. Harpe taught us to organize our lives through record keeping and prioritizing events and activities in our life.”

Mrs. Harpe met with 4-H clubs once a month and always had for each student copies of recipes, patterns and rules for upcoming contests and events. She awarded ribbons and certificates for placing in contests, as well as information for the local newspapers.

Susan Crowell is a sixth-grade language arts teacher in Millbrook, and she continues to use the lessons taught by Mrs. Harpe. “I joined as a fourth-grader and continued in 4-H through high school. I used my 4-H record books as examples for my own 4-H club in Millbrook to use when setting up their record books.

“I truly believe that I am a school teacher because Mrs. Harpe inspired me to challenge and inspire other children. Today that is what I do.

This lady deserves five stars for her hard work. She is a great lady.”

Nominated by Susan Crowell

Harry Houston
Morgan County Extension Coordinator

Harry Houston began working for Extension Aug. 1, 1954 in Lauderdale County. He became the 4-H agent in Morgan County three years later. In that time, he formed many 4-H clubs. These were formed in the school system and were separated by gender. The boys clubs focused on farming and agriculture, while the girls clubs focused on homemaking and food preservation.

With Harry’s leadership, two young men in Morgan County went to the National 4-H Club Congress in Chicago. He has memories of the chick-chain sponsored by Sears & Roebuck — 100 chicks were given to 12 4-H members.