

# Claver CORNERSTONE

Summer 2010



*68th Annual Georgia 4-H State  
Congress Honors Georgia's  
Future Leaders*



## It Only Takes One....

A busy summer at Georgia 4-H included the 68th Annual State 4-H Congress, the 2010 Georgia 4-H Gala, and the launch of a new marketing campaign, I Am Georgia 4-H. We honored Dr. M.K. "Curly" Cook as the newest Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, celebrated dozens of Georgia 4-H'ers in their accomplishments as state winners, and learned the touching stories of so many Georgia 4-H youth and alumni as they shared their I Am Georgia 4-H experiences.

To make a gift to Georgia 4-H, you may either send in the contribution form included in this publication, visit our web site at [www.georgia4hfoundation.org](http://www.georgia4hfoundation.org), or contact the Georgia 4-H Foundation at (706) 542-8914 or [4hfnfdnt@uga.edu](mailto:4hfnfdnt@uga.edu). Thank you for your support of Georgia 4-H!

## In This Issue:

**Cover story: Georgia 4-H honors project achievement participants at the 68th Annual Georgia 4-H State Congress. See story on page 4.**

**Cover photo: Taylor Gazda, State Winner in Performing Arts - Vocal, entertains at the State Congress Annual Banquet.**

I Am Georgia 4-H Campaign.....	Page 3
Project Funding Opportunity.....	Page 3
Georgia 4-H State Congress.....	Page 4
Nuckolls Receives Green Jacket Award.....	Page 4
2010 Georgia 4-H Gala Update.....	Page 5
Rock Eagle Receives Grant.....	Page 6
Usher's New Look Foundation Engages 4-H Youth.....	Page 7

## Summer 2010

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Georgia 4-H is attorneys, doctors, business owners, 4-H Camp Counselors and youth. Georgia 4-H is you and me. We are Georgia 4-H. What began as a t-shirt worn at State 4-H Council in June 2010 with 800 high school age 4-H'ers competing in the Iron Clover competition has become a statewide campaign to show local communities the impact of the largest youth development program in the United States. The I Am Georgia 4-H Campaign encourages current members, alumni and supporters to share their 4-H stories. A website has been created to market the campaign and capture stories from 4-H'ers and alumni across the state.

The Georgia 4-H Foundation provided car stickers to each County Extension Office in the state to share with 4-H members, parents and supporters. "Georgia 4-H has tremendous support from the people of Georgia, and we know our supporters will use these car stickers as one continued support," said Arch Smith, Interim

support from the people of Georgia, and we know way to demonstrate our thanks for their State 4-H Leader and Director of 4-H.

Building off the 4-H stories shared through the Georgia 4-H website, video or audio recording of their story Batten, Georgia 4-H Volunteer, developed the website and The Georgia 4-H Technology Team throughout the new campaign.



during the 2010 Legislative Session individuals are encouraged to submit a online at [www.iamga4h.org](http://www.iamga4h.org). Nicole and Richie Knight, Collegiate 4-H'er, collected initial stories for posting. will maintain and support the website

- Story by Casey Mull



***4-H is my life and has taught me so many things that are going to help me in the future. I have met so many new people who have become my closest friends, all because of 4-H! And if you don't know by now...I Am Georgia 4-H.  
- Savana Gerrells, Stephens County 4-H'er***



***Over the years, I have learned so much from Georgia 4-H...I also had people throughout the years just push me along. I can honestly say I wouldn't have graduated high school without Georgia 4-H, and I definitely wouldn't be in college. My 4-H story has become my life story; I wouldn't be the person I am today without it...I Am Georgia 4-H.  
- Tareva Moore, Worth County 4-H Alumna, 4-H Camp Counselor, Clovers and Company, State 4-H Board of Directors***

**If you have not received an 'I Am Georgia 4-H' car sticker, contact your County Extension Office at 800-ASK-UGA1 or contact Jennifer Griffeth at (706)542-8914. Visit [www.IAmGa4H.org](http://www.IAmGa4H.org) to share your Georgia 4-H Story.**

## Project Funding Need

4-H Project Achievement engages over 10,000 youth annually, and Georgia 4-H has heard in numerous testimonies that the skills learned in 4-H are used by alumni in the workforce every day. Cloverleaf Project Achievement offers 4-H'ers an early start at learning valuable life skills such as leadership and communication, as well as integrity, sportsmanship, cooperation, poise and self-confidence.

The Bicycle project helps participants understand the recreation and health applications achieved by cycling and the rules of the road pertaining to bicycle driving; it also assists in developing a clear knowledge of bicycle safety, care and maintenance, safety selection, driving skills, and recreational and health values of bicycling.

To sponsor the Bicycle project with a commitment of \$300 per year, please contact the Georgia 4-H Foundation at (706)542-8914 or [4hfdntn@uga.edu](mailto:4hfdntn@uga.edu).



# Georgia 4-H'ers Compete at Annual State 4-H Congress

by Abbey Hufstetler

Among the highest of honors as a 4-H'er is to have the privilege of attending State 4-H Congress. An annual event, it facilitates state competition in 48 areas of project achievement. The state winners in these projects, along with nearly 130 special events winners, receive Master 4-H status and are honored at the Georgia EMC Annual Banquet. As a 4-H alumna, I can say that the sense of accomplishment at becoming a Master 4-H'er is unequal to any other achievement.

State 4-H Congress is more than a competition or an awards ceremony. It's more than a week in Atlanta. It's more than a blue ribbon, and it's more than a white or red one, too. It's more than first place, and it's much more than last. It's about learning. It's about making your best better. It's about years of hard work. It's about building relationships, and it's about reaching for the future.

It's important, though, to realize that the path to attending State Congress is a journey. For many, attending State 4-H Congress is a dream many years in the making – dating all the way back to the 5th grade. It is the result of many hours of perfecting a presentation, educating others, and volunteering in local communities. It does not come without detours, road blocks, and stop signs, but it does come with determination, patience, and a sense of accomplishment. No matter where the journey ends, 4-H'ers develop a strong work ethic, gain skills in public speaking, and prepare for the future in every step they take.

Fortunately, 4-H'ers aren't asked to take this journey alone. Behind every 4H'er is a caring agent, a program assistant, or a volunteer who has invested in the life of a student. When I think back to my years as a Georgia 4-H'er competing in project achievement, I am always reminded of those leaders who encouraged me, guided me, and celebrated with me in every step I took. As a student worker for Georgia 4-H, I had the privilege of being back at State Congress this year and saw the overwhelming support 4-H'ers received from their leaders. I saw leaders in action as they supported students in demonstrations, cheered those who received awards, and comforted those who didn't finish as they might have hoped. The investment a 4-H leader makes in the life of a student is truly priceless.

Georgia 4-H is proud of the nearly 150 youth who attained Master 4-H status and were recognized at State Congress. However, in the words of Interim State 4-H Leader Arch Smith, "Just as important are the remaining young people throughout the state who have participated in the 4-H program and have developed positive life skills which will serve them throughout their lives as a result of the many 4-H experiences made available to them by countless 4-H leaders throughout our state." To learn more about 4-H project achievement, please visit the Georgia 4-H website at [www.georgia4h.org](http://www.georgia4h.org).

## Green Jacket Award Presented to Randy Nuckolls

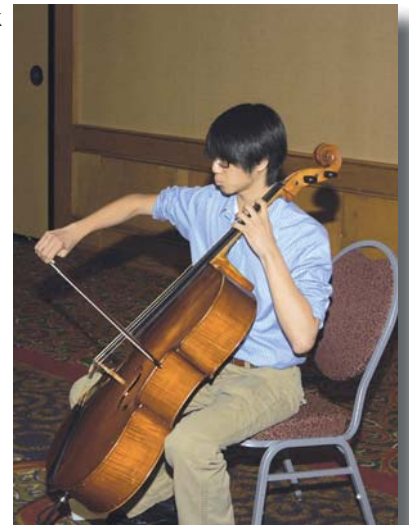
*At each Georgia 4-H State Congress, the Green Jacket Award, which is sponsored by the Georgia Electric Membership Corporation, is presented. The 2010 Green Jacket Award was presented to Randy Nuckolls, a former Whitfield County 4-H'er and longtime member of the Georgia 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees. A recipient is selected each year based on significant service to Georgia 4-H.*

**4-H was the first time I ever went to the city of Atlanta... 4-H is the reason I first got on an airplane...4-H is the reason I went to the University of Georgia. I'm delighted that I've continued to be involved with 4-H as a member of the Georgia 4-H Foundation Board. I'm Randy Nuckolls, and I'm a former 4-H'er from Whitfield County, Georgia; I Am Georgia 4-H.**

Photo credit: Blaine Marable Photography



*Nearly 150 state winners in projects and special events were honored at the Georgia 4-H State Congress Georgia EMC annual banquet*



*Performing Arts - Other Instrumental winner Andy Kim, a Clarke County 4-H'er, entertains at the Georgia Power Breakfast*

Photo credit: Mark Zeigler, State 4-H Staff

Photo credit: Blaine Marable Photography



# 2010 Georgia 4-H Gala Most Successful to Date

by Mary Ann Parsons

Nearly 350 Georgia 4-H alumni and supporters joined Georgia 4-H as the fourth gala was held to celebrate 4-H at the Renaissance Waverly Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia on August 14, 2010. Serving as Honorary Chair was Speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives, David Ralston. Speaker Ralston was an active Gilmer County 4-Her and served as a district 4-H officer. Ralston delivered powerful comments at the event expressing the value of the 4-H program to Georgia's youth. He began his comments by stating, "I am Georgia 4-H!" Ralston continued by saying, "It was because of 4-H that I had my first exposure on television... I had my first taste of political life in 4-H. My first campaign was in 4-H for a district office." Ralston received a tremendous response as he concluded his remarks by stating that "...We are going to keep alive, promote and grow 4-H in Georgia."



Photo credit: Blane Marable Photography



M.K. "Curly" Cook was presented the 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award. Cook joins a group of individuals who have been honored in the past to include the late Edgar Rhodes, retired State 4-H Leader Tom Rodgers, and the late Wayne Shackelford. Cook remarked "...We must continue our support both financially and politically for the land grant system and especially the 4-H program," and concluded his remarks by saying "This award is beyond a doubt the highest honor that anyone can deserve."

The event also raised over \$170,000 to support 4-H project achievement, which engages over 10,000 youth in Georgia annually; 4-H members learn public speaking skills, do research, prepare illustrated talks, keep a portfolio of their accomplishments, and present an oral presentation. The skills learned in 4-H are used by individuals in the workforce every day.

"Georgia 4-H is fortunate to have many alumni and friends who believe in our program and choose to support our mission through the donation of their time and resources. This year's gala celebrated the many alumni and supporters who believe in the future of Georgia's youth and are supporting our programs and facilities through their participation in this event," stated Mary Ann Parsons, Executive Director of the Georgia 4-H Foundation. "We wish to express special appreciation to our Gala Leadership committee and all of our corporate and individual sponsors who made this event possible."

To learn how you can support 4-H project achievement, please contact the Georgia 4-H Foundation at (706)542-8914 or 4hfdn@uga.edu.



Photo credit: Blane Marable Photography

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To view and purchase photos from  
the 2010 Georgia 4-H Gala, please  
visit [www.blanemarable.com](http://www.blanemarable.com)

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# Sterling House To Provide Unique Learning Opportunity at Rock Eagle

by Matt Hammons

For the past fifteen years, students at Rock Eagle 4-H center have been learning about the early pioneers of Georgia. These students have had the opportunity to visit the historic Irby Hudson Scott Pioneer site. The ten-acre location includes many features of the original homestead, including a working hand pump well, a pole barn, and a garden. Many of the site's attractions were unearthed by students, who recovered and cataloged actual artifacts through guided excavation.

In the spring of 2006, a local family donated a c. 1920 saddlebag-style house to Rock Eagle, which was originally owned by Sterling Fuller and was located just three miles from the 4-H center. Though it was originally slated for demolition, Rock Eagle staff envisioned the home providing a great opportunity for students to explore a historic farm house.

A three-phase plan was developed for the Sterling House. The first phase included moving the home to the Scott site and securing the foundation. The next phase involved replacing the back wing of the house, which was removed due to deterioration and the moving process; this phase also included patching holes in the roof and exterior walls. The final phase of the plan consisted of developing educational signage and furnishing the home with period-appropriate furniture.

In May 2006, the Sterling house was moved to the Rock Eagle Irby Hudson Scott site; Rock Eagle staff and local contractors worked to stabilize the house. The building's foundation and chimney were replaced, but the home remained boarded up and inaccessible to students.



Photo credit: Tina Maddox Owen, Rock Eagle Staff

Rock Eagle was excited to recently receive a Watson Brown Junior Board of Trustees Historic Preservation grant. The grant award of \$10,850 will allow the 4-H Center to move forward with the second phase of the Sterling House project.

The goal is to completely dry in the structure and provide a safe space for students to explore. The house will furnish teaching space on rainy days and will serve as an additional resource to tie in new learning activities. This phase involves restoring the original back wing of the house as well as reinstalling the doors and windows, and performing minor roof repair. Drying in the house will prevent further deterioration from rain and other weather-related issues. The doors and windows were removed prior to the move, repaired, and will be reinstalled; using these original features will add to the historic integrity of the home.

The Watson-Brown Foundation supports historic preservation in part through its Junior Board of Trustees, a talented group of local high school students whose exclusive mission is to preserve local history. Supported by area school systems, this educational initiative fosters civic responsibility, heightens an appreciation for local history, and introduces the students to the world of philanthropy.

The Rock Eagle Environmental Education program is excited to partner with the Watson Brown Junior Board to provide an interactive experience for students and adults that visit the Scott Pioneer site. Students will compare and contrast their modern homes to an early 1900's home. The project is scheduled for completion in time for the fall 2010 environmental education season that begins in September.

The Rock Eagle 4-H Environmental Education program provides programs for all ages. To learn more about these opportunities, visit [www.rockeagle4h.org](http://www.rockeagle4h.org) or contact Matt Hammons, Program Coordinator, at (706)484-2862. To learn more about how you can help support this or other Georgia 4-H endeavors, please contact the Georgia 4-H Foundation at (706)542-8914 or [4hfdntn@uga.edu](mailto:4hfdntn@uga.edu).



Students in pioneer tools class while on an environmental education field trip at Rock Eagle 4-H Center

Photo credit: UGA Photo/John Amis

***There could be a future Governor out there whose life is being impacted by 4-H right now!  
-Former Governor Roy Barnes, 4-H Alumnus, Cobb County***

# New Look Foundation Events Offer Leadership Experience for Georgia 4-H'ers

by Jenny Jordan

Youth leaders with Georgia 4-H joined 600 youth from eight states for the inaugural World Leadership Awards Gala and Powered by Service Day in Atlanta, sponsored by the New Look Foundation. The New Look Foundation, created by Raymond Usher IV, mentors hundreds of youth in mobilizing their peers as global leaders. The program is coordinated in eight cities and strives to instill leadership and civic responsibility into youth ages 12 to 24.



Georgia 4-H'er Juawn Jackson meeting with Media Roundtable Moderator, Dr. Steve Perry, CNN Anchor

During the Powered by Service event, youth leaders explored a variety of service and community awareness projects, participated in creating and planning individual projects and were part of a media roundtable. Georgia 4-H'ers were members of the Environmental Justice and Awareness sessions at the Georgia Aquarium and spent the morning learning more about a youth led program, Oh My Globe (OMG), and interacting with aquarium visitors. 4-H'ers reflected that the opportunity to be part of the aquarium for the day was both educational and motivational. As youth ambassadors of the Georgia Aquarium, the 4-H'ers were able to share information with patrons. Additionally, the panel discussion and media roundtable at Spelman College, led by CNN anchor Dr. Steve Perry, provided opportunities for the 4-H'ers to interact with other young leaders.



Aquarium Service Training- (Pictured L-R) Katie Thigpen, Juawn Jackson, Abbey Hufstetler, Margo Braski, Jeff Buckley, Ellie Baldwin, Lavonte Lovette, Jazmin Thomas, John Scott



Group at World Leadership Awards- (Back Row L-R) Arch Smith, Abbey Hufstetler, Katie Thigpen, Margo Braski, Ellie Baldwin, Jazmin Thomas, Mary Ann Parsons (Front Row L-R) Lavonte Lovette, Juawn Jackson, Brock Hufstetler, John Scott

The following evening's gala recognized leaders in the fields of youth engagement and philanthropy and included performers Usher, Justin Bieber, Ciara and special guest speaker, former President Bill Clinton. The 4-H'ers attended as guests of the New Look Foundation and were among the youth leaders in the audience celebrating youth leadership and activism.

Representing the Georgia 4-H Program were Ellie Baldwin (Bleckley County), Margo Braski (Houston County), Abbey Hufstetler (Bartow County), Brock Hufstetler (Bartow County), Juawn Jackson (Bibb County), Lavonte Lovette (Jenkins County), John Scott (Madison County), Katie Thigpen (Charlton County), Jazmin Thomas (Houston County), Jeff Buckley, Extension Specialist, Mary Ann Parsons, Executive Director-Georgia 4-H Foundation, Lindsey Fodor, Georgia 4-H Program Assistant, and Arch Smith, State 4-H Leader.

**4-H is a great program that has changed me and made me into the person I am today!  
- Victoria B. Candler County 4-H'er**

Detach and return to Georgia 4-H Foundation, 306 Hoke Smith Annex, Athens, GA 30602

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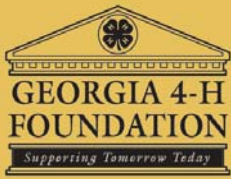
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(Gifts may also be made online at [www.georgia4hfoundation.org](http://www.georgia4hfoundation.org))



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sticker and show your support  
of Georgia 4-H!

***These experiences taught me that hard work and perseverance are the key to many goals, that failure is just the shadow of opportunity, and that self-improvement should be a constant pursuit.***

***I have carried these three beliefs with me as inspiration that "I can."***

***-Emily Lloyd, 4-H Alumna from Bartow County, State and District 4-H Officer, Clovers & Co. Member***



Visit us on the web at [www.georgia4hfoundation.org](http://www.georgia4hfoundation.org)