

4-H Central District Connections

Volume 1, Issue 5

June-August, 2010



From my desk to yours: Judy Butterfield, RSA, Central District

F AE4-HA Mid-Year Meeting a Success

Dates to Remember!

- 4-H Congress—July, 26-29
- Dr. Norman's Retirement Reception, Aug. 13, 2:30-4:30pm—Gainesville
- EPAF - Aug. 30-Sept. 2, Orlando
- 2012 NAE4-HA Planning Committee Meeting—Aug. 29, 2-6pm Hilton , Orlando
- 2012 NAE4-HA Committee Mtg, Aug 30, 2-5pm - during EPAF, Orlando
- Sept. 1 New 4-H Year begins.
- NAE4-HA Conference –Oct. 24-28, Phoenix

The FAE4-HA Meeting was reestablished this year with 37 4-H faculty and others in attendance. The event was held April 12-13, 2010 at Camp Ocala. Dr. Lori Bledsoe, NAE4-HA President-elect and University of GA 4-H Faculty member presented a 3 hour session on the new Essential Elements materials. The focus of this training was to help 4-H youth development professionals understand the importance of using the Essential Elements as a foundation in helping young people become competent, contributing adults. Those present took part in several team activities to help them understand how to incorporate these materials into leader trainings as well as working with other youth development organizations. This training was made possible by a grant from the Florida 4-H Foundation, and each participant received a bound copy of the materials for use in their counties.

Training Tip: Try to make it a habit to do an educational program at each volunteer training/updates in your county to introduce one of the Essential Elements. You may want to focus on one element each year. For example make this the “Year of Generosity” and all trainings will focus around community service and service learning.



A huge thank you to **Shane Michael** and **Vanessa Spero-Swingle** for transporting Lori to and from the Orlando Airport—she had told me she could rent a car but when she got to camp she admitted “ with all the turns, and woods, she didn't even think her GPS would

have gotten her here”!

The Mid –Year meeting was also a good time to network and just plain socializing around the camp fire or over a game of cards. Plans will be forthcoming about the 2011 Mid-year meeting.



Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or self-control.
Robert Frost

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Farewell to Shelda Wilkens!



After 26 years as the 4-H Agent in Seminole County, Shelda has hung up her hat and is enjoying a new phase of her life—Retirement!!!! I know you all share with me fond memories of her wit and wisdom over the years, and how she certainly became a mentor to all of the new 4-H Faculty in District VIII. Her Retirement Party, June 3rd was fun and filled with lots of happy memories. I know when the time is right, and she returns from all of her travels, Shane will recruit her as a volunteer. I know I certainly will for the Clothing



Projects and Fashion Revue! Happy Memories, Shelda!

Doing what she loved—working with the youth at camps.

Good Reads

If you are interested in reading a good book on what motivates us try reading “*Drive*” by Daniel H. Pink. The premise is that most people believe that the best way to motivate ourselves and other is with external (**extrinsic**) rewards, like a new dress if we lose 10 pounds, or a long week-end if we have worked extremely hard on a project—sorta like the carrot at the end of the stick approach. This is what we typically do with our 4-H members—we reward them for a job well done. This approach is accepted by society—”you do something, I will give you something”. Pink’s approach explains that motivation is a human need to direct our own lives, and to learn and create new things. Through his research and investigation, he found that, depending on the situation, rewards can turn play into work and an interesting task into one of drudgery. The majority of the young people we work with tend to have that **intrinsic** motivation—I want to do this because I can and I can do a good job—and the end result will make me be proud of my accomplishments.

Along those same lines another article entitled “**Characteristics of Personal Leadership**” by J. K. Jay lists five characteristics of leadership including:

- Respectful—respect the value of each human being
- Reflective—think about what you are doing in the spiritness of openness and responsibility
- Renewing—the most important tool for leading in the 21st Century is the leader’s self—an element of renewal
- Rewarding—your work should be rewarding. Happiness comes from the richness of life
- Raising the bar—a strong correlation between production and the joy one gets from his/her work. In personal leadership you exceed your expectations.

NAE4-HA-
October 24-28,
2010, Grand
Arizona Resort,
Phoenix, AZ

Make plans to
attend- registration
will open soon.

Just a reminder to
register on PDEC for
your 2011 in-
services