



Rovin Clover

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Challenge Camp By: Austin Mouton

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This year, the Southwest Region held its Challenge Camp for Seventh Graders at the Bunkie Youth Center. All weekend long campers were required to work together to accomplish team building goals. Teams were instructed to build a boat out of cardboard, duck tape and other materials. In order to get the materials needed to build their boat campers had to work to-

gether to solve challenges presented to them. Some challenges presented before the campers were Pictionary, building a human bridge, and untying a knot while blindfolded. When teams accomplished the challenge they were rewarded

with materials such as cardboard, duck tape, markers, and box cutters. It was very important to at least solve the challenges that would give you the cardboard and duck tape. On Saturday, campers continued with team building activities such as constructing material around a raw egg that could be dropped and survive, swinging by a rope, and walking together on beams of

wood. The highlight of Challenge Camp was the boat race. Since Challenge Camp was held at the Bunkie Youth Center the boat race required the boat to float across a pond the distance of about 150 feet of water, unlike the usual 50 feet at Camp Grant Walker. A 50's style banquet was held Saturday night, where campers were served supper by the 4-H agents and adult leaders. A talk show, hosted by "Dr. Philapina," gave campers insight on how to handle every day challenges. Mr. Hilton Waits, aka "Elvis," dropped in throughout the weekend challenging campers to repeat his song and dance movements exactly like him. On both nights of camp, a dance was greatly enjoyed by the campers. The camp ended Sunday morning with a wrap up of weekend activities and awards for all campers.

Health Rocks Conference By: Rae Addison

During the weekend of March 14-16th, Charles Champagne, from Iberia parish, and myself along with Mr. Josh Fredieu, 4-H Agent from Iberia parish, and Mrs. Amy Long Pierre, 4-H Agent from St. Tammany parish, had the opportunity to attend a national train the trainer conference for the National 4-H program Health Rocks. The conference was located in Raymond, Mississippi and we were trained on how to teach the Health Rocks curriculum and how to use youth-adult partnerships effectively. While



attending this training, we met people from all across the United States. The basic idea for the Health Rocks! program is to: reduce youth smoking and to-

bacco use, help youth build life skills, involve youth as full partners, build positive enduring relationships, develop sustainable delivery systems, and refine and expand the research on leadership skills of teen trainers. The Health Rocks! program is being implemented in six parishes. The four individuals that attended the national conference will be responsible for training other youth and adult teams in the state. This program is just beginning in parts of Louisiana, but it also promises to be a huge success in the state as a whole.

Junior Leadership Conference

“After a weekend of learning, leading, and laughing with fellow 4-Hers, all of the participants grew in their leadership capabilities.”

- W.A.D



“...it was easy to share experiences with other teens.” -

L.O.



“This conference has provided useful information on how to make a difference.” - D.S.



The following articles have been written by Executive, Fashion, Technology, and Food and Fitness Board Members. Readers of this issue of the Rovin Clover will have the opportunity to read of the opinions of

these 4-H members for this year's Junior Leadership Conference.

Before reading the articles below, I'd like you to know the facts of the conference.

FACT #1:

The conference's educational tracks were led by our 2006-2007 National Conference Delegates.

FACT #2:

JLC's theme this year was 'Leadership...100 Years of Reality'.

FACT #3:

Because of the theme, each rotating group was named after a popular TV show.



By: William Andrew Dunckelman [Executive Board]

William Dunckelman and Jonas Augustine worked together to teach a workshop on Communication/People Skills. The workshop taught participants how to effectively communicate and work with one another for the advancement of the goals of a group. The class helped people appreciate the different person-

ality styles that exist when working cooperatively, and how each person in a group has a

unique perspective and talents which can be beneficially utilized. In summation, JLC was a success for all involved. After a weekend of learning, leading, and laughing with fellow 4-Hers, all of the participants grew in their leadership capabilities. Further, many have been prepared for being a camp counselor, or learned how to be more effective communicators. Together, 4-H teaches the best to become better.



By: Lauren Ogles [Executive Board]

The executive board all pulled together and did a great job to prepare for Junior Leadership Conference. As a National Conference Delegates, we were able to teach one of the four tracks. Lauren Ogles worked with Jan Morgan, 4-H Agent, to present the Camp Counselor Training. "I chose this tract because I love going to camp; therefore, it was easy to share experiences with other teens." As part of the course, Tammy Kennedy, Lauren's Mother, taught the True Colors portion. Seventy campers were certified over the weekend

and are now able to be counselors at any 4-H overnight camp. Lauren Ogles and Northeast Representative Jordan Woods also served as MC's for the Variety Show. We had many different talents including singing, saxophone, skits, and much more. They all represented their parishes very well with their talent and courage.



By: Hudson Smith [Executive Board]

Why be fake when you could be real? This year JLC was *really* fun. Starting with the first night there were ice-breakers that helped people get to know each other a lot more than they did when they got there. The next morning we had a real breakfast and headed off to our sessions. I happened to be involved with the service-learning session, where we got real experience by repainting the camp shop and bathroom in the snack room. Also, the tract travelled to a local nursing home where we had the

opportunity to talk to senior citizens and learned the intricacies of BINGO. The variety show was truly a *variety* show. There were people who did many things from playing the saxophone, to juggling,



to a dancer or two. On that note, the dance that night was fun, with a good balance of music arranged by the Tech Board. Sunday morning, after an inspirational service was the departure, signaling the end of JLC... and this article. Don't forget your happy grams!

By: Claire Galley [Executive Board]

The camp counselor training session of JLC was led by Lauren Ogles and Claire Galley and enabled participants to become certified counselor. Topics for discussion included roles and responsibilities and "color"

training to identify personality traits and encourage tolerance. Special thanks go to Mrs. Tammy Kennedy for helping teach true colors with a very energetic slide presentation. This was a great opportunity for

4-Her's to receive certification since 4-H Camp is right around the corner.

By: Richard LaBranche [Technology Board]

Lights! Camera! Action! To many this may sound cliché and overused, but to the Louisiana State Technology Board members, attending the Junior Leadership Conference, it was the way of life for the weekend. From the time they arrived on Friday, February 29th, until the time they all packed up and departed on Sunday, March 2nd, the Tech board members were constantly on call. They set out with cameras, laptops, projectors, and suavity, seeking to help the weekend run smoothly with the help of their technological ingenuity. It was nonstop.

Running here, jogging there, helping the less advanced executive board whenever they were in distress. (Only Joking guys.) The tech board was in charge of all of the "behind the scenes" stuff. Two of its members were put in charge of music and DJ'ing the dance. A task which in all reality proved their worth as far as the 4-Her's in attendance were concerned. All of the projectors and sound was also taken care of by the Tech board, who handled every task with wit and finesse. They captured many of the exciting happenings of the weekend and

compiled them to create the highlight slideshow, which seemed to go over well with everyone there. The readers of this article may perceive that there was an entire slew of technology board members at the Conference. This however is not true. There were only four. Regardless, they worked so well together and delegated work so perfectly that the weekend ran smoothly and quietly...from a technological point of view.

By: Dara Stewart [Food and Fitness Board]



The Food and Fitness Board had a great time at JLC! We enjoyed showing the dele-

gates a few things we did at our Food and Fitness camp in February. We showed them one of our educational programs, which focused on vegetables and why they are so important to eat. This showed the delegates how to present a demonstration, and how to apply this in their parish. We also let them play one of our games which was called "Health Walk", similar to Musical Chairs. The delegates had a lot of fun with this game. It showed that staying fit and active can be fun. The board also had the opportunity to inform delegates about our duties as Food and Fitness board members. It was very successful and many new people

were excited about applying for the upcoming year. JLC has really helped our board. Creating a parish board, as one of our duties as board member was a new challenge, but this conference has provided useful information on how to make a difference locally with our clubs and helped us in being more confident as leaders in our parish. Everyone had a great time and can't wait for another awesome experience next year!



Centennial Celebration Activities



By: Claire Galley & Jaida Griffin

The Southwest Regional 4-H Hall of Fame Induction took place at the AgCenter in Crowley on Thursday, April 15th. Claire Galley, 2008 National Conference Delegate, served as mistress of ceremony, and hall of fame inductees were announced by Taylor Chargois, Kevin Goebel, and Jaida Griffin. Renada Living led the American Pledge, Austin Mouton led the 4-H pledge, and Eve Franchebois gave the invocation. Nick Nash assisted with taking picture. Refreshments were provided, which included a giant cake in the shape of a four and an "H". Each inductee was recognized, had their picture taken, and received a plaque. Inductees include: From Acadia parish: Mr. Joseph L. Baronet and Joan McCrory. From Calcasieu,

Mr. William Thomas Burton, Mr. John C. Guidry and Ms. Mary McMahon. From Cameron, Stephanie Rodrigue. From Evangeline, Ms. Sharon Fontenot and mr. Jim Shipp. From Iberia, Mr. Carroll Boudreaux and Dr. Charles Miller. From Jeff Davis, Mr. Robert Hoffpauir. From Lafayette, Mr. A.J. Brackin and Mr. George Fawcett. From St. Landry, Mr. Wayne Gilmore and Ms. Lou Ella Lognion. From St. Martin, Mr. Charles Fuselier and Conrad Gauthier. From St. Mary, Mrs. Emma Dell Broussard and Raphael "Pookie" Rodriguez. From Vermilion, James Baudoin, Charles Dill Sr. and Ms. Virgie Foreman.

The program closed with everyone being thanked for their tireless efforts

which truly helped to establish and maintain the Louisiana 4-H Youth Development program. Also, thanks to all the State 4-H Board members from the Southwest Region that assisted with the program. The event celebrated twenty-two individuals who have served youth through the 4-H program and worked tirelessly to make the best better.

State Board Members who assisted during the ceremony include: Jamison Dill, Austin Mouton, Jaida Griffin, Kevin Goebel, Nick Nash, Emily Landry, Elizabeth Guinn Claire Galley, Renada Living, Even Franchebois, Taylor Chargois Cassie Champagne, Charlie Champagne, and Emily Desormeaux.

By: Chrystal Lachney

4-H members from my area have tried to bring the centennial event into every project we do. In all of our Jr. Leader Meetings, we continue to think of ways to celebrate it. We have done such things as having birthday cake at our elementary school 4-H meetings, putting up signs around the community, wearing centennial t-shirts on certain days at school, and explaining to the

younger members what the 4-H centennial year means. We also have a poster board up at all public 4-H functions that has pictures from some members' grandparents, even great-grandparents, up until today's generation. Our parish just held a fashion show, where we had a centennial category that had some girls wearing our parish centennial t-shirts and some shorts that mem-

bers made themselves. At our Project Fun Day, we served Blue Bell Centennial Ice Cream and explained to the youth why we were eating what they liked to call "4-H ice cream." This can be a fun experience for everyone if you celebrate it with everyone!

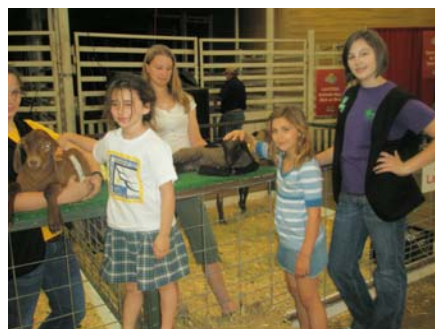


LSU Ag Center 'Ag Magic' was open to school groups April 21st -25th. I had the opportunity to serve as volunteer tour guide for the program on Wednesday, April 24th. The exhibit was an educational experience, teaching school children how Louisiana's agriculture provides products they use everyday. Teaching children of the importance of our environment (land,

AG MAGIC

By: Taylor Chargois

water, plants, and animals) was also an important part of the interactive exhibit. In each section, there were experts in the



field who volunteered their time to talk to the students who visited and answer any questions they might have. There was a constant flow of students entering the exhibit, but thanks to the LSU Ag Center employees and volunteers the event ran smoothly. It was an exhausting experience, but following the exhibit I was proud to be a 4-H member who could help, learn, and teach children of the importance of our land, water, plants, and animals here in the state of Louisiana.