



Spring Edition 2008

President's Message



HAPPY BIRTHDAY LOUISIANA 4-H!!!!!! I know that many of you are very busy with 4-HU, 4-H Camp and Centennial Celebration right now but I want to wish each and everyone of you a happy and safe summer time with your children or grand children. I would like to thank the 2008 LAE4-HA Convention Planning Committee for all the handwork and planning that each has made for an outstanding 2008 LAE4-HA Convention in Baton Rouge on August 19-22, 2008. I encourage every member and potential member to make plans and attend the convention and help celebrate with us a 100 years of 4-H in Louisiana. This year's convention has several of our Southern Regional Directors presenting programs along with many of our fellow LAE4-HA members so please show your support to each by attending their programs at the convention.

Now shifting gears to Galaxy III Conference which will occur in Indianapolis, Indiana on September 15-19, 2008. I know this is early this year but registrations must be made by June 15th to get early bird registration cost of \$395 after this date it goes to \$495. You should also be looking into plane fares because I know that those are increasing daily.

Remember to have a happy and safe summer!

Thanks,

Donny Moon
President LAE4-HA

LAE 4-HA Leadership Team

President-----Donny Moon
President Elect-----Charles Hebert
Vice President-----Blair Hebert
Secretary-----Tina Guillory
Treasurer-----Kim Jones
Reporter-----Kori Myers
Past President-----Nancy Cronan

District Representatives

District 1-----Lacey Urick
District 2-----Layne Langley
District 3-----Sandra Russell
District 4-----Sheena Grote Cecil
District 5-----Becky Kelly
State Office-----Tanya Walker

Committee Chairs

Policy & Resolution-----Helen Page
Public Relations & Information-----Diane Uzzle & Teresa Price
Professional Development-----Penny Thibodeaux
Programs-----Carol Remy
News & Views-----Kori Myers
Membership-----Blair Hebert
Member Recognition-----Lisa Benoit
Ways & Means-----Robin Walker
Nominating-----Nancy Cronan
Annual Meeting-----Charles Hebert

Committee News

Membership Update

Welcome New 4-H Agents and Association Members!! As a member of our association, you are granted the privileges such as being able to vote and receive association funds to attend NAE 4-HA. These privileges are only granted to association members. New Agents must join the association prior to our state convention to receive these privileges. The deadline to join the association is the same date as the state convention registration deadline which will be at the end of July. If you attend the convention, just as a new agent and not as a member you will not be eligible to vote or receive association funds to attend Nationals, but you will be able to experience and hopefully enjoy your first state convention.

Submitted by: Blair Hebert, LAE 4-HA Vice President

Nominating Committee

Calling all LAE4-HA Members! Serving as an officer for our state association is not only an honor but a responsibility of membership! Please consider serving as an officer for your association. The offices we will be electing in August at our Annual Meeting are: President Elect, Vice President and Treasurer.

Some of these officer duties include:

President Elect – will serve a one year term and serve as president the following year, serve as chairman of the annual meeting to be held in 2009, attend Southern Regional Officers Workshop, attend PILD in Washington D.C., and appoint committee chairs.

Vice President – serve a 2 year term, serve as chairman of membership, maintain a list of paid members, maintain a list of honorary members, contact retired members concerning lifetime membership, assist district directors with membership invitations, and send a welcome letter to all new extension employees inviting them to join the association.

Treasurer –serve a 2 year term, maintain the association checking and savings accounts at the LSU Credit Union in Baton Rouge, remind district directors about October 1st dues deadline, prepare financial statements for Annual Conference, Spring Board Meeting and Annual Meeting, prepare and submit a proposed budget at Annual Meeting, prepare membership report with help of vice president and send to national with dues by national deadline, pay bills incurred by officers, district directors and committee chairmen, send a list of paid members after national deadline to president, vice-president, secretary, district directors, chairmen of annual meeting committees, chairman of member recognition committees and send in IRS paperwork.

Please contact Nancy Cronan at ncronan@agcenter.lsu.edu or 337-475-8812 if you would be willing to serve your association in an officer capacity.

One of the things we pride ourselves on in Louisiana is our Character Education Program. The pillar of Responsibility includes being a leader and role model and leading by example. I don't know a better way to accomplish this than by serving as an officer of our Louisiana Association of Extension 4-H Agents. Please consider running for office. It's the responsible thing to do.

Submitted by: Nancy C. Cronan, Chair of Nominating Committee

4-H Centennial Celebration: “4-H Still Great in 2008”

100 years is something to be proud about and we want everyone to know what a great organization our association is. The LAE4-HA Annual Meeting has been set to take place in **Baton Rouge on August 20-22, 2008.** The host hotel will be Capitol House (Hilton), located in downtown Baton Rouge. The registration packet for our conference will be out in the next few weeks. Register early to have the opportunity to be selected from a drawing for a football practice tour limited to 10 people.

The hotel has recently been renovated and will make for an exciting time in the downtown area. It first became famous by former governor, Huey P. Long! There are numerous attractions to visit such as the new Louisiana State Museum, the Shaw Center for the Arts, or the Louisiana State Capitol. We have a great agenda planned.

We know that you are a huge part of the 4-H program and hope you'll be joining us as we celebrate the past and create a vision for an event better future. Our team is being led by co-chairs Terril Faul and Tanya Walker as we continue planning an exciting and professional event. They are already hard at work with arrangements and fundraising.

There will be several guest of the NAE4-HA Board joining us and presenting at our annual meeting. They are Torey Earle, NAE4-HA Vice President for Member Services from Kentucky, Lena Mallory, Southern Region Director from Kentucky and Tom Manske, Southern Region Director from Oklahoma.

The committee has emphasized the importance of connecting with past by inviting past and charter members to join us in the board supper. During this event we will feature an auction that the proceeds will benefit the 4-H Museum. If you have either live auction items or silent auction that you would like to donate, please notify Peter Cannizzaro.

Mr. Terril has confirmed that our Tuesday night LAE4-HA Board Supper will be held at the Governor's Mansion. All members that are planning to attend and participate in the board supper and auction will need to RSVP by the deadline. The Governor's Security requests a list of the guests that will be attending in advance.

While the conference will provide learning and great speakers such as Carol Pierce with her presentation Jump Now: How to Change Why's into Thank You', Baton Rouge Kip Holden and Monica Ford La. Attorney General's Office on Keeping Kids Safe On-line. We invite you to share your experience and knowledge through the interactive workshops scheduled during the conference. Some of the session topics include Fundraising Ideas for Your Parish 4-H Program, by Eric Eskew; Be Green and Be Seen, Sheena Grote, Silas Cecil; Operation: Military Kids – Supporting Military Families in Our Own Backyard, Angela D. Ott, Louisiana National Guard and Tanya A. Walker; Ag Alley and Ag Adventures in Action: Ag Education to Northeast LA 4th Grader, Markaye Russell and Sheila Haynes; Spotlight on LAE4-HA Scholarship Winners, Angie Arnould and Theresa Price; Communication, Gwin Cronin, La. Dept of Education; and Smart Choices, Denise Holston.

If you would like to share a successful program through a poster session or exhibit, please contact Juanita Johnson, Angie Arnould, Karen Martin or Nikki Mouch. There will be a special time in the program for viewing these exhibits.

So make plans now to be in attendance for this "once in a lifetime" celebration we're planning. The planning team will stop at no limit to make this one celebration that you will not soon forget. Join in the celebration for this exciting professional improvement opportunity. I hope to see you there!

Charles Hebert
President-Elect

Attention all LAE4-HA members!

If you are currently working on a master's or doctoral degree or specialization, don't pass up your chance to win one of two LAE4-HA scholarships in the amount of \$450 each. The LAE4-HA wants to recognize members working hard to improve their careers through study. Eligible members need to be actively pursuing a degree or specialty. Submit your application to Penny Thibodeaux, 4-H Agent, Cameron Parish, pethibodeaux@agcenter.lsu.edu by **May 30th!** Don't forget to send a paid fee bill from the 2007 summer, 2007 fall or 2008 spring semester. Recipients of these scholarships will be recognized in August at our state convention in Baton Rouge.

Submitted by: Penny Thibodeaux, Chairman of Professional Development Committee

JCEP News

JCEP Southern Regional Officers' Workshop

The JCEP Southern Regional Officer's Workshop was held on February 5-7, 2008 in Orlando, Florida. There was much discussion at this meeting about increased efforts to "Reaching All Generations in Your extension Efforts." This is a concept that we will all continue to hear more about in the near future as well as expanding our outreach efforts. It is designed to help participants understand the diverse ways that the different generational audiences we work with learn. Our educational programs must continue to be intergenerational and reach individuals of all ages. Extension delivery methods will need to continue to adapt to reach and engage the audience, and address its varied needs and preferred styles of learning.

Our first speaker on **Communication Across the Generations** was by Beverly J. Stencel, Professor, Community Resource Development and Annette Bjorklund, Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin-Extension. She emphasized that generational differences represent a critical aspect to workplace and volunteer diversity. She highlighted the four generations and ways that they differ.

1. The first group is "**The Matures**" they were born between 1922 and 1946. Currently, there is still about 20% of this group still in the workplace, although most are part-time workers. These are known as veterans, seniors, traditionalists, silent Real Estate holders, power brokers in big business, politically focused.
 - a. *Defining moments* – Great Depression, Dust Bowl, The New Deal, WWII, Pearl Harbor Attack, Korean War, Golden Age of Radio, Social Security Established, Rise of Labor Unions
 - b. *Values* – dedication and sacrifice, law and order, strong work ethic, respect for authority, patience, delayed reward, duty, honor; country, loyalty to the organization.
 - c. *Working with Them* – Assets: stable, detail oriented, work experience, loyal, customer service;
 - d. *Limitations*: uncomfortable with ambiguity and change; reluctant to buck the system; uncomfortable with conflict; we've always done it that way.
2. The second group is "**The Baby Boomers**" that were born between 1946 and

1964. This group is 72 million strong and the dominate force in the media, education, business, political.
- a. Defining moments – Economic prosperity, expansion of suburbia, focus on children, television, Vietnam, Assassinations, Civil Rights Movement, Cold War/McCarthy Hearings; Space Race – Moon Landing
 - b. Values – optimism, teamwork, personal gratification, health and wellness, promotion and recognition, youth, work, volunteerism
 - c. Working with Them: Assets: Service oriented, driven/dedicated, willing to go the extra mile, good at relationships, wants to please, good team players;
 - d. Limitations: not naturally budget minded; uncomfortable with conflict; put process ahead of results; sensitive to feedback; judgmental of those who see things differently.
3. The third group is **“The Generation X-ers”** that were born between 1964 and 1980. They are about 47 million strong in total numbers.
- a. Defining moments – Watergate, Nixon resigns, challenger disaster, computers, single-parent homes, latchkey kids, MTV, AIDS, harsh economic conditions
 - b. Values – diversity, thinking globally, balance in life, computer literacy, personal development, fun, informality, independence, initiative
 - c. Working with Them – Assets: adaptable/flexible; techno-literate; independent; not intimidated by authority; creative;
 - d. Limitations: impatient, poor people skills, inexperienced, cynical.
4. The fourth and last group is “The Generation Y’s” that were born between 1980 and 2000. This is the youngest group that is 68 million strong. They are more educated, more technologically savvy, non-conformist, and politically focused than any of the other groups.
- a. Defining moments – technology, TV talk shows, multiculturalism, Desert Storm, Clinton scandals, schoolyard violence, Oklahoma City bombing, 9/11
 - b. Values – optimism, civic duty, confidence, ambition/achievement, tradition, education, idealism, fun, diversity
 - c. Working with Them – Assets: loyalty, optimism tempered with realism, tolerant, multi-tasking; technological savvy;
 - d. Limitations: need for supervision and structure, inexperience, particularly with handling different people issues, customer service levels are low.

Association business was also discussed and each state presented an oral state report of association highlights. Donna Bradley, Lena Mallory and Tomas Manske Southern Regional Directors, reported that total NAE4-HA membership had about is 2,500 renewals and 250 new members. She reminded the group that we will be electing 1 Southern Regional Director this year in Indianapolis, Indiana and encouraged people to consider seeking this position. Other topics of discussion were the progress being made on the professional development site, Journal of Youth Development,

Organizational Stewardship, 4-H Caucus and a joint NAE4-HA and NAE4-HA Conference in the upcoming years.

NAE4-HA is currently working on to revise our web site. The material is not easy to locate and has over the last ten years become extremely populated with tons of material. Torey Earl VP of Member Services is currently working with a committee to redesign the site to make it more users friendly for the membership.

This year, Galaxy III Conference Fundraising Auction will take place on Wednesday, September 17, 2008. Donors will be asked to designate an associate to benefit from the sale of a donated item. Thus, the greater number and value of items donated to benefit a particular association will result in the greater proceeds to that association.

Items should be valued at \$30 or more. Auction items can be registered during designated time periods posted on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday morning. At the time of item registration, donors will be asked to provide the following information: name of item, description, estimated value, donor name, contact information, local hotel contact, and designated association to receive sale proceeds. If you have questions, contact Jim Holland at james.hoyland@ces.uwex.edu or 262-626-1996.

We were posed the question of if we had \$100,000 what would you want to do with the money? The responses were as follow:

- Technology Use
- Reduce Cost of Membership
- Scholarships to National Meetings
- Recruitment
- Professional Development/Foundations/Tax Education Trainings
- Regional/Tri-State trainings (Technology to Expand
- Utilize some of it for State Meetings

Overall, the meeting was very informative and creative conducted in the place that magic occurs. We had the opportunity to take pictures with Disney characters and even act like a few. One of the greatest opportunities is networking with association officers from other states.

Charles Hebert
President Elect

***4-H is a sensitive thing...
...It goes where it is wanted.
...It stays where it is cared for.
...It grows when it is cultivated.***

JCEP Public Issues Leadership Development Conference (PILD)

The JCEP Public Issues Leadership Development Conference (PILD) was held in Washington, D.C. on April 27-30, 2008. The theme for the conference was “Connectivity: Community to the Capital. There was a tremendous amount of discussion on the current Farm Bill and farm cost continuing to increase.

This is an excellent opportunity for agents to get to meet with legislators and discuss Extension programs. It also serves to educate agents about the operations of the Extension Service on a federal level. The conference provides a unique opportunity for agents/educators, volunteers, and administrators to interact with federal decision makers. The conference is designed to keep Extension Professionals abreast of changing public policies and how those changes impact our communities and the Extension System.

The conference was very educational and gave the three association representatives a chance to learn more about national issues affecting the Extension Service. While we were there our group was able to tour Washington, D.C. We met with a staff person from four of Louisiana’s Congressional delegation that represented Senator Mary Landrieu, Senator David Vitter, Congressman Alexander and Congressman Boustany. All were knowledgeable and extremely aware of the USDA’s budget and challenges facing the land grant university system.

We discussed the importance of the FY09 Appropriations Request for the LSU AgCenter. In addition, we stressed any research and extension programs (education and outreach) that may be done in 4-H, FCS and agriculture. It was important for them to get a first hand account of how important these funds are.

We discussed the celebration of the 4-H Centennial Celebration and the mission mandates. Some of the other funding issues that were discussed were Aquaculture Special Research Grant; Biorefinery for Ethanol, Chemicals, Animal Feed and Biomaterials from Sugar Cane Bagasse; Blackbird Control Efforts in Louisiana; BMP and Master Farmer; Childhood Obesity Prevention in Louisiana; Cropping System Research in Northeast Louisiana; Formosan Subterranean Termite; Salvinia Invasive Weed; Mid-South Pecan Research and Extension Center; Tillage, Silviculture, Waste Management; Wetland Plants and Wood Utilization Research Program.

It is exciting to report that of the delegation that we met with all staff members were extremely knowledgeable to the LSU AgCenter and our programs. These meetings were very productive and gave us a chance to share with our legislators some of the great research and Extension programs that each of you is conducting in your parishes.

Charles Hebert
President Elect

NAE 4-HA Conference

NAE4-HA Conference - Galaxy III

This year will be somewhat different! The conference is earlier than normal and will prompt us to take care of business early. The national meeting will be held in **Indianapolis, Indiana on September 15-19, 2008.**

The Galaxy III theme is *"Celebrating the Extension System: Strengths, Diversity, and Unique Qualities."* The Galaxy conference is a wonderful opportunity for Extension professionals from all subject matter areas and all parts of the country to network, learn together, and continue to build programs that will serve the citizens of our communities now and well into the future. Galaxy is the combination of the five national associations all meeting together in one location (4-H, FCS, ESP, JCEP, and Natural Resources).

The registration has just opened this week. The "early bird" deadline is \$395.00 beginning April 15 to June 15 - of course it is the cheapest it will get. Later registration is exponentially higher and will be \$495.00 until August 15. There is on-line registration that you can pay with credit cards or a printable file to send with check or money order. When you plan to submit your registration you will have to have an acknowledgement number. You will need to utilize this number 323P7MDD0.

You can access the conference registration from the link below. The opening event is Monday, September 15 at 6:00 p.m. and the closing is Friday, September 19 at 11:00 a.m. I have already made reservations for twelve rooms at the NAE4-HA Conference Hotel, Indianapolis Marriott Downtown. I will have to confirm members and room list by July 18, 2008. This is almost one month BEFORE our state meeting.

I was only able to make the reservations beginning on Saturday, September 13 – Friday, September 19, 2008. Please let me know if you are planning to join us for this fun and educational event. Just email me to let me know. If any of you are planning to arrive early or stay beyond this date, you will need to make your own reservations. <https://sharepoint.agriculture.purdue.edu/ces/galaxy/registration.aspx>

Reimbursement – All current association members will receive some funds for the conference from the LAE4-HA. If you are a NEW employee and have not joined the state association, you can plan to join us for the state convention held in August to learn more about the association and the professional development opportunities. Usually, the amount from the association is up to \$250.00. In addition, you can check with your regional coordinator/regional director for additional funds usually from your regular travel.

Finally, I need each of you to **confirm members attending the conference by June 30, 2008.** After that time, we will begin working on roommates, and then by **mid July everything will be finalized.** Hope that you will join our group and many others, in Indianapolis! If you wish to find out more on Indy, please check out <https://www.indy.org/>.

Charles Hebert
President-Elect

Museum News

La. 4-H Museum Seeking News Articles to Trace History

The Louisiana 4-H Museum is looking for news articles tracing the 100-year history of Louisiana 4-H. The articles will help LSU AgCenter faculty members and others in compiling an accurate history of the state's youth development program for the new Louisiana 4-H Museum, according to Rose Anne St. Romain, coordinator of the museum.

“The real history of 4-H comes from the generations of past and present 4-H’ers whose learning experiences and accomplishments were documented in newspaper articles,” St. Romain said. “We really want folks to mail or fax us copies of any 4-H news clippings that were important to them as soon as possible. All the articles together will help us pinpoint the history of Louisiana 4-H through the lives of those who have been involved in 4-H.”

Copies of clippings can be mailed to Rose Anne St. Romain, Louisiana 4-H Museum, 8592 Highway 1, Suite 2, Mansura, La. 71350. They also can be faxed to (318) 964-2259.

For more information, or if you have questions, contact St. Romain at (318) 964-2245 or RStRomain@agcenter.lsu.edu.

Submitted by: Rose Anne St. Romain, Louisiana 4-H Museum

Louisiana 4-H Foundation News

Raffle to Benefit 4-H Camp Grant Walker

The Louisiana 4-H Foundation is conducting a \$10,000 4-H Centennial Raffle to benefit the Grant Walker 4-H Educational Center. Tickets are \$100 and only 1000 tickets will be sold with the drawing being held on September 13 as part of the 4-H Tailgate Party that culminates with the LSU-North Texas football game in Tiger Stadium.

Every parish in the state will benefit from this fundraiser. The funds generated through the raffle will be used to support environmental education initiatives at Grant Walker 4-H Educational Center. In addition, a portion of the funds will provide 4-H camp scholarships for low-income and at-risk youth.

To purchase tickets, call the Louisiana 4-H Foundation office at (225) 578-2972.



Submitted by: Eric Eskew, Director, Louisiana 4-H Foundation

District News

District 1 – Amy Long-Pierre, Spot Lighter

SOUTHEAST & CRESCENT REGION PARLE NEWS

St Tammany Parish:

- St. Tammany Parish will have a new addition to their 4-H Family starting July 1st. Janie Kelley will join Amy Long-Pierre and Bobby King as an Associate Extension 4-H Agent in St. Tammany Parish.
- Carol Jacobsen, Administrative Coordinator in St. Tammany Parish, will be retiring on May 20th after 30 years of extension work.
- Youth Wetlands Week was a huge success! St. Tammany had 137 teachers participating in teaching the curriculum to over 9,784 students.

Jefferson Parish:

- Chantel J. Williams of Jefferson Parish was promoted to Full Agent effective July 1, 2008.
- Jefferson Parish 4-H Members at Leo Kerner Elementary and Fisher Middle/High schools (Lafitte, LA) added 500 native species seedlings to their 4-H Tree Farm this spring. In addition, they registered their trees on the 4-H Million Trees web site to boost the numbers for Louisiana. In all, a total of 3000 trees have been planted as seedlings then nurtured until they were ready to be transplanted in the community in the last 4 years by this group. 4-H members transplanted the maturing trees as service learning projects in and around Lafitte. Others trees are given away to be planted in public spaces by additional volunteer groups. Many of the transplanted trees were given away by these generous 4-H members and volunteers to replace trees lost during Hurricane Katrina in the greater New Orleans and Jefferson area; some are even planted on the Northshore of Lake Pontchartrain. Join these hard working 4-H members and go to the web site and add your groups tree plantings at www.4hmilliontrees.org

St. Bernard Parish:

- St. Bernard Community Playground
http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/St.+Bernard/News/St+Bernard+Parish+Community+Playground.htm

Plaquemines Parish:

- Plaquemines Parish 4-H leader, Brenda Bulot, was inducted to the 4-H Hall of Fame in March.
- Plaquemines Parish 4-H will hold its Centennial Celebration on Saturday, May 17th during the annual Spirit/Achievement Day. Every 4-H'er in attendance will receive a centennial button and taste the 4-H Centennial ice cream. A birthday cake will also be presented for everyone to enjoy.
- Over 2,500 students participated in Youth Wetland's Week.
- On June 2, Jan Morgan and her husband David will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary. They are going on a 2 week Alaskan cruise and land tour.

District 2 – Shannon Dietz, Spot Lighter

- No News Reported

District 3 –Kris Mayers, Spot Lighter

- No News Reported

District 4 –Shannan Waits, Spot Lighter

- Congratulations to Lou Ann (Jenkins) McKeivier, Acadia Parish, on her April 19 wedding.
- Congratulations to Tina Goebel...mother of 2 outstanding graduates: Kevin graduates from Elton High and Derek from LSU – both in the same week!
- Congratulations to Ester (Vanderlick) Boe, Avoyelles Parish, on her April 26 wedding.
- Callie Bellon, Daughter of Randy Bellon was named Mrs. Basile High 2008. She was presented the award by her older sister Mrs. Lacy Bellon who was Mrs. Basile High 2007. Callie graduated on May 16th and will attend McNeese State University this fall. This award is the highest honor a female graduate can receive.
- Silas Cecil, Sheena Cecil, Kori Myers, Todd Fontenot and Lou Ann Jenkins all completed HRE 4026 this semester with Dr. Tassin. Kori and Sheena are working toward completion of specialization in December of 2008 and Lou Ann, Silas and Todd are all working toward their Masters Degrees.

District 5 – Teresa Price, Spot Lighter

- My daughter, Melinda Remy will graduate from La. Tech on May 17th. Her degree is Merchandising and Consumer Studies. For her graduation, she wanted a trip to Chicago to see a Cubs game and shop the Magnificent Mile, so we are making a family vacation of it.
- Twenty-one girls from Sabine parish received their Babysitter's Certification on April 30th. A three day course covered the responsibilities of babysitting, taught youth ways to develop confidence in problem situations that may arise, and taught ways to have a positive attitude towards the care of children. Students were also able to enroll in an optional CPR Certification course to obtain their certification cards.
- Guest speakers taught sessions on First Aid, Fire and Safety Issues, A Parent's Concerns, and Nutrition and Entertainment. Students were asked to use their imaginations to complete one project before the last day of class: to make a "magic bag" that included any items they might need to show up on the job as a prepared babysitter, such as washable markers, colorful bandages, blunt scissors, story books, flashlights, and more!
- Hannah Crnkovic, daughter of Jeannie Crnkovic (4-H agent in Bossier Parish), made the 2008-09 cheerleading squad at Caddo Middle Magnet.
- Sara Menard, daughter of Troy Menard (4-H agent in Bossier Parish), is graduating from Captain Shreve High School. She was one of the recipients of the Scott Truck & Tractor scholarship, was awarded the LSU 4-H Foundation scholarship, LSU Baton Rouge scholarship and the Ruth Johnson scholarship. Sara also received the Shreveport Rotary Caddo Parish 4-H'er of the Year

Award, \$5000 Allstate Foundation (Keep the Drive) Award and one of the three \$1000 (4 year) scholarships from the Ark-LA-Tex Ag Council. CONGRATULATIONS Sara!

- Our thoughts and prayers go out to Amanda Simmons, Lincoln Parish, and her family for the loss of her father.
- Get well soon to Louise McDonald, Caddo, who is recovering from kidney transplant surgery.
- Congratulations to Katie Bridges, daughter of Robin Bridges, County Agent, Claiborne Parish on her graduation (Magna Cum Laude) from LSU in Dairy Science and Agronomy/Environmental Management. Katy will continue her studies with University of Georgia in the graduate program of Environmental Science.
- Congratulations to Tony Bridges, son of Robin Bridges, Claiborne, on his new J-O-B! Tony is the starter unit manager for Dairy Serve, a division of Smithfield Corporation in Greenbay, WI.

State Office-Dr. Janet Fox, Spot Lighter

- No News Reported

Meet Your Neighbor



Our neighbor for this spring edition is Kirsten Johnson, 4-H agent in West Baton Rouge Parish. Kirsten joined the LSU AgCenter on May 1st, 2008. Prior to joining the AgCenter, she worked in Faribault County MN as a 4-H Program Coordinator. She graduated from The University of Wisconsin at River Falls with a degree in Animal Science Equine Emphasis. Her birthday is October 30th. Kirsten is from Staples, Minnesota which is in North Central Minnesota. [Kirsten was a](#) Wadena County 4-Her for many years in Minnesota. When asked why she chose extension for her profession she said she enjoys working with the members and seeing them get excited about 4-H and the things that they are able to do as members. When asked why she chose Louisiana as her new home she said she would like to pursue her masters degree at LSU. Kirsten currently resides in Port Allen, LA. Her Favorites include: Color: Blue, Aroma: A Horse Barn, Food: To Many to List, Song: “Home” By Marc Broussard, TV Show: The Big Bang Theory and Movie: The Last Samurai. Kirsten can be reached at her office at 210 Turner Rd. Port Allen, LA or at kdjohnson@agcenter.lsu.edu or by phone at 225-336-2416. We welcome Kirsten to [our Extension Family.](#)

Kori's Korner

The book "The Power of Choice" by Sam Silverstein is an excellent book. I received this book as a door prize at my first LAE 4-HA Convention that I attended in Natchitoches in 2004. I have read the book more than once and refer to it often. The book has a permanent resting spot in my desk drawer so it is always within reach when I am at my office. The book mainly discusses that we become what we become of the way we choose and will ourselves to think. Our choices affect our thoughts and our thoughts affect who we are, what we stand for and the footprint we will leave. Through out our lives and careers will be faced with choices and we are constantly faced with the responsibility of choosing. Our choices not only affect ourselves but the people around us. Quotes from the book:

"Do you choose to say "can do" or can't do"

Your attitude affects your actions and your actions affect your results. A positive attitude will allow you to apply yourself until you achieve the results you desire.

"Can you laugh"

Do you laugh? When? How seriously do you take yourself? Can you laugh at past mistakes? Laughter is therapeutic. Laughter enables you to release situational tensions and empowers you, Laughter can help you handle embarrassing or difficult situations. Using laughter is one way to maintain control of your emotions. And you will find, laughter is contagious.

Remember you can create the future you desire based on the choices you make today!!

Upcoming Dates

- Presentation Proposals for the 2008 LAE 4-HA Convention are due on March 20, 2008.
- Scholarship Applications for our association scholarship are due on May 31st, 2008
- If you are attending Galaxy your must have your information to the President Elect by June 30th.
- The next edition of the Pelican Parle will be out in August 31st 2008.
- Our State Meeting will be in August 19-22, 2008 in Baton Rouge.
- Galaxy III will be September 15-19, 2008, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

LAE 4-HA Pelican Parle Deadlines

The Louisiana Pelican Parle' will be published quarterly. Please submit articles that you would like to have published in the newsletter by the appropriate deadline.

Articles Due

August 25, 2008 (summer edition)
November 24, 2008 (fall edition)
February 16, 2009 (winter edition)

Publication Dates

August 31, 2008
November 30, 2008
February 23, 2009

Final thoughts

"Yesterday is history.
Tomorrow is a mystery.
Today is a gift,
that is why we call it the present."

Remember: To treasure each day we are given and live it to the fullest!

Until Next Time,
Kori Myers
LAE 4-HA Reporter