



Illinois Celebrates the 4-H Centennial

April/May 2001

### Meet the Illinois Centennial Committee

The Illinois Centennial Committee is looking forward to hearing your ideas and suggestions and being a resource in our local areas. Those serving on the committee are as follows:

Luke Behme--Macoupin Co.	Jessica Blackwell--Cook Co.
Darlene Curry--Tazwell Co.	Kate Fombelle--Moultrie/Douglas Co.
Toni Frank--Sangamon/Menard Co.	Lynn Gibson--Winnebago Co.
Theresa Graf--McLean Co.	Jan Hoeft--McHenry Co.
Holly Ingram--Logan Co.	Nathan Klinger--Richland Co.
Ron Snodgrass--Ogle Co.	Tammy Stewart--McLean Co.
Marion Wadkins--Will Co.	Carmetha Waddy--Pulaski/Alexander

Tosha Cantrell-Macoupin Co. Educator  
 Sally Hamlin--Macomb Extension Educator  
 Sandra Lignell--Countryside Extension Educator  
 Bill Million--Effingham Extension Educator  
 Debra Stocker--State Extension Specialist.

### 2001 National 4-H Conference Delegates

The following 4-H'ers represented Illinois at the 2001 National 4-H Conference in Washington, D.C. They would also be excellent resources for Centennial ideas.

Katrina Beebe-Jackson Co.	Melissa Bramlet-Pope/Hardin Co.
Joseph Greving-Tazewell Co.	Casey Hornstein-Ford/Iroquois Co.
Abigail Michels-Carroll Co.	Cassandra Murphy-McHenry Co.
Matt Pangrac-Macon Co.	Randy Rice-Sangamon/Menard Co.

Also in attendance were:

Carmetha Waddy-Pulaski/Alexander Co. Julie Pangrac-Macon Co.  
 Bill Million-Effingham Center

### Start to Plan Your Club's Centennial Celebration

- Compile a history of your 4-H Club.
- Compile a list of all leaders of your 4-H Club. This could include the years that they served as leaders and also the current address for each former leader. You may want to note those who are deceased.
- Compile a list of all present and former members of your club. This could include the years that they were members. Again you could try to get addresses.
- Brainstorm ideas for celebrating 100 years of 4-H with your club.
- Prepare a club directory with names, addresses, and phone numbers.
- Invite former leaders and members to visit your club meeting.
- Plan some club celebrations for the year 2002.
- Identify past award winners from your club.
- Recognize past award winners at your club's awards night.
- Interview former leaders and members to learn about 4-H when they were active.

The 4-H Centennial lists ideas for the upcoming 4-H Centennial. Send ideas and comments to: Illinois 4-H Centennial, Deb Stocker, 302 E. John, Suite 1901, Champaign, IL 61820 (217) 333-0910.  
<http://www.4-h.uiuc.edu/events/centennial.html>

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**Organizing Funds for the Centennial**

The USDA and the National 4-H Council are seeking \$5 million to use for celebrating the 4-H Centennial in 2002. The National 4-H Council hired Steve Gunderson, a former congressman, to secure it. Gunderson is working with Senators Lugar (Indiana) and Harkin (Iowa) to obtain the funding. These funds might be used to support a 4-H Centennial Conversation that would involve local, county, state, and national legislators including the President and Congress. The national conversation will occur in February 2002. The goal of these conversations is to present an agenda on youth development in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. More information will be available later as the events get closer.

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**Important Events in Every Decade**

For those of us who don't have enough time to check out what's happening on the National 4-H website, check out these recent events that were in the top ten decade votes:

1923 – 1932 – The third decade.

The national motto and pledge were adopted in 1927. The 4-H name and emblem were patented only three years before. The third most popular event, the first national 4-H club camp, was held on the grounds of the USDA. The first club congress occurred in 1923.

1913 – 1922 – The second decade.

The most important piece of legislation, the Smith – Leaver Act, started the Cooperative Extension Service through the Land Grant University system. The number of volunteers continued to grow helping to support the club work of boys and girls. In 1918 the term “4-H club” was coined.

1902 – 1912 – The first decade.

In 1907 or 1908, O.H. Benson designed the clover that represents 4-H. The cooperation between county, state, and federal cooperative agreements was formalized and this promoted club work. Almost 100,000 boys and girls were involved in club work in 1902 when agricultural clubs started in Ohio.

You can still vote on which events are important to you in the fifth decade. Go to [www.4hcentennial.org](http://www.4hcentennial.org) for more details and to read the official top ten lists.

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**Celebration Ideas for Clubs and Counties Continue**

The centennial celebration can be a year long activity by including a small tribute at all local/county events. A community service and/or fundraising idea would be to sponsor a collection of 100's. Some items to collect are blankets, peanut butter or any canned food item, personal hygiene items like soap, shampoo, or lotion, or any small money denomination like pennies, dimes or nickels, or pet supplies like dog food or cat food. This idea can be individualized for your community and the organizations that are active there.

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