

"A Proud Past, A Bright Future"

That was the theme for this year's Lincoln County 4-H Leaders' Association, Inc. Annual Recognition Banquet held on Saturday, October 12th at Ed and Sharon's Restaurant. Over 80 Lincoln County 4-H volunteers, members, friends and community supporters attended this year's banquet. Members of the Hamburg Hawks 4-H Club hosted this year's banquet.

4-H is a community of young people across Lincoln County who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. Youth in grades Kindergarten through 13 (one year after high school graduation) can join 4-H, regardless of where you live. If you are interested in learning more about 4-H or how to getting involved in Lincoln County 4-H, please feel free to contact Debbie or Amanda at the UW-Extension office at 715-539-1072 or visit our website at <http://lincoln.uwex.edu/> or subscribe to the Lincoln County 4-H Blog <http://fyi.uwex.edu/lincolncounty4h/> for up to the minute 4-H news. Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development is a program of the University of Wisconsin-Extension, Cooperative Extension in partnership with local, state and federal government in each Wisconsin county.

VOLUNTEER YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

There are 172 4-H Volunteer Leaders in Lincoln County who have given 1,815 years of service to the 4-H program. During the banquet we honored all of our 4-H Volunteers; project leaders, general leaders and board members for their commitment to the program. Those leaders, who have been involved for 1, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 35 years, received a years of service pin and certificate at the banquet. This year's recipients are as follows:

First Year Leaders:

Barnes Creek Buccaneers
Jesse Dengel
Hamburg Hawks
Lori Benaszski, Theresa Peterson, Brandon Thurs
Hi-Lo's
Erica Busche
Merrill Busy Bees
Jennifer Plisch, Matt Thistle
Resource Leader
Shelly Burnett, Kathleen Ermer, Myria Kludy

Fifth Year Leaders:

Barnes Creek Buccaneers
Juri Paulus, Alicia Weix
Hi-Lo's
Allen Barkholz, Dawn Barkholz, Julia Pankow, Laura Reiter
Merrill Busy Bees
Dustin Vandre
Pine River Pioneer/Sunrise
Holly Hartwig, Brittany Wendorf, Jessica Woller
Resource Leader
Rebecca Kludy, Fern Langhoff

Ten Year Leaders:

Hi-Lo's
Candi Busche
Merrill Busy Bees
Cheryl Buck, Linda Hudzinski, Jay Tlusty, Maxine Tlusty
Resource Leader
Lori Podgorski

Fifteen Year Leaders

Barnes Creek Buccaneers

Jessica Kildahl
Merrill Busy Bees
Connie Duerkop
Pine River Pioneer/Sunrise
Stephanie Schepp
Laurie Woller

Twenty Year Leaders:

Corning Yankees
Rita Koepke
Prairie River Eagles
Mary Sosnovske

Twenty-Five Year Leaders:

Hamburg Hawks
Cheryl Roets
Hi-Lo's
Lori Lemke, Marty Lemke
Corning All Stars
Cindi Christiansen

Thirty-five Year Leader:

Corning All Stars
Dale Christiansen

OUTSTANDING 4-H VOLUNTEER LEADER AWARDS

In 1988, the Lincoln County 4-H Leaders' Association initiated the annual recognition of two outstanding 4-H leaders. Beginning in 2001, the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation and the 4-H Leaders' Association jointly partnered to recognize two outstanding leaders in Lincoln County. This year's recipients were Heidi Duley from the Pine River Pioneer Sunrise 4-H Club and Rita Koepke from the Corning Yankees 4-H Club.

Heidi Duley has been a 4-H volunteer leader for 27 years. Throughout that time, Heidi has always been willing to step up whenever asked to take on a job. She served as the Department Chairperson for the Jr. Beef Department at the Lincoln County Fair for several years and continues to help each year. Heidi has been instrumental in planning and conducting the annual Lincoln County Safety Day Camp and received the Jefferson Award for her role in making this camp possible for nearly 20 years.

Rita Koepke has been a 4-H volunteer leader for twenty years. She serves as a Co-Organizational Club Leader for the Corning Yankees 4-H Club and has worked with her club to coordinate numerous county level activities including Bowling; Drama, Lip Sync and Music Festival and the annual 4-H raffle held at the Lincoln County Fair. Rita serves as the Co-Chairperson for the Jr. Animal and Veterinary Science, Electricity, Mechanical Sciences, and Youth Leadership/Self-Determined Departments at the Lincoln County Fair. In addition, she serves on the committee for the Open Cultural Arts Department.

FRIEND OF 4-H AWARDS

Since 1963, the 4-H Leaders' Association, Inc. has been recognizing two people, committees or organizations as "Friends of 4-H." This year's awards went to Evan Koshak and Reindl Printing, Inc.

Evan Koshak was nominated for his support to 4-H clubs who are taking on community service projects involving woodworking. He helps the club with advice and planning of the project with patience and guidance to help youth successfully complete their project. Evan was a former 4-H member who carried the woodworking project and today owns and operates Tomahawk Builder Supply.

Reindl Printing, Inc. has provided support to Lincoln County 4-H for many years. This has included printing of raffle tickets for the annual fair raffle, purchasing an ad in the Lincoln County Plat Book sponsored by the 4-H Leaders' Association along with additional printing needs.

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KEY AWARDS

Steven M. Roets, a member of the Hamburg Hawks 4-H Club and Kassie Schepp, a member of the Pine River Pioneer Sunrise 4-H Club were the recipients of the 4-H Key Award. The award was presented by Mark Duley, representing Lincoln County Farm Bureau. The prestigious Key Award, one of the highest honors a 4-H member can receive, honors a select group of 4-H participants annually. The youth receiving this award are ones who have demonstrated consistent growth in their 4-H involvement, developed and applied their leadership skills, and actively participated in the functions of their club and their community. For the 38th consecutive year the Key awards are being sponsored by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation and Rural Insurance Companies.

Steven M. Roets (Stevie) - Stevie has been very active 4-H member in the Hamburg Hawks Club for 14 years. Stevie took great interest in the poultry project and served as the Club President for the Poultry and Rabbit Committee, a Lincoln County Ambassador, and served on the Lincoln County 4-H Leaders Association Board of Directors. Stevie also served as a Youth Director and Secretary for the National 4-H Congress. Stevie attended all of the trips Lincoln County 4-H offered and was an outstanding delegate; U.S. Space Camp, State 4-H Youth Conference, Citizenship Washington Focus, American Spirit Leadership and National 4-H Conference. Outside of 4-H Stevie held other leadership roles as Student Senate President, Class Council, Co-President, Student Council Vice President, a Marching Band Section Leader, and River District Development Foundation of Merrill Student Director. Stevie is the son of Steven and Cheryl Roets.

Kassie Schepp - Kassie has been an active 4-H member in the Pine River Pioneer Sunrise Club since Kindergarten and throughout the years she has been President and Secretary for her club. Kassie took a great interest in showing dairy, swine and photography. She has received many awards including Casey Klimek Dairy Integrity Award, James W. Crowley Award, the I Dare You Leadership Award and participated in the American Spirit Trip and State 4-H Youth Conference. Kassie also was active in FFA and Dorinda's Dance. She is attending NK for Ag Business. Kassie is the daughter of Stephanie Schepp.

CLUB DAIRY AWARD

The Merrill Busy Bees 4-H club was recognized for their efforts in promoting Wisconsin's Dairy Industry. The Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board awards 4-H clubs around the state for their efforts in promoting and celebrating June Dairy Month. A Certificate of Achievement was presented to club members during the banquet for outstanding accomplishments in promoting Wisconsin Dairy Industry in Lincoln County.

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Present at the Banquet to accept their awards were (Left to right) Front Row - Holly Hartwig, Cheryl Buck, Stephanie Schepp, Cheryl Roets, and Cindi Christiansen. Back Row - Rebecca Kludy, Fern Langhoff, Brandon Thurs, Rita Koepke, and Dale Christiansen. For leaders who were unable to attend the banquet, their 4-H clubs will be presenting their years of service award at a future time.



Cindi Christiansen (right) presented Heidi Duley (left) with her award



Rebecca Kludy (right), presented Rita Koepke (left) with her award



Caroline Lemke (left) nominated and presented Evan Koshak with his award



Yvette Chievers (right) presented Melinda Herman of Reindl Printing, Inc. (left) with their award



Mark Duley (left) presented this year's Key Award to Steven M. Roets (center) who accepted via the use of technology and Kassie Schepp (right). **If space allows, please include the following information about Steven and Kassie



Merrill Busy Bees 4-H accept their Club Dairy Award

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Kassie Schepp received this commemorative engraved medallion as part of the James W. Crowley award. Joseph Barkley was unable to attend the banquet and will receive his award at a later date.

JAMES W. CROWLEY DAIRY AWARD

James W. Crowley 4-H Dairy Leadership Award program provides recognition to youth who have excelled in their dairy project. The James W. Crowley Dairy Management and Extension Fund is the sponsor of this award. We are pleased to name the award in honor and memory of James W. Crowley, longtime Extension Dairy Specialist and strong supporter of dairy youth projects. Joseph Barkley, a member of the Merrill Busy Bees 4-H Club and Kassie Schepp, a member of the Pine River Pioneer Sunrise 4-H Club received this award. Each received a commemorative engraved medallion and the chance to compete for state-level awards, including a chance to compete for two \$500 scholarships that will be awarded for continuing dairy education. The state competition will consist of interviews conducted during the Wisconsin State Fair.

MEMORY BOOK AWARDS

Six youth who did an outstanding job on their 4-H Memory Books were recognized at this year's banquet. The Memory Book is a fantastic way for youth to make a learning record of their year in the 4-H program and takes a considerable amount of time and effort on the part of the 4-H member.

Barnes Creek Buccaneers 4-H Club:

Keely McGinn
- Participation seal and merit
Molly McGinn
- Seal/Merit and incentive

Merrill Busy Bees 4-H Club:

Ricky Fehlberg
- Seal/Merit and incentive
Shelby Fehlberg

- Seal/Merit and incentive
Joseph Barkley
- Seal/Merit and incentive
Steven Fehlberg
- Seal/Merit and incentive

GRADUATING 4-H MEMBER AWARDS

4-H Board of Directors President Cindi Christiansen recognized our graduating 4-H members during the annual recognition banquet. Unfortunately, none of them were able to attend the banquet and will receive their award from their 4-H clubs at a future date. This year's graduating 4-H members are:

Michaela Albert— Michaela was a member in the Corning All Stars 4-H Club. Some of her projects included beef, cats, dogs, miniature horse, photography and rabbits. Michaela has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H Program for 5 years.

Hannah Arnott— Hannah was a member in the Bits N Bridles 4-H Club. Hannah's projects included, art, drawing and painting, horse and photography. Hannah has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H program for 9 years.

Jordan Baumann— Jordan was a member in the Barnes Creek Buccaneers 4-H Club. Jordan enjoyed hunting and photography projects. Jordan has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H program for 2 years.

Tasha Bonke— Tasha was a member in the Pine River Pioneer/Sunrise 4-H Club. Tasha's project interests included corn crops, forage crops and small grains and dairy. Tasha has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H program for 16 years.

Raeann Brixius— Raeann was a member in the Hi-Lo's 4-H Club. Some of Raeann's projects and interests were Citizenship, clothes horse, clothing, communication, creative writing, dogs, drawing and painting, flowers, foods and nutrition, horse, jewelry making, photography, service learning and youth leadership. Raeann has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H program for 9 years.

Shane Dennis— Shane was a member in the Bits N Bridles 4-H Club. Shane's project interests included art, horse, model horse and self-determination. Shane has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H program for 12 years.

Amanda Koshak— Amanda was a member in the Hi-Lo's 4-H Club. Amanda's project interests

included art, block printing, clothing, computers, crocheting, draw and paintings, electricity, flowers, food and nutrition, home environment and grounds. Amanda has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H program for 15 years.

Noah Lassa— Noah was a member in the Corning All Stars 4-H Club. Some of the favorite projects Noah did were bantams, beef, dairy goat, horse, pets, pigeons, poultry, rabbits, swine, and waterfowl. Noah has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H program for 15 years.

Sarah Lawrence— Sarah was a member in the Hamburg Hawks 4-H Club. Sarah's project interests included block printing, cake decorating, candy making, clothing, dance, food preservation, foods and nutrition, photography, posters, and videography. Sarah has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H program for 2 years.

Jared Pahl— Jared was a member in the Pine River Pioneer/Sunrise 4-H Club. Jared's project interests included dairy and swine. Jared has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H program for 13 years.

Emily Schmidt— Emily was a member in the Barnes Creek Buccaneers 4-H Club. Emily's many interests included beef and beef leader, clothing, exploring your environment, flowers, food and nutrition, forestry, fruits, health, hunting, personal finance, photography, Veterinary Sciences, wildflowers, and youth leadership. Emily also worked in the Dairyland Stand. Emily has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H program for 15 years. Emily writes to us that she has been involved in 4-H since she was 5 years old. She says growing up while being involved in the club was such a rewarding experience that was such an important part of her life. Emily says, the older members helped her learn things within the club and were role models for her as well. Things Emily said she was taught have helped her to succeed in officer positions and in being a role model for the younger members. She says through her 4-H career she was also involved in Drama and Lip Sync Festival, Music Festival, MASS Program. She volunteered during Make a Difference Day and Highway Clean Up Days with her club to help out in the community. Emily tells us that everything she learned in 4-H has become a basis for her to learn and grow by and she says she hopes to become a leader one day so she is able to pass her knowledge onto the club and the members.

Kelsey Schoeppler— Kelsey was a member in the Pesobic Pathfinders 4-H Club. Kelsey served on the 4-H Board of Directors and her interests and projects included art, cake decorating, citizenship, communications, computers, creative writing, dogs, foods and nutrition, history and heritage, home environment, knitting, music, photography, poultry, recycling, self-determination and youth leader, service learning, speaking and youth leadership and leader. Kelsey has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H Program for 13 years.



Mike (left) and Margaret Sense (center) accept their award from Sue Kunkel.

Megan Spreeman— Megan was a member in the Corning All Stars 4-H Club. Megan's project interests included child development, clothing, creative writing, foods and nutrition, home environment, and speaking. Megan has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H program for 9 years.

Jared Wardall— Jared was a member of the Barnes Creek Buccaneers 4-H Club. Jared's many interests and projects included corn crops, draft horse, electricity, flowers, horse, house plants, maple syrup, photography, poultry, small engine, tractors, vegetables, and woodworking. Jared has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H program for 10 years.

Eric Williams— Eric was a member of the Rockfalls Rascals 4-H Club. Eric's projects included aerospace, dairy, electricity, sheep, swine, and woodworking. Eric has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H program for 14 years.

Austin Willis— Austin was a member of the Merrill Busy Bees 4-H Club. Austin's project interests were adventures, bicycling, citizenship, communications, electricity, entrepreneurship, fishing, hunting, intergenerational programs, posters, recycling, scale models, self-determination, service learning, small engines, woodworking, and youth leadership. Austin has been a member of the Lincoln County 4-H Program for 14 years. Austin states he remembers the first time he really understood the 4-H Pledge: "I pledge my Head to clearer thinking, my Heart to greater loyalty, my Hands to larger service, and my Health to better living for my club, my community, my country, and my world". "I had said it a couple dozen times before it truly sank in. 4-H has been the backbone of who I am today; helping me with organization, communication, problem solving skills, self-esteem and much more. I am so thankful for our awesome 4-H leaders, parents and kids that made it all possible." Austin says he built lasting friendships and ties to his community that he will never forget and the Merrill Busy Bees will always be in his heart for giving him the opportunity to grow, learn and lead.

2012-13 4-H AMBASSADOR AWARDS

The 4-H Program in Lincoln County continues to grow and change each year. Many of these changes are made possible with the help of the Lincoln County 4-H Ambassadors.



Erica Thurs (left) presented Brittany's award to Brittany's mother Rose (right) who accepted on her behalf.

They contribute an incredible amount of time and energy to the program; fundraising, emceeing, promoting and planning activities and events. The 2012-2013 Ambassadors and Ambassador Advisors were recognized for their considerable contributions. A big 4-H thank you goes out to last year's Ambassadors and Junior Ambassadors Lily Cordova, Bailey Iwen, Morgan Norton, Steven Roets, and Jared Sparks. 4-H Ambassador Advisors, Kim Brixius and Rebecca Kludy were also recognized for their leadership provided to this program.

OUTSTANDING FAIR VOLUNTEER AWARDS

In 1990, the Lincoln County Fair Board initiated and the Lincoln County Fair Association, continues to annually recognize two Outstanding Fair volunteers. This year the Outstanding Fair Volunteer Award was presented to Brittany Wendorf and Margaret and Mike Sense.

Brittany was nominated for volunteering with the Junior and Open Poultry Department during the Lincoln County Fair. From setting up cages and hanging decorations to helping make sure judging went smoothly, Brittany was happy to help. She has a positive attitude and is respectful of both 4-Hers and adult exhibitors.

WAL-MART DONATION PRESENTATION

Margaret and Mike Sense have been volunteering at the Lincoln County Fair for over 20 years. Both work in the Open Antiques Department. They do a wonderful job setting up the area, keeping everything organized, and displaying the entries. Since 2002, Wal-Mart has donated \$2,450 to the Lincoln County Fair in recognition of Margaret's volunteer service.



(left to right) -Keely McGinn, Molly McGinn, Shelby Fehlberg, Ricky Fehlberg and Steven Fehlberg.