

## "See What Our 4-H Volunteers Are Cooking Up"

That was the theme for this year's Lincoln County 4-H Leaders' Association, Inc. Annual Recognition Banquet held on Saturday, October 27th at Schult's Country Inn. Over 80 Lincoln County 4-H volunteers, members, friends and community supporters attended this year's banquet. Members of the Merrill Busy Bees 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 169 4-H Volunteer Leaders in Lincoln County who have given 1,648 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, and 20 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  
- Joshua Kildahl

Merrill Busy Bees  
- Karissa Gipple

Pesobic Pathfinders  
- John Hagemeister  
- Michelle Hagemeister  
- Hayley Schoeppler

Prairie River Eagles  
- Heather Klimek  
- Ashley Ronis

Resource Leader  
- Christopher Marion

#### FIFTH YEAR LEADERS

Bits 'n Briddles  
- Shannon Radtke

Coming All Stars  
- Heidi Jo Gronna

Hamburg Hawks  
- Erica Thurs  
Hi-Los  
- Kim Brixius

Merrill Busy Bees  
- Pat Chieves  
- Yvette Chieves  
- Beth Krueger  
- Sharon Riddle  
- Lynn Simon  
- James Weiland  
- Susan Weiland

Pine River Pioneer/Sunrise  
- Brad Hartwig

Resource Leader  
- Cyndi Timm  
- Dennis Timm

#### TEN YEAR LEADERS

Hamburg Hawks  
- Violet Volz

Hi-Los  
- Connie McPherson



Present at the Banquet to accept their 5 year leader awards were (left to right) Beth Krueger, Erica Thurs, Pat Chieves, Yvette Chieves, and Kim Brixius



Present at the Banquet to accept their awards were (Left to right) Donna Barkley, Totsy Kleinschmidt, Gloria Lukes, Violet Volz, and Holly Schoeppler. 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.



Outstanding Volunteer Leader Awards - Gloria Lukes (left), presented Mike Kunkel and Sandy Thurs (right) presented Violet Volz with their award.

Merrill Busy Bees  
- William Kunkel  
Pesobic Pathfinders  
- Holly Schoeppler  
Pine River Pioneer/Sunrise  
- Heidi Sturzenegger  
Resource Leader  
- David Buck

#### FIFTEEN YEAR LEADERS

Coming All Stars  
- Lynette Lassa  
- Barry Schleif

Hi-Los  
- Judy Koshak

Merrill Busy Bees  
- Donna Barkley  
- Dawn Hojan  
- Gloria Lukes  
- Tammy Thistle

Pine River Peppers  
- Desmond Schmidt

Pine River Pioneer/Sunrise  
- Jessica Gruetzmacher

Resource  
- Lloyd Buck, Jr.

#### TWENTY YEAR LEADERS

Merrill Busy Bees  
- Totsy Kleinschmidt  
- Kay Simon  
- Scott Vandergeest

Resource  
- Roxie Hoffman

### Outstanding 4-H Volunteer Leader Awards

In 1988, the 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 Mike Kunkel from the Merrill Busy Bees 4-H Club and Violet Volz from the Hamburg Hawks 4-H Club.

Mike Kunkel has been a 4-H volunteer leader for 21 years. Throughout that time, Mike is active in helping with club activities and served as the coordinator of the Lincoln County 4-H Auction for several years raising funds to support the countywide 4-H program. Mike is also very involved in volunteering each year at the Lincoln County Fair.

Violet Volz has been a 4-H volunteer leader for ten years. She serves as a co-leader for the Hamburg Hawks 4-H Club with her daughter and granddaughter. She took on that role so the club would stay together so her grandchildren could continue to be involved in 4-H. Violet also helps out in many ways at the Lincoln County Fair by working in the dairyland stand, helping in the poultry barn or wherever she is needed.

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**4-H continued from Page 6****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." One of this year's awards went to John Kromm, Owner of Tomahawk Ben Franklin. John was nominated for his generosity and support of 4-H. Whether he's offering his parking lot or storefront for brat fry or bake sale fundraisers or donating supplies for club projects or merchandise for the 4-H raffle, John is always willing to help out and to promote what a good organization 4-H is for young people to be involved in. Our second Friend of 4-H award will be presented during the upcoming Annual 4-H Leaders' Association meeting on November 8th.



Friend of 4-H Award - Caroline Lemke (right) nominated and presented John Kromm with his award.



I Dare You Award - Rebecca Barkholz

**Key Awards**

RaeAnn Brixius, a member of the Hi-Lo's 4-H Club; Brenda Krueger, a member of the Merrill Busy Bees 4-H Club and Kelsey Schoeppler, a member of the Pesobic Pathfinders 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 37th consecutive year the Key awards are being sponsored by the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation and Rural Insurance Companies.



Brenda Krueger, Mark Duley, presenter of this year's Key Awards on behalf of Lincoln County Farm Bureau, and Kelsey Schoeppler. RaeAnn Brixius was unable to attend the banquet to accept her award.

**I Dare You Leadership Awards**

Rebecca Barkholz, a member of the Hi-Lo's 4-H Club, received the American Youth Foundation's National Leadership Award, in recognition of personal integrity, balanced living and potential leadership. The National Leadership Award is presented each year by the American Youth Foundation (AYF) in cooperation with principals, counselors, county 4-H programs, and other organizations across the country. The award was first offered in 1941 by the late William H. Danforth, founder of the Ralston Purina Company in St. Louis, who challenged young people to achieve their highest potential and to influence others through lives of service. The award takes its name from the book, I Dare You, written by Danforth, in which he commends the balanced life of mental, physical, social and spiritual development as the backbone of leadership. In addition to a certificate of recognition each recipient received a copy of Danforth's inspirational book, I Dare You, and an opportunity to apply for the "I Dare You" scholarship, which can be applied to the cost of the AYF's Leadership Conference located in Michigan.

**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 In-



Club Dairy Award - Front row (left to right) - Brenda Krueger, Lisa Krueger and Abigail Krueger; Back row (left to right) Joe Barkley, Chase Stahnke, Zachariah Krueger, Steven Fehlberg, and Shelby Fehlberg

dustry in Lincoln County.

**Memory Book Awards**

Seven 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. Each of them received a first place award for their book with Heidi Massa receiving a Merit award.

Hi-Lo's - Austin Leinen and Heidi Massa

Merrill Busy Bees - Joseph Barkley, Shelby Fehlberg, Steven Fehlberg, Abigail Krueger, Zachariah Krueger

**Graduating 4-H Member Awards**

4-H Board of Directors President Cindi Christiansen presented our graduating 4-H members with their certificate and alumni pin during the annual recognition banquet. This year's graduating 4-H members are: Erica Busche, Douglas Davis, Myria Kludy, Alexandria Kreie, Katie Maule, Rebecca Ryan, Sara Schleif, Mathew Thistle, Brandon Thurs, Daniel Tiffany

**2011-12 4-H****Ambassador Awards**

The 4-H Program in Lincoln County continues to grow and change each year. Many of these



Graduating Members - Present at the Banquet to accept their awards were Brandon Thurs and Myria Kludy. For graduating members who were unable to attend the banquet, their 4-H clubs will be presenting their awards at a future time.

changes are made possible with the help of the Lincoln County 4-H Ambassadors. They contribute an incredible amount of time and energy to the program; fundraising, emceeing, promoting and planning activities and events. The 2011-2012 Ambassadors and Ambassador Advisors were recognized for their considerable contributions. A big 4-H thank you goes out to last year's Ambassadors, RaeAnn Brixius, Myria Kludy, Steven Roets, Kelsey Schoeppler, Nathaniel Schoeppler and Megan Spreeman. 4-H Ambassador Advisors, Kim Brixius, Rebecca Kludy, Lori Lemke and Erin Riddle were also recognized for their leadership provided to this program.

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Ambassador Awards – Front Row (left to right) – Myria Kludy, Kelsey Schoeppler, Lori Lemke; Back Row (left to right) – Kim Brixius, Steven Roets and Becky Kludy



State Recognition – Beth Krueger



International Award - (left to right) Holly, Kelsey and Tim Schoeppler with their awards



Fair Association Plaque – Fair Association Board members (left to right) Erica Thurs, Pat Chieves, Mark Duley, Lori Lemke, and Sue Kunkel accepted the plaque from Brandon Thurs (far right), Sandy Thurs and Cindi Christiansen (back row – right to left) on the Fair Association's behalf.

#### State Recognition

Beth Krueger received a certificate from the Wisconsin 4-H Youth Development Program for serving as an adult chaperone for 2012 Citizenship Washington Focus. As an adult chaperone, Beth was responsible for working with other adults in leading a delegation from Wisconsin on this national trip.

#### International Program Recognitions

The Wisconsin 4-H International Programs provided recognition to the following for serving as an International Host Family during 2012:

Hagemeister Family who hosted a young person through the Wisconsin 4-H Japan/Korea Exchange; Schoeppler Family who hosted two young people one through the Wisconsin 4-H Japan/Korea Exchange and one through the Wisconsin 4-H/Argentina Exchange; and Weiland Family who hosted a young person through the Wisconsin 4-H/LEX Mexico Exchange.

Holly Schoeppler was further recognized with a certificate of ap-



Fair Volunteer Award– Cindi Christiansen (left) and Sandy Thurs (right) presented Steven M. Roets with his award.



Fair Volunteer Award – Susan Pfaff (left) accepts her award from Beth Krueger

preciation for serving as a County Coordinator for the 4-H/Japanese Exchange program. Wisconsin 4-H has participated in the National

4-H-Japanese Exchange since 1981. Area Coordinators and County Coordinators have been an integral part of the exchange by promoting the program, answering questions, assisting with orientations, coordinating midpoint meetings and assisting at the departure of the Japanese delegation.

#### Special Recognition Presented to Lincoln County Fair Association

During this year's banquet, Cindi Christiansen, Sandy Thurs and Brandon Thurs presented members of the Lincoln County Fair Association with a plaque that Brandon created from a board of the former Grandstand.

#### Outstanding Fair Volunteer awards

In 1990, the Lincoln County Fair Board initiated the annual

recognition of two Outstanding Fair volunteers. This year the Outstanding Fair Volunteer Award was presented to Susan Pfaff and Steven M. Roets.

Susan has volunteered at the Lincoln County Fair for over 25 years. She currently serves as the Co-Chairperson for the Jr. and Open Plant and Soil Sciences and Open Flowers and Houseplants departments. Susan tries each year to think of new ways to decorate her departments and is always there to help with any questions that exhibitors may have from the 4-H members to adult exhibitors.

Steven was nominated for his willingness to help wherever he is needed at the Lincoln County Fair. From his role as a youth member on the Junior and Open Poultry Department committee, to serving as a 4-H Ambassador to helping in the Fair office, Steven has a positive attitude and is always willing to help out serving as a role model for other youth involved.