Take Time to Reflect
by Bill Million, IEPYE President

Now that the hustle and bustle of winter is over, I encourage you to take time to review the many accomplishments of the past few months. Recent news from Campus Administration and Springfield has caused some among us to begin to question our future. As I hear of doom and gloom I am reminded of similar situations that we, as an organization, have weathered in the past.

By remaining positive and continuing to do the work we are challenged to do we will emerge to brighter days ahead. I am not looking through rose-colored glasses; rather, I am looking at our many accomplishments. I encourage you to reflect upon your role in our organization's ability to reach the more than 380,000 youth who chose to participate in one of our many programs and activities. What impact have your efforts had on them as individuals and to the communities where they live?

Your efforts in delivering quality programs have been visible and recognized by volunteers and members of your community. This affirmation is evident through the many contacts that have been made in our behalf to our elected officials in Springfield and in their home districts. It is obvious that your efforts and programs are important to our clientele and to their community. If we learn anything from this recent funding challenge, to me, it is the need to continue to highlight the impact our programs are having. By keeping our constituents informed we are equipping them with the knowledge they need to defend the programs they want to see continued in their community to the very individuals they elected to office.

A local Salt Lake City 4-H Club has adopted the Nagala School for the Deaf in Nakuru, Kenya. One of the club’s major service projects is to provide school kits for these children. Galaxy II participants are encouraged to support this club with this effort. Each school kit contains the following:

- 1 chalkboard – 9 ½” x 12”
- 1 chalkboard eraser
- 1 box of white chalk (12 pieces)
- 3 pencils
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 pair of blunt nose scissors (metal blades)
- 300 sheets of notebook paper
- 1 durable cloth bag (heavy fabric) with drawstring between 14” x 18” to 15” x 20”
- 22” cord or heavy string

While at Galaxy II, drop off any of the above items; spend some time assembling the school kits; or make a cash donation to purchase items for the school kits.
West Central Region Report
by Deanna Franklin, WC Region Director

West Central Region will meet on June 6 in Springfield.

Southern Region Report
by Patsy Williams, Southern Region Director

Attend a Spring Activity!
When: Thursday, May 15th
Time: 10:00-3:00
Where: Warren G. Murray Children’s Center
Centralia, Illinois

Activities for the day:
◆ Tour the facilities
◆ Get down and dirty! (wear your flower planting, garden clothes)
◆ Pizza -- provided by the center (sodas can be purchased from their machine)
◆ Personal time with residents

Please contact Patsy Williams for more information.

Professional Improvement Committee
by Deanna Franklin, Professional Improvement Committee chair

Committee has met and selected a speaker for the fall meeting. Bill McNamara will talk on the topic of office communication.

Take The IEPYE Leadership Challenge
by Diane Baker, Advisory Committee Chair

Spring has sprung ... and when that happens, it's also time to think about IEPYE leadership for the next year. Becoming involved in your professional association by taking a leadership position on the IEPYE board is a great way to work with colleagues that you may not otherwise have a chance to work with. It's a great way to build your own leadership skills and your network of colleagues.

Positions to consider this year:
Regional Directors -- each Extension region elects a regional director at an IEPYE regional meeting. Regional Director responsibilities include:
* serve on the IEPYE Board of Directors (they meet about 6 times annually, usually by teleconference)
* recruit new and renewal members to IEPYE within your region
* convene IEPYE regional meetings (usually about 2 per year)

Regional Director positions which will be elected this year are:
* North East
* East Central

Committee Chairs -- committee chairs are elected by the committee members. Serving as a committee chair includes:
* serving on the IEPYE Board of Directors
* convening committee meetings to determine and implement the annual plan for that specific committee

Committee Chair positions which will be elected this year are:
* Professional Improvement
* Programs

IEPYE Executive Committee -- to serve on the Executive Committee, you must have already served at least one year on the IEPYE Board (as a committee chair or regional director). Taking the challenge to serve on the executive board is an excellent opportunity for personal and professional growth.

The Advisory Committee is contacting candidates for this year, but now is the time to start planning for next year. In August 2004, we will be electing a new Vice President and a new Secretary.

Think very seriously about this opportunity and how it fits into your personal and professional development plan. If the time is right for you or if you just want more information, contact your current IEPYE regional director or Diane Baker, IEPYE Past President.

Member Recognition Awards
by Dana Homann, Member Recognition Chair

Awards have been submitted, reviewed and forwarded to our North Central Regional Contact. Illinois is to be commended for not only the outstanding programming that is being done throughout the state; but also for the exemplary professionals conducting these programs. The quality of the programs and the caliber of the applications made it difficult for the Member Recognition Committee to make their selections. All award applicants are to be complimented for their outstanding achievement, exceptional work and contribution to the 4-H Youth Development profession. We had 51 applications in 27 different categories.

Award notification letters have been sent to applicants. These letters were only sent to the person who submitted the application. If you submitted an award application as part of a team, please notify co-applicants. Regional Directors received copies of award winners’ letters (which were addressed to
If you received an award as part of a team you will need to let your Regional Director know of your participation in the award process. IEPYE award recipients will be recognized at our fall meeting in August. NAE4-HA award recipients will be honored at Galaxy in September.

**Congratulations!**

### IEPYE MEMBER RECOGNITION  
**2003 ILLINOIS AWARD WINNERS**

#### SERVICE AWARDS

- **25 Years of Service**  
  Pennie Crinion  
  Sheri Seibold

- **Achievement in Service**  
  Cathy Deppe

- **Distinguished Service**  
  Fran Streitmatter  
  Tina Veal

- **Meritorious Service**  
  Melinda States

#### SPECIALTY AWARDS

- **Educational Technology**  
  Sally Hamlin

- **Excellence in 4-H Club Support ~ Individual**  
  Tina Veal

- **Excellence in 4-H Club Support ~ Team**  
  Johnna Jennings, Deanna Roby, Sheri Seibold

- **Excellence in Teamwork**  
  Lisa Woessner (Team)

- **Natural Resources/Environmental Stewardship**  
  Brenda Roedl

- **Teen Programming ~ Individual**  
  Dana Homann

- **Teen Programming ~ Team**  
  Lisa Woessner

#### COMMUNICATOR AWARDS

- **Educational Package ~ Individual**  
  Ruth Ann Vokac

- **Educational Package ~ Team**  
  Ruth Ann Vokac, Marilyn Saathoff

- **Educational Piece ~ Individual**  
  Patsy Williams

- **Educational Piece ~ Team**  
  Tessa Hobbs-Curley, Sheri Merry

- **Feature Story**  
  Pamela Jacobs

- **Media Presentation**  
  Natalie Bosecker

- **News Story**  
  Cheryl Metzger Geitner

- **Personal Column**  
  Cheryl Metzger Geitner

- **Promotional Package**  
  Fran Streitmatter

- **Promotional Piece ~ Individual**  
  Pamela Jacobs

- **Published Photo**  
  Natalie Bosecker

- **State Association Publication**  
  Natalie Bosecker

- **Video Program**  
  Carolyn Ashton, Cathy Ludolph

#### IEPYE STATE AWARDS

- **Early Career Service**  
  Carolyn Ashton  
  Patsy Williams

- **State Outstanding Program ~ Individual**  
  Patsy Williams

- **State Outstanding Program ~ Team**  
  Cheryl Metzger Geitner, Carol E. Wilcoxen
NC Region Awards
by Dana Homann, Member Recognition Chair

NAE4-HA awards judging for the North Central region has been completed. Following is a list of Illinois North Central Regional Award winners.

SERVICE AWARDS

25 Years of Service
Pennie Crinion
Sheri Seibold

Achievement in Service
Cathy Deppe

Distinguished Service
Fran Streitmatter
Tina Veal

Meritorious Service
Melinda States

SPECIALITY AWARDS

Excellence in 4-H Club Support – Individual
Tina Veal

Natural Resources & Environmental Stewardship
Brenda Rodel, Tim Laatsch, Patti Logan, Rosemary Gibbons, Jackie Hahn, Elizabeth Weaver (team)

Excellence in Teen Programming – Individual
Dana Homann

Excellence in Teen Programming – Team
Lisa Woessner, Kim Christman, Greg Clark, Dan Jennings, Johnna Jennings, Sara Hankemeier, Darlene Knipe, Rich Knipe, Joe Schwamberger, Sandy Stiles

COMMUNICATOR AWARDS

Educational Package – Individual
Ruth Ann Vokac

Educational Piece – Individual
Patsy Williams

Personal Column
Cheryl Metzger Geitner

Published Photo
Natalie Bosecker

State Association Publication
Natalie Bosecker

All regional award winners will be recognized in Salt Lake City at the Galaxy Conference during the regional awards program on Tuesday, September 23, 2003. Congratulations to all of the Illinois award winners, you did an outstanding job!

Research and Programs Committee Report
by Chris Hill, Programs Chair

Happy New Year! The Research and Programs Committee would like to share some of the highlights from task force meetings held at the 2002 NAE4-HA Conference in Norfolk.

Youth in Governance: Deb Stocker attended the Youth in Governance meeting and was selected Chair-Elect of this Task Force. Congratulations Deb!! It will be great having a direct line to this taskforce.

Deb also shared that the Youth in Governance Task Force is announcing a NAE4-HA grant program. The "Beyond Youth Leadership Grant" will provide $1000 to an individual or team as a capacity building grant for the study and/or development of a program that empowers youth. The intended program should involve youth in significant decision-making roles that impact their club, community, country or world. Special attention will be paid to programs that are initiated by youth or youth/adult partnerships. Members can look for details in the spring NAE4-HA awards packets. The National 4-H Leadership Trust sponsors the grant.

The Youth in Governance Task Force will also continue to provide the Power of Youth Award, sponsored by the National 4-H Youth Directions Council (N4-HYDC). Thanks Deb.

Camping and Environmental Education Task Force: Some of the goals this task force will be working on are the distribution of a new National 4-H Camping brochure to be available at the 2003 Galaxy Conference. They are also working on the creation of a camping award and an environmental education award.

The development of a National 4-H Camping Research Consortium of universities

Research and Evaluation:
Members of the newly formed Research & Evaluation Committee came together for the first time at this year's NAE4-HA Conference. The group spent time discussing up front a wide range of topics related to youth development research and evaluation. Based on those discussions, two goals emerged for the committee to pursue during the next year--promotion of research and evaluation issues, and staff development in both areas.

Joseph Donaldson (Tennessee) agreed to chair the promotion effort, and Patty McGlaughlin and Steve Wagoner agreed to co-chair staff development work. Promotion of research and evaluation issues will primarily be done through a news column in "News & Views" and through the NAE4-HA web site. Staff development needs will be addressed through NAE4-HA Conference seminars and other communication venues.

Topics discussed at the conference included a review of the literature, determining outcomes using the logic model, setting clear program goals, designing clear and targeted programs, developing concise impact statements, tying program goals to evaluation
strategies, marketing needs relative to the joys of evaluation, linking resources and tying related web sites together, generating “did you know?” questions, linking campus-driven applied research to local field staff, research and evaluation staff needs relative to promotion and tenure, human subject regulations, evaluating total programs to decide what is highest priority and what needs to be dropped, gathering and making available ready-to-use evaluation tools, comparing different evaluation models, connecting life skill impact tools to positive youth development critical elements, evaluating programs for multiple stakeholders, determining the costs of evaluation efforts, survey design and development, evaluation "tool kits" and valid instruments, teaming with teens around program evaluation, understanding the process of evaluation, and developing a "one stop shop" for research and evaluation assistance. As you can tell, there is something for everyone here!

Character Education: The Character Education Task Force sponsored a poster session "Extension developed Character Education Materials Across the Nation" and a seminar "CHARACTER EDUCATION: Charting the Way to Effective Teacher Training". 

Judy Taylor worked with professionals from Texas, New Jersey, Louisiana, and Iowa to present the seminar. At Galaxy II the Character Education Task Force will be sponsoring a pre-conference session. Illinois representatives on the Character Ed. task force include: Anne Wend, Eric Werge, and Judy Taylor.

As you can see there is a lot going on across the nation! Thanks to all who contributed to this article.

Editor’s Note: Apologies to Chris and the research and programs committee for inadvertently leaving out this article in the January newsletter.

Professional Improvement Committee Guest Article

In the past few issues former IEPYE members have commented on the benefits of IEPYE membership. In this newsletter, our guest writer is sharing some thoughts related to the formation and development of the association. It is interesting to note some of the challenges and opportunities that faced the newly-formed association. Perhaps some reflection on how the association can help individual members meet challenges and opportunities today in the area of positive youth development might be relevant for regional discussion.

Progress of the Illinois Extension Professionals for Youth Education, sharing challenges and opportunities!

by Marilyn Norman, Assistant Dean, 4-H Youth Development, University of Florida Extension and former IEPYE member and President

I joined IAEA-Y (Illinois Association of Extension Advisers – Youth – as it was known in the beginning) in its second year of existence, at a time when the attitude of many senior agents in Illinois was less than friendly to a new organization. As Pennie Crinion noted in the last IEPYE newsletter, it was a time when the 4-H program was carried out by new staff. After several years of 4-H experience, “real” Extension Advisers moved into Agriculture and Home Economics positions. But there were those of us who loved working in the 4-H program and believed that the work was truly a career path!

It is difficult to establish a new direction in many organizations, and Extension was no different. Early leaders in IAEA-Y struggled for organizational identify and for recognition of the Youth Adviser position. Relationships with peers were sometimes strained, as young professionals determined this alternate career path. It became very much a “choice”. For some the choice was 4-H. Establishing identity for both the IAEAY organization and the 4-H profession tested the system, and created artificial barriers within county offices and administration. Sometimes it was fun, but other times very demoralizing!

At a time when growth was occurring in 4-H (short term projects, school enrichment, and TV programs), the professional association became a place to share innovative programs across county lines and to dialogue about the future of the 4-H profession. Committee meetings were places to celebrate and honor the activities of peers. IAEA-Y board meetings were used to discuss the ever-changing face of Extension.

Bids were placed for sponsorship of national meetings and in 1979, Illinois was chosen as the site for the 1984 Conference. By 1979, the issues of by-laws, committee structures, and membership recruitment, were past, and when we received the successful bid, there were some who thought the entire efforts of the professional association would be overshadowed by national conference work. In actuality, the 1984 national conference strengthened the association and brought it into partnership with the other professional associations. Extension Administration realized through the actions and words of capable youth professionals, that we truly believed
in our work and that it was based on a complex mix of disciplines.

For those in Illinois 4-H, the expectation to be a part of IAEA-Y was strong. IAEA-Y included a board, committee structure, communications network, recognition program, linkage to a national professional organization, and most important, a focus on professional improvement. It became a support system for those who needed it, and a process by which to grow as a professional. It was (and I hope still is) filled with hard work and great fun.

Why membership today is relevant and important

It is very easy to become engaged in the practice of youth work. The process of planning, design, delivery, evaluation, and reporting in the context of the 4-H program is demanding. It is focused on the 4-H participant and how they grow in knowledge or in life skills. It is more than a full time job! But it is not necessarily a professional job. To become engaged in the profession of youth work requires a reliance on knowledge in specific disciplines; a willingness to look out for ones’ peers; and rigorous peer review of programs and products. It is willingness to serve a membership, representing concerns to Extension Administration and decision-makers. It is dialogue about the future of 4-H and Extension within the University and across the nation. It is on the individual level, an investment in professional maturity as well as a personal growth experience.

For most of us, professional association involvement is not a week-to-week activity; it doesn’t take much time. When we look at the progress of a 4-H professional association in any state, it is not even month-to-month things that we notice. Committee action and board leadership provide the forward movement. From the desk where I now sit (as Assistant Dean 4-H Youth Development at the University of Florida Extension), we expect professional association involvement. We believe that without it, an Educator is not helping to shape professional standards through a rigorous review of their peers. We stand on the shoulders of those before us, knowing that their action has moved our professional to this point. We are the very ones to carry it into the future.

Thank You

Dear Members of IEPYE,

I write to express my thanks for the $100 contribution to the Illinois 4-H Foundation in my name for Character Education. I can’t think of anything you could have done that would have pleased me more!

It has truly been an honor to be associated with such outstanding professionals as those who belong to IEPYE. To say that your work is important to 4-H Youth Development would be an understatement! Keep up the good work.

Please know I shall never forget you and look forward to seeing you at Galaxy and further down the road as a lifetime member and volunteer.

Best of luck in all future endeavors.

Fondly,

Jan Seitz

NAE4-HA Updates

Updates from the Global/Multicultural Taskforce, Program Committee
by Virginia Kuo, taskforce chair

At the 2002 NAE4-HA, the taskforce held two committee meetings to discuss current issues regarding Global/multicultural Education and set up goals for the year 2002-2003. The goals include involvement of NAE4-HA members in the programming efforts, maintaining strong relationships/ties with IFYE Association, expanding programming vision by networking globally, networking with Int’l Program Unit at USDA/CSREES and other organizations, expanding international opportunities for Extension staff, planning and implementing the International Breakfast/Tea at Galaxy II Conference, increasing exposure of NAE4-HA membership and volunteers to Global Multicultural Education efforts through seminars and workshops, etc.. The committee is also considering to establish “Excellence for Global/Multicultural Education Award” to recognize dedicated professionals and to encourage more involvement from different levels in Extension.

The 4-H Global/Multicultural Education curriculum “And My World” will be further marketed. An initial step is to offer workshops at regional volunteer forums. Virginia will have a workshop at the North Central Region Volunteer Forum to do the introduction and training. Other committee members will do the similar things at other regional forums.

The taskforce looks forward to working closely with other taskforces/committees of NAE4-HA for a fruitful year of programming.

Virginia Kuo is chairing this taskforce for another year and Dr. Wendy Stivers of Kentucky is the Chair-elect.

IEPYE Newsletter

Deadline: July 3
Bill Million, IEPYE President, presides at the Spring Meeting

IEPYE Spring Meeting 2003

Chris Anderson receives the coveted Bowl and Pitcher Award for becoming NAE4-HA president-elect.

IEPYE welcomes and recognizes new members: LaDean Scheurer, Bond County, and Amy Bunselmeyer, Macon County