



Keeping the Legacy Alive

THE TORCH

SUMMER 2023

Join Us for the 2023 WV 4-H Volunteer Retreat

Shay Teter, First Lessor Chief

Please join us as we gather for the 2023 West Virginia Volunteer Retreat, Sept. 29-Oct. 1st, 2023, where we will be “Serving with a Purpose.” As All Stars who already abide by the motto of “Service”, this is very fitting.

This weekend’s purpose is to provide leadership training and recognition for both West Virginia 4-H All Stars and West Virginia 4-H Volunteers. Joining forces in support of the 4-H program, we will complete various service projects around Jackson’s Mill and within the local community. Also, WVU Extension will be offering a variety of workshops meant to enhance our knowledge and boost our ability to help lead 4-H into a brighter future. As we have historically done in the past, we will hold a Consecration and Initiation Ceremony to recognize new All Stars and will also recognize our Outstanding All Stars from across the state during our banquet dinner.

The planning committee is excited about what is being offered to members this year, so let’s gather the largest group of All Stars yet! Online Registration can be completed from several different sites. You’re welcome to visit our Facebook page and WV 4-H All Stars website (<https://www.wv4hallstars.com>) for links, or you can copy and paste the following link <https://extension.wvu.edu/youth-family/4h/events/leadership-weekend>. If you have a ZSuite account, we ask that you please register through your regular log in process. Please note, a ZSuite account is not necessary for registration. Should anyone need assistance with the registration process, please feel free to contact any executive

committee member or your local county WVU Extension office. **Registration and payment deadline is on Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2023 at 11:55pm.**

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Friday, Sept. 29th

- 4:30P – 8:00P – Registration
- 5:30P – 6:30P – Buffet Dinner
- 7:30P – All Star Business meeting
- 9:30P – S’mores Bar and Reflections

Saturday, Sept. 30st

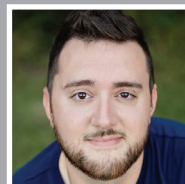
- 8:00A – Breakfast
 - 9:00A – 9:30A – Welcome Assembly and Idea Fair
 - 9:30P – 12:00P – Morning Service Project/Workshops
 - 12:15P – Lunch
 - 1:30P – 3:45P – Afternoon Service Projects/Workshops
 - 4:00P – Gather for Consecration Preparation
 - 4:30P – All Star Consecration/Initiation
 - 5:30P – Dinner Banquet
 - 7:30P – Council Circle
 - 9:00P – Team Trivia/Bingo
- (Silent auction will conclude 15 minutes after Trivia ends)

Sunday, Oct. 1st

- 8:00A – Breakfast
- 9:00A – Closing Assembly & Remembrance Ceremony
- 10:00A – Safe Travels Home

The Chief’s Signal

Abebrum Schoonover
Chief, 4-H All Stars



As Always, Artistic Liberty is All Yours!

Well friends, it is that time of year again. The camping season is upon us and many of you will soon be digging out your 4-H shirts, trying to locate that one set of twin sheets and packing your trunks for a week at camp. Camping is the pinnacle of the West Virginia 4-H year, and it is why so many of us make our annual pilgrimage back to the county or state 4-H camp we hold so dear.

This year, I’m excited to announce that All Star Conse-

crations during state camps will be held on Sunday evening at the beginning of each camp. After months of discussions, Jason Burnside, WVU Extension Camping Specialist, and I have developed a plan for the All Stars to not only participate in Consecration and The Journey, but to stay for the rest of Council Circle. For many of you, it has been a long time since you have had the opportunity to participate in a Council Circle at Jackson’s Mill, so Welcome Home.

(Continued on page 3)

The Importance of Giving Back

Brent Clark, Director, 4-H Youth Development, WVU Extension Service

As a 4-H All Star, you are very familiar with the concept of “giving back.” Giving is one of the most important ways that we as All Stars can ensure that 4-H continues to thrive and grow in West Virginia. At a time when costs are higher, budgets are lower, and resources may be more challenging to obtain, giving back to 4-H is as important as ever. When 4-H All Stars give back, we are not only supporting the organization that helped us succeed, but we are also investing in the future of 4-H. Giving back can be accomplished in many ways such as volunteering time, advocating for our organization, promoting the benefits of 4-H, or even financial contributions. No matter how West Virginia 4-H All Stars choose to give back, you make a difference and help support 4-H. Here are a few ideas on how you can continue to give back to the 4-H program...

- **Volunteering Time** – When we volunteer our time, we help 4-H to provide its important programs and services. This allows the 4-H program to reach more people and make a bigger impact across our counties and state. There are many ways that 4-H All Stars can volunteer our time. We can become a fully vetted volunteer with the 4-H program on the county or state level and give back through the many activities and programs that happen throughout the year. Even if you are not a fully vetted volunteer, there are other ways in which you can give your time. You can help collect supplies, offer your expertise in the planning or implementation of activities, or volunteer to lend a hand at larger community based events like fairs or fundraisers.

- **Financial Contributions** - one of the most important ways that 4-H All Stars can give back is through donating money back to 4-H. When 4-H All Stars make financial contributions, they help the organization to fund its programs and services. This allows 4-H to continue to provide its members with the resources they need to succeed. There are many ways that you can donate money.

These vary from one-time donations, recurring donations, pledges, gifts in honor/memory of an individual, and estate gifts to name a few. Gifts can go to support the West Virginia 4-H All Stars, WVU Jackson’s Mill, State 4-H Camps, County 4-H programs, and many other aspects of 4-H. For more information on how you can give back financially, visit <https://give.wvu.edu> and scroll down to “WVU Extension” – or you can contact Lauren Seiler (WVU Extension Director of Development) directly at: 304-293-5692 or Lauren.Seiler@mail.wvu.edu

- **Advocate and Promote** - Even if you are not in a position to donate money or volunteer time, you can still give back by spreading the word about the impacts of 4-H. When 4-H All Stars talk about 4-H to their friends, family, colleagues, elected officials, and community groups you help to raise awareness and attract new participants. People trust the recommendations of their friends and family and by sharing the positive impacts of 4-H with others you help build awareness and understanding of 4-H with others.

Giving back is an important way for 4-H All Stars to show their support for the organization that helped us succeed. When we give back, we are not only investing in the future of the organization, but we are also investing in the future of ourselves and our community. I would encourage each of you to continue giving back to help support the many wonderful programs, activities, and events that 4-H has to offer. As 4-H All Stars, it is our on-going responsibility to support the future of our 4-H program to ensure it remains relevant for decades to come. Each of you benefited from 4-Hers, volunteers, Extension professionals, and 4-H All Stars who were “giving back” during your time with the program. In return, we must share our time, our talents, and our contributions as we give back. As we do this, let us always be guided by those who have come before, and open to that which is yet to come...

Welcome All Stars!

On Saturday, May 6th, Executive Committee and county representatives met at Jackson’s Mill to select the All Star Class of 2023. Congratulations to **169 new All Stars** who were accepted into the organization. New members will receive notification and invitation by Chief Schoonover to participate in upcoming Consecration and Initiation Ceremonies during state camps or the conference this Fall.



All Faith Chapel Repair Update

Carol Ann Jackson Young, Lewis County All Star

Repairs to the All Faith Chapel are underway, and improvements can be seen. Exterior repairs were completed this past fall. The wood surfaces were scraped, patched and painted. In addition, the back of the garden wall was rebuilt. The cost was more than estimated, but thanks to the generosity of donors, there was money to cover the expenditure. The United Methodist Foundation contributed \$14,380, and the WVU Foundation Funds covered \$6,657. The cost of the completed repairs nearly depleted both custodial funds.

Money is needed to finish the restoration and establish an endowment fund for future upkeep. On the outside, additional work is needed on the side garden wall as well as the walk and steps. Inside the Chapel, the wood framing around the windows needs stained, benches need repaired and refinished, along with some other minor projects. These projects have been delayed by the need for additional funding and the infrastructure improvements on the sewer and water system at the Mill.

The Monongalia Leaders Association issued a challenge that was accepted by 22 counties and raised \$4,520. Proceeds from various All Star projects are going toward the repair fund. The United Methodist Men have continued their diligent efforts in raising money. All contributions help in reaching the goal of restoring and maintaining our Chapel.

Thank you to all who have donated, and those who continue to support this project through the WVU Foundation and the United Methodist Foundation.

Donations may be sent to:

WVUES Development c/o Lauren Seiler
818 Knapp Hall, PO Box 6031, Morgantown, WV 26506

Make checks payable:

WVU Foundation

In the memo line of your check please note "All Faith Chapel"

To make an online gift, please visit <https://give.wvu.edu/allfaithchapel>.



As Always, Artistic Liberty is All Yours! (Continued from page 1)

Prior to each ceremony, the All Stars will host a picnic/potluck gathering of sandwiches, cake, and drinks. Should you decide to participate, we ask that you bring a dessert or salad to share. Also, in our effort to help establish an endowment for future maintenance and repairs of the All Faith Chapel, we encourage you to make a \$10 donation to this important cause. We ask that you please RSVP if you plan on attending any of these ceremonies. To RSVP, please visit the All Stars website at <https://www.wv4hallstars.com>, and click on the "Events" tab at the top of the page. Once there, click on the link for the camp you plan to attend and complete the form. There is a form for each scheduled ceremony.

In speaking of our website, we have taken notice of your feedback from the survey we sent out and are working to make our website more user friendly. Currently, you can use the "Resources" tab to find the nomination forms for Outstanding All Star or the "Events" tab to find dates for upcoming events and soon we plan to launch an online store with the ability to purchase pins, lifetime membership,

and other All Star merchandise. HOW HOW and thanks to Emma Gardner for leading this project for us. Please stay tuned for new and exciting changes to our website.

In closing my final Signal, I'd like to thank everyone who has helped me as Chief. In fact, it seems like yesterday that I was elected to this esteemed position in 2021. I would like to thank First Lesser Chief Shay Teter and Treasurer Jordan Pruett for being my sounding boards and assisting me in organizing my random ideas at all hours of the night. Special thanks to Sheryl Sergent for being an amazing mentor and a model of service to this organization and Locke Wysong for making me sound more intelligent than what my original drafts could muster. This organization is full of amazing volunteers, and I am incredibly proud to have been chosen to serve as your Chief. Regardless of what the future holds, I will always be available and ready to serve. It is my fervent wish that you will always be guided by those who came before and remain open to that which is yet to come.



"Exploring Virginia's Blue Ridge Foothills & Northern Piedmont Region" 4-H All Star Interstate Conference August 3 - 6, 2023

Conference Headquarters: Best Western Culpeper Inn, Culpeper, VA
791 Madison Road, Culpeper, VA

Thursday 1:00 p.m. Registration opens in Pepper's Grill area of Best Western
Lunch –Eat prior to arrival or enjoy the buffet at Peppers Grill
Afternoon "on your own" tour options include, but not limited to:
Madison Barn Quilt Tour Plow and Hearth Outlet
Museum of Culpeper History Yoders Country Market
Culpeper Minuteman Mall Country Shoppes of Culpeper



Dinner on your own 8:00 Committee meetings
Casual time on the patio at the Best Western

Friday Tour Salubria and Germanna Foundation facility as we visit the 1700's
Lunch / tour Historic Hebron Lutheran Church. Box lunches by Graves Mt.
James Madison Museum in Orange/George Washington Carver Center - Dinner/ program.
Casual time on the patio at the Best Western

Saturday Cedar Springs Robotic Dairy Farm (Owned and operated by a 4-H All Star family.)
"Montpelier" James Madison Home - Video, group tour of house and grounds, gift shop.
Lunch at Barbeque Exchange, Gordonsville.(Not included in registration fee.), free time
in Gordonsville for local shopping or Exchange Hotel & Civil War Medical Museum.

Return to Best Western Culpeper Inn /Business meeting

Dinner @ Pepper's Grill meeting room
Program: Creation of Shenandoah National Park

Sunday Memorial & Inspirational services
Adjourn Interstate Conference
Virginia Chapter Business meeting/Virginia adjournment
IFYE meeting and lunch



Conference Lodging Information

Our hotel for this Conference will be the Best Western Inn Culpeper, Virginia.

Room rates are: Thursday, Aug 3, \$89.98; Friday and Saturday, Aug 4 & 5:

\$119.99 each night. All PLUS TAX. Reserve by calling: 540-825-1253; Group name: **VA 4H**

ALLSTAR INTERSTATE CONFERENCE. Cutoff for this rate: July 3, 2023. Rooms may be shared with total of 4 persons at these rates. Free Hot Breakfast buffet for those staying at Best Western in Pepper's Grill.

ALTERNATE HOUSING FOR THOSE WHO MIGHT ENJOY RV FOR TRAVEL AND LODGING:
Check out the very new and beautiful MADISON VINES RV RESORT. Address: 110 Campground Lane,
Madison, VA 22727. Phone: 540-948-4186. www.MadisonVinesRVResort.com

QUESTIONS? **Chair Judy Ann Fray (H) 540-948-4220 (C)540-810-8778 ja.fray@verizon.net**

**“Exploring Virginia’s Blue Ridge Foothills
& Northern Piedmont Region”**

**2023 4-H All Star Interstate Conference Registration
Best Western Culpeper Inn, Culpeper, VA 22701
August 3 - 6, 2023**



Name(s) _____

Name(s) for name tag(s) _____

State & Year(s) tapped _____

Mailing Address

STREET NUMBER _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Telephone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

E-mail _____ Past Big Chief? _____ What state _____

Guest(s) _____ If children note age(s) _____

Name(s) to put on name tag (s) _____

Planned arrival (Date) _____ (Time) _____

Special needs / dietary request _____

Registration payment information -On time registrations due July 7

Check those that apply: (Full time Includes registration, transportation, three meals, and group tours)

Full time registration	\$225	X _____	= \$ _____	
Full time registration after July 7	\$260	X _____	= \$ _____	_____ Will attend
Full time children (6–12: under six free)	\$100	X _____	= \$ _____	IFYE meeting
Part time registration Due by July 7.				Sunday lunch
Add \$20 after July 7 Friday only	\$140	X _____	= \$ _____	
Saturday only	\$140	X _____	= \$ _____	
Saturday dinner	\$ 45	X _____	= \$ _____	

TOTAL \$ _____

Breakfast bar in Pepper's Grill included with hotel lodging.

Make checks payable to: Northern District 4-H All Star Chapter. Send with registration form to: William Thomas, 1012 Hendrick Street, Culpeper, VA 22701

Conference questions: Chair Judy Ann Fray (H) 540-948-4220 ja.fray@verizon.net
 Registration questions: William Thomas (C) 540-522-2421 wetsbt@gmail.com

Lodging at Best Western Culpeper Inn 791 Madison Road, Culpeper, VA 22701 540-689-0095
 Group Name: VA 4-H All Star Interstate Conference (Lodging information on schedule sheet.)

Jackson's Mill Infrastructure Gets A Much-Needed Upgrade

David Snively, Director, Jackson's Mill

Over the past several months, the construction project taking place at the Mill is the culmination of about a two-year project to secure funding, design, and replace/rebuild Jackson's Mill's entire water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure systems. Currently, the system is fully functional with the stormwater system and water mains 100% complete and connected to each building. Sidewalk repair and street paving will start once the water is connected to the buildings. Actual construction began in January 2023 with a target completion date of early June 2023. This project is being funded by WVU and Virco Inc. has served as the contractor.



Help Us Find Our Long Lost Friends!

Alan Rollins, Membership Chair

In our 100+ year history, the WV 4-H All Stars have inducted over 9,000 members, but unfortunately, over time we have lost track of a few. In fact, we can neither locate, nor communicate with over 3,000 All Stars from our membership list. And while some may have passed on, the primary cause is members moving without providing forwarding or updated addresses. Do you keep in touch with your friends and fellow All Stars from your time as an active 4-Her? If so, would you be willing to assist us in updating our database?

Recently, we published a list of "lost" All Stars on our website. Please visit <https://www.wv4hallstars.com/resources> to download the list and look for your friends. Should you find a name on the list you know, please contact Membership Chair Alan Rollins by mail at P.O. Box 191, Elizabeth, WV 26143 or by email at alan@drinkinghorses.com with any updates you have available.

Embracing The Future

Locke Wysong, Torch Editor

During the May Executive Committee meeting, a discussion took place concerning the efficiency and effectiveness of our publication – *The Torch*. A committee, chaired by *Torch* Editor Locke Wysong and members First Lessor Chief Shay Teter, Membership Chair Alan Rollings and Nominations Committee Member Michael Dawson was formed and charged with the task of performing a comprehensive review of our current method of communication. On May 23rd, the committee met by Zoom to begin their discussion and layout a framework to move forward. It is the committee's goal to provide a report to the membership during the Annual Conference Board Meeting.

All Faith Chapel
T-Shirt Fundraiser



The WV 4-H All Stars has initiated a T-Shirt Fundraiser to support the renovation and establishment of an endowment for the All Faith Chapel at Jackson's Mill. This unique design is inspired by the stained glass window in the chapel and features lyrics from "My Home Among The Hills." Participating in this fundraiser is perfect way to support this great cause and show your pride as a 4-H All Star. To place your order, please visit our online store at: <https://wv4hallstars.com>.



West Virginia 4-H All Stars Treasurer's Report May 6, 2023



<u>Accounts</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
FIRST COMMUNITY CHECKING	\$8,914.31	\$14,609.68	\$19,716.75
WVU FOUNDATION SPEND	\$5,975.58	\$0.00	\$14,360.04
TOTAL	\$14,889.89	\$14,609.68	\$34,076.79

<u>First Community Bank Checking</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
GENERAL	\$6,223.05	\$12,215.64	\$19,069.53
LIFE MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$2,691.26	\$2,394.04	\$647.22
TOTAL	\$8,914.31	\$14,609.68	\$19,716.75

<u>General Categories</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>
All Star Pins	\$1,533.28	\$3,275.00
Concecration	\$45.83	\$190.72
Conference		\$151.88
Donations	\$2,400.00	
Dues	\$1,191.26	
Fundraisers	\$3,743.94	\$1,395.31
Grants		
IRS		
Meetings		\$409.04
Postage		\$260.28
The Torch		\$6,437.09
Website		\$76.32
Miscellaneous		\$20.00
TOTAL	\$8,914.31	\$12,215.64

Submitted by:



Jordan Pruett

Treasurer's Report *Jordan Pruett, Treasurer*

Being transparent with our organization's finances is very important to our Executive Committee. As such, please find a copy of our most recent Treasurer's Report attached for your review. Over the past year, a few cost-saving initiatives have allowed our bank account to remain stable and we are always exploring options for how to improve efficiency.

Also, our Fundraising Committee has been working diligently on several projects, including the offering of a cruise to the Bahamas and a t-shirt fundraiser to support the All Faith Chapel (Information on both are in this issue). The committee is also working on rolling out other fundraisers over the Summer via our Facebook page and website. Stay tuned!

To donate: scan the QR code or detach and mail this form to:
Jordan Pruett, 334 Buckeye Hollow Road, Princeton, WV 24739.



Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Where would you like your donation to go? (circle) Amount Enclosing: _____

General Use | Awards and Recognition | Camp Scholarships | Community Service Grants | Consecration Costs

Fundraising Efforts | Life Membership Foundation Fund | Postage Costs | "The Torch" Costs | Website Costs



WEST VIRGINIA 4-H ALL STARS

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Elizabeth, WV 26143

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Permit #22

Bon Voyage! Let's Take a Cruise!

The All Stars are setting sail in 2024! Currently, space is reserved onboard the Carnival Legend in Baltimore, MD for a cruise to the Bahamas on March 10-17, 2024. The WV 4-H All Stars will receive \$28 from Carnival for each person who books into our group! Additionally, an extra 5% will be given from the commission received from the booking.

A deposit of \$250 per person is required at the time of booking and full payment is due by December 11, 2023. Any bookings made after December 11, 2023, will require full payment at the time of booking. For more information or to book your spot on the ship, please contact Jordan Pruett at 304-320-8619.

All Stars
ON THE SEA
Nassau • Princess Cays • Freeport

A portion of all sales will be donated to the WV 4-H All Stars

- Ocean view room starting at \$942/person
- Interior room starting at \$852/person
- Balcony room starting at \$1062/person

THE TORCH

The Torch is the official publication of the West Virginia 4-H All Stars.

Chief: Abebrum Schoonover
304-698-7731
abebrum@gmail.com

Editor: Locke Wysong
P.O. Box 772
Charles Town, WV 25414
304-671-2341
lockewysong1wv@yahoo.com

Address Corrections:
Alan Rollins, Membership Chair
P.O. Box 191
Elizabeth, WV 26143
304-615-4428
alan@drinkinghorses.com