



THE CLOVER Legacy

NEWSLETTER OF THE NATIONAL 4-H HERITAGE CLUB

SPRING 2008

Eleanor Wilson Celebrates Her State and National 4-H Heritage With Planned Gifts

“I believe deeply in the power of 4-H to enrich the lives of youth and their families through education.”

—Eleanor Wilson

4-H shaped Eleanor Wilson’s life, and she’s made a difference in the lives of countless others through her leadership and dedication to 4-H. With planned gift intents to both the West Virginia University (WVU) Foundation 4-H Program and National 4-H Council, Wilson will help ensure that 4-H continues to be a positive influence in the lives of America’s youth.

Growing up as a 4-H member in Morgantown, W.Va., Wilson didn’t have to look far for her first 4-H

mentor. Her next-door neighbor, “Uncle Charlie” Hartley, was the first director of WVU Jackson’s Mill State 4-H Camp in the 1930s and served as the West Virginia State 4-H Club Leader. After Wilson graduated from WVU with a home economics major and journalism minor, Hartley encouraged her to begin her career as a county Extension 4-H agent. She also served on the state 4-H staff.

Wilson’s commitment to 4-H and lifelong learning has never wavered. She earned a master’s degree in Extension education and administration while advancing the 4-H mission through her career with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Extension Service. Wilson served as a National 4-H Program Leader for 26 years, followed by five years as Assistant Deputy Administrator, Home Economics. She also is well-known for her leadership on the nutrition education program “Mulligan Stew.” Since retiring in 1994, Wilson has continued to serve 4-H as a

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Donor Eleanor Wilson and National 4-H Council President and CEO Donald T. Floyd, Jr., pose in front of a portrait of J.O. Knapp, 4-H pioneer who left an important legacy to West Virginia 4-H and the national 4-H movement.

New 4-H History Exhibit Honors Kathleen Flom

The hospitable, passionate 4-H historian Kathleen Flom often welcomed guests to the National 4-H Youth Conference Center with a warm welcome, a gentle smile, and a 4-H story. Kathleen was so much a part of 4-H and the Center that a room off the J.C. Penney Lobby was named for her upon her retirement.

A group of volunteers committed to continuing Kathleen's legacy spearheaded renovations to *Kathleen's Corner* including a permanent 4-H exhibit that focuses on the stories Kathleen loved to tell. More than 150 individuals generously made contributions to pay for the renovations and exhibit—an outstanding response to the shared vision for the project and great respect that Kathleen had developed with so many during her lifetime. The *Kathleen's Corner* ribbon-cutting was held October 4, 2007.



Stained glass window honors J.C. Penney.

Visitors entering *Kathleen's Corner* are greeted by a new portrait of Kathleen and a cabinet with several of her 4-H treasures. 4-H club charters, gifts from 4-H headquarters at USDA, and the beautiful stained glass window honoring J.C. Penney demonstrate the important public/private partnership that has made the 4-H movement a success for more than 100 years.

The focal point of the room is the 4-H history exhibit capturing three eras of the 4-H story through a series of photos and mementos. The first era depicts the 4-H movement's beginning with the creation of corn and canning clubs, 4-H projects, the club experience, and a public/private partnership.

The second era is the period when the long held dream of a national home for 4-H was realized. Through the "Share and Care Program," youth raised funds to purchase what was known as the National 4-H Center. 4-H international and new citizenship and leadership development



4-H history exhibit displays three eras of the 4-H story.



Portrait of Kathleen Flom.

learning opportunities attracted many youth participants.

The third era shows the exciting changes in 4-H program delivery through television and after-school programming while youth became an integral part of program development and implementation. 4-H's mission mandates of science, engineering and technology; healthy living; and citizenship were established.

For most former 4-H participants, the 4-H story is one of personal learning, challenging educational experiences and significant relationships that have changed their lives. Perhaps it is timely for you to consider your legacy to 4-H. What is your vision for 4-H's future? Remember Kathleen's words...

"...Dreams can become reality if many people work together and toward a common goal."

Become a Charter Member of the National 4-H Heritage Club

Inspired by volunteer 4-H club leaders, thousands of youth have experienced the significant impact of 4-H. 4-H families and 4-H staff at the county, state and national levels also recognize 4-H's great work.

Now it's time to help ensure that future generations of youth and their families also will reap the benefits of 4-H by considering a legacy gift. With your legacy gift, National 4-H Council is honored to welcome you to membership in the National 4-H Heritage Club, a new planned giving society that allows you to join others who are demonstrating their support of 4-H.

When you join the National 4-H Heritage Club in 2008 and 2009, you become a charter member and receive the following benefits:

- **National 4-H Heritage Club pin**
- **Invitations to national 4-H events**
- **Membership plaque recognition**
- **Continued communication with 4-H**
- **Tax benefits**

We encourage you to work with your attorney or estate planner to determine the best way for you to include National 4-H Council in your estate plans. For more information about estate planning at National 4-H Council or the National 4-H Heritage Club, visit www.fourhcouncil.edu/plannedgiving.aspx. You can also contact Dr. Sue Fisher at (301) 961-2866 or sfisher@fourhcouncil.edu.

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SAMPLE BEQUEST LANGUAGE

You may wish to use the following sample bequest language when working on your will or trust with your attorney or estate planner. You are under no obligation, however, to use this language in order to leave an estate gift to National 4-H Council.

"I give (the sum, percentage of estate or description of property) to National 4-H Council, 7100 Connecticut Ave., Chevy Chase, MD 20815 to be used for its general unrestricted purposes."

Note: With a separate Memorandum of Agreement, gifts may be designated to benefit existing funds, or to create new endowed funds (for gifts \$10,000 and above).



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dedicated volunteer. She's been inducted into both the West Virginia and National 4-H Halls of Fame. In 2004, she was inducted into the Irvin Stewart Society, honoring individuals for their planned giving to the West Virginia 4-H Foundation. Wilson is among the first members of National 4-H Council's newly-established planned giving society, the National 4-H Heritage Club.

"I believe deeply in the power of 4-H to enrich the lives of youth and their families through education. The 4-H focus on family, leadership and community involvement shapes young lives to become productive citizens. It is important to me that 4-H continue to design challenging learning experiences for future generations of youth," she said.

"With Eleanor's gifts, we can continue to help young people develop and learn as they



Julie Cryser of the West Virginia 4-H Foundation and Eleanor Wilson pose in Kathleen's Corner at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center.

participate in the 4-H youth development programming that has always been so important to Eleanor throughout her career," said Dr. Deborah McDonald, Program Director, WVU 4-H Youth Development. "We thank her for her lasting impact on the lives of youth in West Virginia and across the nation."

Donald T. Floyd, Jr., President and CEO, National 4-H Council, agrees. "Eleanor is a wonderful friend and supporter of both state and national 4-H partners," he said. "We are appreciative of

her countless contributions through many years."

You can help continue 4-H's legacy of quality experiential education opportunities for all youth through your estate gift. National 4-H Council accepts planned gift intents through a variety of planned giving vehicles including bequests in wills and trusts, charitable remainder annuity trusts, insurance policies, securities and cash. To learn more, contact Dr. Sue Fisher at (301) 961-2866 or sfisher@fourhcouncil.edu.



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National 4-H Council works to advance the 4-H Youth Development movement, building a world in which youth and adults learn, grow and work together as catalysts for positive change. National 4-H Council partners with the Cooperative Extension System of Land-Grant Universities, National 4-H Headquarters at USDA, communities and other organizations to provide technical support and training, develop curricula, create model programs and promote positive youth development to fulfill its mission. National 4-H Council also manages the National 4-H Youth Conference Center, a full-service conference facility, and the National 4-H Supply Service, the authorized agent for items bearing the 4-H Name and Emblem. National 4-H Council is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. National 4-H Council is committed to a policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities and employment without regard to race, color, sex, religion, religious creed, ancestry or national origin, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, physical or mental disability. Mention or display of trademark, proprietary product or firm in text or figures does not constitute an endorsement by National 4-H Council and does not imply approval to the exclusion of suitable products or firms.

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