



**Georgia 4-H Military Clubs Recognition & Planning
 Founders Lodge at Rock Eagle 4-H Center
 8 November 2007**



Attendance

4-H Attendees

Bo Ryles, State 4-H Leader
 Laura Perry Johnson, Southwest District PDC
 Mandy Marable, State 4-H Military Liaison
 Casey Mull, State 4-H Military Coordinator

Mary Brewer, Muscogee Co 4-H Agent
 Beverly Robidoux, Muscogee Co PA

Terri Thompson, Liberty Co 4-H Agent

Kimberly Thomas, Chatham Co 4-H Agent
 Trish West, Chatham Co 4-H PA

Melinda Miller, Lowndes Co 4-H Agent

Military Attendees

Brandi Mullins, AFR Component Specialist
 John Baggott, SERO Youth Dev. Specialist

Becky Carroll-Meredith – Chief, Benning CYS
 Bettie Harris – Benning TAPS
 Quintella Thorn, Benning MST
 Felicia McCord, Benning SAS

Lesley Darley, Moody AFB Youth Center Director

I. Recognition of Military Installation Partners 12:00pm

a. Remarks

Dr. Bo Ryles, State 4-H Leader

- i. 4-H occurs where content and context overlap
- ii. Georgia remains dedicated to the military audience

b. Military Installation 4-H Clubs

Mandy Marable & Casey Mull

Each military installation 4-H program was recognized and received a small token of appreciation; those installations without representation at the meeting will have their county staff present the plaque locally.

Staff Updates: We were pleased to have three new county agents attend the meeting, particularly Mary Brewer who began only five days ago. We look forward to working closely with these new agents in learning about the military audience while allowing them to build their local programs. Interviews are in the process of completion for the Richmond County 4-H Agent position (Fort Gordon) and we look forward to welcoming this new agent soon.

The completion of the annual 4-H Military report is almost complete. To date, there are over 4,200 military youth involved in 4-H. We anticipate this numbers significantly undercounts youth who have a parent in the National Guard or Reserves. Efforts continue to better count these youth. Of note, there are only 29,000 Army youth in 4-H worldwide. Georgia represents almost 15% of the Army 4-H enrollment.

c. Regional and National Leadership

Mandy Marable & Casey Mull

- i. Recognized John Baggott, SERO Youth Development Specialist
- ii. Recognized Brandi Mullins, AF Reserve Command Specialist

II. Military 4-H Program of the Year Mandy Marable & Casey Mull

Fort Benning has consistently provided leadership to the 4-H Military program with involvement at the county, district and state levels. Five staff members attended Basics of Youth Development in August 2007. 4-H Club members have participated in Project Achievement, attending State 4-H Council, Fall Forum and other district and state events. Led by 4-H points of contact, Felicia McCord, School Age Services Director, and Quintella Thorn, Middle School Teens Director, staff members including Bettie Harris, Carolyn Carr, Maritza Madera and Nyoka Lane have established long-lasting relationships with the Muscogee County Extension Office. We are pleased to announce Fort Benning 4-H as the Georgia 4-H Military Program of the Year.

Representatives received a permanent plaque to display on post and a rotating award will be presented shortly. Information regarding future awards will be available in the spring of each year.



Georgia 4-H Military Club of the Year – Fort Benning 4-H

Pictured: Sitting (L-R): Beverly Robidoux, Muscogee Co Program Assistant; Quintella Thorn, Ft. Benning Middle School Teens Director; Becky Meredith, Benning CYS Chief; Felicia McCord, School Age Services Director; Standing (L-R): Mary Brewer, Muscogee County 4-H Agent; Casey Mull, State 4-H Military Coordinator; Bettie Harris, Benning Training and Programming Specialist; Dr. Bo Ryles, State 4-H Leader; Mandy Marable, State 4-H Military Liaison

III. Installation Highlights

12:45pm – Installation Points of Contact

Each installation presented some highlights of their program and expressed opportunities for the future. Of note, a request came to create a listserv to provide some ability to share information across the state during the year.

As a result the following listserv has been set up and is now available for use:

ga4hmilitary@listserv.uga.edu. A list of the initial members is below; please contact Casey Mull at mullcd2@uga.edu or oper4h@uga.edu to add additional representatives or to be removed. Anyone e-mail address may send e-mails and attachments to this listserv.

john.baggottiii@US.ARMY.MIL	John Baggott
debra.bargie@ROBINS.AF.MIL	Debra Bargie
sharon.beaver@US.ARMY.MIL	Sharon Beaver
pbledsoe@UGA.EDU	Peggy Bledsoe
maria.boiza@US.ARMY.MIL	Maria Boiza
brewerm@UGA.EDU	Mary Brewer
jcavis@COLUMBUSGA.ORG	Joanne Cavis
mchester@UGA.EDU	Menia Chester
lesley.darley@MOODY.AF.MIL	Lesley Darley
sellison@UGA.EDU	Stacey Ellison
bettie.s.harris@US.ARMY.MIL	Bettie Harris
mandie.holovach@ROBINS.AF.MIL	Mandie Holovach
maritza.madera@US.ARMY.MIL	Maritza Madera
mmarable@UGA.EDU	Mandy Marable
felicia.mccord@US.ARMY.MIL	Felicia McCord
mdmiller@UGA.EDU	Melinda Miller
mullcd2@UGA.EDU	Casey Mull
brandi.mullins@AFRC.AF.MIL	Brandi Mullins
hihorobi@UGA.EDU	Beverly Robidoux
thomask@UGA.EDU	Kimberly Thomas
tthompso@UGA.EDU	Terri Thompson
quintella.thorn@US.ARMY.MIL	Quintella Thorn
twest@UGA.EDU	Trish West

IV. Planning and Upcoming Initiatives

1:15pm

a. Project Achievement

i. Overview

Laura Perry Johnson

Laura Johnson, SW District PDC provided an overview of the Project Achievement process.

Please see the links below for overview information for each 4-H age:

Cloverleaf - <http://www.georgia4h.org/public/more/guidebook/cloverleafprojectachievement.html>

Junior - <http://www.georgia4h.org/public/more/guidebook/juniorprojectachievement.html>

Senior - <http://www.georgia4h.org/public/more/guidebook/seniorprojectachievement.html>

ii. What Georgia 4-H will Provide

Casey Mull

To assist military installations in youth participation and to not cause undue stress on county 4-H staffs in covering additional costs to transport and register 4-H'ers for DPA, the Georgia 4-H Military Program, through grant and donated funds, will provide reimbursement to the County Extension Office for youth attending DPA (all levels) as long as the youth are registered through their CYS or FMP program.

A question was asked about providing similar funding for active duty military youth not in the on-post 4-H program. At this time, the State 4-H Office cannot commit funds to fund all active duty youth due to the number of active duty youth around the state. Georgia 4-H continues to seek supplemental funding to support efforts for all military youth, regardless of whether or not they participate in the post or base programs. Becky Meredith shared that installations are being asked to do additional outreach in the community outside the gates and opportunities may be available from Army MWR to support these initiatives.

At this time, attendees also received the 4-H Military Grant summary. Please see this link for a copy of the [Grant Summary](#).

- iii. How to Get Involved Melinda Miller
ACTION ITEM: Installations wanting youth to get involved in 4-H Project Achievement should contact their County Extension Office as soon as possible. County and district competitions begin as early as December for the Cloverleaf age group.

County staff can also provide training in the portfolio process or 'fitting' a young person into a project area based on their skills and interests. Additionally, if requested, State 4-H Staff members can provide additional assistance should the county call on state staff.

- b. Chartered 4-H Clubs Casey Mull / Mandy Marable
Each military installation must have at least one 4-H Club to be considered 'active.' This is a relatively new requirement for Georgia but it does assist Georgia 4-H in following federal law regarding the 4-H Name and Emblem and assists in remaining accountable to state and federal agencies.
ACTION ITEM: County 4-H Staff need to assist installations in chartering at least one military installation. In order to be eligible for funding reimbursement for DPA and other special activities, a charter must be on file in the State 4-H Office or in process.

- c. Military 4-H Poster Series Casey Mull
A set of 5 posters is in development for military installations, county offices with installations in their counties as well as the Family Assistance Centers in the state. The installations and county offices will each receive two sets. Other counties will be able to purchase the 5 poster set for a nominal fee.

The five posters will highlight the following programs available through Georgia 4-H: 4-H Camp; Science Engineering & Technology (SET); Project Achievement; Citizenship and Healthy Lifestyles.

We are looking for three pictures for the following posters: SET, Project Achievement and Citizenship.

ACTION STEP: Installations should contact Casey Mull for more information about having their youth in this poster series. The opportunity is

available for Technology & Photography Clubs to be involved, either being in or taking the photographs for the poster series. Please contact Casey Mull by 12 December 2007 if interested.

- d. Operation: Military Kids Update Casey Mull
Operation Military Kids continues to be a major part of the 4-H Military Program. In addition to the Ready, Set Go! Training for youth workers, Hero Packs for youth experiencing deployment, the Mobile Technology Lab and the Speak Out for Military Kids program, babysitting training is playing an important role in the OMK program.

We also encourage everyone who can attend to register for the Children-Youth and Families-At-Risk Conference in San Antonio from May 6-9. Grant money cannot provide out-of-state travel dollars but we will try to work with everyone who wants to attend to find dollars to attend. A specific focus is on the 4-H / Military Partnership opportunities. For more information, visit:
<http://www.cyfernet.org/cyfar08/>

- e. Clovers on Parade Mandy Marable / Allie Chambers
All artists are invited to apply to design and paint the 4-H Military Clover. A ceramic clover and materials will be provided to the artist whose design is selected for representing the state. Application and template is available from:
<http://www.georgia4h.org/public/edops/militaryprogram/MilitaryCloveronParadeApplication.pdf> Applications due to the County Extension Office by 12 February 2008

ACTION ITEM: All counties and installations are invited to solicit applications for the Clovers on Parade project. Applications due 12 February 2008.

- f. Garrison & Base Level Basics of 4-H Youth Development
John Baggott, the Georgia State 4-H Office is partnering with Liberty and Chatham Counties to offer a garrison level training for Fort Stewart/Hunter AAF around the first of the year involving portions of the 4-H 101 curriculum and Basics & Fundamentals of 4-H Youth Development. This is an opportunity for Georgia to become a national leader in equipping lead PAs on post and on base in delivering 4-H programming. The training will highlight the relationship needed between the County Office and the installation staff.