

SPRING 2025 EDITION

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NC 4-H HONOR CLUB NEWSLETTER



# HEARTLINE



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## Report: Honor Club Conference 2024

*Written By: Historian Jonie Stumbo*

The 2024 Honor Club Conference was definitely one to remember. We had 34 members in attendance throughout the weekend as well as the privilege to vote in new members who would be inducted at the 2024 NC State 4-H Congress. The 2024 Honor Club Conference was a time to not only handle the business side of Honor Club but also to spend quality time with other 4-Hers and alumni and learn more about the great 4-H organization. I personally enjoyed the late night card games with new 4-H friends and those I had known for years. Another fond memory for most who attend Honor Club Conference is the annual service project we complete during our stay.

Since service is our motto within Honor Club it seems only fitting that we would end our time at Millstone by serving not only the camp but by creating uplifting cards for Little Pink Houses of Hope (you can find information about the non-profit in our last edition of the *Heartline*).

The 2024 Honor Club Conference was filled with laughs, memories, and delicious food. We look forward to the upcoming 2025 conference and hope to see many new faces join us at Millstone on May 30th!

**Check out page 5 about the upcoming dates for Honor Club Conference in 2025 and what you need to know. Hope to see you there!**



# A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello all! I'm excited for another year of making the best better with you. We've got a lot of great things planned for this year that I'm looking forward to. In case you haven't heard, **we recently re-launched our website, [nc4hhonorclub.org](http://nc4hhonorclub.org) with new applicant resources and a member's directory that is searchable by name, county and year tapped.** Apparently out of all 100 counties, Iredell has the most members inducted with 110. Go check it out if you haven't already! And **make sure to log in and update your information if it isn't current (You can find more information on page 6).**

I also had the pleasure to present a workshop at this year's NC 4-H Volunteer Leaders' Conference on the process of applying to Honor Club. The workshop was well received by all attendees (especially my mom), but that just goes to show that we must continue to keep up our efforts to educate agents and 4-H volunteers about Honor Club. One of the workshop attendees told me how one of her former 4-H'ers had reached out to her after aging out to ask why she wasn't told about Honor Club, and it was because the attendee simply didn't know about it at the time. It breaks my heart that we are missing out on these otherwise highly qualified 4-Hers, merely because they don't know about us. So, if you have a new agent in your county, or know a 4-Her who could be an Honor Club member, don't hesitate to reach out and let them know about us. Our website is a great resource to get them started.

As usual, we've got plenty of events and volunteer opportunities to look forward to, especially:

- Honor Club conference (May 30th - June 1st)  
We've got lots of exciting new applicants this year, but you won't get to vote on them if you're not there!
- 4-H Project Record Book and Portfolio Judging (April 25th-30th)
- District Activity Day (DAD) presentation judging
- 4-H Congress July 21st-25th (Mark your calendars, we'll need lots of volunteers)
- Judging State Presentations (July 21st) Pro tip: Try to volunteer for the grilling ones first!
- Honor Club Reception
- State Officer Elections
- Candle Lighting Ceremony



**Emmett LaHay, Nash, 2015**  
**NC 4-H Honor Club President**



# VOLUNTEER LEADERS' CONFERENCE

## Let's recognize our awardees!

From January 31st to February 2nd, we held the annual Volunteer Leaders' Conference. AJ Linton from Wayne County in the Southeast District joined this esteemed group in the Achievement Hall of 4-H Leadership this year. We wish him congratulations!



## Achievement Hall in 4-H Leadership

### *AJ Linton – Wayne County*

#### **AJ's nominator shared the following:**

"AJ Linton is a one-of-a-kind guy. He enjoys watching the youth succeed at whatever they are participating in. He is the leader of the 4-H Shooting Sports Club here in Wayne County. Over the last 17 years, he has taught youth how to use shooting equipment and hit the target safely, with responsibility, dedication, determination, and patience. He is a man of his word and will work hard to help 4-H'ers achieve their goals. You see AJ on the shooting range and at 4-H Presentations, community service events, and fashion reviews. He attends the other 4-H events and encourages his 4-Hers to participate. AJ represents a 4-H leader who teaches how and when to use your Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. Wayne County is not only lucky but proud to have him as an outstanding volunteer in Wayne County."



# DISTRICT 4-H ADULT VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION



## SOUTHEAST:

**Brandy Moulton** - Duplin  
**Kristen Sewell** - Johnston  
**Jamie-Carrol Nettles** - Onslow  
**Kimberley Rivera** - Wayne

## SOUTH CENTRAL:

**Alfreda Williams** - Cumberland  
**Beth Stebe** - Rowan  
**Michael Alexander** - Union

## WEST:

**Allie Justice** - Henderson  
**James Lamb** - Burke

## NORTH CENTRAL:

**Melissa Herke** - Caswell  
**Lydia Zakel** - Durham



# SAVE THE DATE!



## Honor Club Conference in 2025

**May 30th-June 1st**

**Location: Millstone  
4-H Camp**

**1296 Mallard Rd.  
Ellerbe, NC**

**Want to reconnect with  
fellow 4-H'ers? Join our  
annual Honor Club  
Conference this spring!**

## Registration coming soon!

Click the link below to  
find out more  
information about  
lodging, guests,  
agenda, and more.

**<https://nc4hhonorclub.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3286>**

**Every year, Honor Club hosts its members at a mini retreat to help judge applications for new Honor Club inductees. This duty is both an honor and a privilege to introduce North Carolina's youth as leaders of tomorrow, and young adults dedicated to continued service. We will be enjoying games, nature activities, service projects, and of course, time with friends!**



# **DATES & THINGS YOU MIGHT NEED TO KNOW**

## **EXCITING UPDATES: HONOR CLUB'S NEW MEMBERSHIP-BASED WEBSITE**



**We're thrilled to announce that Honor Club has launched a new website built on a membership database system! This upgrade allows us to enhance the site's capabilities, with future plans to introduce features like event calendars, online registrations, payments, merchandise sales, and an improved directory search.**

**One of the most exciting features is the ability for members to log in and access exclusive resources, including the full Honor Club directory. Members can also update their own contact information, ensuring the directory remains accurate and up to date.**

**Last month, we sent an email to all members with login instructions. If you received this invitation, be sure to follow the steps to access the new site. If you didn't get the email, don't worry! Simply visit the website and fill out the Contact Us form with your name and current email address. In the message field, include your year and county tapped, and we'll update your information. Once your details are verified, you'll receive an email with login instructions.**

**We encourage you to explore the new site at [nc4hhonorclub.org](https://nc4hhonorclub.org) and let us know what you think!**



# UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Join us in shaping the future of young leaders by volunteering as a 4-H judge!

We're seeking dedicated volunteers, Honor Club members, and staff to evaluate 4-H records, presentations, resumes, essays, and interviews. Your expertise and encouragement help youth build confidence, develop life skills, and achieve their goals. Whether you're a seasoned professional or simply passionate about youth development, your time and insights make a lasting impact. Sign up today and be a part of inspiring the next generation of leaders!

**Judges must be at least 21 years of age to participate.**

For more information, contact [shannon\\_mccollum@ncsu.edu](mailto:shannon_mccollum@ncsu.edu)

**Use the link below to sign up. Information and dates continued on the next page.**

**<https://go.ncsu.edu/4-hjudgesneeded>**

## UPCOMING FUNDRAISER OPPORTUNITIES

*Written by: Allyson Farmer*

- Save the Date for **NC State's Day of Giving on March 26th.**
- The 4-H Alumni Awards Ceremony will take place on **April 26th at the McKimmon Center. Registration for the Alumni Awards will begin soon. Keep an eye out for more information!**



# Presentation Judging

**South Central DAD, West Iredell High School**

- June 17, 2025

**Southeast DAD, Wayne Community College,**

- June 20, 2025

**North Central DAD, NC A&T University,**

- June 21, 2025

**West DAD, AB Tech Community College,**

- June 21, 2025

**Northeast DAD, Martin Community College,**

- June 24, 2025

**State Presentation Finals, Raleigh, NC**

- July 21, 2025

# AIRE Resume Judging and National Trip Selection

**4-H AIRE Resume Judging**

- Late spring, 2025 (Virtual)

**4-H AIRE Essay Judging, Raleigh, NC**

- Late spring, 2025 (Virtual)

**4-H AIRE Interviews, Raleigh, NC**

**Possible dates:**

- Late spring, (Virtual)
- July 21-25 (In-Person, Congress)

# Project Record Book Judging

**4-H Record Book Judging, Raleigh, NC**

- April 25 - 27, 2025

**4-H Portfolio Judging, Raleigh, NC**

- April 28-30, 2025





## Want to run for Honor Club Board?

Would you like to serve as an Honor Club Board Member? Honor Club Board members are responsible for new member applications, planning Honor Club Conference, running the *Heartline*, engaging members, answering any and all burning questions, and more! We hope that you'll run for a position at Honor Club Conference 2025! To find out more information, contact us at: [nc4hhc@gmail.com](mailto:nc4hhc@gmail.com)



## 4-H CAMP COUNSELORS NEEDED

Written By: [Angela Brisson](#)

(Continued on page 11)



Are you ready for a summer of amazing experiences and memories that will last a lifetime? We are looking for responsible, enthusiastic individuals to serve as positive role models and mentors for youth, ages 5 - 17 at our American Camp Association accredited summer camp. Qualified candidates will possess patience, fairness, compassion, resilience, great listening skills, and have a passion for the outdoors, fun and developing young people. You will help provide a fun, caring, safe environment in which young people will learn to appreciate nature and



enjoy the challenges of adventure activities, all while creating lasting friendships and memories. You will deliver age appropriate, predetermined curriculum in a variety of camp activities including, but not limited to: target sports, ecology, crafts, swimming, boating, hiking, team challenges, high ropes, photography, sports and games and/or rock climbing. Applicants are required to reside on site and in cabins with children.



*(Continued from page 10)*

## 4-H CAMP COUNSELORS NEEDED

To see positions available, click the links below:

### **EASTERN 4-H CENTER:**

Come join us, and have the best summer ever! We are hiring for Cabin Counselors, a Healthcare Coordinator, Lifeguards, a Rock Wall Instructor, and more. The starting base salary is \$300 per week. Our camp is located in Columbia, NC on the Albemarle Sound, about an hour from the Outer Banks. We serve campers ages 8-14. Activities include kayaking, paddleboarding, rock climbing, ecology, crabbing, archery, swimming, arts and crafts, sports, games, and more. Start and end dates for most positions are June 2nd-August 2nd. We would love to have you join our team!

<https://jobs.ncsu.edu/postings/213494>

Ellen Sutton  
Program Director  
Eastern 4-H Center  
[easutto2@ncsu.edu](mailto:easutto2@ncsu.edu)

### **BETSY-JEFF PENN:**

Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Educational Center is an ACA-accredited camp situated on 220 beautiful acres in Reidsville, NC. We offer traditional, overnight, summer camp experiences to campers ages 8-14 and serve over 800 youth from diverse backgrounds each summer. Camp sessions are week-long, with work beginning around noon on Sunday and concluding Friday afternoon. Staff training will start May 31, 2025, and campers will run in weekly sessions until August 1, 2025. (Actual dates will vary depending on position). Becoming a staff member at BJP is a fantastic opportunity to gain hard and soft skills in youth development. If you've always desired to make a positive impact in the lives of youth while making lifelong friendships and fostering your personal development, apply to join our Summer 2025 team today!

<https://jobs.ncsu.edu/postings/212435>

Zoe Tate  
Summer Camp Director  
Betsy-Jeff Penn 4-H Center  
[bjpenn4h.org](http://bjpenn4h.org)

### **MILLSTONE 4-H CAMP:**

Millstone 4-H Camp is located in Ellerbe, North Carolina. Our summer season starts for our staff June 1st through August 8th. We have a variety of activities to list a few: high ropes course, paddle sports, ecology, arts and crafts, organized games, and group challenges. This is the perfect summer job for people interested in going into teaching, parks and recreation, or a love of nature and the outdoors. They will be supervising campers anywhere from 8-12 or older with our LIT program.

<https://jobs.ncsu.edu/postings/212108>

Jessica Wiles  
Program Director  
Millstone 4-H Camp  
Office 910.719.9467  
[millstone4hcamp.com](http://millstone4hcamp.com)



# CLOVER CONNECTIONS

Maintaining our connections through friendship



Hannah graduated with her Bachelor's in Graphic Design and Media Arts this spring!

**Hannah Vagnozzi, Gaston, 2022**



Anthony and Joah have a baby on the way (and a very excited pupper along with it).

**Anthony Vagnozzi, Cleveland, 2016  
Joah (Bickley) Vagnozzi, Rutherford, 2016**

## Updates from our friends in Honor Club

We want to be able to keep in touch with you, and we want you to stay connected so you can give and get the most out of your Honor Club membership! The best way to stay involved is to make sure your contact information is up-to-date so you'll never miss any Honor Club news or chances to get involved in SERVICE! You can get notifications as soon as we post an update by joining our Honor Club Facebook group! The Facebook group is the best way to stay on top of event reminders, learn about new opportunities as soon as they're announced, and connect with your Honor Club friends.

Want to share your update? [Click here!](#)



We're also happy to announce that Elizabeth Merrill and husband Andrew welcomed their son, David L.T. Merrill on October 16 2024 at 11:05 p.m.!

**Elizabeth Merrill, Wayne, 2009**



# MORE OPPORTUNITIES

There are multiple ways to engage with Honor Club and SERVE North Carolina 4-H:

- Judging Project Record Books & Portfolios
- Judging Presentations at District Activity Days and 4-H Congress
- Helping plan Honor Club Conference
- Volunteering at the Honor Club Reception, State Officer Elections, and Candlelight Clover Ceremony at 4-H Congress
- Volunteering to lead workshops at various state, district, and county events
- Fundraiser events

You can stay up-to-date on all Honor Club involvement opportunities by joining our member Facebook group or visiting our website. See the links at the bottom of the page!



North Carolina 4-H Honor Club c/o Dr. Shannon B. McCollum Campus Box 7655 NCSU Raleigh, NC 27695-7655

Have something you'd like to see featured in the *Heartline* member newsletter? Contact Hannah Vagnozzi, Honor Club Communications Coordinator, at [littlehvs wag46@gmail.com](mailto:littlehvs wag46@gmail.com) Join our member group on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/groups/18782542975/> Visit our website at [www.nc4hhonorclub.org](http://www.nc4hhonorclub.org)  
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