OUR MISSION

The Cornell Cooperative Extension education system enables people to improve their lives and communities through partnerships that put experience and research knowledge to work.

BOARD PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

The 2010 year for Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wyoming County has been a year of change and continued transition in the area of association leadership and administration. In the area of Association Leadership we established a new leadership team this past summer. Our current leadership team approach utilizes a shared Executive Director with Genesee County’s ED, Beverly Mancuso, filling the role of Executive Director on a part-time basis. As part of this new leadership team, Shawn Tiede, provides day-to-day oversight as our Deputy Executive Director. In the area of association administration, CCE of Wyoming County has continued to transition its Accounting, Human Resources, and IT functions into the Western Regional Business Center. This new regional initiative was started in the later part of 2009, and has continued to move in a positive direction during this past year. The Board of Directors is confident that these changes and new initiatives will help to better position CCE of Wyoming County to face current and future challenges that are playing out in these difficult economic times, allowing us to continue to provide the best possible programming to the individuals that utilize our services.

From the Board of Directors, I want to thank the staff, leaders, and volunteers of our great organization for their dedication and efforts as we worked through this past year. We appreciate everything you do for our organization, and we look forward in anticipation of the great things that you will help us accomplish in the future.

Jonah L. Broughton
Board of Directors President
Program Staff

Roxanne Dueppengiesser
4-H Family & Consumer Sciences Educator

Holly Harwood
4-H Agriculture Educator

Tanya Nickerson
4-H Agriculture Educator

Joan Sage
4-H Program Educator

Beth Reisdorf
4-H Program Educator

Sharon Wolcott
4-H Administrative Assistant

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

4-H is the Youth Development component of Cornell Cooperative Extension. Through 4-H, young people ages 8-19 learn citizenship, leadership, and life skills. 4-H members pledge their heads, hearts, hands, and health to the betterment of themselves and their communities. In Wyoming County, our main delivery method is through the traditional 4-H Club Program, where young people are encouraged to develop a sense of belonging, achieve mastery, experience generosity, and gain independence. Complementing our club programs are 4-H Camp Wyomoco, 4-H special interest programs, and 4-H school enrichment programs. As the 2009-2010 4-H year ends, this brief collection of statistics highlights our successes.

- In 2010, Wyoming County 4-H had 930 members.
- The key to our successful 4-H program is our volunteer leaders. This year, 264 adults gave their time and talents to the Wyoming County 4-H Club Program.
- 173 4-H members participated in the Public Presentations Program.
- 19 4-H members participated in Horse Communications, 45 participated in the Horse Bowl and 35 participated in the Hippology contest.
- The incubation and embryology project reached 11 area schools, libraries and preschool programs impacting more than 500 youth.

- 4-H members exhibited 908 animals at the Wyoming County Fair.
- 97 hogs, 36 lambs, and 22 beef and dairy beef meat animals were auctioned off at the Wyoming County Fairgrounds as part of the annual meat animal program.
- 1,240 exhibits were created by 4-H members and displayed in the Youth Building at the Wyoming County Fair.
- 105 4-H members exhibited youth building projects at the NY State Fair.
- 74 4-H members exhibited animals in the NY State Fair animal shows.
- 30 4-H members participated in Award Trips, including 4-H Capital Days in Albany, 4-H Career Explotations at Cornell University, the Local Region Career Exploration trip, and Agri-Business Career Conference at SUNY Cobleskill.
- In partnership with Rural AHEC, 4-H staff and volunteers provided weekly Agriculture in the Classroom instruction to the students in the Perry “Honeycomb” Afterschool Program.
- 3 Wyoming County 4-H members represented NY 4-H at National Animal Science Educational Events.
- 9 4-H members earned National Safe Tractor and Machinery Operation Certification. 31 additional youth participated in the annual tractor and small engines safety program during January and February.
- 78 members participated in the Wyoming County Dairy Bowl, with 20 members continuing on to district level competition.
- In April, 73 youth participated in the Wyoming County Dairy Judging Competition that took place over two weekends. 19 members continued on to compete in district level competition.

- 73 4-H youth and leaders participated in 4-H Fun Day Workshops in May.
- Over 130 youth, leaders, and parents participated in the 3rd Annual 4-H International Food and Fun Night in May.
- 89 4-H youth and leaders attended 4-H Holiday Workshops in December.

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Annual Report 2010
Sixteen Wyoming County 4-H teens attended this year’s 4-H Career Exploration Conference at Cornell University in Ithaca.

Mary Katherine Zielonka of Alden represented Wyoming County 4-H at the NYS 4-H Public Presentations Program at the State Fair. Mary Katherine received a gold seal award and a gold medal for her speech on Parental Rights – The 28th Amendment.

Wyoming County 4-H’ers Zachary Almeter, Nicholas Tyczka, and Vince Almeter culturing mastitis samples at a Milk Quality Lab while attending the Agri-Business Career Conference at SUNY Cobleskill.

Hunter Tillinghast of Chaffee exhibited the Best Doe in Show at the county fair.

Jennah Wolcott and Carrie Dylag, 2009 fair royalty and 4-H members pose with Meghan Covert of Warsaw and her 2010 Champion Meat Animal Hog.

4-H Capital Days: (l to r) Whitney Kehl, Assemblyman Daniel Burling, and Emily Calkins.

4-H’er Leah Parker of Perry preparing a dish for the 2010 Wyoming County Produced in NYS Foods Contest.

Jason Loper of DeLaval talks to youth about milkhouse and parlor safety during the 2010 Annual Farm Safety Day held at Calkins Farm in Varysburg.

Megan George of Stykersville receives a blue ribbon and a purple “Special Recognition” rosette for her horse drawing at the 2010 New York State Fair.

Kelly Pingrey of Strykersville received the Champion Dairy Beef Market Steer Trophy donated by Bay View Farm (Simmons Family of Warsaw).

Kelly DeGroff of Castile received the High Point Western Rider trophy at the 2010 State Fair Qualifying Show held at the Posse Grounds in Warsaw.

Members of the 4-H Shooting Sports Club practicing shooting positions.

James Carter of Warsaw shares his knowledge with 4-H’ers at the 4-H Fun Day held on May 22nd at Wyomoco 4-H Camp in Varysburg.

- 21 youth were members of the newly formed Shooting Sports Club.
- 8 4-H members completed the 4-H Wildlife Shrub Program.
- 14 members raised approximately 830 pheasants through the DEC’s Day-old Pheasant Chick Program that were released in non-posted areas throughout Wyoming County.

4-H members and leaders in Wyoming County participated in many workshops, events, and competitions throughout the year. The 4-H Youth Development Program in Wyoming County has a rich past and continues to grow and improve to meet the needs of our young people in the future.

Livestock Highlights

During the 2009-2010 program year the livestock advisory committee implemented a series of educational meetings for youth participating in the meat animal program. Three meetings were held for each species of livestock – beef, sheep and swine. Topics covered were choosing project animals, quality assurance, nutrition, health, showmanship and fitting. Guest speakers featured livestock committee youth and adult members along with industry representatives from the New York Beef Industry Council, Reisdorf Brothers, Inc., and ShurGain.

www.WyomingCounty4H.com
Over 1250 campers participated in summer programs at 4-H Camp Wyomoco. 860 campers participated in our traditional overnight summer program. 59 campers participated in our Fall Camper weekend. In addition we collaborated with 15 different user groups to run programming at Camp Wyomoco in 2010.

Wyoming County Dairy Institute STEM Camp

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wyoming County’s unique attributes contributed to our successful Dairy Institute STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Camp. Camp Wyomoco provided the setting and home base. The collaborative efforts of staff from Camp, our 4-H and Agriculture Programs created a participatory dairy career discovery opportunity. Fourteen youth, mostly from Wyoming County, visited farms and businesses across the area to learn about milk quality, calf raising, animal health and nutrition, environmental protection, crop production, artificial insemination, lending and record keeping from 29 different presenters.

Americorps

For the third year we were fortunate to have six summer Americorps members on camp staff and one six month position. This partnership with Americorps and the Genesee County Youth Bureau allows college students to serve on camp staff taking leadership for a specific project or area. The Americorps member works to develop their program area and create a strong program for the future at Camp Wyomoco. The Americorps member receives an education allowance to help with college expenses through Americorps.

Choose Health

In this 4-H camps grant program, which we were involved in again this year; campers assess the camp environment for healthy options and choices. Eight 4-H camps across the state participated. Our Choose Health at 4-H Camps curriculum was presented at the National Camping Institute in Portland, Oregon in March.

Energy Smart Camps and Campers

Counselors-In-Training participated in this grant funded program. Counselors-In-Training worked with campers to learn about energy consumption and ways to conserve energy at camp and at home. They then conducted investigations around camp and recommended changes to the camp operation to help conserve energy.

Operation Military Kids

On Father’s Day weekend Camp Wyomoco hosted 18 active duty military families for weekend of family camping. Families were able to take advantage of all the activities at camp like our new challenge course, canoeing, hiking, arts and crafts, and campfires. The program was funded through the Office of the Secretary of Defense.
Over 600 participants took the opportunity to learn more about agriculture, natural resources and gardening through 21 workshops, classes, and field demonstrations.

**Agriculture**

**Dairy FAST Discussion Group**

Dairy FAST (Farm Advisors Skills Training) launched in 2010 with a workshop on dairy risk management in January. Dairy FAST focuses on providing a forum for farm advisors to come together, discuss and learn about issues critical to the success of dairies. New York Center for Dairy Excellence, Pro-Dairy and Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations across New York are partnering. The statewide steering committee included our Joan Petzen.

**Grazing Efforts**

Step It Up In 2010 – A Winter Grazing Gathering kicked off grazing educational efforts. We partnered with Northwest New York Small Farm Specialist Nancy Glazier to offer this all day seminar in February and four in-season pasture walks. Ron Franklin at Stoney Ridge Dairy in Bliss and Ellbert Hoffman in North Java hosted walks in Wyoming County. About 50 people attended each walk to learn about water systems, rotation strategies, and herd management. Funding from New York State Grassland Conservation Initiative, Seneca Trail Resource Conservation and Development, Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program was used with in-kind donations from Horizon Organic and Upstate Niagara Cooperative to fund these events. Both Colleen Klein-Wollfanger and Debra Welch, in their temporary community educator roles, provided leadership for grazing activities.

**Dairy Fest to Agri-Palooza**

During 2010, Cornell Cooperative Extension worked in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce, Soil and Water Conservation District, Farm Bureau, and the Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board to transition our very successful long running Wyoming County Dairy Fest to the Wyoming County Agri-Palooza. The 2010 Dairy Fest, with the theme, ‘Dairy is Everywhere’ celebrated our dairy industry with over 900 people at the Perry Firemen’s Park. Dairy product tasting, pedal tractor races, exhibits, fun, food and games were provided through the support of a long list of local businesses.

In 2011, the first Agri-Palooza will be hosted by the Van Slyke Family at their farm in Pike. The Wyoming County community will get an inside look at the operations of a dairy. As times and farms have changed, dairy farm managers have sought a way to foster greater understanding of how they address important issues like animal well-being, the recycling of nutrients, and farm employment. Plan to pitch in and help or just join us on June 12, 2011 to ‘discover, feel, and enjoy’ Wyoming County agriculture at its best.
NY Association of Counties Celebrates Agriculture in Wyoming County

The NY Association of Counties’ 85th Annual President’s Dinner was a huge success for Wyoming County. Held September 16 at the Boxler Family’s unique Lodge at Hidden Valley, the red carpet was rolled out for New York’s 62 participating counties; NYSAC provides advocacy for counties to the legislative and executive branches of government at the State and Federal levels. Cornell Cooperative Extension organized farmer and agricultural business guided tours to view farms and lead discussions of agricultural issues on route to Hidden Valley. Many pledged to return to Wyoming County for tourism and business purposes.

Natural Resources

Marcellus Shale

Cornell Cooperative Extension’s role in the Marcellus Shale Sub-Committee appointed by the Board of Supervisors is to provide educational information for agricultural and forest landowners. A workshop organized with collaborators from the Planning Department, Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board and Farm Bureau packed the house at the Wyoming County Fire Training Center. 135 people came to learn about the issues landowners must take into account when negotiating a gas lease. Since new processes are being used to develop the Marcellus Shale Gas Play, new issues are emerging of which landowners must be kept abreast.

Maple

New York Agriculture and Markets Commissioner Patrick Hooker came to the Western New York Maple School to promote renewed efforts to grow New York’s maple industry. Huge opportunities exist for using this natural product to nurture value added production in rural New York. 2010 marked a resurgence of Maple School.

Attendance increased by one-third to about 160 people who took advantage of concurrent maple seminars on topics from managing the sugar bush to marketing their maple confections.

Beekeepers Discussion Group

Local beekeepers are coming together to learn apiary skills through regular workshops that began in July. This producer driven group of nearly 50 individuals identifies topics of interest and works with Cornell Cooperative Extension facilitator, Lutie Batt, who organizes their educational workshops. Topics have ranged from hive management to disease control to marketing.

Master Gardener Highlights

Master Gardeners began to assist answering consumer inquiries about gardening in 2010. During the growing season, seven trained gardeners responded to office visitors and phone calls. Their efforts increase Cornell Cooperative Extension’s capacity to meet the educational needs of local gardeners and homeowners.

Both Perry and Warsaw have initiated a community garden project with assistance from Master Gardeners. Master Gardeners help new gardeners learn skills needed to tend their plots.

Gardening Workshops Offered

• Worm Composting
• Homespun Holiday Crafts
• Organic Vegetable Gardening
• Designing an Outdoor Garden Room
• Pressed Flower Card Design
• Making a Hypertufa
• Container Gardens
• Butterfly Gardens
• Garden Bounty
• Garden Day Celebration
Eat Smart New York, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a program designed to reach low-income households and provide them with information about healthy eating and living including physical activity.

Eat Smart New York (ESNY) is a free program open to a Means Tested and Wavered Audiences.

Means Tested Audiences:
- Participants who are in receipt of/participate in: Food Stamp, WIC, Head Start, Medicaid, Aid for Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Participants who are applying for Food Stamps

Wavered Audiences:
- Participants actively recruited in an approved grocery store

Our trained Nutrition Educators teach about Nutrition to participants about food budgeting, meal planning, food preparation, and physical activities. We teach 6 to 8 lessons to our participants. Lessons are taught to groups and individuals. We give our participants incentives, and many times our lessons have a food component. We supply recipes that are low in fat and calories. This year we reached 164 SNAP families and 120 graduated from our program. Out of the 120 graduated, 53 were families, 33 were seniors, and 34 were individuals. We have reached over 417 people in our program families.

ESNY staff market and recruit at many different events such as:
- Local Agencies throughout the county
- Health Fairs
- WIC, Food Pantries
- Do orientation at Department of Social Services
- Distribution of posters at local businesses in Wyoming County
- Have a recruitment box at Tops in Arcade, this is only approved grocery store in Wyoming County.
- Wyoming County Fair (Portion Distortion)
- Display Board outside of Large Room in our office building.
- Handing out monthly newsletters that have recipes, Kids Korner, and specific topics for example the November newsletter was on Check Out Winter Squash and Thanksgiving Dinner Food Safety.

Reaching this special group of people is rewarding to us and our participants. They walk away from our program able to make healthier choices in their lives.

“Since I started to take these classes I don’t feel as hungry as I did in the beginning, now that I am eating healthier and exercising. I have lost 4 lbs.”

-2010 Participant
“We have been using the portion sizes that we talked about last week and they are working.”

-2010 Participant

“I am now reading the [nutrition] labels and understanding them.”

-2010 Participant
The Institute completed its third year. Five courses were offered in collaboration with the North West New York Cornell Cooperative Extension Dairy, Livestock and Field Crop Team. Sixty-six people across the region completed courses in 2010 through the Wyoming County Dairy Institute.

Participants Chad and Jennifer Meyer, who operate a 150-cow dairy with Chad's father Dennis, told us, “The classes give you a better idea of how to do things; how to build on what you’ve learned from the previous generation. The classes are offered at a good time of year. It’s local, and helps us to keep up with new methods. The people who teach the classes know what we are going through.”

Core funding for the Institute came from the New York Center for Dairy Excellence and Wyoming County. The Wyoming County IDA provided assistance for the development of the new ‘QuickBooks™ for Dairy Accounting’ module.

Farm Credit East’s Heidi Silsby developed and taught the new module at Genesee Community College’s computer lab in Batavia. Nineteen farms or businesses took advantage of the opportunity to learn how to put this accounting tool to work.

We have continued to tap instructors from both Perry and Attica Veterinary Clinics. Participants value the in-depth knowledge and practical skills these professionals share through the Institute Classes. Cornell Cooperative Extension looks forward to continued collaboration with local agriculture businesses and the Northwest New York Team to offer Institute classes that build the skills of Wyoming County’s dairy workforce.

2010 Course Roster

- Producing Quality Milk
- QuickBooks™ for Dairy Accounting
- Management of the Transition Cow
- Introduction to Dairy Comp 305
- Calf Management Practices

www.WyomingCountyDairyInstitute.com
ESTIMATE OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Wyoming County
An Estimate of Support Received for year ending 12/31/10

TOTAL COUNTY SUPPORT  $481,260.25
TOTAL STATE SUPPORT  $465,349.00
TOTAL FEDERAL SUPPORT  $156,586.00
TOTAL OTHER SOURCES OF SUPPORT  $707,682.00
TOTAL SUPPORT TO ASSOCIATION  $1,810,877.25
OFFICE HOURS:
Monday - Friday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
(585) 786-2251
http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/wyoming

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION IN WYOMING COUNTY PROVIDES EQUAL PROGRAM AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.