

Georgia – 2010

Harold Darden

Associate State 4-H Leader Emeritus



Home: Athens, GA
Nominated by: Georgia 4-H
Year Inducted: 2010

4-H Efforts: Troup Co. 4-H 4 years, Collegiate 4-H 2 years. Agent in DeKalb Co. (1947-54) and Carroll Co. (1954-56). GA State 4-H staff, 1956-75. Developed 4-H Camping and counselor programs at Rock Eagle. Responsible for many district and state 4-H events. Helped develop "The 4-H Hour" on WAGA TV.

Honors: Honorary Master 4-H Member, 1949. First Chief of the Rock Eagle Nation. Eastern Region 4-H Tractor Action Committee, 1962-65. Chile Study Tour, 1967. Chair, Southern Region 4-H Leader Forum, 1970. Committee 4-H selection, Southern Ag. Workers Conference, 1972-73. Honorary Rock Eagle Counselor, 1970. "Outstanding Service to 4-H" citation, NAE4-HA, 1975. Meritorious Service Award, GAE4-HA, 1976.

Harold Darden was in 4-H for 4 years in the gardening project in Troup Co. and in Collegiate 4-H for 2 years. From 1947-1954 he was Asst. County Agent in DeKalb Co., then Carroll County Agent for two years. He joined the GA State 4-H staff in 1956. Working with Martha Harrison, they developed a 4-H Camping program at the new Rock Eagle 4-H Center. He developed a selection process and training program for the college-age 4-H alumni serving as counselors. Darden created and carried out annually the

4-H Community Pride Workshops that increased understanding of the community and the 4-H Communication Workshops to train senior members in good communications skills and citizenship roles and responsibilities.

Darden helped develop and teach at an adult volunteer 4-H leader training program that was used in most GA counties. He wrote and produced a Citizenship Ceremony that is still used to recognize and challenge new voters at State 4-H Council. Darden worked with WAGA-TV in developing and producing "The 4-H Hour," a Saturday program featuring 4-H members and extension agents. For 20 years he participated in planning and directing district 4-H project achievement events, State Record Judging, State 4-H Congress, State Council, State and District Officer Training and many more. He was awarded Emeritus status after retiring in 1975. He recently endowed a College Scholarship for a Rock Eagle Counselor.

Quote: 4-H gave me the opportunity to touch the lives of thousands of young people, and in return they touched my soul.



Harold Darden works with a 4-H member.



Harold Darden speaks at a meeting.



Harold Darden was the first "Chief of the Rock Eagle Nation."