

National 4-H Hall of Fame 2014

Kansas



Marilyn Pence Galle

Kansas 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees Member

Home: Manhattan, KS

Nominated by: Kansas 4-H

Major 4-H Accomplishments:

Kansas 4-H Foundation Trustee, Board Chair 2000-2004, Executive Committee; 4-H Foundation Grants and Awards Committee; Donor. Rock Springs 4-H Center Advisory Committee. Donor to National 4-H Center Kansas Courtyard. IFYE and LABO hosts. McPherson Co. Extension Council Chair and Program Committee. 4-H Club and Project Leader. National 4-H Conference Delegate and Chaperone.

Honors: 4-H Distinguished Service Award. Kansas 4-H Family of the Year. High Individual, National 4-H Poultry Judging Contest. Service in Alpha Chi Omega Sorority, Christian Education Committee, Moundridge Pride Program, Moundridge Tree Board, President of PEO, and Dyck Arboretum of the Plains Trustee.

Biography:

As an 11-year 4-H member, Marilyn participated in many projects and activities including poultry. She was a Kansas State University poultry judging team member while majoring in elementary education. Later, she was a teacher and co-owner and chief financial officer of CKH, Inc., a turkey hatchery. Marilyn met her husband, Nelson, a 4-H alumnus, at Rock Springs 4-H Center. They raised three 4-H'ers, Russ, Randy and Ron, and have six grandchildren and one great-grandson. She and her sons supported Nelson's career with a farm machinery company by hosting international co-workers and once lived in Belgium. They're a family of faith with Marilyn serving in officer roles within their church.

The family has hosted IFYE, LABO and intra-state exchanges. Marilyn generously gave back to 4-H by volunteering time as a 4-H club and project leader for 19 years; was a McPherson Extension Council member and chair; and a 30-year trustee on the Kansas 4-H Foundation Board, serving as chair from 2000-2004. A 36-year donor, Marilyn provided leadership for two multi-million dollar campaigns benefitting the National 4-H Center, Rock Springs 4-H Center and Kansas 4-H. Marilyn is an active alumna of Kansas State University serving as a Foundation trustee, on the board of Friends of the Gardens, and an officer of the Friends of the Beach Museum of Art.

Quote:

From the time I joined as a 10 year old, 4-H has been a special part of my life. The life skills I learned have made a big impact on the person I am today. Because of the value I put on those skills, my goal has been to do all I can to help youth be involved in 4-H programs so they can become better citizens and leaders. Thus, my giving of time and finances has been important to me. I am also thankful that my husband and our three sons had the opportunity to grow through 4-H experiences.



Marilyn Pence, president of the Bethel 4-H Club, leads officers in planning their model meeting.



The Galle family with Naoto Kato, LABO delegate, who still calls Marilyn "mom" and visited the family while on his honeymoon.



Nelson and Marilyn Galle at newly dedicated Galle-Pence Plaza Trail at the Rock Springs. They donated the funds for the plaza in honor of their parents.