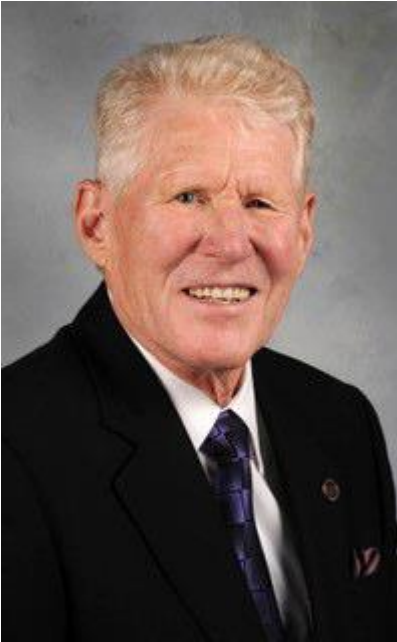


National 4-H Hall of Fame 2017

Kansas



James D. Bassett

Kansas 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees

Home: Dover, KS

Nominated by: **Kansas 4-H**

Major 4-H Accomplishments:

Dover 4-H Club Alumnus, Shawnee County 4-H Band, Beef Project, Home Beautification Project, Leadership Project Junior Leader, Regional 4-H Demonstration winner, National 4-H Congress, Kansas 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees member, Kansas 4-H Foundation Board Grants and Awards Committee Chairman, Kansas 4-H Foundation Board Long Range Planning Committee Chairman, and 4-H Engagement Task Force.

Honors: Kansas State University College of Agriculture Distinguished Alumnus, Chairman of the KSU Acacia Fraternity, Shawnee County Extension Board member; Kansas State University Ag Alumni Board, and the Kansas Agricultural Rural Leadership (KARL) board member, and Chairman of the Dover Community Foundation Board.

Biography:

James Bassett brings 38 years of Cargill global executive management experience to the Kansas 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees. As chairman of the Grants and Awards and Long-Range Planning committees, he influenced the Foundation Board to provide substantial funding for increasing volunteer recruitment, engagement, training and recognition. James believes all youth deserve a 4-H experience, and the key is recruiting and training a cadre of volunteers who are the best at what they do in America. James mentored an Extension/Foundation taskforce that documented needs of volunteers. He encouraged a group to work with 15 counties to write business plans focusing on increasing volunteers, membership and retention, and he influenced the Board to allocate funds for the project.

James established an alliance with the Kansas Leadership Center, and the Board funded scholarships for 4-H volunteer leadership training. James motivates others to conduct excellent research, formulate a business plan with challenging goals, perform at the highest level of achievement, measure results, and apply what was learned to the next phase of the project. James is prominent on the Foundation's lifetime giving list and is a member of the Heritage Council with intent for 4-H in estate plans. He resides in Kansas with his wife Donna after serving as: President of Cargill Geographical activities in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. He previously served as Manager of International Meat Marketing and President of Worldwide Poultry Operations.

Quote:

The life skills of record keeping, goal setting and measurement of results are as relevant today as they were when I was a 4-H member. It is paramount we expand training and support of volunteers assuring they possess world-class skills and resources. Serving youth remains our uncompromised focus.



James (front) at the Sears-Roebuck Foundation Breakfast at 4-H Club Congress in Chicago, 1951.



James painting his house as part of his Home Beautification Project.



James scrapes old paint from a window for his Home Beautification Project