

# National 4-H Hall of Fame 2011

## Mississippi



### Harry Dendy

Mississippi 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees

**Home:** Clinton, Mississippi

**Nominated by:** Mississippi 4-H

### Major 4-H Accomplishments:

4-H career spans 55 years. Successful 4-H youth in leadership, citizenship and forestry at local, district and state levels. Elected to the Mississippi 4-H Advisory Council in 1975 and remains active. Elected to the Mississippi 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees in 1982, and currently Vice-Chairman. 4-H donor since 1975 and has led major 4-H fund raising efforts.

### Honors:

Mississippi 4-H All-Star during high school. Winner in 4-H contests during high school. Past-President of the Mississippi 4-H Advisory Council and current Vice-Chairman of the Mississippi 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees.

### Biography:

Harry Dendy was a 10-year 4-H member with projects in Leadership, Citizenship and Forestry. Elected to the MS 4-H Advisory Council in 1975 and 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees in 1982, he now serves as Board Vice Chair and Chair of the Fundraising Committee. As a young Farm Credit employee he quickly began leading their youth supporting activities. Farm Credit, through the Federal Land Bank Associations of MS, is now among the state's strongest donors. Connections with the American Institute of Cooperatives led him to take 4-H youth to cooperative conferences across America. For over 20 years Harry was actively involved with the MS Council of Cooperatives to secure the financial support for the MS 4-H Cooperative Leadership Conference.

Harry has been deeply involved on the Promotional Committee of Dixie National. His 30 years of volunteer service with the Dixie National Jr. Sale of Champions has helped bring in over \$3 million in scholarship support for 4-H and FFA youth. In 2002, MS 4-H began constructing the MS 4-H Learning Center and Pete Frierson 4-H Museum. Harry led in developing donor support that annually provides 4-H opportunities to over 36,000 mostly urban youth. He has helped to secure tens of thousands of dollars for MS State 4-H Congress. Through his company Capitol Ag Services, Harry has been a consultant for major state agricultural entities including Mississippi State University, lobbying legislative leaders on their behalf.

### Quote:

Our youth are our most precious natural resource, and they must be cultivated. It is our responsibility, as adults, to provide leadership, council and advice to our youth. Our 4-H youth are the brightest and best youth in our great country and we must do our part to give them direction they need to develop into responsible and productive adults with the leadership abilities to move forward our communities, our states, our country and our world.



Harry with notable alumni as he receives gift artifact for MS 4-H Museum.



Harry with a Leadership Team member.