

National 4-H Hall of Fame 2018

Pennsylvania



C. R. 'Bud' Bryan
Delaware County 4-H Coordinator

Home: Media, Delaware County, PA

Nominated by: Pennsylvania 4-H

Major 4-H Accomplishments:

Joined Penn State Extension in Delaware County in 1956 and worked for 42 years as 4-H coordinator. Established Cooperative Pig and Lamb clubs at a central location, which led to the 4-H Farm at Garrett Williamson. Continues to serve as a consultant and volunteer leader.

Honors: National Association of Extension 4-H Agents Distinguished Service Award, 1978. PA and National Association of Extension 4-H Agents and Penn State College of Agriculture 25 Years of Service awards, 1981. Delaware County Council Recognition of 60 Years with Delaware County 4-H, 2016. Garrett Williamson, Recognition of 32 Years of "Support and Dedication", 2017. Outstanding PA 4-H Beef Club Leader, 2017.

Biography:

Bud Bryan has worked in the Delaware Co. (PA) 4-H program since 1956, including 42 years as 4-H coordinator. In this very urban county, he grew the annual county enrollment from about 200 to over 7,500, the largest in the state at the time. Bud started one of the first county 4-H horse programs in PA, which grew to over 100 members. Since there were few 4-H clubs, he started clubs in many more communities, including urban vegetable gardens. Plant science, embryology and rocketry projects were conducted in school and neighborhood clubs. He wrote a 4-H Food Production Education curriculum for school groups to teach about agriculture. It included a field trip to the 4-H Farm, where members had hands-on lessons with the livestock and poultry.

Bud started Cooperative Pig and Lamb clubs, where the members raised their animals at a central location. In 1986, this led to establishing the 4-H Farm at Garrett Williamson, the foundation that donated the use of a large barn and pastures. Bud led the development and fundraising efforts for the farm where members raise sheep, hogs, cattle, poultry, Alpacas, vegetables and bees and work with horses. Club meetings, day camps, fairs, field trips, horse rides, birthday parties, hayrides and archery competitions are among the activities held there. Thousands of children have participated over the past 32 years. Since retirement, Bud has served as a consultant and volunteer leader. He is an active 4-H beef club leader, garden club resource leader and is involved in events at the 4-H Farm.

Quote:

Delaware County is small, urbanized, with a large population, and has only a few farms. Therefore none of the 4-H members live on a farm or in a rural area. Yet some parents want their children to experience raising livestock or poultry or working with horses. This is the justification for the 4-H Farm at Garrett Williamson where over a hundred members do that each year. We are not trying to make farmers out of these members but are teaching them the responsibility of regularly attending to other living things. This gives parents the opportunity to work side by side with their children, just like farm families do. In their clubs we are teaching them leadership and communication skills that they will use the rest of their lives. This has been most rewarding for me.



Bud Bryan teaching members in the garden at the 4-H Farm at Garrett Williamson



Bud Bryan teaching members about beef cattle at the 4-H Farm at Garrett Williamson