

National 4-H Hall of Fame 2017

Texas



Kyle L. Smith

Executive Associate Director Emeritus,
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service

Home: College Station, TX

Nominated by: Texas 4-H

Major 4-H Accomplishments:

Ten year Texas 4-H member, Menard Co.; projects in Sheep and Wool, Leadership, Public Speaking and Citizenship. Received Texas 4-H Gold Star. Forty-two year career: County Extension Agent - Agriculture, Lubbock Co. (1972), Crosby Co. (1974), Gaines Co. (1976), District Extension Director for Agriculture (1988), Asst. Director of County Programs (1993), Executive Assoc. Director-retired (2008-2013). **Honors:** Texas A&M University System Vice Chancellor's Award in Excellence; several Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Superior Service Awards for leadership, programming and teamwork; Texas and National Association of County Agricultural Agents, Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association and V.G. Young Institute of County Government.

Biography:

Kyle Smith began his 4-H career as a member of the Meanard County 4-H Club in the 1950s. He was active in raising and showing sheep, leadership, public speaking and citizenship and service to his county. He was fortunate to have the opportunity to become a State 4-H Roundup winner, a National 4-H Congress Recordbook winner and a Texas 4-H Gold Star winner. After graduating from Texas Tech University in 1972, his service to 4-H grew stronger as he served a forty-two year career as County Extension Agent - Agriculture, Lubbock Co. (1972), Crosby Co. (1974), Gaines Co. (1976), District Extension Director for Agriculture (1988), Assistant Director of County Programs (1993), Executive Associate Director-retired (2008-2013).

Smith served in a variety of national roles, including member of the National 4-H Congress Board, the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy and other national leadership committees related to 4-H. In Texas, he was a Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation administrative advisor and advisor to the AgriLife Extension Volunteer Committee. He also served in leadership roles with county stock shows and as show superintendent for the two largest lamb shows in the nation - the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and the San Antonio Livestock Exposition. Kyle continues to serve on the training team for new agent training related to 4-H livestock program management.

Quote:

Having seen the value of the 4-H program thru the eyes of a 4-H member, parent, county Extension agent, administrator, major livestock show official and lamb judge, I have gained the utmost respect and appreciation for what can happen when youth have the opportunity to participate in this great program. There is no better way for preparing young people for the future while engaging "families" all along the way in this developmental process. There is no limit to what can be done when we Pledge Our Head, Heart, Hands and Health for Better Living while Making the Best Better in our club, community, country and world.



Kyle receives a trophy as a first year member.



Kyle is a 4-H volunteer leader.



Kyle judges a sheep show.