

## Colorado 2004



### Cecil Staver

State 4-H Club Leader

Home: Boone, Colorado

Nominated by: Colorado 4-H

Year Inducted: 2004

4-H Statistics: Graduated from Colorado State University in 1930 with a major in animal husbandry and a minor in vocational agriculture; earned his M.S. Degree in 1953. In 1936 joined Extension; first as an assistant agent in Larimer and Weld Counties, then Extension Agent in Charge in Adams County. While State 4-H Leader, he saw state 4-H participation go from about 10,000 to over 28,000. Awarded the 50th Anniversary Medal by the Federal Land Bank Association for outstanding service and contribution to American agriculture, 1967.

Awarded E.S.P. Professional Excellence Award, 1970.

Continues voluntary service to the Colorado 4-H Youth Fund Board of Directors; donated \$28,000 (\$1,000 for each year in Extension) toward the Cecil and Ruth Staver Endowment.

Staver first worked as a high school vocational agriculture teacher. In 1936 he joined Extension; first as an assistant agent in Larimer and Weld Counties, then as Extension Agent in Charge in Adams County. He said, "In 4-H, I was helping more kids than I ever could as a teacher." He helped Weld County farmers and ranchers understand and utilize the Triple A conservation program and other programs during the war. His 4-H work in Weld and Adams Counties earned him the Outstanding Young Man of the Year Award by the Junior Chamber of Commerce in 1938 and 1944, respectively. He served as a director and superintendent of the National Western 4-H Club Roundup. He assisted in organizing the Weld County Junior Fair, annual county 4-H day and annual achievement program.

In 1945, Staver was named State 4-H Club Leader. His leadership and support developed the State 4-H Leader's Advisory Committee, the 4-H Senate, the popular Colorado State 4-H Conference, and the Colorado 4-H Youth Fund, which he created in 1952 to raise private funds for youth programs. He gave imaginative leadership to Colorado State Fair 4-H events, National 4-H Conference and 4-H Club Congress, and several National ECOP 4-H Sub-committees. He was a National 4-H Foundation trustee from 1962-1964. He has been the International Programs Leader of the CSU Extension Service, including the IFYE program. While State 4-H Leader, state 4-H participation increased from about 10,000 youth to over 28,000.



Cecil Staver with his wife Ruth.