

National 4-H Hall of Fame 2008

Connecticut



Myron Baldwin 4-H Volunteer

Hometown: Wethersfield, CT

Nominated by: Connecticut 4-H

Major 4-H Accomplishments:

Helped lead the Winding Brook 4-H Club in Wethersfield since 1963. Volunteered at the Hartford Co. 4-H Fair as vegetable superintendent and judge for many years. Helped in fund raising and development of Hartford Co. 4-H Camp from planning stage to its opening in 1967. Member of Hartford Co. 4-H Camp Board and served as board president. Served on the board of the Connecticut 4-H Development Fund. Assisted in establishing the 4-H Farm Resource Center at Auer Farm in the 1970s.

Honors: 4-H Honor Family Award, 1967. Hartford Co. 4-H Fair Association Award, 1979. The Winding Brook 4-H Community Service Award, 1998. Augustus and Charles Storrs Award, 2002.

Biography:

Myron and his wife Billi were leaders of The Winding Brook 4-H Club since 1963. After her passing in 2004, Myron continued to volunteer as the gardening project leader. His ability to make each club member feel special and foster the leadership potential of all youth continued to bring new members and volunteers to the club. In the early 1950s, he was a driving force behind the purchase of 75 acres in Marlborough for a 4-H camp. With help from his contractor brother and many family members and friends, land was cleared and buildings constructed. For a long time, Myron organized volunteers to work weekends at the camp. The camp recreation hall was named after the Baldwin family.

Myron was a dedicated supporter of the Connecticut 4-H Development Fund, that owns and operates the 4-H Education Center at Auer Farm in Bloomfield. Myron was a member of the board of directors and for many years. He was involved with overall operation of the 4-H Farm and was highly successful with fundraising and seeking corporate sponsors for both the 4-H Camp and the Education Center. Myron was an active member of the county 4-H advisory committee and 4-H Fair Association, and has always been active with county fund raising events. Myron has also been active with Habitat for Humanity, the historical society, and the University of Connecticut.

Quote:

"My contribution to 4-H was influenced by my marriage to Beulah Shanley, a former 4-H member, Fairfield County 4-H Club Agent and then local 4-H leader in Hartford County. Together we raised five children, all 4-H members. We worked together as leaders of the Winding Brook 4-H Club. I feel my main contribution was having a positive influence on the lives of the many young people who passed through our club over the years."



Myron and The Winding Brook 4-H Club in a local parade.



Billi and Myron Baldwin