

Idaho 2004

Erling Johannesen

Idaho Extension Professor Emeritus



Hometown: Emmett, ID
Nominated by: Idaho 4-H
Year Inducted: 2004
Email: eaj@bigskytel.com

4-H Statistics: Involved with 4-H from age 7. Took corn, sheep, jersey cow and heifer, and swine, and earned honors in demonstrations, judging and showmanship at county and regional levels. Served as a local and state club officer. Extension Agent for 37 years. Active in the National County Agents Association and on the National Board. He and his wife provide an annual college scholarship to an outstanding 4-H member and are major contributors to the Idaho 4-H Endowment Fund. Advisor to the University of Idaho College of Agriculture; member of the University of Idaho Foundation Board, UI Foundation Steering Committee, founding member and past president of Idaho 4-H Endowment Board. Helped to start the Idaho 4-H fund development "Million Dollar Club."

Erling Johannesen has been involved with 4-H for 75 years. During his 37 years as a County Extension Agent in Idaho, he saw a 10 fold increase in 4-H membership in his county. He was active in the National County Agents Association and served on the National Board. Since his retirement in 1980, Johannesen has continued to support the 4-H program by his service and financial contributions. He and his wife provide an annual college scholarship to an outstanding 4-H member and are major contributors to the Idaho 4-H Endowment Fund. For over 20 years, Johannesen has served as an advisor to the University of Idaho College of Agriculture and a member of the University of Idaho Foundation Board.

He is a member of the UI Foundation Steering Committee, responsible for a major campaign to raise 100 million dollars for 4-H and University programs. He is a founding member and past president of the Idaho 4-H Endowment Board. His leadership helped to start the "Million Dollar Club," which led to the first successful Idaho 4-H fund development campaign. Johannesen has been instrumental in raising more than \$1.7 million for the 4-H Endowment Fund, which provides scholarship funds for 17,000 4-H members and leaders annually to participate in state and national conferences, forums and trainings, scholarships to attend college, and grants for innovative programming.

Quote: "4-H membership opened doors for me. It gave me a taste of belonging and success and led to my career as an Extension Agent and my passion for helping others experience success. Having been involved with 4-H for 75 of my 82 years, I have seen many people develop into enthusiastic and capable leaders"



Erling and his calf that won 3 ribbons
at the Caldwell Stock Fair, August 1934.



Erling with his 4-H hogs at the fair in Boise, August 1938. Hogs sold for 11½ cents per pound that year.



Johannesen, Gem County Extension Agent, helps a 4-H'er before the fair.