

New York



Albert Hoefler
State 4-H Club Leader (1943-1955)

State 4-H Club Leader, 1943-1955

4-H Efforts: Instrumental in founding NYS 4-H Agent Association and NYS 4-H Foundation.

Honors: President of NYS 4-H Agents Association; NAE4-HA Secretary & Treasurer; Vice Chair National 4-H Foundation Board of Trustees; Epsilon Sigma Phi Award; USDA Service Awards.

Hometown: Elmira, New York
Nominated by: Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development and NYS Association of CCE 4-H Educators
Year Inducted: 2002

"There is a need for a National 4-H Club Center which will provide opportunity for broad training in citizenship awareness, leadership training, a deeper understanding of the principles of democracy, and develop attitudes of real friendship and fellowship among all people. Youth the world over must understand each other"

Hoefler was a member of the Omega Club (later became a 4-H Club) in Elmira early in the 20th century. He attended Cornell University in 1913-1916, then went to work on school gardens in Troy, NY, during World War I. He became one of the first Club Agents in New York in Rensselaer County in 1919 (called Junior Extension). Hoefler led NY Victory Garden program in WW II and went to Germany to help establish youth programs in 1948.

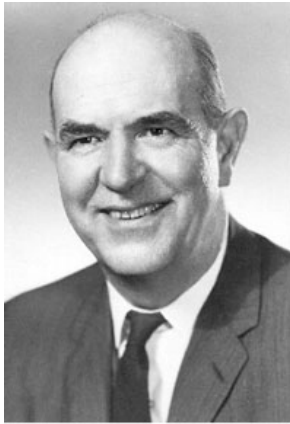
Hoefler played an instrumental role in the early history of 4-H in New York State, as Assistant State 4-H Club Leader in 1931 and then State 4-H Club Leader from 1943 until his retirement in 1955. At the end of his career, Hoefler stressed programs for older teens and urban youth. The Albert Hoefler Lounge at Warren Hall in National 4-H Center was dedicated in his honor in 1959.



Hoefler receives a recognition for this 4-H work.



Hoefler surveys a map of NY state.



Harold A. Willman
Professor of Animal Science, Cornell University, 1929-1964

4-H Efforts: Authored "The 4-H Handbook" in 1952, the first complete reference of its kind and used nationally.

Honors: Meritorious service recognition from many 4-H Clubs, FFA, State Fair Board, and state agricultural organizations for his devotion to New York State youth; Epsilon Sigma Phi award for excellence in written material, 1952; Coach of many national champion 4-H dairy & livestock teams.

Upon his retirement: "The learning by doing approach is a sound teaching method. It stimulates interest and effort, helps to coordinate the mind and hands, provides a basis of recognizing accomplishment and effort, helps to develop leadership, provides desirable work experiences, offers a means of evaluating progress and gives youth some personal responsibility."

Hometown: Kane, Pennsylvania
Nominated by: Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development and New York State Association of CCE 4-H Educators
Year Inducted: 2002

Willman received a BS from Penn State University and MS from the University of Minnesota. After one year as a county agent in Pennsylvania he accepted a position at Cornell University in 1929 and worked as a professor in the Department of Animal Science until his retirement in 1964. He devoted his career to the youth of New York State as the state leader for 4-H dairy and livestock projects and was known nationwide for his 4-H work and publications.

4-H animal projects increased from 1,500 to 13,000 under his guidance. He led membership growth, leadership training, and herd building through a strong program of record keeping, demonstration work, exhibiting, showmanship, judging and cooperative effort. He developed hundreds of bulletins, 4-H leader lessons, service letters and record books on all livestock classes. After retirement he was active with the State 4-H Foundation and continued to prepare teaching aids.



Willman coaching 4-H beef members.



Harold Willman later in his career.