

## South Dakota

John F. Younger  
State 4-H & Youth Leader



4-H Efforts: Joined state 4-H staff in 1945 and became State 4-H and Youth Program Leader in 1953.

4-H Honors: Arts and Crafts 4-H Building at the South Dakota State Fairgrounds renamed “Younger Hall” in his honor; at Camp Lakodia, Lake Herman, the bell tower was built by the 4-H Young Men and Women alumni group in recognition of John’s leadership; Who’s Who in South Dakota and Partner in 4-H State Recognition. In 1988, John and his wife, Beryl, were jointly selected as Outstanding Alumni by the Alumni Board of Dakota State College. In 1996, he was selected to the South Dakota Hall of Fame for his contributions to Education.

Hometown: Dwight, Illinois  
Nominated by: South Dakota 4-H  
Year Inducted: 2002

John often challenged the young people by reading this poem:

### YOU

You are the fellow who has to decide  
Whether you’ll do it or lay it aside.  
You are the fellow who makes up his mind  
Whether you’ll lead or linger behind.  
Whether you’ll try for a goal that’s afar  
Or be contented to stay where you are.  
Take it or leave it. There’s something to do.  
Just think it over  
It’s all up to you.



John Younger at a 4-H teen meeting.



John at dedication of Younger Hall.