

News Release
2008 National 4-H Poultry & Egg Conference

The 2008 National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference was held November 19-20 at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center in Louisville. This annual conference allows 4-Hers from all over the country to compete in educational events that help them learn to make and defend decisions, speak publicly, and gain poultry-related skills.

This annual 4-H conference includes five separate events. In the Poultry Judging contest, participants are required to judge ready-to-cook chicken and turkey carcasses, live production hens and market eggs. In the Chicken and Turkey Barbecuing contests participants barbecue four chicken halves or two turkey fillets and give an oral presentation on the corresponding poultry industry. In the Egg Preparation demonstration contest participants prepare an egg dish and give an oral presentation on the nutritional value of eggs. In addition to these events, the conference includes an Avian Bowl contest which is a round robin tournament in which the contestants are required to answer questions regarding poultry science, poultry meat and egg production, and information about the poultry industries.

A Poultry Careers workshop is also held at the Conference, exposing the 4-H'ers to hands-on information from poultry food industry personnel and the participants are given pertinent information about the career and educational opportunities in the poultry food sciences and industries. This year there were two speakers at the workshop. Christian Brady, Dean of Schreyer Honors College at Pennsylvania State University, spoke on his career path and gave some advice to the 4-Hers. Sarah Whipple, a graduate student at the University of Arkansas in the Department of Poultry Science, discussed her educational path. She graduated from Houghton College in Western New York with a degree in Biology. She was involved with youth 4-H programs as a youth and continues her involvement with many youth related programs as a graduate student.

At the 2008 National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference, 153 senior 4-H'ers, representing 24 states, participated as teams or individuals in the various events. Team competitions were held in the Poultry Judging and Avian Bowl contests. Individuals competed in the Egg Preparation and the Turkey and Chicken Barbecuing contests. Nineteen teams and 6 individuals participated in the Poultry Judging contest and 13 teams competed in the Avian Bowl contest. Fourteen individuals participated in the Chicken Barbecue contest, ten in the Turkey Barbecue contest, and twelve in the Egg Preparation Demonstration.

Mr. Paul Pressley of the U.S. Poultry & Egg Association attended the Conference and participated at the awards banquet. Along with the 4-H'ers, an additional 163 people, including poultry specialists, county extension agents, 4-H leaders, coaches, chaperones, and other family members, helped make the conference a success. The conference was funded through contributions of goods, finances, and services from many individuals, companies and commodity organizations. A total of 26 donors provided financial support for awards.

The California team won the Avian Bowl contest. Each team member was awarded a plaque, gold pin and \$200 savings bond. The winning team members were Elise Rodriguez, Gina Lee, and Rebekah Jones. They were coached by Dr. Linda Teagle. Other top ranking teams were Pennsylvania (2nd), Minnesota (3rd), Virginia (4th), North Carolina and Georgia (tied for 5th), and Kentucky and Louisiana (tied for 7th).

In the cooking contests, Brandon Guillory from Louisiana took first place in the Chicken Barbecue contest; Marianne Smith from Arkansas took first place in the Turkey Barbecue contest; Sarah Myers from Kentucky placed first in the Egg Preparation Demonstration. Each contestant received a plaque, gold pin and \$500 savings bond.



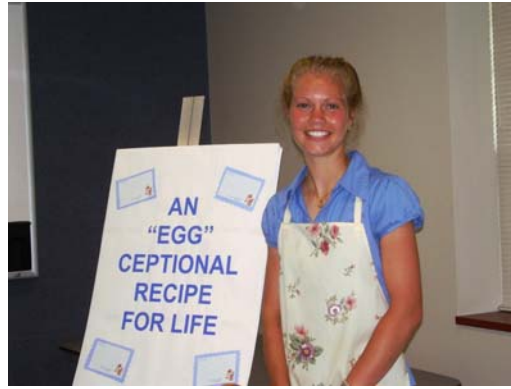
Avian Bowl winners – from California
Presented by Dr. Nick Zimmermann, University of Maryland



Chicken BBQ winner – Brandon Guillory from Louisiana, with coach Nancy Cronan
Presented by Mr. Alan Wise, Tyson Foods



Turkey BBQ winner – Marianne Smith from Arkansas, with coach Joyce Smith
Presented by Mr. Alan Wise, Tyson Foods



Egg Preparation Demonstration winner – Sarah Meyers from Kentucky
(Sarah was unable to attend the awards banquet)

In the Poultry Judging contest, Tiffany Suggs from Georgia placed first in the Production Hen. Georgia (Austin Dunn, Michael Luo, Josie Smith, and Tiffany Suggs) was the top team in this division. Ashley Clauer from Pennsylvania placed first in the Market Poultry division. Pennsylvania (Anne Morris, Isaac Haagen, Ashley Clauer and Ethan Cleaver) was the top team in this division. Lindsay Collins from Kentucky placed first in the Market Egg division. Pennsylvania (Anne Morris, Isaac Haagen, Ashley Clauer and Ethan Cleaver) was the top team in this division. Each individual winner received a gold pin and a plaque. Each team member was awarded a trophy and gold pin.



Production Hen division, top team
Georgia Poultry Judging team

Presented by Paul Pressley, US Poultry and Egg Association



Production Hen division, top individual
Tiffany Suggs, Georgia



Market Poultry division, top team
Pennsylvania Poultry Judging team

Presented by Paul Pressley, US Poultry and Egg Association



Market Poultry division, top individual
Ashley Clauer, Pennsylvania



Market Egg division, top team
 Pennsylvania Poultry Judging team

Presented by Paul Pressley, US Poultry and Egg Association



Market Egg division, top individual
 Lindsay Collins from Kentucky

The overall individual champion in the Poultry Judging contest, receiving a plaque, gold pin and \$500 savings bond, was Ashley Clauer from Pennsylvania, with Pennsylvania finishing as the overall team champion in the Poultry Judging contest. The Pennsylvania team consisted of Anne Morris, Isaac Haagen, Ashley Clauer and Ethan Cleaver. They were coached by Sandy Haagen. Each team member received a trophy and gold pin. The top team also receives the Dr. Charles Wabeck Memorial Award. This year the award was presented by Dr. Christian Brady who participated in the 1983 National 4-H Poultry Judging Contest with Dr. Wabeck. Other top ranking teams were Georgia (2nd), Louisiana (3rd), Maryland (4th), North Carolina (5th), Indiana (6th), New York (7th), Kansas (8th), Virginia (9th), and Illinois (10th).



Top team overall, Pennsylvania

Coach: Sandy Haagen

Presented by Paul Pressley, US Poultry and Egg Association



Top individual overall

Ashley Clauer from Pennsylvania

Left Photo: The Dr. Charles Wabeck Memorial Award was presented to the top overall poultry judging team by Dr. Christian Brady (far left in the photo) who participated in the 1983 national poultry judging competition with Dr. Wabeck.

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Donors and Sponsors

Many business firms, associations and individuals provide funds and resources for the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference. Listed below are the donors who help make this Conference possible.

COMPLETE LIST OF DONORS

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