

**News Release**  
**2012 National 4-H Poultry & Egg Conference**

The 2012 National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference was held November 14-15 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 competitive 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 three 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 and versatility 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 career and educational opportunities in poultry industries. This year there were two speakers at the workshop. Ms. Tracey McKinney spoke about her job with Perdue Farms. Dr. Keith Bramwell discussed the career opportunities available in the poultry industry and how to pursue a college program that will give students diverse experiences in poultry to develop a successful career.

At the 2012 National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference, 154 senior 4-H'ers, representing 25 states, participated as teams or individuals in the various events. Twenty-one teams and four independent individuals participated in the Poultry Judging contest and eleven teams competed in the Avian Bowl contest. Twelve individuals participated in the Chicken Barbecue contest, nine in the Turkey Barbecue, and seven in the Egg Preparation Demonstration.

Mrs. Barbara Jenkins of the U.S. Poultry & Egg Association, along with Jon Cole of Poultry Science Association, attended the conference and participated at the awards banquet. Along with the 4-H'ers, an additional 192 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 36 donors provided financial support for awards.

The Avian Bowl contest was won by the team from California. Each team member was awarded a plaque, gold pin, and \$100. The winning team members were Spencer Downey, Jesse Hazeltine and Ashley Rozika. They were coached by Mrs. Sandi Hazeltine. The remaining top ten teams were Minnesota (2<sup>nd</sup>), Michigan (3<sup>rd</sup>), Ohio (4<sup>th</sup>), Pennsylvania (5<sup>th</sup>), Wisconsin (6<sup>th</sup>), North Carolina (7<sup>th</sup>), Kentucky (8<sup>th</sup>), Louisiana (9<sup>th</sup>), Illinois (10<sup>th</sup>), and Georgia (11<sup>th</sup>).



Avian Bowl winners – from California  
Presented by Jon Cole, Poultry Science Association

In the cooking contests, Alexander Oelke from Minnesota took first place in the Chicken Barbecue contest; Cheryl Chuba from Pennsylvania took first place in the Turkey Barbecue contest; Anne LeBlanc from Louisiana placed first in the Egg Preparation Demonstration. Each contestant received a plaque, gold pin and \$250. The plaque awarded the winner of the turkey barbecue contest is the Robert Hogue Memorial award.



Chicken BBQ winner – Alexander Oelke from Minnesota  
Coached by Sue Oelke  
Presented by Jesse Lyons, University of Missouri



Turkey BBQ winner – Cheryl Chuba from Pennsylvania  
(Received the Robert Hogue Memorial award)  
Coached by Laura Chuba  
Presented by Jesse Lyons, University of Missouri



Egg Preparation Demonstration winner – Anne LeBlanc from Louisiana  
 Coached by Shannon Waits  
 Presented by Jamie Guffey from the Kentucky Poultry Federation

In the Poultry Judging contest, Ilene Boetger from Florida placed first in the Production Hen division. Pennsylvania (Kaitlin Rogers, Alissa Woomer, Phillip R. Clauer and Alayni Caprio) was the top team in this division. Maddie Grant from Missouri placed first in the Market Poultry division. Pennsylvania was the top team in this division as well. Kaitlin Rogers from Pennsylvania placed first in the Market Egg division and Pennsylvania was again the top team. Each individual winner received a gold pin and a plaque. Each team member was awarded a trophy and a gold pin.



Production Hen division, top individual  
 Ilene Boetger from Florida  
 Presented by Mrs. Barbara Jenkins, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association



Production Hen division, top team  
 Pennsylvania Poultry Judging Team  
 Presented by Mrs. Barbara Jenkins, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association



Market Poultry division, top individual  
 Maddie Grant from Missouri  
 Presented by Mrs. Barbara Jenkins, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association



Market Poultry Division, top team  
 Pennsylvania Poultry Judging team  
 Presented by Mrs. Barbara Jenkins, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association



Market egg division, top individual  
Kaitlin Rogers, Pennsylvania  
Presented by Mrs. Barbara Jenkins, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association



Market egg division, top team  
Pennsylvania Poultry Judging team  
Presented by Mrs. Barbara Jenkins, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association

The overall individual champion in the Poultry Judging contest, receiving a plaque, a gold pin, and a \$500 savings bond, was Kaitlin Rogers from Pennsylvania, with Pennsylvania finishing as the overall team champions (Kaitlin Rogers, Alissa Woomer, Phillip R. Clauer and Alayni Caprio). They were coached by Jacob Haagen. Each team member received a trophy and a gold pin. The top team also receives the Dr. Charles Wabeck Memorial Award. Other top ranking teams were Florida (2<sup>nd</sup>), Ohio (3<sup>rd</sup>), Missouri (4<sup>th</sup>), Georgia (5<sup>th</sup>), Arkansas (6<sup>th</sup>), Maryland (7<sup>th</sup>), Indiana (8<sup>th</sup>), Virginia (9<sup>th</sup>), and Louisiana (10<sup>th</sup>).



Top individual overall  
Kaitlin Rogers from Pennsylvania  
Presented by Mrs. Barbara Jenkins, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association



Top team overall, Pennsylvania  
Coach: Jacob Haagen  
Presented by Mrs. Barbara Jenkins, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association

The National 4-H Poultry and Egg conference is where competition and fellowship develop the next generation of leaders.

- The poultry judging contest teaches participants to make decisions in an orderly manner, use reasoning skills, and to accurately communicate decisions. Participants are required to evaluate ready-to-cook chicken and turkey carcasses, live production hens and market eggs.
- The avian bowl is a double elimination contest for state teams patterned after other knowledge bowls. Contestants must have a comprehensive knowledge of subject matter for several species of poultry, food safety, physiology, nutrition, eggs, and other subjects.
- In the egg preparation demonstration contest participants are required to prepare and egg dish, demonstrate presentation skills and incorporate knowledge of the egg industry, egg quality and nutrition.
- In the chicken and turkey barbecue contest participants barbecue three chicken halves or two turkey fillets and give an oral presentation on the corresponding poultry industry. Participants develop skills in barbecuing, preparation of a product, and a presentation that demonstrates knowledge of the subject industry, food safety and product attributes.

For states interested in participating in the annually event, a webinar will be held February 27, 2013 through eXtension. This webinar will be followed up by webinars on coaching a poultry judging team and participation in the cooking events (egg preparation demonstration and the chicken and turkey barbecue contests). For more information on the webinars, visit [www.extension.org/poultry](http://www.extension.org/poultry).

## **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**

Alabama Poultry & Egg Association  
American Poultry Historical Society  
Dr. Francine Bradley  
California Poultry Federation  
Center Fresh Eggs  
D&H Poultry Services, Inc.  
Goldsboro Milling Company  
Hy-Line International Company  
Indiana State Poultry Association  
Kentucky Poultry Federation  
Louisiana Egg Commission  
Louisiana Poultry Federation  
Maple Leaf Farms  
Midwest Poultry Federation  
Minnesota Turkey Council  
Missouri Egg Council  
North Carolina Egg Association  
Nebraska Department of Agriculture,  
Poultry & Egg Division

North American International Livestock Exposition  
Ohio Poultry Association  
Pacific Egg and Poultry Association  
Poultry Science Association  
Southeastern Gamebird Association  
Southern States Cooperative  
Tennessee Egg & Poultry Association  
Texas Broiler Council  
Texas Egg Council  
Texas Poultry Federation  
Texas Poultry Improvement  
Texas Turkey Federation  
Tyson Foods, Inc.  
United Egg Producers  
U.S. Poultry & Egg Association  
VAN DENBIRD Enterprises  
Wisconsin Poultry & Egg Industry Association  
World Poultry Science Association – USA Branch

Dr. Jacquie Jacob, National Conference Secretary, Poultry Extension Associate; University of Kentucky, 906 Garrigus Building, Lexington, KY 40546-0215; phone: 859-257-7613; email: [Jacquie.jacob@uky.edu](mailto:Jacquie.jacob@uky.edu)