

News Release
2009 National 4-H Poultry & Egg Conference

The 2009 National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference was held November 18-19 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 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. Dr. Jacquie Jacob, Poultry Extension Associate at the University of Kentucky spoke on her career path and discussed some potential careers available to 4-Hers. Mr. Blake Van Denburgh, Sioux County Complex manager for Center Fresh Group, spoke about his involvement with 4-H poultry programs as a youth. He later completed a bachelor's degree in Animal Sciences with a poultry production emphasis and now has a career with the egg industry.

At the 2009 National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference, 125 senior 4-H'ers, representing 25 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 Demonstration and the Turkey and Chicken Barbecuing contests. Eighteen teams and 6 individuals participated in the Poultry Judging contest and 11 teams competed in the Avian Bowl contest. Twelve individuals participated in the Chicken Barbecue contest, nine in the Turkey Barbecue, and nine 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 146 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 30 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 Katelyn Beckmann, Olivia Knizek, Nicole Peterson, and Zachary Thode. They were coached by Mrs. Kitty Beckman. The other participating teams were Minnesota (2nd), New York (3rd), Louisiana (4th), Pennsylvania and Kentucky (tied for 5th), Georgia and Michigan (tied for 7th), and finally Florida, Illinois and Kansas (tied for 9th).



Avian Bowl winners – from California
Coached by Kitty Beckman
Presented by Mr. Paul Pressley, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association

In the cooking contests, Reba Van Beusekom from Minnesota took first place in the Chicken Barbecue contest; Tiffany Londeen took first place in the Turkey Barbecue contest; Haley Gilleland from Georgia placed first in the Egg Preparation Demonstration. Each contestant received a plaque, gold pin and \$500 savings bond. The plaque awarded the winner of the turkey barbecue contest is the Robert Hogue Memorial award.



Chicken BBQ winner – Reba Van Beusekom from Minnesota
Coached by Lisa Van Beusekom (right photo)
Presented by Mr. Paul Pressley, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association



Turkey BBQ winner – Tiffany Londeen from Minnesota (received the Robert Hogue Memorial award)
Coached by Dave Londeen (right photo)
Presented by Mr. Paul Pressley, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association



Egg Preparation Demonstration winner – Haley Gilleland from Georgia
Coached by Jeri Gilleland
Presented by Mr. Paul Pressley, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association

In the Poultry Judging contest, Tim Broderick from Pennsylvania placed first in the Production Hen division. Pennsylvania (Tim Broderick, Mimi Niggel, Josh Cassar and Heather Royce) was the top team in this division. Josh Cassar from Pennsylvania placed first in the Market Poultry division. Pennsylvania was the top team in this division as well. Rebecca Pickard from Ohio placed first in the Market Egg division and Georgia (Morgan Collins, Weslie Williford, Jazmin Thomas and Windy Williford). Each individual winner received a gold pin and a plaque. Each team member was awarded a trophy and gold pin.



Production Hen division, top individual
Tim Broderick from Pennsylvania
Presented by Mr. Paul Pressley, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association

Production Hen division, top team
Pennsylvania Poultry Judging team
Presented by Mr. Paul Pressley, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association



Market Poultry division, top individual
Josh Cassar from Pennsylvania
Presented by Mr. Paul Pressley, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association

Production Hen division, top team
Pennsylvania Poultry Judging team
Presented by Mr. Paul Pressley, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association



Market egg division, top individual
Rebecca Pickard from Ohio



Market egg division, top team
Georgia Poultry Judging team

Presented by Mr. Paul Pressley, U.S. Poultry and Egg Association

The overall individual champion in the Poultry Judging contest, receiving a plaque, gold pin, and \$500 savings bond, was Tim Broderick from Pennsylvania, with Pennsylvania finishing as the overall team champions (Tim Broderick, Mimi Niggel, Josh Cassar and Heather Royce). They were coached by Donna Broderick. Each team member received a trophy and gold pin. The top team also receives the Dr. Charles Wabeck Memorial Award. Other top ranking teams were Georgia (2nd), Louisiana (3rd), Maryland (4th), Ohio (5th), Kentucky (6th), Indiana (7th), Virginia (8th), North Carolina (9th), and Tennessee (10th).



Top individual overall
Tim Broderick from Pennsylvania



Top team overall, Pennsylvania
Coach: Donna Broderick

Presented by Paul Pressley, US Poultry and Egg Association

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.

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