2009-2010 YLT Members

**EAST CENTRAL REGION**
Hayley Bunselmeyer* Macon Co.
Jodi Koester Cumberland Co.
Casey Schumacher Iroquois Co.

**NORTHEAST REGION**
Carolyn Gehrke Kane Co.
Wayne Gehrke* Kane Co.
Morgan McMurry Will Co.
Rachael Miller DuPage Co.
Naomi Spears McHenry Co.
Liz Woolridge McHenry Co.

**NORTHWEST REGION**
Kevin Carey* Grundy Co.
Erin Palm Marshall Co.

**SOUTHERN REGION**
Rachel Crow* Hamilton Co.
Michael Smith Edwards Co.
Lian States Wayne Co.

**WEST CENTRAL REGION**
Kristin Bishop Logan Co.
Natalie Edwards* Greene Co.
Ryan Huffer Logan Co.
Sara Marten Montgomery Co.

Regional Contacts

YLT ADVISORS
Judy Schmidt Extension Educator, East Peoria Center
Debra Stocker Extension Specialist State 4-H Office
Steve Wagoner Extension Educator, Edwardsville Center

Contact YLT

Please contact us with any questions or comments. We would love to hear from you or even come to one of your county or regional events. You can also find more info about YLT on the Illinois 4-H website at: http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/state4h/members/leadership_sylt.cfm.

Here is how to reach our Regional Contacts:

Hayley Bunselmeyer 217/344-4784
Wayne Gehrke 847/373-2538
Kevin Carey 815/931-4465
Rachel Crow 618/694-8916

Or contact our advisor: Debra Stocker, 1902 Fox Drive, Suite A, Champaign, IL 61820, dstocker@illinois.edu, (217) 333-0910.

What is YLT?

The Illinois 4-H program offers older 4-H members and recent 4-H alumni an opportunity to play an active part in Illinois 4-H programming as part of the Illinois State 4-H Youth Leadership Team. 4-H members and alumni, ages 16-21, are selected to assist with state 4-H events, offer teen programming suggestions and become involved in their own way on the state level. The YLT objectives include, but are not limited to:

★ Give 4-H members a voice in the direction of the University of Illinois Extension 4-H Youth Development Program.

★ Provide leadership and public relations support as requested at regional and statewide events such as 4-H Legislative Connection, State Fair, leadership conferences, etc.

★ Provide overall direction and coordination for the Illinois 4-H Junior Leadership Conference.

★ Provide representation of Illinois 4-H members at National 4-H Conference.

★ Establish state exchanges for such programs as 4-H Legislative Connection, State Fair, Illini Summer Academies, etc.
Jr. Leadership Conference

The Youth Leadership Team is responsible for the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the annual Illinois Jr. Leadership Conference for junior high 4-H members. Team members plan the entire program, working as partners with their advisors to select the hotel facility, plan the schedule, design the workshops, obtain speakers and entertainment, promote the event, and assist with chaperoning.

What Can We Do For You?

In addition to planning and implementing the Illinois 4-H Jr. Leadership Conference for junior high youth, the Youth Leadership Team is available and ready to assist at county, regional, and statewide events. Various team members are trained to provide a cadre of workshop topics, including:

- Mixers and games,
- Team-building,
- Officer training,
- Public presentations,
- 4-H award applications,
- 4-H opportunities,
- and more.

They can also serve as small group facilitators for discussions. Several team members have also served as Illinois delegates to National 4-H Conference and have been involved in preparations and meetings with Illinois legislators on the state and federal level.

What Else Do We Do?

YLT members also represent the University of Illinois Extension 4-H Youth Development program on committees and boards across the state. Currently YLT members serve on the following groups:

- Illinois 4-H Foundation Board of Directors
- Illinois State Fair Jr. Department Advisory Committee
- Illinois Farm Bureau Youth Education Committee
- Recognition for Excellence Committee
- Illini Summer Academy Planning Committee
- Illinois 4-H Leadership Curriculum Committee

Comments from both youth and adults attending past JLC events have praised the team for their work:

- YLT are wonderful hosts.
- Very well planned and structured FUN learning experience
- The youth leaders are outstanding individuals. Any parent should feel good about the commitment of these young leaders!

Thoughts from YLT

I’ve been attending JLC and other state leadership events since I was in 7th grade. I still use all the skills I learned there in my work for YLT. Now I have the pleasure of planning events like this, and each year JLC gets better and better.

-Casey Schumacher, YLT Member

What an opportunity to serve Illinois 4-H! YLT is a great way to make new friends from across the state, learn new ideas, and have new experiences. We are 100% a family, there is no way to deny that fact. We are always ready for a challenge or just a chit-chat!

-Kevin Carey, YLT Member

Team Membership Criteria

- Applicants must be 4-H members or recent 4-H alumni, ages 16-19 as of September 1. Maximum age to serve on the team is 21. Applicants under the age of 18 must have parental or guardian support.
- Terms are 2 years in length, beginning September 1. Members can serve a maximum of two, 2-year terms (4 years).
- Team members must attend 1 of the 2 face-to-face meetings and 75% of scheduled Telenets each year of their term.
- Team members are required to send quarterly reports to Extension staff in their region.
- Team members must be active participants in at least 2 state-wide events or represent 4-H on statewide committees and the Junior Leadership Conference each year.

YLT Selection

A minimum of three members are named from each Extension region (if applications allow). Maximum team membership will stand at 20 young adults. A rotation format is established so all members from an Extension region will not be replaced the same year.

Selection will be based on application, interview, and three Reference Evaluations. Applications are available in the spring from local Extension offices or from the Illinois 4-H website at http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/state4h/members/leadership_sylt.cfm.