

# *4-H House Scholarships, Awards and Tutoring Program*

Summary of Scholarships, Awards and Tutoring Program Available to Members of  
4-H House at the University of Illinois

Rev 10/2015

## ***Mary Thatcher (Mom T) Service Award***

- General:** Awarded to the winner of the House Service Award. See selection criteria below.
- Administration:** Mary McKee Scholarship Board
- Award:** \$250 paid to recipient, winner's name engraved on a plaque with all past winners. (Scholarship Chair) (Increased from \$50 to \$100 in 01/02, \$100 to \$200 in Fall '06, \$200 to \$250 in Fall '09)
- Deadline:** Fall: December 1<sup>st</sup>; Spring: May 1<sup>st</sup>, Scholarship Chair forwards name to Mary McKee Board Chairperson who then forwards it to the Mary McKee Board for approval.
- Criteria:** Awarded to the winner of the House Service Award voted upon by the Active Chapter each semester. See nomination criteria below.
- Frequency:** Semi-annual; announced at last House Meeting for Fall (December) and Spring (May) semesters and at subsequent Mom's and Dad's Day Banquets.
- 4-H House Role:** Scholarship Chair should submit name and relevant information about recommended recipient(s) to the Mary McKee Board Chairperson. Upon approval by the Mary McKee Board, the Mary McKee Board Chairperson should submit information about the approved recipient to the 4-H House Alumni Board Treasurer for payment of the award. Scholarship Chair should arrange for plaque engraving. See procedures below.
- Notes:** This Outstanding Service Award was established in 1994 in honor of "Mom T" who faithfully served as 4-H Housemother from 1962-1988. The award carries on the values exemplified by our beloved "Mom T" who lived her life helping others.
- "Mom T" lived her life doing all she could to help others. She was a shining example of the Golden Rule. She loved the 4-H House and was extremely proud of all of the 4-H members whom she had the opportunity to share life with. The girls soon learned they could confide in her, trust her and learn from her. She indeed was their "Mom" away from home.
- Recipients of this award are those who voluntarily give service to others. This service may be to 4-H House, campus organizations, home community organizations, religious organizations, Champaign-Urbana community organizations, regional or national organizations and/or a combination of the above.
- Selection will be made on the motto of "Service Above Self," looking for the ordinary people who do extraordinary things without expectation of recognition or reward. Qualified recipients should be members in good standing of 4-H House. Good character, honesty and integrity are minimum requirements for consideration. While service in many areas will be taken into consideration, the primary area of service rendered will be that of outstanding dedication and devotion to 4-H House and its members in residence. Such service should be on a continuous basis and not just a one-time event.
- Recipients may be officers of 4-H House but that is not a criterion for selection. A 4-H House member in good standing is eligible for the award during her undergraduate years at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Thus, a member may be selected for the award during any semester of her undergraduate career and is not limited to just one award. Since the award is predicated on continuous service, it would be highly unlikely for a first semester freshman or new member to be considered for the award.
- Nominations for the award will be conducted each semester by the active chapter. A minimum of one and a maximum of three nominees may be presented to the Alumni Board of 4-H House each semester. Nominations will be forwarded to the Mary McKee Board Chairperson along with a summarization on how the proposed recipient(s) meet the stated criteria for the award. A majority

vote of the Alumni Board will be required for final selection of the recipient. While it is anticipated that the Alumni Board will support the nominee provided by the chapter, they are not compelled to do so. The important role of the Alumni Board is that of ascertaining that the proposed recipient does meet the criteria. The Alumni Board has the power to decline those proposed and not make an award during any semester in which, in their judgment, criteria for the award was not sufficient for approval.

Correspondence: Recipients of this award are asked to acknowledge receipt and convey their appreciation to the family of "Mom T" in care of:

James E Thatcher  
34205 Park Lane  
Leesburg, FL 34788

Scholarship Chair is to oversee this.

<b><i>Mary Thatcher (Mom T) Scholarship Award</i></b>
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<b><i>Est. Fall 2011</i></b>
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General: Awarded to the winner of the Scholarship Award. See selection criteria below.

Administration: Mary McKee Scholarship Board

Award: \$2,000 paid to one recipient or \$1,000 paid to two recipients depending on the Selection Committee's decision, winner's name engraved on a plaque with all past winners. (Scholarship Chair)

Deadline: February 1<sup>st</sup>, Scholarship Chair forwards applications to Mary McKee Board Chairperson who then forwards them to the Selection Committee.

Criteria: Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and must be an Active, In-House Sophomore, Junior or Senior.

Frequency: Annual (Spring); announced at Mom's Day Banquet.

4-H House Role: Scholarship Chair should submit applications to the Mary McKee Board Chairperson. Upon selection by the Selection Committee, the Mary McKee Board Chairperson should submit information about the approved recipient(s) to the 4-H House Alumni Board Treasurer for payment of the award. Scholarship Chair should arrange for plaque engraving. See procedures below.

Notes: This Outstanding Scholarship Award was established in 2011 in honor of "Mom T" who faithfully served as 4-H Housemother from 1962-1988. The award carries on the values exemplified by our beloved "Mom T" who lived her life helping others. See above for additional comments.

Correspondence: Recipients of this award are asked to acknowledge receipt and convey their appreciation to the family of "Mom T" in care of:

James E Thatcher  
34205 Park Lane  
Leesburg, FL 34788

Scholarship Chair is to oversee this.

***Mary McKee Scholarship Board – Financial Need Award***

Award pulled back; offered as needed only – effective Fall ‘05  
Reinstated Fall ‘15

- General: Scholarship award based on financial need to confidential applicant(s).
- Administration: Mary McKee Scholarship Board
- Award: Amount varies depending on budget allocation and number of selected applicants
- Deadline: Applications to Mary McKee Board Chairperson by November 15<sup>th</sup>, recipient(s) chosen by Mary McKee Board. Chairperson then contacts recipient(s) and Alumni Board Treasurer
- Criteria: Financial need of applicant based on confidential applications submitted to the Mary McKee Scholarship Board.
- Frequency: Annual
- 4-H House Role: Minimal. Scholarship Chair should promote awareness of the award and make applications available to interested members.

***Mary McKee Scholarship Board – Most Improved GPA Award***

***Est. Fall 2009***

- General: Awarded to one full-time in-house member of each freshman, sophomore and junior class along with first semester seniors annually based on most improved GPA from Fall to Spring and Spring to Fall Semesters.
- Administration: Mary McKee Scholarship Board
- Award: \$250 per recipient
- Deadline: Requires Fall and Spring GPA information provided by Alumni Board President to Mary McKee Board Chairperson. Changes in GPA’s are calculated by Mary McKee Board Chairperson and recipient names are forwarded to Alumni Board Treasurer.
- Criteria: Awarded to one full-time in-house woman in each freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes with the highest improvement in term (semester) GPA from the Fall Semester to the Spring Semester and from the Spring Semester to the Fall Semester.
- Frequency: Semi-annual – Announced at the subsequent Scholarship Banquets.
- 4-H House Role: Minimal. Scholarship Chair should promote awareness of the award.

***Mary McKee Scholarship Board – GPA Award***

***Est. Fall 2011***

Award suspended effective July ‘15

- General: Awarded to all In-House Members whose term (semester) GPA meets or exceeds the Panhellenic Council GPA.
- Administration: Mary McKee Scholarship Board
- Award: \$100 per recipient

Deadline: Requires Fall and Spring GPA information provided by Alumni Board President to Mary McKee Board Chairperson. List of recipients is determined by Mary McKee Board Chairperson and recipient names are forwarded to Alumni Board Treasurer.

Criteria: Awarded to all In-House Members whose term (semester) GPA meets or exceeds the Panhellenic Council GPA.

Frequency: Semi-annual – Announced at the subsequent Scholarship Banquets.

4-H House Role: Minimal. Scholarship Chair should promote awareness of the award.

### ***Debbie Steck Steele / University of Illinois Foundation***

General: In memory of 1977 University of Illinois Alumnae Debbie Steck Steele who passed away in 1995.

Administration: University of Illinois Foundation

Award: \$500 – ½ to College of ACES candidate, ½ to 4-H House member

Deadline: December 1st to Scholarship Chair, forwarded to Mary McKee Board Chairperson

Criteria: Current member of 4-H House at the University of Illinois demonstrating a strong record of service to 4-H House and other campus organizations.

Frequency: Annual (Early Spring Semester) – Announced at Mom’s Day Banquet

4-H House Role: Nominee selected by the 4-H House Executive Board and at least one Alumni Representative. Necessary details submitted to the proper University of Illinois Foundation representative.

Correspondence: Darrell & Belle Steck (Debbie’s Parents)  
2413 US HWY 34 R.R. 2  
Wataga, IL 61448

### ***Patricia Ann Borelli 4-H House Sorority Leadership Scholarship / Outstanding Pledge Award***

General: In memory Patricia Ann Borelli, 4-H House Alumnae.

Administration: Patricia Ann Borelli Trust

Award: \$100, house pin, winner’s name engraved on a plaque with all past winners.

Deadline: March 15<sup>th</sup> selection, House President forwards name to Mary McKee Board Chairperson who then forwards to Alumni Board for approval

Criteria: Pledge-active demonstrating outstanding scholarship and leadership. Voted on by the Active Chapter each spring.

Frequency: Annual (Spring) – Award winner announced by the 4-H House President annually at the Mom’s Day Banquet.

4-H House Role: Nominee is chosen by the Active Chapter and approved by 4-H House Exec Board, nominee’s information is forwarded to Mary McKee Board Chairperson by the House President, Mary McKee Board Chairperson forwards information to the Alumni Board for approval. Necessary information forwarded to the Trustee (State Bank of Monticello) by the House President. Plaque engraving and forwarding bills to the Trustee is also the responsibility of the House President.

Correspondence: Recipients of this award are asked to acknowledge receipt and convey their appreciation to the family of Patricia Ann Borelli in care of:

Raymond Borelli  
2630 77<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
SE Unit A320  
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Scholarship Chair is to oversee this.

### ***Nedra Wesson Scholarship Fund***

General: In memory of Nedra Wesson.

Administration: Mary McKee Scholarship Board

Award: \$1,100 (\$1,000 plus \$100 contributed annually by Nedra's brother Larry Thomson) winner's name engraved on a plaque with all past winners.  
(Increased from \$100 to \$250 in 01/2002)  
(Increased from \$250 to \$400 in 10/2002)  
(Increased from \$400 to \$1,000 in 3/2014 for Spring '15 award)

Deadline: March 15<sup>th</sup>, Scholarship Chair forwards name to Mary McKee Board Chairperson and Alumni Board Treasurer

Criteria: Awarded to a Freshman, Sophomore or Junior on the basis of service, involvement, determination and compassion. Voted on by the Active Chapter

Frequency: Annual (Spring) – Winner announced annually at the Mom's Day Banquet.

4-H House Role: Voted upon by the Active Chapter. Scholarship Chairperson should submit necessary information about the winners to the administrators and arrange for plaque engraving.

Notes: Nedra (Thomson) Wesson, 1940-1990, Class of 1962  
Nedra was a 4-H Alumna, teacher, wife, mother and a devoted Christian. So much of her joy was found in serving and giving to others. Her compassion and caring nature reached far beyond the walls of her own home. This scholarship fund is in memory of her and others that exemplify her characteristics.

Correspondence: Recipients of this award are asked to acknowledge receipt and convey their appreciation to the family of Nedra Wesson in care of:

Darcie Kiper  
2 Canterbury Court  
Bloomington, IL 61701

Larry and Diane Thomson  
563 E Glen Canyon Road  
Green Valley, AZ 85614-6360

Scholarship Chair is to oversee this.

***Jennifer and Jackie Esworthy Memorial Scholarship Fund******Est. Spring 1998***

- General: In memory of Jen ('97) and Jackie ('01) Esworthy, killed in a drunk driving crash in June 1997.
- Administration: Mary McKee Scholarship Board
- Award: \$500, winner's name engraved on a plaque with all past winners, amount reviewed every 5-10 years and increased based on availability of funds and inflation factors.  
(Increased from \$250 to \$500 in 03/2014)
- Deadline: March 15<sup>th</sup>, Scholarship Chair forwards name to Mary McKee Board Chairperson and Alumni Board Treasurer
- Criteria: The recipient of this award demonstrates leadership and dedication to 4-H House and involvement in campus activities. She should be or have been an officer of 4-H House or committee member and be an active member in good standing with 4-H House. She should demonstrate good character, honesty, and integrity, be caring, have a good sense of humor and be a Christian.
- Frequency: Annual (Spring) – Announced at Mom's Day Banquet
- 4-H House Role: Voted upon by the Active Chapter. Scholarship Chair is responsible for arranging for plaque engraving.
- Notes: The Esworthy Memorial Scholarship Award was established in 1998 as a memorial to Jen (1997) and Jackie (2001) who were killed by a drunk driver on June 8, 1997. Jen was a member and officer of Illini Pride/Orange Crush, Mortar Board and Delta Sigma Pi. She held many offices at 4-H House including president, treasurer and Mom's Day Chair. Additionally, she was a recipient of the 4-H House Service Award. Jackie had been accepted as a New Member at 4-H House and was to begin her studies in the College of ACES in the fall. Before college, both Jen and Jackie had been captains of the basketball, volleyball and softball teams, cheerleaders, members of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Jackie was also a Thespian. In 4-H, they had swine and crops as projects and showed pigs at many fairs. They both excelled in music, playing the piano and clarinet. Jen played the piano at weddings and Jackie was a vocal soloist, singing the National Anthem at many events.
- Correspondence: Recipients of this award are asked to acknowledge receipt and convey their appreciation to the family of Jen & Jackie Esworthy in care of:
- Jim & Barb Esworthy,  
402 East Kyle Street  
Ogden, IL 61859
- Scholarship Chair is to oversee this.

***Rachel Strode-Hamilton Memorial Scholarship Fund******Est. September '07***

- General: In memory of Rachel Strode-Hamilton ('98) who died during childbirth in July 2005.
- Administration: Mary McKee Scholarship Board
- Award: \$500, winner's name engraved on a plaque with past winners
- Deadline: September 20<sup>th</sup>, Applications submitted to Scholarship Chair and then to Mary McKee Board Chairperson. A copy of the applications will be forwarded to Dan Hamilton since he'd like to be part of the selection process. Exec Board, an alum and Dan will discuss the applications (in person or via conference call) and jointly make a decision on the recipient.

Criteria: Members of the **current junior class** will be eligible to apply and may be in or out of house

Selection criteria (preferred but not required) include rural background, livestock (particularly cattle) background, Animal Science major with interest in Collegiate Meats Judging, actively involved in 4-H House and campus activities and minimum overall GPA of 3.0

Frequency: Annual (Fall); announced at Dad's Day Banquet

4-H House Role: President and Scholarship Chair to generate awareness of the scholarship and application process. Scholarship Chair is responsible for arranging for plaque engraving.

Notes: The Rachel Hamilton Memorial Scholarship has been established to honor the memory and contributions of Rachel (Strode) Hamilton, who graduated with her bachelor's degree in animal science in 1998 and with a master's in meat science in 2000.

More than any listing of accomplishments could describe – though there were many – Rachel meant so much to the many people she touched. She was warm and caring, easy-going and quick with a joke. By nature, she was a planner and she always finished what she started. Those qualities combined to serve her well in many offices at 4-H House, particularly Pledge Advisor, Secretary, and as the coordinator of various event weekends. By the time she became an upperclassman, she'd not only easily risen through the seniority ranks at 4-H House, but she'd gained the accolades, admiration and respect of dozens of 4-H House women. Rachel loved her God, her family and her friends. She was the girl with whom everyone wanted to live – intelligent, fun, responsible and a wonderful friend.

While on campus, Rachel worked in the Assistant Dean's office and served in various campus organizations, such as Hoof 'n Horn and Collegiate FFA. More than any of those, however, she discovered a passion for the livestock industry, cultivated through years of showing cattle from her family's Fulton County farm, and honed during her collegiate membership on the Meats Judging and Meat Animal Evaluation teams. After college, she channeled her passion and skills into her position with the American Meat Science Association, where she traveled the country, organizing collegiate meats judging contests. She excelled there, as she did in 4-H House before that, and was beloved by so many in her industry.

Rachel married Dan Hamilton, a fellow livestock enthusiast, in June of 2000. She passed away on July 3, 2005, after giving birth to their first child, Kaitlyn Marie Hamilton.

Correspondence: Recipients of this award are asked to acknowledge receipt and convey their appreciation to Rachel's husband, Dan at the following address:

Dan Hamilton  
20765 North 3500 East Road  
Kempston, IL 60946

Scholarship Chair is to oversee this.

***Charlotte Castle Neal Memorial Scholarship  
in Honor of the 4-H House Class of 1943***

***Est. August '15***

General: In memory of 1943 4-H House Alumnae Charlotte Castle Neal who passed away in 2014.

Administration: Mary McKee Educational Fund governing board (Board)

Award: \$6,000 annually for a maximum of four years. To be paid 50% each semester to the recipient's University of Illinois student account. The recipient's name will be engraved on a plaque with past recipients. Amount of the award will be revisited periodically by the Board according to the earnings performance of dedicated funds invested to support this scholarship.



**Deadline:** Approximately mid-September during open nomination years. The 4-H House Scholarship Chair will forward applications to the Board Chairperson who will forward them to the full Board of the Mary McKee Educational Fund. The Board Chairperson will then arrange for formal interviews with candidates to be scheduled and conducted. The application and instructions will contain precise and binding deadlines during each open application year.

**Criteria:** Only incoming potential new members who have been accepted to the University of Illinois, Urbana Campus, and who reside in the State of Illinois will be eligible to apply. Incoming potential new members may include freshman, sophomore, junior or senior class standing. Recipient must demonstrate the spirit, determination and persistence which Charlotte Castle Neal possessed.

To retain the scholarship, the recipient must: 1) remain a member in good standing with 4-H House according to the 4-H House By-Laws, 2) remain a continuous, full time, undergraduate student at the University of Illinois, Urbana Campus in accordance with student code sections [http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3\\_part1\\_3-110.html](http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article3_part1_3-110.html) (academic) and [http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1\\_part3\\_1-311.html](http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1_part3_1-311.html) (disciplinary) and 3) remain an in-house resident of 4-H House, unless studying abroad or participating in an internship-type experience during a semester. More specifically on the disciplinary aspect, the recipient will retain the scholarship so long as she has not been dismissed or suspended and has no more than one instance of reprimand or censure. There will be zero tolerance, however, for conduct violations. If the recipient is responsible for a conduct violation, the scholarship will be discontinued.

**Frequency:** Typically, every four years. This scholarship is intended to support one individual for four academic years, provided continuing eligibility is maintained. However, the scholarship may be awarded more frequently (e.g., a recipient attends the University for less than the full four academic years, a recipient forfeits eligibility for some reason, etc.) Recipient will be announced at Homecoming in applicable years.

**4-H House Role:** The 4-H House President and Scholarship Chair are expected to promote awareness of the scholarship and application process. The Scholarship Chair is responsible for arranging for plaque engraving.

#### Scholarship Background and Purpose:

When ten ladies from the 4-H House Class of 1943 graduated from the University of Illinois, no one could imagine the depth of their friendships that would last well over seven decades. Through frequent reunions, phone calls, visits, and hand-written communications, their life-stories unfolded. They did not have or depend on the Internet. A round-robin packet of letters and photos faithfully circulated among the women, as each would contribute a letter and pass the treasured items on to the next until it returned for a new letter to be exchanged for the “old” one. This much anticipated activity continued until the remaining “43ers” celebrated their 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays! At more recent reunions, the ladies enjoyed the memorable 4-H House dessert “prune whip” (inexpensive to make in wartime) and shared laughter over photos of themselves in graduation caps and gowns, their children of the post-war baby boom, and spouses who were now memories sustaining them in widowhood. The ladies remembered the moment a “Date Dinner” at 4-H House was interrupted with the news that Pearl Harbor had been bombed. Among them, life events included sons graduating from Harvard, a “43er” who retired at age 90 after serving 50 yrs. in education, a grandson winning Olympic medals, illnesses of Alzheimers/Parkinson’s/polio, a family member receiving the Nobel prize, an Army Chaplain husband serving in Okinawa, a son helping former Communist countries privatize, and a husband who designed the current-day 4-H House.

Members and Illinois hometowns of the Class of 1943 were Charlotte (Castle) Neal of Ridgefarm, Loraine (Anderson) Pitman of Loami, Mary June (Griffith) Nesbitt of Wataga, Mary Jane (Stone) Rutledge of Mason City, Barbara (Kindred) Rubenking of Beason, Rozella (Oltman) Flick of Chenoa, May Olive (Huber) Flickinger of Williamsfield, Elizabeth (Doyle) Woodfill of Henry, Evelyn (Blume) Davey of Libertyville, and Jean (Whitcomb) Youngmeyer of Carthage.

The 4-H House Class of 1943 has shared a unique bond of friendship and support that has truly endured a lifetime!

The Charlotte Castle Neal Scholarship is a lasting tribute to the Sisters of 1943 in recognition of their enduring friendship and a reminder to future generations of 4-H House of the bond they have shared.

Charlotte Castle Neal possessed great qualities of spirit, determination and persistence. As Andrew Carnegie said, "The average person puts about 25 percent of his energy and ability into his work. The world takes its hat off to those who put in more than 50 percent of their capacity, and stand on its head for those few and far between souls who devote 100 percent."

These are the qualities that Charlotte treasured. She would not be interested in candidate test scores or other innate abilities. She would, however, be highly interested in the effort and commitment that our recipient exhibits as the principal criteria for this scholarship.

Correspondence: Recipients of this award are asked to acknowledge receipt and convey their appreciation upon receipt of each Semester's scholarship award payment to Charlotte's sons, Jeff and John, at the following addresses:

Jeff Neal  
Susan Cellmer  
1099 Pelham Road  
Winnetka, IL 60093

John and Cheryl Neal  
309 Sterling Road  
Kenilworth, IL 60043

The 4-H House Scholarship Chair is responsible for verifying the ongoing correspondence requirements are fulfilled by the award recipient.

### ***Tutoring Program***

***Est. Fall 2011***

House Members who are in need of tutoring assistance can communicate such need with the 4-H House Scholarship Chair and President and Mary McKee Board Chair. Tutoring requests will be considered on a case by case basis by this group. The Mary McKee Board will pay the tutor for tutoring and charge the participants. The group (Scholarship Chair, President and Mary McKee Board Chair) will also receive feedback from the tutor to determine whether the House Members who requested the assistance actively participated in the tutoring sessions. If they actively participated, the charge will be waived but if not, the charge will remain and added to their last housebill.