

Delaware – 2010



Larry Shaffer 4-H Volunteer

4-H Efforts: Pioneered urban 4-H in Delaware, founding the Highlanders 4-H Club in Wilmington in 1965. The Highlanders were the first in Delaware to welcome handicapped and homeless members. Started the Delaware Diamonds 4-H club in suburban Wilmington at age 70. Served on the Delaware 4-H Foundation Board and many county and state committees. Worked with 18-21 Bosnian teens and teachers in 2006 & 2008 and traveled to Bosnia with Delaware 4-H delegation in 2008.

Honors: Salute to Excellence recipient from Delaware, 1987. Inducted into Delaware Links.

Larry and Pat Shaffer pioneered urban 4-H in Delaware. In 1965 they started the Highlanders 4-H Club in Wilmington. The Highlanders were always among the top clubs, enrolling 25-30 members annually and producing more National 4-H Congress delegates than any other Delaware club. The Highlanders were the first in Delaware to welcome handicapped and homeless members. The club excelled in public speaking, record books, foods and community service. The Highlanders adopted the Mary Campbell Center, a residential home for handicapped adults. Residents had experiences similar to other 4-Hers - including overnight camp.

Home: Wilmington, DE
Nominated by: Delaware 4-H
Internet: lshaf1315@aol.com
Year Inducted: 2010

The club also supported a local homeless shelter's day care center. They collected and donated tens of thousands of dollars of formula and diapers. After Pat's passing in 2005 the Highlander name was retired. At age 70 Larry started the Delaware Diamonds 4-H club in suburban Wilmington. Many former Highlanders are his assistant leaders. The club is very active and includes handicapped members. Larry served on the Delaware 4-H Foundation Board and many county and state committees. In 2006 and 2008 he worked with 18-21 Bosnian teens and teachers visiting Delaware. He paid his way to travel with Delaware 4-Hers to Bosnia in 2008.

Quote: I have always maintained that I receive more from 4-H club members than I could possibly give them. That still stands today.