

GAE4-HA Members,

On behalf of President Cheryl Poppell and the GAE-4HA Board of Directors, I invite you to join us for our 2018 Annual Professional Development Conference: 4-H: What a Wonderful World. The conference will be held April 18-20, 2018 at the Graduate in Athens, Georgia. This conference is sure to be a great time of professional development, networking, and hopefully some fun! On the GAE4-HA Website (<https://site.extension.uga.edu/gae4-ha/state-meeting/>), you will find the tentative conference agenda. Registration will be done online this year using the Georgia 4-H Event Registration system. A link to the registration site is also online. As in past years, we will offer special rates for life members and first-time attendees!

Once completed online, all payments, along with a copy of the registration form, should be sent to Jeffrey Burke, GAE-4HA Treasurer. While we understand that requesting and receiving BOC/BOE funds in many counties may be a lengthy process. We encourage you to register early and submit to your county governments as soon as possible. Registration not completed online by April 1, 2018 will have a \$25 late fee added to the invoice. Your registration payment will be confirmed via email once payment is received. Lodging for the conference will be at the Graduate. Details for lodging are found on our [state conference page](#).

Wednesday afternoon will feature a choice of four tours to allow you to “Experience Athens.” Kelle Ashley and Elizabeth Conway are putting together quite a selection! We will allow you to register separately for these mid-March. Wednesday evening’s opening event will feature a reception at the Cine’ catered by Clarke County 4-H Alumnus Peter Dale of [the National](#). We will honor our stars on the red carpet by awarding service awards to our members. Members can then enjoy some time on their own for the evening in Athens.

Chesley Davis and the Professional Development Committee have released a call for proposals for educational workshops and educational posters. Ashley Davis Harman and Brittany Johnson Teets are teaming up to bring in some awesome commercial vendors. Details can also be found on our website under state meeting. Jennifer Cantwell, Allie Griner, and Abbie Salmon will be sending out reminders about bringing items for the silent and live auction. Trish Wish and her committee are hard at work preparing some great decorations. Also, we will be electing a Secretary (2-year term) as well as a Vice-President (4-year term that rotates into serving as the President) at this meeting. Contact Kasey Bozeman (chair), Kate Whiting or Denise Everson if you are interested in running for these important positions.

Should you have any questions about the conference, please don’t hesitate to let me know. I am looking forward to seeing you at GAE4-HA 2018: What a Wonderful World.

Take Care,
Jeremy Cheney, GAE4-HA President Elect