

WRITE OR TYPE A NARRATIVE, NOT MORE THAN ONE PAGE IN LENGTH, ABOUT YOURSELF, POINTING OUT ANY IMPORTANT FACTS YOU WOULD LIKE THE COMMITTEE TO KNOW. DO NOT REPEAT INFORMATION ALREADY STATED IN THE APPLICATION. USE ONLY THE BLANK SPACE BELOW (PAGE 8). DO NOT ADD ADDITIONAL PAGES.

This must be my worst nightmare, ever! I have to talk about insects for thirty minutes here at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center. My audience is about seventy elementary- and junior high-age youth. How am I supposed to keep their attention for one minute much less thirty. Somebody hit me and wake me up. Well, what do you know, my presentation was one of the highlights of the day for them. It looks like every one likes bugs.

Entomology was my first 4-H project, so it is strangely fitting that it is my career path. I have almost gone a full circle in 4-H Entomology. I began my 4-H career listening in on the Entomology I.D. Team training meeting. When I became old enough to officially join 4-H I started with Entomology. I remember the time at our county project show, the county insect collection was advancing to state, while my personal collection had to stay home until next year. A five-year-old just doesn't understand that he is not old enough to participate in every contest like the senior 4-H'ers could. I was so disappointed that I began to cry right there in the middle of the club meeting. I wanted so very much to imitate those seniors.

Now, I'm the senior 4-H'er, source of inspiration to the young members. The younger members of the team love it when one of the senior team members can identify their insects for them. It is also a great experience taking them on a field trip to the Entomology library at Texas A&M University.

While I'm still working on fulfilling some of my own goals, this year I have focused mainly on helping other 4-H'ers, both old and new, either begin or enhance their own 4-H careers. I freely give of my time, experience, and energies to help the officers of my local 4-H club and the county shooting sports club conduct smooth meetings, write by-laws, and make up club calendars and newsletters. All of this in addition to my own duties as county council chairman. As a result of my successes in the recordbook program, I have tried to share my knowledge and skills with other youth and adults across the county and state. I conducted workshops on putting recordbooks on computers. Seven of the youth that I have worked with have placed first in state recordbook competition. We all agree that recordbooks are well worth the effort!!!

Balancing my 4-H work with my other activities is very hectic. Many times I am forced to either arrive late or leave early to events due to schedule conflicts with school or other 4-H activities. I try to spread out what I miss as much as possible so that I don't shortchange one aspect of my extracurricular activities more than another. Fortunately, I have been blessed with some understanding coaches and sponsors in each of my activities.

Entomology is an ever expanding field because of the "greening" trends in the world today. As a research scientist, I will be working toward finding environmentally friendly and economically sound methods of insect control in agriculture production. I believe that people need to become aware that our world is dynamic and we must accept change as our planet is in constant change. Dr. Charles Cole tells me there are nine jobs offers for every entomology graduate, but that most choose to go on to graduate school. I hope I can stay active in the 4-H program working with young people the way Dr. Cole has helped me and countless other 4-H'ers at our project groups, camps, contests, and SpecTra.

4-H and entomology have been a major part of my life as long as I can remember and I certainly hope my career will allow me the pleasure of continuing my relationship with the great organization of 4-H.

Thank you for considering me for the 1995 Texas 4-H Foundation Opportunity Scholarship.