

September 29, 2009

Dear National 4-H Congress Delegate:

It won't be long before we are eating our Thanksgiving dinner and getting ready to board the coach headed to Atlanta. Are you excited? Enclosed is additional information to help you prepare for the trip. **PLEASE READ THOROUGHLY.**

Awesome in Atlanta Tours – On Monday of the conference, you have the option to select one awesome tour. There is a cost associated with the tours that covers admission fees and meals. If you are interested, please indicate your tour choice on the Travel and Tour Form. If you choose a tour, **a check must be included.** Some of these tours fill up really fast, so submit your information as soon as possible.

Form Deadlines

Please remember the following forms **need to be returned by the deadlines** for us to meet the dates set by the national coordinators. Return envelopes are enclosed.

- **Travel and Tour Form due by October 1st.** Return the Travel and Tour Form to me. The form will let me know where you will be boarding and de-boarding the bus. Tours are filled on a first come first serve basis. Include a check payable to the Missouri 4-H Foundation if you plan to take one of the tours.
- **Health Form due by November 13th.** Note that the Health Form needs to be **notarized after November 1st.** We will attach the photo submitted with your application to your health form.

Chaperones - We have two dynamic adult chaperones secured at this time – Mary Ann Patten, 4-H Youth Development Specialist, headquartered in Morgan County and Jerry Dowell, Foundation Trustee.

Transportation - We will have three (3) pick-up locations in Missouri: Higginsville, Columbia, and St. Peters. **These three locations are the only places the bus will stop.** We have a 12 hour drive, so keeping the stops to a minimum will save on time. Please watch the next letter to see if these times have changed.

Coach Schedule

Sunset Tours Coach

Location	Departure		Return	
Higginsville Pilot Travel Center is in the Northeast corner of Hwy 13 and I-70 junction.	Thursday, November 26	8:30 p.m.	Wednesday, December 2	1:30 a.m.
Columbia QuickTrip in the Northeast corner of the Highway 63 and I-70 Intersection	Thursday, November 26	10:30 p.m.	Wednesday, December 2	12:00 a.m.
St. Peters QuickTrip in the Northwest corner of I-70 and MidRivers Mall Exit.	Friday, November 27	12:01 a.m.	Tuesday, December 1	10:00 p.m.

Delegate Handbook – The delegate handbook will be available on the web at <http://www.national4-hcongress.com/>. We will also be sending a copy by mail to you. PLEASE READ IT! The handbook provides lots of helpful hints on weather, tipping, what to wear when, etc. to help you plan.

Congratulations – Hannah Bartholomew will be our state delegation flag bearer. The opening ceremony on Saturday morning is awesome. Make us proud, Hannah! Megan Anderson is our Youth Delegation Leader. She will co-lead state delegation meetings and help our delegation participate in Congress. Way to go Megan!! Tyler Lappe was selected to the Design Team for 2009. We are excited to see him in action!

Maroon Shirts – For our state photo, we will wear maroon polo style shirts that we will distribute when we arrive in Atlanta. Please bring khaki pants or skirt to wear with your shirt and pack in a handy place in case our photo is taken early.

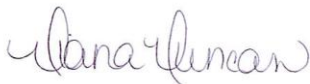
Gifts – Gift baskets for speakers and dignitaries are assembled at the beginning of Congress. We need gifts that represent Missouri. Some ideas are Missouri food products: honey, barbecue sauce, walnuts, pecans, etc. Everyone needs to bring a Missouri product to donate. These items will be collected when you board the bus, so please have them out and ready.

The Clover House for Habitat for Humanity – Community service has become a major emphasis with delegates actively involved in service opportunities throughout the city. For the past four years delegates have donated dimes to build a habitat for Humanity House in Atlanta. In 2006 we completed the first Clover House. Delegates were motivated by their interaction with Mrs. Ella Belcher who moved in to the house just after we left Atlanta. The Design Team had no doubt that we should build another house. They are asking that this year each delegate really stretch and donate \$20 so that we can build a second house in half the time.

Letter for School – I have also included a letter to school educators to help them understand the National Congress event your son or daughter will be attending. Each delegate should hand deliver the letter to their school administrator and visit with them about the wonderful opportunity to attend this event.

Message to Parents – It is a privilege and honor to have your son or daughter attend National 4-H Congress on behalf of Missouri. It will be a wonderful experience that will create memories for a lifetime.

Sincerely,



Diana Duncan
Interim State 4-H Youth Specialist

Enclosed: Travel and Tours Form
Tour Information
Health Form
School Letter
Congress DVD Order Form
Return Envelopes