

MINUTES OF THE SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE  
JOINT WITH SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE AND  
HOUSE AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The joint meeting was called to order by Chairman of the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, Representative Larry Powell at 8:30 a.m. on January 25, 2011, in Room 783, Docking State Office Building.

All members were present except:

Senator Stephen Morris – excused  
Senator Jeff King – excused  
Senator Steve Abrams – excused  
Senator Janis Lee - excused

Committee staff present:

Tamera Lawrence, Office of the Revisor of Statutes  
Heather O'Hara, Kansas Legislative Research Department  
Judy Seitz, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Dr. Gary Pierzynski, Interim Dean and Director, College of Agriculture K-State Research and Extension (KSRE)

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Senator Mark Taddiken, stated his appreciation to be invited to the joint meeting.

Chairman of the Senate Natural Resources Committee, Senator Ralph Ostmeyer, said that it is an honor to be a part of this joint meeting.

Dr. Gary Pierzynski, Interim Dean and Director, College of Agriculture K-State Research and Extension, began serving in March 2010 and after an unsuccessful search for a permanent Dean and Director, will be serving a little longer.

The Kansas Research and Extension (KSRE) is a combination of the Agricultural Experiment Station and the Cooperative Extension Service. Funding for the KSRE comes from a mixture of state appropriations and federal formula funds. He said that for every \$1.00 KSRE receives from the state; KSRE adds \$2.62 from other sources.

It is the tenth anniversary of the Kansas Center for Sustainable Agriculture and Alternative Crops (KCSAAC) (Attachment 1). The Center has been working with the Farmers' Markets and maintains a website that lists all of the markets.

Dr. Pierzynski mentioned the work that the 4-H does with military youth and families in providing support during relocation (Informal Report to the Kansas Legislature 2011 on file in Senator Taddiken's office).

He noted the Committee had received a Kansas Military 4-H Club Partnership 2010 Annual Report (Attachment 2). Kansas Operation: Military Kids (Attachment 3) is another program for military connected youth and provides youth development activities.

He discussed the practice of pasture burning in the Flint Hills in the spring. This burning is necessary to keep the prairie in its natural state. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) Smoke Management Plan Committee with other parties are working on a comprehensive smoke management plan. This plan will incorporate many factors which influence when pasture can be burned as well as the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-mandated ozone monitors for Kansas City and Wichita.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Senate Agriculture Committee at 8:30 a.m. on January 25, 2011, in Room 783, Docking State Office Building.

Dr. Pierzynski mentioned that it is the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the PRIDE Program which provides assistance to smaller towns; usually with less than 10,000 people to obtain grants for community improvement. A new program, Get It-Do It, focuses on programs to promote a healthier life style for youth.

He also reported on efforts to slow reservoir sedimentation. Dredging a reservoir is very costly. The Kansas Forest Service received a federal grant to assist the Delaware River Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) group to identify areas where streambanks could slow flood water and deposit sediment in riparian buffers – areas planted with vegetation instead of reservoirs.

Dr. Pierzynski said that the Biosecurity Research Institute (BRI) is studying wheat blast fungus which is currently only in South America. The BRI also ensures the safety of food for the military. The Olathe Innovation Center will serve as a resource for more than 120 food safety-related businesses along the Kansas City Animal Health Corridor.

The site for the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility (NBAF) has been cleared and is awaiting additional funding from Congress.

He said that a webinar has been produced to help farmers determine whether it is worthwhile to spray their crops, from both financial and environmental standpoints.

Dr. Pierzynski took questions from the Committee.

The next Senate Agriculture Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 1, 2011 in Room 159-S.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE  
SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
HOUSE AG & NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
GUEST LIST

DATE: JANUARY 25, 2011

NAME	REPRESENTING
Paul Johnson	KS. Rural Center
Tom Bruno	Bruno + Assoc.
Mike Beam	KS Livestock Assn.
John Donley	KS Livestock Assn.
Sue Petersen	IC-STATE
Sarah Green	KDA
Melissa Ward	Hart Law Firm
Heshie Kaufman	KS Coop Council
Carole Jordan	KS Commerce
Steven Graham	ICSH
Gary Pierzyaski	"
Ernie Minton	"
Don Devlin	"
BRAD HARIZELSON	KFB
VERNE SHIEL	WESTAIR
Paul Graves	KDA
Sean H. Clark	CAPITOL STRATEGIES





# Kansas Center *for* Sustainable Agriculture *and* Alternative Crops

## Our First 10 Years: 2001-2010

### KCSAAC Enabling Legislation

KSA 76-4, 103 – "...Functions and duties of the center of excellence on sustainable agriculture and alternative crops shall include but not be limited to:

- Emphasizing research, education, outreach and marketing for sustainable agriculture and alternative food, fiber and medicinal crops.
- Assisting farmers increase their share of the food system dollar.
- Collecting and analyzing basic information on the Kansas food system and opportunities for production and direct marketing.
- Focusing research on value added processes and new crops that offer low-volume, high margin niche opportunities.
- Assisting small farmers to access lower input costs through a delivery system with expanded access to sustainable agricultural practices.
- Marketing assistance to promote products produced and processed in Kansas.
- Expanding small farm research to include: Organic products; less capital intensive investments; energy saving technology; and agricultural practices that reduce soil erosion and restore soil health.
- Developing and distributing a guide of all state services for small farms and value added agriculture...."



### *Since 2001 KCSAAC has:*

Facilitated and/or assisted with the development of grant proposals that have resulted in more than \$4.4 million of funding for alternative crop and sustainable agriculture practices -- a \$6 return on investment. Here's a sample of funded projects:



- Grow Your Farmers' Market
- Helping Families Make Sound Business Decisions
- 4-State Cropping Systems Workshop
- Prairie Hay Market Research
- Guided Exploration of Value Added Enterprises
- Post Harvest Handling and Production Facilities for Horticulture Crops
- Comparing Organic and Conventional Fertilization Methods for Cut Flower Production in Haygrove High Tunnels
- Business Planning and Coaching for Kansas Farmers
- Commodity Partnerships for Risk Management Education
- Helping Farm Families Manage Successful Businesses
- Training for Organic Farming and Ranching in the Great Plains

*Continued on back*

*Senate Agriculture Committee  
1-25-11  
Attachment 1-1*



# KCSAAC 10 YEAR REPORT 2001-2010

## ***Since 2001 KCSAAC has:***

*Continued...*

Sponsored more than 50 farm tours and on-farm workshops focusing on such topics as:

- Low Stress Animal Handling
- Forages to Extend the Grazing Season
- Integrated Management Strategies for Sustainable Cropping Systems
- Farmer/Rancher Grant Writing
- Healthy Foods, Healthy Farms
- Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program
- Improving Your Financial Skills
- Organic Producers School
- Kansas Sustainable Agriculture Conference
- Great Plains Vegetable Conference and High Tunnels Workshop

Collaborated with more than 25 state and regional agencies, organizations, and programs on outreach and education activities including the grants and workshops listed previously. Collaborators include:

- Kansas Graziers Association
- Kansas Rural Center

- Kansas Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE)
- North Central Region SARE
- Kansas Department of Commerce
- Kansas Department of Agriculture
- Kansas Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Kansas Center for Agricultural Resources and the Environment (KCARE)
- Growing Growers Program
- Kansas Organic Producers
- Kansas Farmers Union
- Kansas Cattlemen's Association
- Tallgrass Legacy Alliance
- Small Business Development Centers
- Kansas Conservation Districts

Produced the Kansas Family Farmer and Rancher Resources and Services Guide. More than 8,000 copies of the first and second editions have been distributed across the state. Third edition will be available in 2011.

## **2010 and Plans for 2011**

Projects and activities with KCSAAC involvement from 2010 include:

- Kansas SARE Professional Development Program
- Organic Transition Training for NRCS
- Water and the Future of Kansas Conference
- Kansas Sustainable Agriculture Conference: Connecting Cows, Carbon, & Carrots
- Kansas Family Farmer and Rancher Resources and Services Guide – 3rd Edition



**2010 Sustainable Ag Conference**

## ***Plans for 2011...***

KCSAAC plans to provide assistance with:

- Beginning Farmer Conference, co-sponsored by Kansas and Nebraska SARE and the Center for Rural Affairs
- Organic Transition Training for NRCS and Extension educators
- Good Agricultural Practices (GAPS) Training
- National Association of County Agricultural Agents Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conferences
- Farmers Market Conference



# Kansas Military 4-H Club Partnership 2010 Annual Report

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Number of 4-H members on each installation:

Fort Riley: 282

Fort Leavenworth: 354

McConnell Air Force Base: 80

Number of staff trained: 18

## Kansas Military 4-H Club Partnership Goals:

- Sustain active clubs where youth feel a sense of belonging and engage in hands-on learning experiences that help build skills in healthy interpersonal relationships, sound decision-making, a positive self concept, an inquiring mind and concern for their community.
- Provide ongoing local staff training and technical support at each installation.
- Integrate military youth into ongoing county and statewide 4-H programming efforts.

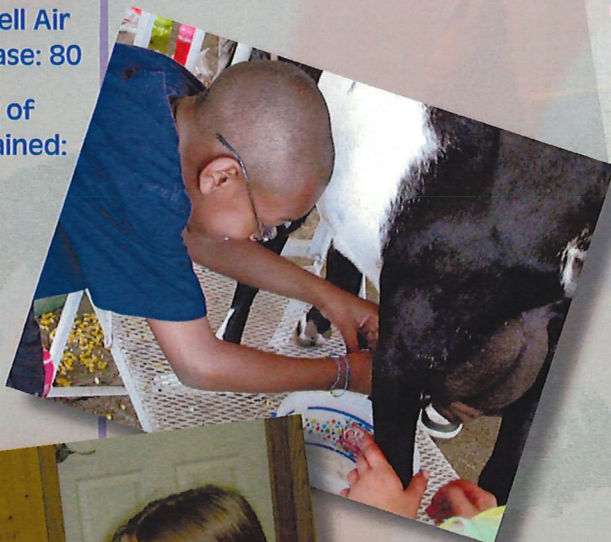
**GOALS**

## Greetings!

*Through the Kansas 4-H Military Club Partnership, youth participants experience a positive environment to develop self-confidence, master new skills and feel a sense of belonging.*

*4-H Youth Development agents in Geary, Leavenworth and Sedgwick counties partner with military staff at Fort Riley, Fort Leavenworth, and McConnell Air Force Base. Together they provide quality 4-H youth development programs for children in safe and nurturing environments. Using the experiential learning model, 4-H clubs provide hands-on learning experiences for military youth. Through these clubs, military youth connect with other youth in their community and across the state.*

Diane Mack  
4-H Youth Development Specialist &  
Kansas Military 4-H Club Liaison



## Integrating Military Youth in Ongoing County and Statewide 4-H Programming

- Fort Riley: 9 youth attended county camp; 32 youth attended OMK day camp; youth exhibited 26 entries at the Geary County Free Fair
- Fort Leavenworth: 9 youth attended county camp; 2 youth attended a mini college experience at 4-H Discovery Days held at Kansas State University; 31 youth attended OMK day camp; 10 youth showcased their public presentation skills in individual or group categories for County 4-H Days; 3 youth participated in 4-H Spring Fare; 11 youth competed at the Leavenworth County Fair; and 3 youth advanced to Kansas State Fair competition.
- McConnell Air Force Base: 65 4-H members entered 113 exhibits in the Sedgwick County Fair; their club banner advanced to the Kansas State Fair; 35 members participated in 4-H Day Contest; 4-H program was highlighted at the spring Sedgwick County Commission meeting; 43 garden project members were videotaped for a new promotional video for the Kansas Junior Master Gardener program and 45 youth took a field trip to tour a farm.



**REACHING OUT**

*Senate Agriculture Committee  
1-25-11  
Attachment 2-1*



# 4-H Projects Provide Hands



## 4-H Projects Enhance Learning

The McConnell School Age Program staff offer several different 4-H projects during their eight-week sessions. The different projects included nutrition,

environmental science, chick embryology, gardening, banner-making, electricity, woodworking, astronomy, rabbits, drama, exploring 4-H, and classroom agriculture.

"A perennial favorite is cooking," said Beth Drescher, Sedgwick County 4-H Youth Development Agent. "They love to make their own after-school snacks, some of which are quite elaborate."



Denise, an after-school program assistant, explains: "It's exciting to watch the kids grow. They've been learning cooking skills and another mom said: 'I had no idea my daughter learned there's a right way to crack an egg.'"

*"4-H offers a great way for a military child to get involved with community activities and instills a strong confidence...with 4-H we have been able to learn more about our local community as well as give back to those who have supported the military."*

Mark Meyer, parent from Fort Riley

*"4-H is an excellent way to become involved in your 'new' community"*

Traciann Petite, parent from Fort Riley

## Meet the Beamons



Military parents, Gregory and Denise Beamon came to McConnell Air Force

Base, Wichita from Guam. They are enthusiastic about the educational opportunities that 4-H offers. The Beamon's daughter, Daja, a third grader, enjoys field trips and all the other 4-H programs offered.



## Youth Learn Presentation Skills

The McConnell 4-H clubs started their own 4-H Day contest. 4-H Day is an event where members give public presentations and showcase their talents.

"Members work hard all week to create posters, practice music, rehearse skits and speak fluently," Beth Drescher, Sedgwick County 4-H Youth Development Agent said. "Extension staff serve as both judge and teacher, celebrating the childrens' successes and helping them gain additional skills," she added.



# Hands-On Learning Experiences



## Fort Riley 4-H Military Club Members Attend Operation: Military Kids Day Camp

"For military families, connections to the community and additional support for the youth of the family are very important," said Ginger Kopfer, Geary County 4-H Agent working with Fort Riley.

"We partnered with Kansas Operation: Military Kids (OMK) to host a Day Camp in Junction City," she explained. Geary County and Riley County 4-H Ambassadors in conjunction with OMK Project Coordinator, Ann Domsch, planned the camp.

Kopfer stated, "This not only gives the Ambassadors a chance to develop leadership skills, but also allows them to connect with outstanding military youth. Local

military partnerships are helping provide a positive village for military-connected youth to grow and learn," Kopfer explained.



FORT RILEY MILITARY 4-H CLUB

"I wanted youth to see how people had to do this in the past. They couldn't just go to the store to purchase what they needed," he explained. "I also wanted them to see the amount of time that was involved, to give them a hands-on opportunity, and to promote the 4-H fiber arts project."



## Youth Learn Steps In Processing Wool

Fort Leavenworth military youth experienced all levels of the wool production process, starting with watching a sheep being sheared to the final

step of making a felted hot pad from carded wool, thanks to Abe Buddish, a 9 year 4-H member.

Buddish has



experienced the life of a military kid. His dad, retired from the Air Force, now works at Fort Leavenworth. Because of his experience he volunteered to lead a session at a camp for military youth.



FORT LEAVENWORTH MILITARY 4-H CLUB



### 4-H Staff Training

About three years ago, Sedgwick County Extension and McConnell staff attended a national 4-H 101 training together "In addition to learning about the logistics of military 4-H clubs [at the training], the staff had



time to talk about what could be changed or added to increase the impact of the McConnell 4-H program," said Beth Drescher, Sedgwick County 4-H Youth Development Agent.

"We decided that monthly staff training sessions would help improve the program quality and provide support to the 4-H project leaders," Drescher explained, who noted that it has worked so well that it has continued every month during the school year since January 2008.

*"There are so many benefits that 4-H provides for a military family. The projects that are offered in 4-H especially in the citizenship area allowed the kids to go out and research their community, county and the state that we are stationed in.*

*When it comes to the 4-H meetings, my children were able to hold an office which has done tremendous things for their self confidence. My son has been song leader and recreation leader and his ability to stand in front of a group has improved ten fold.*

*I would have to say that 4-H helps a military family develop a sense of belonging, it helps children build their confidence, and helps them understand their new community as a whole."*

*Cathy Towne, parent from Fort Riley*

### Kansas 4-H Military Liaison

Diane Mack, 4-H Youth Development Specialist,  
1007 Throckmorton Hall, KSU  
Manhattan, Kansas 66506  
785-532-5833  
dmack@ksu.edu

### Fort Riley

Eric Childs MST Director, 785-239-9222  
Carole Hoffman, SAS Director, 785-239-9220  
Ginger Kopfer, 4-H Youth Development Agent,  
Geary County, 785-238-4161

### Fort Leavenworth

Carol Shafer, Coordinator Child Youth & School Age  
Services, 913-684-1653  
Brenda Taxeras, 4-H Youth Development Agent,  
Leavenworth County, 913-364-5700

### McConnell Air Force Base

Mary Reece, Chair, Airman & Family Services,  
316-759-4571  
Beth Drescher, 4-H Youth Development Agent, Sedgwick  
County, 316-660-0100

### National 4-H Military Partnership

<http://www.4-hmilitarypartnerships.org/>



[www.kansas4-h.org](http://www.kansas4-h.org)



[www.ksre.ksu.edu](http://www.ksre.ksu.edu)



U.S. Army Child, Youth  
& School Services

[www.armymwr.com](http://www.armymwr.com)



U.S. AIR FORCE

[www.airforce.com](http://www.airforce.com)



# Kansas Operation: Military Kids 2010 Annual Report

## CORE ELEMENTS

### Hero Packs in great demand

- Packs distributed to 2934 kids
- \$5,233.50 donated
- Pack items donated

### Mobile Tech Lab outreach

- 97 youth at three events

### Ready, Set, Go! (RSG)

- Trainings offered at conferences
- Curriculum used to train professionals in 11 universities

### SOMK (Speak Out for Military Kids)

- SOMK-IT (Interactive Theater) used in three states and Germany
- National American Legion Children and Youth conference highlights SOMK-IT

### Community Youth Programs

- 89 youth attended 4 Day Camps
- 34 youth supported to attend events
- 82 students reached by school support groups



## Greetings!

*Kansas Operation: Military Kids (OMK) main goals are to support community networks and provide educational opportunities for military youth and their families across Kansas.*

*Kansan's are caring people. OMK helps to bridge the gap for caring people to connect and support the military connected youth and their families.*

*Through the work of active OMK State Team partners, OMK provides a wide variety of programs from summer camps, to community awareness campaigns, to school support groups to staff and volunteer training sessions – all to benefit the military connected youth of Kansas. This report highlights our accomplishments.*



Diane Mack  
4-H Youth Development  
Specialist & Kansas 4-H  
Military Liaison

A new military support group is going strong at Shawnee Heights Elementary School in Topeka, Kansas, thanks to connections made through Kansas OMK. The support group for 22 military-connected students kindergarten through sixth graders "...is really a 'safe-zone' for the kids," said Darcy Seitz, National Guard State Youth Coordinator.



The support group was the result of Seitz and Tammy Edington, Family Readiness Group Leader, making connections through an OMK training. Edington, whose son attends Shawnee Heights Elementary School, and Seitz both wanted to help the school that has a high concentration of military-connected children, so the support group was formed.

"When the kids were walking into the room for the first meeting they were so surprised to find out that their friends and classmates had military connections," said Seitz. "That's exactly what I wanted it [the support group] to do — allow the kids to get to know each other."

OMK INSPIRES SCHOOL SUPPORT GROUP

Senate Agriculture Committee  
Attachment 1-25-11



## DAY CAMPS



Local communities helped OMK provide four day camps during summer months. With the help of local 4-H members, school personnel and FRG volunteers,

day camps provided fun, education and fellowship with military youth. Young campers were helped by older campers as they learned meal preparation, and science. Older campers learned how to manage groups and lead projects.



*"When I think of the impact OMK has, the first thing that comes to mind is the summer camps that OMK sponsors for the children. The energy and effort that are put into those days is amazing."*

*Peggy Goodwin, R&R Director, Kansas Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies*



## STATE OMK TEAM AND PARTNERS SUPPORT

*"OMK works very hard to ensure military children have positive experiences and connect with other military children through fun activities. They [OMK] are a wonderful resource that centers on providing positive outreach for the family member (the children) that sometimes gets lost in the shuffle of military life."*

*Mary Nesbitt, State Family Program Director, Kansas National Guard*



Kansas OMK held face-to-face team meetings which included training in working with youth who have special needs, suicide awareness and prevention and essential elements for positive youth development. Additionally, three on-site trainings were held for partners covering the national OMK Yellow Ribbon curriculum, child development and quality management for (day) camp counselors.

Kansas OMK expanded its work with other groups such as JFSAP, ISFAC, National Guard Kids Camp and Teen Camp groups, K-State Research and Extension and Ft. Riley. Events such as the Kansas Family and Consumer Sciences United Association Conference, Friends of 4-H Day, the Kansas Enrichment Afterschool conference; Kansas State Fair and Ft. Riley's Victory Week and Spring Festival provided opportunities to increase the awareness of those who were unfamiliar with the challenges associated with military living.



Network's

*"The events I have participated in directly are the state quarterly meetings, which provide a way to meet representatives of various programs and to learn about programs involving children and youth."*

*Bonnie Murdock, Military OneSource*





HERO packs are the tangible symbol of a community's support for military youth. Volunteers learn about military youth - their challenges and many strengths - and how communities care while they're stuffing items into each pack. The volunteers who distribute the packs see the impact of their work and understand that even a simple coloring book can have great meaning.

Case in point is Mary Bernhardt, a 4-H volunteer from Salina who agreed to lead other volunteers in the sewing and stuffing of 350 stuffed bears. "People were more than willing to help when they realized that it was for military kids", she said. "Kids like doing things that will benefit other kids."

*"OMK is a helping hand to military families with children. OMK offers support to children by giving them social emotional tools to deal with the stress of military life, like the dolls for the younger children and the opportunity to participate in theatre groups for teenagers. OMK understands the culture of military families and reaches out to them with support and links to necessary resources."*

*Peggy Goodwin, R&R Director,  
Kansas Association of Child Care  
Resource and Referral Agencies*



Bernhardt, a talented seamstress had plenty of fabric and the skills necessary to help others tackle the task of sewing a bear. "We discovered there wasn't a pattern being used so I developed the two piece pattern and directions."

Kendra Baumberger and Beth Bower, Salina 4-H members, took the lead in helping Bernhardt.

"While sewing the bears, they talked about those serving in the military. A lot of them know an uncle or aunt or a friend's relative that's currently serving," she said. Bernhardt added that "The military is something that touches everyone in this country one way or another. My dad was a Korean War Veteran and my brother retired from the Marine Corp. Currently I have a nephew serving in the Navy."

After the "bear" experience it was announced that Beth Bower had been awarded a JC Penney's scholarship for her volunteerism. Along with the recognition Bower received a \$3,000 check for a favorite charity which she designated for Kansas OMK.

The work of the Salina volunteers is not done. "Next year we plan to make blankets for the Hero Packs," Bernhardt said. "I still have plenty of fabric."





Air National Guard – Hilari DeLarosa

Army National Guard – Mary Nesbitt, Amanda Herlinger,  
and Darcy Seitz

Army Reserves – LaKrisha Allen

American Legion – Dee Dee Danin

Boys and Girls Club – Junnae Campbell

KACCRRRA – Peggy Goodwin

Kansas Department of Education – Jeanette Nobo

Community Advocates – Erin Sullivan, Fort Riley School

Liaison Officer; Cheryl Gelwix, Fort Leavenworth School

Liaison Officer; Dennis Chrisico, Community Readiness Consultant,  
McConnell Air Force Base; Jehan Quinn, Army OneSource; Bonnie  
Murdock, Military OneSource; Terrance Scott, American Red Cross; Leia  
Holley, Families Together, Inc.; and Jennifer Smidt, Community Member

4-H/K-State Research and Extension – Ann Domsch, Diane Mack, Elaine  
Johannes, Sara Mietzner, Nancy Nelson, Patricia Gerhardt, Marlene  
Glasscock, and Michelle Perez



For More Information about Operation: Military Kids in Kansas,  
contact: [www.operationmilitarykids.org](http://www.operationmilitarykids.org)

- Ann Domsch, Kansas OMK Coordinator, [adomsch@ksu.edu](mailto:adomsch@ksu.edu) or 785-532-2276
- Diane Mack, Kansas 4-H Military Liasion and Co-Director  
Kansas OMK, [dmack@ksu.edu](mailto:dmack@ksu.edu)
- Elaine Johannes, Co-Director Kansas OMK, [ejohanne@ksu.edu](mailto:ejohanne@ksu.edu)



[www.kansas4-h.org](http://www.kansas4-h.org)



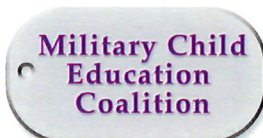
[www.armymwr.com](http://www.armymwr.com)



[www.bgca.org](http://www.bgca.org)



[www.ksamlegion.org](http://www.ksamlegion.org)



[www.militarychild.org](http://www.militarychild.org)



[www.naccrrra.org](http://www.naccrrra.org)



[www.ksre.ksu.edu](http://www.ksre.ksu.edu)



[www.kansasnationalguard.com](http://www.kansasnationalguard.com)



[www.armyreserve.army.mil](http://www.armyreserve.army.mil)

Operation: Military Kids is a program of the 4-H/Army Youth Development Project, a collaboration of the U.S. Army Child, Youth & School Services and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture through K-State Research and Extension. Operation Military Kids – Kansas is supported by the 4-H/Army Youth Development Project under Kansas State University special project number 2007-48661-03868.