Golfers Have Fun, Learn about Alabama 4-H at Inaugural Golf Classic

The inaugural Alabama 4-H Golf Classic was a great success, bringing 4-H'ers and golfers at an incredible golf course for education and fun.

A total of 96 golfers played at FarmLinks Golf Club near Sylacauga June 9, 2005 in the first ever classic, sponsored by Alabama 4-H and the Alabama 4-H Club Foundation. Proceeds from the classic and silent auction, which totaled \$18,310, went to the Campaign for Alabama 4-H to support the construction of an environmental science education center at the 4-H Youth Development Center on Lay Lake near Columbiana.

Golfers had a chance to meet current 4-H'ers, learn about why 4-H is important, hear from former 4-H'ers Auburn University Football Head Coach Tommy Tuberville and Pat Dye, former Auburn football head coach, and play on a unique golf course.

Tuberville, whose team will defend its Southeastern Conference championship

this fall, spoke of being a 4-H'er, saying it played an important role in his life. "4-H is an important program, and much like athletics, it shapes a young person's life," Tuberville said. "It taught me many things and I'm glad to see that Alabama continues to have a strong 4-H program for kids."

Dye, who coached the Tigers from 1981 to 1992, told the group how 4-H was crucial during his early life in rural Georgia. "4-H was one of the few things we had to do growing up, and I appreciate what it did for me.

"Each of you should be commended for supporting 4-H," Dye added.

Following a brunch, 24 teams of golfers started the shotgun start scramble. Coming in first place was the team of Sid Garrett, Wayne Garrett, Tim Trammell and Tim Williams. Second place was the team of Russ Lester, Justin Peake, Rich Stukes and Larry Thorne.

Coming in third was Greg Green, Bob Haley, Skeet Hayes and Mike Williams.

Jimmie Lay of Red Diamond Inc., of Birmingham, said he and his team had a great time, both on and off the course. "Everyone was very friendly and we had a lot of fun. All the kids were great to us and we loved the ice cream," he said, referring to the Mayfield Ice Cream truck that gave away free ice cream to golfers as they came off the course.

The Classic was coordinated by a committee of 4-H regional Extension agents and the 4-H Foundation Development office. Committee members were Denise Legvold (chair), Nancy Alexander, Shannon Andress, Kim Good, Beth Lawrence and James Shropshire. Prizes were given to 32 players; these items were donated by companies, organizations and individuals. 4-H regional Extension agents from across Alabama collected the gifts to represent their region of the state.



Gary Smith, left, president and CEO of Alabama Electric Cooperative, presents a gift to Wes Laird, a member of the 4-H Club Foundation, Inc., Board of Directors.

# Alabama Electric Cooperative Makes Significant Gift to 4-H

Andalusia-based Alabama Electric Cooperative, Inc., has made a significant gift to Alabama 4-H, the states largest and oldest youth development organization.

The AEC has pledged \$25,000 to Alabama 4-H to help children learn about environmental education and natural resources.

"Alabama Electric Cooperative is a committed partner with Alabama 4-H for the kids of our state," said Jack Odle, chair of the Alabama 4-H Club Foundation, Inc. "AEC sees the importance of 4-H programs in developing a child's character and leadership abilities, and we are grateful they chose to support 4-H."

"Children are the future of our country, our state and our communities," said AEC President and CEO Gary Smith.

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Placing first in the inaugural classic — and taking home autographed footballs — were from left Tim Williams, Sid Garrett, Tim Trammell and Wayne Garrett.

## 4-H Golf Classic Golfers

Alabama 4-H is grateful for those who played.

Christopher Alexander Leo Allen Len Barr Jimmy Bassett Wayne Bassett Reid Blossom Alan Boozer Barry Boyers Andy Bradford Harlan Caviness Greg Clark Jackie Cline **Bob Coleman** Miles Cunningham Paul DeVaughn Mike Dew Ed Dickinson **Dub Ellis** Joshua B. Elmore Scott English Michael Evans Tracy Evans Bill Fuller Sid Garrett Chris Gary Mark Gerald Lynn Gordon Galen Grace Greg Green Tony Green Will Gregory **Bob Haley** 

Al Hammond Jack Hankins Bill Hardwick Cypress Harthorne Skeet Hayes Joe Hayes Bill Hightower David Howse Claude Johnson Mike Kilgore Don Knight Brian Kullman Steve Lackey Johnny Lanier Jimmie Lav Garth Legvold Sam Legvold Russ Lester Kyle Lindsey John Mann David Massingill Jason McCamy Robert McCarley Paul McDaniel Phillip C. McDaniel Trey Miller Billy Moore Jacquelyne E. Moore Steve Mulford Mark Newport Ken Nichols Jimmy Nored

Doug Norton Justin Peake Gene Perry Joshua D. Phillips Billy Powell William E. (Billy) Powell Phil Powell Jarvis Reedus Doug Rigney Tommy Ryals Jerry Schreiner Paul Shebs Scott Shepard Greg Smith Rick Stukes Larry Thorne Tim Trammell Tuck Tucker Daniel Veres Jim Veres Joe Veres J.D. Wadsworth JW Walters David Weeks Michael Williams Tim Williams Brad Wilson Rick Wilson Ted Wilson

Drew Wood

David Norton



R.A. Hubbard High School golf team, from left, Joshua Phillips, Coach Andy Bradford, Jarvis Reedus and Trey Miller placed well enough to garner prizes at the classic. 4-H agents helped to financially sponsor the team.



Golfers tee off from one of the more challenging holes at FarmLinks.

# Sponsors Ensure Classic's Success

Alabama 4-H salutes the sponsors of the Alabama 4-H Golf Classic who gave tremendous financial and in-kind support to ensure the success of this new venture.

Three organizations — FarmLinks Golf Club, Alfa/ Alabama Farmers Federation and Alabama Power Company — were lead sponsors of the classic.

#### **FarmLinks Golf Club**

FarmLinks Golf Club, owned by the Jimmy Pursell family, generously supported the inaugural classic as the founding sponsor.

FarmLinks Golf Club is an 18-hole, championship Hurdzan-Fry golf course design golfing experience. Built by Landscapes Unlimited Inc., of Lincoln, Neb., the course was designed to flow with the various natural elements of the 3,500-acre Pursell Farms, where the terrain is dotted by lakes and ponds, streams, trees, rolling hills and mountains, wet lands and even wildlife.

Beyond golf, FarmLinks offers more to the public, golf industry and future of the game. It is the world's first research and demonstration golf course created to showcase turf, golf industry innovation and product performance. The course serves as a living laboratory and focus group for industry leaders. Owned by the Pursell family and in conjunction with Pursell Technologies Inc., FarmLinks has a vested interest in both the golf and turf industry.

The Experience at FarmLinks, headed by Pursell Technologies, connects premier companies in the golf industry to market share and showcase industry innovation. At the heart of the Experience is the creation of personal relationships with users of turf industry products — golf course superintendents across the UnitedStates and in some foreign countries — through education and recreation.

The benefit of the Experience also extends to the public and all golfers at FarmLinks. While enjoying a fabulous round in an unparalleled setting, golfers witness the latest and greatest equipment from FarmLinks partners, such as the Toro Co. and Club Car. Golfers also experience research plots conducted by Pursell Technologies and Syngenta and product displays and demonstrations from other FarmLinks partners and industry innovators -- all to further the game of golf!

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AU Coach Tommy Tuberville thanks golfers for supporting 4-H.

#### Alfa/Alabama Farmers Federation

Alfa/Alabama Farmers Federation participated in the Classic as a "Heart" Clover Sponsor.

Created by farmers, led by farmers and dedicated to serving farmers, the Alabama Farmers Federation first emerged from the Alabama soil in 1921. Its mission is to promote the economic, social and educational interests of rural Alabamians.

By holding fast to the simple idea of strength through unity, the Alabama Farmers Federation has grown to become the state's largest, most active and most diversified farm organization. With more than 460,000 members statewide, the Federation's "one voice" delivers a powerful message, whether at the Statehouse in Montgomery or on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Hailing from every county in Alabama and representing every segment of the farm economy, Federation members are organized through 67 independent county Farmers Federations, which elect delegates to represent them at the Federation's annual meeting. This body elects state officers and board members and decides the Federation's official positions on a range of issues, ensuring its one voice is unified with that of Alabama agriculture.

As the only nongovernmental business or organization with offices in all 67 Alabama counties, the Farmers Federation is an integral part of the communities it serves.

As such, the Federation and Alfa Insurance have invested in the future of Alabama by donating millions to charities and education. Since 1997, Alfa has given more than \$19 million to education and other worthwhile causes, including Alabama 4-H.

Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation pledged \$250,000 to Alabama 4-H to support leadership and environmental educational programs taught to the state's young people. Their gift will ensure that all Alabama's school children will learn about environmental issues through programs taught by 4-H to children and school teachers.

Alfa President Jerry A. Newby said, "Alfa Insurance and the Alabama Farmers Federation are proud to support 4-H'ers as they learn by doing. For almost 100 years, 4-H has been helping Alabama's young people develop skills and leadership abilities they can use throughout their lives.

"This gift is our way of helping 4-H fulfill its motto: 'To make the best better."



Pat Dye gives golfers advice before starting the classic.

### Alabama Power Company

Alabama Power Company joined with 4-H as a "Heart" Clover Sponsor of the classic.

The company's support of the classic is just one way Alabama Power and 4-H have partnered for more than 60 years to support programs to benefit the children of Alabama.

Willard Bowers, vice president of Environmental Affairs for Alabama Power, said that Alabama Power has long seen the benefit of partnering with 4-H. "Agribusiness is the largest single sector of Alabama's economy, and Alabama Power has a long history of helping to improve the economy.

"For nearly a century, 4-H has been a way to educate and keep people interested in the agribusiness sector in Alabama," said Bowers.

"4-H is an education-driven organization and the role of 4-H is our schools and communities is something that fits with Alabama Power.

"Alabama Power has, as its mission, a commitment to be a part of the community and work to help those in the community, and 4-H has that same objective."

One significant contribution to 4-H is the long-standing lease agreement with 4-H for the land on which the Alabama 4-H Youth Development Center stands. The company also financially supports Alabama 4-H programs and initiatives.

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Publisher: Beth Atkins Lawrence, Assistant to the Director, Development

Editor: Janet L. McCoy, Extension Development and Communications Coordinator III

Contributing Writers: Jim Langcuster, Extension Specialist, Communications; Maggie Lawrence, Extension Specialist,

Communications; Donna Reynolds, Editor, Communications

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The company's gift totaling \$450,000 over 5 years ensures that 4-H'ers across the state are taught the fundamental concepts of citizenship, leadership and character development throughout its many 4-H programs. A portion of the contribution is designated for a new Environmental Science Education Center located at the 4-H Center on Lay Lake.

"We recognize the importance of 4-H in the lives of many Americans and are looking forward to great things from this center and the organization," Bowers added.

Alabama Power provides reliable, affordable electricity to more 1.3 million homes, businesses and industries in the southern two-thirds of Alabama. It is one of five U.S. utilities operated by Southern Company, one of the nation's largest producers of electricity.



4-H Foundation board members Mike Kilgore, center, and Doug Rigney, right, thank FarmLinks owner Jimmy Pursell.



Denise Legvold, chair of the 4-H classic committee, and David Stinson, FarmLinks director of golf, stand in front of the completed tournament boards



4-H Regional Extension Agent Nancy Alexander, left, congratulates Will Gregory of Fuller Supply Company on his purchase of a framed print from the silent auction.



The Mayfield Ice Cream truck, with a supply of free ice cream, was a hit with hot, tired golfers.

## 4-H Golf Classic Sponsors

The following businesses, organizations and individuals were instrumental in the success of the Alabama 4-H Golf Classic. Alabama 4-H greatly appreciates their generosity.

#### **Founding Sponsor**

FarmLinks Golf Club

#### 4-H "Heart" Clover Sponsors

Alabama Farmers Federation

Alabama Power Company

#### 4-H "Hand" Clover Sponsors

First South Farm Credit

Huddle House

International Paper Corporation

The Progressive Farmer

Red Diamond, Inc.

Wal-Mart Talladega

Weverhaeuser

#### 4-H "Team" Sponsors

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AUM Center for Advanced

Technologies

Dickinson, Ed

Ellis, Dub

Federal Land Bank Association of North Alabama

Fuller Supply Company

Moore's Mill Golf Club

Thorne, Barbara D.

Wilson Investment Group

## 4-H "Beverage Cart" Sponsor

Smith, Gaines and Joan

#### 4-H "Health" Clover Sponsors

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Alabama Trust Bank

ALAE 4-H and Alpha Pi Chapter ESP

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Southern Electrical Contractors

Troy Bank and Trust

Wadsworth, J.D. (Donnie)

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Gregg, Molly

Heaton Pecan Farm

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Indian Hills Country Club

J & M Bookstore

Jerry Brown Pottery

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Knight, Don

Knowlton, Cindy

Mallette Dermatology, P.C.

Mathews Meat Market

Mayfield Dairy Farms, Inc.

Mobile Junior Leader Club

Moore's Mill Golf Club

Morris, Pete

Norris, Matthew and Allen

Owens, Bo

Priester's Pecan Co.

Persons, Rebecca

Qunitard Mall

Regions Bank

Sessions Peanut Company

SIFAT (Servants in Faith &

Technology)

Slate Gallery & Framing

South Alabama Electric Cooperative

Spaulding, Marc, Director of Golf

Specialty Wood Products

Thompson, Susan

The Victoria

Wingard, Susan

Winn-Dixie, Inc.

#### **Silent Auction Winners**

The following people purchased items during the silent auction.

Tony Green

Molly Gregg

Will Gregory

Janet McCoy



Golfers register for play with the assistance of 4-H Foundation staff, Charlotte DeWeese and Tasha Worden. 4-H Agent Nancy Alexander, far right, sold golfers Duffer's Combos.

## 4-H on TV

Ryan Vaughn, (below) with WSFA-TV in Montgomery, shows how he feels about riding the zip line at the 4-H Center to videographer Jeff Harrison. The two spent a day at the 4-H Center recently during 4-H Summer Camp, and the NBC affiliate ran a feature story on camp. To the right, Harrison captures one of the many activities — 4-H'ers successfully maneuvering the climbing wall.





#### Alabama Electric Cooperative (continued from page 1)

"Alabama 4-H does a great job of preparing our youth for a successful and productive future. AEC and its distribution members are proud to have the opportunity to partner with Alabama 4-H to help prepare Alabama young people for success."

AEC's gift will support the construction of an environmental science education center at the Alabama 4-H Youth Development Center on Lay Lake in Columbiana. Children from all over the state will attend programs to learn about natural resources and environmental education based on sound science.

Alabama 4-H is the largest youth development organization in the state, with nearly 180,000 children participating in clubs, events and programs. It is the state's oldest youth development organization, with programs beginning as early as 1906.

Alabama 4-H provides programs in eight areas and has at its core principle to cultivate life-development skills. Alabama 4-H's curricula instill life-development skills — instructing children in character values and leadership skills.

Donations to 4-H support youth programs and activities and are not spent on administrative expenses or salaries. 4-H is a division of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System

based at Auburn and Alabama A&M universities. Extension agents and more than 15,000 volunteers statewide provide programs to youth in Alabama.

AEC is a \$1 billion generation and transmission cooperative providing wholesale electricity to member owners throughout south and central Alabama and northwest Florida. For more than 60 years, AEC has provided wholesale electric service to member owners in 39 counties in Alabama and 10 counties in Florida.



Randy Gilmore, president of the Jefferson County Farmers Federation (left), discusses the group's donation with Beth Lawrence, assistant to the director for development for the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, and Bill Bolen, Birmingham's Fox 6 anchor, on a recent broadcast.

## Alabama 4-H Foundation Receives Generous Gift from Jefferson County Farmers

The Alabama 4-H Club Foundation, Inc., recently received a \$25,000 gift from the Jefferson County Farmers Federation. The contribution will help fund the construction of the new Alabama 4-H Environmental Science Education Center to be built at the 4-H Youth Development Center on Lay Lake in Columbiana.

The new building will allow Alabama 4-H to expand its natural resources and environmental education program, the state's only year-round educational experience for youngsters to explore the environment.

Randy Gilmore, president of the Jefferson County Farmer's Federation, says educating young people about the environment is crucial.

"Our organization is proud to support such a worthy effort of the Alabama 4-H program to make this state of the art facility available to young people and to promote ways for protecting our environment and natural resources," said Gilmore.

Jackie Ramsey, coordinator of the Alabama Cooperative Extension System's Jefferson County office, is not surprised by the generosity of the county farmers group.

"Over the years, we have worked closely with the Jefferson County Farmers Federation, and they have always been supportive of our 4-H'ers. We are excited about their strong support of this special project," said Ramsey.



## Thank you for your support of the Alabama 4-H Annual Fund!

If you have any questions, please contact Beth Lawrence, Alabama 4-H Club Foundation, Inc. 117 Duncan Hall, Auburn University, AL 36849-5613 Phone: (334) 844-2247 Fax: (334) 844-5544



To help meet Alabama 4-H's needs for this year, enclosed is my gift of:	I prefer to charge my gift to my Visa/MasterCard:
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	Expiration Date
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	Cardholder's Signature
Designate my gift as follows:	
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	Semiannually Amount Year(s) Ongoing
	Quarterly Amount Year(s) Ongoing
	Other Amount Year(s) Ongoing
Date:, 20 Signature:	

## Have a Story Idea?

Do you have a story idea for Pathways? Do you know a 4-H'er who has achieved an honor and want others across Alabama to know about it? The Alabama 4-H Club Foundation, Inc. is the nonprofit fund-raising arm of Alabama 4-H. The Foundation seeks to recognize youth for their achievements. Send your story ideas to Janet McCoy, Extension development and communications coordinator, at mccoyjl@aces.edu, or call (334) 844-2298.

Beth A. Lawrence, Assistant to the Director

Lette A. Laurence

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