



Rock Eagle Celebrates the Opening of the New Dining Hall

“The Best Just Got Better.” There are no words that sum up the new dining hall at Rock Eagle 4-H Center much better than those issued by Representative Bob Smith, a long time 4-H supporter. Mr. Smith joined hundreds of 4-H’ers, former 4-H’ers and supporters to dedicate the newest building at Rock Eagle on December 13, 2008. Visitors were treated to a wonderful dinner in the Sutton Dining Hall, then moved to the new dining hall for the 4-H’ers ribbon cutting. Visitors were awed by a marvelous spread of desserts and speeches from many of the people who made this part of the dream a reality.

The formal ribbon cutting occurred on December 15, 2008 as University President Michael Adams along with other University

Administration welcomed political and business leaders in Georgia to the new Dining Hall.

This particular dream of a new dining hall for Rock Eagle began in 1997 when it became apparent that the current

dining hall was no longer sufficient to serve the needs of Rock Eagle visitors. Georgia 4-H is fortunate to have the support of the State of Georgia as well as the strong support

“Bill Sutton would certainly be in awe, and the glow on his face would be beaming, and somewhere, I know he knows—and is smiling.”

Mr. Fred Greer

of leadership of the University of Georgia and the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. With this support, the new Dining Hall at Rock Eagle 4-H Center is now open for 4-H members and other guests to enjoy. 🍀



Fast Facts About the Rock Eagle Dining Hall

 The new dining hall is 49,589 square feet.

 The general dining area can be divided into four dining rooms. Dining Room A seats 354 people, Dining Room B seats 360 people, Dining Room C seats 236 people and Dining Room D seats 176 people for a total of 1,126 individuals. There is also a separate employee dining room that seats 40 people.



 The Clover Dining Room can seat up to 120 people for a private banquet and the Georgia 4-H Room can seat up to 26 people for smaller, more formal events.

 The Architectural Firm of Richard Wittschiede Hand of Atlanta designed the dining hall and Gay Construction of Smyrna was the construction management firm responsible for constructing the new building.

 The ceiling in the general dining area is made of solid ash and this wood ceiling is the largest of its kind in the southeastern United States. The ceiling is 23 feet at its highest point.

 There are six serving lines and 2 dish rooms in the building.

 There are three sets of public restrooms in the dining hall as well as employee restrooms providing lockers and showers.

 The floors in the foyer are made of natural slate and the exterior façade of the building includes ground face block, stacked stone and copper.



Fast Facts about the Rock Eagle Dining Hall

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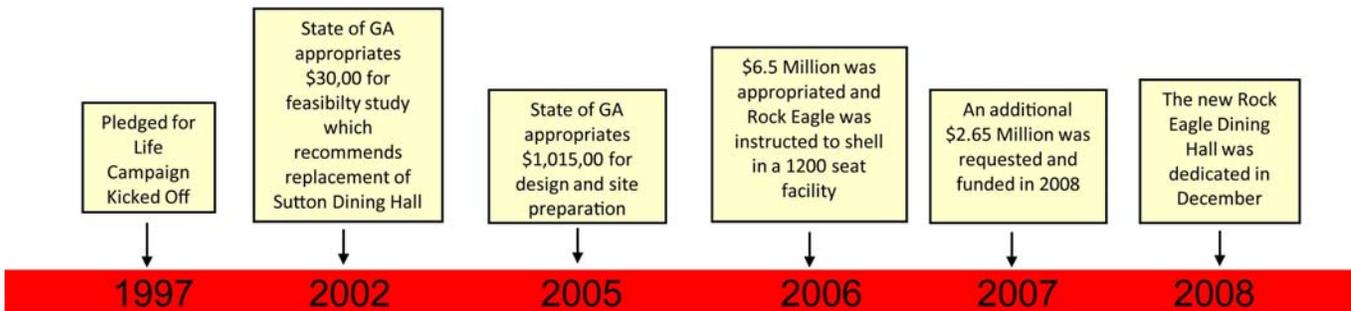
-  The foyer and hallways provide over 5,000 square feet of enclosed space providing guests a climate controlled waiting area for service.
-  The pattern of the tiles in the dining rooms allows workers an easier option for setting up various seating arrangements.
-  The quotes in the foyer are from three of Georgia 4-H's founding fathers; E.W. Aiton, Bill Sutton and Tom Rodgers.



The old dining hall will retain the name Sutton Hall in honor of Bill Sutton. The kitchen area will become the Canteen and Gift Shop and the two dining rooms will be used as conference space.

The green metal building currently housing the gift shop will be removed and the Rock Eagle Quad developed. The Rock Eagle Quad will be a new landscaped area that will stretch from the front of the new dining hall to Talmadge Auditorium.

The Journey to a New Dining Hall for Rock Eagle



The First Sunday Lunch was Snowy White

Sunday Lunch at Rock Eagle is a tradition for many area residents. Sunday Lunch on March 1, 2009 however was a huge surprise for our guests. Visitors enjoyed the first Sunday Lunch in the New Dining Hall and what a celebration it was! Over 300 visitors enjoyed the best cooking in the area and they were treated to a beautiful show as snow began to fall heavily shortly after noon. It is a rare treat to experience a snowfall at Rock Eagle but it was a fitting showcase for the first Sunday Lunch!

The Rock Eagle Dining Hall Staff goes all out for Sunday Lunch with a display of salads, vegetables and desserts in addition to the main course which always includes the BEST southern fried chicken. Bring your friends and enjoy a Rock Eagle tradition.

Sunday Lunch is served only on selected Sundays in the Spring and Fall. Please visit our webpage at www.rockeagle4h.org for the current schedule. Join us this Fall and enjoy a wonderful meal and on some Sundays our Environmental Education staff provides free presentations as well as a tour of our Museum of Natural History. 🍀



Catching Up with Rock Eagle's Environmental Education Program

The Georgia 4-H Environmental Education Program celebrates 30 years of excellence in 2009! The program began at the Rock Eagle 4-H Center in 1979 under the leadership of Diane Davies. Since then, we have served over 400,000 youth and adults. The Rock Eagle 4-H Center Environmental Education Program has its roots serving K-12th grade students in our beautiful classroom without walls. We continue our tradition of service to public, private, and home school groups each school year with exciting, hands-on learning experiences in the context of the real-world environment.



consisted of an ecological topic and activities designed to promote better awareness of our natural world. The week started with Monday's Reptile Rangers learning about reptile movement and having opportunities to handle a variety of local reptiles. Friday concluded the week with the Habitat Hikers exploring the forest of Rock Eagle and investigating the various habitats they encountered. From creating their own backyard bird feeders to participating in the Insect Olympics, the week was filled with hands-on activities that engaged the

Each and every year, improvements are made to the Rock Eagle 4-H Center facilities and programs. This year is no exception. Having opened our state of the art dining hall, over 1000 guests at a time can now enjoy well-balanced and nutritious meals comfortably. Over the years, we have also expanded our Environmental Education Program to include community programs. These programs are our Get R.E.A.L. (Rock Eagle Adult Learning) that serves adult audiences, our *Adventure Fun* program which serves families, and our *Girl Scout Weekend at the Rock*. This year, these community programs have been expanded to include *Camp EcoAdventure* and *Military Family Day*.



campers completely. We look forward to offering more opportunities with our day camp series during the upcoming summer and fall seasons.

Camp EcoAdventure is a new spring break day camp which took place from April 6-10, 2009. The camp was open to students in 1st through 5th grades. Each day



The inaugural *Military Family Day* was held on Saturday, March 21st with funding provided by Operation: Military Kids, a program of U.S. Army Child, Youth and School Services. Over 300 military families attended this day focusing on environmental education, recreation, and family fun at Rock Eagle 4-H Center. Participants enjoyed birding, canoeing, herpetology, and lake ecology classes as well as team building exercises and a special matinee performance by *Clovers & Co.*, the award winning Georgia 4-H performing arts group.



As we continue to grow, we look forward to more opportunities to share the excitement of Rock Eagle with you and your family. You can stay on top of all the latest news and programming updates from the Rock Eagle Environmental Education Program online at www.rockeagle4h.org/ee. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at: mhammons@uga.edu or 706-484-2862.

See you soon! ~ Matt Hammons Environmental Education Coordinator

Summer Camp Counselors Selected



Georgia 4-H Summer Camp Counselors are selected by a long rigorous process and these counselors who have been selected are the best of the best! Congratulations to each and every one of our counselors for 2009 and may you have the best summer of your life!

Burton 4-H Center on Tybee Island ~ Jillian Farley - Captain,
Christina Callahan, Cassidy Clayton, Emily Duke, Jeffrey Tomblin, Laura Warren

Fortson 4-H Center ~ Kari Mateling—Crew Chief, Megan Bailey, Mary Bottoms, Jennifer Davenport, Craig Hamlin, Michael Leggett, Rachel Page

Jekyll Island 4-H Center ~ Joshua Rogers,- Captain, Chris Earls, Christina Kight, Matt Kohler, Jasmine LeBron, Alan Martin, Christine Odom, Aimee Rich, Jessica Watson,

Rock Eagle 4-H Center ~ Brittany Johnson-Tribal Council Mico,
Amanda Acosta, Abby Anderson, Tyler Ashley—Cherokee Mico, Emily Backes, Dimple Bansal, Chad Bates, Becky Beaver, Andrew Bowers, Hunter Brock, Leanna Brown— Muskogee Mico, Sarah Burr, Marisa Carver, Ross Christopher, Shelby Cloud, Ashley Cobbs-Tribal Council, Jimmica Collins, Katie Comer, Marquanne Couch, Chip Felton-Tribal Council, Michael Finnerty-Muskogee Mico, Michael Gill, Wesley Glosson, Bain Griffith, Sara Guy, Zach Hall, Mary Alice Jasperse, John Jenkins, Jaimie Jones, Richie Knight-Tribal Council, Kaira Levester, Jack Lowery, Kelsey Matthews, Jordon McCoy, Grace McCurry, April McDaniel— Cherokee Mico, Anna McIntyre, Tareva Moore, Allen Nasworthy-Tribal Council, Josh Paine, Anne Palnau, Brent Parker, Jerico Phillips, Brittney Pickard, Joni Poole, Ashlin Reid, Rebecca Rich, Jennifer Said, Tammy Sibley, Trey Smagur, Shearron Smith-Shawnee Mico, Sally Stewart, Karen Stubbs, Joseph Stunzi, Austin Suggs-Shawnee Mico, Katie Thigpen, Hillary Thornton, Nicole Trusty, Matt Tucker, Kyle Walker, Kayla Walton, Laura Walton, Heather Williams-Tribal Council, Zenobia Williams

Wahsega 4-H Center ~ Kasey Bozeman-Mama Bear, Joel Bishop, Fleming Garner, Austin Overbey, Jeremy Roberts, Cassie Scarborough, Ashley Sparks, Christin Taylor, Emme Worthy

Public Programming at Rock Eagle

All sessions will start at Rock Eagle 4-H Center's Natural History Museum and last approximately 2 hours. Please call Kelly at 706/484-2834 or e-mail kellyjo@uga.edu to register. Payment is due upon arrival. Please make checks payable to the Rock Eagle 4-H Center.

Get R.E.A.L.

Get R.E.A.L., or Rock Eagle Adult Learning, sessions are adult geared programs which include a light snack and time to walk the museum. Sessions are \$10.00 per person .

June 6th, Friday- Reptiles 101 Explore the wonderful world of reptiles with Rock Eagle staff! Learn how to identify common local critters and dispel those pesky myths. Start time: 10:00 am

July 21st, Monday- Effigies on Parade! Join Rock Eagle history experts on an effigy tour! Visit Rock Eagle Mound and the Little Rock Eagle and discover your own theories on why they were built! Travel will be provided to the effigies. Start time: 9:30 am

Family Adventure

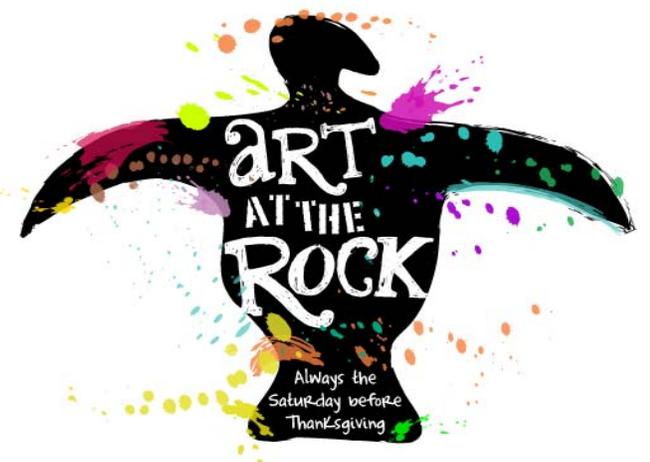
Family Adventure sessions are geared for all ages and is \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for 5-12 years old, and free to anyone 4 and younger! All children must be accompanied by an adult.

May 24th, Saturday- Reptiles 101 Explore the wonderful world of reptiles with Rock Eagle staff! Learn how to identify common local critters and dispel those pesky myths. Start time: 10:00 am

June 28th, Saturday- Canoe Rock Eagle Lake! Explore Rock Eagle Lake by canoe!! See if you can sneak up on our local great blue heron or if you can catch a glimpse of the turtles basking on a log. Anyone eight years old and older are welcome on this session! Start time: 9:30 am

July 26th, Saturday - Dragonflies, Crayfish, and Mosquito Fish, Oh My! Discover the amazing life which lives in Rock Eagle Lake! Through the use of dip nets, seine nets, and microscopes, uncover which animals live in the lake and how they survive. Start 9:30 am

Please visit us online for more information about this program. www.rockeagle4h.org



Art @ the Rock
 Juried Art Show and Marketplace
 Rock Eagle 4-H Center
 Eatonton Georgia
 November 21, 2009
www.rockeagle4h.org/ART
 Please mark your calendars now to
 join us for this Inaugural event

Artist Applications are available online
 or you may call Rock Eagle at 706-484-2833
 You may also email for your application at
tinam@uga.edu



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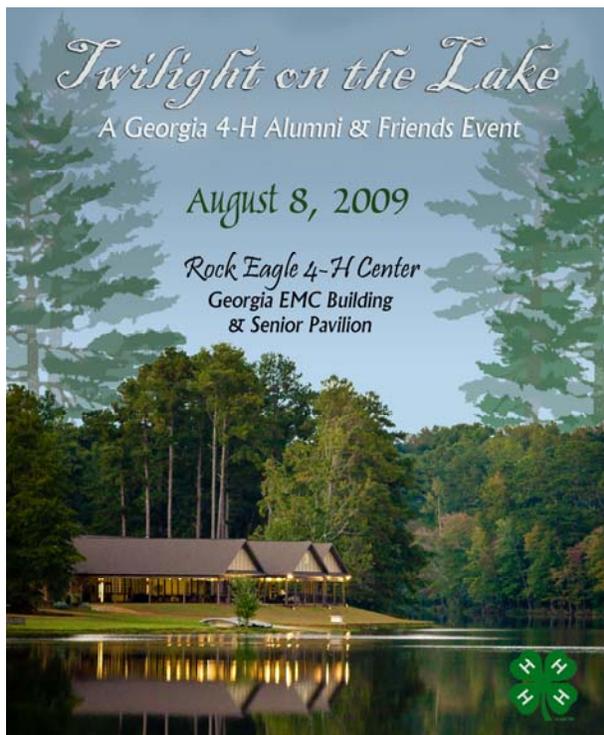
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706-484-2800 ∇ FAX 706-484-2888 ∇ reagle@uga.edu
www.rockeagle4h.org

The University of Georgia and Ft. Valley State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and counties of the state cooperating. Cooperative Extension offers educational programs, assistance and materials to all people without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex or disability. An equal opportunity/affirmative action organization committed to a diverse work force.

Register Today for Twilight on the Lake Swingin' Medallions to Perform August 8



The 2009 Twilight on the Lake Alumni and Friends event will be held on Saturday, August 8, 2009. We are excited to have the Swingin' Medallions to provide this year's entertainment. Counselor Alumni Association Members will convene for afternoon activities beginning at 2pm. Registration for the Twilight on the Lake begins at 5:30 with dinner at 6, followed by entertainment. We know you will not want to miss this and we hope to see you there.

For full details and to register for the event, please visit us online at georgia4hfoundation.org or call us at 706/542-8914.

Sponsorship opportunities are available.

www.rockeagle4h.org