

## **THE KELLY HALE MEMORIAL AWARD**

### *The 4-H Maryland State Poultry Judging Contest*

**This contest is open to 4-H members in all Maryland Counties who are participants in the State Poultry Judging contest at the Maryland State fair.**

Kelly Hale, BA, MBA, CPA and her father Glenn Haines coached the Carroll County Poultry Judging Team for 17 years. She also attended the National Poultry and Egg Conference in Kentucky, when she was in 4-H. Kelly graduated from Francis Scott Key High School in 1998, Bridgewater College in 2002, and she received her master's degree from Mt. St. Mary's University. She was employed by Rager, Lehman & Houck, Carroll Hospital Center, and Legal & General America. She served on the Board of Directors of the Carroll County Community Media Center. Kelly died in 2014 leaving a husband and two young sons. This award is established in her honor.

Poultry Judging at the Maryland State Fair is made up of three aspects:

1. Egg quality
  - a. Interior quality
  - b. Exterior quality
  - c. Broken-out quality
  
2. Ready-to-cook poultry
  - a. Grading carcasses
  - b. Parts identification
  
3. Past egg production
  - a. Number of eggs laid before the contest determined by
    1. Pigmentation loss
    2. Handling quality
    3. Abdominal capacity

Once the placing of the birds is determined, the contestants must prepare oral reasons. These reasons are given to a judge after 10 minutes of preparation, without their notes.

While there are three sets of live production hens to judge, Seniors (ages 14-18) must give reasons without notes and in addition, Seniors (ages 14-18) prepare reasons for two sets

Because Kelly Hale focused on the "reasons" when judging poultry, the winner will be the top senior who has the best score in reasons.