

## **George L. Farley Scholarship**

George L. Farley was the State 4-H Leader in Massachusetts from 1916 to 1941 and is considered by many to have contributed more to the 4-H program in Massachusetts than any other person. Mr. Farley was born in Lynn, Massachusetts in 1873 and was educated there prior to attending Dartmouth College. He began his career as a teacher and later became the Superintendent of Schools in Brockton. While Superintendent he created a home and school garden project, enrolling about 2500 students. This project garnered the attention of the Massachusetts Agricultural College and he was asked to take the job as State 4-H Leader, following the first 4-H State Leader O. A. Morton.

During his 25 years as State Leader, 4-H camps in Massachusetts grew; the 4-H Camp on Cape Cod was named after him. Mr. Farley is credited with starting the Massachusetts All-Stars, a 4-H alumni association. After seeing a 4-H candle lighting service in Virginia, he brought this back to Massachusetts to use at 4-H camps and other events and activities.

Mr. Farley's greatest legacy may be the impact that he had on young people. He inspired young people across the state to believe in themselves, do their best and to strive for something better. He was known to say, "My work is with young people. They are the hope of the future."

The amount of the scholarship presented in recognition of George Farley varies from year to year but is generally from \$500 to \$1,000.

### **Criteria for Eligibility for Scholarship:**

- Must be currently enrolled at UMass Amherst and have a current UMass I.D number
- Must have been a 4-H member
- Application must be complete and postmarked by the deadline given
- Preference will be given to
  - applicants intending to pursue a career in agriculture or a related field
  - those most active in 4-H and displaying a continuing involvement in 4-H
  - applicants enrolled in the College of Natural Resources and the Environment or Stockbridge School

Background on George Farley comes from "Uncle George", written by George E. Erickson