



Cass County 4-H News

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension

Cass County
805 West 10th Street
Atlantic, IA 50022
Phone: 712-243-1132
FAX: 712-243-1133
E-Mail: xcass@iastate.edu
Web: www.extension.iastate.edu/cass

October, 2007

The kids are back in school, football season is underway, the leaves are changing color, and 4-H record books have been turned in – Fall is here! With the change of seasons comes the start of a new 4-H year. By now, all 4-H leaders have picked up an enrollment packet, and if you haven't re-enrolled yet, you should be doing so at your October meeting. This is also the time of year to recruit new 4-H members. Why not invite a friend or neighbor to your next club meeting to let them experience 4-H? Let's continue to work together to encourage young people to get involved in our 4-H program and to "make the best better." Have a great 4-H year!

Julie Hering
Youth Program Coordinator



Extension Programs are available to all without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age or disability.

HAVE YOU HEARD?

- **Bear Grove Blazers & Pymosa** donated cookies to the Bloodmobile.
- **Drew Ladd & Curtis Ullerich** participated in the State 4-H Award interviews. They were both selected to attend National 4-H Congress.
- **YOU** have the opportunity to enroll in more than six projects by writing a letter of explanation to the YAC (Youth Action Committee.) Submit your letter with your enrollment
- **Independent 4-H** is an option for 4-H'ers who can not make a traditional 4-H club setting work for them. Members work with a mentor in a self-study program. If you want to see if this is an option for you give Julie a call for more information.
- If **your club** is planning or has done something special, let us know at the Extension Office so we can include it in the 4-H Newsletter.

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK

National 4-H Week will be celebrated October 7-14. This is a time for us to help our communities become aware of our great program. It can also be an opportunity to recruit new 4-H members. Ideas to celebrate National 4-H Week include: make a window display at a local business, wear 4-H shirts to school, hang posters promoting 4-H in schools or businesses, send a plant or balloon to a 4-H supporter, give a classroom presentation about 4-H, enclose brochures about 4-H in church bulletins, or write letters to the editor about 4-H. Above all - - - Have Fun!!! We have many things to be proud of and this is our week to share them with the public.

RECRUIT A FRIEND

It's time to start the new 4-H year! Do you know anyone who might enjoy being in 4-H? Why not bring a friend to a club meeting? If you know of someone who would like to join 4-H, send them to the Extension Office for additional information.

COUNTY CONVENTION
Sunday, October 14th 2:00 PM
Cass County Community Center

What better way to celebrate National 4-H Week than with County Convention? To help move things along, we are asking that clubs sit together during the program.

Club pictures will be taken in the lobby after your club has been presented on stage.

Recognition will be given to project award winners and leaders and the new Youth Council will be installed.

Special club awards will be presented this year like:

- Best Community Service Project
- Herdsmanship Awards
- Club Officer Books
- Best Window or Display during National 4-H Week
- Best attendance at County Convention

Remember to wear your 4-H uniform!

Let's see EVERY club represented at County Convention!

SHOW YOUR 4-H SPIRIT

All 4-H members, leaders, parents 4-H alumni and friends of 4-H are urged to show their 4-H spirit by wearing their 4-H t-shirt or green and white on Wednesday, October 10!



LEADER RECOGNITION

Several clubs have volunteer leaders who will receive recognition at County Convention. We hope you encourage them to attend and offer your congratulations for many years of dedicated service to Cass County youth.

Five-Year Awards: Shawn Anderson, Kathy Ankenbauer, Michael Carlson, Christy Cunningham, Lisa Metheny, Kelly Monson, Amie Potter, Brent Potter, Duane Weirich

Ten-Year Awards: Sandra Bierbaum, Cory Scholl, Craig Shriver, Julie Williamson, Kim Wood

Fifteen-Year Award: Kevin Paulsen, Bob Peck

Twenty Year Award: Jerry McCrory

Thirty Year Award: Kathee McCrory

WOOL CONTEST

Seamstresses are needed for the Make it with Wool contest. The contest will be Saturday, October 20 at Merle Hay Mall in Des Moines. This is a great opportunity to make an outfit now that you can use next year at the fair. Registrations are due September 29. For complete rules contact Sandi Bolton at 712-568-1062 or visit www.iowasheep.com.

AK-SAR-BEN EXHIBITORS

Fourteen 4-H members will represent Cass County at the Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock Exposition September 25-30. They include: Minden Brix, Trey Brix, Dexter McDermott, Jon McDermott, Marshal McDermott, Hallie Peck, Logan Potter, Tanner Potter, Heather Reyna, Erin Steele, Jim Swanson, Laci Swanson, Toni Swanson & Shane Suhr.



OFFICER TRAINING

So you have been elected to serve as an officer of your 4-H club. Unsure of what your role is as a club officer? Not sure how to get started in your new job? So what do you do?

The Youth Action Committee is revising how we conduct Officer Training in Cass County. Instead of having a countywide officer training, we are bringing the training to YOU! A team of Youth Action Committee and Youth Council members will be visiting each 4-H club in Cass County.



They will work with the club's officers before a regular meeting to explain their responsibilities. The training team will stay for your club meeting, and share some information with your entire club on Parliamentary Procedure. Leaders, please let us know what meeting date works for you.

TREASURER TRAINING

As you know, the club treasure has an important responsibility. Several of you mentioned that these officers needed training beyond what we offered at the club meeting. We have listened to your concerns and agree that this is necessary. Club treasure training will be held on **Monday, November 5 at 7:00 PM** at the Community Center in Atlantic. In addition to your club treasurer, we would like one leader or adult to attend with the officer.

LEADER TRAINING

4-H Leader Training has been scheduled for **Thursday, November 15 at 7:00 PM at the Community Center**. Remember that Leader Training will be required twice a year for all Organization and Project leaders beginning this fall. At this training we will celebrate the beginning of a new 4-H year, enhance your adult leadership skills, create learning opportunities for your members, and work on creating safe environments for kids.

CLUB BY-LAWS

When was the last time you reviewed your club by-laws or rules? Do your rules still make sense and work for your group? Do you have members who don't know what your club rules are? Since we are beginning a new 4-H program year, now is a great time to dust off your rules, review them as a group, update them, make copies for everyone, and distribute them. Make sure your club also submits a current set of by-laws to the Extension Office.

PIONEER GRANT

Pioneer Hi-Bred International will again sponsor the Rural Community Improvement Program. They will offer grant money, which the club can use as a starting point on the project. Applications and details are available at the Extension Office. Deadline to apply is December 3.

YC 2 – 4-H LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

4-H'ers in grades 7-9 have been mailed a special invitation to participate in this year's YC 2 – 4-H Leadership Council. YC 2 members will meet 4 - 5 times during the year to have fun and develop leadership and teamwork skills. Council members will also get to plan and organize a county 4-H event for other 7-9th grade youth. Past groups have organized the intermediate lock-in, painted bleachers, and played putt putt golf.

There is no selection process. Any Cass County 4-H'er in grades 7-9 who turns in their application by **Monday, October 1** will be able to participate. The first YC 2 meeting will be Sunday, October 21 at 3:00 PM at the Community Center in Atlantic. 7-9th grade 4-H'ers should have received an application in the mail. Applications are also available on the Cass County Website.



AREA 4-H COUNCIL

Applications for the Southwest Area 4-H Council are available at the Extension Office. Members of the council will meet with 4-H'ers from 20 counties in Southwest Iowa to identify needs, share ideas, and plan programs. The deadline to apply for Area Council is **Friday, September 21.**

DISCOVERING 4-H WORKSHOP

It's time to start making plans for the Discovering 4-H workshop. The first planning meeting will be **Thursday, October 18 at 7:00 PM** at the Extension Office. Any parent, leader, or 4-H member wanting to help with this year's Discovering 4-H Workshop is invited to attend this planning meeting.

PICK A PROJECT PAPER



4-H Projects provide an opportunity to learn new skills, new ideas, and new information. But unless you choose your projects wisely, you may miss these opportunities and the projects become a burden or are just ignored.

To help you pick what projects you want to carry this year. Start by reading the 4-H Pick A Project Paper. Your leader should give this to you with your enrollment form.

The Pick A Project paper lists all of the 4-H projects available to you with a description of what can be learned.

If you have ideas about what you want to do, but aren't sure what project it goes under, ask your leader or talk to Julie in the Extension Office. Start your year out wisely. Pick projects that interest YOU!

HERDSMANSHIP WINNERS

Oops! We made a mistake in the September Newsletter. First place Herdsmanship winners at the county fair were Cass Coed Clan. Second place went to the Griswold Clubsters. Our apologies for switching those around.

HOLIDAY CARDS FOR THE IOWA 4-H FOUNDATION

Believe it or not, Christmas is just around the corner! The Iowa 4-H Foundation is seeking holiday cards made by 4-H'ers to mail to donors and board members. Names of the individuals or club and your community or county can be written on the back of the card. Please mail your homemade cards to the Iowa 4-H Foundation, Extension 4-H Youth Building, Ames, IA 50011-3630.

CHRIS CLOVER COSTUME

Is your club planning something special during National 4-H Week?



Does your community have an upcoming parade, activity or winter walk where you can promote 4-H? The new Chris Clover Costume is available for 4-H clubs to borrow for these events. Because of the size of the costume, we recommend that it be worn by Intermediate or Senior 4-H members. We also require that somebody accompany Chris Clover at all times because he has limited visibility. If you would like to borrow Chris Clover for an upcoming event please call the Extension Office to make arrangements.

Beef Weigh-In's on Saturday, December 29.

