

January/February 2009



## Clay County 4-H Motivator



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Check out the Clay County Extension web page for news, information and a complete listing of events.

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/>

No Winner in December!

Be the first person to email [kday@iastate.edu](mailto:kday@iastate.edu) with the correct answer to the trivia question in this month's 4-H Motivator and win a PRIZE!

### Start the New Year By Setting Project Goals!

Now is the time to set your 4-H project goals. Having goals is like having a road map. It helps you decide how you get to where you want to go. As you start your new year in 4-H, decide project areas in which to enroll, and set your measurable goals. As you create your goals, keep in mind the three parts of a project goal:

- The Action – How you are going to do something
- The Result – What you are going to do
- The Timetable – When you are going to do it

For more information on setting goals contact the Clay County Extension Office or look for the "4-H Goal Writing Worksheet" on the following website:  
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/recordkeeping.htm>

### 2009 4-H Club Program Plan

One of the roles of a 4-H club vice-president is to serve as the chairman of the club program planning committee. Hopefully your 2008 vice-president has had a chance to get the planning committee together to set a course for your club. Club leaders are welcome to email or bring planning booklets to the Extension office as they are completed and copies will be printed for club members and leaders. Completed plans for each club will be due by the March 5<sup>th</sup> club leader meetings.

### 4-H Club Leader Meeting ~ March 5<sup>th</sup>

All 4-H club leaders are encouraged to attend this informative meeting to help you and your club stay updated. Agenda Items: Club Enrollments, Club Audits, Club Leader Expectations, Yearly Club Program Plan, Web Site and Upcoming Events. Time for questions/answers and club sharing will also be given. Two meeting times have been arranged. Leaders may choose to attend either the noon to 1:30pm or 6:00pm to 7:30pm meeting. A meal will be provided at both meetings. Please call the Extension office (262-2264) or email [kday@iastate.edu](mailto:kday@iastate.edu) by Monday, March 2.

**Representation from all clubs is needed.**

## **4-H Committee Meetings ~ January**

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**Rabbit** – Monday, January 5, 6:00pm

**Static** – Tuesday, January 6, 6:00pm

**Poultry** - Tuesday, January 6, 6:30pm

**Dog** – Wednesday, January 7, 6:00pm

**Swine** – Thursday, January 8, 6:30pm

**Horse** – Saturday, January 10, 10:00am

**Sheep** – Tuesday, January 13, 6:00pm

**Halter Beef** – Thursday, January 15, 7:00pm

## **4-H Shooting Sports Club New Member Meeting ~ January 8**

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Clay County youth in grades 4-12 have the opportunity to join a 4-H shooting sports club. **There will be a New Member Meeting on Thursday, January 8, 6:00PM at the Clay County Extension Office in Spencer.** 4-H Shooting Sports is a youth development educational program that uses the skills and disciplines of the sport to assist young people and their leaders in obtaining knowledge and developing skills. Each discipline teaches safety, concentration, self-discipline, self-confidence, goal-setting, decision-making, and courtesy while developing basic skills that build toward more advanced activities. Both competitive and cooperative skills are included.



Participants are exposed to local policies, regulations, laws, and ethical behavior through both repeated demonstration and personal practice.

**For more information** please contact the Clay County Extension Office at 712-262-2264 or visit [www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/sess.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/sess.htm)

## **4-H Shooting Sports 2009 State Certification Training ~ March 27-29**

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Shooting Sports is one of the fastest growing 4-H programs in many states with an estimated 300,000 youth participating nationally. Volunteers, men and women, who would like to work with youth in the shooting sports disciplines are asked to contact the Clay County Extension Office 712-262-2264, to learn how to get involved. A participant in the workshop will spend the entire weekend training within one discipline. Disciplines offered are Coordinator, Archery, Shotgun, Rifle (small bore and/or air), Muzzle loading, and Wildlife Skills.

Discipline instructors for rifle, shotgun, archery, muzzle loading, and wildlife must be trained during a state Safety and Education and Shooting Sports Leader Training to be certified to teach at shooting sports club meetings. The next state training will be held March 27-29 at the Iowa 4-H Center, Madrid, Iowa. The registration form, as well as more information about the SESS program is on the 4-H SESS website at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/SESS/events.html>. All participants will learn about 4-H, youth development, about a shooting discipline and how to teach basic shooting skills to kids.

## **2009 State Volunteers' Retreat ~ February 6 - 7**

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**Growing Green** is the theme for the 2009 State Volunteer Retreat scheduled for Friday, February 6, and Saturday, February 7, centrally located at the DMACC facility in **Ankeny**.

4-H volunteers, staff, parents, and intermediate/senior 4-H members are encouraged to sign-up for this retreat. Friday evening is a networking/fellowship type gathering with hands-on activities. Workshops and networking fill the day on Saturday, February 7.

A wide variety of workshop sessions will meet the needs of both new and experienced volunteers, staff, and 4-H members. The registration cost is \$25 and includes lunch and snacks. For more information or to register for this fun retreat visit <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/volretreat.htm>

Clay County 4-H Endowment is offering to pay lodging for volunteers who attend the State Volunteer Retreat. Please contact the extension office, 262-2264, if you would like to take advantage of the lodging offer. Contact Kathy Day, [kday@iastate.edu](mailto:kday@iastate.edu), to make carpool arrangements.

## **State 4-H Scholarship Applications ~ Due February 2**

Almost \$100,000 in scholarships will be awarded to Iowa 4-H members through the Iowa 4-H Foundation Scholarship programs. There are opportunities for students pursuing any course of study, as well as some specific agriculture and home economics scholarships at both four-year and community colleges in Iowa. Information about the Iowa 4-H Scholarships can be found at the Clay County Extension Office or on the following web page: [www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/4-H+Scholarships.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/4-H+Scholarships.htm).

## **Christina Hixson Award ~ Due February 1**

The Hixson Opportunity Award is a grant of \$10,000 (\$2,500 per year for four years) to be used at Iowa State University. One hundred high school seniors from across Iowa will receive the award each year. Ideally, recipients will represent each county in the state. If you are a high school senior who demonstrates potential in ways that go beyond class rankings and test scores, you may wish to apply. For application information contact your school guidance counselor or visit the following web site: <http://www.iastate.edu/~hixsonawards/>. **Application deadline is February 1, 2009.**

## **Nominations for Adult Awards ~ Due February 1**

Now is your chance to nominate outstanding adult volunteers for various Clay County 4-H Adult Awards. Adult awards include: Alumni, Honorary 4-H Member, \$100 Holck Scholarship, and Adult Meritorious Service. Criteria and nomination forms may be picked up at the Extension Office or found on the following web page: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/kidsteens.htm>. **Nominations due Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>.**

## **“Iowa’s Promise Youth” Grant ~ Due February 1**

The Iowa Promise Youth grant is designed to encourage local youth groups in Iowa to partner with at least one other community group to plan and carry out a community service or improvement project. Groups are to submit a report at completion so other communities can replicate the project. Grants up to \$250 are available for community projects involving two or more local groups and are sponsored by the Iowa Commission on Volunteer Service in partnership with Iowa State University Extension 4-H Youth Development. More information is available at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/iowaspromise.html>. **Applications are due February 1.**



## **2009 4-H Enrollments**



It's a great time to energize and get excited about the upcoming new 4-H club year! ☺ January marks the start of the 4-H year in Clay County. It's time: for Vice-presidents to organize program planning committees; prepare for the new year; encourage family members to become involved; invite prospective members to visit your 4-H club meetings; and to welcome new members to join.

Enrollment forms, Code of Ethics, and 4-H annual fees should to be turned into club leaders and not directly to the Extension Office. **Enrollments are due from club leaders to the Extension office on or before February 15.** Please consider enrolling all previous club members, as well as new members, at your January club meeting or early February meeting. A small portion of the 4-H program cost is assessed directly to the 4-Hers who benefit. Each 4-H club treasurer is asked to collect the annual fee of \$30 per member at the time of enrollment (or re-enrollment). Max Yield has offered to pay \$10 of every 4-H member's annual fee who is registered by February 15<sup>th</sup>. Confidential requests for further assistance can be made through 4-H club leaders or the Clay County Extension Office. 4-H fee scholarships and financial aid information for Clay County 4-Hers are available at the Extension office. Each club will be billed after enrollments have been collected. 4-H fees will be due to the Extension Office by March 15, 2009.

## Invest in the Future of 4-H Youth

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The 4-H fee is part of the financial support that makes it possible to maintain and grow our county and Iowa 4-H program. The 4-H fee for 2009 will be \$30, with \$20 going to the State 4-H Program and \$10 remaining in our county (as in the past several years). \*Some clubs may ask for additional fees to cover club expenses. An investment in 4-H develops life skills that work toward our 5 outcomes:

• Leadership • Citizenship • Communications • Personal life management • Subject matter/project experience

The 4-H fee can be generated by:

- Contribution by members themselves • Club fundraising • Scholarships • Membership gift certificates
- A combination of club support and membership dues

The Clay County Extension Council encourages 4-H members, club leaders, and 4-H families to fully utilize the 4-H program and take advantage of the value that can be attained from being involved in this premier youth development program. The council also wishes to inform 4-H families (especially those with multiple 4-H members) that scholarships are available to those who need financial assistance. **No child will be denied access to 4-H programs based on ability to pay.** Funding will be found to cover the cost for those who are unable to pay, be it through the 4-H club, the county extension program, local donors, the county or state 4-H foundation, or the state 4-H program.

We would like to “Thank” Max Yield Cooperative for generously donating \$10 towards each member’s enrollment fee which is paid by February 15<sup>th</sup>.



## Support Military Kids through 4-H

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Support for Clay County military kids is available through Clay County 4-H. Military kids face many challenges in their lives and can benefit from the safe environment, sense of belonging, and caring adults found in 4-H clubs. **Operation Military Kids will reimburse the 4-H fee for any 4-H member whose parent, legal guardian, or sibling serves in any branch (including National Guard) of the military, regardless of deployment status.**

Now is a great time for 4<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> graders to join one or more of the of fifteen county 4-H clubs. (3<sup>rd</sup> graders can join as participation members). Youth are welcome to join special interest clubs; Shooting Sports, Casters (fishing & wildlife), or Conquistadors (horse) or community clubs; Clay County Countrymen, Clay Raiders, Garfield Go-Getters, Lincoln Lions, Logan Leaders, Meadow Busy Bees, Meadow Motivators, Peterson Livewires, Spencer Energizers, Sioux Achievers, Sioux Valley Feeders, or Riverton Rebels.

To learn more about Operation Military Kids or the Clay County 4-H Program contact Kathy Day, County Youth Coordinator, at the Clay County Extension Office, 110 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Spencer, 712-262-2264 or [kday@iastate.edu](mailto:kday@iastate.edu).

## Livestock Judging Team Orientation

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Have you ever been interested in participating on a livestock judging team? **Now is your chance!** There will be an introduction/orientation to livestock judging on **Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm** at the Clay County Extension Office. Become part of a team and meet other youth from around the area with the same interest, hone your skills and master new ones, discuss possible traveling team, and potential contests and schedules. Please contact the Clay County Extension Office 712/262-2264 to RSVP for the meeting.

## New 4-H Member Meeting ~ February 17<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm

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Join the fun, meet other 4-Hers, and learn about 4-H at the upcoming prospective and new 4-H member meeting. You are invited to the Clay County Extension Office to find out what 4-H is about. Have fun as you investigate project areas. Free 4-H boxes will be given to all the youth who attend! **To aid in the preparation of materials, we ask that you please RSVP by Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.** Simply call the Clay County Extension Office at 712- 262-2264. *Parents/Guardians are welcome and encouraged to attend.*



## **Junior Feeder Weigh-in ~ Saturday, February 21, 9:00am - 12:00 (noon)**



Any 4-H or FFA beef project member wishing to participate in the junior feeder program must have animals weighed, and tagged at the Clay County weigh-in at the Spencer Livestock Sale Barn. **Youth may weigh-in two pens of three or four same sex calves per pen at weigh-in in February.** Junior Feeder project members will be responsible for the \$1.50 cost per tag. The junior feeder weigh-in will allow beef project members to participate in the junior feeder program, but does not constitute a fair entry. For more information regarding the junior feeder project or weigh-in contact CCE FFA Advisor, Rick Meyer at

834-2227 or [rmeyer@clay-everly.k12.ia.us](mailto:rmeyer@clay-everly.k12.ia.us). (Snow Date: Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup> – Listen to KICD)



## **Attention: High School 4-H Members! ~ Area Recognition Opportunities**

Take some time to learn about the opportunities available to you beyond the county. You can gain so much from these excellent opportunities it may surprise you. Not only will you gain valuable interview and résumé writing experience, you will have a chance to meet 4-Hers from around the state and possibly the Nation! It's up to you to take the next step to take advantage of these wonderful opportunities. Contact the Clay County Extension Office for Area Recognition Opportunity applications and information or check out the following website: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/Recognition.htm>.



**National 4-H Conference:** March 20 to March 25, 2010 (tentative), National 4-H Center, 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade at application time, can attend one time, and one national trip per year

**National 4-H Congress:** November 27 to December 1, 2009 National 4-H Center, 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade at application time, can attend one time, and one national trip per year

**State 4-H Council:** Term June 2009-June 2010, 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade at application time

**State Project Awards:** Award \$100 Savings bond, 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade at application time

**Iowa Youth Technology Team:** Term June 2009-June 2010, 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade at application time

**The due date for application and support materials to the Clay County Extension Office is Monday, March 2, 2009.**



## **Join the 4-H Youth Council ~ Applications Due March 1**

High school 4-H members, now is your chance to apply for the Clay County 4-H Youth Council. Youth Council members promote 4-H, provide ideas for county programs, assist with countywide events, and act as liaisons between local clubs and the county 4-H program. Youth Council members have the chance to meet and work with 4-Hers from around the county. Applications are available at the Clay County Extension Office, from current youth council members or can be downloaded from the 4-H Youth Council web page: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/info/youthcouncil.htm>.



## **Clay County 4-H Scholarship ~ New Changes**

Clay County 4-H Seniors are you planning to continue educational opportunities following high school graduation? We would like to encourage you to apply for scholarships sponsored by the Clay County 4-H Youth Council and Clay County Bankers Association.

The Clay County 4-H Youth Council and the Clay County Bankers Association are pleased to be able to offer scholarships to Clay County 4-H members. A selection committee consisting of current 4-H Youth Council members and adults will select scholarship recipients. **An interview, 4-H record book, and the written application will be used in the selection process.** The interviews will be held on June 30, 2009 at the Clay County Extension Office. Applicants need to make arrangements for a taped interview prior to June 30<sup>th</sup> if they are unable to be present for the live interview. Scholarship award winners will be notified in July 2009.

**Clay County 4-H Scholarship applications, <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/clay/kidsteens.htm>, are due by June 1st to the Clay County Extension Office 110 West 4th Street, Suite 100 Spencer, IA 51301**

Clay County 4-H Motivator



# Calendar of Events



All meetings will be held at the Clay County Extension Office, 110 W. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 100, Spencer, unless noted otherwise  
Clay County Extension Office hours are 8:00am to 4:30pm each weekday.

January 5	(Monday)	Rabbit Committee Meeting ~ 6:00pm
January 6	(Tuesday)	Static Committee Meeting ~ 6:00pm Poultry Committee Meeting ~ 6:30pm
January 7	(Wednesday)	Dog Committee Meeting ~ 6:00pm
January 8	(Thursday)	4-H Shooting Sports Orientation Meeting ~ 6:00pm Swine Committee Meeting ~ 6:30pm
January 10	(Saturday)	Horse Committee Meeting ~ 10:00am
January 13	(Tuesday)	Sheep Committee Meeting ~ 6:00pm
January 15	(Thursday)	Halter Beef Committee Meeting ~ 7:00pm
January 20	(Tuesday)	Livestock Judging Introduction/Orientation Meeting ~ 6:30pm
January 24	(Saturday)	North Central Iowa Youth Beef Conference Ellsworth Community College, Iowa Falls
February 1	(Sunday)	Iowa's Promise Youth Grant applications are due in the State 4-H Office *Christina Hixson Scholarship applications due to Iowa State University *Nominations for Adult 4-H Awards due to the Clay County Extension Office
February 2	(Monday)	Iowa 4-H College 2009 Scholarships applications due to State 4-H Office
February 6-7	(Fri /Sat)	2009 State Volunteers' Retreat ~ DMACC in Ankeny, IA
<b>February 15</b>	<b>(Sunday)</b>	<b>4-H Enrollment forms due from 4-H club leaders</b>
<b>February 17</b>	<b>(Tuesday)</b>	<b>4-H New Member Meeting ~ 6:00-7:30pm</b>
February 21	(Saturday)	Junior Feeder Weigh-In ~ 9:00am-12:00(noon) ~ Spencer Livestock Sale Barn <i>*Snow Date February 28<sup>th</sup> ~ Listen to KICD in case of inclement weather</i>
March 1	(Sunday)	Clay County 4-H Youth Council Applications due
March 2	(Monday)	Area Recognition Applications and support materials due to the Clay County Extension Office
March 5	(Thursday)	4-H Club Leader Meetings ~ noon to 1:30pm or 6:00 to 7:30pm
March 15	(Sunday)	4-H fee due from club treasurers to Extension Office
March 29	(Sunday)	Clay County 4-H Family Awards Program – Site TBA
June 1	(Monday)	Clay County 4-H Scholarship Applications due

## 2009 4-H Motivator Contest

Be the first 4-H member to email [kday@iastate.edu](mailto:kday@iastate.edu) and answer the trivia question in the Motivator correctly. *The answer to the monthly trivia question will be found in the Motivator.* Winners may stop by the Extension Office and select from a variety of prizes. A new winner will be selected each month.

**4-Hers will be eligible to win only once in 2009.**

### January/February's Trivia Question:

When are the Clay County 4-H Scholarship applications due the Clay County Extension Office?

Clay County 4-H Motivator