

# CLEVER POWER

## The Polk County 4-H Newsletter - August 2008

*Pledging our heads, hearts, hands and health.*

ISU Extension, Polk County 5201 NE 14th St, Ste A, Des Moines, IA 50313  
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### Great Job Everyone!

Once again, I find myself marveling at the cooperation and spirit of community that the Polk County Fair brings to our 4-H'ers and their families. **The number of moving parts** that a county fair the size of ours has is incredible and when you think that the entire fair is organized by an all volunteer fairboard it is even that much more amazing. If you see a **fairboard member in your community or on the street please don't forget to thank them.** I am also happy to assist any 4-Her or club that would like to send a thank you note to any or all of the fairboard members or other volunteers who assisted at the fair.

I would also like to remind all of the 4-H'ers that **much of what they were allowed to experience at this year's fair was due in many cases to the hard work, dedication and support of your parents.** If you have a parent, (and I suspect that you all do,) it is never a bad time to remember to thank them for their help.

Lastly, I wanted to let all or you know how proud I am of the 4-Her's, **volunteers, and clubs** that I serve here in Polk County. Every day of the fair, I found myself impressed by the creativity, enthusiasm, and dedication that you all show for our 4-H program. It is truly a joy to get to help make the best better!

Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Sincerely,



Phil Heckman  
County Youth Coordinator

### Polk County Fair King and Queen

The 2009 Polk County Fair King and Queen are Andrew Vandelaar of Levis-N-Lace and Brooke Curry of New Beginnings. Brooke is the daughter of Dave and Loni Curry of Runnells. Andrew is the son of Criss and Brenda Vandelaar of Altoona. Andrew will be a Senior at Bondurant Farrar this fall. Brooke graduated from South East Polk High School this past Spring. Congratulations to both Brooke and Andrew!

### Polk County Fair Court

The Polk County Fair Queen's Court included: Tiffany Noble of Des Moines, Kari Konrad of Runnells, y Bowers of Urbandale, and Amber Patterson of Altoona. The Polk County Fair King's Court included: Grant Bargfrede of Ankeny, Phillip Griffieon of Ankeny, Ethan Ward of Elkhart, and Dustin Howard of Elkhart. Congratulations to all of the princes and princesses!!

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University Extension

## Recognition

We would like to thank the Polk County Fair Board members, superintendents, assistants, parents and 4-H members who helped before, during and after the Polk County Fair. It takes a lot of volunteers to make the fair a big success! Thank you to all of the building hosts and barn night watches who did their part keeping our fair safe, clean, and fun for everyone!

The 2009 BBQ was a great event thanks to Arlette Hollister and her coordination and leadership. Thanks to Polk County Farm Bureau for sponsoring the meal. The entire BBQ committee worked extremely hard and did a great job.

Also, thank you for donating to the BBQ. Donations are given to the 4-H Club Committee to provide scholarships and awards for the 4-H County Recognition Program. Over \$2,000 was donated that will go directly to 4-H youth.

## Iowa State Fair Reminders

The Iowa State Fair will be August 13-23, 2009. State Fair exhibitors should have received information from the State 4-H Office and/or Polk County Extension Office.

Please remember to pick up your Iowa State Fair exhibits at the Polk County Extension Office after noon on August 24<sup>th</sup>.



## 4-H Car Raffle

An Iowa 4-H Foundation fund-raising raffle will give away "Clover," a 2009 Toyota Corolla, in cooperation

with Wilson Toyota of Ames. The car will be on display and raffle tickets will be available at county fairs and events throughout the state between through Oct. 8. The drawing will be held Friday, Oct. 9, the last day of National 4-H Week. 4-H student interns Silas Pippit and Maddie Sieck are the car's official escorts. So far, they have scheduled appearances at 22 events. This car will be on display at the 4-H Exhibit Building in



the 4-H Foundation's area for the duration of the fair. Polk County's 4-H endowment can share in up to 50 percent of the proceeds of ticket sales if we provide Polk County Volunteers (18 and older) to help the 4-H foundation sell raffle tickets during the fair. Additionally I have a number of raffle tickets available here at the Extension Office for anyone who is interested in purchasing a chance to win a new car.

If you are interested in volunteering a portion of your day at the Iowa State Fair to help out Polk County 4-H and the Iowa 4-H foundation please contact Shelly Greiving at 515-294-1607 or [shellyg@iastate.edu](mailto:shellyg@iastate.edu) and let her know that you would like to help grow Polk County's 4-H Endowment.

## Your Help is Needed to Help Fight Hunger

(By Susan Kline)

In early September, thousands of Iowans will come to Hy-Vee Hall in Des Moines to help combat hunger in Iowa and across the world. How will they do this? They will package nutritious packets of food that can be used by families who do not have enough. This project called *Meals from the Heartland*, usually packages food to be shipped overseas but this year they plan to share a portion of the packages with Iowans in need. Additionally, this year all people helping with the project will visit a Learning Lab that will teach them about hunger in Iowa before they begin packaging. ISU Extension is providing many of the displays for the Learning Lab which includes a tasting experience of meals made from the food packages.

We are asking 4-Hers as individuals or clubs to help with the tasting experience. Much like a grocery store demonstrator, you will share the prepared dishes with the participants as they spend a short time in the Learning Lab. All products will be provided. The event will happen September 4-7, 2009 at Hy-Vee Hall in downtown Des Moines. We will be having 2-3 hour shifts throughout the four days. If you are interested in helping with this project please feel free to get in touch with Susan Klein, our Nutrition Field Specialist in Polk County. You can contact her at 515-957-5787 or [sklein@iastate.edu](mailto:sklein@iastate.edu).



## County and Intermediate Council Applications due August 21<sup>st</sup>!

Any 4-H members who will be in the 7-8 grades are eligible to apply for the Intermediate Council. 4-H'ers in 9-12 grades are eligible to apply for County Council. Applications for both councils are available online at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/members.htm>.

Copies are also available at the Polk County Extension Office. The deadline for applications will be earlier this year than it has been in the past.

Applications for both councils are due August 21<sup>st</sup>. We are once again requiring all applicants to participate in a short interview. We will be holding Council interviews the evening of Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 5-9 and Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 8-12. Please contact Phil to schedule a time for a short interview. These county wide councils will be a great way to meet kids and make new friends from across Polk County.

## Record Keeping and Award Applications



Record keeping is an important part of 4-H. We have already had a few questions about finishing up record books for the 2008-2009 4-H Year. There are record keeping forms available at the extension office or online at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/records.htm>. Award applications can be found on the website at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/awards.htm>.

Having complete records will be very helpful in filling out applications for county and state awards.

## Deadlines and the 4-H Calendar for 2008-2009



We know that it is sometimes hard to remember all the dates and times in the 4-H year, so we are hoping to make things easier for our 4-Her's this year. Work has already been done on setting the 4-H calendar for this next

year, and we would like for you to know what to expect as soon as is possible. The dates to remember section at the end of the monthly newsletter will include the most current due dates and deadlines for 2009-2010. That section in this month's issue has been replaced with your own personal

copy of the 2009-2010 4-H Calendar. Please read this calendar closely as there are some changes from previous years.

## Polk County Award Interviews



Applications for the 4-H Life Skills Award for senior 4-H members who graduated in 2009, are due to the extension office no later than 5:00 p.m. September 1, 2009.

All other applications are due to the Polk Co. Extension Office no later than 5:00 p.m. October 2, 2009.

Applicants for awards will participate in an interview appropriate for their grade level. You must be available at the scheduled interview times:

Life Skills interview – by appointment

Intermediate and Senior interviews - Monday, October 12<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:00 p.m.

Junior interviews - Monday, October 19<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:00 p.m.

All 4-H members may apply for up to four project awards. Applications are available at the extension office or online.

Details about the Annual County Awards Event will be announced soon. Please watch Clover Power for more information.

## Ak-Sar-Ben

The 81<sup>st</sup> Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Youth Livestock Exposition has been scheduled for September 22-27 at the Qwest Center. A complete schedule of events can be found online at <http://www.rivercityroundup.org>. Entries are due to the Polk Co Extension Office by August 15. A reminder that all market animals must have gone through the verification process to be eligible to exhibit at Ak-Sar-Ben.



## Leader Training

The next leader training will be Thursday, September 10th at 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. or 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Polk County Extension Office. At this training we will complete the state mandated Fall training for General and Project Leaders. This training module will be delivered by Youth Field Specialist Jeff Macomber.

In an attempt to offer more help to our Clover Kids Leaders we would like them come from 1-3 or 6-8. In the first hour of that meeting we will discuss topics that are or specific interest to Clover Kids Groups from 2-3 will be the Fall Volunteer Training Module. We are asking our General 4-H club leaders to come from either 2-4 or 7-9 that day. In their case the first hour of the meeting will be the training module and the second hour will be items of specific interest to General 4-H club Leaders.

The 4-H Youth team at the Polk County Extension office recognizes the hard work that our leaders put in to keep 4-H vital and vibrant and we thank you for your dedication to continually improving your leadership skills.

## Make Your Recordkeeping Hit The Top Ten!

(From the 4-H Youth Committee)

This year when you are completing your recordkeeping, make it the best ever and shoot for the top ten. Each club will be able to submit one junior, one intermediate, and one senior recordkeeping to the extension office by October 2 for consideration. The leaders of each club should submit the recordkeeping they feel best represents their club.

The top ten junior, intermediate, and senior recordkeeping for all of Polk County will be chosen and awarded at the Family Fun Celebration in November. Recordkeeping will be returned to the 4-Her.

Put extra effort into your recordkeeping this year!

## Philboard Top 10 Records



## From the K-9 Crew

(By Sally Martin)

The Polk County Fair was a success. We had twenty four young people **show their dogs. Good job guys.** I'd like to thank all the kids and parents that helped set-up and take down the dog show ring. This show was a success because of you. See you all again in March for another Year of dog training.



## Informational Meeting for New Science Center Club!

(By Priscilla Delgado)

Greetings to Everyone!

My name is Priscilla and I am currently the head volunteer for the new 4H SCI Club! Most of you are probably aware of the SCI club and I would like to inform you that we will be hosting a team building event to get to know each other and start building some friendships!



When: Friday, Aug 14th, 1PM-5PM  
Where: Living History Farms (Adventure Learning Center)  
What: Ropes Course Event

Pizza will be provided from 5-5:30 PM and a parent/kid meeting will be taking place from 5:30-6:30PM, with information about the next events coming up, paperwork and what science topics you guys want to do this Fall! Since we need a count of how many will be attending, I would like to ask to please email me at Pretzel@iastate.edu so we can have an estimate of how much pizza and paperwork we need. No later than AUGUST 7<sup>th</sup> please!

Those that respond will receive more details for the meeting with driving directions and drop/pickup for your kids.

Thank you all for your interest!



## Polk County Youth Takes First at State 4H Meet (By Kim Hood)

On June 20th, four Polk County Hot Shot members attended the State 4H Shooting Sports Match in Montezuma, Iowa. Those attending were Grayson Griess, Harrison Griess, Alexander Ritchie, and TJ Krebiel. This was the first time the Polk County Hot Shots have ever participated in this event. Although no one knew quite what to expect, everyone shot well and represented their county well. Alexander Ritchie took first place with a display exhibit he prepared about shotgun chokes and patterns. He received a gold medal for his accomplishments. We also had members competing in shotgun (trap) and small bore rifle events. It was a great experience for the members and we hope to send even more members next year. If you are interested in the Polk County Hot Shot program, please visit our web site at [www.polkcountyyhotshots.org](http://www.polkcountyyhotshots.org).

## Polk County Fair Lost and Found

There were some serving items left after the conference judging day luncheon that have found their way to the **Extension office in the aftermath of this year's fair**. Additionally there are a few Nintendo DS accessories that were found as well. If you have lost them, please let me know at 957-5771 or [pheckman@iastate.edu](mailto:pheckman@iastate.edu).

# Gettin'

## Polk County Fair Press Release

The Polk County Fair Press release has been compiled and sent out to media outlets across the county. A special thanks goes out to the department superintendents for submitting their media reports so quickly and to Diana Sosalla for compiling the lists into its final 16 page entirety before press deadlines. We did our best to check for errors, and hopefully we were successful in catching them all. You will find a copy of the release at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/fair.htm>. Feel free to forward it on to any additional media outlets that you think may be interested.



## 4-H Tip of the Month

For recordkeeping, review your family's calendar for activities (both 4-H and outside of 4-H) that you have participated in during the past year. Be sure to include them on your 4-H summary. Apply for county awards using your completed 4-H records to assist you.



## Phone Numbers, E-Mail and Website Addresses

Phil Heckman – 957-5771  
[pheckman@iastate.edu](mailto:pheckman@iastate.edu)  
4-H County Youth Coordinator

Diana Sosalla – 957-5772  
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4-H Volunteer Coordinator

Jeff Macomber – 993-4281  
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Youth Development Specialist

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Youth Development Specialist

Jeanine Baldwin – 957-5777  
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County Extension Education Director

Polk Co. 4-H Club Page  
[www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/club.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/club.htm)

## Dates to Remember

August 13 – 23 Iowa State Fair  
August 17<sup>th</sup> Deadline for Ak-Sar-Ben  
August 21 Deadline for Intermediate Council and  
County Council Applications

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# Polk County 4-H 2009-2010



## September

- 1 Life Skills Award Deadline
- 1 4-H Youth Committee Meeting 7:00 pm
- 9 County & Intermediate Council Interviews  
5:00-9:00
- 10 Leader Training 1:00 – 4:00 pm  
or 6:00 – 9:00 pm
- 12 County & Intermediate Council Interviews  
9:00-12:00
- 15 4-H Enrollment Begins
- 16 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 22-27 Ak-Sar-Ben

## October

- 2 County Award Applications Due
- 6 Intermediate Council Mtg 7:00 pm
- 7 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 8 New Families Orientation 6:30 pm
- 12 Inter./Sr. Award Interviews
- 21 Annual Fair Board Election/Meeting 7:00 pm
- 19 Junior Award Interviews
- 27-1 American Royal, Kansas City

## November

- 3 Intermediate Council Mtg. 7:00 pm
- 4 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- TBA Family Fun Celebration
- 11 Officer Training 6:30 pm
- 12 New Families Workshop 6:30 pm
- 13 Re-Enrollment Deadline
- 18 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm

## December

- 1 Club Committee Meeting 7:00 pm
- 1 Intermediate Council MTG 7:00pm
- 2 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 12 Beef Weigh-In
- 16 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 24-25 Office Closed

## January

- 5 Youth Committee Meeting 7:00 pm
- 5 Intermediate Council MTG 7:00pm
- 6 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 14 New Families Workshop 6:30 pm
- 20 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm

## February

- 1 Area Award Applications Due
- 1 Scholarship Applications Due
- 2 Youth Committee Meeting 7:00 pm
- 2 Intermediate Council MTG 7:00pm
- 3 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- TBA State Leader's Retreat-Ankeny
- 11 New Families Workshop 6:30 pm
- 15 Leader Training 1:00 – 4:00 pm  
or 6:00 – 9:00 pm
- 17 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm

## March

- 2 Youth Committee Meeting 7:00 pm
- 2 Intermediate Council MTG 7:00pm
- 3 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 10 FSQA 6:00 – 8:00 pm
- 16 FSQA 1:00-3:00 pm
- 18 FSQA 1:00-3:00 pm

## April

- 3 Swine Weigh-In
- 6 Youth Committee Meeting 7:00 pm
- 6 Intermediate Council Mtg. 7:00pm
- 7 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 8 New Families Workshop 6:30 pm
- 14 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 26 Leader Meeting 1:00 – 3:00 pm  
or 6:00 – 8:00 pm



# Polk County 4-H 2009-2010



## May

- 1 Sheep Weigh-In
- 4 Intermediate Council Mtg. 7:00 pm
- 4 Youth Committee Meeting 7:00 pm
- 5 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 15 Livestock ID's Due
- 15 Last Day to Enroll in 4-H
- 15 Polk County Fair King and Queen Applications Due
- 19 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm

## Phone Numbers, E-Mail and Website Addresses

Phil Heckman – 957-5771  
[pheckman@iastate.edu](mailto:pheckman@iastate.edu)  
4-H County Youth Coordinator

Diana Sosalla – 957-5772  
[sosalla@iastate.edu](mailto:sosalla@iastate.edu)  
4-H Volunteer Coordinator

## June

- 1 Intermediate Council Mtg. 7:00 pm
- 1 Youth Committee Meeting 7:00 pm
  
- 2 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 11 New Families Workshop 6:30 pm
- 12 Communication Fun Day
- 16 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- TBA Intermediate Trip
- TBA Photography Camp
- 29-1 State 4-H Conference

Jeff Macomber – 993-4281  
[jmacombe@iastate.edu](mailto:jmacombe@iastate.edu)  
Youth Development Specialist

Marc Peterson—957-5780  
[marc@iastate.edu](mailto:marc@iastate.edu)  
Youth Development Specialist

Jeanine Baldwin – 957-5777  
[baldwinj@iastate.edu](mailto:baldwinj@iastate.edu)  
County Extension Education Director

## July

- 1 Polk County & Iowa State Fair Entry Packets Due  
to Extension Office (No Exceptions!)
- 6 Intermediate Council Mtg. 7:00 pm
- 6 Youth Committee Meeting 7:00 pm
- 7 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 8 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- TBA Clothing Event
- 14-19 Polk County Fair

Polk Co. 4-H Club Page  
[www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/club.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/club.htm)

**Please read Clover Power for additional deadlines  
and updates!**



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