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The Polk County 4-H Newsletter - May 2011



POLK COUNTY EXTENSION



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Phil Heckman
POLK COUNTY EXTENSION
County Youth Coordinator
pheckman@iastate.edu
515-957-5771



Summer is Here!

As the county fair entry deadline looms and I sense the fevered pitch to get projects done, let's take a moment to think about why we're doing what we're doing. It all started with a goal. What were your goals? Have you accomplished them, surpassed them, forgotten about them? Remember that projects and exhibits are two different things, although we sometimes use the terms interchangeably. Projects are topics or areas that you can choose to learn about and master. An exhibit is just one component, or part of a project. An exhibit is what you take to the fair and they are entered in a project area (for example: Food & Nutrition, Photography, Ag & Natural Resources). Think about that when answering goal statements and talking with judges. Your exhibit should be an outgrowth of your entire project area this year. You probably didn't learn everything from just one exhibit; you may have also experienced other presentations, workshops, and earlier work you accomplished in the project area.

These are good questions to ask yourself when completing your record books, too. Your project records shouldn't only describe just one singular exhibit, but an entire project area.

I very much look forward to seeing what you've learned this year when I see you at the county fair!



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension

ISU Extension, Polk County 1625 Adventureland Drive, Ste A, Altoona, IA 50009
(515)957-5771 Fax (515)967-6164

www.extension.iastate.edu/polk

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Recognition



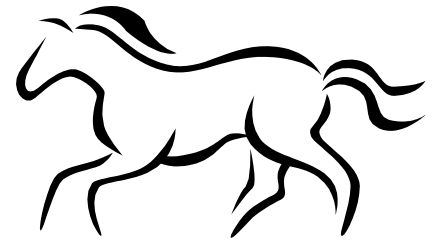
Congratulations to all the clubs that participated in this year's 4-H'ers for 4-H Campaign.

This year we raised nearly \$100 more than last year and as of last week we were on the top

5 list in the state! The 4-H'ers for 4-H Campaign supports the State 4-H Council, State 4-H Conference, International Programs, Citizen Washington Focus, and numerous other activities. Clubs that give at least \$2.55 per member will receive a certificate at the November awards ceremony as well as contribute to Banner Club points. The top three counties overall will be recognized at the State 4-H Conference in June.

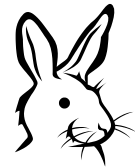
Horse Workshop

Come to a free, all-day, 4-part clinic all about showing horses at 4-H shows put on by the 2010 Iowa State Fair Junior Cowgirl Queen and Jester Dreamers 4-H Club President Jessica Taylor. The topics covered will be Preparation for a Show, Showmanship at Halter, English Equitation, and Western Horsemanship. This clinic will be open to the **FIRST 6** horse and 4-H'er teams to participate and receive individual instruction! Anyone is welcome to come, watch, and learn. For more information or to sign up to participate, please contact Jessica Taylor at 515-577-1894 or teddyechopepper@gmail.com.



Rabbit Workshop

There will be a second rabbit workshop in the Afternoon of Sunday June 12th from 2:00-4:30 at the Extension office. Tattooing, grooming, and showmanship will be the topics for this second workshop. Please RSVP to Bill Wolfe at 556-5123 or for more information.



Health Certificate Requirements for the Polk County Fair

Cats & Dogs

A vet will be at check-in, but a current rabies certificate is required. A \$1.00 fee will be assessed per dog.

Rabbits and Poultry

A vet will issue a barn certificate for the rabbits and poultry. A \$1.00 fee will be collected at check in for each exhibitor in each division.

Beef, dairy goats, boer goats, llamas, horses, sheep, and swine

The fair board will accept 1 health certificate for the entire family with multiple species listed on the certificate. Each superintendent will need to see the health certificate at check in.

Animals not having health certificates will be excused from the fair and must be taken home.

MISSION STATEMENT

4-H EMPOWERS YOUTH TO REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL WORKING
AND LEARNING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CARING ADULTS



4-H New Family Workshops

Is this your first time to the Polk County Fair? Are you confused about the new website and entry process? Do you have some questions about where to check in or how many pigs you can bring? Come to our Fair Find out night on June 9th from 6:30-8:00 at the Polk County Extension Office. We'll go over what you should expect at the fair from check-in to check out. Staff from the Extension Office will be on hand to answer your questions. If you've got questions, we'll have answers! Please let Phil know at 957-5771 or pheckman@iastate.edu if you plan on attending.

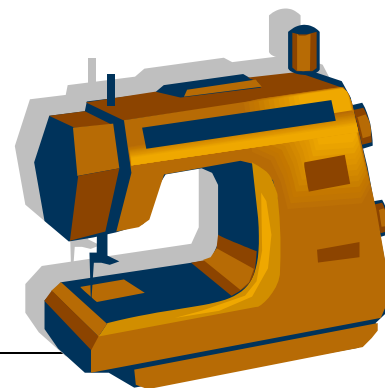
Upcoming Workshops

Playing with Cricuts Part 2, June 4th 1-3 pm
Leaf Castings, Monday June 6th 6-8:30 PM, Wednesday June 8th 6-8:30 PM, & Saturday June 11th 10-11 AM
Babysitting Basics, Monday June 13th 8:30am-3:00 PM
Bicycle Safety for Cloverkids (K-3), Monday June 13th 6-7:30 PM
Wood Working, Saturday June 11 1-4 PM
Basic Tie Dye, Saturday June 18 10:30-11:30 AM
How did you do that? Advanced Tie Dye, Saturday June 18 1-2 PM
Poise & Grooming Tuesday, June 21 6:30-8:00 PM
Elements & Principles of Design, June 23rd 6-8 PM
Beads, Beads, Which Beads, June 25th 9-11
Photography, Wednesday, June 29 6:00 - 8:00 PM
Playing with Cricuts Part 3, Saturday July 30th 1-3 PM

To register for any of these workshops, please contact:
Diana Sosalla
957-5772
sosalla@iastate.edu

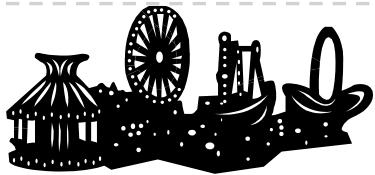
Clothing Department

Do you have difficulty writing elements and principles of design to your clothing exhibit reports? Try reading the publication, "Unraveling the Mystery of Design Elements and Principles in Clothing". It is a full color brochure that provides some great examples and answers to clothing design. You can pick a copy up in the Extension Office.



OUR VISION

A WORLD IN WHICH YOUTH AND ADULTS LEARN, GROW, AND WORK TOGETHER AS CATALYSTS FOR POSITIVE CHANGE



Fair Updates



This year will see many changes to the fair rules, and to the entry process. I highly encourage all of our 4-H families to visit the new Polk County Fairboard website (www.polkcountyfairiowa.com) and take some time familiarizing yourself with the on-line fair book and the entry forms. Neither the Book nor the forms will be provided in hard copies this year, so you will need to use the information and documents there to enter in the fair this year. Additionally, the state 4-H office has made some big changes to the 4-H exhibit classes in the building, so expect some changes to class numbers, and the location of where the judging is to take place on that first Wednesday of the fair.

If you are having a hard time with these changes or would just like a little extra help please consider coming to the fair find out meeting at the Extension office on June 9th from 6:30-8:00. Phil will be on hand that night to answer any and all your Polk County Fair Entry questions or as always, feel free to give me a call (957-5771) or e-mail (pheckman@iastate.edu) if you have any questions.

Communication Event Will Remain During the Fair

Communication Fun Day will be Thursday, July 21nd During the Polk County Fair from 1-5. Deadline to submit entry forms will be July 1st. Entry for the Communication event should be made on page 4 of the Polk County Fair Entry Packet, (Available at www.polkcountyfairiowa.com .)

This is for everyone planning on giving an educational presentation, demonstrating a working exhibit, or a senior 4-H member doing extemporaneous speaking.

** Consider adapting a presentation you have done for your club. This event is a great way to share your interests and knowledge with others. Judges can select up to six educational presentations, 4 working exhibits and 2 extemporaneous speakers for State Fair, and one educational presentation and one working exhibit for Clay County Fair's District Competition.



Details about presentation lengths can be found in the fair book.

Posters

Another communication event is creating a poster. They will be judged on Conference Judging Day (July 20) at the Polk County Fair, and the top two posters are eligible to go to the Iowa State Fair. This year's poster themes are:

- **4-H is...** (open to 4-H'ers interpretation)
- **Join 4-H**
- **Aiming for Adventure**
(the 2011 State 4-H Conference theme)
- **4-H, Nothing Compares** (the 2011 Iowa State Fair theme is, "Nothing Compares")

For additional poster rules and regulations, refer to the Polk County Fair Book, Communication Department.

Copyright Form

As fair approaches, youth bringing exhibits should be thinking about copyright/trademark issues. A sample letter is located at the fair website at: www.polkcountyfairiowa.com for you to use to write to the copyright holder to get permission to use logos, trademarks, photographs, etc. The safest course of action is: do not copy anything unless you have permission!!



4-H PLEDGE

I PLEDGE MY HEAD TO CLEARER THINKING, MY HEART TO GREATER LOYALTY, MY HANDS TO LARGER SERVICE,
AND MY HEALTH TO BETTER LIVING, FOR MY CLUB, MY COMMUNITY, MY COUNTRY, AND MY WORLD.



Conference Judging

Conference judging will take place on Wednesday, July 20 starting at 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Be sure to check page 7 of the fair book for the time your club is scheduled for conference judging, or ask your club leader. Remember there is a lunch break at noon on July 21 for all the judges, superintendents, and helpers to eat lunch so please plan accordingly.

No parents will be allowed in the judging area while their child is being judged. However, the 4-H program advisory board is looking for adult volunteer note takers to volunteer to take notes in areas where your children aren't being judged. Parents interested in helping take notes on judges' comments should contact Jodi Osthus at 515-252-7068 or rmosthus@mchsi.com to choose a time and department of interest.

Forms and Entry Tags

If you are planning on exhibiting photography, posters, or preserved foods, there are forms or labels that you can either pick up from your leader or Extension Office. Entry tags (needed for all exhibits) are also available at the office. If you have old Photography labels please do not use them, instead use the updated labels found at www.polkcountyfairiowa.com.

Clothing Event

Judging for the Clothing Event is scheduled for the morning of July 16th at the Extension Office. The Clothing Event consists of three divisions, Fashion Review, Clothing Selection, and the \$15 Challenge. **Fashion Revue** is a competition for youth who are modeling clothing they have made themselves. **Clothing Selection** is a competition for youth who are modeling clothing they have purchased from a store. **The \$15 Challenge** is a competition for youth to choose an outfit from a garage sale, consignment store, etc. with a total cost of under \$15. Additional rules and regulations are in the fair book. Tips on filling out reporting forms and modeling are also available from the Polk County Fair Website (www.polkcountyfairiowa.com) Entry forms will be in the Polk County Fair Entry Packet (www.polkcountyfairiowa.com). Reporting Forms are separate documents that participants need to bring with them on the July 16th judging day.



Food & Nutrition

Please read the 4-H publication, "Inappropriate Food Exhibits for Iowa 4-H Fairs", available from the Extension Office, or online. These are the same rules that were instituted last year.

Club Booths

Clubs may decorate their club booths from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 19. All club booths are judged on their decorations. Booth decoration judging will take place on Thursday morning. Horse stalls may be decorated after 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 20 but will not be judged this year.

Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair

The Polk County Fair will be July 20-25, 2011 at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. The fair book is available online or at the Polk County Extension Office.. The theme is "Pathway to Possibilities". Rule and class changes or additions posted at the Polk County Fair Site: www.polkcountyfairiowa.com.



New For This Year

All static exhibits are to remain at the fair grounds until **2:00 p.m.** Sunday, July 24. Members are responsible for picking up their exhibits at that time or making arrangements for someone else to get them. It is **not** the responsibility of the Extension staff to take any extra exhibits back to the Extension Office.

BBQ

The BBQ will be Wednesday, July 20 at 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in the 4-H Exhibit Building. There is no charge for the BBQ, but donations will be accepted. These funds are the major source of income for the 4-H Youth Committee to help cover the cost of the youth recognition, and scholarships for youth and adults. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Pancake Breakfast

The County Council is having a pancake breakfast Friday, July 22 from 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. in the 4-H Exhibit Building. Please plan to support the County Council by attending the breakfast.

Teen Dance

The County Council is hosting a teen dance for youth ages 13 and up on Saturday, July 23 from 9:00 p.m. – midnight. Location of event will be on the fairgrounds in the annex of the 4-H Building.

Decorate A Bale Contest

Remember to decorate a bale for your club (or individual) to have a chance to win the \$20 grand prize! Judging will take place Thursday, July 21 at 10:00 a.m. Rules for contest are in the Contest Division in the Fair Book.

Anything Goes Contest

Back by popular demand, the most wild and exciting competition of the fair! On Thursday, July 21 at 8:00 p.m. in the Horse Arena, clubs have an opportunity to participate against one another for the \$20 grand prize! Scoring based on speed through an obstacle course and completion of challenging games. Entry fee is \$3 per club due that evening.

FSQA 2011

Many Polk County 4-H'ers completed FSQA training last month, but there are still a few that need to complete this requirement before they will be allowed to exhibit food animals at fairs this year. If an exhibitor was a 4th, 5th, or 6th grader this year, they **will be required** to attend a training session. The final make-up session in Polk County will be,

Wednesday, June 15th
1:00 – 3:00 pm
Polk County Extension

If you are in the 7th Grade or above you are eligible to test out. Exhibitors interested in certifying by exam, please make an appointment by calling 957-5771. Exams need to be completed by July 1.

If you have any questions please contact Phil at 957-5771.



Poultry and Rabbit Exhibitors

All poultry and rabbit cages need to be cleaned and checked by the superintendent before you leave the fairgrounds or you will forfeit your premium money. Only market broilers can be sold at the livestock auction on Monday.

Sheep

All ewes and rams need to have scrapie tags in order to show at the Polk County or Iowa State Fairs. Wether lambs do not need to be tagged.

Helmets

All horse exhibitors will be required to wear ASTM/SEI approved protective headgear with chin strap and properly fitted harness when mounted, riding and driving. Every time, every ride.

Iowa State Fair

Iowa State Fair livestock and horticulture entries are due to the Extension office July 1. Any 4-H member that has completed 5th grade can enter. **There will not be paper copies of these entry forms from the state 4-H office this year.** The necessary forms will be found online at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/StateFair/livestock.htm>. Exhibitors will need to provide 2 copies of these forms to the County Office by

Youth and Adult Iowa State Fair Applications



Youth and adult Iowa State Fair staff and volunteer applications are available on the web at: www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/StateFair/StateFairInfo.htm. Applications for the 4-H exhibit building are due to the State 4-H Office by June 1st, and livestock volunteer applications are due by July 1st.

2011 Iowa State Fair 4-H Livestock Schedule

The new 2011 State Fair 4-H Livestock schedule is now online at, <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/StateFair/livestock.htm>.

Ak-Sar-Ben

The 84rd Annual Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Exposition will take place September 22 – September 25, 2011 at the Qwest Center in Omaha, Nebraska. **Entries are due to the Polk Co Extension Office by August 12.** A reminder that all market animals must have gone through the verification process to be eligible to exhibit at Ak-Sar-Ben.

4-H IS BASED ON RESEARCH



Polk County 4-H
 ISU Extension, Polk County
 1625 Adventureland Dr., Ste A
 Altoona, IA 50009

«AddressBlock»

Phil Heckman – 957-5771
 pheckman@iastate.edu
 4-H County Youth Coordinator

Diana Sosalla – 957-5772
 sosalla@iastate.edu
 4-H Volunteer Coordinator

Amy Marek – 957-5763
 amarek@iastate.edu
 4-H Internal Program Coordinator

Jeanine Baldwin – 957-5777
 baldwinj@iastate.edu
 County Extension Education Director

Jeff Macomber – 993-4281
 jmacombe@iastate.edu
 Youth Development Specialist

Marc Peterson—957-5780
 marc@iastate.edu
 Youth Development Specialist

Polk Co. 4-H Club Page
www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/

July 1 Polk County & Iowa State Fair Entry Packets Due to Extension Office

5 Intermediate Council Meeting 7-8:30

5 4-H Program Advisory board 7-8:30

6 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm

13 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm

16 Clothing Event

20-25 Polk County Fair

June 4 King/Queen Candidate Interviews

7 Intermediate Council Meeting 7-8:30

8 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm

9 New Families Workshop 6:30 pm

15 FSQA 1:00 – 3:00 pm

15 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm

28-30 State 4-H Conference

Dates to Remember!



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