

CLEVER POWER

The Polk County 4-H Newsletter - April 2008

Pledging our heads, hearts, hands and health.

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4-H'ers for 4-H Campaign

As a past State Council member and Finance Committee member, I know the work that goes into the 4-Her's for 4-H Campaign each year. I hope you will strongly consider encouraging your club to participate in this statewide effort. Polk County has been SO close to breaking into the Top 5 and I would love for us to make it there this year! We will be keeping a thermometer of Polk County's total donations at the Extension Office of the donations to the campaign from Polk County. There will also be one posted on the website, so you can keep tabs on where our donations are!

The Iowa 4-H'ers for 4-H Campaign is an annual fundraising program conducted by 4-H'ers for 4-H'ers. The money donated by 4-H members stays in Iowa to help Iowa 4-H youth. Iowa 4-H'ers donate more money to their 4-H youth program than any other state in the nation, and the Iowa 4-H State Council would like to continue this tradition.

The theme this year is *Funding Fun for Everyone!* And our state campaign goal is \$30,000. The State 4-H Council (11-12th graders from around the state are selected by interview to serve on this council) is asking each club to help achieve the goal by donating \$2.50 per member. This is an increase from the recommended donation of \$2.00 last year. The State 4-H Council uses these funds to continue support for financial assistance for youth who attend 4-H camps and state conference, area grants for intermediate 4-H programs and activities, statewide recognition awards, trips, and the State 4-H Conference. Through this small donation per member, 4-Her's are able to assist with larger 4-H programs across the State of Iowa.

All clubs meeting the \$2.50 per member goal will receive a special campaign certificate to be awarded at the Family Fun Celebration in November. Top contributing counties and regional areas will be recognized at the State 4-H Conference in June. All campaign contributions must be turned into the Extension Office by May 15. IMPORTANT! Checks must be made by the club and made payable to the Iowa 4-H Foundation.

I hope you will consider donating to this important Iowa 4-H Campaign!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erin Pierce".

Erin Pierce
County Youth Coordinator

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension



National Volunteer Week

Please join us in thanking our nearly two hundred 4-H volunteers for the dedication and energy they give to our 4-H program. April 27-May 3 is recognized as National Volunteer Week.

It's true, volunteers are the heart of our program. From club leaders to fair superintendents, we have new volunteers, and others with over 30 years of experience! No matter the length of commitment, each volunteer is appreciated for their gift of time and talent.

Let volunteers in your club know how important they are to you!

Leader Meeting

The next 4-H Leader Meeting will be Tuesday, April 22 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. or 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. We will need a leader from each club to attend. At this meeting you will be able to pick up fair books, fair entry packets, camp brochures, club lists, summer opportunities, ID forms, and much more.

Recognition

Congratulations to Grant Bargfrede! Grant was selected to serve on the 2008-2009 State 4-H Council. Grant was also selected to advance to State Interviews for National 4-H Congress. We also want to congratulate Dwight Lykins for participating in the Area Interview process.



March County Council Report

By Emily Mauch

The regular Polk County, County Council meeting was held March 5 at the Extension Office. Planning for Midnight Madness was on the agenda. Signs were made and fun events were planned. Ideas for improvements were shared and brought into action. Then the big night came. Midnight Madness was held March 15 at the Altoona Campus. With around one hundred 4H-er's and parents from all over Polk County in attendance it was a success. Fun games included swimming, volleyball, guessing jars, arts and crafts, and the all loved dodge ball tournament were played from seven to midnight. County Council thanks all 4H-er's and parents who came to support this event. It has always been a great opportunity to meet new and fun people.

2008 "Winner's Circle" Scholarships

The Iowa Foundation for Agricultural Advancement (IFAA) is making available: one (1) \$5,000 one-year scholarship, one (1) \$3,000 one-year scholarship, seven (7) \$2,000 one-year scholarships, two (2) \$1,500 one-year scholarships, ten (10) \$1,000 one-year scholarships, and two (2) \$500 one-year scholarships to Iowa youth who are involved in livestock and agriculture projects. The IFAA is a non-profit organization of individuals and corporations whose goal is to support youth livestock and agriculture project work in Iowa including sponsorship of the "Sale of Champions" at the Iowa State Fair. Please pass this information on to eligible youth.

Deadline: Applications for scholarships must be post-marked by June 1, 2008. To apply please complete the attached application form (photocopy may be used). The application is also available at www.ifaa.org/scholarships.html or by calling 515-685-3719.



Central Iowa 4-H Intermediate Trip Discover the Twin Cities

Make plans to join the fun in discovering some great places around Minneapolis and St. Paul, June 17th – 19th, 2008. You'll also be meeting 4-H'ers from 16 other counties in central Iowa. A few of the places you'll be visiting are:

- Cabela's
- Minnesota Zoo
- Mall of America
- Rainforest Café
- Science Museum Of Minnesota
- Padelford Packet River Boat Cruise
- Hard Rock Café
- Musical Comedy Performance at Plymouth Theatre
- Valleyfair Amusement Park



Registration materials are available at the Extension Office. Registration deadline is May 1st. Trip cost is \$255. This covers all attractions, hotel, transportation and some meals. Space is limited, so register early.

Communication Fun Day

Communication Fun Day will be Saturday, June 28 at the Polk County Extension Office. Deadline to submit entry forms will be June 1.



Be sure to download (or pickup in our office) Communication Fun Day entry forms and information sheet on the Polk County 4-H website:
www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/club.htm.

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 on the information sheet accompanying the entry form on our website.



Posters

Another communication event is decorating a poster. They will be judged on Conference Judging Day (July 16) at the Polk County Fair. This year's poster themes are:

- 4-H is... (open to 4-H'ers interpretation)
- Join 4-H
- Ignite the Flame (the 2008 State 4-H Conference theme)
- U Gotta Love It! (the 2008 Iowa State Fair theme)

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 on our website at:
www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/club.htm 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!!

2008 State 4-H Conference

"Ignite the Flame" is the theme for the 2008 State 4-H Conference, held June 24 – 26. This annual conference is coordinated by the State 4-H Council – a group of high school youth from around the state. Nearly 1,000 youth in grades 8th – 12th are expected to attend. Registrations are due May 15. The first 15 registrations from Polk County 4-H'ers will receive a rebate of \$50, plus the conference t-shirt for free from the 4-H Club Committee!

State 4-H Conference is a great experience. 4-H'ers stay in dorms on the Iowa State Campus for two nights and participate in three days of fun, motivational speakers, community service, educational workshops, and entertainment. More information about this year's Conference including registration information is available at the Extension Office.



It is very important to our county for youth that sign up to be able to attend. In order to make this happen, we are in need of an adult male and adult female chaperone to attend conference with our delegates. Chaperone's registrations are paid for in full by the 4-H Club Committee. Please contact the Extension Office if interested in this opportunity.

Clothing Event

Judging for the Clothing Event is scheduled for the morning of July 12 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 Extension Office. Entry forms are in the Polk County Fair Entry Packet. Reporting Forms are separate documents that participants need to bring with them on the July 12 judging day. The Clothing Event Superintendent is Eileen Klemme-DeVore.

Spring Volunteer Day at the 4-H Center

The spring volunteer day at the Iowa 4-H Center will be Saturday, April 12 regardless of event conflicts and weather, and volunteers are encouraged to come for **part of the day if they can't make it for all. Breakfast will be served at 9 a.m., a hot lunch will be provided at noon, and the day will conclude at 3 p.m.** Projects for the day will focus on sprucing up the facilities and grounds, which includes raking dead leaves away from cabins, splitting campfire logs, chipping branches, cleaning cabins, trimming trails and staining projects. The camp welcomes all ages and groups to participate in the volunteer day, which in the past has had 4-H alumni, families with young children, 4-Her's and 4-H clubs come out. Interested 4-H clubs also can stay Friday or Saturday for a discounted price in Birch or Hickory Villages, an option that has often been used in the past for a mini-retreat. All interested volunteers can call the camp office at (515) 795-3338 to sign up themselves or their group for the day. If interested in other volunteering opportunities, contact John Roosa at jroosa@iastate.edu to set up a date and project.



Summer 4-H Camp 2008

There are still openings in all of our day and overnight summer camps. The camp website has lots of details on camp descriptions, dates, and fees. Visit www.iowa4hcamp.com for more information about Everything Camps, Specialty Camps, X-Treme Camps, Leadership Camps, and Family Camps. You can even register for camp online! 4-H membership is NOT required to attend our camps!

Iowa 4-H Foundation Camp Scholarships

The Iowa 4-H Foundation offers scholarship assistance for summer campers (and other opportunities like State Conference). The form is easy to complete and needs to be turned in by May 1. Download it from our website at www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/club.htm.

Growing Your 4-H Garden Workshop



Are you interested in learning about vegetable and flower gardening? Join us for the Growing Your 4-H Garden Workshop on Tuesday, April 29 from 6:00 – 7:30 pm at the Polk County Extension Office. **You'll learn to develop your Green Thumb while learning the basics of starting your own garden.**

Other Upcoming Workshops

You Made What? (2-session Sewing Workshop) – Cost depends on fabric, etc. purchased for project.

Saturday, May 10 – 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Hancock Fabrics, Ankeny

Saturday, May 17 – 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Extension Office

Cyber Safety Workshop by the

Iowa State Highway Patrol

Thursday, May 15 – 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Extension Office

Horticulture Exhibits-Showing the Best

Saturday, May 31 - 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Extension Office

Visual Arts – Cost \$3.00

Friday, June 6 – 10:00 am – 12:00 Noon

Ankeny Arts Center

Photography – Shooting and Showing the Best

Saturday, June 7 – 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Extension Office

'Weigh' Your Options

Thursday, June 19 – 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Extension Office

Please RSVP for all workshops to:



Diana Sosalla
261-4202

sosalla@iastate.edu



Polk County 4-H... We Make the Best Better!



New Member?

Do you have Questions about 4-H?



Join us for a meet and greet with other new member's and their families. Come and win fun 4-H Doorprizes. This month we'll be discussing Project Ideas, the difference between a project and an exhibit, project record keeping, and any other questions you might have about 4-H.

Where: Polk County Extension Office

5210 NE 14th Street Suite A., Des Moines

When: Thursday, April 10th, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Who: All 4-Hers, new member's and their families especially!

CONTACT:

Diana Sosalla

5201 NE 14th Street,

Suite A

Des Moines, IA 50313

Phone: 515-261-4202

Fax: 515-263-2704

E-mail: sosalla@iastate.edu



Polk County 4-**H** ... **We Make the Best Better!**



Money, Money, Money, Money

Who: All 4-Hers — Bring a Friend too!

What: Reserve your spot now for either or both of these important workshops.

Where: Polk County Extension Office

When: Saturday afternoon, April 12

\$ Shop Til You Drop \$ 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. (4th—12th grades)

Explore ways to become a wise consumer. Learn how to determine your **"Wants" and "Needs," save money for important goals and make better buying decisions.**

Who Wants to be a Millionaire? Avoid the Credit Trap!

3:00 to 4:30 p.m. (10th—12th grades)

Learn how to use credit to your advantage and why it is important to maintain a good credit history, from the very beginning.

Make your reservation **NOW!**

CONTACT:

Diana Sosalla

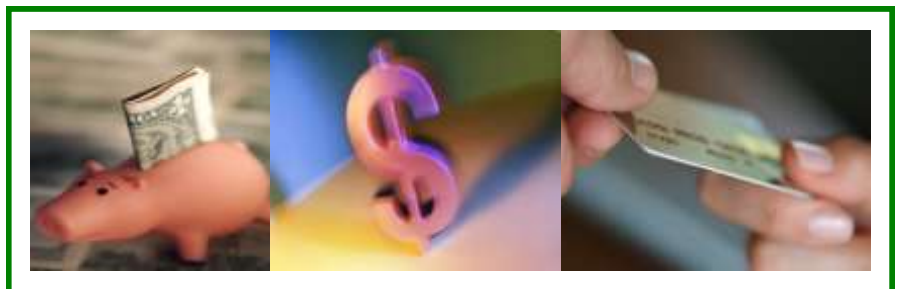
5201 NE 14th Street, Suite A

Des Moines, IA 50313

Phone: 515-261-4202

Fax: 515-263-2704

E-mail: sosalla@iastate.edu



Weigh-In Dates

Please mark your calendars with the following weigh-in dates.

Swine – Saturday, April 5 from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon
at **Don Timmins' farm in Altoona**

* Ak-Sar-Ben verification will be done at the county weigh-in this year rather than the Iowa State Fair verification. If you plan to verify swine for Ak-Sar-Ben please call Phil to let him know that you intend to verify for Ak-Sar-Ben.

State Fair Swine – Saturday, April 19 from 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the Iowa State Fairgrounds (South side of Swine Barn)

*Other times and locations are available. Please contact the Extension Office for more information.

Sheep and Meat Goat - Saturday, May 3 from 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the Iowa State Fairgrounds – Sheep Barn

Livestock ID's

All livestock ID's for breeding beef, horses, dairy, dairy goats, dogs, llamas, breeding sheep, and swine are due to the Polk Co. Extension Office no later than May 15, 2008. The ID's for market beef, market sheep and swine are brought to the office as soon as the weigh-ins are completed. Each 4-H member is responsible for turning in their ID's. Forms are available at the Extension Office or from your club leader.



Livestock Record Keeping Forms

Livestock Record Keeping forms are available online at: www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/recordkeeping.htm. Forms are included for beef, sheep, swine, dairy, goat, cat, dog, pets, rabbit, and poultry.

Iowa State Fair Market Broilers

Don't forget to order your Market Broilers! The Iowa State Fair Market Broiler entry form is available at the extension office. This form needs to be returned to the Polk County Extension Office by May 27, 2008.

Jasper County 4-H/FFA Rabbit Workshop



Sunday, April 6, 2008
12:30 – 4:30 pm
Jasper County Fairgrounds
Colfax, Iowa

This workshop is intended for youth who are starting to raise rabbits. Area breeders will speak on general rabbit information. Coats Farm Equipment will host a "make your own rabbit carrier" session. Please contact Coats Equipment for specific cost and size information 1-800-588-7977 or coatfrm@opencominc.com.

There will be rabbit tattooing available for up to 2 rabbits per youth. 4-H members may show 2 rabbits in a practice show if they have shown in 2 or less ARBA shows. Specific questions can be directed to Randy or Bobbi Coats at coatfrm@opencominc.com or Bill Wolfe, President of Iowa Rabbit Breeders at 515-285-6929 or 515-556-5123.

National Scrapie Eradication Program for Sheep and Goats

The federal National Scrapie Eradication program to eliminate the disease scrapie from US sheep and goat flocks, began in November 2001. Because of the cost to the industry, the long time between exposure and symptoms, and the prevalence in the US, all sheep and goat producers, including 4-H'ers, must help to eradicate this disease.

To register your flock for the scrapie program and receive your free tags, call 1-866-USDA-TAG, or 1-866-873-2824. For more information about the nationwide program, go to the National Scrapie Eradication website at: www.animalagriculture.org/scrapie/Scrapie.htm.

Horse Jamboree

The 2008 State Youth Horse Jamboree is scheduled for April 12 and 13 at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. There are several non-riding competitions to compete in as an individual or team. For complete schedule and registration information, go to: www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/livestockhandbookHorse.htm and scroll down to the Horse Jamboree information.



FSQA 2008

The 4-H Food Safety and Quality Assurance (FSQA) program will require all beef, swine, sheep, dairy, goat, poultry, and rabbit exhibitors

(breeding and market animals) at the Polk County and Iowa State Fairs to be certified. FSQA training is an essential tool in understanding how raising 4-H projects affects the food on our plates. Knowing the importance of good record-keeping, understanding feed and feed additives, injections, labels, withdrawals, bio-security, the vet-patient-client relationship, general care and handling, and the ethics of producing food is essential.



Certification can be accomplished through a two-hour workshop (all age groups), or by testing out (ages 12-18). Hands-on activities will be done as part of the certification workshop. Exhibitors that wish to certify in 2008 by workshop have one last opportunity to do so on:



Monday, June 9
1:30 – 3:30 pm
Polk County Extension

If interested in certifying by exam, please make an appointment by calling 261-4230. Exams need to be completed by July 1.

Several 4-H members tested-out of **FSQA and won't necessarily need to recertify this year.** The Polk County Extension office sent out letters to livestock exhibitors in regards to **individual's certification status.** If you did not receive a letter, received one and have decided not to show this year, or have questions, please contact Phil at 261-4230.



Queen and King Contest at the Polk County Fair



Applications for the Polk County Fair Queen and King Contests will be made available to leaders at the April 22 Leader Meeting. Each club may have one male and one female representative. Applicants must be 16 years old by August 9. Applications are due May 15. No late entries will be accepted. Queen and King Contest Interviews will take place on Saturday, June 7 at the Extension Office. The crowning will take place the evening of July 16 at the fair. The Queen/King Superintendents are Tracey Casey and Kyle Smith.

Hosts Needed for the 4-H Building & Night Watch for the Livestock Barns

4-H Clubs are needed to host the 4-H Building during the Polk County Fair. Times that need to be filled are:

Thursday

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Friday

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Sunday

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

We also need clubs to sign up for the Night Watch in the horse barn and the sheep barn for Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. Clubs can also sign up to set-up, serve, and clean-up for the Wednesday night BBQ.

Please call Erin at 261-4209 to reserve your time for hosting the building or night watch for the barns. If we have not heard from you by June 1, a time will be assigned to your club.

2008 Polk County Fair Dates

The 2008 Polk County Fair is scheduled for July 16 – 21 at the Iowa State Fair Grounds. Conference Judging Day will be held on Wednesday, July 16.

2008 Iowa State Fair

Looking ahead, the 2008 Iowa State Fair will be August 7 – 17, 2008! Entry deadline for State Fair entries is July 1. The 2008 Iowa State Fair Premium Book will be available exclusively online at www.iowastatefair.org. No hard copies will be mailed to families or County Extension Offices this year.

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. The ISF will be August 7-17, 2008.

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. These forms are due to the State 4-H office July 1.

Phone Numbers, E-Mail and Website Addresses

Erin Pierce – 261-4209
ekpierce@iastate.edu
4-H County Youth Coordinator

Phil Heckman – 261-4230
pheckman@iastate.edu
4-H County Youth Coordinator

Diana Sosalla – 261-4202
sosalla@iastate.edu
4-H Internal Program Coordinator

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

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

Dates to Remember

April 2 County Council 7:00 p.m. Extension Office
April 4 – 6 Shooting Sports Volunteer Training at the Iowa 4-H Center
April 5 Swine Weigh-in 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Don Timmins' farm, Altoona
April 10 New Member Workshop—6:30—7:30 pm—
Extension Office
April 12 Finance Workshops 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 pm
and 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm – Extension Office
April 12 – 13 Horse Jamboree Iowa State Fairgrounds
April 16 Fair Board 7:30 p.m. Extension Office
April 19 State Fair Swine Weigh-In
9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. – Iowa State Fairgrounds
April 22 Leader Training 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
or 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Extension Office
April 29 Growing Your 4-H Garden Workshop
6:00 – 7:30 pm – Extension Office
May 3 Market Sheep and Meat Goat Weigh-In
:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. - Iowa State Fairgrounds
May 3 Annual Clarke County Classic Youth Rabbit
May 7 County Council 7:00 p.m. Extension Office
May 10 You Made What? Sewing Workshop Part 1 –
1:00 – 3:00 pm – Hancock Fabrics, Ankeny
May 15 4-H Enrollments due to Extension Office
May 15 **Livestock ID's due to Extension Office**
May 15 Cyber Safety Workshop – 6:30 – 8:00 pm –
Extension Office
May 17 You Made What? Sewing Workshop Part 2 –
1:00 – 4:00 pm – Extension Office
May 21 Fair Board 7:30 p.m. Extension Office
May 31 Horticulture Exhibits Workshop
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm – Extension Office
June 4 County Council 7:00 p.m. Extension Office
June 6 Visual Arts Workshop
10:00 am – 12:00 Noon – Ankeny Arts Center
June 7 Photography Workshop – 1:00 – 3:00 pm –
Extension Office
June 17 – 19 Central Iowa Intermediate 4-H Trip
to the Twin Cities
June 18 Fair Board 7:30 p.m. Extension Office
June 18 – 20 Photo Camp at the Iowa 4-H Camp
June 19 **'Weigh' Your Options Workshop** –
6:30 – 8:30 pm – Extension Office
June 24 – 26 State 4-H Conference ISU Campus, Ames
June 28 Communication Fun Day Extension Office
July 1 County Fair and State Fair Entry Deadline
July 9 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. Extension Office
July 16 -21 Polk County Fair at Iowa State Fairgrounds
August 7 – 17 Iowa State Fair