

# CLEVER PLOVER

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

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

ISU Extension, Polk County 5201 NE 14th St, Ste A, Des Moines, IA 50313  
(515)263-2660 Fax (515)263-2704 [www.extension.iastate.edu/polk](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk)

### It's Fair Time!

It's hard to believe it's July already! Fair will be here before we know it! Please read this newsletter closely to make sure you have all the updates and information to prepare you for the 2008 Polk County Fair.

The fair will kick off Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup> with Conference Judging in the 4-H Building and continue throughout the week with all the livestock and animal shows. Fair information and schedules can be found at the following link: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/fair.htm>. Copies of the schedule can also be picked up in our office to promote the fair to friends, family and the public.

Maggie Scholbrock has joined us again this summer to assist with the fair preparations and questions. Feel free to call her at 261-4233 or e-mail at [scholbm@extension.iastate.edu](mailto:scholbm@extension.iastate.edu) if you have any questions.

Best of luck in your final fair preparations. See you at the fair!



Erin Pierce  
County Youth Coordinator



Phil Heckman  
County Youth Coordinator

### Adult Volunteers Needed at the Polk County Fair!

Exciting news for the Polk County Fair! This year a raffle will be held by the Iowa 4-H Foundation with the raffle prize being a 2008 F-150 (4X4) flex-fuel extended cab donated to the Iowa 4-H Foundation by the Midwest Ford Dealers. The truck will travel across the state to county fairs and other events from the beginning of June through October. The drawing to name the winner of the Ford truck will be held Saturday, October 11, 2008 to commemorate National 4-H Week. The truck will promote the use of ethanol as well as raising funds to support Iowa 4-H. The truck's visit to our county fair means that \$10 for every ticket sold will come back to the Polk County 4-H Endowment to support 4-Hers in Polk County. Tickets for the raffle will cost \$20.

Since we are having the truck at the Polk County Fair, we are looking for adults (anyone over age 18) to assist the Iowa 4-H Foundation Staff with the selling of raffle tickets. We need 2-3 people per shift and will begin selling tickets during the afternoon and throughout the evening during the BBQ and King and Queen Crowning. Please contact Erin if you are interested or available to assist with this exciting event!

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
University Extension

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

## Rabbit Workshops

### Rabbit Workshops:

July 8 6:30 to 8:00 pm

This workshop will discuss rabbit care, fair entries, showing your rabbit at the county fair & state fair 4-H show and rabbit breeds. Tattooing will be available at 50 cents per rabbit to cover the club's county fair trophy. Bring a carpet square and one rabbit to work on showmanship skills. Questions? Call Carol Stock, 515 447-1012.

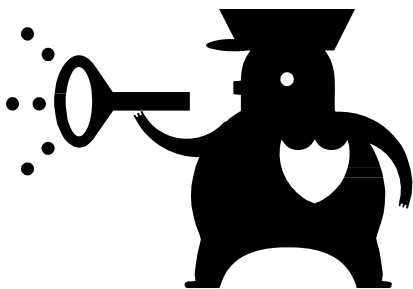


## Polk County Fair UPDATE!

The Advanced Cattle Feeder Show at the Polk County Fair this year will begin at 10:00 am rather than 11:00 am as it has been in the past.

Horse exhibitors – The State Fairgrounds are changing daily and all horse exhibitors should expect major modifications to the way things have "normally" been done. Please be prepared for changes and keep safety a priority!

Horse Volunteers Needed! With the changes taking place at the Fairgrounds this year, there is extra help needed during the horse shows. If you are available, please contact Brad Parks 986-5758.



## Hosting the Building and Night Watch

We have passed the deadline to sign up for hosting the building and night watch shifts, or risk having a shift assigned for you. A few shifts were needed to be filled and have been assigned. Please read the Hosting and Night Watch letter posted on our website at: [www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/club.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/club.htm).



## Day Care Tour Guides Needed!

Would you or a 4-H member you know like to guide children around the Polk County Fair? We are looking for youth and adults to lead day care tours during the Polk County Fair this year.

The day care tours will be held on Thursday, July 17 and Friday, July 18. The tours are scheduled to be one hour in length, with the first tour starting at 10:00 am and the last tour ending at 3:00 p.m. We would love to have your help in guiding our guests around the 4-H building and in the livestock barns. A script will be provided for you. All you need to do is lead the group around the fairgrounds, show enthusiasm and answer questions! Please contact Maggie Scholbrock at 261-4233 or [scholbm@extension.iastate.edu](mailto:scholbm@extension.iastate.edu), if you would like to help.

## Health Certificate Requirements for the Polk County Fair

### **Cats & Dogs**

A vet will be at check-in, but a current rabies certificate is required.

### **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 excluded from the fair and must be taken home.**





# A Year Around Affair

## Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair

The Polk County Fair will be July 16-21, 2008 at the Iowa State Fairgrounds. Fair books are the same as last year. The theme is "A Year Around Affair". If you need a Fair books, you can pick one up at the Extension Office. Rule and class changes or additions have been posted on our website: [www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/club.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/club.htm).

### Conference Judging

Conference judging will take place on Wednesday, July 16 starting at 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Be sure to check page 8 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 16 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. There are plenty of benches available for the parents to sit and wait while your child is being judged. Be sure to **READ** pages 14-15 and 57-60 for the general rules.

If this is your first year attending the fair, ask a fellow 4-H member or club leader about the experience. If you're exhibiting in the 4-H Exhibit Building, please remember to check-in with the front desk just inside the main entrance. Helpers at the desk will be able to give you your "blue sheet" of 4-H entries. There is space on the blue sheet for the judges to mark what ribbon you received. **It's very important to remember to return your blue sheet to the information desk when you're through with judging** – without it, you will not be able to receive premium monies after the fair.

### 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.

### Help for Preparing Fair Exhibits

- Determine the goal for the exhibit
  - Check 4-H project manuals
  - Discuss ideas with a parent, leader, or other 4-H'ers
  - Check the Polk Co. Extension Office for additional resources
  - If you are preparing preserved foods (canning) check to be sure you are using currently approved methods. Check at the Polk Co. Extension Office for USDA guidelines or call the ISU Answer Line 1-800-262-3804 for information.
  - Read and follow all class descriptions, rules, and guidelines in your fair book.
- Plan now, prepare ahead of time and enjoy the fair.

### 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:

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

For additional poster rules and regulations, refer to page 69 the Polk County Fair Book.

### 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 15. 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 16 but will not be judged this year.

All exhibits are to remain at the fair grounds until 4:00 p.m. Sunday, July 21. Members are responsible for picking up their exhibits at that time or make 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.

### **Clothing Event**

Entry forms are in the Polk County Fair entry packets (top of the yellow page) and are **due July 1**. 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 Revue, 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. **PLEASE NOTE:** Bargain items purchased at a regular retail outlet should be entered in Clothing Selection. The \$15 Challenge is for items purchased at unconventional clothing outlets. 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.

### **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.

### **BBQ**

The BBQ will be Wednesday, July 16 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 Club 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 18 from 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. in the 4-H Exhibit Building. Plan on supporting 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 19 from 9:00 p.m. – midnight. Location of event will be on the fairgrounds, however, the building has not been confirmed. Please look for signs posted at the fair.

### **Decorate A Bale Contest**

Don't forget to decorate a bale for your club (or individual) to get a chance to win the \$20 grand prize! Judging will take place Thursday, July 17 at 10:00 a.m. Rules for contest are on page 89 of the Fair Book.

### **Anything Goes Contest**

Back by popular demand, the most wild and exciting competition of the fair! On Thursday, July 17 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 \$2 per club by July 1<sup>st</sup>. Late registration (after July 1<sup>st</sup>) will be \$5 per club. Complete set of rules and regulations are on page 89 of Fair Book.

### **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.

### **Horse Clinics**

All 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year Horse and Pony Exhibitors are required to attend a training session to be held on Thursday July 17, 2008. To accommodate all exhibitors, the training will be held at two different times; 1-3 PM and 5-7 PM in the Polk County Fair Arena- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year exhibitors must attend at least one of the sessions. Each two-hour session will include basic horse care, safety and show ring etiquette. It is highly recommended ALL Horse and Pony exhibitors prepare for the Polk County Fair by attending various events that provide them with the opportunity to learn safety, basic horse care and show ring etiquette. It is strongly suggested that ALL Horse and Pony exhibitors prepare well in advance of the 4H Fair.

## Ak-Sar-Ben

The 81<sup>st</sup> Annual Ak-Sar-Ben 4-H Livestock Exposition will take place September 23 – September 28, 2008 at the Qwest Center in Omaha, Nebraska. **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.



## County Council and Intermediate Council Applications

Anyone interested in participating in either the County Council (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders) or Intermediate Council (7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders) need to fill out the application and turn into the Extension Office by August 15. Application forms are available online or by stopping by the Extension Office. Also this year, all interested members must complete an interview to be eligible for either of the councils. Please contact Erin (for County Council) or Phil (for Intermediate Council) to schedule your interview. Interviews will be held September 10 from 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm or September 13 from 8:00 am – 12:00 noon. You must sign up for an interview time as well as turn in your application by August 15 to be eligible for membership on the council. If you have questions about County Council, please contact Erin or talk to other members that have been on the council in the past. The Intermediate Council is new this year, so you can contact Phil if you have any questions.



## Leader Training

The next leader training will be Thursday, September 11 at 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. or 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Polk County Extension Office. This will be the first of the mandatory training sessions for the 2008-2009 4-H year. Enrollments will be available to pick up, so please make sure someone from your club attends to pick up this information. Hope you can make it!

## Phone Numbers, E-Mail and Website Addresses

Erin Pierce – 261-4209  
[ekpierce@iastate.edu](mailto:ekpierce@iastate.edu)  
4-H County Youth Coordinator

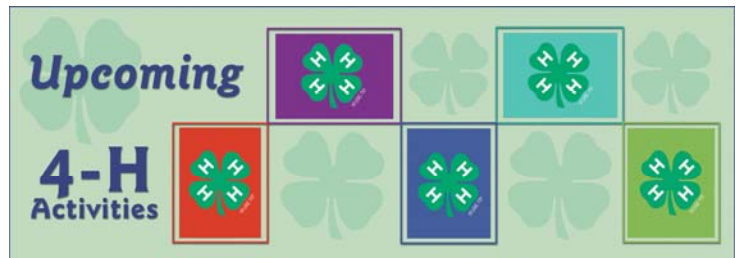
Phil Heckman – 261-4230  
[pheckman@iastate.edu](mailto:pheckman@iastate.edu)  
4-H County Youth Coordinator

Maggie Scholbrock – 261-4233  
[scholbm@extension.iastate.edu](mailto:scholbm@extension.iastate.edu)  
4-H Summer Assistant

Diana Sosalla – 261-4202  
[sosalla@iastate.edu](mailto:sosalla@iastate.edu)  
4-H Volunteer Coordinator

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

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

**July 9** Fair Board Meeting 7:30 p.m. Extension Office  
**July 12** Clothing Event – Extension Office  
**July 16 -21** Polk County Fair at Iowa State Fairgrounds  
**August 7 – 17** Iowa State Fair  
**August 15** Deadline for Intermediate Council and County Council Applications





**Polk County 4-H**  
ISU Extension, Polk County  
5201 NE 14<sup>th</sup> St, Ste A  
Des Moines, IA 50313