

# CLEVER POWER

## The Polk County 4-H Newsletter - April 2009

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

ISU Extension, Polk County 1625 Adventureland Dr., Ste A, Altoona, IA 50009  
(515)957-5760 Fax (515)957-5711 [www.extension.iastate.edu/polk](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk)

### 2008 State 4-H Conference

“Voyage to Greatness” is the theme for the 2009 State 4-H Conference, held June 30 – July 2nd. This annual conference is coordinated by the State 4-H Council – a group of high school youth from around the state. I think that this theme is apt considering our goals for the Polk County 4-H program. Many days I feel like we are on our own “Voyage to Greatness,” and I’m really excited about this year’s state conference, planned in part by our very own County Council President and State Council Representative Grant Bargfrede.

Nearly 1,000 youth in grades 8th – 12th are expected to attend. Yes that’s right, 8<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to attend as well. State Conference is a fantastic opportunity for our graduating Intermediates to get a taste of all that they can expect as a Senior 4-H’er, and can help to catapult them into a leadership position next year as we look for new members of the County Council. Registrations are due May 15. The first 15 registrations from Polk County 4-H’ers will attend will receive a \$50 rebate on the \$125 registration fee, plus they’ll receive the conference t-shirt for free from the 4-H Youth 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.

There are over 275 4-H’ers currently enrolled in Polk County 4-H who are eligible to attend this year’s conference. With our county being so large and so close to the conference I would love to see participation to this event in the tens or even hundreds. We are in a position to lead the state with our 4-H program here in Polk County and I’d love to see our youth as Captains on this “Voyage to Greatness.”

It is very important to our county that the youth that sign up to be able to attend. In order to make this happen, we are in need of one adult chaperone for each ten attendees to attend conference with our delegates. In addition the conference is requiring that these chaperone positions be gender specific to the group of delegates that we send. Chaperone’s registrations are paid for in full by the 4-H Youth Committee. Please let me know if you are an adult that is interested in this facilitating this opportunity for our 4-H’ers .



Phil Heckman

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 19th-25th 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, (If you are reading this during a club meeting, this is the part where you should all stand up and clap for your club leaders.)

## 4-H Hall of Fame Nominations

Each year the State 4-H Office and the Iowa 4-H Foundation sponsor a 4-H Hall of Fame recognition program to honor volunteers and staff that have given so much of their time and talents to the Iowa 4-H Program.. The **nomination deadline is May 1st. This year's ceremony** will take place on Sunday, August 23 at the Iowa State Fair.

Each county has the opportunity to nominate one individual (or couple) from their county to be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Criteria for selection include: Citizenship, Leadership, Career, and Character. **If you'd like to nominate someone from Polk County, please visit our website, detailing past recipients and nomination procedures at: [www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/halloffame.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/halloffame.htm)**

## Leader Meeting

The next 4-H Leader Meeting will be Tuesday, April 27 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. or 6:00 – 8:00 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. This meeting will not be an opportunity to complete volunteer training modules, however we will be happy to facilitate the completion of any trainings that you need that day outside of the meeting times.

Besides all of the other materials that you will be receiving we plan to address the new IRS filing requirements for 4-H clubs with an EIN number. We have only recently received instruction on how to do this from the state 4-H office, and we will be working to meet these filing requirements before the May 15th filing deadline.



## Recognition

Congratulations to County Council members Grant Bargfrede and Ryan Roesch! Ryan was selected to advance to State Interviews for a Communications Award. Grant

was selected to serve on the 2009-2010 State 4-H Council, and was also selected to advance to State Interviews for National 4-H Conference and a state Leadership Award.

Congratulations also go to the members of the **Intermediate Council, as recipients of one of this year's Pioneer Community Improvement Grants.** Fundraising Committee chairperson Maggie Zimmerman, completed the grant application and out of 45 applications the Intermediate Council was one of the groups that was awarded a grant. Pioneer Hi-Bred International, awarded the group \$200 to help them provide video game equipment to hospitalized children at the Blank Children's Hospital.



## 4-H'ers for 4-H Campaign 2009

March 1st marks the beginning of the 2009 4-H'ers for 4-H Campaign conducted by the State 4-H Council.

**"Giving Green to Achieve Your Dream" is this year's campaign theme.** The recommended donation for club members is \$2.50. Club donation forms were given out to club leaders at the February leader training. If your leader was not able to attend, they may pick up information at the Extension Office. **Donations to this year's campaign must be turned in by May 15th.** Participating in the 4-H'ers for 4-H Campaign earns your club points for Banner Club. Polk County was just a few dollars away from breaking into the top 5 donating counties in the state. We have the largest number of 4-H'ers in the state...we need to make it into the top 5 this year!!!



## 2009 IFAA Winner's Circle Scholarship

The Iowa Foundation for Agricultural Advancement has 25 scholarships available for high school students planning on attending college totaling \$39,000. These scholarships are available to incoming freshman in the Fall of 2009 at any two- or four-year post-secondary institution in Iowa. The application deadline is June 1, 2009.

The \$2,000 Timmins, Kroll & Jacobsen Scholarship is intended to be awarded to an applicant from Polk County who has a strong background in 4-H and/or FFA. Scholarship information can be found at the Polk County 4-H website under "Scholarships and Awards." [www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/members.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/members.htm)

## Central Iowa 4-H Intermediate Trip: 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Graders Discover the Twin Cities

Make plans to join the fun in discovering some great places around Minneapolis and St. Paul, June 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>, 2009. You will meet 4-H'ers from 16 other counties in Central Iowa. The places you'll be visiting are:

Cabela's  
Minnesota Zoo  
Mall of America  
Rainforest Café  
Science Museum Of Minnesota  
Pizza Lucé  
Mill City historic flour mill museum  
Minneapolis Sculpture Garden  
Padelford Packet River Showboat and comedy performance "*Is there a Doctor in the House?*"  
Valleyfair Amusement Park



Think of all the project areas and life skills that are related to the trip: animal science, science and technology, history, theatre arts, money management, consumer product selection, food and nutrition, responsibility, citizenship, social skills and of course, LOTS OF FUN! Consider doing a fair exhibit related to your experiences.

Registration materials are available at the Extension Office. Early registration deadline is April 30. Trip cost is \$255. This covers all attractions, hotel, transportation and some meals. Register early. If buses are not filled by April 30, youth who participated last year as 7<sup>th</sup> graders, may register for this year (must register by May 15<sup>th</sup>).

## Communication Fun Day

Communication Fun Day will be Saturday, June 13 at the Polk County Extension Office. Deadline to submit entry forms will be May 15th.

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/members.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/members.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.



## Clothing Event

Judging for the Clothing Event is scheduled for the morning of July 11th at the Extension Office. The Clothing Event consists of three divisions, Fashion Review, Clothing Selection, and the \$15 Challenge. Fashion Review 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 will be in the new fair book. Tips on filling out reporting forms and modeling are also available from the Extension Office. Entry forms will be in the Polk County Fair Entry Packet. Reporting Forms are separate documents that participants need to bring with them on the July 11 judging day.



## Posters

Another communication event is decorating a poster. They will be judged on Conference Judging Day (July 15) at the Polk County Fair. This year's poster themes are:

- 4-**H** is... (open to 4-H'ers interpretation)
- Join 4-H
- Voyage to Greatness  
(the 2009 State 4-H Conference theme)
- 4-H Time (the 2009 Iowa State Fair theme is, "State Fair Time")

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/members.htm](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/polk/info/4h/members.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!!

## Spring Volunteer Day at the 4-H Center

The spring volunteer day at the Iowa 4-H Center will be Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> and will take place regardless of event conflicts and weather. 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.

## 2009 State 4-H Camps



The 2009 Summer Camp information is now available on-line at:

[www.iowa4hcamp.com/summercamp](http://www.iowa4hcamp.com/summercamp).

There are 12 brand new camps for summer 2009! Discounts on camp rates are available for 4-H members and for early registrations. Camp registrations must be postmarked by April 1 to receive the early registration discount. Financial aid forms for the Iowa 4-H Foundation scholarships are due to the Polk County Extension Office no later than May 1.



## 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. You can download the form and instructions for completing it at the Iowa 4-H Foundation Website at [www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/found.appl.html](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/found.appl.html).



## Central Iowa 4-H/FFA Rabbit Workshop

Sunday, April 5, 2009  
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 515-432-1489 or [coatfrm@opencominc.com](mailto: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](mailto:coatfrm@opencominc.com) or Bill Wolfe, President of Iowa Rabbit Breeders at 515-285-6929 or 515-556-5123.



## Upcoming Workshops

Goal Setting  
Saturday, April 4

Sewing Basics  
Saturday April 18

Shop Smart  
Tuesday, April 21st

Sewing Basics: Part II  
Saturday April 25

Money Matters  
Saturday, April 25

Sewing with Patterns  
Saturday, May 2nd

Sewing with Patterns: Part II  
Saturday May 16<sup>th</sup>

Floral Arrangements  
Saturday, May 30 1:00 – 3:00 pm

**Communications “Practice Night”**  
Thursday, June 4

Rockets Away  
Saturday, June 13

Bicycle Safety – Clover Kids Only  
Saturday, June 13

Horticulture Exhibits  
Thursday, June 18 6:30 – 8:00 pm

Intro to Drawing – Ankeny Art Center  
Saturday, June 20 10:00 – 12:00 Noon

Elements and Principles of Design  
Wednesday, June 24th 1:00-5:00 pm

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

## 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 27 Leader Meeting. Each club may have one male and one female representative. Applicants must be 16 years old by August 13th. Applications are due May 15. No late entries will be accepted. Queen and King Contest Interviews will take place on Saturday, June 6 at the Extension Office. The crowning will take place the evening of July 15 at the fair. The Queen/King Superintendents are Tracey Casey, Kyle Smith, Tracey Vignovich, and Jolynn Fetters

## 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

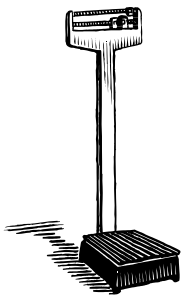
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

### 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 with members who have experience with livestock are preferred for barn watch duties. Clubs can also sign up to set-up, serve, and clean-up for the Wednesday night BBQ.

Please call Phil at 957-5771 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.



## Weigh-In Dates

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

Swine – Saturday, April 4 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 957-5771 to let him know that you intend to verify for Ak-Sar-Ben.

State Fair Swine – Saturday, April 25 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.

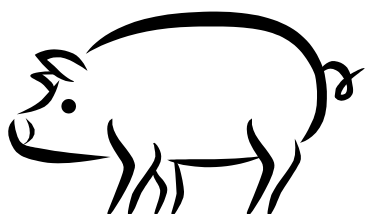
Sheep and Meat Goat - Saturday, May 2 from 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the Iowa State Fairgrounds – Sheep Barn  
*New this year, the sheep department of the Polk County Fair Board will be requiring that all female and intact male animals being weighed-in have scrapie tags at the time of the weigh-in.*

## 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, 2009. 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](http://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 or on-line at: [www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/Documents/LHPoultryBroilerEntry.pdf](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/Documents/LHPoultryBroilerEntry.pdf). This form needs to be returned to the Polk County Extension Office by May 15, 2009.

## 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 USDA’s Scrapie information website at: [www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/animal\\_diseases/scrapie/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_diseases/scrapie/)

## Horse Jamboree

The 2009 State Youth Horse Jamboree is scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> at Kildee Hall at the Iowa State University Campus. 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](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/livestockhandbookhorse.htm) and scroll down to the Horse Jamboree information.



## 2009 Iowa State Fair

Looking ahead, the 2009 Iowa State Fair will be August 13<sup>th</sup>–23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009! Entry deadline for State Fair entries is July 1. The 2009 Iowa State Fair Premium Book will be available exclusively online at [www.iowastatefair.org](http://www.iowastatefair.org). No hard copies will be mailed to families or County Extension Offices this year.

## FSQA 2009

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 not 12 years old by January 1st of this year, they will be required to attend a training session. The final make-up session in Polk County will be,

Tuesday, June 16th  
1:30 – 3:30 pm  
Polk County Extension

If you were older than 12 by January 1st of this year 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.

## 2009 Polk County Fair Dates

The 2008 Polk County Fair is scheduled for July 15 – 20 at the Iowa State Fair Grounds. Conference Judging Day will be held on Wednesday, July 15. Setup for booths will be July 14<sup>th</sup>.

## 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](http://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 2<sup>nd</sup>, and livestock volunteer applications are due by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Dates to Remember

### April

- 4 Swine Weigh-In
- 4 Goal Setting Workshop
- 7 Intermediate Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 11 English Horse Workshop 1:00 – 4:00 pm
- 15 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 25 Money Matters Workshop
- 25 Spring Volunteer Day at 4-H Center
- 27 Leader Meeting 1 –3 pm or 6 –8 pm

### May

- 2 Sheep Weigh-In 8-11 A.M.
- 5 Intermediate Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 6 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 14 New Families Workshop 6:30 pm
- 15 Communications Fun Day Entries Due.
- 15 **Livestock ID's Due**
- 15 Last Day to Enroll in 4-H
- 15 Deadline for 4-H'ers for 4-H Contributions
- 15 Polk County Fair King and Queen Applications Due
- 15 IRS Form 990N for 4-H Clubs due.
- 20 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 30 Floral Arrangements Workshop 1:00 – 3:00 pm

### June

- 1 **Deadline for IFAA Winner's Circle Scholarship**
- 2 Intermediate Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 3 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 4 Communication Practice Night
- 6 King/Queen Candidate Interviews
- 11 New Families Workshop 6:30 pm
- 13 Communication Fun Day
- 13 Rockets Away Workshop
- 13 Bicycle Safety Workshop – Clover Kids Only
- 16 FSQA Make-up 1:30-3:30 PM
- 17 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 PM
- 18 Horticulture Exhibits Workshop 6:30 – 8:00 pm
- 20 Intro to Drawing Workshop 10:00 – 12:00 Noon
- 23-25 Intermediate Trip
- 25 Elements and Principles of Design Workshop 1-5 PM
- TBA Photography Camp
- 27 County Wide Achievement Show
- 30 State 4-H Conference (Through July 2)

### July

- 1 Polk County & Iowa State Fair Entry Packets Due to Extension Office
- 1 County Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 7 Intermediate Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- 8 Fair Board Meeting 7:30 pm
- 11 Clothing Event
- 15-20 Polk County Fair

### August

- 13 New Families Celebration 6:30 pm
- 13-23 Iowa State Fair

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

## 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

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

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)