



Clover Connection

Clayton County Extension

Clayton County 4-H & FFA Family Newsletter

120 S. Main, P.O. Box 357

Elkader, Iowa 52043

Phone: 563-245-1451

FAX: 563-245-1455

www.extension.iastate.edu/Clayton

October 2009



The *CLOVER CONNECTION* is prepared each month to keep all informed about the 4-H & Youth program and events in Clayton County. You are encouraged to read through it and contact the Extension Office if there are any questions.



Extension Staff

Tammy Muller

tamuller@iastate.edu

4-H & Youth Program Coordinator

Rita Severson

ritas@iastate.edu

Office Assistant/Bookkeeper

Sylvia Spykerman

spykrmn@iastate.edu

Office Assistant

Vanette Grover

vgrover@iastate.edu

Regional Youth Development
Program Specialist

Dan Lane

danlane@iastate.edu

Regional Extension Ag & Youth
Program Coordinator

Teresa Wiemerslage

wiemer@iastate.edu

Regional Extension Program &
Communications Coordinator

Brenda Ranum

ranum@iastate.edu

Regional Extension Education Director

Office Hours

Monday –Friday

8:00 am –12 Noon, 1-4 pm

Dear Friends,

Autumn has arrived and the new 4-H program year is under way. National 4-H Week is October 4-10. I hope all the clubs are planning something special for promoting 4-H and recruiting new members. The County Council members will be visiting the 4th grade classes. Everyone can show their 4-H pride by wearing their 4-H t-shirts to school or work. Put up posters or a display promoting 4-H projects. The possibilities are endless!

Remember the deadline is apply for Record Keeping Awards and project awards is **October 1st**. Personal interviews will be held during the month of October at various times. If you applied for a junior record keeping or a project award you will be receiving a letter about your interview. The awards program will be Sunday, November 15.

It's also time is fill out enrollment forms. Please contact your 4-H club leaders for your re-enrollment form. All forms & fees are due back into the Extension Office by December 1.

Enjoy autumn!

Tammy Muller

tamuller@iastate.edu

County 4-H & Youth Program Coordinator



Check out the Clayton County Webpage for the latest in Extension & 4-H News

www.extension.iastate.edu/Clayton/



Calendar of Events

October

- 1 All County Award applications & record books due
- 12 Extension 4-H & Youth Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm, Extension Office, Elkader
- 18 Shooting Sports, 1 pm, Osborne
- 18 County Council Meeting, 7 pm, Extension Office, Elkader
- 20 Junior Record Keeping Interviews, 6:30 –9 pm, Extension Office, Elkader
- 25 Green Team Meeting, 1:30 pm, CJ Lanes, Elkader
- 25 Citizenship Project Meeting, 7 pm, Extension Office, Elkader
- 26 Junior Record Keeping Interviews, 6:30 –9 pm, Community Center, Edgewood
- 27 Project Award Interviews, 6:30 –9 pm, Extension Office, Elkader
- 29 Junior Record Keeping Interviews, 6:30 –9 pm, Extension Office, Elkader



clearer thinking - greater loyalty - **larger service** - better living



County Award Applications & Books are Due October 1

All 4-H members are encouraged to apply for record keeping system awards and/or project awards. Forms and guidelines are included in this newsletter and are also found on the Clayton County web page www.extension.iastate.edu/clayton/info/awards.htm Please read and follow directions! The deadline to apply is October 1.

There are four basic county award application areas for Clayton County 4-H'ers to compete in.

1. Junior Record Keeping (4th-6th grades) Evaluation will be a combination of the 4-H'ers complete record keeping system and a personal interview.
2. Intermediate & Senior Record Keeping (7th-12th grades) Evaluation will be based on the record keeping system only.
3. Project Awards (7th-12th grades) Evaluation will be a combination of support material and a personal interview.
4. Club Officer Awards (open to 4-H'ers currently holding a local club office) Evaluation is based on support material and a written paragraph about growth & personal development gained.

GREEN TEAM

The "Green Team" will be having its fall organizational meeting on Sunday, October 25 at 1:30 pm at C.J. Lanes in Elkader. All 4-H'ers in the 9th & 10th grades are welcome. Members will expand their leadership skills, make new friends, and have fun! The afternoon will be spent organizing the group and defining our goals with lots of time for FUN (bowling, pizza, playing pool & video games, hanging out with friends, etc.)

New Member Recruitment

It is that time of the year to work on new 4-H recruits for the coming 4-H year. We need to continually keep our membership alive and growing with new members and new families. Our county 4-H program is top-notch and we need to be sure to share it with others. Personally contact friends or families in your club area and invite them to your next meeting. Get your whole club involved- it is not just the leaders responsibility but each club member's responsibility to help their club grow and prosper. Encourage others to join.

Handmade Greeting Cards Needed

The Iowa 4-H Foundation is seeking holiday cards made by 4-H'ers to mail to donors and board members. Cards are to show the creativity of 4-H members. Make the cards the equivalent of about 1/4 of a normal 8 1/2" x 11" page (think of a piece of paper folded in half, and then in half again). Sign the back of the cards with your name, club, community and county. Mail cards with envelopes to the Iowa 4-H Foundation, Extension 4-H Youth Building, Ames, IA 50011-3630.



Congratulations to Amy Doepke of the Highland Helping Hands 4-H Club. Amy recently won a state 4-H Dog project award.



Clayton County Wildlife Adventures

Sunday, October 18 1-4 pm

Osborne Pond Shelter

Join us on a Safe Camo Hunt. Please bring along your camo if you have some. No blinds, only clothing, cover ups, or other easy to carry camouflage. Camo will be available to use if you do not have any.

Please wear clothing you can get dirty, wear long pants, a hat, enclose shoes or boots, bring along a long sleeve top to wear. Do not forget to wear bug spray, sun tan lotion and Bring a Water Bottle.

All Wildlife Skills, there will be no live fire or any firing of any fire arm.

Leaders and parents are welcome, as well as those interested in learning more about shooting sports or that might like to join the group. We encourage 4-H Shooting Sports members to bring a friend along. If you have questions, please contact Daniel Thornton, SESS Coordinator at 563-873-1758.



HELP WANTED: Volunteers (leaders, parents, senior 4-H members, 4-H alumni, interested parties, etc.) are needed to help evaluate the 4-H record keeping systems in October. Books & applications need to be evaluated, plus some require a personal interview. If interested in helping, contact Tammy at the Extension Office.

Clover Kid News



Information for Clover Kid members, leaders, and parents.

The Month of October is:

International Dinosaur Month
National Book Month
Family History Month
National Apple Month
Diversity Awareness Month
National Pizza Month
National Popcorn Popping Month
National Roller Skating Month
Animal Safety and Protection Month



HALLOWEEN GORP

2 cups Corn and rice cereal squares
(*Cobwebs*)

2 cups Honey graham cereal (*Dried Beetles*)

2 cups Toasted oat cereal (*Cat Eyes*)

2 cups Miniature pretzels (*Bat Wings*)

1 cup mini marshmallows (*Ghost Fingers*)

1/2 cup peanuts (*Owl Eyes*)

1/2 cup semisweet chocolate pieces
(*Snake Eyes*)

1/2 cup raisins (*Ants*)

Optional--if you need more servings:

2 cups mini shredded wheat (*Dried Lung of Toad*)

2 cups puffed corn cereal (*Chopped Clouds*)

1/2 cup candy corn (*Chicken Toenails*)

Combine all ingredients together in large plastic sack and shake until mixed.

Makes sixteen 1/2 cup servings



Happy  Halloween

Celebrate 4-H



4-H Week Promotion Contest

Clayton County 4-H Clubs are being encouraged to put together a 4-H display in their community during October to help celebrate National 4-H Week.

Rules & Guidelines:

- Simply set up a 4-H display in your local community – like a school, grocery store, bank, church, store front, etc. Displays can be painted windows, actual displays, posters, etc.
- Make sure to include how to get more information about 4-H – like our 4-H web page or phone number, club and leader contact information., etc.

Criteria for judging will be:

- Does it promote 4-H?
- Does it show the diversity of the 4-H program?
- Does it encourage youth of all ages to join 4-H?
- Is it eye catching?

Displays will be judged during October and the winning display will receive \$25. Please inform the Extension Office by October 1 with the location and dates of your display.



Casino Night

The Clayton County 4-H Foundation Board is hosting a "Casino Night" as a fundraiser for the foundation on Saturday, November 28 at Lakeside in Guttenberg from 8-11 pm. Must be 18 years old or older to attend. Spread the word to 4-H alumni! Also we need volunteers to help. Contact a Foundation Board member or the Extension Office to volunteer.

The Leaders Corner

Check out the Iowa 4-H Volunteer website:
www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/volunteers/



Forms Due: Community Service Award Applications, 2009 Club Year Completions and the 2009 Standard 4-H Club Evaluation Forms are due Thursday, October 1st to the Extension Office. Pick up your forms in your club mailboxes.

Extension Office requests copy of club program and notification of fund-raisers and field trips

As part of risk management, club leaders are asked to keep the Extension Office informed of activities beyond club meetings such as field trips and fund-raisers. A copy of club programs will give an overview of the year. Additions may be shared through a phone call or email to the Extension Office. This helps us know your plans and that you have thought about insurance, adult supervision, and transportation.

Club programs help to keep busy families informed on 4-H club plans for upcoming months. The time spent now setting dates and places and dividing up responsibilities will prove very worthwhile later.

Hints for club meetings: prepare an agenda, officers sit at front table, meet in a circle, respect the person talking, consider all suggestions and have 4-H'ers take ownership to carry out decisions.

It's Enrollment Time Again!

Each year 4-H members must re-enroll. Club leaders have enrollment forms. Also parents are asked to complete a new **Iowa 4-H Medical Information/Release Form** each year so that information is current. Copies of the medical form will be kept by the Extension Office and club leader and taken to all 4-H events. The goal is to be prepared in case of an injury.

In Clayton County 4-H funds are used to purchase basic accident insurance for 4-H club members and leaders for regularly approved activities with adult supervision excluding skiing, sledding and tubing. The Iowa 4-H program fee is \$30 per member. Clubs will be charged \$20 per member. The remaining \$10 will come from county funds and money raised at the silent auction.



Signing up for Projects

Q: What is a project? Isn't that what I take to fair?

A: When you sign up for a project, you are signing up for an area that you would like to learn more about this year—*not* a fair exhibit. When the fair rolls around, you can take exhibits (an outgrowth of what you learn this year) in your project areas. However, you are **not** signing up *now* for what you want to take to fair *next summer*. (A common misconception!)

Q: Why do we sign up for project areas? And why now?

A: By signing up for project now, at the beginning of the new 4-H year, you utilize the whole year to learn about whatever it is that you are interested! Also, by signing up on your re-enrollment form, we at the office know that it is an area you are interested in. Whenever a workshop or opportunity comes up for that project, we know to let you know.

Q: I've heard there are over 50 project areas that I can sign up for. How do I know what they are?

A: The "Pick a Project" paper, updated every year, lists all of the project areas (and publications/books available for each area). You can get these newspapers from your club leader, at the Extension Office, or on our Clayton County 4-H website.

Q: What are publications?

A: The 4-H program has tons of information available to help you grow in the areas you're interested in! The publications that you can order are booklets that have fun activities geared towards your age-group that give you a more in-depth look at the specifics of your project area.

Pioneer Grants

Pioneer Hi-Bred International will again sponsor the Community Improvement Program for 4-H Clubs in Iowa. The objective of this program is to stimulate local 4-H clubs to plan and carry out community improvement activities by providing "seed money" needed to make the project successful. Project suggestions include restoring a cemetery or historic monument, improving a ball park, planting flowers, replacing dead trees, building park benches or picnic tables, providing needed items for a shelter, or any other unique idea for improving your community. Grants range from a minimum of \$25 to a maximum of \$250. Information on this program is available from the Extension Office or check out the webpage at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/PioneerGrants.html>. The deadline to apply is December 1.

Clayton County Extension is on the big screen at the Elkader Cinema. If you can identify yourself in a photo in the ad, contact the Extension Office for a prize.

Club Challenge:

New Members!

Goals:

- (1) 3% enrollment increase

Clayton County has a goal of 443 members for 2010.

- (2) A new 4-H family in each club

Clayton County has a goal of 18 new 4-H families



Coming
Saturday,
December 19

The annual Clayton
County Fair Market

Beef Weigh-In will Saturday, December 19 at the Edgewood Livestock Commission in Edgewood from 8:30 am—12 noon. We will also be doing the required retinal imaging for state fair.



Spaghetti Dinner & Pizzazz Night

Pizzazz Night (recognition and awards night) will be held Sunday, November 15th at Johnson's Reception Hall in Elkader. A spaghetti dinner will be held prior to the program from 5:30-7:30 pm as a fundraiser. Clubs will have advance tickets to sell. The award program will begin at 7:30 pm. Record keeping winners, 4-H leader recognition awards and special volunteer recognition awards will be presented that evening. Clubs will also be receiving completion awards and fair premium checks. County Council members will be installed. Make plans to attend this special countywide 4-H event! Let's have all clubs represented!

Back Page Information

Celebrate National 4-H Week – October 4-10

Tribute to National 4-H Week:

In October, 4-H County Council members are visiting area schools in honor of National 4-H week to talk to the 4th grade students. They are sharing personal experiences and information on how to become involved in 4-H.

Tell others about 4-H:

The effort each individual takes to promote 4-H helps make the 4-H program stronger, benefits the youth that join and ultimately helps our whole community! Invite others to share in the fun of 4-H and help them learn what 4-H has to offer.

Wear Green:

During National 4-H Week, show your 4-H pride by wearing your 4-H t-shirt.

Write a Letter to the Editor:

Submit an article to the newspaper on "Why 4-H is important to you." Make it a club project.

Send Thank You Notes:

Show your appreciation to 4-H advocates by sending them a note of thanks for their support. Club leaders, club assistants, business people and commodity groups would enjoy knowing you appreciate their backing.

Plan a Community Service Project:

Use your hands for larger service while increasing community awareness of 4-H. Help your community now by getting involved in volunteer service or plan a project for you or your club.



Deadlines:

Deadlines are posted for various forms and events so we can more accurately plan for these programs and events. Please note these deadlines and adhere to them as this determines whether the event will be held or not and will help determine supplies needed.

CLUB ELECTIONS

The fall months are the usual time for election of 4-H Club Officers. Installation of officers normally takes place in December or January. All elections should be conducted by secret ballot. The following is a list of suggested guidelines for officer elections.

1. Officers should have completed one year of 4-H work.
2. If possible, members should only be elected to an office once in their 4-H career. This is to spread out the leadership experience among club members.
3. Do not combine offices unless you have too few members to fill them

Club Officers

One of the many leadership opportunities that 4-H offers, is that of officers. At the beginning of each 4-H year clubs elect officers. As you are thinking about what kinds of leadership opportunities you want to pursue next 4-H year, consider this:

Officers should be: Enthusiastic, tactful and friendly; prepared to work with each club member; willing to see that each club member contributes to the club; proud of their job; prompt in completing tasks; ready to learn.

Most clubs have a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. Some clubs also have a historian, photographer, reporter and recreation officer. It is the responsibility of each officer to know his/her responsibilities and carry them out according to parliamentary procedure.

President: Presides at all meetings; prepares the meeting agenda with the vice president, secretary, treasurer and leader; ensures the program for the meeting is scheduled (educational presentations and/or club leader workshop); introduces and welcomes guests; appoints and works with committees; ensures the election of officers.

Vice President: Assists President in his/her duties and acts as President in his/her absence.

Secretary: Keeps accurate minutes of the club meeting; keeps a complete list of all members and calls role; writes any club letters; reminds members of the club meetings; completes all club records and reports.

Treasurer: Keeps an accurate record of all money received by the club and all money spent; makes a report at each meeting including all money collected, spent and balance in the treasury; pays bills; turns funds and accurate records over to the new treasurer at the end of each 4-H year.

Reporter: Writes interesting reports of meetings and special club events for the local newspaper. May include photos with reports.

Historian: Collects newspaper clippings, programs and pictures of the club's activities and events and puts them into a club scrapbook.

Photographer: Takes pictures of club members during 4-H activities. Shares pictures with Reporter to use in news articles, Historian for scrapbook and members for their records.

Recreation: Responsible for providing recreation (games, songs, etc) for club during monthly meetings. Takes leadership in organizing and leading activities.

How to Write a Goal

Goals have three parts that can be measured or checked. Think about the three parts of a measurable goal:

- 1) the action: how you are going to do it;
- 2) the result: what you will do;
- 3) the timetable: when you plan to have it done.

For example, for the goal, "I want to train my 4-H market heifer to lead before county fair," I want to train is the action portion of the goal.

What a 4-H'er intends to do is the result -- my 4-H market heifer to lead

When is the amount of time it will take to complete the goal -- before county fair.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Extension

Clayton County Extension
120 S Main Street
PO Box 357
Elkader, IA 52043

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 122
ELKADER, IA

Return Service Requested

Clayton County 4-H &
FFA Family Newsletter



MEET THE FUTURE

National 4-H Week

October 4-10, 2009

