



Kossuth *4-H News*

NEWS FOR 4-H FAMILIES

MARCH - APRIL 2009

Dates to Remember

(If you need more information about any of the events listed, contact the office at 515-295-2469)

March

- 1 Ricochet Meeting, 5:30-8 pm, office
- 15 4-H Family Bowling, 2 pm, Leisure Lanes, Bancroft
- 15 Intent to participate forms for state swine due
- 16 Leader's meeting, 7 p.m., Ext. Office
- 17 Communication Help Workshop, 7 pm, Office
- 19 FSQA training, 7-8:30 - **Palo Alto** office
- 20 Sign up communication entries at office
- 25 Ext. Council meeting, 7 p.m., Ext. Office
- 28 Clover Kids, 1-3 pm, office
- 29 Out-of-county events interviews 5:30 pm
- 29 Youth Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm

April

- 1 Club grant apps. due for Friends
- 1 Friend's meeting, Ext Office
- 16 FSQA training, 7-8:30 - **Kossuth** office
- 4 Communication Day – Pres church, Algona
- 15-30 Kossuth Derby pigs must be weighed & ID'd
- 17 Fish IOWA registrations due
- 25 Clover Kids, 1-3 pm, office
- 26 4-H County Council, 5:30 p.m., Extension Office
- 27 & 28 Fish IOWA training, 6-9 p.m., Ext. Office
- 30 Llama information meeting, 7 p.m., Extension Office
- 29 Dog Obedience info. meeting, 6 p.m., Ext. Office
- 29 Extension Council meeting, 7 p.m., Ext. Office



Notes from the Staff

Spring, summer and fair will be here before we know it. Start working on those projects and exhibits now. Many deadlines are coming in the next few months, remember it is **your responsibly** to meet them.

Please consider doing a communication project on April 4, contact the office to sign up.

In April we also celebrate National Volunteer Week. Take time to thank the volunteers in your club and show them that you appreciate their work.

Sincerely,

Jean A. Kent
County Youth Coordinator

Look for the newsletter and basketball schedules on the web now! <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/kossuth>

Would you like to receive an e-mail when the next newsletter is on the web? Send an email to jeankent@iastate.edu with your home email address, and we will put you on our list.

May 1

- Project changes due in office
- Friends Foundation grant application due
- State financial apps. due for summer activities
- 2 Sheep mkt goat weigh in & state verification
& Breeding beef identification day

Welcome new members!

We welcome everyone who has joined since the last newsletter. It is not too late to invite other friends to join 4-H. They may join anytime during the year. They must be enrolled by May 1st to be eligible to show at the fair.

Communication Day will be April 4

We are having all communication entries, including Extemporaneous Speaking, Working Exhibits, Share the Fun and Educational Presentations on April 4 at the First Presbyterian Church in Algona. We will start with a few presentation, then break and do all working exhibits, then continue with the rest of the presentations and working exhibits. Winners will have a better chance of getting their desired date at State and Clay Co. fairs and will be asked to present them again during the fair. Call the Extension Office to sign up by March 20. We will need to know what type of entry and any special equipment you may need. Plan to participate now. One less thing you would have to get ready for at fair time. If you cannot attend that day, contact Jean to make other arrangements.

Communication help workshop - March 17

To help 4-H'ers with starting a county communication entry or answer questions to those planning to participate, we have scheduled a workshop for Tuesday, March 17, 6:30-7:30 pm at the Extension Office. You can come and go at the time that fits your schedule.

State Fair communication dates

Communication dates for State Fair entries this year are, Friday, Aug. 14, Saturday, Aug. 17, Wed, Aug 19 and Thursday, Aug. 20. Keep these dates in mind when planning your entry, you never know if you might be selecting one of these dates quickly after April. Everyone selected will be asked to make their selections right after our county communication day

Leader meeting March 16

We plan to have leaders meeting on Monday, March 16 at 7 p.m. at the Office. Please have someone from your club attend this meeting. The required part of the training is also available online, contact Jean for details.

4-H Bowling party, March 15

The 4-H County Council has planned a 4-H Bowling Event (with door prizes)for Sunday, March 15, 2 pm at the Leisure Lanes in Bancroft. This is open to 4-H members, families and friends. The cost will be \$2.50 per game. Come have fun, meet the County Council and other 4-H members.

Out of County Event – March 29

Out of County Event interviews for high school 4-H members will be held on Sunday, March 29, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Letters will be sent to all eligible members in the near future. If you have a conflict with the date, contact the office before March 29.

O.K. to change projects

You can still select a new project or drop any projects you have decided not to pursue. Please turn those changes in to the Extension Office by the end of April, but no later than May 1st. You should turn in unused project materials to your leader or the office. It will help the county's publication expense.

State Youth & 4-H Conference

"*Voyage to Greatness*" is the theme for this year's conference, set for June 30-July 2 and is open to all in 8th – 12th grade. Highlights of the conference will be keynote speakers, workshops, helping your community, dances and meeting new friends. You must sign up through the out of county event form in the information packets you will be receiving from our office. Non 4-H'ers may attend this event, so invite your friends to attend. By interviewing, you and your friend will get half of the fee paid by Friends of Kossuth Youth & 4-H.

Camps are being planned this summer

Nature's Detectives camp will be held July 9-10 at Smith Lake for anyone in grades 4-6. Several activities are in the planning stages. We are also planning a day camp for youth in grades 2-3 on Wednesday, June 10. Watch future newsletters.

2009 State 4-H Summer Camps

Many fun and exciting camps are planned this summer. Check out the list in this newsletter or the website below or check at the office. Early discounts for registrations in by April 1, financial assistance forms are due May 1.

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4hcenter>

Fish IOWA

Do you want to learn about fishing for fun and success? Plan to attend "Fish IOWA" a two-part program on April 27th & 28th from 6 – 9 p.m. at the Kossuth County Extension Office. Pre registration by April 17 is required and is open to all youth grades 4th through 12th. We will learn about equipment, regulations, cooking and best of all how and where to find fish.

Poultry market broiler class

Think about raising chickens! You can sign up for this class by May 15, pick up your chicks in Bancroft June 17 and bring them to the fair. All chicks for the county will be hatched the same day. The exhibitor may purchase 15 for \$9. or 25 for \$15. The completed participation form and money must be in the office to participate. Marking market broiler on the poultry ID form, does not automatically add you into the program. It is a really good deal and we thank Welps Hatchery for being so generous in making the banded birds available to us at this very low price. Contact the office to sign up or for more information. Form is also available on the web.

Llama group meeting April 30

4-H members wanting to learn about llamas as a project will want to attend the informational meeting on Thursday, April 30, 7:30 p.m. at the Extension office. We will explain the program and what to expect. You do not have to own or house a llama to participate in this program. Leaders will arrange for the use of a llama for your summer project. Parents or guardians are strongly encouraged to attend this meeting with you. You are not making a commitment by attending this meeting. Come hear about this exciting project.

Dog obedience starts

A dog obedience information meeting will be held Wednesday, April 29, 6 p.m. at the Extension office. Plan to come if you are interested in learning more about the program. You do not need to bring your dog to this first meeting. If you are interested in attending, but are unable to attend the meeting, please call the Extension Office. Everyone is welcome!

Breeding beef central ID site

All breeding beef must come to a central site. We will be checking tattoos or helping you tattoo your beef and fill out the forms. All heifers and cows must come (unless you had us check the tattoo at the winter beef weigh in site). For the cow/calf pair it is optional for the calf. This will be held May 2 from noon to 1 p.m. at the Algona Livestock & Exchange. If you do not attend, you will not be able to show breeding beef at the fair.

Sheep and market goat weigh-in May 2

Sheep and market goats weigh in will be Saturday, May 2, 8:30 – 10:30 a.m. at the Fairgrounds, Algona. We will also do state verification that day.

I. D.'s due

Livestock identification forms are due in the office May 15th for all animal and poultry projects, including small animals and pets. Market beef and pen cattle must have been weighed and identified by Jan. 15th.

Breeding beef must come to the central identification site and have permanent identification (tattoo or brand--ear tags are not considered permanent). See above.

Prospect calf need to ask for a breeding beef form and id (4-H tag) them on calf lines at the bottom of that form.

Market goat must be tagged and weighed at the county central weigh in. Cost of the tags is 75¢ each. Tags and ID forms will be available at weigh-in location. Breeding does can be id with flock tag and scrapies rules need to be followed.

Horses must have photo & registration paper (if registered) of each horse attached to id form.

Sheep market animals must be tagged and weighed at the county central weigh in. Cost of the tags is 75¢ each. Tags and ID forms will be available at weigh-in location. *Sheep scrapies rules need to be followed for br. ewes. (can be id by flock tags) Bottle lambs do not need to be weighed. Production pen & Lotto lambs – must be weighed and tagged with 4-H tags.

Swine Market pigs including derby pigs (see more below), may be tagged or notched. See more information below. 4-H ear tags are available at the Extension Office at 75¢ each.

Poultry entries at 4-H fairs and shows must again be from a certified pullorum-free hatchery, or be tested for pullorum prior to the show. Please indicate in the proper box on the poultry ID form so we know if your birds need the test before the fair.

Rabbit entries must be have color marking, birth date and/or purchase date. Litters born after May 15 may be called in after birth, but doe must be id by May. 15

FSQA guidelines

There are guidelines for the Iowa 4H Food Safety and Quality Assurance (FSQA) program:

- All livestock exhibitors must be certified in FSQA education program to exhibit at the Kossuth Co. Fair.
- All exhibitors at the Iowa State Fair & Clay County must be certified in FSQA, both breeding & market.
- Youth, ages 9-11 by 1/1/08 must recertify in FSQA annually.
- Youth, ages 12-14 by 1/1/08 can recertify annually or test out (good until they meet the next age bracket).
- Youth, ages 15-18 by 1/1/08 can recertify annually or test out (good until they the summer after they are 18).

Animal Science Quality Assurance meeting

The 2009 FSQA training sessions: Check your certification or call the office to check your expiration date. You have several options to attend training this year. All training will be held at 7 pm.

March 19 – Palo Alto Co. Extension
April 16 – Kossuth Co. Extension
May 21 – Palo Alto Co. Extension
June 18 – Kossuth Co. Extension

If you want to take the test, just call the office and set up a time with Jean. Everyone must be certified by July 15.

Derby swine

Derby/carcass hogs for the Kossuth County Fair must be weighed between April 15th and April 30th. A maximum of three barrows and three gilts may be weighed in. Pigs weighed on April 15 will have a **55 lb.** maximum weight. If weighed after April 15th, add 1 lb. each day to the maximum allowable weight. 4-H members are responsible for weighing and identifying their swine entries. A non-family member such as a 4-H leader, county 4-H committee member, FFA adviser, veterinarian, etc. must witness the weighing. Please list the individual weights on the swine identification form (4H-106f), and have your witness sign your form. You may show 1 derby barrow and 1 derby gilt at the fair. The other pigs identified are eligible in other classes. For anyone interested in participating in **State Fair** derby show, contact the Office if you have not already. Intent to participant form for that show is due **March 15**.

Open class bucket calf or bottle lamb forms

Bottle Lamb & Bucket Calf ID - Forms will be given to 4-H leaders for all 4-H'ers enrolled in bucket calf. Bottle Lamb forms need to be picked up at the office or added to your sheet on the sheep weigh in date. Bottle Lambs must be born between Jan. 1st – May 1st, must be bottle fed and do not need to be weighed. Bucket Calves must be born between March 15th and May 14th and must be in possession of 4-H'er within two weeks of birth. If you know of someone interested in the open class program, they also need to complete the livestock ID form by May 15th. Open class participants (must be in kindergarten (change this year) – 3rd grade) need to pick up and return these forms to the Extension Office.

New sheep classes

New sheep classes were discussed in the last newsletter, remember if you are interested in participating in the new Lotto Lamb class, you must sign up by April 5 and be ready to pick up your lamb at the weigh in on May 2. Consider the Performance lamb class too (different than pen of 3). Read the details of these classes in the last newsletter or contact the office.

Round Up volunteers needed

Animal Science Round Up, held June 24-26 at ISU, is looking for youth to attend and adult volunteers to help this year. Contact Jean or Bob for more information.

Shooting Sports club

If you or you know a friend that might be interested in the Shooting Sports club, contact Kris Laubenthal at 515-341-0730. Participants do not need to be 4-H members, but will be one if they join the group. They are shooting air rifles and competing in a postal match right now. Shotgun and archery shooting will start later this spring.

Humboldt & Wright Co. fairs are district shows

Wright and Humboldt Counties are district fairs and bordering counties may show at their fair. Contact the Wright County Extension Office in Clarion (515) 532-3453 or the Humboldt County Extension (515) 332-2201 for show information. However this year the Humboldt fair is the same time as the Kossuth Co. Fair.

Event discounts for Iowa 4-H'ers

The Iowa 4-H Foundation has the opportunity for 4-H'ers and 4-H Clubs to receive discount tickets to Iowa Events Center and Iowa Speedway events. Both organizations have developed a partnership with the Foundation to provide discounted tickets and educational opportunities for Iowa 4-H'ers. Go to www.iowa4hfoundation.org to learn more about the many events available. The next event features the Lipizzaner Stallions on March 9th at Wells Fargo Arena. A special Groom & Tack Clinic will be held for all 4-H'ers who are interested. New events and partnerships will continuously be added, so check back frequently if you or your club is interested in attending these events. For more information, please contact Shelly Greving at shellyg@iastate.edu or (515) 294-1607.



Financial assistance available

The Iowa 4-H Foundation offers financial assistance to participants in any summer activity. Applications are available from the Extension Office and must be returned by May 1.

Club grants

4-H clubs are reminded that they may apply for grant dollars from the Friends of Kossuth Youth & 4-H organization. All leaders received information last fall or get one from the office. Applications are due the first of the month of January, **April**, July & October. They provide seed money for club projects. Contact the office for more information.

2009 ISF clothing event dates

The date for participation in the Clothing Events (Fashion Revue, Clothing Selection) at the 2009 Iowa State Fair has been set for Friday, August 14 for our area. The county date is July 30.

4-H Family Bowling Party***March 15, 2 pm - \$2.50******Leisure Lanes, Bancroft*****4-H'ers for 4-H program**

The Iowa 4-H'ers for 4-H Campaign is a fund raising program conducted by 4-H'ers for 4-H'ers. The money donated by members stays in Iowa to help other 4-H youth. Iowa 4-H'ers donates 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 *"20 years long - Still Going Strong"* and our campaign goal is \$30,000. We are asking for each club to help us achieve this goal by donating \$2 per member. This year we are providing grants for Area Councils to conduct activities for Int. 4-H'ers. We also will continue supporting CWF trips, the Iowa 4-H Conference, and financial assistance for youth to attend 4-H camps and state conference. Club contributions are due by May 15.

Communication Day - Saturday, April 4



To be held at the **First Presbyterian Church**
101 North Main, Algona

Education Presentations
Exhibits

Working

Extemporaneous Speaking

Share the Fun

AM & PM sessions are planned. We will start by 8:30 & end early afternoon

Please plan to participate and come to watch!



Plan to share your talents! If you have done a presentation for your club, at school, or have a new idea - plan to share it on April 4.

We are trying to have the biggest group of presentations, working exhibits and Share the Fun entries ever and would like to show the public what a great group of 4-H members we have in Kossuth County. You are welcome to do all activities.

Sign up today! Please register by March 20, a schedule will be compiled and sent to all participants. Call the office or return the form below.

If you are unable to attend that date, an alternate date to participate might be scheduled earlier that week. Contact Jean.

Winners will be selected to represent Kossuth County at the Iowa State and Clay County Fairs.

Entries will be evaluated with blue, red & white ribbons. Premiums will be paid to all participants after the fair.



Help Workshop will be held Tuesday, March 17, 6:30 pm. at the office

Due: March 20

Name _____ Ed. Pres. ___ Working Exhibit ___ Share the Fun

Address _____ Ext. Speaking ___ Grade ___

Club _____ Preference: ___ Morning ___ Afternoon

Phone _____ ___ Can't come 4/4, want to make other plans

Electricity needed: ___ Yes ___ No _____ Check if this is a group project.

If so, list your partner(s) _____