

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Extension

Palo Alto County
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P.A. Power Pages



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November/December 2008

4-H County Council

Shawn Molitor	Bridget Rouse
Logan Fischer	Shelby Gappa
Laura Smith	Phillip Schmitt
Kristin Wirtz	Kyle Brown
Neal Norland	Amber Vonnahme
Patrick Kelly	Kyle Hurley
Megan Klootwyk	Samantha Huberty
Dillon Thiner	Frankie Schmidt
Michael Sundall	Aaron Johnson
Caitlin Wise	Chelsey Rouse
Alysia Moser	Nathan Meyer

Extension Council

George Zech	Chad Anderson
Merrylea Clasing	Jerry Joyce
Craig Merrill	Anita Fisher
Amy Wesley	Tim Naig
Glen Smith	

4-H Youth Committee

Chris Reding	Debbie Kassel
Mark McGrauth	Terri Sundall
Lori Wickman	Anita Fisher
John Banwart	Colleen Kenyon
Merrylea Clasing	Phillip Schmitt (Y)

Fair Board

Angie Beem	Amy Wesley
Dan Voigt	Denton Knobloch
Chad Fank	Joel Thomsen
Bert Naig	Mark Strohmman
Clyde Johnson	Ron Mader
Mike Handeland	Pat Kibbie
Devona Perkins	– Business Manager

4-H Foundation

Ron Hersom	Deb Kibbie
Fred Reding	Barry Fischer
Melissa Tindall	Chuck Riesenber
Ronia Klootwyk	Bernie Wise
Angie Strohmman	Stephen Pelzer

Office Staff

Bob Behnkendorf, CEED
 Julie Naig, CYC
 Denise Flaherty, OA

Dates to Remember

Oct. 28-Nov. 2	American Royal, Kansas City, MO
Nov. 1	State 4-H Horse Judging Contest @ Jester Park in Granger
Nov. 2	Leaders' Appreciation & Awards Banquet – ILCC Cafeteria – 5:30 p.m.
Nov. 5	Clover Kids after school – 1:15-3:00 – Ruthven group
Nov. 8	Cal-Pal-Poca Intermediate Trip to Ames
Nov. 8-21	North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE)
Nov. 10	Fall Leader Training – 7:00 p.m. at office
Nov. 13	Clover Kids after school – Emmetsburg group
Nov. 14	4-H Shooting Sports Mgt. – 6:30 p.m. at office
Nov. 17	2008 Pioneer Grant reports due in county office
Nov. 23	4-H County Council Mtg. – 6:30 p.m. at office
Nov. 27-28	Thanksgiving Holiday – Office Closed
Dec. 1	2009 Pioneer Grant apps due in county office
Dec. 1	Clover Kids after school – 1:15-3:00 – Ruthven group
Dec. 4	Clover Kids after school – West Bend/Mallard group
Dec. 6	Countywide Sewing Workshop at office – 9:30 a.m. until project is finished
Dec. 11	Clover Kids after school – Emmetsburg group
Dec. 15	2008 Iowa's Promise...Our Youth Grant reports due in State Office
Dec. 15	4-H Shooting Sports Mgt. – 6:30 p.m. at office
Dec. 18	Clover Kids after school – West Bend/Mallard group
Dec. 20	4-H/FFA Market Beef Weigh-In @ fairgrounds – noon-3:00 p.m.
Dec. 22	Lego Mindstorm Program @ Extension Office – grades 4-6 in the morning, 7-12 in afternoon - TBA
Dec. 25-26	Christmas Holiday – Office Closed
Dec. 31	ALL RE-ENROLLMENTS DUE TO OFFICE – ONLY NEW ENROLLMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE
Jan. 1	New Years Holiday – Office Closed
Jan. 4	New Member Pizza Party – 5:30 p.m. at office

Jan. 7 Clover Kids after school – 1:15-3:00
– Ruthven group

Jan. 8 Clover Kids after school – West
Bend/Mallard group

Jan. 10 Group Financial Aid Apps for travel
due in county office

Jan. 10-25 National Western Stock Show,
Denver, CO

Jan. 15 Clover Kids after school –
Emmetsburg group

**Jan. 16 County 4-H Lock-In at Wellness
Center -10:00 p.m.-6:00 a.m.**

Jan. 16 State Volunteer Retreat early bird
\$25 registration deadline

Jan. 22 Lego Mindstorm Program @
Ruthven/Ayrshire School – TBA

Jan. 22 Clover Kids after school – West
Bend/Mallard group

**Jan. 25 4-H Ice Skating Party – 6:00-8:00
p.m. at Grotto Pond, West Bend**

**Feb. 2 4-H Scholarship Apps due in State
Office**

Feb. 2 2009 Iowa's Promise...Our Youth
Grant apps due in State Office

Feb. 4 Clover Kids after school – 3:30-5:00
– Ruthven group

Feb. 5 Clover Kids after school – West
Bend/Mallard group

Feb. 6-7 State Volunteer Retreat, Ankeny
DMACC

**Feb. 7 Babysitting Clinic – 9:00-4:00 at
office**

Feb. 8-15 Iowa Beef Expo, Des Moines

Feb. 12 Clover Kids after school –
Emmetsburg group

Feb. 19 Clover Kids after school – West
Bend/Mallard group

**Feb. 21 Babysitting Clinic – 9:00-4:00 at
office**

July 23-26 PALO ALTO COUNTY FAIR

Clay County Fair Results

Congratulations to all Palo Alto County 4-H'ers who exhibited at the Clay County Fair. Palo Alto was well represented with quality projects. The results are as follows:

Prospect Calf

Dustin Johnson – Blue

Horse - Performance

Shyanne Zaragoza – 1 blue (District Halter Horse – Mare 1 yr. & older) – 1 blue (District Senior Showmanship)

Samantha Huberty – 1 blue (District Halter Horse – Mare 1 yr. & older) – 1 purple (District Halter Pony – 1 yr. & older) – 1 red (District Senior Showmanship) – 1 red (District Western Pleasure Ponies)

Logan Eglund – 1 blue (District Halter Horse – Mare 1 yr. & older) – 1 blue (District Halter Horse – Gelding 1 yr. & older) – 1 blue (District Intermediate Showmanship) – 1 blue (District Reserve Champion Walk-Trot)

Ethan Thompson – 1 purple (District Halter Horse – Gelding 1 yr. & older) – 1 purple (District Halter Pony – 1 yr. & older) – 1 purple (District Champion Walk-Trot)

Horse – Games

Samantha Huberty – 1 red (District Senior Barrels) – 1 white (District Senior Flag Race) – 1 blue (District Senior Poles), 1 red (District Senior Keyhole Race)

Logan Eglund – 1 blue (District Walk-Trot Barrels) – 1 white (District Walk-Trot Keyhole Race)

Ethan Thompson - 1 blue (District Walk-Trot Barrels) – 1 purple (District Reserve Champion Walk-Trot Keyhole Race)

Sheep

Josie Wickman – 1 purple (District Heavy Weight Market Lamb) – 1 blue (District Commercial Ewe)

Pedal With Pete Bike Ride For Cerebral Palsy

For the past nine years the Palo Alto County 4-H County Council has been sponsoring a bike ride to raise money for the Pedal with Pete Foundation, a philanthropic organization dedicated to raising money for the prevention and cure of cerebral palsy. On Sunday, September 21, 2008 thirty-four riders dusted off their bikes and pedaled for a cure to raise approximately \$1140.00. Riders ranged in age from 3 to 47. A sincere thank you to all the riders who rode the route and to all the individuals who donated to this cause.

4-H'ers who raised the most money were 1st place – Neal Norland, 2nd place – Emily & Josie McMehon, and 3rd place (tie) – Kyle Kogel & Laura Smith. Winning the youngest rider award was Kourtney Kogel with the oldest rider award going to Deb Walsh. Many door prizes were also handed out.

All donations were sent to the Pedal With Pete Foundation, a philanthropic organization dedicated to raising money for the prevention and cure of cerebral palsy. Special thanks to all the businesses and 4-H clubs who gave cash donations or donated prizes. Everybody's generosity was greatly appreciated.

4-H Penny Carnival Held at Palo Alto Co. Fairgrounds

The annual 4-H Penny Carnival was held on Sunday, October 5th, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the Exhibits Building on the Palo Alto County Fairgrounds in

Emmetsburg. The beautiful day brought out a large crowd of 4-H'ers, families, and friends to enjoy a great variety of carnival-type games with drawings and prizes provided by 4-H clubs throughout the county. The 4-H County Council members applied 4-H clover tattoos and provided food for a concession stand. A king and queen of the carnival were crowned from a drawing of all junior (grades 4-6) 4-H members in attendance. Mason McGrauth from the Highland Cruisers and Rachel Hoffman from the Fern Valley 4-Hers were crowned our 2008 4-H Penny Carnival King and Queen. The Penny Carnival is a fun event planned to kick off National 4-H Week – October 5-11.

2008 Leaders Appreciation & Awards Banquet – Nov. 2nd

Plans are underway for the 2008 Leaders Appreciation & Awards Banquet to be held on Sunday, Nov. 2nd, at 5:30 p.m. at the ILCC cafeteria. Cost for attending the banquet will be \$7.00 per person with the exception of 4-H adult leaders who will eat for free. The menu will include chicken, potatoes, salad, vegetable, roll, dessert, and drink. All 4-H leaders, members, committee members, and whole 4-H families are invited and encouraged to attend. Help us acknowledge our 4-Hers' accomplishments and show our appreciation to our adult volunteers!

Reservations with payment should be made at the Extension office by noon on **Wednesday, Oct. 29th**. We will not be collecting money for the meal at the door. Make plans now to attend this family event that will mark the end of a great 4-H year!



Beef Weigh-In – Dec. 20th

All 4-H & FFA members must weigh in their market steers, market heifers, and feeder pens for their animals to be eligible to show at county and district fairs. In order to show at the Iowa State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben calves must also go through a state verification process. This year it is our plans to do it all on the same day at the Palo Alto County Fairgrounds. We are again planning to do retinal imaging instead of nose printing for the state verification process.

Weigh-in will be held on **Saturday, December 20th from noon to 3:00 p.m.** Calves being shown only at the county or district fairs will just need to be weighed – will not need to go through the retinal imaging process. Those calves are to be tagged at home

prior to the weigh-in. Tags may be purchased at the Palo Alto County Extension Office at a cost of \$1.50 per tag. Anyone with a scheduling conflict for the 20th will need to contact the Extension office at least one week prior to the 20th so other arrangements can be made. No identifications for market beef will be allowed after the 20th.

To be eligible to show at the Iowa State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben: 4-H & FFA members thinking they may want to show their beef animals at the Iowa State Fair or Ak-Sar-Ben will need to make sure their animals go through the state verification process. These calves should not be tagged ahead of time and should come with the rest of the calves on the 20th. These calves will be weighed and then run through a head chute where they will be tagged and a retinal image taken.

For the state verification process both exhibitor and parent signatures will be required for each entry. If a parent or exhibitor cannot be present at the weigh-in a signed waiver must accompany the animal. Parent and exhibitor waivers are available at the Extension office. The verification process will cost \$5/head and is to be paid at the weigh-in site. For calves to be verified for both State Fair and Ak-Sar-Ben an extra \$1 will be charged.

* Anyone planning to state verify calves should contact the Extension Office by Wednesday, Dec. 17th and let us know an exhibitor name and # of calves to be verified. This is so we can make sure we have the plenty of tags and enough supplies to complete the process.

If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact the Extension office at 712-852-2865 or call the beef superintendents, Terry Rouse at 712-426-5631 or Bert Naig at 712-298-0289.

COOL and 4-H Livestock

The USDA is preparing for the mandatory COOL (Country of Origin Labeling) that went into effect September 30, 2008. Details for Iowa 4-H livestock exhibitors and County Extension Offices can be found on the 4-H Ag/Livestock website at, <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/index.htm>. Under the "Livestock ID" heading are the Premise ID and COOL information links as well as the needed affidavits for the COOL implementation. The process for 4-H'ers is relatively simple. Animals that are "on the ground" or born by July 15, 2008, will be "grandfathered" into the program. However, any animals changing ownership and born after that date will need the COOL affidavit.

What 4-H'ers Need to Do:

The Iowa COOL Coalition has come up with a simple affidavit that can work for all species of livestock (beef, sheep, swine, poultry, goat). This affidavit is located at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/Agriculture/documents/cool.doc>

Page 1 explains the steps needed to be taken as well as example documents that can be used for an audit trail. Page 2 is the actual affidavit.

4-H'ers who raise their own livestock for their projects need to fill this affidavit out and keep it on file for a minimum of two years. In the case of an audit, 4-H'ers can provide authorities with this affidavit along with other documents listed at the bottom of page 1 of the affidavit document (birth records (calving report, PigChamp, PigTales, etc.), purchase/sales receipts, etc.)

4-H'ers who purchase their livestock from others MUST have the producer fill out the affidavit, give it to the 4-H'er, and the 4-H'er should keep the affidavit on file for a minimum of two years. For example, a 4-H'er goes to buy his steer from a producer. The 4-H'er needs the producer (seller) to fill out and sign the affidavit.

2009 Palo Alto County Fair Dates

The dates have been set for the 2009 Palo Alto County Fair so mark your calendars now! The fair will run from Thursday, July 23rd through Sunday, July 26th with the pre-fair judging day for all exhibits in the Exhibits Building on Tuesday, July 21st.

Horticulture will again be judged on the first day of the fair. Clothing Selection/Fashion Revue judging will be held on Wednesday, July 15th. Fair clean-up will be Saturday, July 18th. Fair entry day will be Wednesday, July 1st.

Enrollment & Medical Information/Release Forms

In the month of October or November re-enrollment forms will be coming to you from your club leaders along with the Iowa 4-H Medical Information/Release form. This medical release form is a requirement and requires a number of parental signatures. It includes medical emergency contact information, health information, along with other permission statements. Leaders are required to carry a notebook with copies of this form to every meeting with the office having a notebook with all the originals. This form will be stapled to your re-enrollment form so you will need to turn in both forms and your \$15 membership fee to actually be an enrolled member in 4-H.

Remember that you must re-enroll each year to be an active member in the computer. Be sure to check

your enrollment form for accuracy and make corrections on the form. If you are switching clubs, please note that on the form, too. Leaders also need to complete an enrollment form.

REMINDER: ALL RE-ENROLLMENTS ARE DUE DECEMBER 31, 2008.

Remember, also, that you must be enrolled in the appropriate livestock project area on your enrollment form in order to bring that animal to the fair. You do not have to be enrolled in the appropriate area to bring a non-livestock exhibit to the fair.

4-Hers need to remember that turning in these two forms and fees are their responsibility...not their leader's.

We will accept new enrollments anytime from now until May 1st. If you know of someone who needs these forms, have him/her stop at the office and pick one them or let us know and we will get them in the mail for them.

The "4-H Pick A Project Paper" will also be handed out with the forms listed above. This paper lists all the project areas you can choose to enroll in and literature that is available from your local Extension office. This literature is FREE – members and leaders just need to come to the office and ask for it. We will try to keep our files complete but members need to be aware that we will not keep more than a couple of each pub on file so they might have to wait for an order if we get too many requests for the same piece at one time. Orders usually arrive in 2-3 days. New materials arrive regularly. Members can get great ideas for club presentations or fair projects from this literature!

Fall 4-H Club Leader Training

All 4-H club leaders are invited to the fall leader training – **4-H Youth Development...Vibrancy – Best Practices in 4-H Clubs**. It will be held Monday evening, November 10th beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Palo Alto County Extension Office.

* Just a reminder that all organizational & project 4-H leaders are expected to complete two trainings each year. The trainings this year focus on club vibrancy. Participating in this meeting will complete the first of these trainings. If you can't make this meeting, training may be completed by watching a DVD or by participating in the online version.

Countywide Sewing Workshop

4-H members of all ages are invited to a county-wide sewing workshop on Saturday, Dec. 6th, beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Palo Alto County Extension Office.

We will be learning some simple sewing techniques while completing pajama shorts to take home. These would make great Christmas and birthday presents, fair projects, or community service projects. Cost is \$5.00 and will include pizza for lunch. Pre-registration is required with a maximum of 20 participants.

Deadline to register is Nov. 21st. After we have received your registration you will get a list of supplies that you will need to bring to the workshop. Included with this newsletter is a flyer with a sign-up form at the bottom. Mark your calendars and plan to attend!

* Volunteers with some basic sewing skills will be needed! Any older 4-H members or parents who would be willing to help with this workshop would be greatly appreciated. Just call the office at 712-852-2865 or email jnaig@iastate.edu to volunteer.

4-H Lock-In at the Wellness Center

The 4-H Lock-In for all Palo Alto County 4-Hers will be held **January 16th** from 10:00 p.m. Friday night to 6:00 a.m. Saturday morning at the Arthur & Audrey Smith Wellness Center in Emmetsburg. Chaperones will be needed. Everyone will be responsible for his/her own transportation to and from the center. This event is only for 4-H members. If you plan to attend please return the registration form included in this newsletter by January 13th. A letter with more details will be given to all paid participants.

New Member Pizza Party

We would like to welcome all new members and their parents to the 4-H program. To help us do this we will be having a New Member Pizza Party at the Extension office in Emmetsburg on Sunday, **January 4th**, beginning at 5:30 p.m. All new members will receive an invitation with more details. The purpose of this party is to inform the new member and their parents about all the aspects of 4-H and to have FUN! Mark your calendar and make plans now to attend!

If you have any questions about the 4-H program, please feel free to call the office. Sometimes we forget that not everyone knows the "system".

Area Recognition

4-Hers in grades 9-12 who are interested in applying for State Project Awards, State 4-H Council, National 4-H Congress, National 4-H Conference, or Iowa Youth Tech Team should plan to complete an application in the next couple months. Applications are due in the county Extension office by **March 2nd**. If you are interested in applying for any of these recognition opportunities, contact the Extension office

for more detailed information and the application procedure. Interested youth can also learn more about these opportunities by checking out the following web page:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/recognition.htm>.

I know we have many 4-Hers that would really benefit from these opportunities!

How to re-enroll in 4-H:

1. Attend your November club meeting to get your re-enrollment form from your club leader. Attending club meetings is part of your responsibility as a 4-H member.
2. Together with a parent, fill out the two forms - front and back. **DO NOT REMOVE THE STAPLE.** These forms are to be returned to the office together.
3. Attach your \$15 enrollment fee. Return to the Palo Alto County Extension Office. Please do not fax the forms. The office is to keep the original with the original signatures in a notebook.
4. **DO THIS BY DECEMBER 31st.** Re-enrollments must be turned in by this date in order to show at the 2008 county fair.

Note: Parents and older club members are often needed by club leaders to give assistance to their 4-H club members. Not everyone can be a leader, but many of you have the time to volunteer to assist with one task or another throughout the year. Ask your leaders what they need help with – it might be helping with a field trip or tour, teaching a craft at a club meeting, or reminding members of club and county deadlines. Get involved with your club and lend a helping hand!

Chelsey Rouse Selected to Northwest Iowa Area 4-H Council

Local 4-H'ers were selected to an elite group of 42 Northwest Iowa 4-H'ers to serve in a special leadership role on the Northwest Iowa 4-H Area Council for the 2008-2009 year. Chelsey Rouse of Curlew will represent Palo Alto County as a young leader chosen from 15 counties to assist ISU Extension 4-H and Youth Program in developing strong leaders and citizens in their communities.

Area 4-H Council youth representatives will be involved in identifying strategies to strengthen leadership education and opportunities for the area and in the counties they represent. They will form a network serving as a link between county, area and state 4-H programs. The group will also serve as an advisory for youth leadership programming.

Congratulations to Chelsey for being selected to this group!

Holiday Cards for the 4-H Foundation

School did just start but Christmas Trees are already up in Walmart, so it's not too early to start thinking about 4-H Holiday Cards!

Every year many of our 4-H club members make the most colorful and creative holiday cards for us to share with many long-time and generous 4-H alumni, Foundation donors, and Extension supporters. I have heard from many individuals about how much they enjoy these hand-crafted notes from 4-H members... THANK YOU!

I want to ask for your help again this year. Please encourage 4-H'ers to craft their own special Christmas and Holiday Greeting Cards so we can share the spirit of the season with our special supporters. Most of our 4-H friends and donors celebrate Christmas, and it is wonderful to send them hand-made Christmas Cards. Some of our 4-H supporters celebrate Hanukkah, Chinese New Year, Kwanza, and other holidays, and it is nice to have some cards that recognize their traditions and backgrounds too. Also, we'd love to have your 4-H'ers sign their cards (on the back) with their club name and community or county.

To help us keep postage down (so we can share more season's greetings) please make cards the equivalent of about 1/4 of a normal 8 1/2" x 11" page (think of a piece of construction paper folded in half, and then in half again).

Please mail or deliver your Holiday Cards (with envelopes, if possible) to the Iowa 4-H Foundation, Extension 4-H Youth Building, Ames IA 50011-3630. Cards received by November 25th will be used this year. If you have any questions please contact Roberta North, rnorth@iastate.edu, 515-294-1537.

Remember: Being a 4-H'er is not just a title that gives you the right to exhibit at the county fair. It means being an active member of an organization where learning, helping others, and building life skills is most important. Are you getting the most out of your 4-H experience???

4-H Record Keeping

Now is the time for you to set goals for your project. You can do this on project record forms or just on notebook paper. Blank record book forms are on-line at

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/recordkeeping.htm>.

Remember a good goal can be checked or measured and has three parts: an action, result, and timetable. An example would be, "I want to learn to bake two types of cookies by Christmas." "I want to learn" is the action. What you intend to do is the result – "to bake two types of cookies". When you would like to accomplish this goal is the timetable – "by Christmas".

On the site listed above, you can also find livestock record keeping forms. Along with breeding and market livestock record sheets, there are new record forms for small animals: cat, dog, pet, poultry, and rabbit. Starting these now will help reduce the stress of completing your record book in August.

Club Officers' Duties

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

1. Officers should have completed at least 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 intended to spread the leadership experience among the club members.
3. Do not combine offices unless you have too few members to fill them. Even though it seems natural to have the secretary and reporter to be the same person, this is not recommended. The purpose of holding an office is to give a young person a valuable leadership experience. Having both a secretary and reporter give that experience to two different persons.

Some general guidelines for officers in their individual offices include:

President

1. Contact the leader(s) several days ahead of the meeting to discuss information concerning announcements, new business, committees needed, coming events, and bills to be paid.
2. Arrive early and arrange for the meeting.
3. Start the meeting on time.
4. Follow parliamentary procedure. Most importantly, the president calls for a motion on decisions made and the club makes group decisions.
5. Be sure members have equal chances to express their views.

6. Appoint committees to work out details of a project or activity. Don't waste meeting time discussing unimportant details.

Vice-President

1. In charge of the meeting in the absence of the president.
2. Is the chairman of the program committee. Is in charge of all committees to see that they all function properly. The Vice-President does not have to attend all committee meetings, but has to make sure that the proper things are happening.

Secretary

1. Keep complete and accurate minutes of all meetings. In the secretary's absence, the president appoints a secretary.
2. Keep the secretary's record book in order. This means that the minutes are recorded in the book in ink after each meeting. Minutes are read at the next meeting by the secretary.
3. Handle the entire club's correspondence.

Treasurer

1. Take care of the club's funds.
2. Be sure that the bank statements and bank signature card are transferred to the next treasurer.

Historian

1. Keep a record of the club for the year. This includes collecting items such as pictures and news clippings about the club and its members.
2. Organize a historian book to tell the 4-H club's story for the year.
3. Enter historian book in the fair.

Reporter

1. Keep the community informed of the club's activities.
2. Write a short news story of each club activity and meeting and turn it into the newspaper or Extension Office immediately after the event.

Pioneer Grant Brochure, Application and Information on Web

Pioneer Hi-Bred International is offering Pioneer Community Improvement Grants through the Iowa 4-H Foundation again this year. Clubs in our county are encouraged to apply for "seed money" to help them get started on community projects. The brochure, information, and application are on the web at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4H/PioneerGrants.html>

Applications for 2009 grants are due in the Palo Alto County Extension Office on December 1, 2008.

4-Hers in Action Photos

Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's 4-Hers in Action photo exhibition. Thirty-five counties participated at the Iowa State Fair with a wonderful selection of photos. For 2009, they will continue the exhibition and this year's theme will be *4-Hers in Action Seasons*. So throughout this next year, think about how 4-Hers are active throughout the entire year - from holiday club celebrations, to summer volunteer activities, to fall clean-ups, and more. More information will be available next spring, but don't forget to start taking photos now!

\$15 Challenge Will Return for 2009

The \$15 Challenge, the new category that was added to our Clothing Event this past year, will return in 2009 with some clarification. This category is designed to expand the 4-Hers shopping experience to different shopping venues. Outfits must be purchased at a garage sale, consignment store, Goodwill, Salvation Army or similar place. Hand-me-downs or clothing as gifts belong in clothing selection IF the 4-Her actually selected the item(s). Start the challenge now and experience some new shopping venues. Invite your friends to go along. You might be surprised with your findings!

4-H Discount Events

Don't forget to check the Iowa 4-H Foundation website (www.iowa4hfoundation.org) to find 4-H discounts to events around the state. If your club is interested in attending events at the Iowa Events Center in Des Moines or the Iowa State Center in Ames, look on the website for event dates and prices. The event schedule for the fall includes the 2008 World Gymnastics Tour, Walking With Dinosaurs, and Celtic Thunder among many others.

Pen Pals with 4-H Club in Japan

A 4-H club at Camp Zama, Japan, is interested in finding other 4-Hers interested in becoming pen pals. Clubs interested are asked to contact Valda Campbell, director of the Camp Zama SAS program at val.campbell@us.army.mil. 4-H club members at Camp Zama are children of U.S. military members stationed in Japan. There are many 4-H clubs at U.S. military installations in the United States and around the world.

4-H Million Trees Project

4-H clubs and members are invited to participate in the 4-H Million Trees (4HMT) project. Members of the Belmont and Pacifica (California) 4-H Clubs

launched the 4HMT project, a large-scale service-learning project with the goal to plant 1,000,000 trees across the United States to beautify America, absorb atmospheric carbon dioxide, and combat global climate change. The project founders hope that every one of the approximately 90,000 4-H clubs and units in the U.S. will participate in this community service, and plant at least a dozen native trees in their areas during the current 4-H year. They hope that clubs will accept their invitation and adopt the project so members can enjoy the satisfaction of joining with millions of fellow 4-Hers to make a big difference in the world.

4HMT is supported by National 4-H Headquarters and the Arbor Day Foundation. To learn more about 4HMT, or to register as a participating club, visit the 4HMT web site at <http://www.4milliontrees.org/>

Wanted: Inspiring 4-H Stories

"Make it Matter" is a new initiative of the Reader's Digest Foundation. The Foundation will give away \$1 million to nonprofit organizations based on inspiring stories submitted by the public.

Every month for ten months, Reader's Digest will choose one individual whose story of giving back serves as an inspiration to others. For each story, the Reader's Digest Foundation will donate \$100,000 to a nonprofit organization that is associated either with the story or the cause. These individuals and their stories of giving back will appear every month in the new "Make it Matter" column in Reader's Digest and on rd.com, beginning with the April issue.

Stories can be submitted at <http://www.rd.com/makeitmatter.do>.

Capture your 4-H Memories!

Create your very own 4-H Memorybook. Write your 4-H memories, upload your photos, then make a book. Friends, family and 4-H'ers in our county and across the state can even chip in to help make our Iowa 4-H Memorybook the best ever! Start by signing up for a free account, then trade photos and stories and put them together any way you want.

When it's all done, you'll have a 32-page, full color, professionally printed, one-of-a-kind Iowa 4-H Memorybook! Check it out today at <http://iowa4h.sharedbook.com>. Brochures are available at the Palo Alto County Extension Office.

Transportation Writing Contest

The Go! magazine writing contest guidelines are available as a pdf at <http://www.go-explore-trans.org/Go-writing-contest-flyer.pdf>

Go! Magazine works with 4-H and is sponsoring this contest. Go!, an online magazine for teens published by Iowa State University's Center for Transportation Research and Education (CTRE), is sponsoring a writing contest that is open to all writers ages 16 and up. All submissions should be focused on some aspect of transportation and be appropriate for teens and young adults. The goal of the contest is to encourage writers and readers to think about how integral transportation is to our everyday lives. Transportation encompasses roads, rail, air, and sea. The basics: \$1,000 for best short story; \$1,000 for best non-fiction piece. Open to all writers age 16 and up. (\$500 ISU Book Store gift cards to 2 best student writers.) MUST be focused on transportation. Target audience is young people 14-20 yrs. old. Deadline: Jan. 15, 2009. Send entries to Michele Regenold, Go! Editor, Center for Transportation Research and Education, Iowa State University, 2711 S. Loop Drive, Suite 4700, Ames, IA 50010, 515-296-0835, mregenol@iastate.edu www.go-explore-trans.org

"Our World in Focus" Photo Contest

Celebrate the cultural diversity of people with "Our World in Focus," University of Northern Iowa Museums' annual photography contest and exhibition. This year's theme is "People of Iowa, the United States and the World." This contest and exhibition is open to photographers of all ages. Last year, two Iowa 4-H'ers earned "Best in Category: Youth" honors.

Deadline for contest entries is Wednesday, November 12, 2008. Each entry should include an 8x10" copy of the photo along with an "artist statement" describing why the person or persons were photographed as important to the character of our state, nation or world. For rules and entry form visit

http://www.uni.edu/museum/calendar/photo_contest/museum_photo_contest.pdf

The exhibition will be in UNI Museum's Featured Exhibit Room from January 10-31, 2009. Prizes will be awarded at the opening reception on Saturday, January 10, at 2 p.m.

Get out your cameras or photos from the past year and focus on what you believe makes all types of Iowans, Americans, and people across the world unique and diverse!

*** Newsletters and notices from this office are prepared to keep you informed of events, programs, and deadlines. Please READ!**

Growing Green!

Growing Green is the theme for the 2009 State Volunteer Retreat scheduled for Friday, February 6th, and Saturday, February 7th, centrally located at the DMACC facility in Ankeny. ****Note the change to the Ankeny facility****

The retreat will bring together 4-H volunteers, staff, parents, and intermediate and senior 4-H members to network and learn about innovative programs that will help bring fresh perspectives and activities to Iowa 4-H programs. Friday evening is a networking/fellowship type gathering with hands-on activities and is free except for the costs of the craft materials. Workshops and networking fill the day on Saturday, February 7th.

A wide variety of workshop sessions will meet the needs of both new and experienced volunteers, staff, and 4-H members. The registration cost for Saturday is \$25 and includes lunch and breaks.

More information and a registration will be coming soon.

Club Reporters' Column

Graettinger Pirates:

The Pirates' first meeting was held at the fairgrounds in Emmetsburg on Sunday, Oct. 5th.

President Kyle Brown opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was "Do you have your record book turned in?" and was answered by 20 members.

For our business the Pirates discussed the need to get the tennis court project finished and grant paperwork completed. We will be meeting at the tennis courts on Wednesday, October 8th at 6:15 p.m. to finish the landscaping and get pictures. Chelsea Strohman handed out the fair premium checks to everyone. Kyle then welcomed our 3 new members to our club – Brent Wesley, Gracie Skattebo, and Emma Feldhacker. The officers were asked to meet at Denise's house and help with the club's program for the new 4-H year and the date was set for Monday after school. We also discussed our community service projects, the Awards Banquet coming up in November, and what club activities that the members would like to do this coming year. We discussed the Penny Carnival, set up for it, and adjourned our meeting. The 4-H Pledge was led by Alex Hoffman.

Our carnival games were Balloon Tag and rides on the 4-H Foundation train. It was a huge success and lots of fun for everyone!

Club Reporter – Dillon Thiner

Birthdays

Join us in wishing the following 4-H'ers, Clover Kids, and leaders *Happy Birthday!*

November

Tanner Bachman
Emily Bonnstetter
Nikki Brown
Noah Fehr
Trevor Fehr
Hunter Gentry
Natalie Gordon
Katie Grandstaff
Mitch Hohensee
Savanna Hunter
Calla Knobloch
Austin Krause
Mason Lee
Joe Lowman
Melissa Meyer
Dylan Moser
Mary Nelson
Katelyn Schany
Laura Smith
Betty Sue Strohman
Corbin Studer
Katie Walker
Colton Wickman
Lori Wickman
Abigail Wiita
Hunter Williams
Anna Zaugg

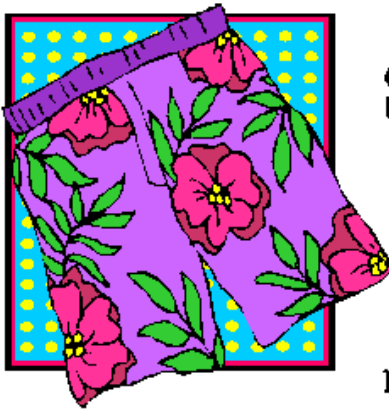
December

Zach Anderson
Marshall Broadie
BriAna Campbell
Alli Enriquez
Masen Fay
Callie Gerber
Megan Heisler
Katelyn Hoffman
Brandi Huberty
Allen Jensen
Kollasch Joyce
Katie Kassel
Patty Kelly
Joel Kibbie
Ronja Klootwyk
David Loomis
Jordan Miller
Alysia Moser
Mikki Mundus
Katie Olesen
Anna Pelzer
Devona Perkins
Carissa Sundall
Michael Sundall
Dillon Thiner
Connor Tonderum
Ali Weir
Zane Wickman
Caitlin Wise
Jenna Wolfe



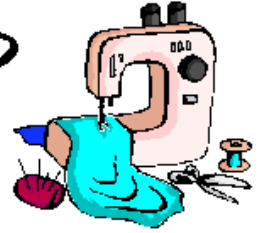
*Happy
Thanksgiving*

Newsletter prepared by Julie Naig, County Youth Coordinator. Email at jnaig@iastate.edu



Sewing Workshop

Dec. 6, 2008



Learn to make a pair of pajama shorts
- use them for a fair project, Christmas or
birthday gift, a community service project, etc.

- Who:** Any 4-H member interested in learning how to sew (boys, too!)
- What:** A one-day workshop where participants will sew a pair of pajama shorts
- When:** Saturday, December 6th from 9:30 a.m. until projects are finished
- Where:** Palo Alto County Extension Office - in basement

Details:

- ✂ Cost: \$5.00 per person - lunch will be provided.
- ✂ Pre-registration will be required. Deadline to register will be Nov. 21st
Maximum # of participants is 20. Registrations will be taken on a first come, first served basis.
- ✂ Participants will be asked to purchase their own pattern, fun fabric, and matching thread. A list of what to bring to the workshop will be given to each registered participant.

Sewing Workshop Sign-Up
(turn into the office)

Name _____ Age _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Club _____

4-H Lock-In



For ALL Members (no friends, please)
Bring your own swim suit, towel, and gym clothes!



At The Smith Wellness Center
Friday Night, Jan. 16, 2009
10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
Cost: \$12.00



Activities will include:
Swimming, Basketball
Volleyball, Racquetball
Ping-Pong
Movies
Group Games



Planned by the 4-H County Council

4-H Lock-In: Jan. 16, 2009

Registration Deadline: Jan. 13, 2009

Cost: \$12.00

Make checks payable to Palo Alto Co. Extension

___ I would consider being a chaperone for the night. Chaperones are at no charge!

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ Home Phone # _____

City/State/Zip _____

4-H Club Name _____

My son/daughter has my permission to attend the 4-H Lock-In. The staff of the Wellness Center and any chaperones have the right to eject and/or call me if my child is misusing or abusing the rules of establishment.

(Parent/Guardian)